

**THE LAWS
of
THE GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS
A.F. & A.M.**

CONTAINING

**The Corporate Charter, the Constitution and Ancient Charges,
the Statutes and Masonic Forms**



(Revised 2019)

**Prepared and Published by Authority of
The Grand Lodge**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD	ARTICLE V.
<hr/>	DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE GRAND OFFICERS
Present Charter (1900) and Enabling Act.	Section 1. Duties of the Grand Master and His Deputy and Grand Wardens.
Charter of 1845.	Section 2. Powers of the Grand Master.
Charter of 1846.	Section 3. Duties of Other Grand Officers.
Charter of 1879.	
<hr/>	ARTICLE VI.
DIVISION I	QUORUM, PRESIDING OFFICERS, COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.
CORPORATE CHARTERS	Section 1. Quorum.
	Section 2. Presiding Officers.
	Section 3. Communications.
<hr/>	ARTICLE VII.
DIVISION II	MANNER OF VOTING IN THE GRAND LODGE
CONSTITUTION AND ANCIENT CHARGES OF FREEMASONRY	Section 1. Voting by "Lodges and Members" and Otherwise.
	Section 2. No Member Can Cast More Than Four Votes.
	Section 3. Presiding Officer Votes in Case of a Tie.
<hr/>	ARTICLE VIII.
CONSTITUTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS	SUBORDINATE LODGES
ARTICLE I.	Section 1. Dispensation, Charters, Etc.
TITLE AND PURPOSES	Section 2. No Lodge Chartered in Other States or Countries.
Section 1. Title.	Section 3. Grand Master May Grant Dispensations for New Lodges.
Section 2. Purposes.	Section 4. Charters Granted by the Grand Lodge Only.
ARTICLE II.	
OF WHOM COMPOSED	
Section 1. Members.	
Section 2. Lodges.	
ARTICLE III.	
JURISDICTION AND POWERS	ARTICLE IX.
Section 1. Exclusive Jurisdiction Over Masonry in Texas.	RETURNS AND CONTRIBUTIONS
Section 2. Inherent Power to Regulate Masonry.	Section 1. Lodges Shall Make Annual Returns.
Section 3. Anderson's "Old Charges of a Freemason."	Section 2. Annual Contributions.
ARTICLE IV.	Section 3. Charter Suspended for Failure to Make Returns or Pay Dues.
OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE	Section 4. Fees for Dispensations and Charters.
Section 1. Style and Rank.	
Section 2. Elective Grand Officers.	
Section 3. Appointive Grand Officers.	
Section 4. Time of Election and Installation.	ARTICLE X.
Section 5. Failure to Elect or Install Grand Officers.	WIDOWS AND ORPHANS
Section 6. Eligibility to Office.	Section 1. Honor and Resources Pledged.
Section 7. Mode of Election.	Section 2. Masonic Home and School.
Section 8. District Deputy Grand Masters.	Section 3. Repealed 2018.
Section 9. Other Officers May be Provided.	Section 4. Board of Directors.
Section 10. Installation of Officers.	Section 5. Funds Administered by Grand Lodge and Board of Directors.
	ARTICLE XI.
	COMMITTEE ON WORK
	Section 1. Election, Term of Office, Etc.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ARTICLE XII.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Section 1. No Expense of Officers, Representative or Committees Paid.
- Section 2. All Propositions Must Be Referred to Committee.
- Section 3. Same Question Not Acted Upon Again Unless Reconsidered.
- Section 4. Questions of Order Decided by Presiding Officer.

ARTICLE XIII.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- Section 1. Amendment Must Be Approved and Submitted to Lodges.
- Section 2. Voted on at Next Communication.
- Section 3. All Laws in Conflict Herewith Repealed.
- Section 4. All New Laws to be Printed in Proceedings.
- Section 5. Date of Taking Effect of this Communication.

THE CHARGES OF A FREEMASON

- I. Concerning God and Religion.
- II. Of the Civil Magistrates, Supreme and Subordinate.
- III. Of Lodges.
- IV. Of Masters, Wardens, Fellows and Apprentices.
- V. Of the Management of Tile Craft in Working.
- VI. 1. Of Behavior in the Lodge While Constituted.
2. Behavior After the Lodge is Over and the Brethren Not Gone.
3. Behavior When Brethren Meet Without Strangers, but Not in a Lodge Formed.
4. Behavior in Presence of Strangers Not Masons.
5. Behavior at Home and in Your Neighborhood.
6. Behavior Toward a Stranger Brother.
Finally.

DIVISION III THE STATUTES

CANONS OF CONSTRUCTION

TITLE I THE GRAND LODGE

CHAPTER 1.

THE GRAND LODGE

- Art. 1. Style and Title.

CHAPTER 2.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Art. 2. Annual Communication.
- Art. 2a Representations of the Grand Lodge.

CHAPTER 3.

MEMBERSHIP

- Art. 3. Proxies.
- Art. 4. Proxy Certificates.
- Art. 5. Proxy Certified to Grand Secretary.
- Art. 6. Grand Lodge Membership Lost by Dimit; How Regained.
- Art. 6a. Statement of Availability.

CHAPTER 4.

VISITORS

- Art. 7. Master Masons.
- Art. 8. Exclusion of Visitors.

CHAPTER 5.

JURISDICTION AND POWERS

- Art. 9. Rights Exclusive in Texas.
- Art. 10. Esoteric Work.
- Art. 11. Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction.
- Art. 12. Regalia.
- Art. 13. Repealed 2000.
- Art. 13a. Past Grand Master's Jewels.
- Art. 13b. Past Grand Master's Portrait.
- Art. 14. Masonic Service Awards.
- Art. 14a. The Sam Houston Medal.
- Art. 14b. The W. B. and Brandon Carrell Humanitarian Award.
- Art. 14c. The Golden Trowel Award.
- Art. 14d. Community Builder Award.
- Art. 14e. Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Award.
- Art. 15. Clandestine Lodges.
- Art. 16. Side Degrees.
- Art. 17. General Grand Lodge.
- Art. 18. Recognition Criteria of Other Grand Lodges.
- Art. 19. Masonic Relief Association.
- Art. 20. New Ballot Prohibited.
- Art. 20a. Trustees.
- Art. 20b. Annual Audit.
- Art. 20c. Duty to Appoint Trustee's Audit Committee.

CHAPTER 6.

OFFICERS

- Art. 21. Hold Only One Office.

CHAPTER 7.

THE GRAND MASTER:

DUTIES AND POWERS

- Art. 22. General Powers.
- Art. 23. When Grand Treasurer or Secretary Incapacitated.
- Art. 24. Appoint and Remove District Deputies.
- Art. 25. Unsafe Lodge.
- Art. 26. Investigate Finances.
- Art. 27. Repealed 2018.
- Art. 28. Mortgaging Lodge Property.
- Art. 29. Sell Demised Lodge's Property.
- Art. 30. Appoint Grand Representatives.
- Art. 31. Waiver of Jurisdiction.
- Art. 32. Restore Charter: Demised Lodges.
- Art. 32a. Restored Charter: Name Change.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Art. 32b. Restored Charter: Amending Name.
- Art. 33. Visit and Inspect Lodges.
- Art. 34. Formalities: Receiving Grand Master or His Representatives.
- Art. 35. Mason at Sight Prohibited.
- Art. 36. Suspension From Office.
- Art. 37. Lodge Meetings in Other Halls.
- Art. 38. Lodges Appearing in Public.
- Art. 39. Shortening Time for Degrees.
- Art. 40. Appoint Special Committees.
- Art. 41. Delegation of Powers.
- Art. 42. Expenses.
- Art. 43. Annual Reports: Copies to Committees.
- Art. 44. Annual Reports: Contents.

CHAPTER 8. DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

CHAPTER 9. GRAND SENIOR AND JUNIOR WARDENS

CHAPTER 10. GRAND TREASURER

- Art. 45. Duties.

CHAPTER 11. GRAND SECRETARY

- Art. 46. Bond.
- Art. 46a. Salary and Expenses.
- Art. 47. Record Proceedings.
- Art. 47a. Supervision of the Grand Lodge Temple.
- Art. 47b. Repealed 2008.
- Art. 47c. Communications with Subordinate Lodges.
- Art. 48. Receive and Account for Money.
- Art. 49. Deposit Money.
- Art. 50. Printing.
- Art. 51. Deleted 2015.
- Art. 52. Loans to Special Funds.
- Art. 53. Annual Report.
- Art. 54. Instructions to Lodge Officers.
- Art. 55. Forms for Lodge Returns.
- Art. 56. Inspect Lodge Returns.
- Art. 57. Notice to Lodges Not Reporting.
- Art. 58. District Deputy to Help Collect Lodge Arrears.
- Art. 59. Notice to Suspended Lodges.
- Art. 60. Uniform Dues Receipt: Certificates to E.A.s and F.C.s.
- Art. 61. Receive and Distribute Petitions, etc.
- Art. 62. Deliver Documents and Notices of Appointment.
- Art. 63. Keep Grievance Committee Reports for Inspection.
- Art. 64. Diplomas: Past Grand Officers.
- Art. 65. Diplomas: Master Masons.
- Art. 66. Attest and Seal Documents.
- Art. 67. Rosters.
- Art. 68. Publishing Rosters.
- Art. 69. Portraits in Proceedings.
- Art. 70. Masonic Offenders.
- Art. 71. Memorials In Proceedings.

- Art. 72. Register of Grand Lodges and Representatives.
- Art. 73. Distribute Proceedings.
- Art. 74. Keep Record of Grand Representatives.
- Art. 74a. Monthly Communication to the Subordinate Lodges.

CHAPTER 12.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS

- Art. 75. Masonic Districts.
- Art. 76. Warrant of Appointment.
- Art. 77. Powers.
- Art. 78. Visitations.
- Art. 79. Examine Records.
- Art. 80. Inspect Lodge Room for Masonic Safety.
- Art. 81. Other Duties.
- Art. 82. Not Collect Lodge Dues.
- Art. 83. Report.
- Art. 84. Expenses.
- Art. 85. Cannot Grant Dispensations.

CHAPTER 13.

APPOINTIVE GRAND OFFICERS

- Art. 86. Grand Chaplain.
- Art. 87. Grand Orator.
- Art. 88. Grand Marshal.
- Art. 89. Grand Deacons.
- Art. 90. Grand Stewards.
- Art. 91. Grand Pursuivant.
- Art. 91a. Grand Musician.
- Art. 91b. Grand Photographer.
- Art. 92. Grand Tiler.

CHAPTER 14.

GRAND LODGE TEMPORARY COMMITTEES

- Art. 93. Enumeration.
- Art. 94. Repealed 2002.
- Art. 95. Petitions and Returns of Lodges U.D.
- Art. 96. Deleted 2001.
- Art. 97. By-Laws.
- Art. 98. Deleted 1967.
- Art. 99. Other Temporary Committees.

CHAPTER 15.

GRAND LODGE COMMITTEES SERVING ONE YEAR

- Art. 100. Enumeration.
- Art. 101. Memorials.
- Art. 102. Repealed 2000.
- Art. 103. Committee on Special Assignments.
- Art. 104. Deleted 2001.
- Art. 104a. Deleted 2007.

CHAPTER 16.

GRAND LODGE PERMANENT COMMITTEES

- Art. 105. Enumeration and Tenure.
- Art. 105a. Qualifications.
- Art. 105b. Committee Member Removal.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Art. 106. Fraternal Relations.
- Art. 107. Masonic Jurisprudence.
- Art. 108. Deleted 2001.
- Art. 109. Grievances and Appeals: Duties.
- Art. 110. Grievances and Appeals: Reports.
- Art. 111. Masonic Education and Service.
- Art. 112. Masonic Education and Service: Rules.
- Art. 113. Masonic Education and Service: Annual Report.
- Art. 114. Repealed 1971.
- Art. 115. Masonic Education and Service: Obligations.
- Art. 116. Purposes and Policies.
- Art. 117. Credentials.
- Art. 118. Masonic Graduates Advisory Committee.
- Art. 119. Finance: Meetings and Duties.
- Art. 120. Repealed 2002.
- Art. 121. Finance: Annual Report and Budget.
- Art. 122. Repealed 2018.
- Art. 123. Grand Lodge Assistance Fund: Duties.
- Art. 124. Grand Lodge Assistance Fund: Receipts and Disbursements.
- Art. 125. Grand Lodge Assistance Fund: Purposes of Fund.
- Art. 126. Grand Lodge Assistance Fund: Annual Report.
- Art. 126a. Public Education.
- Art. 126b. Civil Law.
- Art. 126c. Youth Activities.
- Art. 126d. By-Laws.
- Art. 126e. Membership Maintenance.
- Art. 126f. Committee on Mediation Nos. 1 and 2.
- Art. 126g. Committee on Communication.
- Art. 126h. Committee on Investments.
- Art. 126i. Committee on Internet.
- Art. 126j. Texas Masonic History.
- Art. 126k. Gift of Life Committee.

CHAPTER 17. COMMITTEE ON WORK

- Art. 127. Ritual.
- Art. 128. Proficiency of Members.
- Art. 129. Duties of Committee.
- Art. 130. The "Word."
- Art. 131. Examinations.
- Art. 132. Certificates.
- Art. 132a. Certificates: Classifications.
- Art. 133. Certificates: For 1, 2 and 3 Years.
- Art. 134. Certificates: Renewal.
- Art. 135. Certificates: Life.
- Art. 136. Certificates: Life to Ex-Chairman.
- Art. 137. Certificates: Authentication.
- Art. 138. Certificates: Forfeiture.
- Art. 139. Esoteric Work: Who May Exemplify.
- Art. 140. Esoteric Work: Employing Instructor.
- Art. 141. Esoteric Work: Examination for Certificates.
- Art. 142. Esoteric Work: Schools of Instruction.
- Art. 142a. Degree Team Recognition.
- Art. 143. Committeemen: Compensation.
- Art. 144. Committeemen: Expenses.

CHAPTER 18. MASONIC HOME AND SCHOOL

- Art. 145. Deleted 2015.
- Art. 146. Use of Funds.
- Art. 147. Deleted 2015.
- Art. 148. Deleted 2015.
- Art. 149. Deleted 2015.
- Art. 150. Deleted 2015.
- Art. 151. Deleted 2015.
- Art. 152. Deleted 2015.
- Art. 153. Deleted 2015.
- Art. 154. Deleted 2015.
- Art. 155. Deleted 2015.
- Art. 156. Deleted 2015.
- Art. 157. Deleted 2015.
- Art. 158. Deleted 2015.
- Art. 159. Deleted 2015.
- Art. 160. Deleted 2015.
- Art. 161. Widows Supported at Texas Masonic Retirement Center.
- Art. 162. Deleted 2015.

CHAPTER 19. GRAND LODGE REVENUES

- Art. 163. Fees, Dues and Contributions.
- Art. 163a. Grand Lodge Building Maintenance Reserve Fund.
- Art. 163b. The Endowed Membership Fund.
- Art. 163c. The Grand Lodge Endowment Fund.
- Art. 163d. Deleted 2011.
- Art. 163e. Ownership and Management of the Endowed Membership Fund.

CHAPTER 20. RULES OF PROCEDURE IN THE GRAND LODGE

- Art. 164. Decorum at Opening.
- Art. 165. Order of Business: First Day. Art. 166. Order of Business: Second Day.
- Art. 167. Suspension of Order of Business.
- Art. 167a. Suspension of Procedural Rules.
- Art. 168. All Properly Clothed.
- Art. 169. Avoid Moving About.
- Art. 170. Rules Governing Speakers.
- Art. 171. Repealed 1989.
- Art. 172. Resolutions: Law Changes; Charter Petitions.
- Art. 172a. Order for Consideration of Proposals.
- Art. 173. Resolutions and Motions: Withdrawal.
- Art. 174. Resolutions: Procedure.
- Art. 175. Motion Not Divided: When.
- Art. 176. Reconsideration of Matters.

CHAPTER 21. GENERAL PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO THE GRAND LODGE

- Art. 177. Adopted Resolutions and Decisions.
- Art. 178. Laying of Cornerstones, Monuments, Plaques, and Markers.
- Art. 179. Effective Date and Force of This Revision.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<h3 style="text-align: center;">TITLE II</h3> <h3 style="text-align: center;">SUBORDINATE LODGES</h3> <h4>CHAPTER 1.</h4> <h4>LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION</h4> <p>Art. 180. (220). Petition to Grand Master. Art. 181. (221). In County Without a Lodge. Art. 182. (222). In County Having Lodge. Art. 183. (223). Approval of Other Lodges Required. Art. 184. (224). Petitioners and Their Credentials. Art. 185. (225). Approval of Other Lodges: How Obtained. Art. 186. (226). Petitioners Cannot Vote. Art. 187. (227). Proficiency of Officers. Art. 188. (228). Grand Master Receives Fee and Issues Dispensation. Art. 189. (229). Conditions Pertaining to Dispensation. Art. 190. (230). Name: No Living Person. Art. 191. (231). Cannot Operate Until Organized. Art. 192. (232). Cannot Elect Officers. Art. 193. (233). Officers Not Installed: Cannot Vote in Grand Lodge. Art. 194. (234). By-Laws. Art. 195. (235). Rights, Duties, Privileges. Art. 196. (236). Monitor and Laws Furnished. Art. 197. (237). Fees. Art. 198. (238). Affiliates and Initiates Are Members. Art. 199. (239). Records Sent to Grand Lodge. Art. 200. (240). Examination of Records.</p> <h4>CHAPTER 2.</h4> <h4>RESEARCH LODGE</h4> <p>Art. 201. (240a). Creation; Membership; Government.</p> <h4>TRANQUILITY LODGE</h4> <p>Art. 201a. Creation; Membership; Government.</p> <h4>CHAPTER 3.</h4> <h4>CHARTERS FOR NEW LODGES</h4> <p>Art. 202. (241). Who May Apply. Art. 203. (242). Petition For Charter of New Lodge: By Members of Existing Lodge. Art. 204. (243). Petition for Charter of New Lodge: Who Else May Sign Petition. Art. 205. (244). Petition for Charter of New Lodge: By Dimitted and Non-Affiliated Masons. Art. 206. (245). Petition Sent to Grand Secretary. Art. 207. (246). Approval of Other Lodges. Art. 208. (247). Disapproved Petition: Sent to Grand Lodge. Art. 209. (248). Charters: Signed by Grand Officers; Attested by Grand Secretary. Art. 210. (249). Charter Members. Art. 211. (250). Duplicate Charters: When Issued. Art. 212. (251). Duplicate Charters: After Fifty Years.</p>	<h4>CHAPTER 4.</h4> <h4>CONSTITUTING NEW LODGES</h4> <p>Art. 213. (252). Set to Work: Necessary and by Whom. Art. 214. (253). Set to Work: Lodges Under Dispensation: Procedure. Art. 215. Set to Work: Suspended and Demised Lodges. Art. 216. (255, 257). Constituting New Chartered Lodges. Art. 217. (258). Lodge Bears Expenses of Constitution.</p> <h4>CHAPTER 5.</h4> <h4>BY-LAWS AND SEAL OF LODGE</h4> <p>Art. 218. (New). By-Laws: Presentation and Adoption. Art. 219. (259). By-Laws: Approval by Grand Lodge. Art. 220. (260). By-Laws: Void if Conflicting With Constitution or Laws. Art. 221. (261). By-Laws: Changes Not Requiring Approval. Art. 222. (262). Lodge Seal: Approval of Grand Lodge.</p> <h4>CHAPTER 6.</h4> <h4>LODGE ROOMS AND ANTEROOMS</h4> <p>Art. 223. (263). Security and Furnishings: Approval by Grand Master. Art. 224. (264). Use of Lodge and Anterooms. Art. 224a. Use of All Forms of Tobacco and Smoking Materials In Lodgerooms and Anterooms Art. 224b. (New) Portraits and Displays in Lodgerooms. Art. 225. Use of Lodge and Anterooms by Other Organizations. Art. 225a. Other Organizations, Predicating Membership on Masonic Membership, Recognized. Art. 225b. North American Interfraternity Conference. Art. 225c. New and Existing Texas Organizations. Art. 226. (266). Repealed 2017. Art. 227. (266a). Repealed 1990.</p> <h4>CHAPTER 7.</h4> <h4>MEETINGS OF THE LODGE</h4> <p>Art. 228. (267). Meetings: Frequency. Art. 229. (267a). Quorum for Each of the Three Degrees. Art. 230. (268). Month: Defined. Art. 231. (269). Dispensation Required to Meet Elsewhere. Art. 232. (270). Request for Dispensation To Meet Elsewhere. Art. 232a. (New). Certain Open Meetings Permitted. Art. 233. (271). Stated and Called Meetings Defined. Art. 234. (272). Stated Meetings: Business Required At. Art. 235. (273). Called Meetings: Business Permitted. Art. 236. (274). Who May Preside While Conferring Degree.</p>
--	--

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Art. 237. (275). Meetings on Sundays.
Art. 238. (276). Meetings on Saints John Days.
Art. 239. (277). When Anniversary Falls on Sunday.
Art. 240. (278). Appearing in Public.
Art. 241. (279). Removal to Another Location.
Art. 242. (281). Repealed 1996.
Art. 243. (280). Repealed 1996.
Art. 244. (279, 280, 281). Requisite Vote.

CHAPTER 8.

CONSOLIDATION OF LODGES

- Art. 245. (283). Proposal Presented at Stated Meeting.
Art. 246. (284). Adopted: When and By What Vote.
Art. 247. (285). Proposal Sent to Petitioned Lodge.
Art. 248. (286). Acted on by Petitioned Lodge.
Art. 249. (287). Acted on by Petitioned Lodge: Ballot, Two-thirds vote.
Art. 250. (288). Approval by Grand Master.
Art. 250a. Transfer of Property
Art. 251. (289, 290). Jurisdiction of Consolidated Lodge.
Art. 252. (291). Effective Upon Grand Master's Approval.
Art. 253. (292). Grand Secretary's Duties.

CHAPTER 9.

RETURNING AND REVOKING CHARTERS

- Art. 254. (293). Procedure for Returning Charter.
Art. 255. (294). Records, Funds and Property of Dormant Lodges.
Art. 256. (295). Demise of Lodge by Grand Lodge.

CHAPTER 10.

SUSPENDED AND DEMISED LODGES

AND THEIR MEMBERS

- Art. 257. (296, 297) Suspended and Demised Defined
Art. 258. (298). Members of Demised Lodges: Status.
Art. 259. (299). Suspended Lodge: Territorial Jurisdiction.
Art. 260. (300). Suspended Lodge: Status of Members.
Art. 261. (301). Members of Demised Lodges: Dues and Arrears.
Art. 262. (302). Members of Suspended and Demised Lodges: Status Upon Restoration.
Art. 263. (303). Demised Lodges: Territorial Jurisdiction.

CHAPTER 11.

LODGE OFFICERS

- Art. 264. (303a). Officers Listed.
Art. 265. (304). All But Tiler Must Be Members.
Art. 266. (305). Holding Two Offices Restricted.
Art. 267. (306). Resignation of Officer Prohibited: Exception.
Art. 268. (307). Temporary Vacancies: How Filled.
Art. 269. (308). Absence of Officers.
Art. 270. (309). Presiding Past Master: Powers.

- Art. 271. (310). Vacancies in Office: How Filled.
Art. 272. (311). Officers: Clothed and Jeweled.
Art. 273. (312). Officers: Regalia.
Art. 274. (313). Members: Aprons.
Art. 275. (314). Records and Documents: Officers Duties.

CHAPTER 12.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER

- Art. 276. (329, 330). Qualifications.
Art. 276a. Additional Qualifications.
Art. 277. (315). Office Vacant: When and How Filled.
Art. 278. (316). Master Presiding "Covered."
Art. 279. (317). Custodian of Charter.
Art. 280. (318). Correction of Minutes.
Art. 281. (319). Can Require Every Member to Vote.
Art. 282. (320). Can Cast Deciding Vote.
Art. 283. (321). No Appeal from Decision Except to Grand Lodge.
Art. 284. (323d). Duty to Require Audits.
Art. 284a. Duty to File IRS Forms.

CHAPTER 13.

THE WARDENS

- Art. 285. (322). Duties of Wardens.
Art. 286. (323). Junior Warden: Not Affected: When

CHAPTER 14.

THE TREASURER

- Art. 287. (323a). Duties of Treasurer.

CHAPTER 15.

THE SECRETARY

- Art. 288. (324). Duties of Secretary.
Art. 289. (325). Repealed 1988.

CHAPTER 16.

ELECTION AND INSTALLATION

OF OFFICERS

- Art. 290. (326). Method of Voting.
Art. 291. (331). Qualifications for Office.
Art. 292. (327). Time of Election.
Art. 293. (328). Old Officers Hold Over: When.
Art. 294. (332). Dimit or Transfer of Membership Not Allowed, While Holding Office.
Art. 295. (333). Who May Install.
Art. 296. (334). All Officers Installed in Person.
Art. 297. (335). No Installation While Charges Pending.
Art. 297a. Requirements for Installation as Worshipful Master or Warden.
Art. 298. (336). Time of Installation.
Art. 299. (337). Place of Installation.
Art. 300. (338). Public Installation: Place.
Art. 301. (339). Public Installation: When Dispensation Required.
Art. 302. (340). Lodge Opened in Master's Degree.
Art. 303. (341). Joint Public Installation.
Art. 304. (342). Repealed 1991.
Art. 305. (343). New Appointment: When.
Art. 306. (344). Elective Office Vacant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 17.

FEES AND DUES

- Art. 307. (345). Minimum Fees.
- Art. 308. (New) Lodge May Fix Fees Above Minimum.
- Art. 309. (346). New Lodge in Concurrent Jurisdiction.
- Art. 310. (347). No Distinctions Among Vocations.
- Art. 311. (348). Dues: Fixed by Lodge: Minimum.
- Art. 312. Fees and Dues Paid Only In Money.
- Art. 313. Uniform Receipt Card.
- Art. 314. May Remit or Exempt From Payment.
- Art. 315. Life Membership.
- Art. 316. Exemptions: Members In Texas Masonic Retirement Center, 50 Year Texas Service Awardees, and Certain Military Personnel.
- Art. 317. Dimit: Unearned Dues Refunded.
- Art. 318. Twenty-five Dollar Donation to Texas Masonic Charities Foundation.
- Art. 318a. Endowed Membership.
- Art. 318b. Contribution to George Washington Masonic Memorial.
- Art. 318c. Fee for Affiliation.

CHAPTER 18.

SUSPENSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

- Art. 319. Automatic Suspension.
- Art. 319a. Committee on Members in Arrears.
- Art. 320. Notice of Suspension.
- Art. 321. No Dues During Suspension.
- Art. 322. Mental Incompetence.
- Art. 323. Effect of Suspension.
- Art. 324. Reinstatement After Three Years.
- Art. 325. Repealed 1998.
- Art. 326. Expulsion Permitted After Three Years.
- Art. 327. Expulsion Permitted After Three Years: Reinstatement.
- Art. 328. When Lodge Demised: Restoration.
- Art. 329. When Lodge Demised: Reinstatement.
- Art. 330. Grand Lodge Dues Continue During Charter Arrest and Lodge Suspension.

CHAPTER 1.

BUSINESS OF LODGE

- Art. 331. Stated Meetings.
- Art. 332. Called Meetings.
- Art. 333. Order of Business.
- Art. 334. "Committees of the Whole" Prohibited.
- Art. 335. Lodge Funds Under Its Control.
- Art. 336. Reconsideration of Matters.
- Art. 337. Minutes of Lodge.
- Art. 338. Inspection of Minutes: By Whom.
- Art. 338a. Summary of Minutes Permitted.
- Art. 339. Lodge Shall Not Sponsor Other Organizations.
- Art. 339a. Formation of Texas Non-Profit Corporations.
- Art. 339b. Formation of Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Associations.
- Art. 340. Permission to Acquire, Sell or Mortgage Lodge Personal Property or Real Estate.

Art. 341. Permission to Sell or Mortgage Lodge Property: Procedure.

Art. 342. Permission to Sell or Mortgage Lodge Property: Penalty For Acting Without Consent.

Art. 342a. Permission to Bring Court Action Required.
Art. 342b. Texas Public Schools Week.

TITLE III MEMBERSHIP

CHAPTER 1.

MEMBERS OF LODGES

- Art. 343. Regulations to Enforce Attendance.
- Art. 344. Status of EA's and FC's.
- Art. 345. Master's Degree Conferred Illegally.
- Art. 346. Twenty-Five Year Emblem.
- Art. 346a. Forty Year Emblem.

CHAPTER 2.

PLURAL MEMBERSHIP

- Art. 347. Membership Permitted in Multiple Lodges.
- Art. 348. In Two Grand Jurisdictions.
- Art. 349. Procedure.
- Art. 350. Record and Reports of Secretary.
- Art. 351. Effects of Suspension or Expulsion in One Lodge.
- Art. 352. Reinstatement in One Lodge: Effect.
- Art. 353. All Lodges Must Pay Grand Lodge Dues.
- Art. 354. Rights of Plural Members.
- Art. 355. Withdrawal: Transfer of Membership: Dimit.
- Art. 356. Rejection of Petitioner for Plural Membership.
- Art. 357. Requirements as to Domicile.
- Art. 358. Plural Membership in Another Grand Jurisdiction.

CHAPTER 3.

MASONIC FUNERALS

- Art. 359. To Whom Extended.
- Art. 359a. Grand Lodge Funerals.
- Art. 360. To Whom Not Extended.
- Art. 361. Who May Conduct Ceremonies.
- Art. 362. Rules Regarding Ceremonies and Processions.
- Art. 363. In Open Air; On Sundays; Other Days.
- Art. 364. When Body Cremated.
- Art. 365. Death in Armed Services.
- Art. 366. Funeral in Jurisdiction of Another Lodge.
- Art. 367. Deleted 1995.

CHAPTER 4.

DIMIT

- Art. 368. Definition and Effect.
- Art. 369. Procedure.
- Art. 370. Charges Pending: Not Granted.
- Art. 371. Officer Can Not Dimit.
- Art. 372. Certificate of Dimission.
- Art. 373. Non-Affiliates: Privileges Allowed and Denied.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 5.

WIDOWS AND ORPHANS CERTIFICATE

- Art. 374. Widows and Orphans.
- Art. 375. Widow With Other Masonic Affiliation.
- Art. 376. Remarriage.
- Art. 377. Legally Adopted Child.

CHAPTER 6.

VISITORS

- Art. 378. Register.
- Art. 379. Masons of Other Grand Jurisdictions.
- Art. 380. Good Standing.
- Art. 381. Avouchment and Examination.
- Art. 382. Non-Affiliates.
- Art. 383. Visitors Excluded: When.

CHAPTER 7.

AFFILIATION

- Art. 384. Affiliation: Where and by Whom.
- Art. 385. Requisites of Petition.
- Art. 386. Committee of Inquiry.
- Art. 387. Ballot.
- Art. 388. Who May Vote.
- Art. 389. Protest Not Allowed.
- Art. 390. Effect of Rejection.
- Art. 391. Members of Demised Lodge.
- Art. 392. Certificate of Good Standing.

TITLE IV DEGREES

CHAPTER 1.

CANDIDATES

- Art. 393. Qualifications.
- Art. 393a. Solicitation.
- Art. 394. Domicile Requirements.
- Art. 395. In Armed Services: Countries Without Grand Lodge.
- Art. 396. Unnaturalized Foreigner.
- Art. 397. Religious Belief.
- Art. 398. Questions Answered by Candidate.
- Art. 399. Former Petition.
- Art. 400. Suspicion of Former Rejection.
- Art. 401. Repealed 2018.
- Art. 402. Physical Defects: After Receiving a Degree.
- Art. 403. Petition for Degrees: Requisites.
- Art. 403a. Repealed 2015.
- Art. 404. Petition for Degrees: Answers to Questions in Art. 398.
- Art. 405. Petition for Degrees: Withdrawal Permitted Before Ballot.
- Art. 405a. Publication of Names Prohibited.
- Art. 406. Unlawful Presentation: Waiver of Jurisdiction.
- Art. 407. Referred to Committee.
- Art. 408. No Standing Committee.
- Art. 409. New Committee: When.
- Art. 410. Petitioner's Death or Mental Incompetence.
- Art. 411. Petitioner's Total Disqualification.
- Art. 412. Committee: Duties and Report.
- Art. 413. Ballot.
- Art. 414. Dispensation Changing Time Requisites.

CHAPTER 2.

THE BALLOT

- Art. 415. Taken at Stated Meeting: Exception.
- Art. 416. Favorable Ballot: Effect.
- Art. 417. Who May Vote.
- Art. 418. Blackballs: Effect.
- Art. 419. Manner of Balloting.
- Art. 420. Ballot Is a Finality When Announced.

CHAPTER 3.

PROTESTS

- Art. 421. Against Whom Effective.
- Art. 422. Against Whom Not Effective.
- Art. 423. When and By Whom Made.
- Art. 423a. Separate and Joint Protests: Defined.
- Art. 424. Withdrawn: When.
- Art. 425. Effect of Protests.
- Art. 426. Advancement After Protests.
- Art. 427. Rejection Must Not Be Published.
- Art. 428. Announcement of Protests.
- Art. 429. Duty of Worshipful Master.

CHAPTER 4.

GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO CANDIDATES

- Art. 430. Degree Not Conferred One Year After Election.
- Art. 431. Degree Conferred on Only One Candidate at a Time.
- Art. 432. Candidate Refusing to Conform.
- Art. 433. Time Elements: Examination Requirements.
- Art. 434. Procedure After Rejection.
- Art. 434a. Procedure After Lapse of Time.
- Art. 435. Examinations: What Lodge.
- Art. 436. Examination: How Conducted.
- Art. 437. Proficiency Vote.
- Art. 438. New Petition After Rejection.
- Art. 439. Examination in Master's Degree.

CHAPTER 5.

JURISDICTION AS TO DEGREES

- Art. 440. Definitions.
- Art. 441. Territorial Jurisdiction.
- Art. 442. Repealed 1987.
- Art. 443. Repealed 1987.
- Art. 444. Repealed 1987.
- Art. 445. Personal Jurisdiction: Acquisition and Duration.
- Art. 446. Certificate of Dismissal.
- Art. 447. Certificate of Dismissal, Procedure Under.
- Art. 448. Certificate of Dismissal, E.A. or F.C. of Another Jurisdiction.
- Art. 449. Rejection in Another Grand Jurisdiction.
- Art. 450. Degrees Conferred in Traveling Lodges.
- Art. 451. Jurisdiction When Lodge Demised.
- Art. 452. Petitioners: To What Lodge They May Apply.
- Art. 453. Waiver of Jurisdiction: When Required.
- Art. 454. Waiver of Jurisdiction: When Request Made.
- Art. 455. Waiver of Jurisdiction: Not Granted, When.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Art. 456. Waiver of Jurisdiction: Procedure on Request.
Art. 457. Waiver of Jurisdiction: Rejected Petitioner.
Art. 458. (476s). Waiver of Jurisdiction: In Concurrent Jurisdiction.
Art. 459. (476t). Waiver of Jurisdiction: Refusal for Advancement.
Art. 460. (476u). Waiver of Jurisdiction: Effect of Refusal to Grant.
Art. 461. (476v). Waiver of Jurisdiction: Request Where Personal Jurisdiction in Another Grand Jurisdiction.
Art. 462. (476w). Degrees Conferred Without Jurisdiction: Further Jurisdiction.
Art. 463. (476x). Degrees Conferred Without Jurisdiction: Status of Recipient.
Art. 464. (476y). Fees: Paid to Grand Lodge: When.
Art. 465. (476z). Fees: For Unlawfully Conferred Degrees.

CHAPTER 6. WAIVER OF JURISDICTION IN FAVOR OF REGULAR LODGES IN THE REPUBLIC OF MEXICO

- Art. 466. (506a). Who May Apply For.
Art. 467. (506b). Application: Form and Contents.
Art. 468. (506c). Application: Presentation and Investigation.
Art. 469. (560). Application: Report On.
Art. 470. (506e). Application: Ballot on and Disposition.

CHAPTER 7.

COURTESY DEGREES

- Art. 471. (509). Foreign Jurisdictions: Grand Secretary's Duties.
Art. 472. (514). Foreign Jurisdictions: Correspondence After Request Granted.
Art. 473. (507). Foreign Jurisdictions: Request to Confer Degrees in Texas.
Art. 474. (510). Foreign Jurisdictions: Lodge Designation and Procedure.
Art. 475. (511). Requests from This to Another Grand Jurisdiction: Procedure.
Art. 476. (512). Refusal by Grand Secretary.
Art. 477. (513). Casual Visitor Barred.
Art. 478. (515). Courtesy Requests Between Lodges of This Grand Jurisdiction.
Art. 479. (New). Protests.
Art. 480. (508). No Fee Charged.
Art. 481. (515a). Requesting Lodge Shall Not Confer Degree Until Notice of Withdrawal Received from Requested Lodge.

CHAPTER 8.

PROXIES

- Art. 482. (516). Only One for a Lodge: Qualifications.
Art. 483. (517). No Proxies of Representatives or Proxies.

CHAPTER 9.

APPEALS FOR AID

- Art. 484. (518). Dispensation Required for Financial Aid Appeal.
Art. 485. (519). No Grand Lodge Relief to Lodges Sustaining Fire Loss, Unless Fully Insured.
Art. 486. (520). Donations to Charity.
Art. 487. (520). Right to Demand Reimbursement: When.

CHAPTER 10.

RETURNS TO THE GRAND LODGE

- Art. 488. (521). Annual Returns by Lodge.
Art. 489. (522). Annual Returns by Lodges: Contents.
Art. 490. (523). Annual Returns by Lodges: Returned for Proper Authentication.
Art. 491. (524). Annual Returns by Lodges: Action on Petitions of EA's and FC's: How Obtained.
Art. 492. (525). Annual Returns by Lodges: Penalty for Failure to Make.
Art. 493. (526). Remittances by August 15.

TITLE V DISCIPLINE

See Title V Section for Title V Articles and for the Forms For Masonic Disciplinary Hearings.

DIVISION IV MASONIC FORMS

CHAPTER II.

GENERAL FORMS

- No. 14. Petition for Dispensation for New Lodge, A.F. & A.M. (Art. 203)
No. 15. Petition for Charter. (Art. 205)
No. 16. Certificate of Lodge Voting on Dispensation or Charter. (Art. 206)
No. 17. Dispensation to Form a New Lodge. (Const., Art. VIII, Sec. 3)
No. 18. Charter of Subordinate Lodge. (Art. 209)
No. 19. Deputation for Constituting a Lodge. (Art. 213)
No. 20. Declaration to Consolidate Lodge. (Arts. 245-247)
No. 21. Petition to Return Charter. (Art. 254)
No. 22. Petition for Removal of Lodge. (Arts. 241-244)
No. 23. By-Laws. (Arts. 218-221) (Revised 2006)
No. 23a. By-Laws of The Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association. (Art. 10 note)
No. 24. Mintues of Stated Meeting. (Art. 337)
No. 24a. Mintues of Stated Meeting. (Art. 337)
No. 25. Minutes of Called Meeting. (Art. 337)
No. 25a. Minutes of Called Meeting. (Art. 337)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

No. 26.	Petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry. (Arts. 394, 403, 452)	No. 56f.	Repealed (See Forms 78 & 78a)
No. 27.	Repealed 2018	No. 57.	Certificate of Life Membership. (Past Master, Art. 315)
Other Form: Golden Trowel Application & Requirements			
No. 28.	Investigation Report: Degrees of Freemasonry. (Art. 407)	No. 57a.	Certificate of Life Membership. (Not Past Master, Art. 315)
No. 29.	Certificate of Contribution to Texas Masonic Charities Foundation (Art. 407)	No. 57b.	Past Master Certificate. (No Art.)
No. 29a.	Contribution to George Washington Masonic Memorial. (Art. 318b)	No. 58.	Traveling Certificate. (No Art.)
No. 30.	Certificate of Dismissal. (Arts. 446-448)	No. 59.	Widows and Orphans Certificate. (Art. 374)
No. 31.	Petition for Advancement. (Arts. 407, 430, 434a)	No. 59a.	Widow's Certificate. (Art. 374)
No. 32.	Investigation Report: Advancement. (Art. 386)	No. 59b.	Orphan's Certificate. (Art. 374)
No. 33.	Application for Dimit. (Art. 368)	No. 60.	Members and Visitors Register. (Art. 377)
No. 34.	Certificate of Dimission. (Arts. 368-372)	No. 61.	Loose Leaf Secretary's Account Book & Bound Secretary's Account Book. (No Art.)
No. 35.	Petition for Affiliation: Unaffiliated Mason. (Arts. 384, 385)	No. 62.	Treasurer's Account Book. (No Art.)
No. 36.	Investigation Report for Membership of Non- Affiliate by Affiliation. (Art. 386)	No. 63.	Members Ledger. (No Art.)
No. 37.	Application for Certificate of Good Standing. (Art. 392)	No. 64.	Warrant. (No Art.)
No. 38.	Certificate of Good Standing. (Art. 392)	No. 65.	Check. (No Art.)
No. 39.	Petition for Affiliation by Certificate of Good Standing. (Arts. 384, 392)	No. 66.	Form of Bond. (No Art.)
No. 39a.	Investigation Report For Affiliation by Certificate of Good Standing. (Art. 386)	No. 67.	Proxy for Representative in Grand Lodge. (Art. 5)
No. 40.	Petition for Withdrawal from Plural Membership. (Art. 355)	No. 68.	Commission for Grand Officers by Appointment. (Const. Art. IV, Sec 3)
No. 41.	Certificate of Withdrawal from Plural Membership. (Art. 355)	No. 69.	Special Dispensation. (No Art.)
No. 42.	Application for Waiver of Jurisdiction. (Art. 453)	No. 70.	Certificate of Waiver of Jurisdiction in Favor of Regular Lodge in the Republic of Mexico. (Arts. 466, 468)
No. 42a.	Repealed 1987.	No. 71.	Minimum Audit Form. (Art. 284)
No. 43.	Waiver of Jurisdiction. (Art. 456)	No. 72.	Cash Receipts. (No Art.)
No. 44.	Petition for Reinstatement. (Arts. 324, 327, 658)	No. 73.	Cash Disbursements. (No Art.)
No. 44a.	Report of Committee on Petition for Reinstatement. (Arts. 324, 327)	No. 74.	Recapitulation of Receipts and Disbursements. (No Art.)
No. 45.	Petition for Restoration. (Art. 327, 658)	No. 75.	Lodgeroom Layout. (Art. 223)
No. 45a.	Report of Committee on Petition for Restoration. (Arts. 327, 658)	No. 76.	Repealed
No. 46.	Request to Confer Degrees by Courtesy. (Arts. 475, 478)	No. 76a.	Repealed.
No. 47:	Notice of Election. (Art. 413)	No. 76b.	Endowed Membership Application. (Arts. 28, 340)
No. 48.	Notice of Rejection. (Art. 413)	No. 76c.	Endowed Membership Certificate (Art. 318a)
No. 49.	Notice of Non-Payment of Dues. (Arts. 319, 351)	No. 76d.	Endowed Membership Certificate, in Honor of (Art. 318a)
No. 49a.	Investigation: Members in Arrears. (Art. 319a)	No. 76e.	Endowed Membership Certificate, in Memory of (Art. 318a)
No. 50.	Final Notice: Non-Payment of Dues. (Art. 319)	No. 77.	Endowed Membership Form (Art. 318a)
No. 51.	Notice to Former Members Suspended N.P.D. (Art. 323)	No. 78.	Twenty-five Year Certificate (Art. 346)
No. 52.	Special Summons. (Arts. 235, 515, 517, 533, 568)	No. 78a.	Forty Year Certificate (Art. 346a)
No. 53.	Notice of Lodge Meeting. (No Art.)	No. 79.	Advisor Certification. (Art. 126c)
No. 54.	Visitor's Card. (No Art.)	No. 80.	Certificate of Mental Incompetence. (Art. 322)
No. 55.	Notice of Visitation. (No Art.)	No. 81.	Military Combat Exemption (Art. 316)
No. 56a.	Standard Uniform Dues Receipt. (Arts. 0, 313)	No. 100.	Membership Change
No. 56b.	Standard Uniform Entered Apprentice Card. (Arts. 60, 313)	No. 101.	Installation Requirements for Lodges of Texas (Art. 276, 276a, 291, 297a)
No. 56c.	Standard Uniform Fellowcraft Card. (Arts. 60, 313)		
No. 56d.	50, 60, 65, and 70 Year Certificates. (Art. 14)		

FOREWORD

This volume contains all the Laws governing the Grand Lodge of Texas, its subordinate Lodges and the Craft, under its jurisdiction, except those of a ritualistic nature which, insofar as they are committed to writing, are contained in "The Approved Monitor of the Lodge." Compilation of this volume, which represents the combined labors of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, had its inception in an adopted recommendation of the Grand Master in 1950 stating that the latest (1945) Revision was "excellent and in the main in good form," but pointed out that subsequent changes and amendments required another revision which should include: classification of Laws and Forms; harmonizing and integrating laws; omitting obsolete decisions and combining and summarizing others; consolidating indexes; adding a proper outline and brief canons of construction.

It has been the earnest endeavor of the Committee to attain these objectives, as well as another contained in the following quotation from a letter of Grand Master Sam P. Cochran to Geo. W. Tyler, P.G.M., Chairman of a Revision Committee in 1912: "In refraining or restating the Law on any particular subject, cover the matter fully and make it so clear that the crossroads Brother can understand it." The paramount difficulty in this regard is one inherent in rule and law making generally: that of covering all contingencies and factual situations then extant or that may reasonably be foreseen in expressions of such degree of certainty as to resolve them beyond reasonable controversy. Such an ideal has never been attained in any field, even by the best trained legal minds. One can only strive toward it.

Quoting further from the same source: "Masonic Jurisprudence has come to have a significant meaning in the world at large." This estimate derives from the fact that it has been gleaned and garnered, in like manner as the philosophy and symbolism of Freemasonry, by an unbroken line of able, devoted and consecrated scholars, writers and leaders, from the cumulative wisdom of the ages as it has developed throughout the history of the Order, in the realms of morals, philosophy, religion, art, science and government.

Its development in this jurisdiction presents a story both instructive and fascinating, which we believe not amiss to relate here in brief resume.

THE CORPORATE CHARTERS

There have been four of these, each supplementing or superseding its predecessor: 1.) The 1845 "Act to Incorporate the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, and other Subordinate Lodges;" 2.) The 1846 "Act to Incorporate the Society of Free Masons, composed of Lodges and Chapters;" 3.) The 1879 "Act to Incorporate the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in and for the State of Texas, under and by the Name and Style of the Grand Lodge of Texas;" and 4.) The present Charter of 1900 obtained under Article 713a Revised Civil Statutes (now Texas Business Organizations Code – Title 2 Corporations – Chapter 22 – Nonprofit Corporations). A copy of each is printed in this volume, the first three for reference only.

THE CONSTITUTION AND ANCIENT CHARGES

The December 1837 Convention, which established the Grand Lodge of Texas, adopted the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana "for present government * * so far as it is applicable to our situation," and appointed a committee to draft a Constitution. It is interesting to note that the resolution of adoption was by Jefferson Wright, our first Grand Senior Warden, a portrait artist of note and "known as the semi-official artist of the Republic of Texas," and that the resolution creating the Committee was by Dr. Anson Jones, our first Grand Master and last President of the Republic. At the first Communication (April 1838) the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee was adopted "with such changes in its regulations and phraseology as will adapt it to the local conditions and wants of this Grand Lodge." The committee was continued and at an adjourned Communication (May 19, 1838) reported, and the Grand Lodge adopted its first constitution consisting of four Chapters headed: 1. Of the Grand Lodge; 2. Of Subordinate Lodges; 3. Of Finances; and 4. General Provisions. There have been four subsequent revisions of the Constitution: 1841; 1848; 1856, and 1920. The first three were largely recodifications in that they consisted, in the main in bringing down to date by inclusion of amendments and making such textual changes as seemed necessary to clarification and elimination

FOREWORD

of conflict and ambiguity. The 1848 revision added "The Old Charges," and that of 1856 substituted six Articles for the former four chapters, and "The Charges of a Freemason" for "The Old Charges." The original Constitution and the revisions prior to 1920, contained in large measure the general body of laws and regulatory minutiae and procedure pertaining both to the Grand Lodge and Subordinate Lodges. The present Constitution adopted in 1920, with the few amendments thereto, is that published in this volume. It is mainly the work of Geo. W. Tyler, P.G.M., a distinguished lawyer, eminent scholar, and profound student of Masonic law, history and philosophy. His work began as Chairman of a Committee created in 1911 to revise both the Constitution and Laws. Draft of the Constitution was completed and reported December 2, 1912; adopted, printed in the proceedings and submitted to the Lodges in 1913. It evoked considerable debate in Lodges and Masonic publications, and was defeated in 1914 by a vote of 645 to 774. It developed, however, that the objections urged were few and not of great importance, and a new Committee was created in 1915, consisting of Jewel P. Lightfoot, P.G.M., Chairman, two members each of the Jurisprudence and Finance Committees, and three members who were not officers of the Grand Lodge or members of either of these Committees. At the 1919 Communication the draft was presented by Judge Tyler for the Committee (General Lightfoot having moved to Chicago), adopted and referred to the Lodges. It was finally adopted in 1920.

As noted above, prior Constitutions were encumbered with a large body of rules and regulations that more properly belonged in the Laws. Judge Tyler informed his Committee at the outset that his objective would be "to embrace in the Constitution only permanent and fundamental provisions for the organization and government of the Grand Lodge and Craft in Texas, but carrying forward in Edicts (Laws) everything of a transient nature and administrative details which may need to be altered from time to time or abandoned, as exigencies of the time and experience may demand and thus doing away with submitting such alterations to the Lodges and of incurring a year's delay." At that time the Constitution contained 190 Sections and the "Laws and Edicts" 660 Articles. These were all carefully screened and the permanent sifted from the temporary and regulatory with meticulous precision.

The purpose Clause (Art. I, Sec. 2) was the first of that nature to appear in the Constitution, and was entirely of Tyler authorship. It is an eloquent summation of the fundamental purposes of the Grand Lodge, and a literary gem of the first magnitude. The entire draft in the estimation of this Committee, is a masterpiece in its field, and an enduring monument to its distinguished author. Comparison of the 1912 draft with that adopted in 1920 evidences that changes in the latter were few and of minor importance.

THE STATUTES

As already noted, the Constitution originally contained the principal body of the Laws, other pronouncements having the force of law being contained in resolutions, reports of Committees and decisions of Grand Masters, referred to generally as "Edicts." The first compilation of these, under the heading "Resolutions" was published in 1857 in compliance with a directive: "That such resolutions of a general character, as having been adopted at this Communication, be published by way of appendix to the Proceedings with those heretofore in force." Taylor's Monitor, which ran into ten editions (1859-1878) carried "A Digest of Resolutions and Edicts." The first general compilation of Texas Masonic Law was Sayles' "The Masonic Jurisprudence of Texas," adopted in 1879. The author, who acted under a resolution recommended in 1876 by Grand Master Joseph D. Sayers (later member of Congress and Governor of Texas), was Grand Master in 1852. He was celebrated as a compiler and digester of Early Texas Laws and was a great student of Masonic law, history and customs. The volume contained: 1. The Constitution and Ancient Charges; 2. Resolutions and Edicts; 3. Digest of Opinions of Grand Officers and Reports of Committees, alphabetically arranged; 4. "Forms," consisting of the ceremonies now contained in the Manual; 5. By-Laws for Subordinate Lodges; 6. Masonic Forms; 7. Comprehensive index.

Subsequent revisions were in 1895, 1908, 1921, 1932, 1939 and 1945. The first three of these followed the same pattern, modeled manifestly after the Texas Civil Statutes, grouping the Subjects under Titles, Chapters under Titles, and Articles numbered consecutively throughout. There were Six Titles with these headings: I. The Grand Lodge; II. Subordinate Lodges; III Membership; IV Degrees; V Trials; VI Miscellaneous. None of these revisions was annotated. The 1932 revision was largely the work of Jewel P. Lightfoot, P.G.M., Attorney General 1910-1912, eminent Masonic research scholar and writer, and

FOREWORD

author of the "Manual of the Lodge" (1934). The distinctive feature of this revision was the Annotations, which entailed the prodigious labor of analyzing, classifying and digesting all important decisions and rulings of the previous 95 years, and arranging them under appropriate Articles. The "Constitution and Laws" were arranged under four "Divisions": I Constitution and Ancient Charges; II Laws Governing the Grand Lodge; III Subordinate Lodges; IV Discipline. Titles were omitted and Sections were substituted for Chapters. Both Sections and Articles were numbered consecutively through out. There were three appendixes: A. Forms for Masonic Trials; B. General Forms; C. Old Regulations, which was a new addition. The index to the Decisions was separate from the General Index. The two subsequent revisions were entirely Lightfoot's work, consisting in bringing down to date the laws and decisions and making such textual and other changes therein as seemed necessary. The looseleaf format of the last edition was upon recommendation of the Finance Committee.

THE PRESENT VOLUME

The following changes are believed to be helpful:

1. For the reason that the Charter and Adopted Forms are authoritative expressions of Law, the entire volume, entitled "The Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas," is arranged under the following four Divisions: I Charter; II Constitution and Ancient Charges; III Statutes; IV Forms.
2. The 1895-1920 arrangement of "Laws and Edicts" under Titles and Chapters under Titles has been adopted under the general designation "Statutes," omitting Title VI, the Articles under which were carried forward in the 1932 revision under appropriate Sections.
3. The Statutes have been carefully reexamined and: (A) Each Article given a heading; (B) Clarified as to ambiguity and conflict; (C) Broadened to include clarifying decisions; (D) Obsolete and non-clarifying decisions omitted, and those retained redrafted in the form of appended notes, and tabulated. The proviso added to Articles 107 (181) and 177 (213) imposing the duty upon the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence of designating and editing the decisions for publication in the Laws, is designed to obviate the confusion and conflict heretofore arising from copying all adopted decisions in the Laws in full as reported in the Proceedings.
4. Masonic Forms. Such changes, additions and rearrangement were made, as deemed appropriate.
5. A complete Table of Contents has been added which meets the 1950 Recommendation for a "proper outline."
6. Canons of construction have also been added. These precede the Statutes as they apply to all laws therein.
7. In 2016 the consolidated index was divided into two (2) separate indexes. The first index covers the entire Volume except those statutes relating to Title V – Masonic Disciplinary Procedure; whereas the second index covers Title V – Masonic Disciplinary Procedure.
8. Title, Chapter, Article and Form numbers are carried at the top of each page. The Article numbers in parentheses are those of the 1945 Revision and amendments thereto. The year of effective date and page numbers are at the bottom of each page. The looseleaf format is retained, and future substitute leaves will carry the date of substitution.

COMMITTEE ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE

This page intentionally left blank.

DIVISION I
CORPORATE CHARTERS OF THE
GRAND LODGE

The present corporate Charter of the Grand Lodge and the enabling legislative act, under which it was created, are as follows:

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
County of Harris.

WHEREAS, at a Stated Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, held in the City of Houston, in Harris County, in the State of Texas, on to wit, the 5th day of December, A. D. 1900, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Texas accepts the provisions of Chapter 11, Title 21, of the Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, as amended by the Twenty-sixth Legislature, and incorporates thereunder; provided the doing shall in no way affect the legality of any act of the Grand Lodge done under or by virtue of its present incorporation.'

WHEREFORE, by virtue of said resolution, the officers and members of the Grand Lodge of Texas, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, do hereby agree to become a body corporate under Title 21, Chapter 11, and Article 713a, enacted by the Twenty-sixth Legislature of Texas, at its regular session, and do declare as follows:

FIRST

The name of such corporation shall be "THE GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS."

SECOND

The said Grand Lodge and this corporation is formed for charitable and benevolent purposes, and to cement bonds of good fellowship and brotherly love among its members and adherents, and to practice the art of Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry as has been done from time immemorial.

It shall have all the rights, privileges, and benefits of other like corporations under the laws of the State of Texas, as well as those given and provided for in the aforesaid Article 713a, a copy of which is hereto attached and made part hereof.

All subordinate Lodges of Masons in Texas now working under and holding charter from and by said The Grand Lodge of Texas, or that may hereafter be instituted under such charter, are hereby incorporated, and do by virtue hereof become bodies corporate tinder and in the name given them respectively in the charters heretofore issued to them, or that may hereafter be so issued.

Such subordinate Lodges shall have all rights granted hereby to said Grand Lodge which are not inconsistent with, but must be wholly subject to, the Constitution, By-Laws, Resolutions, and Edicts of said Grand Lodge.

THIRD

The business of said Grand Lodge shall be transacted at the City of Houston, in Harris County, Texas, or at such place or places in Texas as may be provided by resolution or law of said Grand Lodge. And the business of said subordinate Lodges shall be transacted at the place designated in their respective charters or warrants.

FOURTH

The Grand Lodge of Texas and its subordinate Lodges shall have perpetual existence, and have perpetual succession of its officers and members.

FIFTH

The officers and members of the Grand Lodge of Texas shall be: a Grand Master, a Deputy Grand Master, a Grand Senior Warden, a Grand Junior Warden, a Grand Treasurer, and a Grand Secretary, and such other officers, members, and committees as may be provided by the Grand Lodge; and the six officers specifically named above who may from time to time be selected by the Grand Lodge, shall constitute

CHARTER OF GRAND LODGE

the Trustees or Directors having charge of the business affairs of the Grand Lodge under its laws and regulations, during its vacation.

But the Grand Lodge may provide certain duties and powers to be performed and exercised by the Directors of the Masonic Widow and Orphans' Home, or by any other officer or committee.

At this time the six officers first mentioned above and their respective residences are as follows:

Robert M. Lusk, Grand Master, Bonham, Texas.

Nat M. Washer, Deputy Grand Master, San Antonio, Texas.

William Clark, Grand Senior Warden, Jefferson, Texas.

W.Madden Fly, Grand Junior Warden, Gonzales, Texas.

Benjamin F. Frymier, Grand Treasurer, Houston, Texas.

John Watson, Grand Secretary, Houston, Texas.

The officers and trustees of subordinate Lodges shall be such as are or may be provided by the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge.

SIXTH

Neither the Grand Lodge nor its subordinate Lodges shall have any capital stock, but they may own and hold property as herein provided.

The present estimated value of the goods, chattels, lands, rights, and credits of said Grand Lodge is two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, the said Robert M. Lusk, Grand Master, a resident of Bonham, Texas, and Marcus F. Mott, Past Grand Master, a resident of Galveston, Texas, and John Watson, Grand Secretary, a resident of Houston, Texas, all members of said Grand Lodge, have hereunto subscribed our names at the City of Houston, Texas, on this the 5th day of December, A.D. 1900.

R..M. LUSK, Grand Master,

MARCUS F. MOTT, Past Grand Master,

JOHN WATSON, Grand Secretary.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,

County of Harris.

Before me, Ingram S. Roberts, a Notary Public in and for Harris County, Texas, on this day personally appeared Robert M. Lusk, Marcus F. Mott, and John Watson, all known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that they executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this the 5th day of December, A.D. 1900.

INGHAM S. ROBERTS,
Notary Public, Harris Co., Texas

Article 713a. (Arts. 1399-1407 R.C.S. 1925) passed by the Twenty-sixth Legislature at its regular session, and approved May 23, 1899, accompanying and to be a part of the attached Articles of Incorporation:

Article 713a. The Grand Lodge of Texas, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Texas (Masonic), the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Texas, and other like institutions and orders, organized for charitable or benevolent purposes, may, by the consent of their respective bodies, expressed by a resolution or otherwise, become bodies corporate under this title, and the incorporation of any such grand body shall include all of its subordinate lodges or bodies holding warrant or charter under such grand body, and each of such subordinate bodies shall have all the rights of other corporations under and by the name given it in such warrant or charter issued by the Grand body to which it is attached, such right being provided for in the charter of the grand body.

Such grand bodies and their subordinates may elect their own trustees or directors, or name certain of their officers as such, and perform such other acts and things as are directed or provided by law in the case of other corporations, and shall have full power to make constitutions and bylaws for the government and regulation of their affairs.

Such institutions or orders, grand and subordinate, as are mentioned or included within this chapter, shall have the right to acquire and hold such lands and personality as may be necessary or convenient for

CHARTER OF GRAND LODGE

sites upon which to erect buildings for their use and occupancy, and for homes and schools for their widows, orphans, or aged, or decrepit, or indigent members, and to sell or mortgage the same, such conveyances to be executed by the presiding officer, attested by the Secretary and the seal; but the power and authority of such subordinate bodies to sell or to mortgage shall be subject to such conditions prerequisite as may be from time to time prescribed or established by the grand body to which the subordinate is attached.

Such subordinate bodies shall at all times be subject to the jurisdiction and control of their respective grand bodies, and subject to have their warrants or charters revoked by such grand body. Upon the demise of any subordinate body so incorporated, all property and rights existing in such subordinate body shall pass to and vest in the grand body to which it was attached, subject to the payment of all debts due by such subordinate body; but the grand body shall never be liable for any sum greater than the actual cash value of the effects of such subordinate actually received by it, or its authority.

Any grand body incorporated under this article shall have the right and authority to loan any funds held and owned by it for charitable purposes, for the endowment of any of its institutions or otherwise, and may secure such loans by taking and receiving liens on real estate, or in such other manner as it may elect, and upon sale of any real estate under such lien such grand body may become the purchaser thereof and hold title thereto. Any grand body incorporating under this chapter may provide in its charter for the expiration of its corporate powers at the end of any given number of years, or it may provide in its charter for its perpetual existence, and by its corporate name have perpetual succession of officers and members; provided, that any such grand body or subordinate body now having a valid chartered existence may continue under its present charter, or reincorporate under this chapter. Bodies incorporated under this chapter shall not be subject to pay a franchise tax.

The following corporate charters of the Grand Lodge which have been superseded by the above Charter, are inserted here for historical reference only:

AN ACT
TO INCORPORATE THE GRAND LODGE OF THE REPUBLIC
OF TEXAS AND OTHER SUBORDINATE LODGES

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Texas in Congress assembled, That the Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, be, and are hereby constituted and declared to be a body corporate and politic, under the name and style of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, with power and authority, to sue and be sued, pleased and be impleaded; to have and use a common seal, and at pleasure to alter or change the same, and in their corporate capacity to hold and possess estate, real and personal, not exceeding twenty thousand dollars in value, with full and ample powers to dissolve their corporation at any time they may deem proper, and to sell and convey their corporate property and distribute the proceeds among the individual members of the Lodge or in such other manner as they may direct, provided the amount of real estate in lands shall not exceed five acres, and further provided, that when real estate shall accrue to said Grand Lodge, and subordinate Lodges, by donation or will, they shall have the period of two years to dispose of the same.

Section 2. Be it further enacted, That the provisions of the first section of this act, shall be extended to the Master, Wardens and Brethren of Holland Lodge, number one, at Houston, to the Master, Wardens and Brethren of Harmony Lodge, number six, at Galveston; to the Master, Wardens and Brethren of Orphans Friends Lodge, number seventeen, at Fantharps in Montgomery county, and to such other subordinate Lodges as are, or may be established under the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas, that may avail themselves of the same.

Section 3. Be it further enacted, That this act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved, January 30th, 1845.

AN ACT
TO INCORPORATE THE SOCIETY OF FREE MASONS,
COMPOSED OF LODGES AND CHAPTERS

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas, That the officers and members of the grand lodge of free masons in Texas, and their successors in office, shall have in their corporate capacity, power to hold property, both real and personal, for the purpose of erecting, endowing and maintaining an

CHARTER OF GRAND LODGE

institution of learning, and to sell and convey the same at pleasure: Provided, that at no time, shall the capital exceed twenty-five thousand dollars.

Section 2. Be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for said grand lodge and the subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction, to erect buildings for their own convenience, and to hold such meetings and at such times as they may deem proper, for the better management of their charitable funds, and the application of the same to proper purposes, and the transaction of all other business relating to their own affairs, and shall have full power and authority to make, constitute and ordain bylaws, rules and regulations, for their own government.

Section 3. Be it further enacted, That the jurisdiction of the said grand lodge, is coextensive with the limits of Texas, as claimed and defined by the present statutes, as the boundary.

Section 4. Be it further enacted, That the officers and members of the present grand chapter of royal arch masons in Texas, and their successors in office, be and they are hereby created a body politic and corporate, with power to sue and be sued, and that all the provisions, powers and authority granted by this act, to the grand lodge, be extended to the said royal arch chapter, and to the subordinate chapters, in the State of Texas, and that this act take effect from and after its passage.

Approved, 28th April, A. D. 1846.

AN ACT

TO INCORPORATE THE GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS IN AND FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS, UNDER AND BY THE NAME AND STYLE OF THE GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas, That the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in and for the State of Texas, now or hereafter acting under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas, be and are hereby incorporated under and by the name and style of "The Grand Lodge of Texas," and by that name shall have and exercise corporate powers, and by that name shall have perpetual succession of officers and members; shall have a common seal, which may be changed at the pleasure of the Grand Lodge; shall have full power to take and acquire, hold and enjoy, real and personal property; to sue for and recover all sum or sums of money or property of any description, and shall have the right to sell, alien, and convey its property of all kinds at its will and pleasure, and to incumber by mortgage with usual clauses or such clauses as it pleases, any or all of its property in such manner as may be deemed expedient by the Grand Lodge, and shall in like manner have the right to borrow money and to execute its obligations therefor in such form as may be prescribed by the Grand Lodge, or that may be approved by said Grand Lodge when obligations have already issued by the said Grand Lodge.

Section 2. That all subordinate Lodges heretofore chartered by the Grand Lodge of Texas, and now existing, and all Lodges which may hereafter be chartered by said Grand Lodge, shall constitute and form part and parcels of the Grand Lodge incorporated by this act, under the name or names by which such subordinate Lodges were or may be chartered; and such subordinate Lodges shall have the right to sue and be sued by their corporate name and shall have the right to acquire and hold real or personal property, and to sell or mortgage the same; but the power to sell or to mortgage shall be subject to such conditions and prerequisites as may be from time to time established by said Grand Lodge; and no sale or mortgage shall be made except by the previously obtained consent of the Grand Lodge. Such subordinate Lodges shall at all times be subject to the jurisdiction and control of said Grand Lodge, and subject, as heretofore, to have their charters revoked by said Grand Lodge. Upon the demise of any subordinate Lodge, all property and rights existing in such Lodge shall pass to and vest in the Grand Lodge, subject in its hands to the payment of all debts due by such subordinate Lodge; but the Grand Lodge shall never be liable for any sum greater than the actual cash value of the effects of such subordinate Lodge actually received by it or its authority.

Section 3. This act is declared to be a public general statute, and shall as such be taken notice of by all courts and in all places.

Section 4. The Charter under which the Grand Lodge of Texas is now acting being defective, creates an imperative public necessity and emergency which requires that this act should be immediately passed, and to take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Approved March 19th, A. D. 1879.

DIVISION II
CONSTITUTION AND ANCIENT CHARGES
OF A FREEMASON
CONSTITUTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS

As Adopted December 8, A.L. 5920, and Amended December 6, 1922; December 2, 1925;
December 4, 1947; December 4, 1957; December 8, 1990; December 5, 1992;
December 6, 1997; and December 5, 2015.

ARTICLE I
TITLE AND PURPOSES

Section 1. – Title.

The title and corporate name of this Grand Body is “The Grand Lodge of Texas.”

Section 2. – Purposes.

The purposes of this Grand Lodge are to control and regulate the practice of Freemasonry throughout its jurisdiction, in accordance with the immemorial usages of this ancient and honorable Craft; to advance the moral and social interest of its membership; to foster good citizenship, honest industry and upright living; to cultivate the exercise of charity in its best and broadest sense; to assist the widows and orphans of its deceased members; to stimulate friendship, harmony and brotherly love, and generally to promote, in its own way, the happiness of mankind – it is a Fraternity of good men, linked together by honorable and indissoluble bonds, to accomplish these noble purposes, eschewing all interest in factional polities and sectarian religion, and free from the dictation or discussion of both in this Grand Lodge and its Subordinate Lodges. (Revised 2012)

ARTICLE II
OF WHOM COMPOSED

Section 1 – Members

The Grand Lodge of Texas is composed of the following members:

Grand Lodge Officers - Present and Past

- (a) Grand Lodge Officers: The Grand Officers, elective and appointive, in this Constitution provided, during their respective terms of office.
- (b) Past Grand Lodge Officers: The Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters and Past Grand Wardens of the Grand Lodge of Texas, while members of Lodges of its obedience.
- (c) Past Masters: The Past Masters of regular Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas, while members of Lodges of its obedience.

Masters and Wardens

- (d) The current Worshipful Masters and Wardens of all the Lodges of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas, or the proxies of such Lodges who may be elected by such Lodges to represent them in the next succeeding Communication only of the Grand Lodge, and who, during such Communication, and in the absence of the Master and Wardens thereof, shall be entitled to cast the vote of their respective Lodges on all questions arising in the Grand Lodge, provided that each proxy must be a member of the Lodge he represents, and a resident of the State of Texas.

- (e) The membership of the Grand Lodge shall collectively be referred to as the Members.

Section 2 - Lodges

(a) All of the regular Lodges of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas, shall be entitled to cast the vote of their respective Lodges on all questions arising in the Grand Lodge wherein a vote is taken by Lodges and Members, pursuant to the provisions of Article VII, Constitution of The Grand Lodge of Texas.

(b) The proxies of such Lodges who may be elected by such Lodges to represent them in the next succeeding Communication only of the Grand Lodge, and who, during such Communication, and in the absence of the Master and Wardens thereof, shall be entitled to cast the vote of their respective Lodges on all questions arising in the Grand Lodge wherein a vote is taken by Lodges & Members, pursuant to the provisions of Article VII, Constitution of The Grand Lodge of Texas. (Revised 2015)

ARTICLE III JURISDICTION AND POWERS

Section 1. – Exclusive Jurisdiction Over Masonry in Texas.

The Grand Lodge of Texas has exclusive jurisdiction over all regular Lodges and of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons within the limits of the State of Texas, and has exclusive power to constitute new Lodges, to revoke charters granted, to maintain uniformity in the mode of working, and generally to control Masonic affairs in this State, and is the highest power therein over the first three Degrees of Craft Masonry, to-wit: the Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft and Master Mason.

Section 2. – Inherent Power to Regulate Masonry.

It has also inherent power to make local ordinances and new regulations and to amend old ones for its own benefit and for the good of Masonry in general, provided that the Ancient Landmarks of the Fraternity be preserved and that all of its powers be exercised in accordance with the provisions of its own Constitution.

Section 3. – Anderson’s “Old Charges of a Freemason.”

The “Old Charges of a Freemason” originally prepared by Dr. Anderson, approved A.D. 1722, contains the system of ancient laws and customs of the Craft, and is recognized as binding in points where this Constitution and our laws are silent.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE

Section 1. – Style and Rank.

The officers of the Grand Lodge, their rank and titles, shall be as follows:

Most Worshipful Grand Master
Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master
Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden
Right Worshipful Grand Junior Warden
Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer
Right Worshipful Grand Secretary
Right Worshipful Grand Chaplain
Right Worshipful Grand Orator
Right Worshipful Grand Marshal
Worshipful Grand Senior Deacon
Worshipful Grand Junior Deacon
Worshipful Grand Senior Steward
Worshipful Grand Junior Steward
Worshipful Grand Pursuivant
Worshipful Grand Musician

Worshipful Grand Photographer
Worshipful Grand Tiler

The title of Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Grand Wardens and District Deputy Grand Masters shall be Right Worshipful. (Amended 1990)

Section 2. – Elective Grand Officers.

The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior and Junior Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary shall be elected. (Amended 1990)

Section 3. – Appointive Grand Officers.

- (a) The Grand Chaplain, Grand Orator, Grand Marshal, Grand Senior Deacon, Grand Musician, Grand Photographer, Grand Tiler and District Deputy Grand Masters shall be appointed by the Grand Master.
- (b) The Grand Junior Deacon and Grand Pursuivant shall be appointed by the Grand Senior Warden.
- (c) The Grand Stewards shall be appointed by the Grand Junior Warden.

Section 4. – Time of Election and Installation.

The election of Grand Officers shall be held on the day of each Annual Communication at such hour as the Grand Lodge may fix, and shall have priority over all other business; and as soon thereafter as convenient, during the same Communication, the officers, elective and appointive, shall be duly installed; provided, that if any one so elected or appointed is not present for installation, the Grand Lodge, or the Grand Master, may provide for his installation. (Revised 1992)

Section 5. – Failure to Elect or Install Grand Officers.

If the Grand Lodge shall fail to meet or to elect or install the Grand Officers at the appointed time, those in office shall, unless installed into another office, continue therein and exercise full authority until their successors are duly elected and installed.

Section 6. – Eligibility to Office.

The Grand Officers, except the Grand Chaplain, Grand Musician and Grand Photographer, must be members of the Grand Lodge at the time of their selection and, if willing to serve again, are eligible as often as may be the pleasure of the Grand Lodge or of the officer having the power of appointment (as the case may be), and except as provided in Section 6(a) every member of the Grand Lodge is eligible to any office therein, whether present or not at the time of his selection. (Revised 2013)

(a) In the statement of availability for the office of Grand Junior Warden, such member must disclose in his statement of availability whether or not he has received any reimbursement or payment of expenses from the Grand Lodge of Texas within the previous twelve month period, or, if the member is nominated from the floor of Grand Lodge, then such member shall make such disclosure in writing upon his nomination in Grand Lodge. (Adopted 2008)

Section 7. – Mode of Election.

(a) The presiding officer shall request the members to nominate some skillful Brother or Brethren for the office of Grand Master. Should only one name be placed in nomination, the vote shall be taken without written ballot. Should more than one Brother be placed in nomination, those entitled to vote shall vote by either written or electronic ballot, the method of balloting to be determined by the Grand Master. If the Grand Master determines to have the vote by written ballot, those entitled to vote shall prepare their written ballots for Grand Master, to be collected by the Grand Deacons (and such others as may be appointed to assist them), who shall examine the same at the Grand Secretary's desk and announce to the presiding officer the number of votes cast for each nominee, and he shall, in either case, proclaim the Brother receiving the majority of all votes cast as the Grand Master of Masons in Texas.

If the Grand Master determines to have the vote by electronic ballot, those entitled to vote shall cast their ballot(s) by electronic devices provided the Grand Lodge. The votes cast shall be accumulated by the Grand Secretary who shall, in turn, announce to the presiding officer the majority of votes cast for each nominee, and the presiding officer shall, in either case, proclaim the Brother receiving the majority of all votes cast as the Grand Master of Masons in Texas.

(b) The Grand Master-elect shall nominate some skillful Brother for his Deputy, and the Members may nominate one or more additional Brethren, if they desire. If only one nomination is made, the vote shall be taken without written ballot, but if more than one Brother is placed in nomination, the written ballot shall be taken as in the election of Grand Master.

(c) In like manner shall the election of Grand Wardens and other elective Grand Officers be conducted, except that the nominations thereof shall be made by Members only. (Revised 2015)

Section 8. – District Deputy Grand Masters.

The State shall from time to time be divided into a convenient number of Masonic Districts of contiguous territory and comprising, as nearly as practicable, an equal number of Lodges, and be numbered accordingly. The Grand Master shall appoint for each District, a District Deputy Grand Master, who shall be a member of a Lodge of that District and a regular Past Master of a Lodge of our obedience and a Brother who has previously attended the Grand Lodge (if such a one is available) and who is well versed in the Masonic Law and usage. Should any Brother appointed decline to serve, or the office become vacant from any cause, the Grand Master shall appoint some other Brother to supply the place. (Revised 1989)

Section 9. – Other Officers May Be Provided.

In view of the unusual extent of our Masonic territory, comprising a very large and increasing number of Lodges and Masons, and in order to relieve the Grand Master of many of the merely formal and perfunctory duties of his office, and with a view to securing at all times a close personal supervision and direction of the labors of the Craft by properly accredited representatives of the Grand Lodge, provision may be made, from time to time, for the appointment of other officers, or deputies, with such title, rank, powers, and duties as may be prescribed by law.

Section 10. – Installation of Officers.

(a) At the time appointed, the Grand Master or some Past Grand Master shall cause the Grand Master-elect to be conducted to the chair, and, after introducing him to the members as a skillful and worthy Brother, shall invest him with the badges and implements of his office and install him in due form.

(b) The installation of all the other officers shall then follow in due order.

ARTICLE V **DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE GRAND OFFICERS**

Section 1. – Duties of the Grand Master and His Deputy and Grand Wardens.

It shall be the duty of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Wardens, to attend all Communications of the Grand Lodge, and to conduct its labors in accordance with the ancient customs and usages, as outlined in the Old Constitution, and as established by the customs of the Grand Lodge, and each of said officers shall perform faithfully such other duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the laws, resolutions, and edicts of the Grand Lodge.

Section 2. – Powers of the Grand Master.

The Grand Master has power to grant dispensation for new Lodges and for conferring all degrees, and for other purposes, according to the laws and customs of the Grand Lodge; to install and constitute new Lodges; to preside in any Lodge; to suspend Lodges, and depose officers of subordinate Lodges, on information of un-Masonic conduct; and generally to superintend and direct the labors of the Craft: but the exercise of all these powers is subject to the laws of the Grand Lodge.

Section 3. – Duties of Other Grand Officers.

The other Grand Officers shall perform such duties and exercise such powers as are or may be prescribed by law.

**ARTICLE VI
QUORUM, PRESIDING OFFICERS, COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.****Section 1. – Quorum.**

To constitute a quorum to transact business at any Communication of the Grand Lodge, the representatives of at least fifty Lodges must be present.

Section 2. – Presiding Officers.

(a) The Grand Master, if present, must preside at any Communication of the Grand Lodge, and he may call upon any eminent Brethren to fill vacancies temporarily; and these duties will devolve upon the Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden and Grand Junior Warden in due order of succession, in the absence of his superior officers; and in the absence of all of them the Master of the oldest chartered Lodge present shall preside as Grand Master pro tem, or he may call upon some Past Grand Master to preside as Grand Master pro tem.

(b) In case of the absence from the State or the disability or death of the Grand Master or other Grand Officer above named at any time during his term of office, the same order of succession shall take place as above directed, either temporarily or until the next regular election, as the case may be.

Section 3. – Communication.

(a) The Grand Lodge shall meet in Grand Annual Communication at such time and place as may be fixed by Law. (Revised 1997)

(b) Special Communications of the Grand Lodge may be convened whenever the Grand Master, or presiding officer for the time, shall deem that the interests of the Craft require, but in such case at least one month's notice shall be given to each Lodge by the Grand Secretary, specifying in such notice the time, place and the purpose or purposes of such special Communication; and at such special Communication no business shall be transacted other than that mentioned in such notice.

**ARTICLE VII
MANNER OF VOTING IN THE GRAND LODGE****Section 1. – Voting by “Lodges and Members” and Otherwise.**

All questions shall be determined by a majority of votes cast as follows:

(a) Unless otherwise permitted, all resolutions and recommendations requiring a vote at the Annual Communication shall be taken by Lodges and Members. (Revised 2017)

(b) The vote “by Lodges and Members” shall be in the following manner: The Masters, Wardens, or the proxy of Lodges, in the absence of the Master and Wardens, present and entitled to vote shall vote as one body and shall collectively constitute the “Lodges” and the Grand Officers, Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Grand Wardens, Past Worshipful Masters, present and entitled to vote, shall vote as one body and shall collectively alone constitute the “Members.”

(c) When the vote is taken “by Lodges and Members” each Lodge represented by its Master or Wardens or Proxy is entitled to three votes, to be cast by its representatives collectively; and Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Grand Wardens, or Past Worshipful Masters, present and entitled to vote, shall vote as one body and alone constitute the other body of “Members”, and each Member shall be entitled to one vote.

(d) When the vote is taken by ballot, the vote of each Lodge shall be cast together, as a majority of its representatives present may agree; if only one is present he shall cast the whole vote; if two are present and they do not agree, then the senior officer of them shall cast the whole vote.

Section 2 – No Member Can Cast More Than Four Votes.

(a) If a Member is a Grand Lodge Officer, Past Grand Master, Past Deputy Grand Master, Past Grand Warden, or a Past Worshipful Master, and he is also a Master, Warden or Proxy of a Lodge duly attending an Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and he is voting pursuant to the provisions of Article VII, Section 1 (c), he may cast up to three (3) votes for his Lodge and one (1) vote as a Member.

(b) In no case can one Brother cast more than four (4) votes, and no Brother can represent other than his own Lodge when voting by Lodges and Members.

Section 3. – Presiding Officer Votes in Case of a Tie.

(a) In the case of a tie vote in a vote by Lodges and Members, the presiding officer shall not be entitled to cast the deciding vote, unless the vote is tied on more than two consecutive ballots. (Revised 2017)

**ARTICLE VIII
SUBORDINATE LODGES**

Section 1. – Dispensations, Charters, Etc.

No set of Masons shall ever take upon themselves to work together, or to form a new Lodge, without a dispensation or charter issued according to the laws of The Grand Lodge of Texas; and no Lodge or body of persons in Texas, under whatever name, conferring or pretending to confer the first three degrees of symbolic Masonry, can be recognized as a regular Lodge of Masons, unless it holds its warrant from and under The Grand Lodge of Texas.

Section 2. – No Lodges Chartered in Other States or Countries.

No dispensation or charter to constitute a Lodge shall be granted by the Grand Lodge, or under its authority, to Masons residing in any other State or country where there is a Grand Lodge that adopts the principles of this and the foregoing section.

Section 3. – Grand Master May Grant Dispensations for New Lodges.

The Grand Master only has power to grant dispensations for new Lodges, and to revoke the same as well as charters, under regulations prescribed by the Grand Lodge.

Section 4. – Charters Granted by the Grand Lodge Only.

Charters for forming new Lodges can be granted by the Grand Lodge only, either on application of a Lodge under dispensation or otherwise as provided by law.

**ARTICLE IX
RETURNS AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

Section 1. – Lodges Shall Make Annual Returns.

The several Lodges on record shall make out annually their returns and forward the same to the Grand Secretary at the time and in the manner and form prescribed by law.

Section 2. – Annual Contributions.

Each Lodge shall pay annually, and at such time as is or may be provided by law, as a contribution to the Grand Lodge the sum of fifty cents for each member on its rolls, and one dollar for each degree conferred, all of which shall constitute a part of the General Fund of The Grand Lodge of Texas, and shall pay annually the further sum of one dollar and twenty-five cents for each Master Mason on its rolls to maintain the Grand Lodge Building Maintenance Reserve Fund. (Amendment adopted 2018.)

Section 3. – Charter Suspended for Failure to Make Returns or Pay Dues.

If any Lodge shall fail to make its annual returns or to pay its annual dues within such time as may be prescribed by law, it shall not be represented in the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge; and if it continues in neglect of either of these duties for six months after such Annual Communication, it shall stand suspended, unless the Grand Master, for good cause shown, shall grant it further time.

Section 4. – Fees for Dispensations and Charters.

The fee for each dispensation to form a new Lodge shall be twenty-five dollars, for each charter subsequently granted an additional twenty-five dollars, and for each charter granted, where no dispensation has previously issued, fifty dollars; such fee in each case to accompany the application and to be returned if the application be not granted. All such fees will constitute a part of the General Fund.

**ARTICLE X WIDOWS
AND ORPHANS****Section 1. – Honor and Resources Pledged.**

The Grand Lodge of Texas, having from its organization in 1837 to the present time, undertaken to provide for the maintenance of the widows and for the education and maintenance of the orphaned children of the deceased Texas Master Masons does hereby pledge anew its sacred honor to the accomplishment of this noble design, and will devote to its full and continued realization the financial resources at its command and all that may be achieved by the earnest thought, generous hearts, and willing hands of our great Fraternity.

Section 2. – Masonic Home and School.

Masonic Home and School. The Masonic Home and School heretofore established and supported by the Grand Lodge, at Fort Worth, is recognized as a means for the attainment of the commendable purposes above set forth, and its future growth and expansion in beneficence and usefulness will ever be the subject of our constant care and solicitude.

Section 3. – Provisions for Widows and Orphans. Repealed 2018

Section 4 – Board of Directors.

(a) The charity of the Grand Lodge in relation to these benevolent purposes toward the widows and orphans of Texas Master Masons and such other needy children and families in Texas are hereby completely and entirely delegated to, transferred to and vested in the Masonic Home and School of Texas, through its Board of five Directors. Five members of said Board of Directors shall be elected by the Grand Lodge, from its membership, to serve a term of five years each, one of whom shall be elected at each Annual Communication at the same time and in the same manner as the Grand Officers are elected, and all elections to fill vacancies created by the death or resignation of such elective members on said Board shall be for the unexpired term, only. Furthermore, no member elected to serve on the Board of Directors can serve on any other board elected by the Grand Lodge or serve on a Permanent Grand Lodge Committee as enumerated in Chapter 16-Title I. If a member is currently serving on a Permanent Committee as defined above or an elected Grand Lodge Board, he must resign from one of the Boards or Committees so that he is only serving on this Board or Directors. (Revised 2017)

(b) Said Board of Directors shall have exclusive control and management of said Masonic Home and School of Texas and the investment of the funds belonging thereto. No Member of said Board shall ever borrow, directly or indirectly, any of the funds under its control, or make loans to any member of any committee, whose duties require the auditing of the accounts of said Board. (Revised 2017)

(c) The members of said Board of Directors shall not receive any compensation as such, the honor and distinction of serving the Craft in a capacity so useful and beneficent being deemed a sufficient reward for their services.

Section 5. – Funds Administered by Grand Lodge and Board of Directors.

The manner in which said funds shall be administered and expended for the accomplishment of the purposes hereinbefore disclosed, and the particular individuals or class of individuals who may receive the benefit of said funds, are matters entirely within the control of said Board of Directors of the Masonic Home and School of Texas. (Amendment adopted December 4, 1947.) (Revised 2015)

**ARTICLE XI
COMMITTEE ON WORK****Section 1. – Election, Term of Office, Etc.**

A Committee on Work, consisting of five members, shall be elected from the members of the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Master shall be ex officio chairman thereof. They shall be elected for a term of five years each, and shall continue to discharge their duties for the term for which they are elected, so long as they each remain members of the Grand Lodge and preserve their good standing as Masons; one of whom shall be elected at each Annual Communication, at the same time and in the same manner as the Grand Officers are elected; the present members of said committee to serve out their respective terms, and all elections to fill vacancies on said committee shall be for the unexpired term only. The title of members of the Committee on Work shall be Right Worshipful, and each past member of the Committee on Work who has served a full term shall retain the title Right Worshipful and retain their aprons to be worn on appropriate occasions. (Revised 2006)

**ARTICLE XII
GENERAL PROVISIONS****Section 1. – No Expense of Officers, Representatives, or Committees Paid.**

The Grand Lodge shall not pay any compensation to, nor the expenses, or any part thereof, of officers, members, representatives, or members of committees, incurred in going to, attending upon or in returning from its Communications, but this provision shall not in any way apply to the Committee on Work, nor to the representatives before said Committee.

Section 2. – All Propositions Must Be Referred to Committee.

All resolutions and all Grand Master's Recommendations and other new business intended for the action of the Grand Lodge, if providing for the expenditure of money, amending the laws, or affecting

jurisprudence in any way, shall be first referred to and reported upon by the appropriate committee before the same is placed before the Grand Lodge for its action thereon, unless the same emanates from a committee, in a report thereof on some matter regularly and properly referred to it by the Grand Lodge; provided however, that if the matter includes amending the law, or affecting jurisprudence in any way, the same shall be concurrently referred to and first reported upon by the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence as to whether the same is in proper and legal form and not inconsistent with any other provision of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas. (Revised 1997)

Section 3. – Same Question Not Acted Upon Again Unless Reconsidered.

When any question is decided by electronic ballot, the same shall not be again acted upon during the communication, unless upon a motion to reconsider, which can only be made on the same day or next day, and by a member who voted in the majority. Such motion shall not be acted on unless there are an equal or greater number of votes cast to reconsider as were present when first acted upon. (Revised 2017)

Section 4. – Questions of Order Decided by the Presiding Officer.

All questions of order shall be decided by the presiding officer, without debate or appeal, and he may ask the advice of any member before deciding.

ARTICLE XIII AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

No amendment to the Constitution either by alteration, addition or repeal, shall be made, unless in the manner following, to-wit:

Section 1. – Amendment Must Be Approved and Submitted to Lodges.

The amendment proposed must be presented at an annual Communication, referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, who shall report thereon, and, after being read, discussed and, if necessary, amended, if it be approved by a majority of the members present, it shall be entered of record, printed in full in the proceedings and specially notified to the Lodges by the Grand Secretary; provided, it shall be sufficient in such special notice to Lodges to refer to the general subject or purpose of the proposed amendment and to the page of the Proceedings where the same appears printed in full.

Section 2. – Voted on at Next Communication.

At the next Annual Communication it shall be again considered and voted on without further amendment, and if approved by a majority of votes cast, the amendment shall become thereupon a part of this Constitution and be recorded as a part thereof.

Section 3. – All Laws in Conflict Herewith Repealed.

All laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge, or of any Lodge, inconsistent with this Constitution, are hereby repealed; but those on which it is silent, or referring to matters not provided for by it, remain in full force.

Section 4. – All New Laws to Be Printed in Proceedings.

All laws, rules and resolutions of the Grand Lodge of a general and permanent character, adopted since the last preceding officially published revision or digest of the laws, shall be, by the Grand Secretary, collected, numbered and published as an appendix to the Annual Proceedings.

Section 5. – Date of Taking Effect of This Constitution.

So much of this Constitution as relates to the Grand Lodge, its officers and committees, and their duties, shall take effect from its adoption. All that relates to subordinate Lodges, their officers and duties, shall take effect on the first day of March next after its adoption.

THE CHARGES OF A FREEMASON

Extracted from the Ancient Records of Lodges beyond the sea, and of those in England, Scotland, and Ireland, for the use of Lodges in London; to be read at the making of new Brethren, or when the Master shall order it.

I

CONCERNING GOD AND RELIGION — A Mason is obliged by his tenure to obey the moral law, and if he rightly understands the art, he will never be a stupid Atheist, nor an irreligious Libertine.

But though in ancient times, Masons were charged in every country to be of the religion of that country or nation, whatever it was, yet, it is now thought more expedient only to oblige them to that religion in which all men agree, leaving their particular opinions to themselves; that is, to be good men and true, or men of honor and honesty, by whatever denominations or persuasions they may be distinguished; whereby Masonry becomes the center of union, and the means of conciliating true friendship among persons that must have remained at a perpetual distance.

II

OF THE CIVIL MAGISTRATES, SUPREME AND SUBORDINATE — A Mason is to be a peaceable subject to the civil powers, wherever he resides or works, and is never to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against the peace and welfare of the nation, nor to behave himself undutifully to inferior magistrates; for, as Masonry hath been always injured by war, bloodshed and confusion, so ancient kings and princes have been much disposed to encourage the Craftsmen, because of their peaceableness and loyalty, whereby they practically answered the cavils of their adversaries, and promoted the honor of the Fraternity, who ever flourished in times of peace.

So that if a Brother be a rebel against the State, he is not to be countenanced in his rebellion, however, he may be pitied as an unhappy man; and, if convicted of no other crime, though the loyal brotherhood must and ought to disown his rebellion, and give no umbrage or ground of political jealousy to the government for the time being, they cannot expel him from the Lodge, and his relation to it remains indefeasible.

III

OF LODGES — A Lodge is a place where Masons assemble and work; hence, that assembly, or duly organized society of Masons, is called a Lodge, and every Brother ought to belong to one, and to be subject to its bylaws, and the general regulations of the General or Grand Lodge hereunto annexed. In ancient times, no Master or Fellow could be absent from it, especially when warned to appear at it, without incurring a severe censure, until it appeared to the Master and Wardens that pure necessity hindered him. The persons admitted members of a Lodge must be good and true men, freeborn, and of a mature and discreet age; no bondmen, no woman, no immoral or scandalous men, but of good report.

IV

OF MASTERS, WARDENS, FELLOWS AND APPRENTICES — All preferment among Masons is grounded upon real worth and personal merit only; that so the lords may be well served, the Brethren not put to shame, nor the Royal Craft despised. Therefore, no Master or Warden is chosen by seniority, but for his merit. It is impossible to describe these things in writing, and every Brother must attend his place and learn them in a way peculiar to this Fraternity.

Only candidates may know that no Master should take an Apprentice, unless he has sufficient employment for him, and unless he be a perfect youth, having no maim or defect in his body, that may render him incapable of learning the art of serving his Master's lord, and of being made a Brother, and

CHARGES OF A FREEMASON

then a Fellowcraft in due time, even after he has served such a term of years as the custom of the country directs; and that he should be descended of honest parents; that so, when otherwise qualified, he may arrive to the honor of being the Warden, and then the Master of the Lodge, the Grand Warden, and at length the Grand Master of all the Lodges, according to his merit.

No Brother can be a Warden until he has passed the part of a Fellowcraft; nor a Master until he has acted as a Warden; nor a Grand Warden unless he has been Master of a Lodge; nor Grand Master unless he has been a Fellowcraft before his election, who is also to be nobly born, or a gentleman of the best fashion, or some eminent scholar, or some curious architect, or other artist, descended of honest parents, and who is of singular great merit in the opinion of the Lodges. And for the better and easier and more honorable discharge of his office, the Grand Master has a power to choose his own Deputy Grand Master, who must be then, or must have been, formerly, the Master of a particular Lodge, and has the privilege of acting whatever the Grand Master, his principal, should act, unless the said principal be present, or interpose his authority by a letter.

These rulers and governors, supreme and subordinate, of the Ancient Lodge, are to be obeyed in their respective stations by all the Brethren, according to the Old Charges and Regulations, with all humility, reverence, love and alacrity.

V

OF THE MANAGEMENT OF TILE CRAFT IN WORKING – All Masons shall work honestly on working days, that they may live creditably on holy days; and the time appointed by the law of the land or confirmed by custom, shall be observed. The most expert of the Fellowcraftsmen shall be appointed the Master, or Overseer of the lord's work; who is to be called Master by those that work under him. The Craftsmen are to avoid all ill language, and to call each other by no disobliging name, but Brother or fellow; and to behave themselves courteously within and without the Lodge.

The Master, knowing himself to be able of cunning, shall undertake the lord's work as reasonably as possible, and truly dispend his goods as if they were his own; nor to give more wages to any Brother or apprentice than he may really deserve.

Both the Master and the Masons, receiving their wages justly, shall be faithful to the lord, and honestly finish their work, whether task or journey; nor put the work to task, that hath been accustomed to journey.

None shall discover envy at the prosperity of a Brother, nor supplant him or put him out of his work, if he be capable to finish the same; for no man can finish another's work so much to the lord's profit, unless he be thoroughly acquainted with the designs and drafts of him that began it.

When a Fellowcraftsman is chosen Warden of the work under the Master, he shall be true to both Master and Fellows, shall carefully oversee the work in the Masters' absence to the lord's profit; and his Brethren shall obey him.

All Masons employed shall meekly receive their wages, without murmuring or mutiny, and not desert the Master till the work is finished.

A younger Brother shall be instructed in working, to prevent spoiling the materials for want of judgment, and for increasing and continuing of brotherly love.

All the tools used in working shall be approved by the Grand Lodge.

No laborer shall be employed in the proper work of Masonry; nor shall Freemasons work with those that are not free, without an urgent necessity; nor shall they teach laborers and unaccepted Masons as they should teach a Brother or fellow.

CHARGES OF A FREEMASON

VI

1. OF BEHAVIOR IN THE LODGE WHILE CONSTITUTED

You are not to hold private committees, or separate conversations, without leave from the Master, nor to talk of anything impertinent or unseemly, nor interrupt the Master or Wardens, or any Brother speaking to the Master; nor behave yourself ludicrously or jestingly while the Lodge is engaged in what is serious and solemn; not use any unbefitting language upon any pretense whatsoever; but to pay due reverence to your Master, Wardens and Fellows, and put them to worship.

If any complaint be brought, the Brother found guilty shall stand to the award and determination of the Lodge, who are the proper and competent judges of all such controversies (unless you carry it by appeal to the Grand Lodge), and to whom they ought to be referred, unless a lord's work be hindered the meanwhile, in which case a particular reference may be made; but you must never go to law about what concerneth Masonry, without an absolute necessity apparent to the Lodge.

2. BEHAVIOR AFTER THE LODGE IS OVER, AND THE BRETHREN NOT GONE

You may enjoy yourselves with innocent mirth, treating one another accordingly to ability and avoiding all excess, or forcing any Brother to eat or drink beyond his inclination, or hindering him from going when his occasions call him, or doing or saying anything offensive or that may forbid an easy and free conversation; for that would blast our harmony and defeat our laudable purposes. Therefore, no private piques or quarrels must be brought within the door of the Lodge, far less any quarrels about religion, or nations, or state policy, we being only, as Masons, of the catholic religion above mentioned; we are also of all nations, tongues, kindreds and languages, and are resolved against all politics, as what never yet conduced to the welfare of the Lodge, nor ever will. This charge has been always strictly enjoined and observed; but especially ever since the reformation in Britain, or the dissent and secession of these nations from the communion of Rome.

3. BEHAVIOR WHEN BRETHREN MEET WITHOUT STRANGERS, BUT NOT IN A LODGE FORMED

You are to salute one another in a courteous manner as you will be instructed, calling each other Brother, freely giving mutual instruction, as shall be thought expedient, without being overseen or overhead, and without encroaching upon each other, or derogating from the respect which is due to any Brother, were he not a Mason; for though all Masons are as Brethren upon the same level, yet Masonry takes no honor from a man that he had before; nay, rather, it adds to his honor, especially if he has deserved well of the brotherhood, who must give honor to whom it is due, and avoid ill manners.

4. BEHAVIOR IN PRESENCE OF STRANGERS NOT MASONs

You should be cautious in your words and carriage that the most penetrating stranger shall not be able to discover or find out what is not proper to be intimated; and, sometimes, you shall divert a discourse, and manage it prudently for the honor of the worshipful Fraternity.

5. BEHAVIOR AT HOME AND IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

You are to act as becomes a moral and wise man; particularly not to let your family, friends and neighbors know the concerns of the Lodge, etc., but wisely to consult your own honor, and that of the ancient brotherhood, for reasons not to be mentioned here. You must also consult your health, by not continuing altogether too late, or too long from home, after Lodge hours are past; and by avoiding of gluttony or drunkenness, that your families be not neglected or injured, nor you disabled from working.

6. BEHAVIOR TOWARD A STRANGER BROTHER

You are cautiously to examine him, in such a method as prudence shall direct you, that you may not be imposed upon by an ignorant, false pretender, whom you are to reject with contempt and derision, and before of giving him any hints of knowledge. But if you discover him to be a true and genuine Brother, you are to respect him accordingly; and if he is in want, you must relieve him if you can, or else direct him how he may be relieved. You must employ him some days, or else recommend him to be employed. But you are not charged to do beyond your ability, only to prefer a poor Brother, that is a good man and true, before any other poor people in the same circumstances.

FINALLY, All these charges you are to observe, and also those that are to be communicated to you in another way; cultivating BROTHERLY love, the foundation and cap-stone, the cement and glory of this ancient Fraternity, avoiding all wrangling and quarreling, all slander and back-biting, nor permitting others to slander any honest Brother, but defending his character, and doing him all good offices, as far as is consistent with your honor and safety, and no farther. And if any of them do you injury, you must apply to your own or his Lodge; and from thence you may appeal to the Grand Lodge at the quarterly communication, and from thence to the annual Grand Lodge, as has been the ancient laudable conduct of our forefathers in every nation; never taking a legal course, but when the case cannot be otherwise decided, and patiently listening to the honest and friendly advice of Master and Fellows, when they would prevent your going to law with strangers, or would excite you to put a speedy period to all law suits, that so you may mind the affairs of Masonry with the more alacrity and success; but with respect to brothers or fellows at law, the Master and Brethren should kindly offer their mediation, which ought to be thankfully submitted to by the contending Brethren; and if that submission is impracticable, they must, however, carry on their process or law suit, without wrath and rancor (not in the common way), saying or doing nothing which may hinder brotherly love and good offices to be renewed and continued; that all may see the benign influence of Masonry, as all true Masons have done from the beginning of the world, and will do to the end of time. Amen. So mote it be.

This page intentionally left blank.

DIVISION III
THE STATUTES
being the
CODE OF MASONIC LAWS FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS
ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
AND SUBORDINATE LODGES UNDER ITS JURISDICTION

CANONS OF CONSTRUCTION

(These Canons are general rules of construction to be applied as aids in ascertaining the true intent and meaning in all cases where there appears to be a conflict, ambiguity, inconsistency, uncertainty, confusion or vagueness as to the true meaning of a Statute, resolution, rule, regulation, edict or decision promulgated or approved by the Grand Lodge.)

I

The Constitution of this Grand Lodge is paramount, and all Statutes, or General Laws, and all resolutions, rules, regulations, edicts and decisions, promulgated or approved by the Grand Lodge inconsistent with any of its provisions, or in conflict therewith, are null and void. (218).

II

In construing Statutes promulgated by the Grand Lodge, there is a general presumption of validity, and they should be given a construction that will render them valid wherever possible. Only when there is irreconcilable conflict – and only to that extent – should they be declared void. Where, however, the invalid portion is so interwoven with the valid as to make separation unreasonable, ineffectual or purposeless, the entire Statute should be held void.

III

There is a like presumption in favor of the validity of resolutions, rules, regulations, edicts and decisions approved by the Grand Lodge, and they likewise should be given a construction, wherever possible, that would not render them inconsistent with the Constitution or Statutes.

IV

When there is any conflict between Statutes, resolutions, rules, regulations, edicts or decisions, the last Statute, resolution, rule, regulation, edict or decision shall control.

V

In construing the Statutes, the singular number may include the plural, and the past and present, the future, according to the context.

VI

In all interpretations that prime consideration should be to ascertain the true intention of the Grand Lodge. That intention should be diligently sought, keeping in view the former law or rule, the fault sought to be remedied and the remedy applied.

VII

Words should be given their general dictionary meaning except when used in a technical or some Masonic sense.

VIII

Wherever possible a construction should be given a Statute, resolution, rule, regulation, edict or decision that will not render it unreasonable, meaningless or purposeless.

IX

To attain these objectives all Statutes, resolutions, rules, regulation, edicts and decisions should be liberally construed.

TITLE I THE GRAND LODGE

CHAPTER 1 – TITLE I THE GRAND LODGE

Art. 1. Style and Title. The style and title of this Grand Lodge shall be as follows: The title and corporate name is “The Grand Lodge of Texas,” which title shall be used in all legal documents.

The Honorary title of this Grand Lodge is and shall be “The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas,” which title shall be used in the ceremonies of opening and closing and in the labors of this Grand Lodge.

CHAPTER 2 – TITLE I COMMUNICATIONS

For “Time and Place of” see Constitution Art. VI, Sec. 3, Sub-div. (a);

For “Special Communications” see Constitution Art. VI, Sec. 3, Sub-div. (b).

Art. 2. Annual Communication. This Grand Lodge shall meet in Annual Communication in the City of Waco at 1:30 p.m. on the Thursday before the third Friday in January, unless the Grand Master and the majority of the Grand Lodge Trustees consider and declare the Grand Lodge shall meet in Grand Annual Communication in another designated location at 1:30 p.m. on the Thursday before the third Friday of that January, however, no business requiring reports of Committees, balloting or voting by the membership of Grand Lodge shall be conducted until the Grand Lodge is called to labor at 9:00 a.m. on the third Friday of that January, and while in session for the transaction of business, no Constituent Lodge owing obedience to it shall hold any meeting either Stated or Called for any purpose except for funerals as provided in Article 359 or for valid emergencies approved by the Grand Master. (Revised 2015)

In the event of a severe emergency, the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge Trustees may specify the labors of a Grand Annual Communication to be transacted in a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge under conditions enumerated in Article VI, Section 3, sub-section (b), of the Constitution. (Revised 1997)

To defray the expenses incurred in holding such regular or special called communication of the Grand Lodge, each Member of Grand Lodge as herein defined, each Lodge Representative and each Master Mason of a Texas Lodge must pay a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) registration fee to attend an annual or called meeting of the Grand Lodge of Texas. (Revised 2017)

Art. 2a. Representations of the Grand Lodge. Representations of the Grand Lodge may be opened at any time by the Grand Master, for the purpose of conducting Grand Lodge funerals, leveling cornerstones, consecrating or dedicating buildings, cemeteries or other appropriate places or objects, unveiling statues, and for such other occasions as may be deemed appropriate and desirable by the Grand Master. It shall not be necessary except where otherwise provided in these Statutes, but it is permissible, if deemed by the Grand Master desirable, to open a Lodge in connection with such representations. (Adopted 1962)

CHAPTER 3 – TITLE I MEMBERSHIP

For “Members of the Grand Lodge” see Constitution Art. II, Sec. 1; For “Representatives in the Grand Lodge” see Constitution Art. II, Sec. 1(d).

Art. 3 Proxies. Each subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas will elect a member as proxy to represent it at all Grand Lodge Communications where there will be a ballot taken on any and all subjects. The proxy will be elected at the last stated meeting in October of each year or no later than 30 days prior to the relevant Grand Lodge Communication. A proxy so elected cannot claim his seat, or exercise any rights as a proxy, when the Master or either of the Wardens is present. Past Masters, as such, cannot be represented by a proxy. (Revised 2003)

Art. 4. Proxy Certificates. Every proxy elected to represent a Lodge in this Grand Lodge must be furnished with a copy of a certificate of his election, with the seal of the Lodge affixed and signed by the Secretary. The Secretary of such Subordinate Lodge will immediately send the certificate of such proxy to the Grand Secretary and said certificate will be by him turned over to the Committee on Credentials when that Committee meets. This certificate must certify that the proxy was duly elected by the Lodge; that the election was entered in the minutes; and that such proxy did not solicit, either directly or indirectly, his election. This Certificate must be received by the Grand Lodge no later than 15 days before the relevant Grand Lodge Communication. No proxy shall be recognized by this Grand Lodge in the absence of such a certificate on file at Grand Lodge. (Revised 2003)

Art. 5. Proxy Certified to Grand Secretary. When a Lodge member is elected as a proxy by a Subordinate Lodge to represent it in this Grand Lodge, the Secretary of such Subordinate Lodge will at once send a certificate of such proxy to the Grand Secretary, and said certificate will be by him turned over to the Committee on Credentials when that committee meets. This certificate must be on file fifteen (15) days before each Grand Lodge Communication of each year. (Revised 2003)

Art. 6. Grand Lodge Membership Lost by Dimit: How Regained. A Past Master, Past Grand or Deputy Grand Master or Grand Warden who dimits from his Lodge loses his membership in the Grand Lodge, as well as the rights, titles and honors attaching to such Past Office. If within one year after such dimit is granted he applies for affiliation in a Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction and is elected thereto, he shall be automatically reinstated to membership in the Grand Lodge with all rights, titles and honors attaching to his Past Office. Where affiliation is upon application filed after said one year period, reinstatement to Grand Lodge membership can only be obtained by petition to the Grand Lodge under the procedure prescribed in Articles 669-672. (Revised 2010)

Art. 6a. Statement of Availability. Any eligible member of this Grand Lodge desiring to serve in any elective office or position as provided for in the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge may, on or before the fifteenth day of July, preceding each Annual Communication, file with the Grand Secretary a Statement of Availability for such office or position containing: (1) a resume of his service to his Lodge or Lodges in which he holds or has held membership; (2) a record of his service to this Grand Lodge; (3) a recitation pertaining to family, education, business or profession, civic activity and military service, and: (4) a photograph, if available. (Revised 2017)

Such statement of availability shall be printed and forwarded by the Grand Secretary to all Constituent Lodges for study along with all Resolutions and/or Recommendations as required by the Laws of this Grand Lodge and shall be published in the Fall issue of the *Texas Mason Magazine*. This Grand Lodge, however, may elect any eligible member whether or not he has previously submitted such statement of availability. (Revised 1995)

CHAPTER 4 – TITLE I VISITORS

Art. 7. Master Masons. Any Master Mason, in good standing and a member of a regular Lodge of this obedience or of the obedience of a Grand Lodge with which we are in fraternal relations may be admitted as a visitor to this Grand Lodge. Such visitor is not authorized to speak unless so requested by the Grand Master or one of the Grand Wardens, or by permission of this Grand Lodge.

Art. 8. Exclusion of Visitors. Visitors may be excluded by the Grand Master while this Grand Lodge is being opened and organized and should circumstances render it expedient.

CHAPTER 5 – TITLE I JURISDICTION AND POWERS

For “Extent of” see Constitution, Art. III.

Art. 9. Rights Exclusive in Texas. This Grand Lodge does not recognize the right of any Grand or Subordinate Lodge of another jurisdiction to exercise any rights, powers or privileges within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

Art. 10. Esoteric Work. This Grand Lodge alone has power and authority to establish and disseminate the esoteric work of the first three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry in this jurisdiction.

Notes on Decisions:

Note: Associations composed of Certificate or other Masons organized for the purpose of disseminating the esoteric work are prohibited.

Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Associations, composed of such officers in any Masonic district, may be organized with the approval of the Grand Master. Copy of the by-laws of each such association must be filed with the Grand Secretary and approved by the Grand Lodge. In districts having concurrent territorial jurisdictions, there shall be only one such association. In other cases, such associations may include all the officers of two or more Masonic districts.

See under this note the following Annual Proceedings: 1910, p. 26, Dec. 22; 1924 Jur. Com., p. 285; 1943, Dec. 18, 1954, rec. 6(b), pp. 102-3, Com. on P. & P., pp. 136-7, Jur. Com., p. 157.

Art. 11. Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction. This Grand Lodge or its officers, shall not exercise jurisdiction over Masons or Lodges in any territory where a regular Grand Lodge has been duly established, unless consent thereto has been given by such Grand Lodge.

Art. 12. Regalia. This Grand Lodge shall provide appropriate regalia to be worn by the Grand Officers during the Annual and Special Communications of this Grand Lodge, and on other appropriate occasions, said regalia to consist of a collar made of gold-colored metal links, each such link embodying distinctive Masonic emblems, and from which shall be suspended the appropriate insignia of office, jewel, and an apron of white lambskin, symbolic in dimensions and decorations in accordance with the design established by this Grand Lodge. The regalia of the Past Grand Masters shall consist of a symbolic apron and collar each of the same design as provided for a Grand Master; and a Past Grand Master's jewel. The regalia of members of the Committee on Work shall consist of a symbolic apron. The design of this apron shall be the “47th PROBLEM OF EUCLID.” A detailed description of the specifications of the collars, aprons and jewels of each Grand Officer and of members of the Committee on Work shall be preserved in the archives of the office of the Grand Secretary. Aprons of the design described in the address of the Grand Master at the 1958 Grand Annual Communication shall be provided by The Grand Lodge for District Deputy Grand Masters. When a District Deputy Grand Master has served as such for the full term for which he was appointed, he may retain such apron and wear it on appropriate occasions and this includes those appointed to fill a vacancy as provided for in either Section 8 of Article IV of the Constitution or in Article 24 of the Laws of The Grand Lodge of Texas. No constituent Lodge or the officers thereof may adopt or use any collar or apron of similar color or character or which may be confused with those of the Grand Lodge, its Officers or Past Grand Masters, or District Deputy Grand Masters. (Revised 2005)

Art. 13. (Repealed 2000).

Art. 13a. Past Grand Master's Jewels. The Grand Lodge shall present to each Past Grand Master an appropriate jewel of his rank, with suitable inscription thereon; also with the symbolic apron worn by him while serving as Grand Master and a suitable case therefor, if requested by the Grand Master. (Revised 2000)

Art. 13b. Past Grand Master's Portrait. The Grand Lodge shall display in the Grand Foyer of the Grand Lodge Memorial Building a painting, photograph likeness, or suitable inscription if the foregoing are unavailable, of all of the Past Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge. (Adopted 2000)

Art. 14. Masonic Service Awards.

1. At each Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, each Master Mason in attendance thereon, and a member of a Lodge in this Jurisdiction who has been in good standing in a Lodge or Lodges for a total of fifty years or more shall be presented with a suitable emblem commemorating such membership, which shall be known as the "Fifty-Year Masonic Service Award," provided the applicant must file his certificate of eligibility therefore, duly authenticated by the Secretary of his Lodge, not later than 9:00 o'clock A.M. on the first day of the Communication of the Grand Lodge. Provided further that only one emblem shall be presented to the same member. Prior to the hour set for the presentation the Grand Secretary shall furnish to the Grand Master a list containing the name of each of those shown by the records to be eligible to receive the emblem, which shall also show the address, name of the Lodge and term of service of each eligible member applying for the award. Any member of a subordinate Lodge eligible for a fifty-year emblem, but unable to attend the Grand Lodge through illness, infirmities incident to age, financial disability or other good cause may also receive the emblem by the following procedure:

The Secretary of the Lodge of which applicant is a member shall mail to, or file with, the Grand Secretary, under the seal of the Lodge, a certificate setting forth the membership record of the applicant. Said certificate shall be filed and preserved in the archives of the Grand Secretary's office. The Grand Secretary shall transmit to the Grand Master the emblem accompanied by a certificate of the Grand Secretary certifying that the member has fully complied with the law and is legally eligible to receive said emblem. Said certificate, in addition to the foregoing, shall set forth the complete Masonic record upon which the award is based, including his name, residence, name of Lodge and length of membership. The Grand Master, upon finding the record sufficient, may in person, or by a duly authorized representative, present such emblem to the member as a gift of this Grand Lodge. Such presentation may be made anytime during the Masonic year in which the Brother becomes eligible for the award. The Grand Secretary shall keep a permanent record of all such awards. (Revised 1994)

When a Brother has been dimitted or has been suspended for non-payment of dues in a Texas Lodge (or Lodges) prior to December 3, 1941, and prior to that date has been reinstated upon payment or remission of such dues, such period (or periods, if more than one) of suspension or demission shall be included in the fifty year period. (See Article 316.) Being suspended for non-payment of dues while a prisoner of war or within a combat theater of operations at the time of suspension shall be considered as time in good standing upon the return of the Brother to said Lodge. (Revised 2002)

Should a Brother who is entitled to a "Fifty-Year Masonic Service Award" under this Article die before receiving it, the Grand Master may direct presentation thereto to such member or members of his family as he may deem proper.

2. Additional Service Awards. A member of a Lodge in this jurisdiction, who has been in good standing in a Lodge or Lodges in this jurisdiction for a total of sixty, sixty-five, seventy years or more, may be presented with the appropriate award anytime during the Grand Lodge Masonic year the Brother becomes eligible for the award. The awards will be like the "Fifty-Year Masonic Service Award" as follows: (Revised 2015)

a. Sixty Years: A lapel pin with the word "Sixty" where "Fifty" now appears with the addition of one diamond chip.

b. Sixty-Five Years: A lapel pin with the word "Sixty-Five" where "Fifty" now appears with two diamond chips.

c. Seventy Years: A lapel pin with the word "Seventy" where "Fifty" now appears with three diamond chips.

d. Seventy-Five Years: A lapel pin with the word "Seventy-Five" where "Fifty" now appears with six diamond chips. (Revised 1992)

e. Eighty Years: A lapel pin with the word "Eighty" where "Fifty" now appears with six diamond chips. (Revised 1992)

An appropriate certificate shall be presented with each of the above awards.

Art. 14a. **The Sam Houston Medal.** Grand Lodge hereby establishes the Sam Houston Medal to be awarded to such distinguished Masons as may be selected periodically by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master as worthy of such Masonic recognition; provided, however, that the awarding of the Medal by the Grand Master shall be subject to the prior approval of the Grand Lodge Trustees.

The initial Sam Houston Medal shall be awarded and presented during the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge on the occasion of the Sesquicentennial Celebration of Grand Lodge in December, 1987.

Art. 14b. **The W. B. and Brandon Carrell Humanitarian Award.** Grand Lodge hereby establishes the W. B. and Brandon Carrell Humanitarian Award to be presented to distinguished and worthy non-Masons in recognition of their humanitarian and benevolent contributions to society which are consistent with the principles and teachings of Freemasonry. Nominations for the award shall be made by vote of any Texas Lodge, and shall be submitted to the Committee on Communication for its evaluation and recommendation to the Grand Lodge Trustees for their approval prior to awarding of same by the Grand Master or his designated representative. Provided further that no more than one such Award shall be approved during any one Grand Lodge year. (Revised 2003)

Art. 14c. **The Golden Trowel Award.** Grand Lodge hereby establishes the Golden Trowel Award to be presented to any living member of a Texas Lodge who has consistently demonstrated outstanding and exemplary service to his respective Lodge through any one or combinations of Masonic and community service. The Committee on Masonic Education and Service is authorized and directed to prepare and distribute, to the Lodges, the guidelines by which this award can be made. Such guidelines shall be binding on the Lodges and may be amended by the Committee on Masonic Education and Service from time to time. (Adopted 1995)

Art. 14d. **Community Builder Award.** This award is designed to enable the Lodge to formally recognize outstanding Non-Masons who have distinguished themselves through their service to the community, to the local state and national governments, to their Church or Synagogue, or to humanity. They may be found in service clubs, in the public schools systems, in religious activities, in public office, in military or patriotic organizations, in all sorts of volunteer work; everywhere we look but often do not see. A Lodge may select one recipient each Masonic year for the Community Builders Award in any manner acceptable to the membership, approved by simple majority vote of the members present, and entered into the minutes of the Lodge. When selected, the Secretary of the Lodge shall submit a complete order form with the appropriate fee to the Grand Secretary. The Award may be presented in an open meeting of the Lodge or in a non-Masonic setting, such as a City Council meeting, a Rotary Club meeting, a PTA meeting, etc. The Award shall be presented in a brief ceremony that is carefully planned and formally and smoothly performed with great dignity. The Award shall be presented by a Mason and all participating Masons shall wear aprons. The Lodge shall, as far as practical, publicize the presentation event. The resulting photographs and stories of the event should be forwarded to the *Texas Mason Magazine* for possible publication. (Adopted 2001)

Art. 14e. **Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Award.** Grand Lodge hereby establishes the recognition of service of Texas Masons to the Boy Scouts of America in the following manner:

1. Subordinate Lodges may formally recognize Masons who have distinguished themselves through their service in the Boy Scouts of America to the youth of our communities by nominating them to receive the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Award.

2. Action by Lodges will be premised upon application to receive the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Award by the Mason so applying with such application to be approved by majority vote of the members present at the stated meeting in which such action is taken and with such action entered into the minutes of the Lodge so acting.

3. The Secretary of the Lodge shall submit the approved application to the appropriate parties for verification of the applicant's registration as a member of the Boy Scouts of America.

4. The verified application shall be submitted to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Texas with the appropriate fees, who will process such application for issuance of the Award.

5. The Award will be presented in an open meeting in the Lodge or in a non-Masonic setting, preferably a local Boy Scout meeting, with emphasis on attendance by local Boy Scouts and adults associated

therewith, the ceremony to be carefully planned and presented with great dignity, the presentation being made by a Mason and all Masons wearing aprons.

6. Appropriate publicity will be given to the event with report and photographs sent to the *Texas Mason Magazine* for publication. (Adopted 2003)

Art. 15. Clandestine Lodges. This Grand Lodge does not recognize as legal or Masonic any group or body of persons working under any character of charter in the United States granted by any Grand Jurisdiction which has not theretofore applied for and been given recognition by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, and this Grand Lodge regards as clandestine and un-Masonic, any and all such groups or bodies of persons, not affiliated and authorized to work by this Grand Lodge or by such recognized Grand Jurisdiction.

Art. 16. Side Degrees. “Side degrees” are prohibited by this Grand Lodge.

Art. 17. General Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge is opposed to the formation or establishment of a General or Supreme Grand Lodge for the United States of America, and forbids its officers and Grand Representatives to participate in any meeting where any such movement shall be ever considered.

Art. 18. Recognition Criteria of Other Grand Lodges. Fraternal recognition may be extended to a Grand Lodge when it appears to the satisfaction of this Grand Lodge, a Committee having first considered and reported thereon:

1. That such a Grand Body has been formed lawfully by at least three just and duly constituted Lodges, or that it has been legalized by a valid act issuing from the Grand Lodge of Texas, or from a Grand Body in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge.

2. That it is an independent, self-governing, responsible organization with entire, undisputed and exclusive dogmatic and administrative authority over the Symbolic Lodges within its jurisdiction, and not in any sense whatever subject to, or dividing such authority with, a Supreme Council, or other Body claiming ritualistic or other supervision or control.

3. That it makes Masons of men only.

4. That it requires conformity to the following, which the Grand Lodge of Texas considers necessary in a Masonic Body:

A. Acknowledgement of a belief in God the Father of all men.

B. Secrecy.

C. The Symbolism of Operative Masonry.

D. The division of Symbolic Masonry into the three degrees in Texas.

E. The legend of the Third Degree.

F. That its dominant purposes are charitable, benevolent, educational and religious; and that it excludes controversial politics and sectarian religion from all activities under its auspices.

G. The Sacred Book of the Divine Law, Chief among the Three Great Lights of Masonry, indispensably present in the Lodges while at work.

5. That it occupies exclusively its territorial jurisdiction or else shares the same with another by mutual consent; and that it does not presume to extend its authority, or presume to establish Lodges in, a territory occupied by a lawful Grand Lodge, without the expressed assent of such supreme governing Masonic Body.

Art. 19. Masonic Relief Association. This Grand Lodge, until otherwise ordered, shall maintain a membership with the Masonic Relief Association of the United States and Canada, but shall not become liable for annual dues therein in excess of one-fourth of one cent, per capita, of the membership of this Grand Lodge. Such dues shall be paid by warrants of the Grand Secretary.

Art. 20. New Ballot Prohibited. The Grand Lodge shall not order a new ballot for degrees after the rejection of a candidate in a Subordinate Lodge.

Art. 20a. Trustees. The Charter of the Grand Lodge provides that the six elective Grand Lodge Officers, namely, The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary shall constitute the Trustees or Directors having charge of the business affairs of the Grand Lodge under its Laws and Regulations, during its vacation. Such Trustees shall meet at least four times annually and at such other times as circumstances may require.

Art. 20b. Annual Audit. The Grand Lodge Trustees shall employ an independent Certified Public Accountant or a competent accounting firm to audit the books and accounts of the Grand Lodge at least once annually and more often if it deems advisable. The independent Certified Public Accountant or accounting firm will not be associated with any individual or firm that provides accounting services to the Grand Lodge or with any member of the Finance Committee. The accountant or accounting firm retained by said Trustees to conduct such audit shall make a written report which shall be filed in the office of the Grand Secretary, and a copy provided to each member of the Finance Committee. The independent audit shall be included in the Grand Secretary's annual report as required in Art. 53. (Revised 2003)

Art. 20c. Duty to Appoint Trustee's Audit Committee. At the first meeting of the Grand Lodge Trustees following each Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Senior Warden and the Grand Junior Warden shall each appoint one member of a Committee to be known as "Trustee's Audit Committee." Each Brother so appointed shall serve until the close of the Annual Grand Communication following his appointment, and shall be eligible for reappointment by any of the above listed Grand Lodge Trustees. The appointee shall be a Master Mason in good standing of a Lodge under this Grand Jurisdiction, well versed in corporate finance and audit procedures.

The Trustee's Audit Committee shall be a permanent independent committee of the Grand Lodge Trustees (i) to coordinate the activities of the outside auditor employed by them; (ii) to provide guidance as to the operations of Grand Lodge; and (iii) to provide access to documentation required for a proper audit of the books and records of the Grand Lodge.

Additional duties of the Audit Committee shall include, but not be limited to, meetings with the Finance Committee and the Trustees in connection with the preparation of the annual budget (i) to assist in the coordination of available funding for proposed budgetary items; (ii) to offer, review and approve recommendations concerning the scope of the annual audit and review the completed audit report with the Grand Lodge Trustees, the Finance Committee and the auditor or audit firm engaged by the Trustees; (iii) to review with them any areas of concern as to internal control or procedures; and (iv) to ensure conformity of the audit to generally accepted accounting principles and practices based upon the application of generally accepted auditing principles as promulgated by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and as generally accepted in the United States of America, more particularly those accounting rules and regulations incorporated in the laws of the State of Texas and of the United States as applicable to nonprofit organizations. (Adopted 2003)

CHAPTER 6— TITLE I OFFICERS

For "Rank and Titles" see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 1;

For "Elective Grand Officers" see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 2;

For "Appointive Grand Officers" see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 3;

For "Election and Installation" see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec's. 4 and 10;

For "Failure to Elect and Install" see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 5;

For "Eligibility to Office" see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 6;

For "Mode of Election" see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 7;

For "Manner of Voting" see Constitution, Art. VII, Sec's. 1 to 3.

Art. 21. (21). Hold Only One Office. No member shall hold two offices, elective or appointive, in the Grand Lodge at the same time.

CHAPTER 7—TITLE I THE GRAND MASTER: DUTIES AND POWERS

For “Rank and Title” see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 1;

For “Elective” see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 2;

For “Mode of Nomination” see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 7, Sub-div. (a);

For “Installation” see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec’s. 4 and 10;

For “Duties and Powers” see Constitution, Art. V, Sec’s. 1 and 2;

For “Must Preside” see Constitution, Art. VI, Sec. 2, sub-div. (a);

For “Order of Succession” see Constitution, Art. VI, Sec. 2, Sub-div. (b);

For “May Grant Dispensation” see Constitution, Art. V, Sec. 2; Art. VIII, Sec. 3;

For “Shall Cast Deciding Vote” see Constitution, Art. VIII, Sec. 3;

For “All Questions of Order Decided by” see Constitution, Art. XII, Sec. 4;

For “In Case of Death, Absence, Who to Act” see Constitution, Art. VI, Sec. 2, Sub-div. (b).

Art. 22. (22). General Powers. The Grand Master may exercise all the rights, privileges and prerogatives of his office according to the Ancient Customs and Usages of Freemasonry, except as they be modified or restricted by the Constitution, Laws and Edicts of this Grand Lodge.

Notes on Decisions:

The Grand Master has no power:

- (a) To set aside a Law of the Grand Lodge.
- (b) To inquire into or set aside a ballot after it is declared.
- (c) To grant dispensation to confer degrees on one who has not been domiciled 6 months in the State and 6 months in the jurisdiction of a Lodge. (Revised 1989)
- (d) To grant dispensation authorizing one not eligible under Art. 276 to serve as Master.
- (e) To authorize dimit to an Elected Officer during his term of office.
- (f) To grant waiver of a candidate’s examination. (Except Art. 433).
- (g) To receive or act upon a protest; but may direct proper procedure.
- (h) To fill vacancy on Committee on Work.
- (i) To grant permission for Lodge to move from location fixed by Grand Lodge. (Except Art. 241).
- (j) To control disposition of charity funds of a Lodge.
- (k) To remit Grand Lodge dues.
- (l) To postpone Lodge trial.
- (m) To authorize Lodge to open on Sunday and members attend Church in a body as a Lodge.
- (n) To elect an officer at any other time than as provided in Art. 292; nor to order a new election out of time; nor to hold a special meeting for election of officers; nor to install an officer after July 31.
- (o) To authorize anyone to install officers except those designated in Art. 295.
- (p) To authorize withdrawal of a petition for degrees or advancement after it has been lawfully received by a Lodge, Art. 405.
- (q) To confer a degree on more than one candidate at the same time. Art. 431.
- (r) To relieve a Brother from compliance with the provisions of Art. 439.

Art. 23. (22a). When Grand Treasurer or Secretary Incapacitated. In the event of any vacancies in office of Grand Treasurer or Grand Secretary, the Grand Master shall appoint an Acting Grand Treasurer or Acting Grand Secretary to fill the unexpired term. In the event the Grand Treasurer or Grand Secretary shall become incapacitated to perform the duties of his office, the Grand Master shall appoint an Acting Grand Treasurer or Acting Grand Secretary to fill such office during the period of such incapacity.

Art. 24. (23). Appoint and Remove District Deputies. The Grand Master shall appoint and may remove District Deputy Grand Masters, sign their warrants of appointment, and approve their accounts. In any case of vacancy or inability to act, the Grand Master shall appoint another qualified Brother to supply his place.

Art. 25. (24). **Unsafe Lodge.** Whenever a District Deputy Grand Master reports that the Lodge room of any Lodge is unsafe or improper for the use of such Lodge, the Grand Master shall issue such instructions as he may deem the interest of Masonry requires. If such Lodge room cannot be made safe, and no other room is provided, the Grand Master may suspend such Lodge.

Art. 26 (25). **Investigate Finances.** The Grand Master may direct the Finance Committee at any time to investigate .the financial affairs of the Offices of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary, or others handling money belonging to this Grand Lodge, and to review and analyze the Minimum Audit Form No. 71 of the constituent Lodges, and make report to him. (Revised 1989)

Art. 27. (26). Repealed 2018

Art. 28. (28). **Mortgaging Lodge Property.** For the purpose of constructing, improving, or aiding in the construction of a larger or more commodious building for the joint use of any Lodge or Lodges and other regular Body or Bodies composed exclusively of Masons the Grand Lodge, or during its recess, the Grand Master, may, upon application of any such Lodge or Lodges, consent to the sale, contribution, or mortgaging of any real property owned by it or them; provided, that neither the Grand Lodge nor the Grand Master shall in any case assume or incur any liability by reason of granting such consent. (Revised 1989)

The value of said property sold, contributed, or mortgaged for the purpose of constructing any such Masonic Temple shall be evidenced by a certificate of stock in the corporation or association holding the legal title to such new building, or, in case such title is held by trustees, they shall issue to each of said Lodges certificates evidencing the amount or value of the equity owned in such building by each such Lodge contributing thereto. In the event of the demise of any Subordinate Lodge owning an equity in such a Masonic Temple, said equity shall revert to The Grand Lodge of Texas, and the certificates representing such equity shall be delivered to the Grand Master and deposited with the Grand Treasurer.

When the Grand Lodge is not in session, the Grand Master is fully authorized to give the consent of the Grand Lodge to the sale, contribution, or mortgaging of the real property of Subordinate Lodges if, in his judgment, such sale, contribution, or mortgage is deemed advisable and not detrimental to the interests of the Grand Lodge.

It shall not be lawful for any Lodge or Lodges, acting alone, to create any building or other private corporation, except upon a showing of substantial advantage therefrom to the Lodge or Lodges in financing a Lodge building or improvement program. Any such corporation shall be created without capital stock and not for profit. Its governing board shall be elected by the Lodge or Lodges, shall be subject at all times to their direction, and shall make full report of its operations to the Lodge or Lodges periodically and whenever otherwise directed by the Lodge or Lodges. Its property and obligations shall be subject to the provisions of Articles 340, 341 and 342; and its books and records shall at all times be subject to examination by the Lodge or Lodges and by the Grand Master respectively through their duly appointed representatives. Before any such corporation is created the Lodge or Lodges shall make application to the Grand Master for approval, including therein a copy of the proposed charter and full statement of the financing plan and the reasons why it is advantageous to the Lodge or Lodges to create a separate corporation.

Except in particular cases specifically approved as provided for above, when a Lodge acquires real estate, or any interest in real estate, the deed should be to, and title should be vested in, the Lodge itself; for example, "HOLLAND LODGE No. 1, A. F. & A. M., located at Houston, Texas, and chartered under THE GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS, a corporation organized under the Laws of the State of Texas." Likewise, title to real estate now owned by our various Lodges should be placed, in each case, in the name

of the Lodge itself unless it is already there. Articles 1399 to 1402 of the present Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas read:

“Art. 1399 (1214) Lodges

“The Grand Lodge of Texas, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, the Grand Commandery of Knights Templars of Texas (Masonic); the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Texas, and other like institutions and orders organized for charitable or benevolent purposes may, by the consent of their respective bodies expressed by a resolution or otherwise, become bodies corporate under this title (Acts 26th Legislature approved May 23, 1899).

“Art. 1400 (1215-18) Lodges: Charter

“The incorporation of any such grand lodge shall include all of its subordinate lodges, or bodies holding warrant or charter under such grand body, and each of such subordinate bodies shall have all the rights of other corporations under and by the name given **it** in such warrant or charter issued by the grand body to which **it** is attached, such rights being provided for in the charter of the grand body. Such subordinate bodies shall, at all times, be subject to the jurisdiction and control of their respective grand bodies, and subject to have their warrants or charters revoked by such grand body. Id.

“Art. 1401. (1216) Lodges: Trustees

“Such grand bodies and their subordinates may elect their own trustee or directors, or name certain of their officers as such, and perform such other acts as are directed or provided by law in the case of other corporations, and shall have power to make constitutions and bylaws for the government of their affairs. Id.

“Art. 1402. (1217) Lodges: Property

“Such orders, grand and subordinate, shall have the right to acquire and hold such lands and personality as may be necessary or convenient for sites upon which to erect buildings for their use and occupancy, and for homes and schools for their widows, orphans or aged or decrepit or indigent members, and to sell or mortgage the same, such conveyances to be executed by the presiding officer, attested by the secretary with the seal. The power and authority of such subordinate bodies to sell or to mortgage shall be subject to such conditions as may be from time to time prescribed or established by the grand body to which the subordinate is attached. Id.”

Pursuant to the Laws of Texas quoted above, our Grand Lodge was incorporated in 1900 under, and with, the corporate name, “THE GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS.” In its corporate charter it is provided:

“All subordinate Lodges of Masons in Texas now working under and holding charter from and by said The Grand Lodge of Texas, or that may hereafter be instituted under such charter, are hereby incorporated, and do by virtue hereof become bodies corporate under and in the name given them respectively in the charters heretofore issued to them, or that may hereafter be so issued.”

Art. 29. (29). Sell Demised Lodge’s Property. During the recess of this Grand Lodge, upon the written recommendation of the Grand Treasurer and the Committee on Finance, the Grand Master shall have authority to sell any property, real or personal, that has reverted to this Grand Lodge by the demise of a Subordinate Lodge.

The Grand Master is authorized, empowered and directed to sign, acknowledge and deliver to the purchaser such deed or deeds, of conveyance or other instrument in the name and as the act of the Grand Lodge of Texas, as may be necessary or appropriate to convey legal title thereto and complete the transaction. Each such conveyance shall be as binding upon the said Grand Lodge as if it was specifically authorized in a separate resolution adopted in each such case; provided, such deeds or conveyances shall contain no clause binding in any manner this Grand Lodge or the Grand Master to warrant the title to any such lands so sold and conveyed, except as to persons claiming by, through or under it.

The Grand Master shall report annually to this Grand Lodge all such sales, and promptly turn over the proceeds thereof to the Grand Treasurer.

Art. 30 (30). Appoint Grand Representatives. The Grand Master is authorized to appoint Grand Representatives of this Grand Lodge to other Grand Lodges recognized by it, who shall hold their appointments subject to the will and pleasure of the Grand Master. The Grand Master shall report all appointments of Grand Representatives to other Grand Lodges and the names of all Grand Representatives of such Grand Lodges before this Grand Lodge to the Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master shall notify the Grand Master of another Grand Jurisdiction when a vacancy occurs in the rank of Grand Representative of such Grand Lodge before the Grand Lodge of Texas, and may suggest the name of a worthy brother for appointment to such vacancy.

Art. 31. (31). Waiver of Jurisdiction. Except as modified by Arts. 466 through 470, the Grand Master may grant a waiver of territorial jurisdiction over a candidate for the degrees of Masonry in favor of a Lodge in another jurisdiction upon request therefor by the Grand Master of such jurisdiction.

Art. 32. Restore Charter: Demised Lodges. In case of restoration of charter of a Lodge long demised, or when constituting a new Lodge under dispensation or charter, it shall be the duty of the Grand Master, before setting such Lodge to work, to ascertain that the three principal officers are proficient in their respective duties and are collectively, capable of conferring the three degrees; and that the Lodge is supplied with adequate equipment and a safe and secure lodgeroom and anterooms. (Revised 2006)

Art. 32(a). Restored Charter: Name Change. In the case of restoration of charter of a Lodge where all of the members of such Lodge are deceased, the Grand Master shall be prohibited from changing the name of the Lodge; and if the charter is restored, the name of the Lodge shall remain the same as the name of the Lodge on the original charter. (Adopted 2006)

Art. 32(b). Restored Charter: Amending Name. Upon complying with the provision of Article 190, 218 and 219, a restored Lodge may amend its name, provided that the originally chartered name is preserved by hyphenation. i.e. {Poetry-Prairieville Lodge no. 253} (Adopted 2013)

Art. 33. (33). Visit and Inspect Lodges. The right to visit and inspect Lodges belongs to no one but the Grand Master and his representatives. Whenever the Grand Master, or his representatives, shall visit a Lodge it shall be made known to the Master of the Lodge that the Grand Master, or his representative, is in waiting, so that he may make the necessary preparations for receiving him with the honors and consideration due to his exalted station.

Art. 34. (34). Formalities: Receiving Grand Master or His Representatives. The private grand honors shall be given only upon an official visitation to the Lodge by the Grand Master, the Acting Grand Master, the duly commissioned Representatives of the Grand Master or Acting Grand Master, or the District Deputy Grand Master. The procedure upon such official visitation shall be as follows: When the Grand Master (or other such official, as the case may be) shall arrive in the anteroom the Tiler shall give the alarm and announce that the Grand Master (or his representative) is in waiting. The Master shall then place the Deacons inside of the door with their rods crossed. The Brethren shall be arranged on each side of the door and extending toward the altar, with sufficient space between the lines for the Grand Master and his escort to pass. The Master shall then deputize two Past Masters (if available, otherwise two other Brethren) to escort and introduce the Grand Master. The escorting Brethren will open the door and announce to the Grand Master that the Lodge (giving its name and number) is ready to receive him. The Grand Master, with a member of the reception committee on each side and the Deacons on the extreme right and left, with their rods crossed above the head of the Grand Master, shall advance between the lines toward the East and stop at the altar. The Master Mason sign shall be given at the altar by the Grand Master and the two escorting Brethren and it shall be returned by the Worshipful Master. The Brother on the Grand Master's left shall introduce him in substantially the following language: "Worshipful Master, it is my privilege to present to you and through you to the Brethren here assembled Most Worshipful_____ Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas." The Grand Master shall be recognized by the Worshipful Master, who shall instruct the Brethren to join him in extending to the Grand Master private grand honors, which shall then be accorded. The Grand Master shall then be escorted to the East by the Brother on his left (all other Brethren shall return to their usual places) and the Master will surrender the gavel to the Grand Master. If other Grand Officers are present, the corresponding officers of the Lodge shall surrender their seats to them. The Grand Master, if he desires, may appoint pro tem Grand Officers to assist him in the visitation and inspection. In such cases such pro tem Grand Officers shall enter the Lodge room immediately following him. All being seated,

the Master shall deliver to the Grand Master such books and records or other things as he may desire to inspect. Representatives of the Grand Master or other Grand Lodge Officers, when being received shall be addressed as set out in Section 1, Article IV of the Constitution.

Art. 35. (35). **Mason at Sight Prohibited.** The Grand Master has no power or authority to make Masons at sight. This Grand Lodge will not recognize any mode of making Masons in this Jurisdiction other than in a regular Lodge and after previous investigation, regular election and due inquiry into the character of the candidate.

Art. 36. (36). **Suspension from Office.** The Grand Master may be suspended from office by the Grand Lodge, for sufficient cause, after due notice and hearing.

Art. 37. (37). **Lodge Meetings in Other Halls.** When one or more Lodges desire to hold Masonic meetings for the purpose of exemplifying the esoteric work, or for other proper Masonic purposes, the Grand Master may grant dispensations to such Lodge or Lodges to meet in the Lodgerooms or halls of other Masonic Lodge or Bodies, or other buildings, due care being taken to designate such rooms as may be Masonically secure.

Art. 38. (38). **Lodges Appearing in Public.** The Grand Master may grant dispensations to Lodges to appear in public for any proper Masonic purpose including, but not limited to fund-raising activities, which funds are to be used exclusively for any purpose consistent with the principles and purposes of Masonry, or the Laws of this Grand Lodge; but no dispensation shall be granted to Lodges to appear in public at any function except one of noncontroversial, nonpartisan, nonsectarian, patriot and/or community character. (Revised 1989)

Art. 39. (39). **Shortening Time for Degrees.** In cases of extreme emergency the Grand Master is authorized to grant dispensation to postpone the examination for proficiency in such cases to such time as he may direct, and to ballot on such a candidate at a special meeting if the emergency requires it. (Revised 1997)

Art. 40. (40). **Appoint Special Committees.** During the recess of this Grand Lodge, the Grand Master may appoint Special Committees to deal with emergencies which may arise, or on any important matter which he is advised may come before this Grand Lodge for consideration.

Art. 41. (41). **Delegation of Powers.** Whatever the Grand Master, as such, is authorized to do in person he may do by duly authorized representative, unless forbidden by the Constitution or Laws of this Grand Lodge.

Art. 42. (43). **Expenses.** The Grand Master shall be allowed all necessary expenses, personal or otherwise, incurred in the discharge of his official duties as provided by the annual budget. Said expenses as provided by budget shall be paid by warrants of the Grand Secretary upon the requisition of the Grand Master. The Grand Master shall, quarterly, file with the Grand Secretary and the Finance Committee an itemized statement of expenses incurred by him and account for all money paid to him for such purposes.

Art. 43. (44). **Annual Reports: Copies to Committees.** It shall be the duty of the Grand Master to furnish to the Grand Secretary and to the Committees on Grand Officers' Reports and on Masonic Jurisprudence, not later than October 15th of each year, copies of his proposed annual address, covering insofar as is practicable such of his official acts as he may contemplate reporting to this Grand Lodge and such other subjects or matters as he may desire to submit. The Grand Secretary shall forward a copy of such proposed annual address to the Secretary of each constituent Lodge.

Note: In 1933 Grand Lodge adopted the following: "Resolved, that hereafter the Grand Master be required to have prepared a copy of his official correspondence and forward same to the Grand Secretary's office to be preserved in the files of this Grand Lodge." (P. 1933, p. 236.)

Art. 44. (45). **Annual Reports: Contents.** The Grand Master shall report to this Grand Lodge in his annual report the name and number of any Lodge which has consolidated with another Lodge during the year with his approval, together with the name and number of each Lodge with which any such Lodge has so consolidated.

CHAPTER 8 – TITLE I DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

*For “Rank and Title” see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 1;
 For “Elective” see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 2;
 For “Mode of Nomination” see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 7, Sub-div. (b);
 For “Duties and Powers” see Constitution, Arts. V and VI;
 For “Succeeds to Duties of Grand Master, When” see Constitution, Art. VI, Sec. 2, Sub-div. (b).*

CHAPTER 9 – TITLE I GRAND SENIOR AND JUNIOR WARDENS

*For “Rank and Title” see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 1;
 For “Elective” see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 2;
 For “Mode of Nomination” see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 7, Sub-div. (c);
 For “Duties and Powers” see Constitution, Arts. IV, V and VI.*

CHAPTER 10 – TITLE I GRAND TREASURER

*For “Rank and Title” see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 1;
 For “Elective” see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 2;
 For “Mode of Nomination” see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 7, Sub-div. (c);
 For “Duties and Powers” see Constitution, Art. V, Sec. 3.*

Art. 45. **Duties.** The Grand Treasurer shall receive from the Grand Secretary all monies, notes, bonds, and other securities belonging to the Grand Lodge, give his receipt therefore and immediately upon receipt of said monies, notes, bonds and other securities shall deposit the same to the credit of the Grand Lodge in a bank or other financial institution in the State of Texas as approved by the Grand Lodge Trustees. The depository account or accounts in said bank or financial institution shall be maintained by him on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and payment there from shall require receipt of satisfactory proof of obligation, and shall be executed by those authorized by the Grand Lodge Trustees.

He shall attend each Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge and shall report the financial condition of the Grand Lodge of Texas with a detailed statement of all funds and any other assets of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Grand Treasurer and all others authorized to handle or disburse funds shall be each bonded in amount, not less than Fifty Thousand dollars, as determined from time to time by the Grand Lodge Trustees. (Revised 2003)

CHAPTER 11 – TITLE I GRAND SECRETARY

*For “Rank and Title” see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 1;
 For “Elective” see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 2;
 For “Mode of Nomination” see Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 7, Sub-div. (c);
 For “Duties and Powers” see Constitution, Art. V, Sec. 3;
 For “Returns and Contributions of Lodges” see Constitution, Art. IX;
 For “Laws, Rules, Resolutions, etc., Published by” see Constitution, Art. XIII,
 Sec. 4.*

Art. 46. **Bond.** Before assuming the duties of his office, the Grand Secretary shall give bond in the sum of at least fifty thousand dollars payable to the order of The Grand Lodge of Texas; conditioned that he will faithfully perform his duties as Grand Secretary and that he will well and truly account to said Grand Lodge for all money, property and other things of value coming into his possession, or under his control, which may belong to this Grand Lodge. Such bond shall be duly executed by him and a surety company authorized to do business in the State of Texas, and the fee therefore shall be paid by the Grand Lodge. Said bond shall be approved by the Grand Trustees. (Revised 2003)

Art 46a. **Salary and Expenses.** For his services the Grand Secretary shall receive as salary during his term of office an amount determined and listed as a budget item by the Grand Lodge Trustees and approved by the Grand Lodge, and such other employee benefits as might be established by the Grand Lodge Trustees from time to time. (Adopted 2003)

Art. 47 (59). **Record Proceedings.** All proceedings of this Grand Lodge shall be drawn up in proper form and recorded by the Grand Secretary.

Art. 47a. **Supervision of the Grand Lodge Temple.** The Grand Secretary shall be responsible for the management of the Memorial Masonic Grand Lodge Temple, and shall make such reports as may be required by the Trustees and shall make a report to each Annual Grand Communication.

Art. 47b. **Smoking in Grand Lodge. Repealed, 2008.** Note: City of Waco ordinances are enforced.

Art. 47c. **Communications With Subordinate Lodges:** The Grand Secretary shall send any and all documents, reports, and/or other communications to subordinate lodges through the United States Postal Service in lieu of e-mail when such communication is requested by the subordinate lodge. (Revised 2013)

Art. 48. (60). **Receive and Account for Money.** The Grand Secretary shall receive all monty due this Grand Lodge, not otherwise provided for, and keep correct account, and make annual report thereof to this Grand Lodge, and to the Grand Master or the Finance Committee at such other times as may be required.

Art. 49. (61). **Deposit Money.** At the end of each calendar month the Grand Secretary shall deposit all funds received by him in the depository designated, specifying each particular fund to be credited and the amount thereof, and the Grand Secretary shall take a deposit receipt therefor from such depository, which shall be retained by him as his receipt for funds so deposited.

Art. 50. **Printing.** The Grand Secretary shall be responsible for publishing and distributing on the morning of the first day of the annual communication, the address of the Grand Master, the report of the Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Board of Directors and Executive Director of the Masonic Home and School of Texas, and reports of committees as appropriate. (Revised 2008)

Art. 51. (64). Deleted, 2015.

Art. 52. (64a). **Loans to Special Funds.** Whenever any special fund of this Grand Lodge, supported by a per capita tax,becomes depleted by reason of expenditures pursuant to the purposes of its creation, the Grand Master may authorize loans without interest, not to exceed at any time fifty per cent of the anticipated income of said special fund for any current year. Said loan to be made from the General Fund or any other available fund, of the Grand Lodge, on checks drawn by the Grand Secretary, upon the order of the Grand Master.

It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to deduct annually from the collections of per capita tax in favor of any such special fund so borrowing; an amount sufficient to repay any such loans, and deposit same to the credit of the loaning fund, and likewise, credit the account of the borrowing fund with the amount so deducted.

Art. 53. (65). **Annual Report.** The Grand Secretary shall close his books for the Masonic year on the first day of January each year, and shall include in his annual report all the receipts and disbursements from the date of his last annual report to said date. The report shall also include the independent audit as required in Art. 20b. (Revised 2018)

Art. 54. (66). **Instructions to Lodge Officers.** The Grand Secretary shall prepare a synopsis, embodying all the instructions requisite to enable the officers of Lodges to make accurate returns to this Grand Lodge; said synopsis shall be printed on each blank form for returns sent out by him.

Art. 55. (67). **Forms for Lodge Returns.** The Grand Secretary shall prepare and send to the Secretaries of Subordinate Lodges the necessary forms for such Lodge returns and statistics as may be required, with instructions to fill out and return them within the time specified by law.

Art. 56. (68). **Inspect Lodge Returns.** The Grand Secretary shall inspect the annual reports from Lodges and, if he finds errors therein, he shall return such reports to the respective Secretaries with instructions to correct same at once and return to him.

Art. 57. (69). **Notice to Lodges Not Reporting.** Immediately after August fifteenth each year the Grand Secretary shall notify each Lodge which has failed to send in its returns or to pay its annual dues and contributions on or before said date, that a failure to make such returns or to pay its annual dues and contributions by the time of the Annual Communication thereafter will deprive such Lodge of the right to be represented in such Communication of this Grand Lodge; and that if such Lodge fails to make such returns and payments by June first following such notice, said Lodge will stand automatically suspended unless further time is granted by the Grand Master. (Revised 1999)

Art. 58. (70). **District Deputy to Help Collect Lodge Arrears.** The Grand Secretary shall send to each District Deputy Grand Master a list of the amounts of dues and contributions owed by the Lodges of his district promptly after the close of each annual communication, and he may request such District Deputy Grand Master to assist in the collection of arrears due by any such Lodge.

Art. 59. (71). **Notice to Suspended Lodges.** On June first the Grand Secretary shall notify the several Lodges that have failed to send up their returns at the last Annual Communication, and are still in default, of their suspension and the cause thereof. A copy of such notice shall be sent to the Grand Master and the District Deputy Grand Master of the proper district.

Art. 60. (72). **Uniform Dues Receipt: Certificates to E.A.s and F.C.s.** The Grand Secretary is authorized to prepare a standard uniform receipt for Lodge dues, which Lodges must use. There shall be printed on the back of such receipt a certificate of the standing of the Lodge to which it is issued with the imprint of the seal of this Grand Lodge and of the signature of the Grand Secretary. Expiration date to which dues are paid by Master Masons shall be filled in by the Grand Secretary when the dues cards are prepared. Local Lodges are authorized to issue certificates to Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts as such, which certificates shall be upon standard uniform cards prepared by the Grand Secretary, and the expiration date to which dues are paid shall be filled in by the Lodge Secretary. (Revised 1993)

Art. 61. (73). **Receive and Distribute Petitions, etc.** All petitions, reports, appeals, returns and other communications to this Grand Lodge are to be delivered to the Grand Secretary, and he shall endorse thereon the date of the receipt thereof, and he shall present same to this Grand Lodge; or distribute same to the appropriate committees when so directed by Masonic law, by The Grand Lodge, or by the Grand Master.

Art. 62. (74). **Deliver Documents and Notices of Appointment.** The Grand Secretary shall distribute the documents referred to committees or other officers according to the order of this Grand Lodge or the Grand Master, and shall notify said committees, or officers, of their appointment to any duty in relation thereto.

Art. 63. (75). **Keep Grievance Committee Reports for Inspection.** The reports of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals shall be kept by the Grand Secretary in such manner that they can be readily inspected by the Brethren. (Revised 2000)

Art. 64. (76). **Diplomas: Past Grand Officers.** The Grand Secretary shall procure diplomas, on parchment, one of which shall be presented to each Past Grand Master, certifying his rank, and such diploma shall be signed by the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Wardens, and attested by the Grand Secretary.

Art. 65. (77). **Diplomas: Master Masons.** The Grand Secretary shall furnish a diploma to any Master Mason, in good standing, who has been raised in, or has affiliated with, a Lodge under this jurisdiction, certifying such facts, upon presentation of the proper certificate from his Lodge and the payment of a fee of \$5.00 therefor.

Art. 66. (78). **Attest and Seal Documents.** No charter, diploma, or other instrument of writing (except dispensations) is authentic without the attestation of the Grand Secretary and the impress of the seal of this Grand Lodge thereon.

Art. 67. **Rosters.** The Grand Secretary shall prepare for publication annually in a Grand Lodge Directory the name and number of each Lodge, its location, date of charter, time of meetings, and the names of its Worshipful Master, Wardens and Secretary, together with their mailing addresses where known, and that such be published as a separate document from the regular published proceedings of the Grand Lodge, as soon as the Grand Lodge shall have received the necessary information from the returns of the subordinate Lodges. (Revised 2008)

Art. 68. **Publishing Rosters.** All correct Lodge Returns received by the Grand Secretary by the fifteenth day of August shall be promptly placed in the hands of the publisher in order to facilitate the early publishing of the Roster. Returns received by him after that date shall not appear in the Roster or Proceedings of that year. He shall make all arrangements for, and supervise the publication of, the Roster and the published proceedings of the Grand Lodge. He shall have direct control of the printing of all stationery used by the Grand Lodge, or any of its committees, including the form, quality and style thereof. (Revised 2008)

Art. 69. **Portraits in Proceedings.** The Grand Secretary shall have included in the Published Proceedings a well-executed “half tone” portrait of the outgoing Grand Master, together with one or more like portraits of such of the Past Grand Masters as have not been heretofore published. (Revised 2008)

Art. 70. (89). **Masonic Offenders.** The Grand Secretary shall not include in the Printed Proceedings that part of his statistical report which gives the names or number of those who have been found guilty of Masonic Disciplinary Violations.

Art. 71. (90). **Memorials in Proceedings.** The Grand Secretary shall devote a page of the Printed Proceedings on which to record a memorial to the deceased members of this Grand Lodge who have departed during the current year, with such ornamentation and wording as he may deem most appropriate.

Art. 72. (93). **Register of Grand Lodges and Representatives.** A register of the appointments and removals of Grand Representatives of this Grand Lodge before other Grand Lodges shall be kept by the Grand Secretary. He shall also cause to be printed as a part of the Appendix in the Annual Proceedings a list of the Grand Lodges or other Grand Bodies with which The Grand Lodge of Texas is in fraternal relations; also a list of the Grand Lodges or Grand Bodies from which recognition has been withdrawn, or to which recognition has been denied.

Art. 73. **Distribute Proceedings.** After each Annual Communication the Grand Secretary shall send to each Lodge, to each Grand and Past Grand Officer, and to such others as may be ordered, the Published Proceedings of this Grand Lodge. (Revised 2008)

Art. 74. (92). **Keep Record of Grand Representatives.** The Grand Secretary shall keep a record of the names of the Grand Representatives of other Grand Jurisdictions who are duly authorized to represent such Grand Jurisdictions before the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Art. 74a. **Monthly Communication to the Subordinate Lodges.** A monthly communication shall be provided to all subordinate Lodges, containing information of upcoming events and happenings throughout the state, as well as, special instructions for the Lodge and/or Lodge Secretary. The monthly communication shall be placed on the secretary's database on the first (1st) day of each month, to be printed out and read at a stated meeting each month to make sure information is accurate when read in the Lodge. In months when the first of the month falls on a weekend or holiday, the communication shall be provided the preceding business day. (Adopted 2015)

CHAPTER 12— TITLE I DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS

For "Appointive Grand Officers" see Constitution Art IV Sec. 3, Sub-div. (a);

For "Qualifications" see Constitution Art. IV Sec. 8;

For "Vacancies, How Filled" see Constitution Art. IV Sec. 8;

For "Powers and Duties" see Constitution Art. V Sec. 3;

For "Creation of New Districts" see Constitution Art. IV Sec. 8;

For "Duties and Powers Relating to Masonic Discipline" see Title V Chapter 23;
Article 647-653;

For "Assisting in Collecting Lodge Dues in Arrears" see Art. 58.

Art. 75. (96). **Masonic Districts.** All Masonic Districts created by this Grand Lodge shall be numbered and printed in the Appendix of the Annual Proceedings. New Districts created from time to time by the Grand Lodge shall be added thereto in lieu of publication in the Code of Laws. (Revised 1990)

Art. 76. (97). **Warrant of Appointment.** Each District Deputy Grand Master shall be given a warrant of appointment, signed by the Grand Master and attested by the Grand Secretary and the Seal of this Grand Lodge; if any appointee removes from his District or for any reason is unable or falls to act his warrant shall be void, and his office may be declared vacant.

Art. 77. (98). **Powers.** The District Deputy Grand Masters possess the powers conferred by the Constitution and Laws of this Grand Lodge, and as such as may be delegated by the Grand Master, and none other.

Art. 78. (99). **Visitations.** Each District Deputy Grand Master shall visit the Lodges in his district at least once during the year, after due notice thereof has been given, and he may preside therein after the Lodge has been opened. He cannot appoint a proxy.

Art. 79. (100). **Examine Records.** Each District Deputy Grand Master shall examine the records of Lodges in his district and see if they are properly kept. He shall inform himself whether the members are punctual in attendance and harmonious in their work; and shall inquire generally into the condition of the Lodge. He may point out and correct errors and recommend a careful observance of Masonic precepts.

Art. 80. (101). **Inspect Lodge Room for Masonic Security.** A District Deputy Grand Master shall, in visiting the Lodges, examinethe Masonic security of the buildings in which such Lodges meet, and should he deem any of them unsafe or improper for Masonic use he shall report such matter to the Grand

Master. This includes the examination of buildings and halls to be used by newly formed Lodges seeking Dispensations or Charters. (See also Art. 25.) (Revised 1992)

Art. 81. (102). **Other Duties.** Each District Deputy Grand Master shall see that all local Lodge roadside signs and other signs and names of such Lodges shall be properly maintained by such Lodges in attractive condition. He shall also perform such other duties in reference to any of the Lodges as may be directed by the Grand Master.

Art. 82. (103). **Not Collect Lodge Dues.** A District Deputy Grand Master, as such, has no right or authority to collect Lodge dues from members of active Lodges, and any receipt given by him therefor is void.

Art. 83. (104). **Report.** Each District Deputy Grand Master shall make a report of the state of the Lodges in his District and of all the official acts to the Grand Master on or before the fifteenth day of September in each year. Said Reports shall not be published in the Printed Proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

Art. 84. (105). **Expenses.** Each District Deputy Grand Master shall be paid by the Grand Lodge his necessary expenses in performing duties imposed upon him by the Grand Master and then only when such expenses have been authorized and approved by the Grand Master. He shall not be paid for his ordinary official duties.

Art. 85. (106). **Cannot Grant Dispensations.** District Deputy Grand Masters have no authority to grant dispensations for any purpose. But should request be made to him therefor, he may transmit the same to the Grand Master with such recommendation as he may deem proper.

CHAPTER 13— TITLE I APPOINTIVE GRAND OFFICERS

For “Rank and Title” see Constitution Art I~ Sec. 1;

For “List of” see Constitution Art. IV Sec. 3. Sub-div. (a);

For “By Whom Appointed” see Constitution, Art. IV Sec. 3, Sub-div. (a), (b) and (c);

For “Installation” see Constitutions, Art. IV Secs, 4 and 10;

For “Duties see Constitution, Art. 14 Sec. 3.

Art. 86. (107). **Grand Chaplain.** The Grand Chaplain shall attend the Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge and offer prayers when requested by the Grand Master. He shall receive an honorarium of one hundred dollars at the end of his term of office.

Art. 87. (108). **Grand Orator.** The Grand Orator shall attend all communications of this Grand Lodge and shall deliver appropriate addresses suitable to any Masonic occasion when requested by the Grand Master.

Art. 88. (109). **Grand Marshal.** The Grand Marshal shall arrange and conduct all public processions where the Grand Master presides, and assist the Grand Master in arranging the Grand Festivals. He may appoint one or more assistants.

Art. 89. (110). **Grand Deacons.** The Grand Deacons shall assist in conducting the business of this Grand Lodge as directed by the Grand Master and the Grand Wardens.

Art. 90. (111). **Grand Stewards.** The Grand Stewards are under the direction of the Grand Junior Warden.

Art. 91. (112). **Grand Pursuivant.** The Grand Pursuivant shall attend to the inside of the door of this Grand Lodge and shall, when requested, report from the Grand Tiler the names of the Brethren applying for admission. He shall carry the messages and perform such other services as may be required while this Grand Lodge is open.

Art. 91a. **Grand Musician.** The Grand Musician shall provide appropriate music for all open and closed sessions of the Grand Lodge of Texas during the Annual Communication, and at other times when requested by the Grand Master, or this Grand Lodge. (Revised 2013)

Art. 91b. **Grand Photographer.** The Grand Photographer shall record all proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas, proper to be recorded, during the Annual Communication, and at other times when requested by the Grand Master or this Grand Lodge. (Adopted 1990)

Art. 92. **Grand Tiler.** The Grand Tiler shall attend to the outside of the door of this Grand Lodge and take care that none shall enter but members or duly authorized visitors; and not then without receiving permission from the Grand Master. He shall summon the members when directed to do so by order of the Grand Master. He shall receive an honorarium of one hundred dollars at the end of his term of office.

CHAPTER 14 – TITLE I GRAND LODGE TEMPORARY COMMITTEES

For “Certain Resolutions Must First Be Referred To:” see Constitution Art.

XII, Sec. 2;

For “Amendments to Constitution Must Be Referred To” see Constitution, Art.

XIII, Sec. 1.

Art. 93. **Enumeration.** On or before the first day of each Annual Communication, the Grand Master shall appoint the following committee, consisting of five members to serve during that Communication; provided, that the Grand Master may increase the number of members of such committee so as not to exceed seven members in any year:

1. Deleted 2002.
2. On Petitions and Returns of Lodges Under Dispensation.
3. Deleted 2001.
4. Deleted 1975.
5. Deleted 1967.

(Revised 2002)

Art. 94. Repealed in 2002.

Art. 95. **Petitions and Returns of Lodges Under Dispensation.** The Committee on Petitions and Returns of Lodges Under Dispensation shall examine, consider, and report on all petitions for charters. It shall examine the records, work and returns of Lodges under dispensation and report to this Grand Lodge the character and merits of each Lodge, with such recommendations as the Committee may deem best. It shall examine such other matters as may be referred to them by this Grand Lodge or the Grand Master. (Revised 2001)

Art. 96. Deleted 2001.

Art. 97. **By-Laws.** See Article 126d.

Art. 98. See Article 126b.

Art. 99. **Other Temporary Committees.** Such other committees as may be necessary may be appointed by direction of this Grand Lodge. (See also Art. 40).

CHAPTER 15 – TITLE I GRAND LODGE COMMITTEES SERVING ONE YEAR

Art. 100. **Enumeration.** During each Annual Communication the Grand Master shall appoint the following Committees to serve one year, consisting of five members each, unless otherwise indicated, or increased by the Grand Master, provided, no such Committee shall exceed in number more than seven members:

1. On Memorials.
2. On Special Assignments.

(Revised 2007)

Art. 101. **Memorials.** It shall be the duty of the Committee on Memorials to prepare and submit to this Grand Lodge at each Annual Communication an appropriate eulogy upon the Masonic history and services of deceased members of this Grand Lodge and other Grand Jurisdictions, and suitable resolutions concerning deceased members of Subordinate Lodges. Said Committee shall also examine and report to this Grand Lodge upon such other questions as may be submitted to it by this Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.

Art. 102. Repealed 2000.

Art. 103. **Committee on Special Assignments.** The Committee on Special Assignments shall pursue objective studies and projects as assigned by the Grand Lodge of Texas, or the Grand Master. Reports, including recommendations, shall be made as directed by the Grand Master.

Art. 104. Deleted 2001.

Art. 104a. Deleted 2007.

CHAPTER 16 – TITLE I GRAND LODGE PERMANENT COMMITTEES

Art. 105. **Enumeration and Tenure.** The following Committees of the Grand Lodge, each consisting of seven members, except the Committee on Civil Law and the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence which shall consist of 14 members each, shall be Permanent:

1. On Fraternal Relations.
2. On Masonic Jurisprudence.
3. On Grievances and Appeals.
4. On Masonic Education and Service.
5. On Purposes and Policies.
6. On Credentials.
7. Masonic Graduates Advisory Committee.
8. On Finance.
9. On Grand Lodge Assistance Fund.
10. On Public Education.
11. On Civil Law.
12. On Youth Activities.
13. On By-Laws.
14. On Membership Maintenance.
15. On Communication.
16. On Investments.
17. On Mediation No. 1 (West Zone).
18. On Mediation No. 2 (East Zone).
19. On the Internet.
20. On Texas Masonic History.
21. On Gift of Life.

The term of office of each member of each of these Committees is seven years, including, without limitation, the Committee on Civil Law and the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence; present members shall serve for the remainder of their respective terms. Thereafter, on the last day of each Annual Communication, the incoming Grand Master shall appoint a successor to the member(s) of each Committee whose term(s) expire at that Communication, but no member shall be eligible for reappointment to succeed himself on said Committee who shall have served for a full term of seven years on said Committee, and no member shall be eligible to serve on more than one Permanent Term Committee or Board elected by Grand Lodge (Grand Lodge Library and Museum, or other such elected Boards) concurrently. Furthermore, any member who resigns from a Permanent Term Committee cannot be reappointed to such Committee for a period of at least one complete Grand Lodge year. The Grand Master shall annually appoint two members of the Committee on Civil Law and the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence to serve for a seven (7) year term, and shall initially appoint members to serve staggered terms of six (6), five (5), four (4), three (3), two (2), and one (1) year. The Grand Master shall fill any vacancy that may occur on any of these Committees by appointment for the un-expired term. (Revised 2017).

Art. 105a. Qualifications. Each member of the following Committees: Civil Law, Communications, Finance, and Investments shall be a Master Mason who is a member in good standing of a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, and the majority of the members and the Chairman shall at all times be a member of the Grand Lodge of Texas. (New 2005)

Art. 105b. Committee Member Removal. For just cause found, or upon recommendation of the Chairman, any member of any Permanent Committee may be removed from service on said Committee by an affirmative vote of at least four (4) of the Trustees. Balloting on such an issue shall be controlled by the rules of the Trustees as established by the Trustees from time to time. (Renumbered 2005)

Art. 106. Fraternal Relations. The Committee on Fraternal Relations shall examine and report on all matters submitted to it by the Grand Master or this Grand Lodge; on all applications from Grand Jurisdictions to establish fraternal relations; on all charges against other Grand Jurisdictions for the violation of any Masonic principles and landmarks; and shall examine, review and report on all proceedings of other Grand Jurisdictions with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal relations.

Art. 107. Masonic Jurisprudence. All Amendments to the Constitution; all Masonic Forms; all resolutions proposing Amendments to the laws of this Grand Lodge; and all matters pertaining to Masonic Jurisprudence, and such other matters as this Grand Lodge or the Grand Master may decide, shall be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence for examination, consideration and report thereon, before same shall be acted upon by this Grand Lodge. In reviewing the decisions of the Grand Master or the Deputy Grand Master, every ruling of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence thereon, if approved by this Grand Lodge, shall have the force and effect of an Edict until it is modified, amended, repealed or suspended by subsequent action of the Grand Lodge. Provided that no such Edict shall be printed in the volume of Masonic Laws until it has been so designated and formulated by said Committee. (See Art. 177; see Constitution, Art. XII, Sec. 2; and see Constitution, Art. XIII, Sec. 1.)

It shall be the duty of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, during the recess of the Grand Lodge, to review the most recent actions of the Grand Lodge and compare the same with all extant Laws of this Grand Lodge, and modify where necessary all existing Laws to conform to the most recent actions of this Grand Lodge, prior to the dissemination of the Law Changes. (Revised 1993)

Art. 108. Deleted 2001.

Art. 109. Grievances and Appeals: Duties. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals to receive transcripts of appeals, and to examine and report upon same to this Grand Lodge. All reports of such Committee shall be governed by the regulations provided in Articles 110 and 616. The Committee on Grievances and Appeals shall also advise the Grand Master regarding his selection of venue for Masonic trials. (Revised 2000)

Art. 110. Grievances and Appeals: Reports. The Committee on Grievances and Appeals, in reporting on Lodge trials, shall embody in its reports only the name of the Lodge, the initials of the accused, the charges preferred, the action of the Lodge, and the recommendation of the Committee. The Committee, in making its reports on the floor of this Grand Lodge, may accompany it with such written statements of the details of the case as may be necessary for the information of the members. The full reports of the Committee shall be filed with the Grand Secretary and there shall be printed in the Proceedings only the style of the case, the initials of the accused, the result of the trial, and the action of this Grand Lodge thereon.

In the consideration of any case appealed to this Grand Lodge nothing that does not appear in the transcript shall be considered by the Committee on Grievances and Appeals. (Revised 2000)

Art. 111. Masonic Education and Service. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Masonic Education and Service to formulate and promulgate a system of instruction in the fundamental principles, symbolism, teachings and practical application of Masonry; to aid the Grand Master in extending aid and relief in case of public disaster arising from cyclones, earthquakes, floods or other catastrophies. In case of any public calamity, the activities of said Committee shall be subject to the personal supervision and direction of the Grand Master.

The Committee shall be responsible to formulate and to submit to this Grand Lodge after approval by Grand Lodge Trustees, for its approval and publication, such uniform material as is required to properly instruct the Worshipful Masters and Wardens of the Lodges in the duties of their office, and to assist the Grand Master (Revised 1991) in the selection and instruction of well qualified Brethren to represent him and this Grand Lodge as District Education Officers, to coordinate the instruction of Lodge Officers for their certification as such in accordance with those requirements of Article No. 276-a of the Laws of this Grand Lodge. (Revised 1990)

In matters pertaining to the formulation, promulgation and dissemination of Masonic instruction and education, said Committee shall be guided by a strict observance of the Landmarks, Ancient Customs and Usages of Freemasonry, and by such rules and regulations as may be adopted by the Committee or prescribed by this Grand Lodge. In matters pertaining to further development and promotion of the Workshop Program, the Committee shall be charged to assist the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens in the development of suitable Grand Lodge programs for uniform presentation through a state-wide system of Workshops or Conferences as might be designated by the Grand Master each year, and to assist the Grand Master in the selection and instruction of well qualified Brethren, who shall be a member of this Grand Lodge, if such a one is available and willing to serve, otherwise to a qualified Brother who is a member in good standing of a Lodge in the district may serve as such, to represent him and this Grand Lodge and to coordinate such Workshops or Conferences; to encourage Lodge participation in the Vanguard Lodge Program, and to establish the rules suitable for recognition of Lodge achievement in the program; to assist the Lodges and encourage participation in the Golden Trowel Award Program, and to encourage the recognition of suitably qualified members of the Lodge by presentation of the Golden Trowel Award according to the rules as prepared by the Committee. (Revised 1993)

The activities of said Committee shall be under the general supervision of the Grand Master, and no new material or literature shall be promulgated until it has been approved by the Committee and the Grand Master. This Committee shall be required to meet as necessary during the recess of Grand Lodge (Revised 1991)

Art. 112. Masonic Education and Service: Rules. The Committee on Masonic Education and Service shall adopt such rules and regulations as it may deem necessary for the administration of its duties, subject to and in conformity with the Constitution and Laws of this Grand Lodge. It may designate one of its members to act as Treasurer and may require him to give a bond for the safe keeping of all funds entrusted to his care.

Art. 113. Masonic Education and Service: Annual Report. The Committee on Masonic Education and Service shall make an annual report to this Grand Lodge of its educational activities, welfare work, and the condition of all property committed to its care; including a tabulated statement of all receipts and disbursements of its funds.

Art. 114. Repealed in 1971.

Art. 115. Masonic Education and Service: Obligations. The Committee on Masonic Education and Service shall never create any obligation, or make any contract involving the expenditure of funds, in excess of those actually provided for said Committee by this Grand Lodge.

Art. 116. Purposes and Policies. To the Committee on Purposes and Policies shall be referred all resolutions or matters presented to this Grand Lodge affecting or changing the established policies of this Grand Lodge, or in any way modifying or restricting the Ancient Customs and Usages of Freemasonry; provided, that this regulation shall not apply to resolutions involving changes in the Laws referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence. The Committee on Purposes and Policies shall examine and consider all matters referred to it by the Grand Master or Grand Lodge and make report thereon with its recommendation. (Revised 1990)

Art. 117. Credentials. The Committee on Credentials shall meet at the Grand Lodge Temple the day preceding the Annual Communication, receive and examine such credentials as may be presented by the brethren, and report thereon at the opening of this Grand Lodge. (Revised 2002)

Art. 118. Masonic Graduates Advisory Committee. The Masonic Graduates Advisory Committee shall work in cooperation with the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home and School and under its direction, to assist the graduates of said Home and School in securing employment and to become established in the business and social life of the State.

Art. 119. Finance: Meetings and Duties. The Committee on Finance shall meet in the Grand Lodge Temple at Waco on call by its Chairman or by the Grand Master at such times and as often as circumstances demand. It shall examine the report on special matters referred to it by the Grand Master and by this Grand Lodge, including but not limited to, the review and analysis of the Minimum Audit Form No. 71 of the constituent Lodges. It shall examine, and if satisfactory, approve and keep in its custody the fidelity bonds of all Officers and employees of this Grand Lodge. The Finance Committee report and action thereon shall be the first business considered by Grand Lodge on the last day of the Grand Annual Communication. (Revised 2012)

Art. 120. Repealed 2002.

Art. 121. Finance: Annual Report and Budget. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Finance to prepare and submit for the approval of the Grand Lodge as a part of its Annual Report, a proposed itemized budget showing estimated expenditures of every kind for the operation of the Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge Offices in Waco for the ensuing fiscal year of the Grand Lodge of Texas. Upon registration, a printed copy of the proposed budget shall be made available to each member of the Grand Lodge of Texas and to the duly elected representative(s) of each subordinate Lodge at the Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas before it is presented for discussion and final approval. No resolution, motion, report, amendment or new business of any kind whatever involving the appropriation or expenditure of money, excepting such fund or funds as have been allocated by our Constitution Laws or by a resolution adopted prior to this Grand Communication, be acted upon until it is first referred to, thoroughly investigated by and reported upon to the Grand Lodge by the Finance Committee. (Revised 2003).

The Grand Lodge Finance Committee shall be responsible to see that all contracts for services involving Grand Lodge officers or committee members are clearly and properly reported in its final report to the Grand Lodge at each Annual Communication. This law shall not include or pertain to any incidental meals, expense reimbursements for travel or out-of-pocket expenses, or nominal gifts received by any such committee or board member. (Adopted 2009).

Art. 122. Repealed 2018

Art. 123. Grand Lodge Assistance Fund: Administration and Duties. The Finance Committee shall exercise control, supervision, and disbursement of the funds of the Grand Lodge Assistance Fund under such rules and regulations as may be adopted from time to time by such Committee, or by this Grand Lodge.

Contributions from the fund shall be limited to those individuals whose sponsoring Lodge also contributes to the recipient. Such limitation shall not apply when the Lodge submits satisfactory evidence of its inability to contribute to such assistance. Provided further that the total contribution of the plan to any recipient shall not exceed an amount as established from time to time by the Grand Lodge Trustees. (Revised 2018)

Art. 124. Grand Lodge Assistance Fund. Receipts and Disbursements. The Grand Secretary shall deposit all contributions to and collections of the Grand Lodge Assistance Fund in the designated depository and shall keep an account of the same separate from all other funds. All disbursements from said fund shall be made upon the warrant of the Grand Secretary, after any such disbursement has been authorized by said Committee and approved by the Grand Lodge Trustees. (Revised 2008)

Art. 125. Grand Lodge Assistance Fund: Purposes of Fund. The purposes for which said fund may be used shall be the relief of Brethren in good standing and members of their families suffering substantial financial hardship resulting from malignant or incurable disease, natural calamity, or other temporary and emergency hardship as the Committee may determine. (Revised 2018)

Art. 126. Grand Lodge Assistance Fund: Annual Report. The Committee on Finance shall make an annual report to this Grand Lodge of its activities in relief work, including a tabulated statement of all receipts, disbursements, and balances on hand of such fund. The names of the beneficiaries thereof shall not be published in the printed Proceedings. (Revised 2018)

Art. 126a. Public Education. The Committee on Public Education shall be charged with the duty of carrying on the Texas Public School Program of this Grand Lodge, and other appropriate activities having to do with Public Education in Texas, as may be authorized by the Grand Lodge from time to time.

In matters pertaining to the Lamar Medal Program, the Committee shall be responsible to develop, promote and assist the Lodges with suitable Grand Lodge programs and material for uniform presentation of the Lamar Medal; to establish suitable guidelines for the qualifications of proposed recipients of the medal, and for presentation of same in such manner as to properly recognize outstanding achievement while honoring the commitment of this Grand Lodge to the principle of Public Education. This Committee shall be required to meet as necessary during the recess of Grand Lodge.

Art. 126b. Civil Law. To the Committee on Civil Law shall be referred all questions of title to property owned or claimed by this Grand Lodge or by any one or more of its Constituent Lodges and, also, all titles, deeds, mortgages, and other documents relating to real estate owned or claimed by this Grand Lodge or by any one or more of its Constituent Lodges. It shall also be the duty of this Committee and of its Chairman and several members, upon the request of the Grand Master, to counsel and advise him, upon any civil law legal matter arising in the course of his administration and the advisability of employing legal counsel in regard thereto. (Revised 2015)

Art. 126c. Youth Activities. The Committee on Youth Activities shall be charged with the duty of encouraging all Master Masons in this Grand Jurisdiction to advance, promote, and support the youth organizations approved for Masonic sponsorship under the Laws of this Grand Lodge and for the amplification and coordination of worthy activities of the Grand Lodge and its Constituent Lodges in support of same.

In an effort to secure only those of the highest moral character and reputation to serve as advisors to said Youth Organizations, the following procedure applies to any Master Mason wishing to serve as such.

1. The Master Mason wishing to serve as an advisor to an approved Youth Organization shall submit Form No. 79.

2. The form shall authorize investigations into the applicant's reputation and character, including requests for credit checks, criminal records and any charges of child abuse filed with the Texas Department of Human Services.

3. The Lodge of a Master Mason so applying, must attest in writing, to his good standing.
4. The completed form shall be submitted annually to the Youth Organization and its Chief Executive Officer in Texas, the Youth Organization's sponsoring body and the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge where they shall remain on file. (Revised 1990)

Art. 126d. **By-Laws.** The Committee on By-Laws shall examine, consider and report its conclusions on all by-laws and amendments to by-laws of Subordinate Lodges which may be referred to it by this Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.

Art. 126e. **Membership.** The Committee on Membership shall consist of seven members who shall be responsible to the Trustees of this Grand Lodge for implementing and coordinating membership activities of this Grand Lodge including, without being limited to (i) the maintenance of membership; (ii) the promoting of growth in membership; (iii) the assistance to Lodges in membership matters, including that of non-payment of dues (NPD); and (iv) the preparation and general oversight of all forms pertaining to membership, all as directed by the Trustees. (Revised 2004)

Art. 126f. Grand Lodge Committee on Mediation Nos. 1 and 2.

1. Mediation defined. (a) Mediation is a forum in which an impartial person, the mediator, facilitates communication between parties to promote reconciliation, settlement, or understanding among them; (b) A mediator may not impose his own judgment on the issues for that of the parties.

2. Committee No. 1 shall have exclusive jurisdiction over all cases pending in Lodges physically located west of Interstate Highway 45 and US Highway 75 North. Committee No. 2 shall have exclusive jurisdiction over all cases pending in Lodges physically located east of Interstate Highway 45 and US Highway 75 North.

3. Any Lodge in which Masonic Charges are filed shall refer such pending charges within 10 days of receipt of the same through their District Deputy Grand Master, to the Grand Master, who may refer it to the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Mediation having jurisdiction over its location for binding mediation. The Committee shall proceed to attempt to resolve the charges, if possible, within 30 days of the referral, and report the result to the Grand Master and Worshipful Master of the Lodge in which such charges have been filed. The Committee may not act in a manner calculated to abridge or curtail rights granted or protected by the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas, or in matters involving prosecutions for alleged civil/criminal violations, the laws of the State of Texas or any other State, or of the United States of America. Mediation is binding when signed by the parties thereto. A breach of the terms of the mediation agreement shall be a Masonic disciplinary violation that is subject to Masonic discipline pursuant to the provision of Title 5 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas. (Adopted 2000)

Art. 126g. **Committee on Communication.** It shall be the duty of the Committee on Communication to formulate and promulgate policies, programs and projects regarding internal and external communications to increase member and public awareness and understanding of Masonry using various communications tools and techniques; to make recommendations pertaining to such matters to the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge and to employ such professional assistance to accomplish its purposes as is authorized by the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Texas. (Revised 2003)

In addition, the Committee shall be responsible to assist the Grand Master in the selection and instruction of well-qualified Brethren to represent him and this Grand Lodge as District Communications Officers. These members shall be members of the Grand Lodge of Texas, if such a one is available and willing to serve, otherwise a qualified Brother who is a member in good standing of a Lodge in the district may serve as such. (Revised 2003)

In matters pertaining to the Community Builder Award, the Committee shall be responsible to develop, promote and assist the Lodges with suitable Grand Lodge programs and materials for uniform presentation of the Community Builder Award; to establish suitable guidelines for qualifications as to properly recognize outstanding community achievement while honoring the commitment of this Grand

Lodge to a more effective relationship between the Lodges and the communities they seek to serve. This Committee shall be required to meet as necessary during the recess of Grand Lodge. (Revised 1991)

In matters pertaining to the W. B. and Brandon Carrell Humanitarian Award, the Committee shall be responsible to evaluate all nominations for the Award, and to make its recommendations as provided in Article 14b of these Laws. (Revised 1992)

Art. 126h. Committee on Investments. The Committee on Investments shall be a Permanent Committee which shall meet the criteria of Article 105 hereof except such Committee will have a membership of seven (7) Master Masons who are each a member and a Past Master, if available, in good standing of a Lodge in this grand jurisdiction and the Chairman shall at all times be a member of the Grand Lodge. The term of office of each member shall be seven (7) years, and each member may succeed himself. Each of the members of the Committee will be experienced in financial investments as a result of substantial time (not less than five [5] years) spent as a professional in that arena, and each member may succeed himself. The Committee will prepare for presentation to a joint session with the Grand Lodge Trustees, as required herein below, its recommendations as to how the funds in the General Fund and how each special fund of the Grand Lodge should be invested for the next ensuing calendar quarter to generate a prudent income from the funds so invested.

The Committee on Investments and the Grand Lodge Trustees shall meet once each calendar quarter in joint session for the purpose of considering the recommendations of the Committee on Investments as to the appropriate investments for the monies in the General Fund and each special fund of this Grand Lodge, including without limitation, the Endowed Membership Fund, the Grand Lodge Endowment Fund, the William M. Beck Memorial Fund and the Grand Lodge Employees Retirement Fund. A decision to follow a recommendation of the Committee on Investments must be approved by the Grand Lodge Trustees. The Committee shall make its annual report to this Grand Lodge concerning its activities. Additionally, the Committee shall make unaudited reports as to the current value, income and expense of each fund listed in this Article following fiscal quarter ends of March, June, and September. (Revised 2011)

Art. 126i. Committee on Internet. The Committee on Internet shall be a Permanent Committee which shall meet the criteria of Art. 105 hereof except that the Committee shall be composed of Master Masons who are each a member and a Past Master, if available, in good standing of a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction; the Chairman shall at all times be a member of this Grand Lodge. In matters pertaining to the formulation, promulgation and dissemination of Masonic information, said Committee shall be guided by a strict observance of the Landmarks, Ancient Customs and Usages of Freemasonry and such rules and regulations as may be adopted by the Grand Trustees or prescribed by this Grand Lodge. The activities of the Committee shall be under the general supervision of the Grand Master and no new material or literature shall be promulgated until it has been approved by the Grand Trustees. (Revised 2002)

Art. 126j. Texas Masonic History. The Committee on Texas Masonic History shall be responsible for (i) the promotion of Texas Masonic Historical activities; (ii) the improvement of the Masonic image in historical activities and celebrations; (iii) the investigation and reporting of significant historical events to be celebrated; and, (iv) advising the constituent Lodges as to the conservation and preservation of historically significant artifacts, documents and records in the care of said Lodges. (Revised 2007)

Art. 126k. Gift of Life Committee. The Gift of Life Committee shall be a Permanent Committee which shall meet the criteria of Article 105 hereof except such Committee will have a membership of seven (7) Master Masons who are each a member and a Past Master, if available, in good standing of a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction. The Chairman shall at all times be a member of this Grand Lodge. It shall be the duty of the Gift of Life Committee to formulate and promulgate policies, programs and projects to encourage Texas Masonic Lodges to sponsor blood drives to benefit Scottish Rite and Shrine hospitals and other community hospitals throughout the State of Texas. (Adopted 2008)

CHAPTER 17 – TITLE I COMMITTEE ON WORK

For “Election and Term of Office” see Constitution, Art. XI.

Art. 127. **Ritual.** No ritual other than that promulgated by this Grand Lodge shall be taught or used in this Jurisdiction, nor shall paraphernalia except as listed in Article 223 be used, nor shall preparation of Candidates include other than that provided in the Monitor of the Lodge or otherwise required by any provision of the laws of this Grand Lodge, provided however by special dispensation of the Grand Master, a degree team from another Grand Jurisdiction in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge may confer a degree on one of their own candidates using ritual as approved in the degree team’s home jurisdiction, provided said ritual is in English. (Revised 2013)

Art. 128. **Proficiency of Members.** It shall be the duty of each member of the Committee on Work to make himself proficient in the esoteric work and lectures of the first three degrees of Masonry and to attend each Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

Art. 129. **Duties of Committee.** It shall be the duty of the Committee on Work to compare the work and lectures of the first three degrees in Masonry and to harmonize differences therein; to adopt a uniform system of esoteric work and lectures under the supervision of this Grand Lodge; to exemplify the same before the Grand Lodge when required; and to instruct the Grand Officers, and such other officers, representatives and Brethren as may desire the same, in such work and lectures.

In addition to the foregoing the Committee shall have the following duties:

a. Prior to the Grand Annual Communication, the incoming Grand Master may request the Committee on Work to recommend qualified members of Grand Lodge, or brothers who are proficient in the esoteric work and lectures of the first three degrees in Masonry, who may be appointed by him to serve as District Instructors for the ensuing Grand Lodge year. (Revised 2018)

b. The Committee shall conduct such schools of instruction for District Instructors as they deem appropriate or required.

c. A suitable Certificate of Appointment and Identification Card shall be issued by this Grand Lodge to the District Instructor upon his appointment each year.

Art 130. **The “Word.”** The “Word” must not be given in a Lodge of Instruction or elsewhere except as received.

Art. 131. **Examinations.** The Committee on Work is authorized to conduct examinations during the Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge and may continue in session two days more, or so long as may be necessary to complete the signing of certificates, to examine applicants touching their qualifications to teach the esoteric work and lectures. No examinations shall be conducted on Sunday.

In the event of the resignation or death of a member of the Committee on Work, or in the event a member of the Committee on Work is rendered unable to perform his duties through a disabling illness during the recess of the Grand Lodge, the remaining members of the Committee on Work may designate a brother who has previously served on the Committee on Work to conduct certificate examinations and grade degree teams. Such designation shall be made only when the remaining members are unable to provide the required service and shall be effective only until the incapacitated member is capable of fulfilling his duties or until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, whichever is earlier. The Grand Master and Grand Secretary shall be notified of any such designation.

Provided further that should a brother who has previously served on the Committee on Work be unavailable for such service the remaining members of the Committee on Work may, by unanimous agreement, select an otherwise qualified brother to provide such services for a term not to exceed the duration of incapacity or absence of an elected member, or until the next meeting of this Grand Lodge, whichever is earlier.

Art. 132. **Certificates.** To such Brethren as the Committee on Work may deem qualified, a certificate shall be issued authorizing the one holding the same to give instructions in the esoteric work and lectures to any lodge until the expiration of the time specified in the certificate. (Revised 1992)

Art. 132a. **Certificates: Classifications.** Certificates of Proficiency shall be classified as follows: Class C: Certifies proficiency in the questions and answers of the three degrees, and in opening and closing a Lodge in each degree and a Master Mason's Lodge of Sorrow, plus the Tiler's Oath. (Class "C" Certificates shall be approximately 8½ by 11 inches according to the design adopted by the Committee on Work.) (Revised 1999)

Class B: Certifies proficiency as defined in Class "C" plus proficiency in the conferral of the three degrees. (Class "B" Certificates shall be approximately 8½ by 11 inches according to the design adopted by the Committee on Work.)

Class A: Certifies proficiency as defined in Classes "C" and "B" plus the lectures of the three degrees. (Class "A" Certificates shall be approximately 12 by 16 inches according to the design adopted by the Committee on Work.) (Revised 1999)

Art. 133. (167). **Certificates: For One, Two and Three Years.** A Brother who has held certificates of proficiency from the Committee on Work in any classification listed in Article 132a for two successive years preceding the date of his application for re-examination, may be granted a certificate for one, two or three years at the discretion of the Committee, according to the proficiency shown by his examination therein. (Revised 1991)

Art. 134. (164). **Certificates: Renewal.** The Committee on Work may renew the certificate of the classification held by a Brother on or before its expiration after satisfactory examination of his proficiency therein. (Revised 1991)

Art. 135. (176). **Certificates: Life.** When a Brother has been awarded certificates to teach the esoteric work covering twenty-five years in any one of the classifications listed in Article 132a, the Committee on Work may, in its discretion, issue to him a life certificate to teach the esoteric work applicable thereto. (Revised 1991)

Art. 136. (177). **Certificates: Life to Ex-Chairman.** The Committee on Work is authorized to issue to each ex-Chairman of the Committee on Work a life certificate to teach the esoteric work and lectures.

Art. 137. (165). **Certificates: Authentication.** The certificate issued by the Committee on Work shall have the genuine or facsimile signature of all members of the Committee, be counter-signed by the Grand Secretary, and the Seal of this Grand Lodge affixed thereto; and each certificate shall state the time when it expires.

Art. 138. (168). **Certificates: Forfeiture.** Any Brother holding a certificate, or any member of the Committee on Work, who shall solicit or request a Lodge or Masons to employ or accept his services to teach or exemplify the work and lectures shall thereby forfeit his certificate, and the Grand Master shall revoke the certificate of such Brother.

Art. 139. (166). **Esoteric Work: Who May Exemplify.** No one shall exemplify the work and lectures in any Lodge of this jurisdiction and receive compensation therefor who shall not first have obtained from the Committee on Work certificate of proficiency, after due examination therefor as provided by the laws of this Grand Lodge.

Art. 140. (170). **Esoteric Work: Employing Instructor.** A Lodge or body of Masons in this jurisdiction may employ any member of the Committee on Work or any Brother holding a certificate from said committee, to instruct them in the work and lectures.

Art. 141. (178). **Esoteric Work: Examination for Certificates.** Any Lodge or body of Masons under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge may employ said Committee on Work, or any member thereof, to conduct examinations for certificates to teach the work, at such times and places as they may desire. The expenses of such examinations shall be paid by the Lodge or brethren desiring the same. Whoever

conducts the examinations shall keep a report of all Brethren who pass satisfactory examinations, but a certificate thereof shall not be issued until the next communication of this Grand Lodge.

Art. 142. (171). **Esoteric Work: Schools of Instruction.** Masonic Schools of Instruction can be held only in a Masonic Lodge room, or within the rooms in the Grand Lodge Temple set apart for Masonic purposes, but any number of Masons may meet in such places for the purpose of instruction without formal sanction of the Lodge or the Grand Lodge. No compensation shall be paid therefor unless it is imparted under authority of a Lodge, in its Lodge room, and paid for by the Lodge.

Art. 142a. **Degree Team Recognition.** The Committee on Work may issue a certificate of merit to a degree team in recognition of excellence in the presentation of any one or more of the three degrees.

Art. 143. (174). **Committeemen: Compensation.** Each Member of the Committee on Work shall receive ten dollars per day for each day, Sunday excepted, that the Committee may be engaged in examinations, during the term as provided in Article 131. The Grand Secretary is authorized to approve such accounts and draw warrants for the amounts due.

Art. 144. (175). **Committeemen: Expenses.** Each member of the Committee on Work shall be allowed his actual expenses in coming from and returning to his home, and his actual expenses while in attendance on his duties in teaching the esoteric work and lectures, and in examinations during and following the Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

CHAPTER 18— TITLE I MASONIC HOME AND SCHOOL

For "Resources Pledged To" see Constitution, Art. X, Sec. 1;

For "Funds for Support Of" see Constitution, Art 2 Sec. 3;

For "Board of Directors, Powers, etc., "see Constitution, Art. X, Sec. 4;

For "Administration of Funds" see Constitution, Art. X, Sec. 5

Art. 145. Deleted 2015.

Art. 146. (180). **Use of Funds.** Except as otherwise provided, any and all funds coming into the hands of the Treasurer of the Masonic Home and School from the revenues of this Grand Lodge, and from all other sources, including interest arising from the endowment fund, may be used by said Board of Directors for the maintenance and operation of said Home and School; for the support of widows of Master Masons cared for under arrangements made with the Texas Masonic Retirement Center maintained by the Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas and for the erection of new buildings, improvements on existing structures, improvements for the purposes of said Home and School and for other necessary expenses.

Art. 147. Deleted 2015.

Art. 148. Deleted 2015.

Art. 149. Deleted 2015.

Art. 150. Deleted 2015.

Art. 151. Deleted 2015.

Art. 152. Deleted 2015.

Art. 153. Deleted 2015.

Art. 154. Deleted 2015.

Art. 155. Deleted 2015.

Art. 156. Deleted 2015.

Art. 157. Deleted 2015.

Art. 158. Deleted 2015.

Art. 159. Deleted 2015.

Art. 160. Deleted 2015.

Art. 161. Widows Supported at Texas Masonic Retirement Center. The Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, having established a home for the care of aged Masons, the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home and School is hereby authorized to enter into such arrangements with the Board of Directors of said Texas Masonic Retirement Center for the care and maintenance of the widows supported by said Home and School, as will best serve the purposes for which both Homes are established.

Art. 162. Deleted 2015.

CHAPTER 19 – TITLE I GRAND LODGE REVENUES

For “Additional Contributions” see Constitution, Arts. IX and X.

Art. 163. Fees, Dues and Contributions. Each subordinate Lodge shall pay to the Grand Secretary fees, dues, and contributions as follows:

1. For each duplicate Charter the sum of	\$ 2.50
2. For each Dispensation for conferring degrees the sum of.....	2.00
3. For each diploma (except to Past Grand Masters) the sum of	2.00
4. For each degree conferred in the Grand Lodge the sum of.....	30.00
5. For the use of the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation, for each Master Mason’s Degree conferred, which the Lodge shall collect from each applicant for said degree, in addition to the regular fee charged by the Lodge, and which sum, when collected, shall be remitted by the Lodge to the Grand Secretary with the annual returns, as provided in Article 318, the sum of <small>(Revised 2006)</small>	25.00
6. For the Grand Lodge General Fund, to be remitted by the Lodge with its annual returns, for each degree conferred as required by Section 2 of Article IX of the Constitution the sum of	1.00
7. For the use of the Grand Lodge Building Maintenance Reserve Fund for each member on the rolls of the Lodge, to be remitted annually with its returns, the sum of \$1.25 required by Section 2 Article IX of the Constitution, plus the sum of \$3.75 for the use of the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation, Inc., the total sum of <small>(Revised 2017)</small>	5.00
8. For the “Grand Lodge Assistance Fund,” for each member on the rolls of the Lodge, to be paid annually with its return, the sum of	25
9. For the use in financing the Grand Lodge Employees Retirement Fund Program, for each member on the rolls of the Lodge, to be remitted annually with its returns, the sum of	10
10. For the Grand Lodge General fund to be remitted by the Lodge with its Annual Returns, for each member on the rolls of the Lodge, the sum of \$.50 required by Section 2 of Article IX plus \$19.55, the total sum of <small>(Revised 2015)</small>	20.05
11. For the Grand Lodge Library and Museum to be remitted by the Lodge with its Annual Returns, for each member on the rolls of the Lodge, the sum of	1.00
12. For the use of the George Washington Masonic Memorial for each Entered Apprentice degree conferred, the Lodge shall collect from each applicant for said degree in addition to the regular fees charged by the Lodge, the sum of	5.00
13. For the Masonic Youth Foundation, to be remitted by the Lodge with its Annual Returns for each member on the rolls of the Lodge, the sum of <small>(Revised 2012)</small>	10
14. Such other fees, dues and contributions, if any, now or hereafter required by the Constitution or Laws of this Grand Lodge	

NOTE: For effective date of increase in per capita, see Art. 488 and 493.

The vote on fees, dues and contributions shall be by Lodges and members on written ballot.

Art. 163a. **Grand Lodge Building Maintenance Reserve Fund.** The sum of \$1.00 per year for each member on the rolls of all the Subordinate Lodges, shall be transferred from the Grand Lodge General Fund, to a Reserve Fund held IN TRUST, and used solely and exclusively for structural maintenance, renovation, remodeling and repair of the MEMORIAL MASONIC GRAND LODGE BUILDING.

Expenditures from the Grand Lodge Building Maintenance Reserve Fund shall be made *only* upon authorization of the Directors of the Grand Lodge Masonic Library and Museum of Texas. (Revised 2012)

Art. 163b. **The Endowed Membership Fund.** The Endowed Membership Fund shall consist of all monies received by the Grand Lodge for the purpose of purchasing Endowed Memberships in Texas Lodges as provided in Article 318-a of these Laws, and all such funds, along with the income therefrom, shall be kept in a special and separate account entitled the "Endowed Membership Fund."

Unless specifically authorized by a 2/3 majority vote of this Grand Lodge, no part of the principal amount of the Endowed Membership Fund shall be used for any purpose except investment and reinvestment, and only then after due notice shall have been given to the Lodges and Members by Resolution as provided in Article 172 of these Laws.

All income earned from investment of the Fund, less any administrative fee provided by these Laws, shall be annually distributed to the Lodges in accordance with the provisions of Article 318-a of these Laws, and such administration fee shall be placed at least annually in the General Fund for the operation of this Grand Lodge and its programs through the regular budgetary procedures as recommended by the Grand Lodge Trustees and the Finance Committee for the approval of this Grand Lodge. (Adopted 1993)

Art. 163c. **The Grand Lodge Endowment Fund.** The Grand Lodge Endowment Fund shall consist of all monies contributed to the "Penny-A-Day" Program as instituted in 1992, and any other funds, stocks, bonds and/or securities thereafter designated and received therefor and shall be kept in a special and separate account to be entitled "The Grand Lodge Endowment Fund."

No part of the principal of the Grand Lodge Endowment Fund, except the income earned from the investment thereof, shall be used for any purpose, unless specifically authorized by a 2/3 vote of those present at an Annual Grand Communication of this Grand Lodge, and then only after due notice shall have been given to the Lodges and Members by Resolution as provided in Article 172 of these Laws.

All income earned from the Fund only, less any administration fee that might be provided, may be annually deposited in the General Fund for the operation of this Grand Lodge and its programs through its regular budgetary procedures as recommended by the Grand Lodge Trustees and the Finance Committee for the approval of the Grand Lodge. (Adopted 1993)

Art. 163d. Deleted. (2011).

Article 163e. **Ownership and Management of the Endowed Membership Fund.** The Endowed Membership Fund is owned by the subordinate Lodges by whom contributions have been made, under the provisions of Article 318a of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas. The percentage ownership of such a subordinate Lodge is based upon the dollar amount of its contributions to the Endowed Membership Fund.

The Grand Lodge of Texas, in Annual Communication, has authorized and directed the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Texas, on behalf of its subordinate Lodges, to create one or more trusts, and related entities, to hold legal title to the assets of the Endowed Membership Fund, in order to protect those assets from the claims of future creditors of the Lodges ("EMF Trust.")

The EMF Trust shall be created by the Grand Lodge of Texas Trustees under and in accordance with the trust laws (as they exist from time to time) of Delaware or other states where their laws allow the Grand Lodge of Texas, on behalf of its subordinate Lodges, to keep significant control over the management of the EMF assets. Texas has no comparable laws for this purpose.

Under the EMF Trust and its related entities, the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Texas will retain, on behalf of the subordinate Lodges, all investment power over EMF assets. Distributions to subordinate Lodges from the EMF Trust are fixed under Grand Lodge law. The Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Texas will have the power to change in its sole discretion the corporate trustee of the EMF Trust.

Although the subordinate Lodges will no longer directly own the EMF assets after the EMF Trust is funded, the subordinate Lodges for whom EMF contributions have been made will be the sole beneficiaries of the EMF Trust, and no other person or entity may benefit from the EMF Trust at any time.

Except as required by applicable state law, upon the creation of the EMF Trust, there will be no other change in the administration of the Endowed Membership Fund, as provided by Article 318a and 163b of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas. (Revised 2014)

CHAPTER 20 – TITLE I RULES OF PROCEDURE – THE GRAND LODGE

For “Questions of Order Decided by the Presiding Officer Without Debate or Appeal” see Constitution, Art. XII, Sec. 4;

For “When a Question is Decided Cannot Be Acted Upon Again, Unless” see Constitution, Art. XII, Sec. 3;

For “Resolution to Be Referred to Appropriate Committee” see Constitution, Art. XIII, Sec. 2;

For “Amendments to Be Referred to Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence and to the Lodges” see Constitution, Art. XIII.

Art. 164. (197). **Decorum at Opening.** At the sound of the Grand Master’s gavel there shall be silence in the room, and every Brother shall take his seat. Any Brother who disobeys the gavel may be reprimanded by the Grand Master, and may be sent from the room.

Art. 165. (198). **Order of Business: First Day.** On the first day of each Annual Communication, after this Grand Lodge is opened, the order shall be:

1. The roll of officers, Past Grand Officers, and members shall be called by the Grand Secretary, and if a quorum of the representatives of Lodges be present, then
2. Distinguished Visitors and the Grand Representative of other Grand Jurisdictions shall be received.
3. The Grand Master shall report his official acts done during recess.
4. The Grand Master shall appoint the committees.
5. Reports of other Grand Officers shall be received.
6. Reports of Committees may be received.
7. The Address of the Grand Orator may be heard.
8. Unfinished business.

Art. 166. (199). **Order of Business: Second Day.** On the second day the order shall be:

1. Report of Committee on Credentials, which is in order at any time.
2. Reports of Committees.
3. Unfinished business.
4. New Business.
5. Installation of officers, provided, that if the Communication is extended beyond two days, the installation may be deferred until all other business is completed. (Revised 1993)

Art. 167. **Suspension of Order of Business.** The Order of Business Rules set forth in Article 165 and Article 166 are not exclusive, and the Grand Lodge may, by a majority vote of the members present and voting, suspend the Order of Business rules and proceed to the consideration of such other business as it may direct. (New 2005)

Art. 167a. **Suspension of Procedural Rules.** The Grand Lodge may suspend any of the rules of procedure set forth in Chapter 20, by a vote of four-fifths of the members present and voting. (New 2005)

Art. 168. (201). **All Properly Clothed.** No officer or member shall appear in this Grand Lodge without the jewel and regalia proper for his station, unless for good reason to be allowed by this Grand Lodge.

Art. 169. (202). **Avoid Moving About.** Every member shall avoid moving about, except the Grand Deacons and other officers whose duties may call them to different parts of the room.

Art. 170. (203, 204, 205, 206). **Rules Governing Speakers.**

A. Every member who speaks shall rise and address the Grand Master; and when two or more rise at the same time the Grand Master shall name the one who shall speak first.

B. No member shall speak more than twice on the same subject on the same day unless to explain, or when granted permission to speak by the Grand Master.

C. While a member is speaking no member shall interrupt him unless he is willing to yield for a question. But if he wanders from the subject under consideration, or is personal in his remarks, the Grand Master may call him to order, and he shall not proceed in his remarks without permission.

D. If any member shall be twice called to order for a violation of the rules, the Grand Master may order him from the room.

Art. 171. (207). **Repealed 1989.**

Art. 172. **Resolutions: Law Changes; Charter Petitions.** All Resolutions proposing any change in the Laws of this Grand Lodge, shall be filed with the Grand Secretary not later than July 15 of each year. (Revised 2017)

All Grand Masters Recommendations proposing any change in the Laws of this Grand Lodge, shall be filed with the Grand Secretary not later than July 15 of each year. Unless approved by a two-thirds majority of Lodges and members present, any resolution proposing any change in this Grand Lodge or its Laws or affecting jurisprudence in any way that has been rejected by a vote of this Grand Lodge, the subject matter of such proposal shall not again be considered for a period of three (3) years subsequent to the Grand Annual Communication at which the proposal was considered. (Revised 2017)

The Grand Secretary shall, forthwith thereafter, deliver to each member of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence all Resolutions and Grand Master's Recommendations which have been filed with the Grand Secretary by July 15. The Grand Secretary shall be provided, by the proposer of a Resolution or a Recommendation, with the proposer's mailing address, telephone number, FAX number and E-Mail address, if applicable. (Revised 2017)

Upon receipt of Resolutions and Recommendations from the Grand Secretary, the members of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence will coordinate among themselves the examination of such Resolutions and Recommendations to determine whether any are not in proper and legal form or are generic in nature or are not specific as to substance or are inconsistent with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge and/or the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas or the Laws or Regulations of the State of Texas or of the United States of America. (Revised 1998)

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, or designated member thereof, shall personally contact the proposer(s) of any Resolution, and/or the Grand Master as to any Recommendation, which does not meet the aforesaid criteria and shall use its best efforts to labor with each such proposer or the Grand Master to attempt to put such Resolution and/or Recommendation in proper and legal form and meet the other criteria stated aforesaid. (Revised 2017)

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence will be responsible to ensure that all Resolutions and Recommendations are in the hands of the Grand Secretary by October 15 following the filing of such Resolution and Recommendations on or before the preceding July 15. All such Resolutions and all Grand Master's Recommendations are subject to amendment by the Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication. The proposer(s) of such Resolutions and/or the Grand Master furnishing any Recommendations will be notified personally that delivery to the Grand Secretary by July 15 has been effected. (Revised 2017)

All original petitions for Charters for Lodges not under dispensation, with necessary accompanying papers, shall be filed with the Grand Secretary not later than July 15 of each year, same, however, to be subject to amendment or correction. (Revised 2017)

Failure to observe the provisions of this Article 172 shall result in forfeiture of the right of any Resolution or petition to be referred to a Grand Lodge Committee or to be considered at the then-forthcoming Annual Communication. These rules shall not apply to the report of any Committee acting on matters properly submitted to it. (Revised 1998)

The Grand Secretary shall forward to the Secretary of each Constituent Lodge five (5) copies of such proposed Resolutions to be distributed by the Worshipful Master of the Lodge. (Revised 1998)

All Resolutions proposing any change in this Grand Lodge or in its Laws shall be submitted in writing and in the manner herein prescribed either by a Lodge of its obedience or by a member of this Grand Lodge or as defined in Article II, Section 1 of the Constitution. If submitted by a Lodge, the Secretary of same shall attest to it having been read and approved by a majority of its members present at a regular stated meeting of the Lodge held prior to July 15 of the year submitted to Grand Lodge. And, if submitted by one or more members of this Grand Lodge, it shall be signed by each such member(s) with the name of each member printed below his signature together with the name and number of the Lodge of which each signer is a Past Master and a member in good standing. All Resolutions submitted shall be passed to the Grand Master by the Grand Secretary for referral by the Grand Master to the Committee assigned by him to review and report on same at the next Annual Grand Communication of this Grand Lodge, and such referral, together with the name of proposer signing first, shall be noted on the printed copy sent to the Lodges. (Revised 2017)

Art. 172a. Order for Consideration of Proposals. All Resolutions and other new business intended for the action of the Grand Lodge amending the laws, or affecting Jurisprudence shall be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, which shall concurrently consider it and first report thereon to the Grand Lodge of Texas. The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence may recommend modifications to a proposal to place the proposal in proper and legal form and to insure it is not inconsistent with any other provision of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas before the same is placed before the Grand Lodge for its action thereon. The pending proposals, resolutions and recommendations will be considered in this order:

First, the report of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence as to whether the matter is in proper and legal form and not inconsistent with any other provision of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas;

Second, the recognition of the sponsor or proposer for his motion to adopt and any explanation that he believes necessary for that proposal; and Third, the report of any committee to which the matter has been referred for that committee's recommendation. A committee may not make a motion that a proposal, Resolution or Recommendation be not adopted. Notwithstanding the above, any member of Grand Lodge of any Representative of a Chartered Lodge, or the Committee to which the matter was referred, as well as the proposer, may move for the adoption of a Resolution as written. (Revised 2001)

Art. 173. (209). Resolutions and Motions: Withdrawal. After a resolution has been submitted or motion has been put by the Grand Master, it shall not be withdrawn without leave from this Grand Lodge, if objection is made to the withdrawal.

Art. 174. (210). Resolutions: Procedure. When a resolution or proposition is ready for consideration no motion shall be in order but to lay on the table; to postpone; to refer to a committee; to amend; to divide; or refer to the Lodges; to adopt; which motions shall have precedence in the order here stated. The motion to lay on the table is not debatable.

Art. 175. (211). Motion Not Divided: When. A motion to amend by striking out and inserting shall not be divided unless the motion is negated; then a motion to strike out may be made.

Art. 176. (212). Reconsideration of Matters. When any question is decided by electronic ballot, the same shall not be again acted upon during the communication, unless upon a motion to reconsider, which can only be made on the same day or next day, and by a member who voted in the majority. (Const. Art. XII, Sec. 3) Such motion shall not be acted on unless there are an equal or greater number of votes cast to reconsider as were present when first acted upon. (Revised 2017)

CHAPTER 21 – TITLE I GENERAL PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO THE GRAND LODGE

Art. 177. (213). **Adopted Resolutions and Decisions.** Each resolution adopted by this Grand Lodge and each decision of the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master, construing the Constitution or Laws of this Grand Lodge which, after having been reported to this Grand Lodge and referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence for examination and report thereon, isapproved by this Grand Lodge, shall have the force and effect thereafter of an Edict of The Grand Lodge until it is modified, amended, or set aside by subsequent action of this Grand Lodge, in which case the Resolution or Decision as modified or amended shall be given the force and effect of an Edict, as provided in Art. 107. The effective date of any and all changes in Grand Lodge law adopted at the Grand Communications of the Grand Lodge of Texas shall be upon the close of that Grand Communication or at such date as specifically stated in such adopted Resolution or Recommendation. This Article does not affect Resolutions amending the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Texas that are governed by Article XIII, Section 5 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Texas. (Revised 2005)

Art. 178 (214). **Laying of Cornerstones, Monuments, Plaques, and Markers.** The Grand Lodge will not officiate in the Consecration, Dedication, or laying the cornerstones, monuments, plaques, or markers of any building unless it is of undoubted Masonic, public or sacred character. The laying of such cornerstones, monuments, plaques, or markers may be either attached to the building in a manner that it is in public view, or in case of monuments, plaques, or markers, be prominently displayed in an area clearly visible to the public. If it is an actual cornerstone, it should be an actual stone, cubical in form, if practicable, upon the face of which should be carved the words "Leveled (or Laid) by The Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M.," with the emblem and the year carved thereon. If desired, and the building is devoted to Masonic purposes, the name of the Grand Master may be carved thereon. The Grand Master's name shall not be carved on the cornerstone of non-Masonic buildings. The other face of the stone may bear such inscription as may be necessary to describe the name of the institution erecting the building, its board of trustees, or other offices, but, under no circumstances shall the name of the architect, engineer, contractor, or builder, as such, be shown on the stone. Provided that in case such cornerstone shall be for a building devoted to other than Masonic purposes, the Grand Master shall have full power and discretion to determine whether said cornerstone shall be laid with Masonic ceremonies. Inscriptions on cornerstones of Government buildings, required by its regulations, are permissible. Cornerstones shall not be laid after the building is entirely completed. Similar rules and conditions shall apply in the case of Monuments, Plaques, and Markers, with the exception that they may be constructed of other appropriate material and either permanently affixed to the structure or be mounted in a public area, in a manner befitting the dignity of Masonry. (Revised 2014)

Notes on Decisions

- (a) Rule that cornerstone be laid on north east corner of building is not obligatory; but Masonic buildings should conform thereto if at all practicable.
- (b) Not proper for Lodge to donate cornerstone to a church.
- (c) See Monitor of the Lodge for "Ceremonies at Laying Cornerstone." (Revised 1993)

Art. 179. (219). **Effective Date and Force of This Revision.** This Revision of Masonic Laws shall supercede all prior revisions and amendments and shall become effective on December 3, 1959.

All former laws and parts of laws, rules, regulations and edicts not included in this Revision are hereby repealed.

All annotations to these laws set forth herein shall be given the force and effect of Edicts of this Grand Lodge when not inconsistent, or in conflict, with any of the provisions of the Constitution or of this Revision. Provided, that the repealing clause herein shall not be construed as releasing any Mason from any duty, obligation or penalty incurred under former laws hereby repealed; or from liability to trial and punishment for any Masonic disciplinary violation committed prior to the adoption of this Revision. In all such cases a Masonic trial shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Title V of these Statutes.

TITLE II SUBORDINATE LODGES

For "Shall Make Returns and Contributions to the Grand Lodge" see Constitution, Art. IX, Sec's. 1 and 2;

For "Amount of Contributions" see Constitution, Art. IX, Sec. 2;

For "Dispensations and Charters" see Constitution, Art. VIII.

CHAPTER 1 – TITLE II LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION

For "Grand Master Alone Has Power to Grant and Revoke Dispensations" see Constitution, Art. V, Sec. 2; Art. VIII, Sec. 3;

For "No Set of Masons Can Form Lodge Without It" see Constitution, Art. VIII, Sec. 1;

For "No Dispensation Can Be Granted in Other States" see Constitution, Art. VIII, Sec. 2;

For "Fees for Dispensations" see Constitution, Art. IX, Sec. 4;

For "Returns and Contributions" see Constitution, Art. IX, Sec's. 1, 2 and 3.

Art. 180. (220). Petition to Grand Master. The petition for a dispensation for a new Lodge shall be addressed to the Grand Master. He alone has the power to grant same, and may revoke it at his pleasure.

Art. 181. (221). In County Without a Lodge. A petition for a dispensation for a new Lodge to be located in a County in which there is no Lodge must be signed by not less than seven (7) known Master Masons, who reside in said County.

Art. 182. (222). In County Having Lodge. A petition for dispensation for a new Lodge to be located in a county within which one or more Lodges have been organized and still exist, shall only be granted upon the petition of not less than twenty Master Masons, if said Lodge is to be located in a town or city of less than ten thousand inhabitants, or in the rural districts. In cities of ten thousand inhabitants or more the petition for dispensation must be signed by not less than fifty Master Masons.

Art. 183. (223). Approval of Other Lodges Required. Approval of petition for dispensation for a new Lodge must be obtained under the procedure provided in Art. 185 from other Lodge or Lodges located with reference to the new Lodge, as follows:

If the location of the new Lodge is:

1. Not within the concurrent jurisdiction of another Lodge, the approval must be by the Lodge located nearest thereto by airline distance.

2. Within the concurrent jurisdiction of one or two Lodges, the approval must be by each of such Lodges.

3. Within the concurrent jurisdiction of three or more Lodges, the approval must be by a majority of such Lodges.

Art. 184. (224). Petitioners and Their Credentials. All petitions for dispensations for new Lodges shall be actually signed by each of the petitioners in person, and his certificate of dimission, or of good standing, must be attached thereto except in cases otherwise provided. Should a dispensation be issued all the signers become members of the new Lodge.

Art. 185. (225). Approval of Other Lodges: How Obtained. The petition for dispensation for a new Lodge must be submitted to the Lodge or Lodges required under Art. 183 at a stated meeting for its consideration, and must be voted on at a subsequent stated meeting. A favorable vote of two-thirds of the members present is necessary for its approval, and the number of the votes for and against the

motion to approve must be set forth in the certificate of recommendation, and recorded in the minutes of the Lodge.

Art. 186. (226). **Petitioners Cannot Vote.** In voting upon a request for a recommendation of a petition for a dispensation for a new Lodge, those who signed the petition shall not vote thereon.

Art. 187. (227). **Proficiency of Officers.** In recommending a petition for a new Lodge by dispensation, the Lodge shall submit to the Grand Secretary a properly executed Form 16 as its avouchment that the Brethren named for Master and Wardens are qualified collectively to confer the first three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry, in due and ancient form; and that the Dimits and Certificates of Good Standing of all petitioners are attached to the petition; or that the absence of the same has been satisfactorily accounted for. Officers of the new Lodge must be petitioners.

Art. 188. (228). **Grand Master Receives Fee and Issues Dispensation.** Every dispensation for a new Lodge shall be signed and sealed by the Grand Master, but before doing so he shall receive a fee of twenty-five dollars therefor, which shall immediately be transmitted to the Grand Secretary.

Art. 189. (229). **Conditions Pertaining to Dispensation.** The dispensation for a new Lodge shall be issued subject to the condition that such Lodge shall make its returns of work, contributions and dues; and shall petition for a Charter at the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge; and if a Charter be refused by this Grand Lodge, the dispensation shall terminate and the Lodge be immediately dissolved unless the Lodge be continued under dispensation by action of the Grand Lodge. If charter is granted, the Lodge cannot operate until it is constituted, but its territorial and personal jurisdiction, as it existed under dispensation is preserved pending its constitution.

Art. 190. (230). **Name: No Living Person.** No dispensation or charter for a new Lodge shall be granted bearing the name of any living person or of any existing Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction. (Revised 1959)

NOTE: A Chartered Lodge may not change its name without first amending its By-laws, and submitting a resolution to the Grand Lodge, through the Committee on By-laws, proposing such name change.
See Art. 219 for date of submission. (Revised 2000)

Art. 191. (231). **Cannot Operate Until Organized.** A new Lodge under Dispensation cannot transact any business or receive petitions for degrees or affiliation until it is regularly organized and set to work by the Grand Master or his duly authorized representative.

Art. 192. (232). **Cannot Elect Officers.** Lodges under dispensation cannot elect officers, but may recommend brethren for such officers to the Grand Lodge when petitioning for a Charter. The Grand Lodge shall name all elective officers of a newly chartered Lodge.

Art. 193. (233). **Officers Not Installed: Cannot Vote in Grand Lodge.** The officers of Lodges under dispensation shall not be installed; and such Lodges are not entitled to representation nor to vote in the Grand Lodge.

Art. 194. (234). **By-Laws.** Every Lodge under dispensation shall use the by-laws approved by this Grand Lodge and printed in Form No. 23 of these laws until its own by-laws are approved.

Art. 195. (235). **Rights, Duties, Privileges.** In all respects except as otherwise provided, the rights, duties and privileges of Lodges under dispensation are the same as chartered Lodges: they can make Masons, receive members by affiliation, grant dimits, certificates of good standing; dismissals; and waivers of jurisdiction; and may try members charged with offenses and administer punishment therefor; and have like jurisdiction over Masons, material and candidates, as exercised by chartered Lodges, so long as the dispensation is in force.

Art. 196. (236). **Monitor and Laws Furnished.** Upon notice by the Grand Master the Grand Secretary shall furnish, without expense, to each Lodge Under Dispensation one copy of the Monitor and one copy of the Laws.

Art. 197. (237). **Fees.** Lodges under dispensation are required to report all fees for degrees conferred up to the Annual Communication to this Grand Lodge. When they are set to work after the twenty-fourth day of June they pay no dues for members received from that time to the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

Art. 198. (238). **Affiliates and Initiates are Members.** Brethren who affiliate with a Lodge under dispensation, and those who receive the third degree therein, are members in the full sense of the term, entitled to ballot and assist in the transaction of the business of the Lodge, in common with those named in the dispensation.

Art. 199. (239). **Records Sent to Grand Lodge.** Lodges under dispensation are required to send up their original record books to this Grand Lodge when they petition for a charter.

Art. 200. (249). **Examination of Records.** Whenever a petition for a charter is made by a Lodge under dispensation, the Grand Lodge shall cause its records to be examined, and also ascertain whether the skill of the members as Masons, and their good conduct as men, will justify the granting of a charter.

CHAPTER 2 – TITLE II RESEARCH LODGE

Art. 201. (240a). **Creation; Membership; Government.** A Research Lodge for the purpose of promoting, encouraging, conducting and fostering Masonic research and study may be created by dispensation of the Grand Master and by Charter of the Grand Lodge, with the following powers and duties and subject to the following regulations and restrictions.

1. The Research Lodge shall at all times be under the supervision of the Grand Master, acting when practical, in consultation with the Committee on Masonic Education and Service. It shall be subject to all provisions of the Constitution and the Statutes of the Grand Lodge, except only as modified by this Article; shall have the same Officers as Subordinate Lodges of Texas, elected annually but such Lodge shall not be subject to the fees, dues, and assessments chargeable to or assessed against regular Lodges by the Grand Lodge, and shall make such annual returns as shall be prescribed by the Grand Secretary. The Worshipful Master of the Research Lodge shall report annually a resume of Research Lodge activities, and file, at least sixty days before the Annual Grand Communication, one copy thereof, with the Grand Master and one copy with the Chairman of the Committee on Masonic Education and Service.

Any proposed amendment to the By-Laws must be in writing and signed by the proposer. The proposed amendment shall be submitted to the Secretary at least 50 days before the next meeting of the Lodge. Each member shall be notified in writing of the sense of the proposed changes at least 30 days before the next meeting of the Lodge. At the next meeting of the Lodge it shall be considered, amended if necessary and voted upon and if approved by a majority vote of the members present shall become a part of the By-Laws upon compliance with the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas. The adopted By-Laws shall require approval of the Committee on Masonic Education and Service and shall become effective after compliance with Article 219 of the Statutes of the Grand Lodge.

2. Any Master Mason who is a member or plural member in good standing of a regular Lodge in this jurisdiction or of a jurisdiction in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge may become a member of the Research Lodge, upon being proposed by a member of the Research Lodge and elected by a majority vote of the members present at a meeting of the Research Lodge. Membership shall continue only so long as such member is in good standing in a regular Lodge of this jurisdiction or of a jurisdiction in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge. A member of the Research Lodge, upon submission of evidence of Masonic research satisfactory to the Research Lodge or in recognition of distinguished service to the

Lodge or accomplishments in any field within the purposes for which the Research Lodge was created as defined by this article, may be elected a Full Member of the Lodge by majority vote of the Full Members present at a meeting of the Research Lodge. Full Membership shall continue only so long as such member is in good standing in a regular Lodge of this jurisdiction or of a jurisdiction in fraternal relations with this, Grand Lodge. (Revised 1989)

3. Any Master Mason who is a member or plural member in good standing of a regular Lodge in this jurisdiction or of a jurisdiction in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge, Masonic Lodges, other bodies of Masons recognized by this Grand Lodge, and Masonic libraries shall be eligible to become Associates of the Research Lodge, upon filing an application with the Lodge. Other individuals and organizations, upon approval of the three principal officers of the Research Lodge, shall be eligible to become Associates of the Research Lodge, upon filing an application with the Lodge. Associates shall not be members of the Research Lodge and shall have no rights therein, except to receive the published proceedings of the Research Lodge and such other publications as the Lodge may direct from time to time. (Revised 1989)

4. Membership cards, upon forms prescribed by the Grand Secretary, may be issued by the Research Lodge to its members.

5. The Research Lodge may, with the approval of the Committee on Masonic Education and Service, elect any Full Member, but only one in any given year, to the honorary title of "Fellow in Masonic Research" in recognition of distinguished service and accomplishments in researching, writing and publishing the history, symbolism, and philosophy of Freemasonry. Election shall require a majority vote of the Full Members present at a meeting of the Research Lodge. (Revised 2013)

6. The Research Lodge shall have territorial jurisdiction coextensive with that of this Grand Lodge. It shall hold stated meetings at least four times per year at such places and at such times as the Worshipful Master (or in his absence or inability to serve by the Senior Warden, or in the absence of both Master and Senior Warden by the Junior Warden) may think necessary or to the interest of the craft. The election and installation of officers shall be held at such time and place as provided in the Lodge bylaws. Called meetings may be held at such times and places as its Worshipful Master or other such officers may determine as authorized in the By-Laws. (Revised 1989)

7. The Worshipful Master of the Research Lodge shall have the authority to provide for the information of local study Committees. (Revised 1989)

8. The Research Lodge shall not have the power to receive a petition for or confer any degrees in Masonry, shall have no jurisdiction over any candidate for any Masonic Degree, and shall have no authority to receive charges for un-Masonic conduct, conduct any Masonic trial, or conduct any Masonic funeral.

9. Each member of the Research Lodge (unless herein exempted) shall pay dues from the time of his affiliation an amount set by the Lodge from time to time without regard to the minimum prescribed in Article 311 of the Statutes of the Grand Lodge. (Revised 1989)

10. The Research Lodge may adopt and use a distinctive form of apron or jewels approved by the Grand Lodge; which may be worn by Full Members on all proper occasions. (Revised 1989)

11. The Research Lodge shall not have the authority to grant dimits or certificates of good standing, membership shall automatically terminate upon suspension or expulsion by a regular Lodge or at the end of the period for which dues are paid and such expiration shall not be reported as Suspension for Nonpayment of Dues. Reinstatement of membership may be accomplished by payment of current year's dues, provided the petitioner meets the requirements for membership contained in Section 2 of this Article.

TRANQUILITY LODGE NO. 2000

Art. 201a. **Creation; Membership; Government.** Tranquility Lodge No. 2000, whose see is in the Sea of Tranquility on the Moon of the planet Earth, now setting in Waco, Texas, is hereby established for the purpose of promoting, encouraging, conducting and fostering the principles of Freemasonry, and to assist in promoting the health, welfare, education and patriotism of children, subject to the following regulations and restrictions.

1. Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 shall at all times be under control of the Grand Master and the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Texas. It shall be subject to all provisions of the Constitution and the Statutes of the Grand Lodge, and operate under the same provisions as specified for the operation of the Research Lodge, in Article 201, which pertain only to officers, dues, dues cards, fees, and assessments of Grand Lodge, jurisdiction over degrees, Masonic charges, trials, funerals, aprons and granting of dimits, certificates of good standing, suspension for non-payment of dues and reinstatement, except as modified by this Article.

2. Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 may adopt By-Laws and may change same from time to time, provided such By-Laws are consistent with the purposes for which the Lodge was established, as stated above. By-Laws and amendments to By-Laws must be submitted in writing, as prescribed by Article 218, and if adopted, must be submitted to the Grand Lodge Trustees for final approval.

3. Any Master Mason who is a member in good standing in any regular Lodge in this jurisdiction, or in any jurisdiction in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge, may become a member of Tranquility Lodge No. 2000, by payment of a one time fee of \$100.00, and such annual dues as adopted by the Lodge. Membership shall continue only so long as such member is in good standing in a regular Lodge in this Jurisdiction, or one in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge.

4. Membership cards, upon forms prescribed by the Grand Secretary, may be issued by Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 to its members, but such cards shall not serve as an avouchment of good standing for the purposes of visitation or membership in a regular Lodge.

5. Funds of Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 may be used only for its own operation, and for those purposes for which it was established.

6. Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 shall hold stated meetings at least four times a year, in such places and at such times as the Worshipful Master (or in his absence or inability to serve by the Senior Warden, or in the absence of both Master and Senior Warden, by the Junior Warden) may deem necessary or to the interest of the Craft. At least one stated meeting should be held in the city of Waco, Texas, which does not coincide with or in anyway conflict with the Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

(Revised 2004)

The Annual Stated meeting to elect and install officers of Tranquility Lodge No. 2000, shall be held as close as practical, to July 20 and no later than September 1.

Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 shall operate under the provisions of this Article, and as modified from time to time by this Grand Lodge, until such time as it can relocate to its rightful place in or near the Sea of Tranquility, on the Moon of the planet Earth; and upon relocation, it shall apply to this Grand Lodge for charter as a Regular Lodge, and when such charter is granted, this Article shall become null and void. (Adopted 1999)

CHAPTER 3 – TITLE II CHARTERS FOR NEW LODGES

For “Grand Lodge has Exclusive Right to Grant and Revoke: see Constitution, Art. III, Sec. 1; Art. VIII;

For “Powers of Grand Master” see Constitution, Art. V, Sec. 2; Art. VIII, Sec. 3;

For “Masons cannot form Lodge without Charter” see Constitution, Art. VIII, Sec. 1.

Art. 202. (241). Who May Apply. A Lodge operating under dispensation, or members of a chartered Lodge whose membership has become too numerous for work with convenience; or a group of dimitted or non-affiliated Masons, may petition this Grand Lodge for a Warrant or Charter to form a new Lodge. Every member of a Lodge so petitioning must first pay all accrued dues to his Lodge and notify it in writing of his intention to petition for a Charter. If Charter is granted, the Lodge cannot operate until it is constituted, but its territorial and personal jurisdiction, as it existed under dispensation is preserved pending its constitution. (Revised 1989)

Art. 203. (242). Petition For Charter of New Lodge: By Members of Existing Lodge. When the members of an existing Lodge petition for a charter for a new Lodge, such petition must be signed by

each petitioner himself and must state the causes which make it expedient for a new Lodge to be formed, and must contain the names of the proposed Worshipful Master and Wardens. It must be presented to the Lodge of which they are members at a stated meeting and be considered at a subsequent stated meeting. If said Lodge approves the petition it must vouch for the causes stated and for the qualifications of the brethren named for Worshipful Master and Wardens. If said Lodge does not approve the petition, it must state clearly and specifically its reasons for its disapproval. The action of the Lodge must be certified by the Secretary under the seal of the Lodge and be attached to the petition.

NOTE: Every Lodge Chartered by the Grand Lodge is a Corporation (body politic) under the laws of the State, having the right to own property, contract, sue and be sued and all other rights of corporations created under the enabling statutes which are set forth in Division I. No Lodge has the power to obtain a separate charter, and any attempt to do so is illegal and void. A Lodge Under Dispensation is not a corporation and can not incorporate. See also Art. 28.

Art. 204. (243). Petition for Charter of New Lodge: Who Else May Sign Petition. A petition for a new Lodge may be signed by members of an existing Lodge and may be signed also by any dimitted or nonaffiliated Mason who may be invited to join in such petition, under the same rules and regulations as provided for petitions for a charter by dimitted or nonaffiliated Masons.

Art. 205. (244). Petition for Charter of New Lodge: By Dimitted and Non-Affiliated Masons. Dimitted or nonaffiliated Masons, domiciled in this jurisdiction may petition the Grand Lodge for a charter for a new Lodge, without having first worked under a dispensation. Such petition shall be personally signed by each applicant, and his dimit attached thereto, or its absence accounted for to the satisfaction of the Grand Lodge. The petition must be referred to the nearest Lodge by air line, for approval and recommendation. The said petition shall contain the provisions, and besubject to the procedure, in so far as same may be applicable, provided in Articles 203, 204, 206 and 207. Such petition shall be governed by the provisions of Arts. 181 and 182 as regards the number of Master Masons whose signature are required.

Art. 206. (245). Petition Sent to Grand Secretary. A petition for a charter for a new Lodge, together with a properly executed Form No. 16 attesting to the action thereon of Lodges which approve same, must be sent to the Grand Secretary not later than September 15 in order to be submitted to the Grand Lodge at its next Annual Communication. (Revised 1992)

Art. 207. (246). Approval of Other Lodges. A petition for Charter must be submitted to other Lodge or Lodges for approval as provided in Arts. 183 and 185 for dispensation petitions.

Art. 208. (247). Disapproved Petition: Sent to Grand Lodge. When the Lodge or Lodges, whose duty it is to act, disapproves the petition for a Charter, the petition may be presented to the Grand Lodge, notwithstanding, for its consideration and action thereon.

Art. 209. (248). Charters: Signed by Grand Officers: Attested by Grand Secretary. Each Charter for a new Lodge shall be signed by the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Wardens, and the Grand Treasurer, and attested by the Grand Secretary with the Seal of the Grand Lodge thereon. It shall be directed to the three Brethren named therein as Worshipful Master and Wardens, authorizing them and their successors to exercise the powers set forth therein according to the ancient customs and the Constitution, Laws and Edicts of the Grand Lodge. Said Charter shall be delivered to the Worshipful Master when the officers are duly installed and the Lodge is constituted.

Art. 210. (249). Charter Members. A member of a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction may join in a petition for a new Lodge by signing same in person and attaching thereto a Certificate of Good Standing from a Lodge of which he is a member. When the new Lodge is set to work under a dispensation, or is constituted under a Charter, as the case may be, said petitioner automatically becomes a member of said

new Lodge and his membership in his former Lodge terminates, unless he is asking for plural membership in the new Lodge under Article 347. He shall be liable for dues to his former Lodge to the date he becomes a member of the new Lodge. All members in good standing of a Lodge under dispensation at the time of petitioning for charter are eligible to sign the petition and become members of the new chartered Lodge. An officer, elective or appointive, of another Lodge, during the term of his office, may sign a petition for or become a member of a new Lodge, and when the new Lodge is set to work or constituted, as the case may be, said officer shall become a plural member of the new Lodge, but shall hold no office in the same except as provided under Article 266. He shall continue in his office in his original Lodge.

Art. 211. (250). Duplicate Charters: When Issued. When the charter of a Lodge has been lost or destroyed the Grand Master may direct the Grand Secretary to issue a duplicate charter upon the payment of two dollars and fifty cents. Prior to the delivery of such duplicate charter such Lodge can not lawfully meet; any action attempted by it is void; and candidates upon whom degrees have been conferred require healing.

Art. 212. (251). Duplicate Charters: After Fifty Years. After the charter of a Lodge has reached the age of fifty years a copy thereof may be made by the Grand Secretary at the request of the Lodge holding such charter, and he shall attach thereto his certificate, with the seal of the Grand Lodge affixed, that it is a correct copy of the original charter. Such copy may be used instead of the original charter in order that such original charter may be the better preserved as an ancient document or relic.

CHAPTER 4 – TITLE II CONSTITUTING NEW LODGES

For “Grand Lodge, Exclusive Power to Constitute” see Constitution, Art III, Sec. 1;

For “Grand Master’s Powers” see Constitution, Art 1~ Sec. 2;

For “Must Hold Charter” see Constitution Art Viii, Secs. I and 4.

For “Duty of Grand Master Regarding Proficiency of Officers, Adequacy of Equipment and Safety of Lodge Room,” see Art .92 ante.

Art. 213. (252). Set to Work: Necessary and by Whom. A new Lodge, whether created by dispensation or charter, must be set to work by the Grand Master, or his duly authorized Representative specially appointed for such purpose. Such Representative may be any officer of this Grand Lodge, a District Deputy Grand Master, or a Past Master of a Lodge.

Art. 214. (253). Set to Work: Lodges Under Dispensation: Procedure. When a Lodge under dispensation is to be set to work the designated Worshipful Master shall order a called meeting for that purpose. The Grand Master, or his duly authorized Representative, shall preside and open the Lodge. The Master’s Lodge shall then be called from labor to refreshment, and the Grand Master, or his Representative, shall open a representation of the Grand Lodge. The dispensation shall be read and ordered recorded in the minutes, and the Lodge instructed in regard to its powers and duties. The officers appointed shall not be installed but shall be placed in charge of the Lodge, and the dispensation, a copy of The Grand Lodge Laws and a copy of the Monitor shall be delivered to the Worshipful Master. The representation of the Grand Lodge shall then be closed, and the Lodge shall resume labor; such business as is authorized at a Called Meeting, and none other, may be transacted. The Lodge shall then be closed.

Art. 215. Set to Work: Suspended and Demised Lodges. When a suspended or demised Lodge is set to work the procedure shall be the same as that under Art. 214 with these exceptions:

1. The Charter (not the dispensation) shall be read and ordered recorded in the minutes; and 2. the officers shall be installed with the ceremonies prescribed in the Monitor.

Art. 216. (255, 257). Constituting New Chartered Lodge. When a new Lodge is constituted under a charter the procedure shall be as follows:

1. The designated Worshipful Master shall order a Called Meeting for that purpose which shall be opened in the Master's Degree and presided over by the Grand Master or his Representative. The Lodge shall then be called from labor to refreshment and a representation of the Grand Lodge opened.

2. The Lodge shall then be constituted and the officers installed in accordance with the ceremonies prescribed in the Monitor. At the appropriate place in the installation ceremonies the installing officer shall deliver to the Worshipful Master the Charter, a copy of the Grand Lodge Laws and a copy of the Monitor.

3. The Grand Master or his Representative may instruct the Lodge concerning its powers and duties, and appropriate addresses may be delivered.

4. The representation of the Grand Lodge shall then be closed and the new Lodge shall resume labor, after which Form 23 by-laws may be adopted, and other business may be transacted which is permissible at a Called Meeting; but no business which is permissible only at a Stated Meeting shall be transacted. The Lodge shall then be closed.

Art. 217. (258). Lodge Bears Expenses of Constitution. The expenses of officers constituting a new Lodge under orders of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master, shall be paid by such Lodge.

CHAPTER 5 – TITLE II BY-LAWS AND SEAL OF LODGE

Art. 218. By-Laws: Presentation and Adoption. All by-laws of every lodge and every amendment thereof must be presented at a Stated Meeting and adopted at a subsequent Stated Meeting or at a Special Meeting regularly called for that purpose, if in accordance with the by-laws. A majority vote of the members present shall be necessary to adopt by-laws or amendments thereto except that in amendments pertaining to an endowment fund the by-laws of a Lodge may provide for greater than a majority vote.

Art. 219. By-Laws: Approval by Grand Lodge. Except as provided in Art. 221, all by-laws of every Lodge, and amendments thereto, must be approved by this Grand Lodge before they are valid. All by-laws and amendments thereof requiring approval by this Grand Lodge shall be filed with the Grand Secretary's Office no later than September 1st, at which time by-laws will be reviewed by the By-Laws Committee. If changes/corrections are to be made, by-laws will be returned to the Lodges no later than October 1st. Lodges will then make needed changes and return them to the Grand Secretary's Office no later than November 10th, noting that changes/corrections have been incorporated into the Lodge's by-laws. No by-laws will be approved until the Grand Secretary receives a corrected copy of the by-laws and the By-Laws Committee has verified the changes/corrections were made. (Revised 2007)

Art. 220. (260). By-Laws: Void if Conflicting with Constitution or Laws. All by-laws or regulations of a Subordinate Lodge contravening, or in conflict with, the Constitution or Laws of the Grand Lodge, shall be null and void and such is the case even though the Grand Lodge may have approved such by-laws or regulations.

Art. 221. (261). By-Laws: Changes Not Requiring Approval.

1. The form of Lodge By-Laws set forth in Form 23, appended to the laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas, is only a guideline to be used by existing Lodges and Lodges working U.D., in preparing or amending its By-Laws and the use of Form 23 by existing Lodges is not required. However, if Form 23 is adopted for use by an existing Lodge, it shall not be necessary that they be submitted to this Grand Lodge for approval. But, in every such instance, a true copy thereof shall be forwarded, immediately upon approval by the Lodge, to the Grand Secretary and filed in the archives of his office. The form of Lodge By-Laws set forth in Form No. 23, appended to the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas, shall be adopted by Lodges Under Dispensation and newly Chartered Lodges. Such form of Lodge By-Laws need not be submitted for approval by the Grand Lodge but a true copy thereof shall be

forwarded, immediately upon approval by the Lodge, to the Grand Secretary and filed in the archives of his office. (Revised 1999)

2. Any Lodge has the privilege of making the following changes or additions to its by-laws without reference thereof to the Grand Lodge for approval:

- A. Fixing, raising or lowering the fee for each degree, or the annual dues, within the minimum limitations fixed by the Laws of the Grand Lodge, except as provided in Art. 309.
- B. Adopting its own regulation as to the payment of its Treasurer, Secretary and Tiler.
- C. The day and hour of meeting, or the number of stated meetings per month may be changed to suit its convenience. Whenever a change in the number of meetings per month, or the day of meeting, is made, the Grand Secretary must be notified at once.
- D. Adopting its own regulations to perform charitable work or public service which enables the Lodge to qualify for tax exemption as permitted by the Texas Property Tax Code.

(Adopted 2001)

3. No proposed amendment to existing previously approved Lodge By-Laws, when such amendment is not approved, shall invalidate the By-Laws for which the amendment is so submitted, and utilization of Form 23 shall not be imposed. (Revised 1999)

4. The form of Lodge By-Laws set forth in Form No. 23, appended to the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas, shall be adopted by Lodges under dispensation. Such form of Lodge By-Laws need not be submitted for approval. (Revised 1999)

Art. 222. (262). Lodge Seal: Approval of Grand Lodge. Every chartered Lodge shall provide itself with a seal, to be approved by the Grand Lodge, for authentication of all official documents issued by it, and no documents issued by it shall be entitled to credit unless so authenticated; this requirement shall apply to the Standard Uniform Dues Receipt as set forth in Form 56 on pages 291-A, 291-B, and 291-C, which Standard Uniform Dues Receipt shall require the imprint of the Lodge's seal.

CHAPTER 6 – TITLE II LODGE ROOMS AND ANTEROOMS

Art. 223. (263). Security and Furnishings: Approval by Grand Master. No Lodge shall be set to work or constituted unless it has a secure Lodgeroom and anteroom, well adapted to the purposes, and the necessary furniture, lights, paraphernalia, and equipment, to include:

NECESSARY PARAPHERNALIA FOR LODGES IN TEXAS

1. Holy Bible, square and compasses (for Altar).
2. An Altar with kneeling pad.
3. Three burning tapers.
4. Pedestals - South, West, and East.
5. Three gavels. (Revised 1996)
6. Wardens Columns - South and West.
7. Deacons rods with emblems and stands for same.
8. Stewards rods with emblems and stands for same.
9. The Letter "G" in the East.
10. A ballot box. (Heavily padded inside.)
11. Ample supply of white balls and black cubes.
12. A Tiler's sword.
13. Officers jewels equipped for suspension from neck.
14. Fellowcraft Columns.
15. The Flag of the United States of American with stand.
16. Texas Flag with stand.
17. A small Bible for Examining Committee.

FOR THE ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE

1. A hood wink.
2. A cable tow.
3. A sandal.
4. Suitable clothing.
5. A sharp instrument.
6. Twenty-four inch gauge and common gavel.
7. A Lambskin apron.
8. Lecture chart, slides, or film.

FOR THE FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE

1. A reception square.
2. A plumb square and level.
3. A square for the Altar.
4. Winding stairs.
5. The lecture chart, slides or film.

FOR THE MASTER MASON DEGREE

1. Reception Compasses.
2. A twenty-four inch gauge in the South.
3. A square in the West.
4. The setting maul in the East.
5. The canvas in the East.
6. A sprig of acacia in the West.
7. A gong.
8. The Master's lecture chart, slides or film.
9. ALL THE IMPLEMENTS IN THE EAST.

FOR FUNERALS

1. A funeral Rosette with the Holy Writings.
2. A Charter drape.
3. An ample supply of arm bands.

This paraphernalia to be kept and preserved as the property of the Lodge. Such security, adaptation, furniture, lights, paraphernalia, and equipment must be approved by the Grand Master or his authorized Representative. The furniture, lights, paraphernalia, and equipment herein specified shall be the minimum requirement for all Lodges now in existence or hereafter constituted.

Art. 224. (264). Use of Lodge and Anterooms. Masonic Lodgerooms and anterooms opening directly into Lodgerooms (other than club rooms designated to be used for social purposes) shall not be used for other than Masonic purposes, except as hereinafter provided in this Article nor shall they be used by any group or organization, secular or religious, except as otherwise provided in the Laws and Edicts of Grand Lodge. Other than the Lodgerooms and immediate anterooms mentioned in the foregoing sentence the Lodge building and premises may be used by the other organizations enumerated in Article 225 of the Laws of Grand Lodge and by the families of the members of the Lodge. The use of said building and premises other than the Lodgerooms and immediate anterooms by such organizations and family members shall be encouraged to the end that Masonic Lodge buildings and premises will become the nucleus for family social activities. The organizations enumerated in Article 225 of the Laws may also, subject to the consent of the Masonic Lodge and subject to such rules and regulations as are from time to time announced by the Grand Master, use portions of the Lodge building, other than the Lodgerooms and immediate anterooms, to promote, encourage and accomplish such objectives, including, but not limited to, such specified fund-raising activities as are

authorized by the Grand Master which funds are to be used exclusively for any purpose consistent with the principles and purposes of Masonry, or the Laws of the Grand Lodge, which said principles and purposes of Masonry are noncontroversial, nonsectarian, nonpartisan, patriotic and/or community character. The portions of the Lodge building hereinabove authorized to be used in the preceding manner, may be open on Sundays for use by those authorized organizations, subject to the conditions set forth in Article 225 but shall not be used when the Lodge is open for business or for degree work or while funerals are being conducted by the Lodge or in any manner which would interfere with or detract from the security of, or the work being conducted by the Lodge. (Revised 1996)

The Lodgeroom and anteroom may be on the ground floor, in a rented building, or one owned jointly with another, or one in which portions, other than the Lodgeroom and anteroom, are occupied or used by others; provided that, in each such case, the requirements as to security and all other matters required herein are complied with. Food may be consumed or served in the Lodgeroom when the Lodge is not at labor. (Revised 1996)

Constituent Lodges may meet in buildings where alcoholic beverages may from time to time be served. Constituent Lodges of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas may meet in buildings where other appendant Masonic organizations may, from time to time, serve alcoholic beverages, so long as such service is not in progress while the Lodge is open there; and further, be it enacted, that Constituent Lodges may let, lease, or rent portions of their buildings to other appendant Masonic organizations who may, from time to time, serve alcoholic beverages, so long as such service does not occur in the Lodgeroom of the building. (Adopted 2000)

Article 224a. Use of All Forms of Tobacco and Smoking Materials in Lodgerooms and Anterooms. The use of any and all forms of tobacco and/or other smoking materials shall be prohibited in Lodge rooms and anterooms. The Lodges may, where possible under existing Federal, State and Local Laws, designate specific and controlled areas where the use of all forms of tobacco and smoking materials is permitted whereby such use is as inoffensive as possible to those who object. (Revised 2015)

Art. 224b. Portraits and displays in Lodge rooms. Lodges may exhibit in their Lodge rooms portraits or displays honoring Master Masons who are or were at the time of their death in good standing. (New 2014)

Art. 225. Use of Lodge and Anterooms by Other Organizations: (a) Allied Masonic Degrees, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Council of Royal and Select Masters, Daughters of the Nile, DeMolay, Grotto, "High Noon Clubs," High Twelve International, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, Knights Templar, Knights of the York Cross of Honour, Ladies of the Oriental Shrine of North America, Order of Beauceant, Order of the Eastern Star, Order of the Amaranth, Order of Knight Masons, Order of Rainbow, Order of Red Cross of Constantine, Order of Saint Thomas of Acon, Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem, Royal Arch Masons, Royal Order of Scotland, Scottish Rite Bodies, Sojourners, The Daughters of Mokanna, The Masonic Rosicrucians (S.R.I.C.F.), York Rite College, The Order of the Sword of Bunker Hill, The Worshipful Society of Free Masons, Rough Masons, Wallers, Slaters, Paviors, Plasterers, and Bricklayers (otherwise known as "The Operatives") and any degrees, Honorary Degrees and authorized groups authorized, recognized, permitted or commonly used by any of the above named orders, with the approval of the Lodge, and in the event more than one Lodge regularly meets in the Lodgeroom, then with the approval of all such Lodges, may be permitted under such conditions as may be specified by resolution of the Lodge or Lodges, to meet in the Lodgeroom, to place its charter on the walls of the Lodgeroom, and to leave its fraternal paraphernalia in the Lodgeroom, so long as such organization is permitted by the Lodge or Lodges to use the Lodgeroom.

Members of the families of members of such organizations may be authorized by the Lodge to use portions of the Lodge building and premises other than the Lodgeroom and the immediate anterooms, for family social activities and for the other activities authorized in Article 224. (b) Such organizations may be permitted to hold open meetings in the Lodgeroom for the purposes and on the conditions stated hereinafter, and such open meetings may be held for any of the following purposes only; (i) Installation of Officers; (ii) Memorial Services; (iii) Observance Services of anniversaries of such Order and only under

the following conditions: (1) The Lodge, by formal action, recorded in its minutes, has authorized the said Order to hold its closed meetings in the Lodgeroom; (2) That no meeting be held on Sunday or on June 24th or December 27th; except that with the permission of the Worshipful Master of the Blue Lodge, or if there be more than one Subordinate Blue Lodge which meets regularly in the Lodge Hall then with the permission from all Worshipful Masters of all subordinate Blue Lodges which meet in the Lodge Hall, such Lodge Halls may be used on Sunday afternoon between the hours of 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., for the purpose of studying and practicing Masonic work; (3) That any such meeting held must comply with the usual Masonic customs and under the restrictions in Article 224 of our Laws and the decisions there under; (4) The Worshipful Master of the Lodge may authorize the meeting (unless there is more than one Lodge meeting in said Hall, then it will be necessary for the Master of each Lodge to approve), and report to the District Deputy Grand Master of the District in which the Lodge is situated, advising him of the purpose and time of such meeting. Permission may also be so granted by any Lodge for Easter Sunday Ceremonies, and Knights Templar Ascension Day and Christmas Ceremonies on December 25th and 27th even when these days fall on Sunday. (Revised 2007)

Art. 225a. Other Organizations, predicationg membership on Masonic membership, recognized. In addition to those organizations recognized in Art. 225, next above, as being entitled to use Lodgerooms and Anterooms of Subordinate Lodges, the Grand Lodge of Texas may recognize and authorize other organizations which predicate membership on Masonic membership.

Recognition and authorization must take place by approval of the Grand Lodge in Grand Communication.

After an organization has been recognized and authorized by the Grand Lodge of Texas in Grand Communication, pursuant to this Art. 225a, Texas Masons may participate in, and be a part of, such organizations.

Organizations recognized and authorized by Article 225a are not to use the Lodgeroom and/or Anteroom of a Subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

The organizations recognized and authorized pursuant to this Art. 225a will be published in the annual proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas and a listing will be maintained in the office of the Grand Secretary for reference thereto.

This Grand Lodge has always had and retained the right to withdraw, at its pleasure, approval of any organization heretofore approved by it, and this Grand Lodge continues to reserve that right. (New 2005)

Art 225b. North-American Interfraternity Conference. Use of the Lodgeroom and Anterooms for Fraternity Chapters belonging to the North-American Interfraternity Conference must meet the following conditions: (1) that the fraternity seeking permission to use such facilities can demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Worshipful Master of the Blue Lodge, that its formal ritual of initiation was written or influenced by a Master Mason; (2) the ceremonies of initiation, of the requesting fraternity, are consistent with Masonic customs; (3) a Master Mason, in good standing with the Grand Lodge of Texas, who is also a member of the requested Lodge and the requesting fraternity, and who is approved by the Worshipful Master, must be present, at all times that the fraternity members are present in the Lodge or its Anterooms; and (4) that the requesting fraternity agrees to abide by and be governed by any and all rules set forth by the granting Lodge. In instances where the building is owned by the Blue Lodge and other York Rite Bodies, there being two (2) distinct Lodgerooms available and the requesting fraternity desires to use the York Rite room, then permission must be granted also by the Most Excellent High Priest, the Thrice Illustrious Master, and the Eminent Commander with a York Rite Companion or Knight being a member of the fraternity and also present. (New 2005)

Article 225c. New and Existing Texas Organizations. Any organization located in Texas which predicates its membership on Masonic membership, having Masonic purposes, and one or more Texas Masons as part of its membership or governance (other than a Lodge and other than those Masonic organizations described in Article 225) (“affiliates”) shall adhere to the Masonic principles as set out in the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Any new Texas Masonic organization which desires acceptance and recognition by the Grand Lodge of Texas under Article 225a (“new affiliate”) shall submit the information about its Masonic purposes, governance, expected financial support and structure on forms provided by the Grand Secretary. This information must be provided by the new affiliate to the Grand Secretary by June 30 of the year of its submission to the vote of the Grand Lodge of Texas in Grand Communication.

Any existing Texas organization which is accepted and recognized by the Grand Lodge of Texas under Article 225a (“affiliate”) shall submit an annual report about its purposes, governance, structure and financial position on forms provided by the Grand Secretary. This report shall be due in the Grand Secretary’s office by June 30 of each year. Failure to submit the report shall subject the affiliate to revocation of its recognition and by the Grand Lodge of Texas. (Adopted 2012)

Art. 226. (266). **Repealed 2017.**

Art. 227. (266a). **Repealed 1990.**

CHAPTER 7 – TITLE II MEETINGS OF THE LODGE

Art. 228. (267). **Meetings: Frequency.** Every Lodge shall meet at least once in three months, and a Lodge failing to do so shall forfeit all its rights and privileges. It shall stand suspended, and its charter may be ordered returned; provided, the Grand Master, in his judgment, may grant such Lodge a dispensation to continue its work until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, at which time its charter shall be forfeited, unless the Grand Lodge otherwise directs.

Art. 229. (267a). **Quorum for Each of the Three Degrees.** To open a subordinate Lodge chartered by this Grand Lodge on the Masters Degree, and a quorum for a Lodge on said degree, requires the presence of not less than three Master Masons who are members of such Lodge, and one of said three must be the Worshipful Master, a Warden or a Past Master of such Lodge; to open on the Fellowcraft Degree, and a quorum for a Lodge on said degree, requires the presence of not less than five Masons of at least that degree, at least two of whom must be Master Masons and members of such Lodge and one of said two must be the Worshipful Master, a Warden or a Past Master of such Lodge; to open on the Entered Apprentice Degree, and a quorum for a Lodge on said degree, requires the presence of not less than seven Masons, at least one of whom must be the Worshipful Master, a Warden or a Past Master of such Lodge.

Art. 230. (268). **Month: Defined.** The term “month,” as applied to the meetings and work of Lodges means the time from one monthly stated meeting to another as fixed by its by-laws, but in no event to be less than a lunar month of 28 days.

Art. 231. (269). **Dispensation Required to Meet Elsewhere.** Lodges are forbidden to hold meetings in places other than their Lodgerooms, except as otherwise provided in the Laws, without a dispensation from the Grand Master.

Art. 232. (270). **Request for Dispensation to Meet Elsewhere.** If, from any cause, the Lodge cannot meet at the place named in its charter, or where it is accustomed to meet, the Worshipful Master, or Warden when acting as Worshipful Master, may report the case to the Grand Master, who may grant a dispensation to meet at some other appropriate place, either within the chartered limits of the Lodge, or as near thereto as may be reasonably practicable. Provided, further, that a Lodge after being opened in its regular meeting room may be moved into a larger and more commodious room, equally as Masonically safe, in the same Temple building, for the purpose of holding educational, inspirational or social meetings, or to confer degrees, without special dispensation: but in no case shall a stated meeting or a called

meeting at which regular business of the Lodge is to be transacted, be held in other than the regular and accustomed meeting room of the lodge without first securing a special dispensation.

Art. 232a. Certain Open Meetings Permitted. Lodges may hold certain open meetings, either in their Lodgerooms or at any convenient and reputable place within their Territorial Jurisdiction for any of those purposes, and subject to those conditions listed herein, as they apply to the Laws of this Grand Lodge, except as provided in Article 302 of these Laws, when a duly authorized Called Meeting is held at which non-Masons are to be admitted into the Lodgeroom or other permitted meeting place, the Worshipful Master is authorized to simply declare the meeting opened and closed, with the audience present, using his own language as appropriate to the occasion, and always with prayer on opening and closing. The minutes of such meeting shall state that the meeting was declared opened and closed, along with the appropriate record of the events of the meeting. (Revised 1995)

1. Public Installations of Lodge Officers, including joint public installations as authorized under and subject to the provisions of Articles 298 through 303 of the Laws of this Grand Lodge.
2. Public Installations of other organizations authorized to meet in Lodgerooms, subject to the Laws of such organizations,
3. Any Anniversary Observance of a Masonic nature,
4. Honoring any Officer, Officers, Past Masters, Charter Member or Members, or any Mason or Masons whose achievements merit special recognition,
5. Memorial Services for deceased members,
6. Presentation of any official award,
7. Commemoration of the birthday of George Washington,
8. Honoring wives, widows, mothers and families of members,
9. Father and Son nights,
10. And, for those organizations listed in Article 225, the observance of special occasions which are obligatory under the laws and regulations governing those organizations.

And, those open meetings authorized herein are subject to the following conditions:

1. That no meeting shall be held on Sunday, except as authorized under Articles 225 and 237 of the Laws of this Grand Lodge, and
2. That the entire proceedings of any such open meeting herein authorized shall be conducted in strict accordance with recognized Masonic tradition, custom and dignity.

Art. 233. (271). Stated and Called Meetings Defined. A Stated Meeting of the Lodge is defined to mean a regular meeting of the Lodge as provided in its By-Laws.

A Called Meeting of the Lodge is defined to mean any meeting other than a stated meeting as fixed in the By-Laws of the Lodge.

Art. 234. Stated Meetings: Business Required At. The following matters shall be attended to only at Stated Meetings: Receiving and balloting upon petitions for degrees, advancement and affiliation; receiving and voting on applications for demits, certificates of good standing; removal of Lodge to another location; receiving charges and complaints of Masonic disciplinary violations; election of Officers, surrender of charters; presentation of proposed by-laws and all amendments thereof (except as authorized in Subdivision 4 of Art. 216); reinstatement of membership and restoration of Masonic rights; granting of life memberships; consolidation of Lodges; and approval of accounts and other fiscal transactions, unless dispensation to the contrary is granted; and all other matters required elsewhere in these Laws to be transacted at Stated Meetings. When, at a Stated Meeting, a Lodge has been closed, it cannot be reopened as a Stated Meeting, although no one may have left the room. (Revised 2007).

Art. 235. (273). Called Meetings: Business Permitted. Called Meetings may be ordered by the Master of the Lodge, or by the Senior Warden in his absence, or by the Junior Warden in the absence

of both, at any time not prohibited by law for any one or more of the following purposes: to receive the Grand Master or his Representative or other distinguished Mason; to confer degrees on candidates previously elected; to examine and vote on the proficiency of candidates; to install officers; to conduct funerals, to receive and vote on adoption of by-laws under Subdivision 4 of Art. 216; to adopt by-laws and amendments thereto when duly called for that purpose after reasonable notice given; to transact any other business not required by law to be acted on at a Stated Meeting. The Secretary may be ordered to issue summons for such meetings when the circumstances are deemed such as to warrant it; such summons must be in writing and under the seal of the Lodge.

Art. 236. (274). Who May Preside While Conferring Degree. No one but a Master Mason who is a member of a Lodge in this jurisdiction, or of a Lodge in a Grand Jurisdiction recognized by this Grand Lodge, shall preside over a Lodge while a degree is being conferred.

Art. 237. (274). Meetings on Sundays. No Lodge in this jurisdiction shall meet on Sunday, except for the purpose of conducting the funeral ceremony of a Brother as provided in Article 359 of the Laws of this Grand Lodge, or with the approval of the Grand Master, or to lay the cornerstone of a church building or house of worship. (See Article 225 for use of Lodgerooms on Sunday.)

Art. 238. (276). Meetings on Saints John Days. June 24 is Saint John the Baptist Day, and December 27 is Saint John the Divine Day. These are feast days on which no Stated Meeting shall be held. Called Meetings may be held on June 24 for the installation of officers, and on either of such days to confer degrees or conduct funerals. No other business shall be attended to on either of such days. Should a Stated Meeting fall on either of such days it shall be held on the next following day which is not Sunday.

Art. 239. (277). When Anniversary Falls on Sunday. When the anniversaries of the Saints John fall on Sunday, Lodges may publicly celebrate the following day without obtaining dispensation therefor.

Art. 240. (278) Appearing in Public. No Lodge shall appear in a public procession or make any public display as a Masonic body except to participate in:

- (a) The Masonic Funeral or Graveside Service of a demised Brother.
- (b) An event to celebrate the anniversaries of Saints John. (Refer to Articles 238 and 239)
- (c) Events announcing or presenting Masonic scholarship awards.
- (d) Events in which Masonic Charities Foundation funds are awarded.
- (e) Texas Public Schools Week observances.
- (f) “Fantastic Teeth Club” presentations in accordance with MHS guidelines.
- (g) “Take Time to Read” Program awards presentations.
- (h) “Mirabeau B. Lamar Award of Excellence in Education” Presentations.
- (i) Events presenting authorized Masonic awards listed in Title 1, Chapter 5, Article 14 through 14e.
- (j) Events in which Grand Lodge Officers publicly officiate (Historical Observances, Cornerstones, Monuments, Plaques, Markers, etc.).

Any other public display or procession requires specific dispensation from the Grand Master as provided and limited by Title 1, Chapter 7, Article 38 in which latter event the proceedings must be reported to the Grand Master as soon as possible thereafter. The Grand Master may designate the presiding officer in such dispensation. The Grand Master may grant a dispensation for a Lodge to have a float in a parade, or to participate in special historical occasions if the Grand Master shall determine that such occasion is of proper historical significance and that Lodge participation will result in a definite enhancement of the public image of Freemasonry. (Revised 2019)

Notes on Decisions:

Dispensations have been refused to Lodges or Masons as such, either individually or in groups to appear at or participate in the following gatherings:

- (a) Divine Services.
- (b) March in Loyalty Parade.
- (c) Act as escort in Commandery Easter Services.
- (d) Attend Odd Fellows Anniversary.
- (e) Funeral not conducted by a Lodge.
- (f) Attend a Fair.

Art. 241. (279). Removal to Another Location. When a Lodge desires to remove to another location, a petition in writing, signed by not less than three members thereof, shall be presented at a stated meeting of the Lodge, the Master shall cause same to be read in open Lodge, entered in the minutes thereof, and to lie over until the next stated meeting for action. When any such petition is presented it shall be the duty of the Secretary to notify each member in writing of the proposal to remove the Lodge and of the date when action shall be taken thereon. No petition for removal shall be effective unless adopted by the requisite number of the votes of the members present and a dispensation therefor has been issued by the Grand Master. (Revised 1996)

Art. 242. (281). Repealed 1996.

Art. 243. (280). Repealed 1996.

Art. 244. (279, 280, 281, 282). Requisite Vote. In all cases of removal where the Worshipful Master objects, a vote of two-thirds of the members present is required; where the Worshipful Master does not object, a majority vote of those present is sufficient.

CHAPTER 8 – TITLE II CONSOLIDATION OF LODGES

Art. 245. (283). Proposal Presented at Stated Meeting. Whenever the majority of members of any Lodge shall sign a written declaration that they deem it for the best interest of Masonry to consolidate such Lodge with another specified Lodge having concurrent or adjoining jurisdiction with it, and shall present the same at a stated meeting of their own Lodge, the Master shall thereupon cause the same to be read in open Lodge and entered on its minutes.

Art. 246. (284). Adopted: When and by What Vote. The declaration favoring such consolidation shall be read at each stated meeting after its presentation until disposed of; but the proposition to consolidate shall not be acted upon until the declaration shall have been read at not less than two successive stated meetings thereafter. At the time of its third reading, action shall be had on the proposition to consolidate, unless the matter be laid over by a majority vote of the Lodge to some particular stated meeting thereafter. The action on such proposition shall be by ballot, and it shall not be adopted by such Lodge unless at least two-thirds of the members present shall vote therefor.

Art. 247. (285) Proposal Sent to Petitioned Lodge. If such proposition to consolidate is adopted as aforesaid, the Secretary of such Lodge shall at once transmit to the Lodge with which the consolidation is proposed the original declaration and a certified copy of proceedings in his lodge thereon, together with an invoice of all property and effects thereof, and a list of all members in good standing, and of all members who are in arrears for dues and the amount due by each such member. Such list shall also show the Entered Apprentice; and Fellow Crafts and the date initiated or passed, as the case may be.

Art. 248. (286). Acted on by Petitioned Lodge. The Worshipful Master of the Lodge with which such consolidation is proposed, upon receipt of such papers shall cause the same to be read in open Lodge at its next stated meeting and entered upon its minutes; a stated meeting of the Lodge shall thereupon be fixed, which shall not be earlier than the second stated meeting thereafter, at which time action upon such proposition shall be had by such Lodge, unless the matter be laid over by a majority vote of the Lodge to some particular stated meeting thereafter.

Art. 249. (287). Acted on by Petitioned Lodge: Ballot, Two-Thirds Vote. At the stated meeting on which the proposition to consolidate is voted on, action shall be taken by ballot, and the proposition to consolidate shall not be agreed to by the Lodge petitioned unless at least two-thirds of the members present shall vote therefor.

Art. 250. (288). Approval by Grand Master. If the proposition to consolidate is agreed to by the Lodge petitioned, the Secretary thereof shall forthwith forward to the Grand Master certified copies of the minutes of each of such Lodges relative to the proposed consolidation. If the Grand Master shall approve of such proposed consolidation, the Lodges desiring the same shall from and after such approval be deemed and held to be one Lodge existing under the charter and governed by the bylaws of the Lodge petitioned; the members of the petitioning Lodge shall thereupon become members of the Lodge petitioned; the books and records of the former shall be delivered to the latter Lodge for safe keeping and preservation thereof. The charter and seal of the petitioning Lodge shall be forthwith transmitted to

the Grand Secretary. All unfinished work or business pending in the petitioning Lodge shall be taken up and completed in the petitioned Lodge, and all the property, money and effects of the petitioning Lodge shall pass to and become the property of the petitioned Lodge; provided, however, that the officers and bylaws of the Lodge petitioned shall not be affected by such consolidation. (Revised 2014)

Art. 250a. Transfer of Property. If the proposition to consolidate is approved by the Grand Master, all property (including both personal property and real property or any interest therein) shall thereupon become the property of the Lodge petitioned. In the event that it shall be necessary that real property or any interest therein be transferred, conveyed or assigned from the petitioning Lodge to the Lodge petitioned, such transfer, conveyance or assignment of real or personal property or any interest therein shall be written and in form and sufficient detail and description appropriate for a purchase, gift, bequest, or devise as considered by Art. 340. (Adopted 2014)

Art. 251. (289, 290). Jurisdiction of Consolidated Lodge. Upon completion of such consolidation, as provided herein, the consolidated Lodges shall have:

A. Personal jurisdiction over all candidates elected to receive degrees in the petitioning Lodge, under the same rules and conditions provided by Masonic law in other cases. All Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts who were members of the petitioning Lodge shall become such members of the consolidated Lodge, and be subject to the laws governing Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts as if they were originally members thereof.

B. Territorial jurisdiction adjusted to cover all territory and material therein, situated equidistant by air line to adjoining Lodges if they are located outside of incorporated towns or cities, otherwise, to the corporate limits of such towns or cities; provided, that if the consolidated Lodges are situated with concurrent jurisdiction with each other or with other Lodges, the territorial jurisdiction of the consolidated Lodges shall not be affected.

Art. 252. (291). Effective Upon Grand Master's Approval. When the Grand Master approves such consolidation he shall issue a certificate to that effect, which shall be transmitted to the Secretary of the petitioned Lodge and same shall be spread upon the minutes thereof, whereupon such consolidation shall become effective, and the Grand Master shall transmit to the Grand Secretary all papers and documents in relation to such subject.

Art. 253. (292). Grand Secretary's Duties. Upon receipt of the papers and documents from the Grand Master, together with a copy of his certificate of approval of the consolidation of two or more Lodges, the Grand Secretary shall file same for preservation, and make such changes in the records of his office as may be necessary to conform them to the changed conditions brought about by such consolidation.

CHAPTER 9— TITLE II RETURNING AND REVOKING CHARTERS

Art. 254. (293). Procedure for Returning Charter. When a proposition is made at a stated meeting of a Lodge to return its charter to this Grand Lodge, the members shall be notified of such proposition in writing and summoned to attend the next stated meeting. If a majority of the members then present vote for the proposition the vote shall be entered of record and the proposition lie over until the next stated meeting. If, at such meeting, two-thirds of the members present vote for the proposition, a brief statement of the reasons therefor shall be entered in the minutes; and the Lodge shall cease its labors. The Worshipful Master and Wardens shall immediately make out a complete list of the assets of the Lodge and of the members thereof in arrears for dues, and of the amount due by each, and shall cause same to be entered on the minutes thereof. A complete copy of these proceedings, duly certified, shall be sent to the Grand Secretary. If the Grand Lodge approves the action of the Lodge, all its effects including its charter, records and funds shall be delivered to the District Deputy Grand Master of that district, and

be delivered by him to the Grand Secretary. If the Grand Lodge refuses to confirm the proceedings, the Lodge shall again open and proceed with its work.

Art. 255. (294). Records, Funds and Property of Dormant Lodges. When a Lodge becomes dormant, or for any reason ceases to function, all the books, charter, jewels, funds and other property of such Lodge shall be delivered to the District Deputy Grand Master of the district, or to any one whom the Grand Master may appoint to receive the same.

Art. 256. (295). Demise of Lodge by Grand Lodge. When a Lodge is suspended, or its Charter arrested by the Grand Master, or a Lodge ceases to function as required by the laws of the Grand Lodge, the matter shall be reported to the Grand Lodge at its next Annual Communication, with full details of the facts. If the Grand Lodge does not restore the Charter, or authorize the Lodge to resume labor, any such Lodge shall stand as demised.

CHAPTER 10—TITLE II SUSPENDED AND DEMISED LODGES AND THEIR MEMBERS

For “Restoration of Charter of Suspended and Demised Lodges and Procedure Thereon” see Art. 215.

For “Sale of Property of Demised Lodges” see Art. 29.

For “Collection of Dues of Members and Assets of Demised Lodges and Discipline of Delinquent Members” see Art. 650.

Art. 257. (296, 297). Suspended and Demised Defined.

A. The term “Suspended” shall apply to the status of Lodges whose charters have been arrested; and to those Lodges which fail to meet once in three months; or which voluntarily surrender their charters; or fail to make returns within the time required by Masonic law; or to pay their dues to the Grand Lodge on or before the first day of June of the year following such default.

B. The term ‘Demised’ shall apply to Lodges whose charters have been revoked by final action of the Grand Lodge.

Art. 258. (298). Members of Demised Lodges: Status. When a Lodge has demised, those who were members thereof at the time of its demise occupy the position of nonaffiliated Masons, except those holding plural membership in some other Lodge.

Art. 259. (299). Suspended Lodge: Territorial Jurisdiction. No Lodge in adjoining territory or elsewhere shall exercise any jurisdiction whatsoever in the territory of a suspended Lodge, until the Lodge is demised by action of the Grand Lodge; the original personal and territorial jurisdiction of a suspended Lodge shall remain unappropriated until after final action by the Grand Lodge. Provided, however, the Grand Master may grant dispensation to the Lodge in good standing nearest such suspended Lodge to ballot upon the petition of, and confer the degrees upon, any candidate within the territorial jurisdiction of such suspended Lodge until final action is had thereon by the Grand Lodge.

Art. 260. (300). Suspended Lodge: Status of Members. The status of the members of a suspended Lodge shall remain unchanged until the charter is restored, or the Lodge demises. All unpaid dues of members accruing prior to the suspension of a Lodge, or subsequent thereto, may be paid to the Grand Secretary and his receipt taken therefor. Said receipt shall have the same force and effect as if the dues were paid to his Lodge, but shall not operate as a dimitt or certificate of good standing.

Art. 261. (301). Members of Demised Lodges: Dues and Arrears. A member in good standing at the time of the demise of his Lodge may, after payment of arrearage in dues, if any, obtain from the Grand Secretary a Certificate of Good Standing to apply for affiliation in some other Lodge; or (if he does

not hold plural membership in some other Lodge) for a Certificate of Dimission as an unaffiliated Mason; or (if he holds plural membership in some other Lodge) for a Certificate of Withdrawal from the demised Lodge.

Art. 262. Members of Suspended and Demised Lodges; Status Upon Restoration. When the charter of a suspended or demised Lodge is restored it shall be restored to the entire membership of such Lodge, except to such as may have affiliated in the meantime with other Lodges. The restoration shall apply to all unaffiliated members of said demised Lodge, whether they sign the petition for restoration or not, unless otherwise directed by the Grand Lodge.

Art. 263. Demised Lodges: Territorial Jurisdiction. When a Lodge demises all parties within its jurisdiction, including rejected applicants and suspended or expelled Masons, become subject to the jurisdiction of the Lodge nearest their place of domicile; provided, that if said demised Lodge was situated in the territory of Lodges exercising concurrent jurisdiction, all such surviving Lodges will exercise concurrent jurisdiction over such parties.

CHAPTER 11 – TITLE II LODGE OFFICERS

Art. 264. Officers Listed. The officers of the Lodge and their titles shall be as follows: Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior Steward, Junior Steward, and Tiler.

The Lodge may at its option provide in its Bylaws for either a Marshal, Master of Ceremonies or Musician or any or all, of the same. In line of seniority, the Marshal shall follow the Junior Steward, then the Master of Ceremonies, then the Musician, and finally the Tiler. (Revised 1996)

Such amendment to the Bylaws shall not require the approval of Grand Lodge. The Committee on Work shall establish the place on the Lodge floor for such officers, prescribe the ritual for installation and define the jewel for such officers.

Art. 265. All but Tiler Must Be Members. All officers of a Lodge must be members thereof, except the Tiler. All must be in good standing and should be able and willing to perform the duties of the respective offices.

Art. 266. Holding Two Offices Restricted. A Brother may hold only one office during the Masonic year, either elective or appointive, in each of the subordinate Lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction of which he is a member, subject to the following restrictions:

- a. Shall not hold the office of Worshipful Master in more than one Lodge.
 - b. Shall not hold office simultaneously, either elective or appointive, in more than one Lodge whose stated meetings are held on the same date and overlapping time, the sole exception the office of Tiler.
- (Revised 2001)

Art. 267. Resignation of Officer Prohibited: Exception. An officer, after election or appointment and installation, cannot resign his office, except as hereinafter provided.

Art. 268. Temporary Vacancies: How Filled. The presiding officer alone has the right to fill vacancies pro tempore, provided that an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft shall not fill the vacancy caused by the absence of a Warden during any meeting in which a ballot is taken. (Revised 2013)

Art. 269. Absence of Officers. In the absence of the Worshipful Master and both Wardens, the last Past Master of the Lodge may preside, but in such a case, a Past Master of another Lodge cannot preside. When the Master, Wardens and all Past Masters of a Lodge are absent, it cannot be opened; and if already open, it is thereupon automatically closed. (Revised 2002)

Art. 270. Presiding Past Master: Powers. When a Past Master presides at the request of a Warden he has the same powers as the Master.

Art. 271. Vacancies in Office: How Filled. When an installed officer, other than the Worshipful Master, dies, removes from the jurisdiction of his Lodge or is unable to devote his services to the office, the office can only be filled pro tempore, at each meeting of the Lodge, except as hereinafter provided:

Any Secretary or Treasurer of any Lodge may resign his office with the consent of the Master of the Lodge, wheneversuch officer moves from the jurisdiction of his Lodge or becomes seriously ill or disabled, or whenever, for any reason deemed sufficient by the Master, such officer is unable to fully perform the duties of his office. And any Secretary or Treasurer may be removed from the office for the unexpired term or any part thereof, or his office may be declared vacated for the unexpired term or any part thereof, by the Master of the Lodge with the consent of the Grand Master, whenever such Secretary or Treasurer removes from the jurisdiction of his Lodge or on account of illness, disability, or through gross neglect or malfeasance in office, is unable or fails to properly perform the duties of his office. And upon the death, or, as aforesaid, the resignation or removal of any Secretary or Treasurer, the Master of the Lodge may appoint an acting Secretary or Treasurer to fill the unexpired term of such Officer, or any part of such term, or until the return or recovery of such officer or the fulfillment of any condition or contingency prescribed and determined by the Master of the Lodge; but no such appointment shall be or become effective unless and until notice thereof is given by the Master making the appointment, over his signature and under the Seal of the Lodge, to the R...W...Grand Secretary of such appointment, giving name and address of such appointee and stating the office to which appointed, and has received acknowledgment of receipt thereof from the R...W...Grand Secretary, and the Master shall have the right to appoint any officer pro tempore, including Secretary or Treasurer, any specific meeting upon the absence of such officer from the particular meeting. (See Art. 277 for vacancy in office of Worshipful Master.) (Revised 1967)

Art. 272. (311). Officers: Clothed and Jeweled. No officer shall appear in a Lodge, while open, without the jewel and clothing appropriate for his office.

Art. 273. (312). Officers: Regalia. A Lodge may provide special collars and aprons to be worn by its officers, for the purpose of preserving their symbolic features; as a mark of distinction, and to enhance the dignity of the Lodge. Such regalia shall consist of a collar of blue velvet from which shall be suspended the jewel appropriate to the station of the officer. Said collar mayhave embroidered thereon any of the symbols of Freemasonry appropriate to be so displayed.

The regulation apron shall be of white lambskin of the following dimensions: the apron shall be 16 inches square with a drop in the bib of 6 inches to the triangular point. It will be permissible to have embroidered upon the bib of the apron the appropriate jewel of the office and upon the body of the apron below the bib, the square and compasses circumscribing the letter "G." The outside edge of the apron shall be bordered with blue silk velvet or braid, one inch in width, and the bib with the same material one-half inch in width. The apron may be lined on the reverse side with blue satin or other material. In addition to using the Past Master's aprons now being worn, it shall be permissible for Past Masters to wear aprons with the same design and insignia as provided for the Worshipful Master, but the addition of the Arc (or Quadrant) under the points of the Compasses would be optional.

In conferring degrees, officers may wear appropriate robes or costumes; and appropriate scenery may be used. The insignia or regalia of other orders or organizations may not be worn.

Art. 274. (313). Members: Apron. The regulation apron for members of the Lodge shall be of the same dimensions provided for the aprons of officers of the Lodge and shall be made of white lambskin without border or decoration; provided, it shall not be mandatory upon any Lodge to provide regulation regalia and aprons until such time as it may be able to do so, and such aprons may be made of white cloth.

Art. 275. (314). Records and Documents: Officers Duties. It is the duty of each officer of the Lodge to preserve and turn over to his successor all books, documents and other papers which the Lodge furnished for his use.

CHAPTER 12 – TITLE II WORSHIPFUL MASTER

*For “Is a Representative in the Grand Lodge” see Constitution, Art. II, Sec. 1(d);
 For “Is Entitled to Cast a Vote” see Constitution, Art. II, Sec. 1(d);
 For “Number of Votes Which May Be Cast,” see Constitution, Art. VII, Sec’s. 1 and 2;
 For “Voting by Lodges and Members” see Constitution, Art. VII, Sec. 1(b).*

Art. 276. Qualifications. Any member of a Lodge in good standing, and against whom no charges are pending, and who has previously served as Worshipful Master of a regular Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction, or as Worshipful Master or Warden of a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, and who is qualified according to the provisions of Article 276a of these laws, is eligible to be elected Worshipful Master. Such previous service may be either: (1) under election; (2) under appointment by the Grand Master in a Lodge Under Dispensation; or (3) under designation by the Grand Lodge in a newly chartered Lodge. The above provisions regarding service do not apply when a Worshipful Master is appointed by the Grand Master or designated by the Grand Lodge under the above circumstances, but previous requirements as enumerated in the following Article 276a apply to all such circumstances. (Revised 2011)

Art. 276a. Additional Qualifications. Prior to his installation as Worshipful Master or Warden, a Brother shall in all circumstances first be qualified as follows:

1. To the satisfaction of the members of his Lodge, he shall be proficient to properly open and close an Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, Master Mason’s Lodge, and a Master Mason’s Lodge of Sorrow in the manner prescribed by the Committee on Work and approved by this Grand Lodge, and
2. To the satisfaction of the members of his Lodge, he shall have completed a Grand Lodge approved course in the administration of his duties or the Lodge Instruction for Effectiveness program (L.I.F.E.) under the supervision of the Masonic Education and Service Committee. The L.I.F.E. Program is to be administered by a Lodge Counselor appointed by the Worshipful Master, whose term expires upon the appointment of his successor in office. Any person who has previously served as Worshipful Master of a Lodge under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas is exempt from the requirements of this article. (Revised 2012).

Art. 277. (315). Office Vacant: When and How Filled. His office becomes vacant whenever the Worshipful Master:

1. Is elected and installed as Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master; or
2. Dies after he is installed; or
3. Is found disqualified, or fails from any cause to be installed within the time prescribed by Law, and the person filling the office for the previous year has been installed in another office; or
4. If the Worshipful Master, against whom allegations of Masonic disciplinary violations have been filed, is suspended from his office by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master shall notify the Grand Secretary, and shall inform the affected subordinate Lodge of such action. Such action of suspension shall prohibit recognition of such individual as a Past Master and preclude such individual from the rights and privileges pertaining thereto, unless and until he is restored thereto by the Grand Lodge. (Revised 2012)

In any such case the Senior Warden (or the Junior Warden, if the office of Senior Warden is also vacant) shall succeed to all the duties of the office.

If a Worshipful Master, after being duly installed, dies during the term of his office, and if he is not suspended or under charges at the time of his death, he shall be classified and recorded as a Past Master of his Lodge.

Art. 278. Master Presiding “Covered.” The ancient custom of the Master presiding “covered” must be complied with, except that the Brother presiding at Masonic funerals, memorial services, graveside services, or during open meetings of the Lodge, may at his discretion, preside over such services and ceremonies uncovered. To be “covered” shall mean the wearing of a hat, and a hat is described as a head

covering with a shaped crown and a full circle brim. No person other than the presiding Master shall wear any type of head covering, except for required religious head coverings, while in Lodge or at other Masonic ceremonies. (Revised 2010)

Art. 279. (317). **Custodian of Charter.** The Worshipful Master is the custodian of the Charter of the Lodge, is responsible for its safe keeping and shall see that it is displayed in the Lodgeroom when Lodge is at labor.

Art. 280. (318). **Correction of Minutes.** The Worshipful Master is responsible for and decides upon the correctness of the minutes. He shall order any error corrected at the first Stated Meeting after its discovery.

Art. 281. (319). **Can Require Every Member to Vote.** The Worshipful Master can require every member of his Lodge present to vote on any question pending.

Art. 282. (320). **Can Cast Deciding Vote.** The Worshipful Master may cast the deciding vote in case of a tie, unless he has already voted with the members, in which event the proposition shall be declared negatived.

Art. 283. (321). **No Appeal from Decision Except to Grand Lodge.** No appeal may be taken from the decision of the Worshipful Master except to the Grand Lodge. Three members of a Lodge may join in an appeal therefrom, when in their opinion any principle of Masonic jurisprudence has been improperly decided, and is followed by action of the Lodge in any important matter. Any such action shall stand suspended until passed upon by the Grand Lodge. In any such appeal it shall be the duty of the Secretary to make a certificate setting forth the question decided and the action thereon and transmit same to the Grand Secretary.

Art. 284. (323d.). **Duty to Require Audits.** It shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master as soon after the 24th of June each year as convenient to appoint a committee of three qualified members, a certified public accountant, or a public accountant, whose duty it shall be to audit books and accounts of the Treasurer and Secretary and make prompt report thereof in writing to the Lodge, said report shall be read to the Lodge in open stated communication and be recorded in full in the minutes. The auditors' report shall fully show the total amounts of receipts and disbursements during the past year and any balance remaining on hand. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer and Secretary to make all their books and records available to the Committee or accountant appointed to audit same. A properly completed and signed copy of the Minimum Audit Form No. 71 shall be delivered to the Grand Secretary no later than September 15th each year. If the Lodge by resolution or by its bylaws requires a bond for any officer of the Lodge authorized to handle the funds of the Lodge, it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master to have all officers of the Lodge authorized to handle the Lodge funds covered by such bond. (Revised 2011)

Art. 284a. **Duty to File IRS Forms.** All subordinate Lodges of the Grand Lodge of Texas must file either IRS Form 990, 990 EZ or 990-N with the U. S. Internal Revenue Service in a timely manner.

It is the responsibility of the Worshipful Master to ensure that a completed IRS Form 990, 990-N or 990 EZ, or such other form as may be hereafter defined by the IRS in order to preserve the tax-exempt status of Lodges, must be filed every year on or before the 15th day of the 5th month after the close of the tax year. For example, if a Lodge tax year ends in June, its Form 990, 990-N or 990-EZ is due by November 15 of that tax year.

It is also the responsibility of the Worshipful Master to provide the Grand Secretary's office with a copy of the Form 990, 990-N or 990-EZ that is filed with the IRS, on or before November 15 of the tax year, and the Grand Lodge Finance Committee is directed to monitor the completion of the Forms required herein. (Revised 2011)

CHAPTER 13 – TITLE II THE WARDENS

For ‘May be Represented in Grand Lodge’ see Const., Art. II, Sec. 1 (d);

For “Is Entitled to Vote see Const., Art. VII, Sec’s. 1 and 2,

For ‘Manner of Voting’ see Const., Art VII, Sec. 1 (d).

Art. 285. (322). **Duties of Wardens.** When the Worshipful Master is absent the Senior Warden succeeds to all his duties. When the Worshipful Master and the Senior Warden are absent the Junior Warden succeeds to all their duties. In the absence of the Worshipful Master and the Wardens, the last Past Master of the Lodge present may preside.

Art. 286. (323). **Junior Warden: Not Affected:** When. The Junior Warden is not affected by the Senior Warden having to act as Worshipful Master, nor by the absence of the Senior Warden from a meeting at which the Master is present, nor by vacancy in the office of Senior Warden, but retains his station and a pro tern-pore Senior Warden shall be appointed.

CHAPTER 14— TITLE II THE TREASURER

Art. 287. (323a). **Duties of Treasurer.** It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to perform such duties as devolve upon him by custom and usage or that shall be required by the laws of this Grand Lodge or the By-Laws of the Lodge.

CHAPTER 15— TITLE II THE SECRETARY

Art. 288. (324). **Duties of Secretary.** It is the duty of the Secretary to make a correct record of all things proper to be written pertaining to the business of the Lodge; to collect all revenues of the Lodge and pay them over to the Treasurer; to draw all warrants on the Treasurer; to issue all Summons; Certificates of Dimissions; Certificates of Good Standing; Waivers of Jurisdiction; and notices, as he may be directed; to make out and send up the returns to this Grand Lodge; and to make out and send to the Grand Secretary the transcripts on appeals and restorations, in all cases except where it is otherwise provided by law, and to perform such other duties as may be required by law, or directed by the Lodge. He shall submit his books, records and accounts for annual audit as provided in Article 284. His records shall be kept open at proper times for inspection by members of the Lodge, and by such other Masons as have good cause therefor, but not by those who are not Masons.

Art. 289. (325). **Repealed 1988.**

CHAPTER 16 - TITLE II ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Art. 290. (326). **Method of Voting.** Officers must be elected in open Lodge. A separate vote must be taken for each elective office which shall be by written ballot where two or more Brethren are nominated. In the event no Brother has a majority, the ballot will be repeated until such result is attained. Blank votes shall not be considered in determining the results. Vote may be taken by show of hands when there is only one nomination for an office. Nominating speeches are prohibited.

Art. 291. Qualifications for Office. Any member in good standing of a Lodge against whom no charges are pending is eligible to hold any elective or appointive office in a Lodge, except as provided in Article 276 and Article 276-a which apply to the offices of Worshipful Master and both Wardens of the Lodge. (Revised 1994)

Art. 292. Time of Election. All elective officers of the Lodge which include the Worshipful Master, Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, and such other officers as the by-laws may prescribe, shall be elected at the last stated meeting of the Lodge prior to midnight of June 23. Such election may be held in the Lodge opened in the Entered Apprentice Degree, provided that if no Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft Mason is present, it shall be the option of the Worshipful Master to open said meeting on either the Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, or Masters Degree, at or after the usual hour for opening provided in the by-laws. Election must be concluded at this meeting, and may not be postponed, and must be concluded by midnight if stated meeting is on Saturday or June 23. All other officers shall be appointed as soon thereafter as convenient. (Note: Appointments by Worshipful Master.) (Revised 2007).

Art. 293. (328). Old Officers Hold Over: When. When a Lodge fails to elect officers at the annual stated meeting as prescribed in Arts. 290 and 292, or opens said meeting before the time prescribed in the by-laws; or continues a special meeting without closing the Lodge in order to open a stated meeting at the proper hour or continues the meeting after midnight on Saturday or June 23; or elects officers when the Lodge is at refreshment or other than labor; in any such event the election is void, and the officers for the previous year, both elective and appointive, shall hold over for another year without further installation.

Art. 294. Dimit or Transfer of Membership Not Allowed While Holding Office. No member of a Lodge who has been elected or appointed to an office, and installed therein, shall dimit or transfer his membership to another Lodge while holding any such office. (Revised 1993)

Art. 295. (333). Who May Install. The Installation Ceremony shall be performed by an Installing Officer assisted by an Installing Marshal who are in good standing in this Grand Jurisdiction and the following officers only are authorized to perform as either: the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, Past Grand Masters of this Grand Jurisdiction, Grand Wardens, District Deputy Grand Masters, Past Masters of this Grand Jurisdiction, or the Master of the Lodge. Such ceremony, when performed by Installing Officer and Installing Marshal other than one of the above listed officers is void, and unless repeated by authorized officers prior to August 1st, the old officers hold over as provided in Article 293.

Art. 296. (334). All Officers Installed in Person. All officers of the Lodge, both elective and appointive must be installed in person.

Art. 297. (335). No Installation While Charges Pending. No Brother shall be installed in any office while charges of un-Masonic conduct are pending against him.

Art. 297a. Requirements for Installation as Worshipful Master or Warden. Prior to his installation as Worshipful Master or Warden, compliance with the provisions of Article 276a of the Laws of this Grand Lodge is required. (Revised 2011)

Art. 298. (336). Time of Installation. All officers shall be installed on June 24, the day of the Feast of St. John the Baptist, or at any stated or called meeting thereafter prior to midnight on the last day of July; provided, however, that no officer shall be installed on Sunday. Otherwise the old officers hold over as provided in Art. 293, unless installed in another office, in which case Art. 306 applies. It is not necessary that all officers be installed at the same time.

Art. 299. (337). Place of Installation. Except as otherwise provided by law, the officers of a Lodge must be installed at a place within the territorial jurisdiction of their Lodge, except in the case of a joint

public installation which may be held at a place beyond the jurisdiction of the Lodge as governed by the provisions of Article 303. (Revised 1989)

Art. 300. (338). **Public Installation: Place.** A public installation may be held in the Lodgeroom or at some other suitable place within the Lodge's Territorial Jurisdiction, except a joint public installation may be held outside the Territorial Jurisdiction of the Lodge provided such joint public installation is held in accordance with Articles 298 and 301.

Art. 301. **Public Installation: When Dispensation Required.** A public installation cannot be held without a dispensation, except as provided in Articles 300, 302 and 303, and any such public installation shall be held in accordance with the requirements of Article 298.

Art. 302. **Lodge Opened in Master's Degree.** Lodges shall not install officers without first opening a Master's Lodge, and if the installation is to be public, the Lodge must be called off, it being recognized and agreed that these functions will be deemed to have been carried out when performed by the Lodge acting as sponsor of the public installation, when two or more Lodges conduct a joint public installation, and while the Lodge is called off, all Masons present shall be Masonically clothed so far as white aprons are available, and each Lodge officer shall wear the jewel and clothing appropriate to his office. After installation, the Lodge must be called on and closed in its Lodgeroom in due form.

When a joint public installation has taken place, this function will be deemed to have been carried out and satisfied when performed by the Lodge acting as sponsor of the public installation. (Revised 1995)

Art. 303. **Joint Public Installation.** For the purpose of conducting a joint public installation, a Lodge, being first opened in its own Lodgeroom may, upon invitation by the Lodge(s) in whose Territorial Jurisdiction such public installation is held, enter the Territorial Jurisdiction of said Lodge(s) and perform such ceremonies.

When deemed more convenient by the Lodges involved in a joint public installation, the following procedure may be followed and will be acceptable by this Grand Lodge:

1. The Secretaries of the Lodges which participate in a joint public installation will write to the Secretary of the sponsoring Lodge requesting that such sponsoring Lodge open a Master Mason's Lodge not only on its own behalf but also on behalf of each Lodge represented by the letter or letters specified above.

2. The sponsoring Lodge, upon receipt of such letter(s) shall open a Master Mason's Lodge and the minutes of said sponsoring Lodge shall recite (i) the receipt of letter(s) from the other Lodge(s) which will participate in a joint public installation, and (ii) that such Lodge(s) had specifically requested the sponsoring Lodge open a Master Mason's Lodge on their (its) behalf for the purpose of conducting the joint public installation.

3. The sponsoring Lodge will then be called off for the purpose of holding the joint public installation.

4. Following the joint public installation, the sponsoring Lodge will call a Master Mason's Lodge from refreshment to labor, report in the minutes about the joint public installation including the name(s) of the Lodge(s) participating with other particulars desired and deemed of interest and thereafter close the Lodge.

5. The Secretary of the sponsoring Lodge will promptly write to the Secretaries of the Lodges participating in the joint public installation furnishing a copy of the pertinent minutes of the sponsoring Lodge to said Secretaries, or an appropriate summary thereof, and the Secretaries of the Lodges participating in the joint public installation will then make that correspondence a part of their minutes.

6. As a courtesy, the Lodges participating in a joint public installation shall notify, in advance, the appropriate District Deputy Grand Master or District Deputy Grand Masters, as the case may be.

The provisions of Article 298 and 302 apply to all joint public installations. (Revised 1995)

Art. 304. Repealed 1991.

Art. 305. New Appointment: When. When an appointive officer is found to be disqualified, or dies, or moves out of the Lodge's jurisdiction before he is installed, another appointment may be made to fill the office.

Art. 306. Elective Office Vacant. Except as provided in Article 277 when an elective officer is found to be disqualified, or fails from any cause to be installed within the time prescribed by Masonic law, and the officer filling said office the previous year has been installed into another office, the said office shall remain vacant until the next regular election, and shall be filled pro tempore, at each meeting of the Lodge.

CHAPTER 17 – TITLE II FEES AND DUES

For "Fees, Dues and Contributions to the Grand Lodge" See Const., Arts. IX and X.

Art. 307. Minimum Fees. The fees for initiation, passing and raising shall be not less than Thirty Dollars for each degree. The Twenty-five Dollar donation to the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation, Inc. collected from the candidate for the Master's Degree under Article 163-5 is in addition to the regular fee for that degree. (Revised 2006)

The Five Dollar donation to the George Washington Masonic Memorial collected from the candidate for the Entered Apprentice Degree under Article 318b is in addition to the regular fee for that degree. (Revised 2006)

Art. 308. Lodge May Fix Fees Above Minimum. A Lodge may by its by-laws fix, or by amendment thereto from time to time raise or lower the fees for the degrees or any of them in any amount equal to or above the minimum prescribed in the foregoing Art. 307; provided that the fees in effect at the time a petition for the degrees or advancement is filed with the secretary shall be charged to the petitioner.

Art. 309. New Lodge in Concurrent Jurisdiction. A new Lodge, organized within the jurisdiction of another Lodge or Lodges, shall adopt the fees for degrees and the dues charged by the oldest Lodge; and neither shall thereafter reduce the same without the consent of the other. Any Lodge exercising concurrent jurisdiction with another Lodge may increase the fees and dues without the approval of any other Lodge, and may subsequently reduce them likewise, but not below the amount originally fixed, without the consent of the other Lodges having concurrent jurisdiction.

Art. 310. No Distinctions Among Vocations. No distinction in the amount of fees charged a candidate for the degrees, nor in the amount charged a member for dues, shall be made on account of the profession, occupation or calling of the candidate or member; and no reduction in the amount of fees, contributions or dues accruing to the Grand Lodge shall be made on that account.

Art. 311. Dues: Fixed by Lodge: Minimum. (1) The amount of annual dues in a Subordinate Lodge shall be fixed by the Lodge as may be determined by a majority of the members present provided that such membership dues shall never be fixed below a minimum of Fifty Dollars per annum. By-Laws in conflict with this provision are void. No Lodge shall have the power to levy assessments, other than regular dues, against its members; nor to raise its dues for a definite period of time; but may raise and lower its dues from time to time as it may deem proper, in like manner as provided in Article 309. (Revised 2015)

(2) A Lodge, by a majority vote of the members present, may permit the payment of dues and fees by use of a credit or debit card, in addition to accepting cash or check. Additionally, a Lodge, by a majority vote of the members present, may authorize the acceptance of monthly or quarterly payments in advance of a due date. Such payments may be preauthorized ACH transfers or preauthorized charges to a credit or debit card account. A Lodge may charge a fee to recover costs related to the use of credit or debit cards to make payments to the Lodge. (Revised 2018)

Art. 312. Fees and Dues Paid Only in Money. Lodges shall receive nothing but money in payment of fees and dues, nor can fees, or any part thereof, be remitted but must be paid before the degree is conferred; provided, that when a Lodge is indebted to a Brother, such indebtedness may be liquidated by allowing the Brother's dues to be credited with such indebtedness or necessary part thereof.

Art. 313. Uniform Receipt Card. Lodges shall use no other receipt for dues than the one provided by the Grand Secretary.

Art. 314. May Remit or Exempt from Payment. A Lodge may exempt any member from the payment of current dues, may remit the dues of a member in arrears, or may remit or compromise the amount of dues owing by a Brother suspended for non-payment thereof, but is not thereby exempt from the payment of any part of its dues on such member or suspended Brother to the Grand Lodge. (Revised 1995)

NOTE: The current dues of the Lodge are primarily for the payment of current operating and fixed expenses and charges. While this Article gives to the Lodge a wide discretion in dealing with its members regarding dues for current and previous years, it does not authorize the Lodge to limit, curtail, diminish, allocate or appropriate any portion of its future dues for any other purpose, whether by agreement, resolution, by-law, pledge, or any other means. Any dues paid in advance for any future period must be held by the Lodge and applied to the receipts of the current year or years for which they are paid.

Art. 315. Life Membership. A Lodge may grant only one life membership in any one Masonic year and only for distinguished service rendered to the Lodge; and one additional life membership during any consecutive Masonic three-year period and only for long and distinguished service. The name of a member so to be honored shall be proposed at a stated meeting and voted on at a subsequent stated meeting by show of hands, or secret ballot at the discretion of the Master presiding. A majority vote of the members present shall elect. Life members are exempt from paying dues to the Lodge; but the Lodge is not exempt from paying to the Grand Lodge its per capita contributions on account of its life members.

Art. 316. Exemptions: Members in Texas Masonic Retirement Center, 50 Year Service Awardees, and Certain Military Personnel. Every member admitted to the Texas Masonic Retirement Center maintained by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas, so long as he is a beneficiary of said Home, and every member entitled to a Fifty Year Masonic Service Award under Art. 14 shall be exempt from Lodge dues. Should the Brother be a member of more than one Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, he shall be exempt in all Lodges. In addition, every member who is currently serving on military duty in a combat area may be exempt from Lodge dues. Additionally a Lodge may remit the per capita of such members from its Annual Returns, using a certificate furnished by the Grand Secretary to show the current status of each such member. (Revised 2011)

Art. 317. Dimit: Unearned Dues Refunded. A member applying for a dimit shall be charged the unpaid pro rata part of his dues up to the time the dimit is granted; which sum must be paid before his application therefor is granted. If he has already paid his dues the Lodge shall, upon granting the dimit, refund to him the pro rata part thereof covering the unexpired portion of the period for which he has theretofore paid.

Art. 318. Twenty-Five Dollar Donation to Texas Masonic Charities Foundation. There shall be presented to each Brother receiving the Master's Degree a Certificate on Form 29, setting forth the fact the Twenty-Five Dollars paid by him under Art. 163-5 has been so paid as a contribution to the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation. Such presentation shall be made in open Lodge by the Worshipful Master or under his direction at the close of the degree following the presentation of the Lambskin Apron. An appropriate address concerning the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation may be given at such presentation. When the Secretary sends in his Annual Returns of the Lodge required by Art. 488 he shall transmit to the Grand Secretary the amount received during the preceding Masonic year from the Brothers contributing such Twenty-Five Dollar donations together with the full name of each contributing Brother. (Revised 2006).

Art. 318a. Endowed Membership.

1. Any member in good standing in a Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction whose dues are paid to date may purchase an endowed membership for the benefit of such Lodge (hereinafter referred to as the “Endowed Lodge”), and be thereby relieved from the further payment of dues in the Endowed Lodge effective as of the date such purchase is made. The secretary of the Endowed Lodge shall issue annually a regular dues card to the member holding the endowed membership certificate at the same time other dues cards of the Lodge are issued.

2. (a) The purchase price for an endowed membership shall be fixed annually by the Endowed Lodge as may be determined by a majority vote of the members present; provided that such purchase price shall be a multiple of \$100 (\$100 being the par value of an endowment unit) and shall be not less than \$500 (5 endowment units). The vote to fix the purchase price for an endowed membership shall be had at the time provided by Article 292 and any change in the purchase price shall be effective June 24.

(b) A deceased Master Mason may be honored in a Texas Lodge with the purchased of an Endowment in his name at the rate of \$500.00 (5 endowment units) or at the current lowest rate of the Texas Grand Lodge Endowment program.

(c) A Fifty-plus Year Mason or a Life Member may purchase an Endowment for himself or be honored with the purchase of an Endowment in his name at the rate of \$500.00 (5 endowment units) or at the current lowest rate of the Texas Grand Lodge Endowment program.

(d) The increase of an endowed membership purchase price shall not void or adversely affect any previously agreed upon installment purchase plans established under article 318-a(7).

(e) An Endowed member who wishes to support his Lodge by adding to what he has previous paid for his Endowment may do so in units of \$100 or multiples. (Revised 2013)

3. The purchase price collected by an Endowed Lodge for endowed memberships shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary so as to be received by him on or before the next succeeding June 23 in order to qualify for an income distribution under Paragraph 4 hereof. Funds received by an Endowed Lodge for the purchase of endowed memberships may be invested by the Endowed Lodge in an insured interest bearing account in a reputable financial institution, and all such funds except as provided under Paragraph 7 hereof, shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary no later than the next succeeding June 23rd. The Grand Secretary shall cause all monies received by his office for the purchase of endowed memberships to be promptly deposited into the Endowed Membership Fund and shall provide a monthly summary of such deposits to the Grand Lodge Trustees and to the Committee on Investments.

4 (a) The Endowed Membership fund shall be invested and reinvested from time to time under the supervision of the Grand Lodge Trustees.

The Grand Lodge Trustees shall take action as they may determine necessary to protect the Endowed Membership Fund for the benefit of the Lodges, including, without limitation, the formation of Trusts, Limited Liability Partnerships, corporations, or any other appropriate entity as may be determined by the Trustees.

(b) For accounting and investment purposes the endowed Membership Fund shall be composed of endowment units with an initial value of \$100 each. The net asset value of an endowment unit may vary from one investment period to the next. For the purposes of computing the net asset value of an endowment unit, interest and dividends received, any net realized capital gain or loss and the distribution required by this Article, the investment period shall begin July 1 and end the following June 30. All endowment units shall be credited and allocated to the Endowed Lodges.

(c) Annually, not later than the first day of August, Endowed Lodges shall receive a distribution from the Endowed Membership Fund computed as follows:

(1) The value of the “units” shall be valued each year at their full market value. A distribution of 5% of value of these units shall be made to the respective Lodges provided the distribution does not reduce the value after distribution below \$100. (Revised 2017)

(2) In any year where the distribution of 5% of the unit value would reduce the unit value below \$100, the distribution will be reduced to 3% of the market value of the unit. A minimum distribution of 3% will be made to the Lodges each year regardless of the value of the units. (Revised 2017)

(3) The units will be valued at full market value of the underlying securities held by the Endowment Fund. Purchase of new units by new participants in the program will be at the respective price of the current market value. The minimum units to participate in the program will continue to be five units, purchased at their current value. (Revised 2017)

No distribution shall be paid for any endowed membership unit until August 1 of the 2nd calendar year after such endowment membership unit is received by the Grand Secretary.

(d) An administrative fee not to exceed five percent (5%) of the annual distribution paid to the Endowed Lodges may be deducted from the distribution before payment is made to the Endowed Lodges.
(Revised 2012)

5. The Grand Secretary shall issue to the member in whose name an endowment has been created for the benefit of an Endowed Lodge an Endowed Membership Certificate under the Seal of the Grand Lodge, signed by the Grand Master and attested by the Grand Secretary. Replacement or duplicate certificates may be obtained from the Grand Secretary, by the endowed member, a family member of a deceased endowed member, or the Endowed Lodge upon payment of the current fee established by the Grand Lodge Trustees.

6. Endowed memberships are not transferable with Lodge membership, and remain to benefit the Endowed Lodge where such memberships are purchased. Endowed memberships purchased by members and endowed memberships purchased in any part in honor or memory of a member, or endowed memberships purchased in any part by a Lodge, organization, individual or group of individuals in the name of a member or former member and, the endowed memberships of deceased members cannot be transferred to any Lodge except as provided for consolidated or demised Lodges.

Consolidated Lodges Within 12 months after the date of consolidation of two or more Lodges, an endowed member whose endowed membership was not purchased in the surviving Lodge may, if he affiliates with another Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction, at the time of the affiliation, transfer the endowed membership to the Lodge with which he affiliates, provided the Lodge did not purchase the endowed membership. The transfer of the endowed membership shall be effective as of the fiscal year-end of the Endowed Membership Fund following receipt by the Grand Secretary of the request to transfer the endowed membership.

Demised Lodges After the dissolution or demise of an Endowed Lodge, the holder of an endowed membership certificate therein, if he affiliates with another Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction, may transfer the endowed membership to the Lodge with which he affiliates. If the holder of an Endowed Membership affiliates with another Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction within twelve months after the dissolution or demise of the Endowed Lodge, any interest accruing from the Endowed Membership Fund for that endowed membership shall transfer to the credit of the Lodge with which he affiliates. If the holder of such an endowed membership fails to affiliate with another Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction within twelve months after the dissolution or demise of the Endowed Lodge, any interest accruing from the Endowed Membership Fund from the date of the dissolution or demise of the Endowed Lodge to the date of the transfer of an endowed membership shall be added to the principal of the Grand Lodge Endowed Membership Fund until the date the holder of the endowed membership affiliates with another Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction, from which time the interest will accrue to the benefit of the Lodge with which the holder of the endowed membership affiliated. (Revised 2012)

7. Lodges are prohibited from donating or selling endowed memberships in any other manner than as provided in this Article except Lodges may establish special accounts for the purpose of assisting and encouraging those members who wish to purchase endowed memberships on an installment plan by making regular, systematic, and regulated contributions to such account for the purpose of accumulating the necessary fee required to purchase an endowed membership. After the required fee has accumulated in the special account, the Lodge shall transmit such fee to the Grand Secretary as provided in this Article. The plan for such special account must be approved by a favorable vote of the Lodge, and must conform to those rules and requirements listed on Form No. 76-B of the Laws of this Grand Lodge. The funds in such special account shall be deposited in an insured interest bearing account in a reputable financial institution until such time as the funds are transmitted to the Grand Secretary.

8. Holders of endowed membership certificates are subject to all of the provisions of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and loss of membership due to suspension or expulsion may automatically terminate such endowed membership certificate, and may cause such holder to forfeit his endowed membership and any future claim to fees paid or to revenues earned from such endowed membership. The Lodge which held the endowed membership at the time of forfeiture, as provided herein, shall continue to receive the revenues earned from such endowed membership.

9. Upon the death of a holder of an endowed membership, the endowed Lodge shall continue to receive the income from the endowed membership.

Art. 318b. **Contribution to George Washington Masonic Memorial.** There shall be presented to each Brother receiving the Entered Apprentice's Degree a certificate, setting forth the fact that the \$5.00 paid by him under Article 163-12 has been paid as a contribution to the George Washington Masonic Memorial. Such presentation shall be made in open Lodge by the Worshipful Master or under his direction at the close of the degree. An appropriate address concerning the George Washington Masonic Memorial may be given at such presentation. When the Secretary sends in his Annual Returns of the Lodge as required by Article 488 he shall transmit to the Grand Secretary the amount received during the preceding Masonic year from the brother contributing such amount.

Art. 318c. **Fee for Affiliation.** A Lodge may require a fee for Affiliation. The amount of the fee shall be fixed annually by the Lodge as may be determined by the majority vote of the members present. The vote to fix the affiliation fee shall be had at the time provided by Article 292 and any change in the fee shall be effective June 24. (Adopted 2015)

CHAPTER 18 – TITLE II SUSPENSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

Art. 319. (354). **Automatic Suspension.** Lodge dues are due and payable one year in advance on January 1st of each year (unless otherwise exempt) and if not paid on or before that date a member shall be in arrears for his dues; and on or before thirty days before the last stated meeting of the Lodge held before June 24th of each year, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to notify each member, in writing, who may be in arrears for any dues, and if such member fails to pay such dues on or before June 23rd of such year, he shall stand automatically suspended for non-payment of dues without action by the Lodge, and such suspension shall be recorded in the minutes at the first subsequent stated meeting of the Lodge.

Article 319a. **Committee on Members in Arrears.** The Worshipful Master, as soon as practicable after the first of January, each year, will cause the name of each member of the Lodge who may be in arrears for his dues, to be assigned to a committee of three members of the Lodge, whose title shall be Committee on Members in Arrears. The Worshipful Master may appoint as many three member committees as he may deem necessary. The committees shall each be provided with appropriate information regarding the Brother in arrears. Each of the committee thus assigned, will collectively or individually, make every reasonable effort to contact the Brother in arrears, and encourage him to pay his dues. The committee will then report its findings to the Lodge, and in the event the Brother does not pay his dues, recommend that the Brother's dues be remitted, that he be suspended, or that he be encouraged to demit.

The Worshipful Master may assign one, or more than one, member in arrears to each committee as he may deem appropriate. (Adopted 1995)

Art. 320. (355). **Notice of Suspension.** It shall be the duty of the Secretary to notify by written notice all members automatically suspended for non-payment of dues, forthwith, unless such member is present at the meeting when his suspension becomes effective. Provided, when the post office address of the suspended member is unknown, notice shall be mailed to his last known post office address. The names of all members so suspended on June 23rd shall be reported to the Grand Secretary in the annual report of the Lodge. When such suspended member is reinstated, the fact shall be recorded in the minutes of the Lodge at the next stated meeting, together with a statement of the amount of dues paid by him, and the subordinate Lodge shall be charged with Grand Lodge dues for each such reinstated member for the year in which he was so suspended.

Art. 321. (356, 358). **No Dues During Suspension.** Dues shall not accrue during the suspension of a Brother.

Art. 322. (357). **Mental Incompetence.** When a member becomes mentally incompetent, and upon proper documentation of his incompetence being submitted by a qualified physician, he is not liable to either Masonic discipline or suspension for nonpayment of Lodge dues while in such state of mental incompetency. The Lodge must report him as a member but shall pay no dues for him to this Grand Lodge. The Lodge shall deduct Grand Lodge dues from the Annual Returns, using certificate furnished by the Grand Secretary, to show current status of each such member. (Revised 1992)

Art. 323. **Effect of Suspension.** Suspension for non-payment of dues has the same effect, except as to instruction for advancement, as suspension for un-Masonic conduct, except that upon payment of all dues to date of suspension and the current dues, the Brother becomes reinstated without any action of the Lodge unless such suspension has continued for more than three years. (Revised 1999)

Art. 324. **Reinstatement After Three Years.** A Member who has been suspended for non-payment of dues and remains so for three years is not reinstated automatically upon payment of dues in arrears, but is required to present his petition, in writing, to the Lodge at a Stated Meeting requesting reinstatement. The petition must be accompanied by payment of all dues in arrears to the date of his suspension, unless the amount thereof has been reduced under Art. 314, in which event the amount authorized shall be paid. The Worshipful Master shall appoint a Committee for Investigation and Report. The petition shall lay over to a subsequent Stated Meeting when a ballot shall be taken. If two-thirds favorable ballot of the membership of the Lodge present is cast, the petitioner shall be reinstated, otherwise, his petition shall stand rejected. Whenever a petition for reinstatement is rejected, the dues tendered shall be refunded.

A Past Master, Past Grand or Deputy Grand Master or Past Grand Warden, who is suspended for non-payment of dues, is automatically reinstated to Grand Lodge membership upon his automatic reinstatement to Lodge membership under Art. 323. (Revised 2012)

Art. 325. (361). **Deleted, 1998**

Art. 326. (362). **Expulsion Permitted After Three Years.** Should a suspended member fail to pay his dues in arrears within three years from the date of his suspension, he may, after not less than thirty days written notice, be expelled at a stated meeting, by an affirmative ballot of two-thirds majority of the members of his Lodge present. Only members of the Lodge of which he is a member shall be permitted to ballot thereon.

Art. 327. (363). **Expulsion Permitted After Three Years: Reinstatement.** When a member of a Lodge has been expelled for the non-payment of his dues as provided in Art. 326, and desires to be reinstated to membership, he shall present such a petition to his Lodge, in writing, at a stated meeting thereof, and pay all dues in arrears, up to the date of his suspension, unless same has been reduced as authorized by Art. 314 of the Laws, in which case the amount authorized shall be paid. The petition shall lay over to a subsequent stated meeting and the Worshipful Master shall appoint a committee for investigation and report. It shall require a unanimous favorable ballot of the members of such Lodge present to reinstate the petitioner to membership. If such petitioner is rejected he may petition for reinstatement again after six months have elapsed. If he is rejected a second time he shall not petition again until one year has elapsed from the date of the last rejection. Any subsequent petitions shall not be received except after the elapse of an additional year. Any such petitioner for reinstatement, who is rejected, shall have the dues paid refunded. (Revised 2012)

Art. 328. (364). **When Lodge Demised: Restoration.** When a member is suspended for non-payment of dues, and his Lodge subsequently demises, he may be restored to good standing as a non-affiliated Mason by paying to the Grand Secretary the amount of his dues up to the date of his suspension. The Grand Secretary may require such suspended member to furnish a certificate of good character vouched for by the Master or Secretary of a Lodge should he deem it desirable. The rights of restoration herein provided shall not apply to a member laboring under a sentence of expulsion for any cause. When recommended by the Finance Committee the Grand Master may reduce the amount of dues to be paid by any member of a demised Lodge suspended for the non-payment of his dues, or of any member shown on the books of such Lodge as in good standing, yet in arrears for dues at the time of such demise.

Art. 329. (365). **When Lodge Demised: Reinstatement.** A member of a demised Lodge who has been suspended or expelled for non-payment of his dues, who may desire to be reinstated to good standing as a member of a Lodge may do so under the following procedure: He shall pay to the Grand Secretary the amount of his dues in arrears at the date of his suspension, unless the amount is reduced as provided in Art. 328, and take the receipt of the Grand Secretary therefor. He may petition the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he is domiciled, for membership by affiliation, attaching such receipt to his petition. A unanimous favorable ballot of the members of such Lodge present shall reinstate him in good standing and elect him to membership in said Lodge by affiliation.

Art. 330. **Grand Lodge Dues Continue During Charter Arrest and Lodge Suspension.** The suspension of a Lodge or the arrest of its charter does not stop the accumulation of dues to this Grand Lodge; such dues do not cease to accrue until the date of the demise of the Lodge.

CHAPTER 19 – TITLE II BUSINESS OF LODGE

Art. 331. **Stated Meetings.** Except when officially receiving Grand Lodge Officers, all stated meetings of a Lodge may be opened on the Entered Apprentice Degree or Fellowcraft Degree, provided that if no Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft Mason is present, it shall be the option of the Worshipful Master to open said meeting on either the Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, or Master's Degree. A Lodge opened on the Entered Apprentice Degree for the purpose of holding a stated meeting, may be opened and closed on such degree without first opening on the Master's Degree. At a stated meeting, the regular business of the Lodge shall be transacted. At a stated meeting, only Master Masons shall be entitled to vote. (Revised 2007)

Art. 332. **Called Meetings.** At the option of the Worshipful Master, a Lodge may first be opened at a called meeting of the Lodge on an Entered Apprentice or a Fellowcraft Degree and closed on such degree without first opening on the Master's Degree. A called meeting must be opened on the Master's Degree when officially receiving Grand Lodge Officers, hearing Master Mason proficiency examinations, conferring Master's Degrees and complying with the installation of officer requirements of Art. 302 and Art. 303. Called meetings may be opened in any Lodge in order to comply with the examination and proficiency requirements of Art. 436, Art. 437, and Art. 439. At a called meeting, only Master Masons shall be entitled to vote. (Revised 2007)

Art. 333. **Order of Business.** At stated meetings after opening of the Lodge in due and ancient form, a quorum being present, the Order of Business, unless otherwise ordered by the Lodge or the Worshipful Master, shall be as follows:

1. Reading, correcting and approval of Minutes of previous meetings.
2. Receiving and referring to Committees of Petitions and Applications.
3. Reports of Special Committees.
4. Balloting on Petitions and Applications.
5. Reports of Standing Committees.
6. Communications from the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Texas.
7. Unfinished Business.
8. Motions, Resolutions and New Business.
9. Examinations for Proficiency in the proper degree.
10. Voting on Proficiency.
11. Claims and Accounts.

Each Lodge shall conduct its business as nearly as possible according to the rules of order established in Articles 168 to 176 inclusive of the Laws of this Grand Lodge for the government of the Grand Lodge.

Art. 334. **“Committees of the Whole” Prohibited.** “Committees of the Whole” are not recognized or permitted in Masonic parliamentary procedure.

Art. 335. Lodge Funds Under Its Control.

- A. A Lodge may appropriate its funds for any purposes not inconsistent with the principles and purposes of Masonry, or the Laws of the Grand Lodge.
- B. Subject to the provisions of Article 224, Lodges may conduct projects to raise funds for a Lodge’s general fund, charity fund, endowment fund, needy individuals, any recognized Masonic charity or foundation, disaster relief, public schools, educational scholarships or other similar funds. All such funds must be of a noncontroversial, nonsectarian, nonpartisan, patriotic and/or community character.

All fund raising activities are subject to the following restrictions:

1. The project must be approved by the Lodge at a stated meeting.
2. No such project may be held on June 24th, December 27th, during the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas, or at any time or place prohibited by any law of the land or any Masonic law.
3. All federal, state and local regulations shall be strictly observed and all required permits obtained.
4. No gambling or lottery, except legal charitable raffles conducted in compliance with the laws of the State of Texas, shall be conducted. (Revised 2003)
5. No alcoholic beverages shall be distributed, sold, purchased, possessed or consumed during a fund raising project on Lodge property.
6. No Masonic apron or regalia shall be worn.
7. The entire project shall be conducted in strict accordance with Masonic tradition, custom and dignity.
8. Masonic Lodgerooms shall not be used for fund raising activities.

(Revised 2000)

Art. 336. **Reconsideration of Matters.** No order made, resolution adopted, or other vote on any business matters shall be reconsidered except at the same or next stated meeting of the Lodge, nor unless an equal or greater number of members are present than were present when the action was taken, provided, that this regulation shall not prevent consideration of motions to amend, revoke or rescind, at any subsequent stated meeting thereafter, and action may be taken thereon by a majority vote of the members present.

Art. 337. **Minutes of Lodge.** The minutes of the Lodge shall be transcribed for permanent record in a well bound book or in loose leaf form included in a substantial binder with secure locking devices. They shall conform as far as practicable to the official forms prescribed; and shall contain all the data set forth herein, and an accurate, concise statement of all business transacted and all other matters transpiring at the meeting and shall be approved at a stated meeting and signed by the Worshipful Master and Secretary in person at that meeting. Names of the officers filling the several offices as in said forms provided shall be given, and the number of members and visitors present, the names of whom shall appear in the register as provided in Art. 378.

Art. 338. **Inspection of Minutes: By Whom.** The minutes of the Lodge are the private records of the Lodge and no copy of same or any part thereof, shall be made or used for other than Masonic purposes. They shall be securely kept and preserved by the Secretary, and shall be open for inspection at reasonable times by the officers and other members of the Lodge, or by such other Masons as have an appropriate reason therefor, but not under any circumstances by those who are not Masons. (Corrected 2005)

Art. 338a. **Summary of Minutes Permitted.** For purposes of providing accurate historical and genealogical information concerning the Lodge and its members, a summary of the minutes and records of the Lodge may be prepared and published in a form and manner that would not bring discredit on the Masonic Fraternity and the Lodge or any of its members, past or present.

If the summary is sponsored by the Lodge, it must be presented to, and approved by, the members of the Lodge prior to publication.

Sources of Lodge information include, but are not limited to, Lodge minutes, Annual Returns to Grand Lodge, Masonic records of individual Masons, membership files, general Lodge documents, records and files, and Lodge correspondence. Additional sources of information include Grand Lodge Proceedings, Minutes of the Grand Lodge, and Lodge records in the Archives of the Grand Lodge.

In preparation of the summary, the Lodge is to strictly conform to the applicable provisions of Art. 506; Art. 405a; Art. 421; Art. 427; Art. 594; Art. 602; and Art. 605. Further, the summary cannot contain any libelous matter which would include the following: (a) blackening the memory of the dead; (b) injuring a living person's reputation and exposing the person to public hatred, contempt, ridicule or financial injury; (c) impeaching any person's honesty, integrity, virtue or reputation; or (d) publishing a person's natural defects so as to expose that person to public hatred, ridicule, or financial injury. The summary may include, but is not limited to, the following listings:

1. Members of the Lodge;
2. Past Masters and Affiliated Past Masters;
3. Officers of the Lodge;
4. Changes in Membership for any reported year including names of Members:
 - a. Raised;
 - b. Affiliated;
 - c. Reinstated;
 - d. Demitted

In addition, the summary may include awards presented to Lodge Members, obituaries of deceased Members, recognition of Members for past historic, patriotic or community services provided, or awards given, as reflected in the minutes of the Lodge.

(Revised 2003)

Art. 339. Lodge Shall Not Sponsor Other Organizations. No lodge shall stand as sponsor for any other organization, even though such organization be composed exclusively of Master Masons or of the wives, sisters, sons or daughters of Master Masons. Provided that this article shall not apply to the Chapters of the Order of DeMolay for Boys and Assemblies of the Order of Rainbow for Girls. (Revised 2007)

Art. 339a. Formation of Texas Non-Profit Corporations. A Lodge may authorize by a vote of a majority of those of its members present at a Stated meeting, the formation by members of a Texas non-profit corporation for the purpose of establishing (including the acquisition of such real property and personal property from the Lodge and such other persons or entities as will be necessary from time to time), supporting and maintaining a museum and library to preserve the Masonic history and knowledge of its Lodge and other Masonic Lodges and bodies in the surrounding area, for historical research in Masonic history in such area, preservation of the archives of that Lodge and other Masonic Lodges and other Masonic bodies in that area, and provide for a museum to exhibit, display, and interpret Masonic history in that area, and applying to the Internal Revenue for a federal income tax exemption under Section 501 (c) (3) (or other applicable sections) of the Internal Revenue Code for such non-profit corporation and applying to the State of Texas for exemption from franchise tax, sales tax, or ad valorem taxes or any other applicable federal, state, or local taxes. However, any transfer, sale, or conveyance by that Lodge or any other Masonic Lodge or other Masonic body must be in conformance with the statutes of this Grand Lodge, including, without limitation, Article 340, Permission to Acquire, Sell, or Mortgage Lodge Property: Procedure, and such non-profit corporation at its formation must have a valid, legal and enforceable agreement with the Masonic Grand Lodge Library and Museum of Texas that upon the demise of such non-profit corporation that all of its real and personal property shall be transferred to the Masonic Grand Lodge Library and Museum of Texas.

Should the Lodge so approve certain of its members forming such non-profit corporation for such purposes, then the members of the Lodge may apply, in writing, to the Grand Lodge, or if during its vacation, the Grand Master, for written consent to form such non-profit corporation which will then apply for federal income tax

(Revised 2007)

exemption under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and such application to the Grand Lodge shall be accompanied by a full and complete plan for the establishment, support, and maintenance of the proposed library and museum, including, without limitation, the proposed Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, and the application to Internal Revenue Service for its federal income tax exemption and such other documents or information as may be requested. Upon receipt of such application, the Grand Master shall refer such application to the Committee on Civil Law for examination, report or recommendation thereon; such report being made to the Grand Master in vacation or at the next Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge, as the Grand Master may direct.

If such non-profit corporation is formed upon consent being obtained, it shall not be an entity related to that Lodge but shall be a separate corporation of which its members at all times shall be Masons who are under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas. (Revised 2000)

Art.339b. Formation of Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Associations. A Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association composed of such officers of constituent Lodges in any Masonic District, with the approval of the Grand Lodge of Texas, may be organized as an unincorporated, nonprofit association under Title 6 of the Texas Business Organization Code for such purposes as the Grand Lodge of Texas may approve. Each such Association must each submit its request for approval to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Texas, who shall forward the request to the Grand Master. Each such organization shall comply with all statutes of The Grand Lodge of Texas that apply to the Lodges, including those, that related to conducting audits and filing audit reports with the Grand Lodge of Texas, fundraising statutes, the filing of all appropriate federal or state tax returns, if required, as well as the compliance with all local, state, and federal laws and regulations. Each Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association shall adopt and file with the Grand Secretary By-Laws Form 23a, which may be amended from time to time as provided therein, which by-laws and subsequent amendments thereto shall be approved by the Grand Lodge before they are effective. No such organization shall be authorized to acquire or otherwise have an ownership interest in any Lodge property or other real estate.

Once a Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association has been approved by the Grand Lodge of Texas, it shall be included as an “Other Organization” for the purpose of Art. 225 as though specifically set out therein. (Adopted 2012)

Art. 340. Permission to Acquire, Sell or Mortgage Lodge Personal Property or Real Estate

A. (1) No Lodge shall acquire any real property or any interest therein by purchase, gift, bequest, devise or otherwise without first obtaining the written consent of this Grand Lodge, or if during its vacation, the consent of the Grand Master; provided, that in granting such consent same shall be done by the Grand Master by endorsing his written consent on the deed or other instrument capable of being recorded in the public records. Neither the Grand Lodge nor the Grand Master shall incur or assume any liability by reason of such consent. The provisions of this Article shall apply to all Lodges on equal terms, whether acting directly or indirectly.

(2) When written application is made to the Grand Master by any Lodge for consent to acquire, receive, or accept title to real property or any interest therein, as set out above, it shall be the duty of the Lodge to furnish a full detailed description of the subject real property or any interest therein and details of process that the Lodge is using to acquire said property, as may be required by the Grand Master, who, upon receipt of such application, shall refer the matter to the Committee on Civil Law for examination, report and recommendation thereon either to him or Grand Lodge as he may direct.

The Grand Master shall then appoint a member of Civil Law to contact the Lodge attempting to acquire or sell property within (5) five days and communicate to the Lodge the requirements of Grand Lodge as to the proper actions to be taken and documentation that the Grand Lodge will require. The Committee on Civil Law may make such inquiries for information or request for documents or documentation, as may assist such Committee in its examination, report and recommendation. In all such applications to acquire, receive or accept title to any real property and any interest therein by purchase, gift, bequest, devise or otherwise, a letter of support or other recommendation from the District Deputy Grand Master appointed for the benefit of the Lodge filing such application shall be included with such application.

The Lodge shall complete the required documentation and submit the package to the Committee on Civil Law for its review. Within (15) fifteen days and no more than (20) twenty days after submission, the Committee on Civil Law shall contact the Lodge's representative before the next stated meeting so the representative can discuss the proposal with the members of the Lodge.

The Lodge shall review the recommendations received from the Committee on Civil Law and make amendments to the paperwork for the Committee on Civil Law to review and, within (15) fifteen days after receiving same, the Committee on Civil Law shall then identify any additional items not in compliance with the requirement of Grand Lodge so that the Lodge can make final corrections to facilitate the Lodge's closing of the subject transaction as soon as possible after its second stated meeting.

The time frame may be extended by mutual agreement between the Committee on Civil Law and the Lodge that is attempting to acquire or sell the property.

(3) Any Lodge which shall acquire real property or any interest therein without first obtaining consent as required herein shall be guilty of a Masonic disciplinary violation and subject to arrest and forfeiture of its Charter or such other penalty as Grand Lodge shall inflict.

B. (1) No Lodge shall sell any of its real property or interest therein, or create any indebtedness and secure such indebtedness by lien or mortgage on any of its property, whether real or personal property, or any interest therein, or create any indebtedness of any kind or character, secured or unsecured, except for the current operating expenses of the Lodge, without first obtaining the written consent of the Grand Master; provided, in granting such consent to the mortgage, lien or other written instrument in such manner, that neither Grand Lodge nor the Grand Master shall incur or assume any liability by reason of such consent. The provisions of the Article shall apply to all Lodges on equal terms, whether acting directly or indirectly.

(2) Permission may be granted to a Lodge under dispensation to purchase property for Lodge purposes for cash; but said Lodge shall not borrow any money or create or assume any debt (secured or unsecured) in connection with such purposes.

(3) Title to real estate or personal property should be taken and held in the name of the Lodge. See Article 28 of these Laws.

C. The Committee on Civil Law may, from time to time, prepare and forward to the regular Lodges and other entities under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas, such guidance, suggested forms, and other documentation and information as may be useful in the preparation of an application to acquire or dispose of real or personal property or any interest therein by purchase, gift, bequest, devise or otherwise, as considered by this Article. (Revised 2014)

Art. 341. Permission to Sell or Mortgage Lodge Property: Procedure. When an application is made to the Grand Master by any Lodge for consent to incur an indebtedness and secure the same by mortgage or deed of trust for the purpose of constructing a building or improving its property; or to create any indebtedness for any purpose other than the current operating expenses of the Lodge, secured or unsecured, it shall be the duty of the Lodge to furnish full detailed description of the plans and purposes for which said indebtedness shall be incurred. Said Lodge shall also furnish the Grand Master with the plan of financing and payment of such indebtedness and/or payment of such building or improvement. The Grand Master, upon receipt of any such application, may refer the question to the Committee on Civil Law for examination, report and recommendation thereon; said report may be made to the Grand Master in vacation or at the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge as the Grand Master may direct.

Art. 342. Permission to Sell or Mortgage Lodge Property: Penalty for Acting Without Consent. Any Lodge which may sell its Lodge Hall or real property and/or create any lien on its property; or create any indebtedness for any purpose other than the current operating expenses of the Lodge, secured or unsecured, without first obtaining the consent thereto of the Grand Lodge, or if in vacation, the consent of the Grand Master thereto, shall be guilty of a Masonic disciplinary violation and be subject to the arrest and forfeiture of its Charter, or such other penalty as the Grand Lodge may inflict.

Art. 342a. Permission to Bring Court Action Required. No civil or criminal action shall be brought in any court by any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction without first obtaining the permission of this Grand Lodge or during its vacation the permission of the Grand Master. Art. 342b. (New). **Texas Public Schools Week.** Every officer and member of every Lodge in the state shall take an active part to the greatest extent possible in the annual observance of Public Schools Week in the community.

1. All Lodges shall observe Public Schools Week during the period established by the Governor of the State of Texas or by the State Board of Public Education as Public Schools Week.

2. All activities of Lodges normally conducted at stated and/or called meetings shall be permitted, including visits of District Deputy Grand Masters to Lodges, and official visits of the representatives of all organizations that are authorized and permitted to use Lodgerooms as listed in Article 225 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

3. All Lodges shall make every reasonable effort to promote Public Schools Week to the greatest extent possible, and encourage every member and all Masons to attend a public school during the week of public schools observance.

(Adopted 2000)

This page intentionally left blank.

TITLE III MEMBERSHIP

NOTE: The use of the expression “plural member” as synonymous with “resident member” is discarded; and “plural membership” is used to denote membership in more than one Lodge as distinguished from “single membership” denoting membership in only one Lodge. The two characters of membership are denoted “parent” and “plural” and the respective Lodges as “parent Lodge” and “plural Lodge.”

CHAPTER 1 – TITLE III MEMBERS OF LODGES

Art. 343. (380). **Regulations to Enforce Attendance.** Lodges are authorized to make such regulations as may be necessary to enforce the attendance of their members.

Art. 344. (381). **Status of E.As and F.Cs** Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts are Masons but they are not members of the Lodge and cannot vote or dimit, but shall be entitled to Masonic burial subject to the provisions of Art. 360. They are entitled to sit in the Lodge or Lodges in which they have received a degree or degrees, or to visit like Lodges upon examination or proper avouchment. (See Art. 60.) Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts may attend Masonic funerals and appear in public wearing aprons of their respective degrees, provided the Lodge has dispensation to appear in public, and they do not participate in any of the ceremonies. (Revised 1998)

Art. 345. (382). **Master’s Degree Conferred Illegally.** When a Mason receives the third degree in a regular Lodge which has no legal jurisdiction he, nevertheless, becomes a member thereof; such Lodge being amenable for the irregularity.

Art. 346. (382a). **Twenty-Five Year Emblem.** Any Lodge in this jurisdiction may present an emblem conforming to the design on file in the Grand Secretary’s office to any of its members who has for a total of 25 years been a member in good standing in one or more Lodges: provided that no Mason in this Grand Jurisdiction shall be awarded more than one such emblem. To such general design any Lodge, at its option, may add name and number, or either, of such Lodge. All such awards shall be reported by the Secretary of the Lodge in his Annual Report to the Grand Secretary.

Article 346a. (New) **Forty-Year Emblem.** Any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction may present an emblem, conforming to the design provided by the Grand Secretary’s office, to any of its members who has, for a total of forty (40) years, been a member in good standing in one or more Lodges provided that any such presentation will be subject to the same requirements and procedures as those specified in Article 346 hereinabove. (Adopted 1999)

CHAPTER 2 – TITLE III PLURAL MEMBERSHIP

Art. 347. (383). **Membership Permitted in Multiple Lodges.** A Master Mason of this Grand Jurisdiction may be a member more than one Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction at the same time. He may, while holding his membership in his parent Lodge, and without dimitting therefrom, petition to another Lodge or Lodges for affiliation; and, if elected, hold plural membership in such Lodge or Lodges. The words “parent Lodge” shall be construed to mean the Lodge in which a member holds his membership at the time he applies to another Lodge for plural membership.

Art. 348. (384). **In Two Grand Jurisdictions.** A Master Mason, who is a member of a Lodge in a Grand Jurisdiction with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal relations and which said Grand

Jurisdiction permits dual or plural membership, and which permits its members to hold such a membership in another jurisdiction, shall be eligible to petition for, and if elected, to hold a plural membership in a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction by affiliation; provided, that such a petition be accompanied by a certificate of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Jurisdiction of his parent Lodge, showing that he is privileged to apply for such plural membership. In case the petitioner cannot secure such certificate, then he must furnish to the Grand Master of this Jurisdiction satisfactory evidence of his right to make such petition and obtain his permission to make it, before a Lodge may vote on same.

Art. 349. (385, 390). **Procedure.** The petition for affiliation as a plural member in a Lodge must state the name, age, and residence of the applicant, and the name and number and location of the parent Lodge of which said petitioner is a member; Petition must be signed by the petitioner and be recommended by two Master Masons, members of the Lodge to which the petition is addressed, and shall be governed by the same procedure relating to regular petitions for affiliation. A Lodge may require a fee for Affiliation under the provisions of Art. 318c. In addition, the plural members must pay the regular dues. (Revised 2017)

Art. 350. (386). **Record and Reports of Secretary.** It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Lodge, upon the election of a Brother to plural membership, to promptly report the fact to the Lodge in which he maintains his parent membership and to the Grand Secretary. The Secretary of the Lodge having plural or parent members, shall keep a record of all such members, and shall make annual report to the Grand Secretary, listing the names of all such members, together with the name of the parent or plural Lodge and Grand Jurisdiction thereof. Such plural member shall be counted by the Lodge in which he holds such membership only for the purpose of fixing and paying to this Grand Lodge such dues or contributions as it may be entitled to. Provided, that if the parent membership is in a Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction, then he shall be counted for all purposes by the Lodge in which he holds his plural membership.

Art. 351. (387). **Effects of Suspension or Expulsion in One Lodge.**

A. When a Brother who holds membership in any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, is suspended or expelled for any reason from any Lodge, he is automatically suspended or expelled from all other Lodges in which he might hold membership, without further action than noting the fact in the minutes. The Secretary of the Lodge inflicting such penalty shall immediately report the fact to the other Lodge or Lodges and to this Grand Lodge.

B. When a Brother who holds his parent or plural membership in another Grand Jurisdiction and his other membership in this Jurisdiction is suspended or expelled in this Jurisdiction, such fact shall be immediately reported to the Secretary of his Lodge in the other Jurisdiction. (For Suspension or Expulsion for other than non-payment of dues in another Grand Jurisdiction see Art. 641).

Art. 352. (388). **Reinstatement in One Lodge: Effect.** Any Brother holding plural membership in Lodges in this Jurisdiction, who has been suspended or expelled for any cause by one of his Lodges, shall, upon reinstatement therein, be automatically reinstated in his other Lodge or Lodges, unless a protest is filed by a member of that Lodge with the Worshipful Master. Where the suspension or expulsion is for non-payment of dues, a protest is not allowed. Under this Article and Art. 627, a protest has the effect of three blackballs. (Revised 1994)

Art. 353. (389). **All Lodges Must Pay Grand Lodge Dues.** All of the Lodges to which a plural member belongs, if located in this Grand Jurisdiction, shall pay to the Grand Lodge such per capita tax, dues or contributions on such member as are now or shall hereafter be required by The Grand Lodge from its regular members, provided that no Lodge shall be liable for such dues or contributions on Brethren who are residents of the Texas Masonic Retirement Center or who are Fifty Year Masonic Service Awardees and who are plural members, as provided in Article 316.

Art. 354. (391). **Rights of Plural Members.** A member holding plural membership in a Lodge in this Jurisdiction shall have all the rights and privileges therein of other members and shall be eligible to hold office therein, as provided in Art. 266.

Art. 355. (392). **Withdrawal: Transfer of Membership: Dimit.** Except as provided in Art. 294, a plural member desiring to withdraw from any of his Lodges shall file a written petition (Form 40) therefor with the Secretary, which shall be read at the next stated meeting and automatically granted (Form 41) if his dues are paid and no charges are pending against him. The Secretary shall promptly report the withdrawal to the Secretary of the parent Lodge and to the Grand Secretary. (Revised 1997)

If he desires to affiliate with another Lodge he may do so under the procedure of petition for affiliation and Certificate of Good Standing as prescribed in Art. 392.

If he desires to become an unaffiliated Mason he must first withdraw from his plural Lodges and then apply for a dimit from his parent Lodge.

Art. 356. (393). **Rejection of Petitioner for Plural Membership.** In the event the petition for plural membership in a Lodge in this Jurisdiction is rejected, the Lodge does not retain any jurisdiction of the applicant thereby, as is provided in the case of original applicants for Masonry, so as to require a waiver of jurisdiction by such Lodge should application be made thereafter to another Lodge for such membership.

Art. 357. (394). **Requirements as to Domicile.** The requirements as to domicile of original applicants for the degrees shall not apply to applicants for plural membership.

Art. 358. (395). **Plural Membership in Another Grand Jurisdiction.** Any Brother holding his parent membership in a Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction is privileged to petition a Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction for plural membership therein, if such membership is authorized by the laws of such Jurisdiction. (Revised 2012)

CHAPTER 3 – TITLE III MASONIC FUNERALS

Art. 359. (396). **To Whom Extended.** Burial with Masonic ceremonies is a privilege which pertains to all Masons, including Entered Apprentices, Fellowcrafts, and Master Masons, by virtue of their membership. It may be extended to worthy non-affiliated Masons if the Master of the Lodge so determines. It shall be the duty of each Lodge except as otherwise provided in this Chapter, to conduct the funeral ceremonies, in accordance with Masonic customs and usages, in all cases where it was the expressed wish of a member in good standing and is concurred in by his near relatives. In the absence of such expressed wish, the ceremonies shall be performed over the remains of such deceased member when requested by his near relatives after his death.

Upon request it may be extended at the discretion of the Master of the Lodge to worthy non-affiliated Masons if he so determines, and to worthy suspended Masons who have been suspended for non-payment of Lodge dues.

Art. 359a. **Grand Lodge Funerals.** The provisions of the official Manual of the Lodge and of official Laws, resolutions and forms of Grand Lodge concerning burial services and/or funerals shall apply only to funerals conducted under the auspices of a subordinate Lodge and not to funerals conducted under the auspices of Grand Lodge. When a funeral is conducted under the auspices of Grand Lodge, the Grand Master, or his official representative conducting the funeral, shall have the right, if he wishes, to conduct the particular funeral in accordance with the wishes of the decedent or members of his family.

This Grand Lodge may only officiate at the funeral services of the following: (1) Past or present elected Grand Lodge Officers, and (2) Appointed Grand Lodge Officers, District Deputy Grand Masters, and members of the Committee on Work who die while serving in office. (Revised 1995)

Grand Lodge may officiate also at the funeral services of a Mason in good standing who has heretofore been elected to any other office in this Grand Lodge.

Art. 360. (397, 401). **To Whom Not Extended.** Whenever a member of a Lodge commits a Masonic disciplinary violation, or is laboring under charges involving un-Masonic conduct and dies before such charges have been filed or disposed of according to Masonic Law; or in case any member suffers death under circumstances that are discreditable; or that may subject his memory to reproach, the Worshipful Master of the Lodge may refuse to allow him a Masonic funeral.

No expelled Mason shall be accorded a Masonic funeral, and no suspended Mason shall be accorded a Masonic funeral except as otherwise provided in these Laws, but no Mason who stands suspended for nonpayment of dues at the time of his death can be restored to membership thereafter by payment, or remission, of such dues.

When a suspended or expelled Mason has been reinstated in a Lodge, subject to approval of the Grand Lodge, and dies before the Grand Lodge has acted, the Grand Master has the discretion to grant a dispensation for a Masonic funeral. No dispensation may be granted where there has been no reinstatement.

The privilege of a Masonic funeral, when requested, shall be extended to Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts who die within twelve months of the conferral of the Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft Degree upon them, or have petitioned and been favorably balloted upon for advancement subject to the other applicable provisions of this Article.

Art. 361. (398). **Who May Conduct Ceremonies.** The Worshipful Master, or a Warden in his absence (or a competent Brother called by him to officiate for the time being), shall conduct the funeral ceremonies, during which, the Lodge shall be called off. Upon the conclusion of the ceremonies the members shall return to the Lodge room and the Lodge shall be called on and closed. Only Master Masons may participate in the ceremonies. Constituent Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas may open a Lodge of Sorrow and that it be called from labor for the purpose of conducting Masonic funerals and that the Lodge of Sorrow when once opened and called off can remain in force throughout the term of the Worshipful Master for that Masonic year. Toward the end of that period, the Lodge of Sorrow shall be called to labor and the list of funerals conducted and all deceased brethren during that Masonic year be read and entered on the minutes of that date. A suitable memorial to each deceased Brother may be given, and the Lodge of Sorrow be then closed. Another Lodge of Sorrow may be opened for the next Masonic year and called off and allowed to remain in force until the close of the term of the Worshipful Master for such new Masonic year. (Revised 2018)

Art. 362. **Regarding Ceremony and Processions.** When a religious ceremony is conducted over the remains, either at the house or church, the Lodge shall not take charge until after the duties of the minister have been concluded. After the Lodge takes charge of the remains of the deceased Brother, it shall have entire control of the funeral ceremonies and procession until the rites are completed and the body is laid to rest, except a minister may be permitted to offer a prayer or prayers during or at the conclusion of the Masonic Ceremony. The active pallbearers should be Master Masons, when available, provided, however; if the family of the deceased Brother requests other than Masonic pallbearers, such request may be honored. When Masons and non-Masons are pallbearers, Masons may be clothed as Masons. If societies composed solely of Masons be invited to take part in the procession, they shall serve as an escort to the Lodge and shall precede the Lodge. Societies and civic organizations not composed entirely of Masons shall follow the family and relatives in the line.

While it is necessary that a Lodge have charge of a funeral procession and ceremony, it must be recognized that the needs and desires of the family must be the paramount consideration. Therefore, the Master of the Lodge may, at his discretion, allow deviations so long as the image and dignity of Masonry is maintained. (Revised 2007)

Art. 363. (400). **In Open Air: On Sundays: Other Days.** In conducting funeral ceremonies in the open air, no rule of Masonic propriety requires of the members the uncovering of the head, except when the Name or Blessings of Deity are invoked. It is permissible for a Lodge to open and conduct funeral ceremonies on Sunday, or on any other day.

Art. 364. (399a). When Body Cremated.

Section 1. In the event the body of a Brother is cremated, and a Masonic Funeral is requested, the Worshipful Master of the Lodge shall have the right to use such parts of the Funeral Services formulated by Grand Lodge as may be appropriate to the occasion, he being authorized to make such minor changes in the ritual service as may be appropriate to fit the particular occasion, and that portion of Art. 362 which recites that the Lodge shall have entire control until the rites are completed "and the body is laid to rest," which applies to the regular interment of the body in the earth, may, at the discretion of the Worshipful Master, be relaxed to conform to the character of service desired.

Section 2. In the event the family desires a Masonic memorial service with or without the presence of the body, the Worshipful Master of the Lodge, shall have the right to use such parts of the Funeral Service formulated by the Grand Lodge and make such changes in the ritual service as may be appropriate to fit the particular occasion performing such ceremony either during the day or evening hours at the Lodge, home, funeral chapel or the church (if such is agreeable with the minister of such church).

Art. 365. (399b). Death in Armed Services. In the event the body of a Brother, who dies while in the services of the Armed Forces of the United States, shall have been interred in a place other than his home, or final resting place in the United States, and the body is returned to his home, or final resting place in the United States, in the event no Masonic Funeral Service has been performed, the Worshipful Master of the Lodge may, at his discretion, upon request, grant such request, and perform such service.

Art. 366. (402). Funeral in Jurisdiction of Another Lodge. For the purpose of conducting funeral ceremonies, a Lodge, being first opened in its own Lodgeroom may enter the territorial jurisdiction of another Lodge and perform such ceremonies.

Art. 367. (403). Deleted 1995.

CHAPTER 4 – TITLE III DIMIT

Art. 368. (404, 408). Definition and Effect. A dimit is the withdrawal of a Master Mason from membership in a Lodge, thereby becoming an unaffiliated Mason. The payment of his dues and the vote of the Lodge thereon, or the regulation provided in Art. 369, are the acts which dissolve his connection with the Lodge. The certificate issued thereon is only the evidence of dimission. A dimit is not granted one holding plural membership upon withdrawing from only one of his Lodges. (See Art. 417 for who may vote on application; and Art. 355 regarding plural membership.)

Art. 369. (405). Procedure. The right of a member, clear on the books as to dues and no charges pending against him, to withdraw from membership in a Lodge thereby becoming an unaffiliated Mason is inalienable. In such a case, the member may present his application to the Lodge in writing, requesting a dimit. If all dues have been paid to the date of his application and no charges are pending against him, the Lodge may grant the dimit at once by unanimous favorable vote, which in the discretion of the Master in each case may be taken either by ballot or by show of hands. The action shall be entered in the minutes of the Lodge and his membership shall terminate when the result of the vote is announced. It shall be the duty of the Secretary thereupon to issue to said applicant a Certificate of Dimission. If the vote is not unanimous, the application shall lay over until the next stated meeting of said Lodge, and, if no charges have been preferred the dimit is automatically granted upon convening of the Lodge, and the Worshipful Master shall direct the Secretary to issue the Certificate of Dimission, notwithstanding the previous vote thereon, and to cause an order to be entered in the minutes granting said dimit, by operation of law.

Art. 370. (406). **Charges Pending: Not Granted.** A dimit shall not be granted to a member when charges are pending against him, until such charges have been finally disposed of by dismissal, trial, appeal or otherwise, and if such member is then eligible for such dimit.

Art. 371. (407). **Officer Can Not Dimit.** An officer of a Lodge, either elective or appointive, after installation, cannot dimit until his successor is installed.

Art. 372. (409). **Certificate of Dimission.** When a dimit is granted the Secretary shall issue and deliver to the brother a Certificate of Dimission. When the certificate is lost or destroyed the brother may obtain a duplicate by filing a written application with the Secretary of the granting Lodge, stating the fact of its loss or destruction and that it had never been deposited with any other Lodge. No action of the Lodge is necessary in such case, but the fact should be reported to the Lodge and noted in the minutes.

Art. 373. (410). **Non-Affiliates: Privileges Allowed and Denied.** An unaffiliated Mason, holding a dimit or its equivalent granted by a regular Lodge or the authorized Grand Secretary of this or any other Grand Jurisdiction with which we are in fraternal relations, may:

1. Visit a Lodge as provided in Art. 382.
2. Sign a petition for a new Lodge Under Dispensation (Art. 184), or for a new chartered Lodge (Art. 205) or affiliate with any Lodge in this State; provided that such unaffiliate, in any case, is domiciled in this Grand Jurisdiction.
3. March in a Funeral or other Masonic Procession or appear Masonically clothed at a Masonic funeral, when properly accredited and permitted by the Worshipful Master, upon satisfactorily accounting for his non-affiliation.

He shall not:

1. Preside over or fill any station or place in any Lodge.
2. Confer, or otherwise participate in conferring any degree.
3. Vote by ballot or otherwise on any matter coming before any Lodge, or lodge any protest whatever.
4. Address the Lodge or speak upon any matter before it, unless invited thereto by the Master presiding.
5. Participate in any official capacity, or in any organization or body whose membership is limited to Master Masons.

Unaffiliated Masons are amenable to Masonic Law and subject to Masonic discipline. (See Art. 495.)

CHAPTER 5 – TITLE III WIDOWS AND ORPHAN'S CERTIFICATE

Art. 374. (411). **Widow and Orphans.** On the death of an Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft or Master Mason, in good standing and pursuant to Article 359 and 360, the Lodge may furnish his widow and orphans with a certificate of his good standing. (Revised 1990)

Art. 375. (412). **Widow with Other Masonic Affiliation.** A widow whose father or brother is a Master Mason, but whose deceased husband was a non-Mason, is entitled to Masonic recognition as the daughter or sister of a Master Mason. (Revised 1990)

Art. 376. (New). **Remarriage.** Upon remarriage to a non-Mason, the widow of a Mason loses her status as such, and any certificate theretofore issued to her is invalidated. Such remarriage does not affect the Masonic obligation to orphaned children of a deceased Mason. (Revised, 1990)

Art. 377. (413). **Legally adopted child.** A legally adopted child of a deceased Mason is entitled to the same benefits as the natural child of a deceased Mason. (Revised 1990)

CHAPTER 6 – TITLE III VISITORS

Art. 378. (414). **Register.** A book shall be kept in each Lodge in which each member and visitor shall register his name, the name and location of his Lodge, and the jurisdiction thereof, whenever he attends any meeting therein.

Art. 379. (415). **Masons of Other Grand Jurisdictions.** A Master Mason, in good standing, a member of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of any grand Lodge or other Grand Body which is in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge, may be admitted as a visitor, subject to the provision of Art. 383.

Art. 380. (416). **Good Standing.** Upon notification to the Worshipful Master, and at his discretion, a member of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge may visit any Texas Masonic Lodge working under this jurisdiction without the avouchment and or examination process providing that he is in good standing and presents a receipt from his Lodge showing that his dues are current at the time of said visitation along with a photo identification; except in cases provided for in Art. 382. Sojourning Masons from other jurisdictions must possess a current dues card and shall be vouched for or examined in accordance with Art. 381. (Revised 1999)

Art. 381. **Avouchment and Examination.** One Mason cannot vouch for another unless he has sat in open Lodge with him, and can so state, or was a member of a Committee appointed to examine such Brother in a Lodge. A Brother cannot vouch for another upon the request of another Brother who has sat in a Lodge with the visitor but was unable to be present at the meeting; nor can it be done upon any private examination apart from the Lodge. Provided, that the Worshipful Master may appoint an examining Committee, prior to the opening of the Lodge to examine and report upon any applying visitor. (Revised 2008)

Art. 382. (418). **Non-Affiliates.** A non-affiliated Mason may not visit any Lodge in this jurisdiction more than three times unless he shall petition a Lodge for membership. If his petition is rejected he may be allowed to visit Lodges for one year thereafter, when he should again petition.

Art. 383. **Visitors Excluded:** When. A visitor, who is not a member in good standing of a Lodge working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas, may be excluded on the objection of a member of the Lodge at the discretion of the Worshipful Master. When three members make the objection, such visitor must be excluded. However, the provisions of this article are not operative in cases where special visitation procedures have been developed for a jurisdiction where the Grand Lodge of Texas has entered into a special treaty with that jurisdiction. (Revised 2015)

Like objection may be made to a member of a Lodge working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas only if such member is under charges preferred against him. (Revised 2015)

CHAPTER 7 – TITLE III AFFILIATION

Art. 384. (420). **Affiliation: Where and by Whom.** Any Mason holding a Certificate of Dimission from a Lodge under this jurisdiction or under a jurisdiction in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge at the time such certificate is issued, or a certificate of good standing as provided in Art. 392, when duly vouched for by a member of a Lodge under this jurisdiction, may petition for and, if elected, become affiliated with any Lodge in this jurisdiction, regardless of his domicile in this jurisdiction. The minimum age for affiliation shall be same as that for the degrees as set forth in Art. 393.

Art. 385. (421, 422). **Requisites of Petition.** The petition for affiliation must be in writing and signed by the petitioner personally; be recommended by two members of the Lodge petitioned; and be presented at a stated meeting.

It must state the name, age, date and place of birth, and domicile of the petitioner, and must be accompanied by his Certificate of Dimission from the Lodge of which he was last a member, or a certificate of good standing as provided for in Art. 392 or satisfactory reasons shown for the absence of either of such certificates. A certificate of life membership in a Lodge of another recognized jurisdiction will be accorded the same effect as a Certificate of Dimission, when accompanied by a certificate of present good standing in the Lodge which issued such life certificate.

Art. 386. Committee of Inquiry. A petition for affiliation or advancement may be referred to a committee or voted upon at a stated meeting where the petition is read. The petition will be referred to committee if any member of the Lodge makes a verbal request for such action. If no request is made and all requirements are met, a vote will be held at the time of original reading. This vote may be held by voting box or show of hands at the discretion of the Lodge. If referred to committee, the committee shall consist of three members who will make inquiry and report thereon, which report shall be made at a subsequent stated meeting; but no ballot shall be taken thereon in less than one month from date of presentation of petition to committee. (Revised 2015)

Art. 387. (424). **Ballot.** If a petition for affiliation or advancement is referred to a committee of inquiry, as provided in Article 386, the ballot shall be taken after the report of the committee is made. If the petitioner is elected, his certificate of dimission, or his certificate of good standing, as the case may be, shall be filed by the Secretary. A Lodge may require a fee for affiliation under the provisions of Art. 318c. If the petition is rejected, the certificate of demission, and any fee collected, shall be returned to the petitioner. The certificate of good standing shall be returned to the issuing Lodge as provided in Article 392. (Revised 2017)

Art. 388. (425). **Who May Vote.** Only members of the Lodge petitioned may vote on a petition for affiliation.

Art. 389. **Protest Not Allowed.** A petition for affiliation can be rejected only if more than 3 of the members present cast black balls. If 3 or less black balls are cast, the petitioner shall be elected. A protest against affiliation shall not be entertained. If more than 3 black balls are cast, the petitioner shall be rejected, but for no definite period. He may present a new petition at any time.

Art. 390. (427). **Effect of Rejection.** When a petition for affiliation has been rejected by a Lodge in this jurisdiction, as provided in Article 389, it will not prejudice the right of the petitioner to petition another Lodge having jurisdiction.

Art. 391. (428). **Members of Demised Lodge.** Any member in good standing at the time of the demise of his Lodge, after obtaining a certificate to that effect from the Grand Secretary may, upon election, affiliate with any other Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, regardless of his place of domicile therein. If he desires to become an un-affiliated Mason he may obtain a Certificate of Dimission from the Grand Secretary.

Art. 392. (429). **Certificate of Good Standing.** A member of a Lodge in this jurisdiction may apply to his Parent Lodge for a certificate of Good Standing, to be used for any of the following purposes:

- 1) To transfer his membership to another Lodge;
- 2) To apply for plural membership in another Lodge or Lodges;
- 3) To sign a petition for a new Lodge.

When an Application for a Certificate of Good Standing is received by the Lodge, and dues have been paid for the Masonic year of the application, and no charges are pending against the applicant, the Secretary of the Lodge may provide a Certificate of Good Standing without further action. This action shall be reported to the Lodge at the next stated meeting, and recorded in the minutes. (Adopted 1992)

When such application is presented to the Lodge, it may grant the application at once by a unanimous favorable vote of the members of the Lodge present, either by ballot or show of hands, at the discretion of the Master presiding. The result of the vote shall be recorded in the minutes. If the vote is not unanimous, the application shall lie over until the next stated meeting and if no charges are preferred, the Master presiding shall cause an order to be entered in the minutes directing the Secretary to issue the Certificate. The Certificate shall be issued forthwith by the Secretary and delivered to the applicant.

(Revised 1992)

If the application is for transfer of Lodge membership or for plural membership in another Lodge, it shall give the number, name and location of the Lodge to which such transfer or in which such plural membership is desired; and the Certificate shall be addressed to such Lodge. If the application is for the purpose of signing a petition for a new Lodge, it shall be addressed to the Grand Master or Grand Lodge, as the case may be.

The Certificate may be attached to a regular petition for affiliation in the Lodge to which it is addressed; and shall take the regular course prescribed for such petitions. If the petitioner is elected he automatically becomes a member of the Lodge petitioned, and the Secretary shall promptly and without delay, notify the Secretary of the issuing Lodge and the Grand Secretary of such election and affiliation. If the petition is for transfer of parent or plural membership, such notice shall also be sent to the Secretary of the other Lodge in which petitioner holds membership.

It shall be the duty of each Secretary receiving such notice to report the fact to his Lodge and enter a record thereof in the minutes; and in case of transfer of membership from such Lodge, to cancel such membership and refund to petitioner any portion of his Lodge dues, pro rata, for the unexpired portion of the period for which he has paid. Membership in the Lodge petitioned and any cancellation of membership in the Lodge issuing the certificate shall each date from the date of election in the Lodge petitioned. If the petition for affiliation is rejected, the Certificate shall be returned by the Secretary of the rejecting Lodge to the Secretary of the issuing Lodge for cancellation, with notation of such rejection thereon, under the seal of the rejecting Lodge.

If the Certificate is attached to a petition for a new Lodge, and the petition is denied, the certificate shall be returned to the issuing Lodge for cancellation. If the petition is granted, notice thereof shall be given to the Secretary of the issuing Lodge and to the Secretary of any other Lodge of which the petitioner is a member.

Every Certificate of Good Standing shall expire on the last day of the period for which dues have been paid in advance, unless, on or before that date, a petition for affiliation to which it is attached has been filed with the Secretary of the Lodge to which it is addressed; or unless, on or before that date, a petition for a new Lodge to which it is attached has been signed by the holder. The date of expiration shall be stated on the Certificate. In case of expiration, it shall be the duty of the holder to return the Certificate to the Secretary of the issuing Lodge for cancellation.

The privileges and provisions of this article and the procedure thereof in so far as they can be made applicable shall extend to any Master Mason, who is a member in good standing of a Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction with which the Grand Lodge is in fraternal relations and who desires to affiliate with a Lodge in this jurisdiction. (See Art. 417.)

This page intentionally left blank.

TITLE IV DEGREES

CHAPTER 1 – TITLE IV CANDIDATES

Art. 393. Qualifications. A candidate for the degrees of Masonry must be free-born, sound in mind, of good moral character, a full eighteen years of age on or before the day his petition is received by the Lodge, and disclose any known physical limitations or disabilities which will render him incapable of earning his own living or receiving and imparting, Masonically, all that is required by the ritual of the several degrees. However, an individual who has been found guilty of, or has pleaded no contest to charges of pedophilia (such as Indecency with a Child by sexual contact or any other means, Aggravated Sexual Assault with a child by any means, Sexual Assault with a Child by any means) shall be disqualified to submit a petition for the degrees of Masonry. After the foregoing requirements have been strictly met, the question of the candidate's mental, moral, and such physical qualifications is one to be decided within the sound discretion of the members of the Lodge petitioned. (Revised 2019)

Art. 393a. Solicitation. This Grand Lodge supports and practices the ancient custom and usage among Masons that a man is required to present himself for the Degrees of Masonry of his own free will and accord. At the same time, it acknowledges to all Masons of its obedience, that it is permissible and proper to extend a neutrally-worded invitation to petition for the Degrees of Masonry to a man whom you have strong reason to believe is of good moral character and reputation, who is otherwise qualified to petition under the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas. After answering the non-Mason's questions about the Fraternity (those proper to be discussed) and explaining the procedure for petitioning, the potential candidate should be left to make his own decision and to proceed of his own free will. (Adopted 1992)

Art. 394. (431). Domicile Requirements. Every candidate for the degrees of Masonry must have been domiciled within this Grand Jurisdiction for six months; and within the jurisdiction of a Lodge for six months before the date of his petition, and be known to at least three members in good standing of a Lodge or Lodges chartered by this Grand Lodge or a Grand Lodge duly recognized by this Grand Lodge, none of whom may be either of the two required recommenders. (Revised 1995)

Note: In determining the place of a man's domicile for Masonic territorial jurisdictional purposes, the following general rules apply:

1. Domicile means the place of a person's permanent residence; where he has the right to vote, to sit on juries and to exercise other rights and privileges of citizenship.
2. A married man's domicile is usually where his wife resides, but where there is a permanent separation, the husband's domicile is governed by the rules applicable to an unmarried man.
3. When a man (married or single) moves away from his domicile for the purpose of attending school, educating his children, engaging in business or other purpose, but does not intend to abandon his domicile, but intends at some time in the future to return to it and retains his rights of citizenship there, he does not thereby lose such domicile, regardless of the length of his absence therefrom. In like manner, if such person's business takes him from place to place for short or long periods of time, his domicile is not thereby changed.
4. When a person moves away from his domicile for any purpose, with the intention of not returning thereto, he thereby ceases to be domiciled in that place. He may acquire a domicile in his new place of abode by residence there with the intention of making it his domicile, and exercising or acquiring the right to exercise his rights and privileges of citizenship.
5. When a person has never lived in one place long enough to acquire a domicile, but is a transient person, moving from place to place, he cannot lawfully apply to any Lodge in this State for the degrees in Masonry, since no Lodge has territorial jurisdiction over him. The only exception to this rule is that provided in Art. 395.
6. A person domiciled in this State who has never received any degree in Masonry and who has not been domiciled in this State at least six months and in the jurisdiction of a Lodge for the last preceding six months, is ineligible, during any such period, to apply to any Lodge anywhere for the degrees. He is, "Masonically speaking, a Man without a country."

7. Rule 6 and the provisions of this article regarding the length of time one must be domiciled in this State and in the jurisdiction of some Lodge do not apply to an EA or FC seeking advancement. He must, however, be domiciled in this State, unless some Lodge in this State holds personal jurisdiction over him.

Art. 395. (432). In Armed Services: Countries Without Grand Lodge. The foregoing requirements regarding domicile do not apply to residents of countries having no Grand Lodge: nor to a person having no domicile, who, at the time his petition is received is on active duty as a soldier, sailor, marine or airman, either commissioned or non-commissioned in the Armed Forces of the United States, and furnishes evidence that he has no domicile, and documentary evidence of such service; all such evidence to be retained by the Lodge with his application.

Art. 396. (433). **Unnaturalized Foreigner.** An unnaturalized foreigner who has permanently resided in this jurisdiction the required length of time and possesses the other necessary qualifications, is eligible to receive the degrees.

Art. 397. (434). **Religious Belief.** A firm belief in the existence of God, the immortality of the soul, and the divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures is indispensably necessary before a candidate can be initiated, but this Grand Lodge does not presume to prescribe any canonical books or what part thereof are inspired. It is the policy of this Grand Lodge to permit a candidate whose religious persuasion is based upon other than the Holy Bible to be obligated upon the book of his chosen faith, and same may be situated upon the Altar in front of the Holy Bible during the conferral of the three degrees of Masonry. In which event, all esoteric references to "The Holy Bible" during the conferral of the degree(s) and the lessons appropriate thereto shall be substituted with "The Book of your (my) Faith." (Revised 1995)

Art. 398. (435). **Questions Answered by Candidate.** Before a candidate can be initiated he must answer, in writing, each of the following questions:

1. Do you promise, upon your honor, to strictly adhere to and be governed by the Constitution and Laws of The Grand Lodge of Texas and the by-laws of this Lodge?
2. Do you sincerely declare, upon your honor, that, unbiased by friends and uninfluenced by mercenary motives, you freely and voluntarily offer yourself as a candidate for the Mysteries of Masonry?
3. Do you seriously declare, upon your honor, that you are prompted to solicit the privileges of Masonry by a favorable opinion conceived of the institution, a desire for knowledge, and a sincere desire to be of greater service to your fellow men?
4. Do you seriously declare, upon your honor, that you will cheerfully conform to all the ancient established usages and customs of Masonry?
5. Do you seriously declare, upon your honor, that you firmly believe in the existence of God, the immortality of the soul, and in the divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures?
6. Do you seriously declare, upon your honor, that you have never before petitioned any Lodge of Masons for the degrees or any of them?

Art. 399. (436). **Former Petition.** If the candidate should answer that he has heretofore petitioned another Lodge, all action of the Lodge toward conferring a degree shall be suspended until it shall be shown that the candidate is legally entitled to receive the degree. The Lodge receiving the petition shall request full information from the Lodge theretofore petitioned, and the Lodge theretofore petitioned shall furnish under seal of the Lodge all information shown by the records of said Lodge to the Lodge inquiring.

Art. 400. (438). **Suspicion of Former Rejection.** A Lodge having reason to believe or to suspect that a candidate has once been rejected, must not proceed with conferring the degrees until the matter has been thoroughly investigated. If it is discovered that a candidate has a prior rejection from any regular Lodge, and if that Lodge still possesses jurisdiction, all action upon the petition must cease. All fees that have been prepaid shall be refunded, and the facts of the matter shall be disclosed at the next stated meeting and noted in the minutes. (Revised 2012)

Art. 401. (439). **Repealed 2018**

Art. 402. (437). **Physical Limitations and Disabilities After Receiving a Degree.** Physical limitations and disabilities received by a Brother after he has received one or more degrees will not prevent him from proceeding further in Masonry provided that he retains other pertinent Masonic qualifications, including the ability to earn his own living, that he continue to reside in the jurisdiction of his Lodge, and that the Grand Master grant appropriate approval. The Committee on Work may make recommendation as to how to best impart Masonic knowledge to such candidates proceeding in Masonry. (Revised 2019)

Art. 403. (440). **Petition for Degrees: Requisites.** A candidate for the degrees must file with the Secretary of the Lodge a petition in writing, which must be presented to the Lodge at a stated meeting only. The petition must state the name of the petitioner in full; his age; date and place of birth; his domicile during the preceding twelve months; and shall contain all other matters required by law and Form No. 26. Said petition shall be signed by the petitioner in person and shall be recommended and the application personally signed by not less than two members of the Lodge.

In the event of death, expulsion or suspension of either or both signers before the petition is received, it will be necessary to obtain other qualified signers.

A certified or photostatic copy of petitioner's birth certificate must accompany the petition, which shall be retained as a permanent record of the Lodge, or withdrawn by petitioner upon substituting a photostatic copy thereof; provided that, upon being furnished with satisfactory documentary evidence, the Grand Master may issue his certificate of approval in lieu of birth certificate, which certificate shall accompany the petition and be retained as a permanent record of the Lodge.

When a petitioner's name has been changed by law or other proper means from that shown in the birth certificate, and a full explanation thereof deemed satisfactory to the Lodge is attached to the birth certificate, the petition may be voted upon if satisfactory in all other respects.

Art. 403a. **Repealed, 2015.**

Art. 404. (441). **Petition for Degrees: Answers to Questions in Art. 398.** The petition for the degrees must contain the questions of Article 398 with the answers of the candidate thereto.

Art. 405. (442) **Petition for Degrees: (Withdrawal Permitted Before Ballot.)** A petition for the degrees, or any of them is "received" when it is read in open Lodge at a stated meeting upon direction of the Master presiding, usually by the Secretary. If the petition is one that may lawfully be received, it must be referred to an Investigation Committee and follow the procedure hereinafter provided, but may be withdrawn by the petitioner by written request at any time prior to the ballot thereon. Notwithstanding such withdrawal, any subsequent petition for the degrees shall state that the petitioner has previously petitioned a Lodge for the degrees or any of them. (Revised 2001)

Art. 405a. **Publication of Names Prohibited.** The names of Petitioners, Candidates, Entered Apprentice Masons and Fellowcraft Masons shall not be published in a Lodge newsletter or any news media public or private. (Adopted 1990)

Art. 406. **Unlawful Presentation: Waiver of Jurisdiction.** A petition unlawfully presented to a Lodge must be returned to the petitioner. If the Lodge is without territorial or personal jurisdiction over the petitioner, the petition may be withdrawn or the Lodge may apply to the proper Lodge for waiver of jurisdiction under the procedure provided in Article 456.

Art. 407. **Referred to Committee.** A petition for the degrees shall be presented at a stated meeting and referred by the Master presiding to a committee of three members for investigation and report. A member of this committee may not be a recommender or any Mason listed as a reference on such petition, unless and except no otherwise qualified Brother is available to serve as such. Such report may be made at a subsequent stated meeting; but no ballot shall be taken thereon in less than one lunar month from the date the petition is received, unless dispensation is granted by the Grand Master under Article 414. The Lodge may grant the committee further time upon request of one of its members; but no recommitment may be made after the committee has reported to the Lodge. (Revised 2008)

Art. 408. **No Standing Committee.** No standing committee shall be appointed for investigation of candidates petitioning for the degrees.

Art. 409. **New Committee: When.** When the investigating committee fails to report within two months, it may be discharged, and a new committee appointed, which shall report at a subsequent stated meeting.

Art. 410. **Petitioner's Death or Mental Incompetence.** When a candidate dies, or becomes mentally incompetent, before the report of the investigating committee is made, his death or mental incompetence shall be reported to the Lodge and noted in the minutes, the committee discharged, and no further proceedings shall be taken thereon; and all fees paid shall be refunded to the person properly authorized to receipt therefor. (Revised 1992)

Art. 411. **Petitioner's Total Disqualification.** If the investigating committee finds the candidate totally disqualified for any reason, the facts should be reported to the Lodge, such report entered in the minutes, the fee returned, and no further action taken.

Art. 412. **Committee: Duties and Report.** The investigation by the committee shall include: the moral character and reputation of the petitioner, facts relating to jurisdiction, physical qualifications, and all other matters the Lodge is called upon to pass in balloting on petitioner. A face-to-face interview between each Investigation Committee member and the petitioner is required on all petitions for the Mysteries and Advancement, except on approval by the Worshipful Master.

Before a ballot can be taken a signed report of each of the three members of the committee shall be attached to the petition and read to the Lodge; each of which reports shall cover all matters referenced in this Article and in Form No. 28. Should a Mason qualified to vote possess additional information pertaining to the qualifications of the petitioner that is based upon the Mason's personal knowledge, and not hearsay, he may request the Worshipful Master's permission to provide said additional information in open Lodge before the committee is discharged and the ballot is taken. If the Master of the Lodge is a member of the committee before his installation he may continue to serve thereon. (Revised 2018)

Art. 413. **Ballot.** When the report of the investigating committee has been made, and one lunar month has elapsed since the presentation of said petition, the ballot shall be taken. If found clear, the petitioner may be initiated as soon as convenient. As to all petitions requiring ballot by the Lodge, the petitioner shall be notified in writing within fifteen days of such ballot, signed by the Worshipful Master and attested to by the Secretary of the Lodge, as to either his election or his rejection by the Lodge. (Revised 2015)

Art. 414. (451). **Dispensation changing Time Requisites.** In case of extreme emergency the Worshipful Master may apply to the Grand Master for a dispensation to postpone examinations for proficiency, in such cases. In such application the Worshipful Master shall state fully the facts creating such emergency.

CHAPTER 2 – TITLE IV THE BALLOT

Art. 415. (452). **Taken at Stated Meeting: Exception.** All ballots on petitions for the degrees, or any of them; affiliation, reinstatement; on restoration; and all ballots or votes on applications for waiver of jurisdiction; certificates of good standing, dismissals or dimits; shall be taken at stated meetings only, unless a dispensation is issued by the Grand Master.

Art. 416. (452a). **Favorable Ballot: Effect.** One ballot on a petition for the degrees, if favorable, shall elect the petitioner to receive the three degrees of the Lodge. One favorable ballot shall elect an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft to receive the remaining degrees, or degree.

One favorable ballot shall elect an Entered Apprentice or a Fellowcraft of another Lodge, to receive the remaining degrees, or degree after waiver of jurisdiction or a certificate of dismissal has been issued by the Lodge holding such jurisdiction, in favor of the Lodge petitioned.

In case 12 months have elapsed after the petitioner has been elected before he presents himself for initiation; or if 12 months or more shall elapse after receiving the Entered Apprentice degree before the Fellowcraft degree is conferred and likewise between the Fellowcraft and Master's degree the previous election as to the degrees or the remaining degree become null and void. A new petition in writing shall be required and the procedure thereon, shall be regulated by the provisions of Art. 430.

Art. 417. (453). **Who May Vote.** In balloting on petitions for the degrees or either of them, any member in good standing in a Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge is entitled to vote, and all members of the Lodge present must vote.

In balloting on petitions for affiliation; reinstatement; restoration; or applications for demit; certificate of good standing; waiver of jurisdiction; certificate of dismissal; or voting on examinations for proficiency; or the business transactions of the Lodge, only the members of the Lodge acting, shall vote.

Art. 418. (454). **Blackballs: Effect.** In balloting on candidates for degrees, three blackballs shall reject for one year, four blackballs for two years, and five or more blackballs for three years. The term "blackball" shall be construed to include "Black cube." If the ballot contains only one or two blackballs, and if no protest has been entered against the Petitioner, it shall be declared as favorable, but if one or more protests have been entered, each such protest shall be counted as a blackball in accordance with the provisions of Art. 425 of these laws, and the ballot shall be announced accordingly. (Revised 1992)

Art. 419. (455, 456). **Manner of Balloting.** When there is more than one petition for degrees; affiliation; reinstatement; restoration; or applications for demits; certificates of good standing; waivers of jurisdiction; or certificates of dismissal, it is permissible to ballot on all of said petitions or applications in each of said classes, collectively, and, should the ballot be favorable each of said candidates of the class balloted on shall be declared elected, or the applications granted as the case may be. If the ballot is unfavorable, it shall not operate as a rejection of any of said petitioners, or applicants, but it shall then become the duty of the Worshipful Master to take a separate ballot on each such petition or application of the class balloted on, as the case may be. It is not permissible in a single ballot to include more than one of said classes of petitions or applications; each such class shall be balloted on separately.

Art. 420. (457). **Ballot Is a Finality When Announced.** A ballot on any kind of a petition or application named in Art. 419 may be retaken as many times as may be necessary to satisfy the Worshipful Master that no mistake has been made, before the result of any ballot is announced by the Worshipful Master, but not thereafter. No result of a ballot shall be announced until called for by the Worshipful Master, but the result must be announced before the meeting at which the ballot is taken is closed. If the Junior and Senior Wardens and the Worshipful Master find that the ballot is favorable, each shall declare the ballot favorable at their respective stations.

If the ballot is reported favorable by both Wardens, and the Worshipful Master has received one or more protests, which when combined with the number of blackballs cast equals three or more, he shall announce the number of blackballs cast and the number of protests received by him, and declare the ballot as unfavorable. If the ballot is unfavorable when the final ballot is taken, they shall declare the ballot "unfavorable" and the Worshipful Master, only if the combined vote and protests is unfavorable, shall announce the number of blackballs cast and the number of protests received by him, and the same shall be recorded in the minutes of the Lodge. (Revised 1992)

Note: For the vote for favorable or unfavorable ballot see the following:

Affiliation: Art. 389

Reinstatement except NPD: Art. 658

For NPD: Art. 324 through Art. 329

Restoration: Art. 658

Dimit: Art. 369

Certificate of Good Standing: Art. 392

Waiver of Jurisdiction: One blackball defeats:

Proc. 1914, p. 45, Dec. 88 and

Proc. 1915, p. 45, Dec. 13.

Certificate of Dismissal: Art 446

Note: For formalities in balloting see the *Monitor of the Grand Lodge* adopted in 1982. For protests in connection with the ballot see Chapter 3, Title IV of Grand Lodge Laws.

CHAPTER 3 – TITLE IV PROTESTS

Art. 421. (458). **Against Whom Effective.** The election of a candidate to receive the degrees or any of them, can be prevented or set aside by protests made to the Worshipful Master or any officer acting as Worshipful Master of a Lodge. A protest against the reinstatement to good standing in the Lodge of a former member or restoration to the status of a nonaffiliated Mason of a former member of another Lodge, convicted in said Lodge, who is laboring under a sentence of indefinite suspension or expulsion, for a Masonic disciplinary violation, other than for nonpayment of dues, shall be given effect by the Worshipful Master, or the officer acting as such, as a rejection of such petition as provided in Art. 627. Such protests cannot be withdrawn after they have been announced. (Revised 1992)

Art. 422. (458a). **Against Whom Not Effective.** A protest is not effective on a petition for affiliation; or on applications for a dimit; waiver of jurisdiction, certificate of dismissal; or for a certificate of good standing.

Art. 423. (462). **When and By Whom Made.** Any member of a Lodge in this jurisdiction may protest, either orally or in writing, a candidate for any degree, either before or after his election. In each case the protestor must give clearly his name and the name, number and location of his Lodge. Protest may be made by telephone if the person called is satisfied as to the identity and qualification of the Protestor; in each such case the person called must in the same telephone conversation advise the caller whether or not the protest is accepted. The Worshipful Master or officer acting as Worshipful Master, shall not disclose the identity of the Brother who made the protest, but shall immediately upon receipt of the protest notify the Wardens and Secretary that it has been made.

To be effective as to any petitioner for a degree, protests must be made after the petition is received by the Lodge and before conferring the degree has begun. (Revised 1992)

An outgoing Master is under duty to transmit to his successor all unannounced protests made to him.

Only members in good standing of the acting Lodge may protest against reinstatement or restoration as authorized in Art. 627.

Art. 423a. **Separate and Joint Protests: Defined.** A separate protest is that made by an individual Brother to the Worshipful Master. A joint protest is that made by two or more Brethren who simultaneously appear before the Worshipful Master and the Lodge a protest. Separate and joint protests shall have the same value or effect.

Art. 424. (459). **Withdrawn: When.** A protest may be withdrawn by a Brother who made it, at any time before it is announced, but not thereafter.

Art. 425. (460). **Effect of Protests.** A protest shall have the same effect and value and be counted as a blackball under Art. 418. Three protests, or a combination of protests and blackballs with a combined total of three shall reject for one year. Four protests, or a combination of protests and blackballs totaling four shall reject the petitioner for two years; five or more protests, or a combination of protests and blackballs having a collective total of five or more, shall reject the Petitioner for three years. (Revised 1992)

Art. 426. (460a). **Advancement After Protests.** When a candidate is protested after receiving the Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft Degrees and wishes to advance after expiration of the time for which he was protested, he shall be required to present a new petition in writing for advancement and be reelected before he shall be permitted to advance. A committee on investigation and report shall be appointed and the petition shall lie over not less than one lunar month before the ballot is taken thereon. (Revised 1992)

Art. 427. (461). **Rejection Must Not Be Published.** The identity of rejected candidates shall not be published to the world.

Art. 428. (463). **Announcement of Protests.** When three or more protests are lodged against a petitioner for the degrees or a degree or for advancement, before his election thereto, no announcement thereof shall be made by the Worshipful Master, or officer acting as such, until after the ballot on said petition has been taken and the result announced. The Worshipful Master shall then announce that three or more protests have been lodged against the petitioner, stating the number of such protests, which shall be recorded in the minutes of said Lodge; provided that the Brethren making such protests were not present during the taking of the ballot on such petition. In case they are present during the balloting, the protests of such are as present shall be disregarded, not counted, nor announced. (Revised 1992)

When three or more protests are lodged against a petitioner after his election to receive the degrees or a degree, it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master, or officer acting as such, to announce said protests at the first meeting of the Lodge, whether it be a stated or called meeting and it shall be recorded in the minutes. (Revised 1992)

No degree shall be conferred on a protested candidate during the term of his rejection, after three or more protests have been lodged against him. (Revised 1992)

Art. 429. **Duty of Worshipful Master.** It shall be the imperative duty of the Worshipful Master, or officer acting as Worshipful Master, to recognize and announce three or more protests as provided in Art. 428 and a failure to do so shall constitute a Masonic Disciplinary violation for which he may be suspended from office by the Grand Master upon the filing of an allegation of Masonic disciplinary violation for such failure to act, if the Grand Master accepts the allegation. (Revised 2012)

CHAPTER 4 – TITLE IV GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO CANDIDATES

Art 430. **Degree Not Conferred One Year After Election.** After twelve months have elapsed since the election of a petitioner to receive the degrees and no degree has been conferred or twelve months have elapsed since an Entered Apprentice or a Fellowcraft has received such degree, his election to receive the degrees or the failure of the Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft to receive the next degree, shall become null and void, and a new petition shall be required which shall be governed by all the rules and follow all the procedures prescribed for an original petition for the degrees. (Note – for procedure after rejection, see Article 434. For procedure after lapse of time, see Article 434-a. For personal jurisdiction, territorial jurisdiction, and waiver of jurisdiction see the following Chapter 5, Title IV, and the Articles therein numbered 440 to 465.) (Revised 1993)

Art. 431. Degree Conferred on Only One Candidate at a Time. The initiation, passing or raising of two or more candidates at the same time is forbidden, but the lecture and charge of the degree may be given to more than one, if done before the Lodge is closed. No lecture or charge shall be postponed until another meeting.

It is the responsibility of the Master to see that sufficient time is allowed to complete all degree work which has begun at the meeting, before the Lodge is closed, and particularly so when the Lodge meeting is on Saturday.

Art. 432. Candidate Refusing to Conform. When a candidate refuses to conform to the ceremonies he must not be allowed to proceed. He should be escorted from the Lodge, his degree fees refunded (except for previously conferred degree or degrees), and a record of such action noted in the minutes.

Art. 433. Time Elements: Examination Requirements. A candidate must complete the first portion of the Lodge System of Candidate Information prior to receiving the Entered Apprentice Mason's Degree; further, he cannot be passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft until he has completed, as prescribed in the System, the second portion; nor can he be raised a Master Mason until he has completed, as prescribed, the third portion of the System.

Except as provided in Art. 39, a candidate cannot be passed or raised until at least 14 days after his receiving the preceding degree; and until he has been examined in open Lodge and voted proficient in the trial lecture of the preceding degree. This provision applies to candidates upon whom degrees have been conferred in other Grand Jurisdictions. (Revised 2002)

Candidates are required to learn only the answers to the questions asked in the three sections of the Entered Apprentice Degree and the first section of the Fellowcraft Degree, except by request of the Lodge, the Grand Master, by dispensation, may waive any part of the learning requirements of the Entered Apprentice Degree. Once a candidate has been examined and voted proficient in either degree, he is not required to be examined therein again, regardless of the length of time thereafter before his advancement. The Lodge is the sole judge of the proficiency of a candidate. (Revised 1995)

Art. 434. Procedure After Rejection. Whenever an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft receives any blackball or protest against his advancement, no instruction shall be given, or permitted to be given, to him nor shall he be permitted to sit in any Lodge until there has been a favorable ballot of the Lodge of Competent Jurisdiction upon his petition for advancement taken as provided in Article 430, and such candidate cannot be passed or raised until he has been examined in open Lodge, and voted on as proficient in the trial lecture of the Degree last conferred except as otherwise provided in Articles 39 and 414. (Revised 1993)

Art. 434a. Procedure After Lapse of Time. As provided for in Article 430, whenever an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft must petition for advancement because of lapse of time, he must first file a petition for advancement with the Lodge, and this petition must be received by and acted upon by the Lodge before he shall be permitted to receive instruction, to sit in a Lodge in the highest degree to which he has attained or be examined in open Lodge and voted on as proficient in the trial lecture of the degree last conferred. His petition for advancement may be received and shall be dealt with in the same manner as a petition for affiliation as set forth in Articles 386 and 387, and must receive a favorable ballot of the Lodge of Competent Jurisdiction as provided in Articles 39 and 414. A fee of Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars must accompany the petition for advancement. The Lodge will retain the fee. After receiving a favorable ballot, the petitioner will have one year to complete their examination in the trial lecture of the degree last conferred. If the one year period elapses before completion of the examination, the brother will be considered lapsed again and will have to repeat the process. (Revised 2018)

Art. 435. (472). **Examinations: What Lodge.** A candidate must be examined and voted on as to his proficiency by the Lodge in which he has been elected for advancement, except as provided in Articles 475 and 478.

Art. 436. (473). **Examination: How Conducted.** A candidate may be examined as to his proficiency at a stated or called meeting after receiving the Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft Degree.

The examination must be conducted only in the Lodgeroom with the Lodge opened in the degree for which the examination is being given.

The Entered Apprentice examination may be conducted in one section of the proficiency examination at a time, and each section can be balloted on separately after it is conducted.

Art. 437. (437). **Proficiency Vote.** At the option of the Worshipful Master, a vote on the proficiency of a candidate may be taken in a Master's Lodge or in an Entered Apprentice Lodge or Fellowcraft Lodge in which the examination is held. Subject to the provisions of Article 344 which states, in part, that Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts are not members of the Lodge and cannot vote, a vote on the proficiency of a candidate may be taken by a show of hands and requires a majority of members present to be declared satisfactory. (Revised 2001)

Art. 438. (475). **New Petition After Rejection.** When a candidate has been rejected for the degrees or advancement, and again wishes to petition after the expiration of the time for which he was rejected, he shall be required to present a new petition which shall conform and be subject to all the formalities, rules and procedures prescribed for petitions for degrees or advancement.

Art. 439. (476). **Examination in Master's Degree.**

1. Within ninety days after he is raised, a Brother shall have heard the fourth portion of The Lodge System of Candidate Information, shall have received all four booklets which comprise the System, be certified as having completed a Grand Lodge approved course on Masonic Information (Additional Lodge Light, A.L.L. program) under the supervision of the Committee on Masonic Education and Service, and shall have been examined in open Lodge and voted as proficient in the entire trial lecture of the Master's Degree. (Revised 1996)

It shall be the duty of the officers of the Lodge to see that this is done. Any Brother who, after receiving the Master's Degree, willfully neglects or refuses to present himself and be examined as to his proficiency in such degree, within ninety days thereafter, unless further time is granted him by the Lodge shall be subject to automatic suspension as provided hereinafter; absence from the State, natural infirmities or unavoidable accident alone excusing him.

2. In each case in which a Brother, except during the time (if any) he is excused from doing so under the last clause of the next preceding section of this Article, fails to meet the requirements set out in the preceding section of this Article, the Master of the Lodge must notify such Brother by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, that he will stand automatically suspended if the examination is not taken and passed within ninety (90) days from receipt of such letter unless the time is further extended, only for good cause, by the Lodge, and if the Brother fails to do so he shall then stand automatically suspended and such suspension shall be recorded in the Minutes of the next subsequent Stated Meeting of the Lodge. Any Brother so suspended, however, may receive instruction and be examined in open Lodge and if and when he passes the examination required by this Article he may be reinstated by following the procedure provided for reinstatement of those automatically suspended for non-payment of dues.

3. It shall be unlawful and shall constitute a Masonic disciplinary violation for a Brother who has not passed his examination for proficiency in the Master's Degree to apply for or receive membership or any degree in any rite, body, order or organization in which membership is predicated upon Masonic affiliation.

CHAPTER 5 – TITLE IV JURISDICTION AS TO DEGREES

Art. 440. (476a). **Definitions.** As used in this Chapter, the following words and phrases have the following meanings:

Regular Lodge is one working under a charter or dispensation under authority of this, or any other Grand Jurisdiction with which we are in Fraternal Relations.

Personal Jurisdiction is the exclusive right of a regular Lodge, wherever located, to confer the degrees or any of them upon a particular person, regardless of the location of his domicile.

Territorial Jurisdiction is the exclusive individual right of a Lodge or the exclusive concurrent right of two or more Lodges located in a particular area to confer degrees of Masonry on anyone domiciled therein who is eligible to receive such degrees and over whom no regular Lodge has personal jurisdiction.

A “**Man Without a Country, Masonically speaking**” is one who is domiciled in this State, but has not been so domiciled for the period of six months, or one who has not been domiciled within the territorial jurisdiction of any Lodge for six months, and upon whom no degree in Masonry has been conferred. Such a person is ineligible to apply for or receive the degrees until the domiciliary requirements have been met. (Revised 1989)

An Unaffiliated Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft is one who is eligible for advancement and over whom no regular Lodge holds personal jurisdiction.

A Petitioner is one who has petitioned a Lodge for the degrees or advancement, and whose petition has not been finally acted upon by the Lodge.

A Candidate is one who has been elected to receive a degree in Masonry, but has not received it, and one year has not elapsed since his election thereto.

Reinstate and Restore. See Art. 623.

Art. 441. (476b). **Territorial Jurisdiction.** All Lodges which are located in any county shall have concurrent jurisdiction with each other and with all Lodges which are located in any county contiguous thereto. Contiguous counties are “counties with common borders or corners.”

Art. 442. (476c). Repealed December 1987.

Art. 443. (476d). Repealed December 1987.

Art. 444. (476e). Repealed December 1987.

Art. 445. (476f). **Personal Jurisdiction: Acquisition and Duration.** Exclusive personal jurisdiction over a petitioner for the degrees or any degree in Masonry by a Lodge authorized to receive his petition is acquired at the time it is filed with the Secretary of the Lodge or waiver of jurisdiction or certificate of dismissal is granted. Such petition may be withdrawn at any time before it is received by the Lodge or waiver or dismissal is granted, and the Lodge, upon such withdrawal loses all personal jurisdiction over the petitioner.

Such exclusive personal jurisdiction continues in such Lodge unless and until terminated in one of the following cases:

1. When one who has been elected to receive the E.A. Degree is not initiated within the required one year period.
2. When no vote is taken upon a petition for the degrees within one year after it is received.
3. When one has been rejected for the Entered Apprentice Degree by ballot or protest and the period for which he was rejected has expired.
4. When personal jurisdiction is transferred to another Lodge by waiver of jurisdiction.
5. When a certificate of dismissal has been granted to an E.A. or F.C.

After personal jurisdiction attaches it is not affected, during its continuance, by change of domicile.

When personal jurisdiction is terminated, except by waiver of jurisdiction, territorial jurisdiction, based upon location of domicile applies.

Art. 446. (476g). **Certificate of Dismissal.** A Lodge, by unanimous favorable vote, taken at a stated meeting, either by ballot or show of hands at the discretion of the Master presiding may grant to one of its EA's or FC's, who has not been rejected by ballot or protest after receiving the last degree, and against whom no charges are pending, a Certificate of Dismissal recommending him for advancement. The issue of said Certificate of Dismissal shall be mandatory when E.A., F.C., or M.M. Degree work has not been set by the Lodge within time set by Grand Lodge Law from the time exclusive personal jurisdiction has been acquired by the Lodge. Upon the granting of such certificate the Lodge thereby loses personal jurisdiction over him and his name shall be dropped from its rolls. He, thereupon, becomes an unaffiliated E.A. or F.C. and further jurisdiction over him is territorial, and governed by the provisions of Article 441. (Revised 2005)

Art. 447. (476h). **Certificate of Dismissal, Procedure Under.** An E.A. or F.C., domiciled in this Grand Jurisdiction and holding a certificate of dismissal from a regular Lodge wheresoever situated, may petition a Lodge having, or acquiring by waiver, jurisdiction over him, and after election and passing the required examination as to proficiency (if he has not previously passed such examination) have the remaining degree or degrees conferred upon him. Any such candidate must have sat in the Lodge petitioned opened in the last degree he has received or be properly vouched for before he is advanced therein. A certificate of waiver of jurisdiction or dismissal will not be sufficient to meet this requirement.

Art. 448. (476i). **Certificate of Dismissal, E.A. or F.C. of Another Jurisdiction.** An Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft of a Lodge of another Grand Jurisdiction cannot be passed or raised, as the case may be, in a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction unless he has a certificate of dismissal; or jurisdiction is waived by his Lodge; or his Lodge is demised and a certificate to that effect is issued by the Grand Secretary of said Jurisdiction and is attached to his petition.

Art. 449. (476j). **Rejection in Another Grand Jurisdiction.** No jurisdiction over anyone rejected by a regular Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction can be acquired by a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction until the time for which he was rejected has expired. Jurisdiction thereafter is governed by the Laws of the Grand Jurisdiction in which he was rejected.

Art. 450. (476k). **Degrees Conferred in Traveling Lodges.** Master Masons, Fellowcrafts, and Entered Apprentices who have received the degrees in any traveling Lodge shall be treated as dimitted from such Lodge. Any Lodge under this jurisdiction has permission to affiliate or confer additional degrees on any such candidate, after jurisdiction has been acquired, the same as if it had the consent of such traveling Lodge. This does not authorize such Lodge to reinstate a Mason who has been suspended or expelled by a traveling Lodge. The Grand Lodge, only, upon application made direct to it, may restore such applicant to the status of an unaffiliated Mason.

Art. 451. (476l). **Jurisdiction When Lodge Demised.** Jurisdiction over E.A.s and F.C.s of a Lodge which has demised, and over all persons whose petitions for the degrees have been rejected thereby, as well as all uninitiated material in its territorial Jurisdiction, shall be vested in the Lodge or Lodges in whose territorial Jurisdiction they may be domiciled. No Lodge shall hold personal Jurisdiction in any such case.

Art. 452. (476m). **Petitioners: To What Lodge They May Apply.** A petitioner who is eligible to apply for the degrees or for advancement in this Grand Jurisdiction may present his petition therefore to any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction.

Art. 453. (476n). **Waiver of Jurisdiction: When Required.** If the Lodge petitioned does not hold territorial jurisdiction over the petitioner, or if another regular Lodge holds personal jurisdiction over him, no action, other than a request for Waiver of Jurisdiction, can be taken by the Lodge until a waiver is granted.

Art. 454. (476o). **Waiver of Jurisdiction: When Request Made.** No request for Waiver of Jurisdiction may be made until the petition for the degrees or advancement has been filed with the Secretary of the Lodge, who shall report the fact to the next stated meeting of the Lodge at which time the request shall be made.

Art. 455. (476p). **Waiver of Jurisdiction: Not Granted When.** No Lodge may waive jurisdiction over a petitioner for the degrees or for advancement after the petition has been received and before ballot thereon.

Art. 456. (476q). **Waiver of Jurisdiction: Procedure on Request.** A request for Waiver of Jurisdiction over a petitioner for the degrees or advancement shall be presented in writing under seal of the requesting Lodge to the Lodge requested at a stated meeting and be voted on at such stated meeting, which vote, in the discretion of the Master presiding, may be taken by ballot or show of hands.

Art. 457. (476r). **Waiver of Jurisdiction: Rejected Petitioner.** No Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction may either waive jurisdiction over, receive a petition from, or confer any degree upon anyone who has been rejected by a ballot or protest by a regular Lodge, wheresoever situated, until the expiration of the time for which he has been rejected.

Art. 458. (476s). **Waiver of Jurisdiction: In Concurrent Jurisdiction.** Right to waive territorial jurisdiction over a person domiciled in concurrent jurisdictions vested exclusively in the oldest Lodge therein.

Art. 459. (476t). **Waiver of Jurisdiction: Refusal for advancement.** When request is refused under the provisions of Art. 456 for waiver of jurisdiction for advancement of an E. A. or F. C. who has moved his domicile from the territorial jurisdiction of the Lodge holding personal jurisdiction and into the territorial jurisdiction of another Lodge, which does not have concurrent territorial jurisdiction with the Lodge holding personal jurisdiction, and no charges are preferred against him within ninety days thereafter, the Worshipful Master shall order certificate of waiver issued.

Art. 460. (476u). **Waiver of Jurisdiction: Effect of Refusal to Grant.** Refusal to grant a waiver of jurisdiction does not operate as a rejection or prevent the one so refused from petitioning the Lodge refusing.

Art. 461. (476v). **Waiver of Jurisdiction: Request Where Personal Jurisdiction in Lodge of Another Grand Jurisdiction.** No Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction shall confer any degree upon anyone over whom a regular Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction holds personal jurisdiction, without the consent of such Lodge evidenced by certificate of waiver of jurisdiction or dismissal, dimit, or other satisfactory form of the release for its jurisdiction. No Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction may waive jurisdiction over a person domiciled in this Grand Jurisdiction in favor of a Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction except as provided in Articles 466-470.

Art. 462. (476w). **Degrees Conferred Without Jurisdiction: Further Jurisdiction.** A Lodge without properly acquired jurisdiction over a petitioner does not by receiving or acting upon his petition acquire such jurisdiction. As soon as such want of jurisdiction is discovered, such Lodge shall apply for waiver to the proper Lodge or return the petition to the petitioner. When such Lodge confers a degree or degrees upon such petitioner it does not thereby acquire jurisdiction to confer the remaining degree or degrees. Such jurisdiction continues in the Lodge or Lodges holding same at the time such illegal action was taken.

Art. 463. (476x). **Degrees Conferred Without Jurisdiction: Status of Recipient.** When a degree is illegally conferred by a regular Lodge, wheresoever situated, the recipient thereof is not thereby a clandestine Mason. A regulation is violated which in this Grand Jurisdiction may subject the Lodge and/or recipient to discipline.

When the Masters Degree is so conferred in this Grand Jurisdiction, the recipient becomes a member of the conferring Lodge.

Art. 464. (476y). **Fees: Paid to Grand Lodge: When.** When the fee of the Lodge granting a waiver of jurisdiction is greater than the fee of the Lodge requesting the waiver of jurisdiction, the recipient shall pay the fee he would have had to pay to the Lodge that granted the waiver. The Lodge granting the waiver of such jurisdiction must immediately notify the Grand Secretary of its action and after the candidate is elected the Lodge receiving the waiver must send the difference in fees to the Grand Secretary, who shall enter the amount as a contribution to the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation from the Lodge granting the waiver.

Art. 465. (476z). **Fees: For Unlawfully Conferred Degrees.** Any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction invading the jurisdiction of another regular Lodge, wheresoever situated, by unlawfully conferring a degree or degrees upon a petitioner over whom such other Lodge holds personal or territorial jurisdiction, shall pay to the Lodge whose jurisdiction it has invaded the amount of fees such Lodge would have received (other than the \$25.00 collected from one receiving the Master's Degrees as provided in Arts. 163-5 and 318) had it conferred such degree or degrees. Any excess shall be paid to the Grand Lodge in like manner as provided in Art. 464.

When the invaded jurisdiction is concurrent, such fees shall be paid to the oldest Lodge therein.

All fees collected by a Lodge for a degree or degrees conferred upon a person who, at the time, is a "Man without a Country, Masonically speaking" shall be paid to the Grand Lodge in like manner as in Art. 464.

CHAPTER 6 – TITLE IV WAIVER OF JURISDICTION IN FAVOR OF REGULAR LODGES IN THE REPUBLIC OF MEXICO

Art. 466. (506-a). **Who May Apply For.** Any Mexican citizen or American citizen of Mexican or Spanish extraction residing within the State of Texas, possessing all the qualifications provided by the laws of this Grand Lodge for the degrees of Masonry, and desiring to petition for the degrees in some regular Lodge within the Republic of Mexico operating under the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge recognized by the Grand Lodge of Texas, may apply to the oldest Lodge holding territorial jurisdiction over him for a waiver of jurisdiction in favor of such Lodge in Mexico.

Art. 467. (506-b). **Application: Form and Contents.** Such application shall be in writing, duly signed by the applicant and have endorsed thereon the recommendation of two members of the Lodge holding such territorial jurisdiction. It shall set forth the qualifications of the applicant for the degrees, as provided by the laws of this Grand Lodge, and shall give the name and location of the Lodge in Mexico to which he desired to petition for degrees, and the name of the Grand Lodge under whose jurisdiction such Lodge is operating.

Art. 468. (506-c). **Application: Presentation and Investigation.** Such application for waiver shall be presented at a stated meeting, be referred to a Committee on investigation, and lie over one month for investigation and report thereon.

Art. 469. (506-d). **Application: Report on.** Report of the Committee on such application shall be made at a stated meeting of the Lodge. If the Committee finds the applicant eligible for the degrees of the Order, it shall so report with recommendations, and the ballot shall be taken at such stated meeting. If the Committee finds the applicant ineligible for the degrees of the Order it shall so report, and the application for said waiver shall be returned to the applicant without further action thereon by the Lodge.

Art. 470. (506-3). **Application: Ballot on and Disposition.** If such Lodge, by a unanimous favorable vote of the members present, shall grant such waiver, such action of the Lodge shall be certified in writing to the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, whose duty it shall be to notify the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge in Mexico holding jurisdiction over the Lodge to which such petition for the degrees is

to be made, that such designated Lodge within that jurisdiction, is authorized to receive the petition for the degrees from such petitioner, and to act on same in accordance with the laws of such Grand Lodge regulating petitions for degrees and the conferring of degrees within such Grand Jurisdiction.

CHAPTER 7 – TITLE IV COURTESY DEGREES

Art. 471. (509). Foreign Jurisdictions: Grand Secretary's Duties. The Grand Secretary under the direction of the Grand Master shall handle and dispose of all requests for conferring the degrees by courtesy between this and other Grand Jurisdictions, and in all cases where such requests from other Grand Jurisdictions are addressed to the Grand Master, he shall immediately refer such requests to the Grand Secretary for action thereon.

Art. 472. (514). Foreign Jurisdictions: Correspondence After Request Granted. Upon granting a request for conferring degrees by courtesy, the Grand Secretary may direct that all further correspondence in relation thereto be conducted by and between the proper officers of the respective Lodges.

Art. 473. (507). Foreign Jurisdictions: Request to Confer Degrees in Texas. Upon request of the Grand Master, or other authorized officer of another Grand Jurisdiction in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge, that the degrees be conferred by courtesy upon a candidate who is temporarily in this jurisdiction, such request may be granted.

Art. 474. (510). Foreign Jurisdiction: Lodge Designation and Procedure. The Grand Secretary shall designate the Lodge to confer the degrees, giving preference as far as practicable to the Lodge most accessible to the candidate, and transmit the request to that Lodge. In conferring the degrees the work, examinations and procedure must in all respects conform to the ritual and laws of this Grand Jurisdiction.

Art. 475. (511). Requests from This to Another Grand Jurisdiction: Procedure. When a Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction elects a candidate, over whom it has personal or territorial jurisdiction, to receive the degrees or a degree and said candidate is sojourning in the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge, the Lodge which elected the candidate may request the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge to present a request to the Grand Master or other authorized Grand Officer of such other Grand Jurisdiction, that the degrees or degree be conferred by a Lodge in such Grand Jurisdiction as a courtesy to the Lodge making such request; and that the candidate be instructed and examined for proficiency in each of the degrees so conferred. In all courtesy degrees so conferred, the Lodge acting may confer the degrees and conduct such examinations according to the regulations of the Grand Lodge in whose jurisdiction the courtesy degrees are conferred. Upon request the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge may also make similar requests that a candidate who has received a degree elsewhere may be instructed and examined for proficiency as a courtesy to the Lodge making such request.

Art. 476. (512). Refusal by Grand Secretary. The Grand Secretary may in his discretion refuse to have the degrees conferred by a Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Master.

Art. 477. (513). Casual Visitor Barred. No candidate who may be a casual visitor in another Grand Jurisdiction shall be permitted to receive a degree by courtesy in that jurisdiction.

Art. 478. (515). Courtesy Requests Between Lodges of This Grand Jurisdiction. A Lodge in this jurisdiction may request another Lodge in this jurisdiction to confer a degree or degrees by courtesy.

When such request is granted, the Lodge acting may, upon request, examine said candidate as to his proficiency, and certify the same to the requesting Lodge under the seal of the Lodge.

Likewise a Lodge may request another Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction to instruct and examine for proficiency a candidate who has received a degree in it or another Lodge. (Revised 2000)

Art. 479. Protests.

A. Protests of candidates receiving the degrees in a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction as a courtesy for another Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction may be made to the Worshipful Master of either the requesting or conferring Lodge. If made to the Master of the requesting Lodge, he must at once withdraw the request and announce the protest at the next meeting of the Lodge as provided in Art. 428.

B. Protests of all courtesy candidates are governed by all laws, rules and regulations provided in Chapter 3 of Title IV of these Statutes. (Revised 1996)

Art. 480. (508). No Fee Charged. No fee shall be charged by a Lodge in this jurisdiction for conferring any degree by courtesy. If the Lodge conferring such degrees shall collect the fee from the candidate for the Lodge electing him the Secretary shall remit same promptly to the Secretary of the Lodge for which the degrees were conferred.

Art. 481. (515a). Requesting Lodge Shall Not Confer Degree Until Notice of Withdrawal Received from Requested Lodge. Whenever a Lodge in this jurisdiction requests another Lodge in this or any other jurisdiction to confer a degree by courtesy under any provision of any article under this Chapter, it shall be unlawful thereafter for such requesting Lodge to confer any such degree unless and until said requesting Lodge shall withdraw such request and shall notify such requested Lodge of such withdrawal and shall receive official notice from said requested Lodge that it has received notice of such withdrawal.

CHAPTER 8 – TITLE IV PROXIES

*For “May be Representatives in Grand Lodge” see Constitution, Art. II, Sec. 1, Sub-div. (d);
For “No Expenses paid for attendance upon Grand Lodge” see Constitution, Art. XII, Sec. 1;*

(Note: See Arts. 3, 4, 5.)

Art. 482. (516). Only One for a Lodge: Qualifications. A Lodge can have only one proxy to represent it before this Grand Lodge. He must be a member of said Lodge.

Art. 483. (517). No Proxies of Representatives or Proxies. Neither a Worshipful Master nor a Warden nor a proxy can appoint a proxy to represent him in the Grand Lodge.

CHAPTER 9 – TITLE IV APPEALS FOR AID

Art. 484. (518). Dispensation Required for Financial Aid Appeals. No Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction shall appeal to any other Lodge or Lodges, wheresoever situated, for financial assistance of any character without the consent of the Grand Master. Request for such consent must be by action of the Lodge voted at a stated meeting thereof.

Art. 485. (519). No Grand Lodge Relief to Lodges Sustaining Fire Loss, Unless Fully Insured. No relief from losses from fire will be granted to a Lodge by this Grand Lodge unless its property was

fully insured, if insurance could have been obtained at reasonable rates. The petition for such relief must be by vote of the Lodge and duly certified by its Secretary.

Art. 486. (520). Donations to Charity. Subordinate Lodges have the right to select the objects to whom they make charitable donations from their funds. Such objects may include an individual, whether Mason or profane, an organization having under its care and administering directly to the needs of persons who are objects of charity; but shall not include any organization or committee giving or distributing funds to others for charitable uses or purposes, except such as are created and operated under authority of some regular Masonic or appendant organization recognized by this Grand Lodge.

Art. 487. (520). Right to Demand Reimbursement: When. One Lodge shall not have the right to demand repayment to it by another Lodge for charities extended to a member thereof, unless such payment was made at the request of such Lodge.

CHAPTER 10 – TITLE IV RETURNS TO THE GRAND LODGE

For “Shall Make Annual Returns” see Constitution, Art. IX, Sec. 1;

For “Shall Pay Contributions Set Forth” see Constitution, Art. IX, Sec. 2;

For “Charter May Be Suspended For Failure” see Constitution, Art. IX, Sec. 3;

For “Fees, Annual Dues and Contributions to the Grand Lodge to be Sent In With Lodge Returns” see Constitution, Arts. IX and X.

Art. 488. (521). Annual Returns by Lodge. Each Lodge shall make out its returns in duplicate to the 24th day of June each year, and each copy shall be authenticated by the Secretary under the seal of the Lodge. The original shall be sent to the Grand Secretary by the fifteenth day of the following August, together with its annual dues, and one copy shall be kept by the Lodge. (Revised 1999)

Any increase in the Grand Lodge per capita tax will not become due and payable until the second August 15th following the Grand Annual Communication at which such increase was approved. (Adopted 2000)

Art. 489. (522). Annual Returns by Lodges: Contents. The returns shall contain:

1. A list of the officers for the ensuing year, with their rank.
 2. Past Grand Officers belonging to the Lodge.
 3. Past Masters of the Lodge whose membership has been continuous since they served; and affiliated Past Masters.
 4. Names of members, all Master Masons, all Fellowcrafts and Entered Apprentices who have been such for not exceeding one year, including parent and plural members as provided in Article 350 – provided that in addition to the above there shall be a complete list of all life members of the Lodge with the date upon which each was granted a life membership.
 5. Those dimitted.
 6. Those deceased.
- (Revised 1987)
7. Those suspended for non-payment of dues, and separately, those suspended for failure to pass examination required by Article 439 of these Laws.
 8. Those suspended for un-Masonic conduct.
 9. Those expelled.
 10. Those reinstated.
 11. Those affiliated.
 12. Those initiated.
 13. Those passed.

14. Those raised and as to each whether or not he has passed the examination required by Article 439 of these Laws, with respective dates of each class above specified, in accordance with the forms furnished by the Grand Secretary.
15. All waivers of jurisdiction granted since last report showing for what degree or degrees; and the name, number and location of the Lodge receiving the waiver, together with the date of issuance of the certificate.

(Note: See also Arts. 57, 59 and 68.)

Art. 490. (523). Annual Returns by Lodges: Returned for Proper Authentication. Any returns to this Grand Lodge from chartered Lodges which are not properly authenticated by the signature of the Secretary and the Seal of the Lodge shall be immediately returned to the Secretary for proper authentication.

Art. 491. (524). Annual Returns by Lodges: Action on Petitions of EA's and FC's: How Obtained. Lodges receiving and acting on petitions of Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts must show, in their annual returns, how they were obtained; whether by waiver, certificate of dismissal and recommendation for advancement, or otherwise.

Art. 492. (525). Annual Returns by Lodges: Penalty for Failure to Make. On June first of each year any Lodge which stands suspended for failure to send in its returns to the Grand Secretary and make payment of its dues and contributions for the previous year shall cease all work; but any Lodge, so suspended, may, on delivering its returns and paying its dues to the Grand Secretary on or before the next Annual Communication thereafter, have its charter and other property returned to it and be restored to good standing by the Grand Lodge; otherwise its charter shall be forfeited.

Art. 493. (526). Remittances by August 15. All remittances of Lodges for fees, dues and other contributions shall become due and payable and must be sent to the Grand Secretary by August fifteenth of each year. However, any increase in the Grand Lodge per capita tax will not become due and payable until the second August fifteenth following the Grand Annual Communication at which such increase was approved. (Revised 2000)

**For Title V – Discipline,
see the Title V Section
in the back of the law book.**

This page intentionally left blank.

**DIVISION IV
MASONIC FORMS**

**CHAPTER ONE
FORMS FOR MASONIC DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS**

See the Title V section for the following forms:

**Masonic Form No. 1
CHARGES OF MASONIC DISCIPLINARY VIOLATIONS**

**Masonic Form 2
SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION DUE TO CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS**

**Masonic Form 3
WAIVER OF MASONIC TRIAL AND CONSENT TO EXPULSION**

**MASONIC FORMS NOS. 4-10
REPEALED 2004**

**Masonic Form No. 11
NOTICE OF SUSPENSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES**

**Masonic Form No. 12
NOTICE OF EXPULSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES**

**Masonic Form No. 13
NOTICE OF SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION FOR
UN-MASONIC CONDUCT**

Repealed 2006

CHAPTER TWO GENERAL FORMS

The following forms are approved for the use of Lodges. Except as otherwise noted, necessary changes may be made to conform to special conditions.

No. 14

PETITION FOR DISPENSATION FOR NEW LODGE, A.F.&A.M.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas
of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons:

We, the undersigned, Master Masons in good standing, and having the prosperity of the Craft at heart, are anxious to exert our best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Freemasonry; and for the convenience of our respective dwellings, and other good reasons, we are desirous of forming a Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons to be named _____.

We, therefore, with the approbation of the Lodge required by Masonic law (hereunto appended) respectfully pray for a Dispensation empowering us to meet as a regular Lodge at the town of _____, County of _____, State of Texas, on the _____ (give days of stated meetings, no more than two each month) and there to discharge the duties of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in a constitutional manner, according to the forms of the Order, and the laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

We have nominated and do recommend:

Brother _____ to be the first Worshipful Master,
Brother _____ to be the first Senior Warden,
Brother _____ to be the first Junior Warden,
Brother _____ to be the first Treasurer,
Brother _____ to be the first Secretary

of said Lodge.

The prayer of the petitioners being granted, we promise strict obedience to the orders of the Grand Master and the regulations of the Grand Lodge, and the usages and customs of Masonry.

Dated _____, 20_____, (Signed) _____.

(Note: Petition, together with the certificates of dimission, or certificates of good standing and fee, \$25.00, should be sent to the Grand Master.)

(Note: Number of signatures necessary when proposed Lodge is in county where no Lodge exists, see Article 181. If in county within which one or more Lodges exist, see Article 182. If in town or city of less than ten thousand inhabitants, see Article 182. If in city of ten thousand inhabitants or more, see Article 182.)

No. 15
PETITION FOR CHARTER

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M.:

We, the undersigned, Master Masons in good standing, members of _____ Lodge No._____, located at _____, Texas.
(or _____ Lodge U. D., located at _____, Texas,)

(or We, the undersigned, non-affiliated and dimitted Masons in good standing) are desirous of forming a Lodge of A.F. & A.M. to be named _____.

We, therefore, with the approbation of the Lodge required by Masonic law (hereunto appended) respectfully pray for a Charter, empowering us to meet as a regular Lodge at the town of _____, County of _____, Texas on the _____ (give days of stated meetings, no more than two each month) and there to discharge the duties of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons in a constitutional manner according to the forms of the Order and the laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

We have nominated and do recommend:

Brother _____ to be the first Worshipful Master,
Brother _____ to be the first Senior Warden,
Brother _____ to be the first Junior Warden,
Brother _____ to be the first Treasurer,
Brother _____ to be the first Secretary

of said Lodge.

The prayer of petitioners being granted, we promise strict obedience to the orders of the Grand Master and the regulations of the Grand Lodge, and the usages and customs of Masonry.

Dated _____, 20____ (Signed) _____

(Note: Petition, together with fee, should be sent to the Grand Secretary. If Lodge was granted dispensation, fee for charter is \$25.00. If no dispensation was granted, fee for charter is \$50.00)

(Note: For number of signatures necessary, see Article 205.)

(Note: All certificates of dimission and certificates of good standing to be attached, or their absence satisfactorily accounted for.)

No. 16
CERTIFICATE OF LODGE VOTING ON DISPENSATION FOR CHARTER

At a Stated Meeting of _____ Lodge No._____, held at Masonic Hall on _____, A.D. 20____, A.L. 60____, the petition of several Brethren for a new Lodge at _____, in the County of _____, Texas, was presented, and at a Stated Meeting held on the _____ day of _____, 20____, was duly considered. The Brethren nominated for the three principal offices have been duly examined by a District Instructor (or a member of the Committee on Work) to certify their competency in meeting the Installation Qualifications of Articles 276 and 276a. In addition, the hall in which the said new Lodge proposes to meet has been ascertained by the District Deputy Grand Master to meet the security requirements with reference to the work of Masonry as required by Article 80.

Each petitioner is a Master Mason in good standing, and his Certificate of Dimission or Certificate of Good Standing is attached to this petition, or its absence satisfactorily accounted for.

A vote taken on said petition resulted in: For , Against . A two-thirds majority of the members present is required for approval. It is hereby recommended by the Lodge that the prayer of the petitioners be: Approved Not Approved .

CERTIFICATION:

The Brethren nominated for the three principal offices have been duly examined and found competent to collectively confer the Degrees of Symbolic Masonry, according to the teachings of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

District Instructor (or Member of Committee on Work)	District No.	Date
--	--------------	------

The Hall in which the said new Lodge proposes to meet has been duly examined and found to be secure with reference to the work of Masonry.

District Deputy Grand Master	District No.	Date
------------------------------	--------------	------

Given under my hand and seal of the Lodge this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20____, A.L. 60____.
(Seal)

Secretary	Lodge No.	Date
-----------	-----------	------

(Revised 1992)

No. 17
DISPENSATION TO FORM A NEW LODGE

In the name and by the authority of the Grand Lodge of Texas,
(Ancient Free and Accepted Masons):

Whereas, a petition has been presented to me by sundry Brethren, to-wit, Brothers A. B. C. D. E. F. and G., residing at _____, in the county of _____, and State of Texas, praying to be congregated and form a Lodge, promising to render obedience to the Ancient Usages and Landmarks of the Fraternity and the Laws of the Grand Lodge; and whereas, said petitioners have been recommended to me as Master Masons in good standing, by the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of _____ Lodge No. _____, under our jurisdiction;

Therefore, I _____, Grand Master of the M: W: Grand Lodge of the State of Texas, reposing full confidence in the recommendation aforesaid and in the Masonic integrity and ability of the petitioners, do, by virtue of the authority in me vested, hereby grant this dispensation, empowering and authorizing our trusty and well-beloved Brethren, aforesaid, to open and form a Lodge, after the manner of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and therein to admit and make Freemasons, according to the ancient custom, and not otherwise. Said Lodge to be known as _____ Lodge.

This dispensation is to continue in full force until the next Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge aforesaid, unless sooner revoked by constitutional authority. And I do hereby appoint Brother _____ to be the first Worshipful Master; Brother _____ to be the first

Senior Warden; and Brother _____ to be the first Junior Warden of said new Lodge. And it shall be their duty, and they are hereby required, to return this dispensation, with the original record of all proceedings had under the authority of the same, together with their returns of work, members, and contributions, and an attested copy of the By-Laws adopted, to our Grand Lodge aforesaid, at the expiration of the time herein specified, and for such further action in the premises as shall then be deemed wise and proper.

Given under my hand, under the authority of the Grand Lodge at _____, this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20____, A.L. 60____.
 (Seal) _____ Grand Master.

No. 18
 CHARTER OF SUBORDINATE LODGE

The Grand Lodge of Texas of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, established in the City of Houston the 20th day of December, A.D. 1837, A.D. 5837, being assembled in _____ Grand Communication, in _____ and State aforesaid, Send Greeting:

Know ye, That we, the Grand Lodge of Texas, by virtue of the powers and authorities duly vested in us by the Constitution and Usages of our Fraternity, do hereby authorize and empower our trusty and well-beloved Brethren _____ Worshipful Master, _____ Senior Warden, _____ Junior Warden, _____ Treasurer, and _____ Secretary, to open and hold Lodge, designated by No. _____, and by the name of _____, under our register and jurisdiction, in ___, in the county of _____; and we do likewise authorize and empower our said Brethren _____ to admit, make, pass, and raise Freemasons, according to the Constitution, Laws, and Edicts of this Grand Lodge, and the most ancient customs and usages of the Craft, in all ages and nations throughout the known world, and not otherwise. And we do further authorize and empower the said _____ and their successors, to hear and determine all matters and things relative to the Craft, within the jurisdiction of the said Lodge, No. _____; and, lastly, we do hereby authorize, empower, and direct our trusty and well-beloved Brethren _____, to install their successors, after being duly elected and chosen, to invest them with all the powers and dignities to their offices respectively belonging, and do deliver them this warrant. And such successors to proceed in the premises as above directed; such installation to be upon or near the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, during the continuance of said Lodge forever. Provided always, That the said above named Brethren and successors do pay due respect and obedience to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge aforesaid, and to the ordinances thereof; otherwise this warrant is to be of no force or virtue.

Given in the Grand Lodge, under the hands of our Most Worshipful Grand Master; Right Worshipful Grand Officers, and the seal of the Grand Lodge at _____, this _____ day of _____ A.D. 20____, A.D. 60____.

_____	Grand Master
_____	Deputy Grand Master
_____	Grand Senior Warden
_____	Grand Junior Warden
_____	Grand Treasurer
_____	Grand Secretary

(Seal)

No. 19

DEPUTATION FOR CONSTITUTING A LODGE

From the East of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas. —

To all whom it may concern:

But more especially to Brothers A. B., Worshipful Master-elect; C. D., Senior Warden-elect; and E. F., Junior Warden-elect; and the rest of the Brethren, who have been empowered by warrant of Constitution, regularly issued under the authority of our Grand Lodge aforesaid, to assemble as a regular Lodge, in_____;

Know ye, That reposing special trust and confidence in the talents and Masonic intelligence of our Worshipful Brother_____, we have thought proper, ourselves being unable to attend, to constitute and appoint our said Worshipful Brother_____ to constitute "in form" the Brethren aforesaid, into a regular Lodge, to be known and distinguished by the name of Lodge, No. , and to install their officers-elect, agreeably to ancient form, and the customs of the Craft; and for so doing this shall be his warrant.

Given under my hand this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20_____, A.L. 60_____.

(Seal) _____ Grand Master

No. 20

DECLARATION TO CONSOLIDATE LODGE

Lodge No. _____,
_____, Texas, _____, 20_____,

We, the undersigned Master Masons, in good standing, of _____ Lodge No. _____, located at _____, Texas, having the prosperity of the Craft at heart, deem it for the best interests of the members of this Lodge and of Masonry in this District that our said Lodge be consolidated with _____ Lodge No. _____, located at _____, Texas.

The reasons why this action should be taken are as follows: _____.

We, therefore, offer the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That, subject to the approval of _____ Lodge No. _____, located at _____, Texas, and of the Grand Master, _____ Lodge No. _____, located at _____, Texas, be consolidated with said _____ Lodge No. _____.

Signed _____

(This declaration to be signed by a majority of members of the Lodge. See Articles 245, 246, 247.)

No. 21

PETITION TO RETURN CHARTER

_____, Lodge No. _____
_____, Texas, _____, 20_____

We, the undersigned Master Masons, in good standing, and members of
_____, Lodge No. _____, located at _____, Texas, deem
it for the best interests of the members of this Lodge, and of Masonry in this
District, that the Charter of said Lodge be returned to the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Further reasons why the Charter of this Lodge should be returned are as follows: _____.

We, therefore, offer the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That, subject to the adoption of this petition by the method pre-
scribed by Masonic law, and the approval of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of
Texas, the Charter of _____ Lodge No. _____, located at
_____, Texas, be returned to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

Signed _____

(Note: No particular number of members required to sign. For procedure on
proposition see Article 254.)

No. 22

PETITION FOR REMOVAL OF LODGE

_____, Lodge No. _____
_____, Texas, _____, 20_____

We, the undersigned Master Masons, in good standing, and members of
_____, Lodge No. _____, located at _____, Texas, having
the prosperity of the Craft at heart, deem it for the best interests of the members
of this Lodge and of Masonry in this District and believe that the interests of
Masonry will be better subserved, if our Lodge be removed to _____.

Further reasons why this action should be taken are as follows: _____

We, therefore, offer the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That, subject to the adoption of this petition by the method pre-
scribed by Masonic law, and with the approval of the Most Worshipful Grand
Master (or the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas) _____ Lodge
No. _____, located at _____, Texas, be moved to _____, Texas.

Dated _____, 20_____

(Signed)

(Note: This petition shall be signed by three or more members of the Lodge.
For procedure on petition, see Articles 241 to 244.)

No. 23
BY-LAWS

Lodge No. _____

Article I
NAME OF THE LODGE

This Lodge was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Texas on the _____ day of _____, and shall be known by the name and style of _____ Lodge No. _____, of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

This Lodge subscribed to and shall be governed by the Constitution, Laws, Resolutions, and Edicts of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Article II
MEETINGS OF THE LODGE

Section 1. The stated meetings shall be held on _____ of every month, at _____ o'clock p.m., (and/or as herein set forth).

Section 2. Called meetings may be made by the Worshipful Master (or in his absence or inability to serve, by the Senior Warden, or in the absence of both Master and Senior Warden, then by the Junior Warden), at such times as they, or either of them, having the right to act, may think important, or to the interest of the Craft.

Section 3. As many members as possible should be notified of such called meetings, and no business shall be transacted at same, except such as was specified in the call.

Article III
OFFICERS OF THE LODGE

The officers of this Lodge shall be a Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, Chaplain, Senior and Junior Deacons, Senior and Junior Stewards, (Marshal and/or Master of Ceremonies and/or Musician optional), and Tiler.

Article IV
ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF LODGE

Section 1. The Worshipful Master, Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary and _____, _____, _____, shall be elected. All other officers shall be appointed. (Note: Appointments by Worshipful Master.)

Section 2. In the election of officers, should only one name be placed in nomination, the vote may be taken without ballot, but should more than one Brother be placed in nomination, the members shall prepare their ballots, which shall be taken up and counted at the Secretary's desk, and the number of votes received by each Brother reported to the presiding officer, and he shall declare the Brother receiving a majority of all the votes cast duly elected.

Section 3. In the event no Brother has such majority, the ballot will be repeated until such result is attained. Blank votes shall not be considered in determining the result.

Article V
DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

Section 1. Worshipful Master – It shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master to see that the By-Laws of the Lodge, as well as the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Lodge are duly observed, and that the officers attend strictly to their duties.

Section 2. Treasurer – It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to hold all deeds, certificates of stock, notes, bonds, obligations, or other property of a financial character belonging to the Lodge, and to collect and receive the same when directed by the Lodge; to receive all moneys from the hands of the Secretary, passing his receipt for the same; and pay them out only upon the order of the Worshipful Master and consent of the Lodge.

The Treasurer shall keep a correct account of the same, and report minutely the financial condition of the Lodge at the stated meeting next succeeding the festival of St. John the Baptist and at such other times as the Lodge may direct. For his services he shall receive an amount as set by the Lodge from time to time and be exempt from payment of dues.

Section 3. Secretary – It shall be the duty of the Secretary to carefully observe the proceedings of the Lodge; make a correct record of all things proper to be written, and to receive all moneys due the Lodge; turning them over to the Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same.

It shall also be the duty of the Secretary:

- (1) To keep all books and papers relating to the proceedings of the Lodge.
- (2) To authenticate all official papers and documents emanating from the Lodge with the seal of the same.
- (3) To notify all Brethren of their election to office, if they were not present at the time of election.
- (4) To notify the Grand Secretary, as prescribed by law, of the suspension or expulsion of members, and of the rejection of applicants; to issue all summons, dimits, and notices as he may be directed; to make out and transmit to the Grand Secretary the annual returns of this Lodge; remit also to him the Grand Lodge dues; report to the Grand Secretary the names of all Brethren elected to Parent or Plural Membership; and perform all other duties appertaining to his office.
- (5) For his services he shall receive an amount as set by the Lodge from time to time and be exempt from payment of dues.

Section 4. Tiler – It shall be the duty of the Tiler to see that the Lodgeroom is kept clean and in order; and that the various articles of furniture are in their appropriate places; to strictly guard the door during the sitting of the Lodge; to summon the members of the Lodge to all called meetings where a summons is necessary, and be punctual in this attendance. For the performance of these, and such other duties as may appertain to his office, he shall receive an amount as set by the Lodge from time to time and be exempt from payment of dues.

Article VI
STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens shall constitute Standing Committees on Fraternal Assistance, Sickness, and Arbitration, a majority of whom may at all times, act; and are responsible to the Lodge. Their duties are as follows:

(1) Fraternal Assistance – It is their duty to examine all claimants for assistance, and, if necessary, they may draw upon the Treasury, in each instance, for an amount not exceeding ten dollars; reporting the facts in each case to the Lodge at its next stated meeting, thereafter.

(2) Sickness – It shall be their duty to visit all sick Brethren (unless it would be dangerous or imprudent to do so), and ascertain their condition and necessities; and to take such action as they may deem proper and necessary, both in regard to the Brother and his family.

(3) Arbitration – It shall also be the duty of this committee to settle all differences between Brethren, unless the parties prefer to bring the matter before the Lodge.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master, at the first stated meeting after the 24th of June, of each year, to appoint a Standing Committee on Finance, to be composed of three discreet Master Masons, members of this Lodge, and, if possible, men practically acquainted with bookkeeping.

(1) It shall be the duty of this committee, at the close of each Masonic year, as soon as appointed, and oftener if required, to carefully examine and check up the reports, books and vouchers of the Secretary and Treasurer, and any other financial matters referred to them; and make a full and accurate report at the next stated meeting of the Lodge, showing the condition of the books and accounts. And should any inaccuracies be found, recommend the necessary steps for their correction. In the matter of ordinary accounts referred to them, they may, if satisfied, report instanter.

(2) The reports of said Committee on Finance thus made, shall be read in open Lodge and spread upon the minutes, noting the action taken by the Lodge; and all accounts and claims against the Lodge, when demanded by any Brother, shall first be referred to this committee, before being allowed.

Article VII FEES FOR DEGREES

Section 1. The fees for the degrees of this Lodge shall be an amount not less than prescribed in Article 307 of the Constitution and Laws and set by this Lodge from time to time. In addition to the regular fees collected by a Lodge, a contribution to the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation shall be collected from each applicant for the Master Mason's Degree. (Art. 307 and 163-5) (Revised 2006)

Section 2. In addition to the regular fee for Initiation a \$5.00 donation to the George Washington Masonic Memorial shall be collected from each applicant for the Entered Apprentice Degree.

Article VIII DIMITS

A member is chargeable with the pro rata portion of his dues as provided in Art. 317.

Article IX LODGE DUES

Each member of this Lodge (unless herein exempted) shall pay dues from the time of his raising or affiliation, an amount set by the Lodge from time to time inasmuch as they are not less than prescribed in Article 311 of the Constitution and Laws. A member, however, shall not be required to pay such dues if he purchases an Endowed Membership in accordance with the Laws of Grand Lodge.

Article X VISITING BRETHREN

Section 1. A visitor shall not be admitted except upon due examination or lawful avouchment.

Section 2. In the event that the visiting Brother is a stranger and hails from some Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to notify the visitor's Lodge that we have had the pleasure of a visit by one of its members, giving the name and date.

Article XI MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS

(Additional Regulations not provided for or in conflict with the Constitution and Laws of this Grand Lodge may be added to this Article.)

Article XII BUSINESS

At stated meetings after opening the Lodge in due and Ancient form, a quorum being present, the Order of Business, unless otherwise ordered by the Lodge, or the Worshipful Master, shall be as follows:

1. Reading, correcting and approval of Minutes of previous meetings.
2. Receiving and referring to Committees of Petitions and Applications.
3. Reports of Special Committees.
4. Balloting on Petitions and Applications.
5. Reports of Standing Committees.
6. Communications from the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Texas.
7. Unfinished Business.
8. Motions, Resolutions and New Business.
9. Examinations for Proficiency in the proper degree.
10. Voting on Proficiency.
11. Claims and Accounts.

Article XIII RULES OF BUSINESS

The rules of conducting the business of this Lodge shall be as nearly as possible the same as those prescribed for the Grand Lodge, and in addition, as follows:

Section 1. When a question is decided, the same matter shall not again be acted on during that meeting, unless on motion to reconsider, which can only be made by a member voting in the majority, and at that or the next stated meeting, when there must be an equal or greater number of members present than when the action was had.

Section 2. All questions of order shall be decided by the Worshipful Master without appeal or debate; but the Master may ask the advice of any member before deciding; and he has the right, at any time, to declare the Lodge closed or called off, for the purpose of stopping angry debate or confusion.

**Article XIV
AMENDMENTS OF BY-LAWS**

Section 1. No amendments of these By-Laws, either by alteration or addition, shall be made, unless in the following manner:

(1) The proposed amendment must be in writing, signed by the proponent, and presented and read at a stated meeting of this Lodge, at which time it may be discussed and amended, if necessary.

(2) At the next stated meeting of this Lodge, it shall be considered and voted upon without further amendment; and if approved by a majority of the votes of the members present, shall become a part of these By-Laws, upon compliance with the other provisions of this Article.

Section 2. All amendments of these By-Laws must be submitted to the Grand Lodge for its approval before they take effect, except the following:

(1) Fixing, raising or lowering the fee for each degree, or the annual dues, within the minimum limitations fixed by the Laws of the Grand Lodge, except as provided in Art. 309.

(2) Adopting its own regulations as to the payment of its Treasurer, Secretary and Tiler.

(3) The day and hour of meeting, or the number of stated meetings per month may be changed to suit its convenience. Whenever a change in the number of meetings per month, or of the day of the meeting, is made, the Grand w must be notified at once.

(4) Adopting its own regulations to perform charitable work or public service which enables the Lodge to qualify for tax exemption as permitted by the Texas Property Tax Code.

Article XV

The above By-Laws having been adopted by the said _____
Lodge No._____, on the_____day of
A.D.,_____, of which
witess my hand and seal.

By order of the Lodge. _____, Secretary
(Lodge Seal)

The above By-Laws having been approved by the M:W: Grand Lodge of Texas, on the_____day of_____ A.D. _____.
By order of the Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M.

_____, Grand Secretary
(Grand Lodge Seal)

(NOTE—This form may be amplified to suit the requirements of the Lodge, provided that no change therein shall conflict with the Constitution or the Laws of the Grand Lodge.)

(Art. 218-221)

Previous versions of this Form may not be used.

(Revised 2006)

No. 23a
**BY-LAWS OF THE
MASTERS, WARDENS AND SECRETARIES ASSOCIATION**

**Article 1
NAME**

Section A – The name of this Association shall be “The Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association, A.F. & A.M. of the_____ Masonic District of Texas”, and this Association exists only at the will and pleasure of the Grand Lodge of Texas, acting through the Grand Master and in turn through the District Deputy Grand Master in the District.

Article II.

PURPOSE

Section A - This Association is a cooperative service organization dependent upon the Masonic Lodges of the _____ Masonic District of Texas for support and has no authority or right to concern itself in any manner with the business or other affairs of the Lodges of this District, or of any member thereof. All members of this Association shall retain all rights and privileges invested in them as Master Masons under the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas and nothing herein shall ever be construed to restrict such rights in any manner.

Section B - The purpose of this Association shall be:

- (1) To assist the District Deputy Grand Masters and members of any Grand Lodge Committee in the performance of their duties when requested.
- (2) To promote a cooperative plan of attendance when all the Lodges of the _____ Masonic District act as host to the M: W: Grand Master and visiting Masons when in attendance at the annual Regional or District meetings.
- (3) To foster and encourage ideas and plans determined to promoting better spirit of Brotherhood and widen acquaintances among the Brethren of this District.
- (4) To promote and support educational meetings designed to bring more light to all Master Masons.

Article III.

MEMBERSHIP

Section A - All Worshipful Masters, Wardens and Secretaries of Lodges in the _____ Masonic District shall by virtue of their respective offices be regular members of this Association. This Association may, at its option, include Junior Past Masters, Past Presidents and Past Masters as regular members. (Revised 2009)

Section B - All Past Masters and affiliated Past Masters of Lodges in the _____ Masonic District shall be honorary members of the Association.

Section C - Each regular member present shall be entitled to one vote in the transaction of business. Honorary members shall have no vote in the transaction of business, but may offer suggestions for consideration, and may serve on committees when properly appointed.

Article IV.

OFFICERS

Section A - The officers of this Association shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. All of whom shall be elected from the regular membership and by a majority vote of the regular members present. The office of the Secretary and Treasurer may be combined at the discretion of this Association.

Section B - No President shall succeed himself in office.

Section C - In case of the death, resignation, inability or refusal to serve of the President, the Vice-President shall assume the duties of that office until the next regular meeting of the Association at which time that office shall be filled by election. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer, the President may appoint a pro tem officer until the next regular meeting of the Association at which time that office will be filled by election.

Article V.

MEETINGS

Section A - Not less than four meetings shall be held per annum.

Section B - The regular meetings of this Association shall be held on _____.

(Adopted 1961)

Section C - The election of officers shall be held at the first regular or called meeting after June 24th and prior to August 1st.

Section D - Called meetings may be held at any time on written notice mailed to all regular members by the President at least five days prior to such meeting.

Section E - Any business proper to be transacted by this Association may be transacted at either a regular or called meeting, except amendments to these By-Laws.

Section F - All meetings of this Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

**Article VI.
ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Section A - The order of business at regular or called meetings shall be as follows, unless otherwise ordered by the President:

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. Opening Prayer | 6. New Business |
| 2. Roll Call of Lodges | 7. Announcements |
| 3. Reading Minutes of Preceding Meeting | 8. Program |
| 4. Reports of Committees | 9. Closing Prayer |
| 5. Unfinished Business | |

**Article VII.
COMMITTEES**

Section A - The President may appoint such committees as he deems desirable and necessary to carry out the various activities of the Association.

**Article VIII.
FINANCE**

Section A - The work of this Association shall be carried on only by voluntary contributions, in a manner to be determined by the Association.

**Article IX.
AMENDMENTS**

Section A - No amendments to the By-Laws, either by alteration or addition, shall be made, unless in the following manner:

(1) The proposed amendment must be in writing, signed by the proposers, and presented and read at a regular meeting of this Association, at which time it may be discussed and amended, if necessary.

(2) At the next regular meeting of this Association, it shall again be considered and voted upon without further amendment and approved by a two-thirds majority of the regular members present.

(3) With approval of the Grand Lodge, the proposed amendment shall become a part of the by-laws of this Association.

Your Committee recommends that the Grand Secretary mail to each existing Association in the Grand Jurisdiction one copy, of these By-Laws and that they in turn adopt these By-Laws if they so desire, make any necessary additions, and file the complete set of By-Laws with the Grand Secretary. Existing Association not desiring to adopt this set of By-Laws shall forward a complete set of their By-Laws to this Grand Lodge for approval. All subsequent amendments to Association By-Laws shall be submitted to this Grand Lodge for approval.

Your Committee further recommends that each Association Secretary be required to file with the Grand Secretary a list of present Association Officers no later than January 15th of each year and a list of new Association Officers no later than August 15th of each year.

(Adopted 1961)

No. 24
MINUTES OF STATED MEETING

Stated Meeting of _____ Lodge No._____, A.F. & A.M., held at _____, Texas, on_____, the____day of_____, A.D. 20_____, A.L. 60_____.
Officers present:

_____ W.M.	_____ S.D.
_____ S.W.	_____ J.D.
_____ J.W. (If pro-tem)	_____ S.S.
_____ Treas. show which)	_____ J.S.
_____ Secy.	_____ Tiler
_____ Chap.	

For additional members and visitors present, see Register.

A Master Mason's Lodge was duly opened at _____ o'clock p.m. (or a.m.)

(Note: The regular order of business as set forth in Art. 333 and Art. XII of Form 23 shall then be followed. The minutes shall conform to all the requisites prescribed in Art. 337. When degrees are conferred the minutes shall conform to the provisions in that respect set forth in Form No. 25, Minutes of Called Meeting.)

The Lodge was then closed at _____ o'clock ____ m. (To this may be added: "Peace and harmony prevailing.")

_____ Worshipful Master

Attest: _____ Secretary

No. 24-a
MINUTES OF STATED MEETING

Stated Meeting of _____ Lodge No._____, A.F. & A.M., held at _____, Texas, on_____, the____day of_____, A.D. 20_____, A.L. 60_____.
Officers present:

_____ W.M.	_____ S.D.
_____ S.W.	_____ J.D.
_____ J.W. (If pro-tem)	_____ S.S.
_____ Treas. show which)	_____ J.S.
_____ Secy.	_____ Tiler
_____ Chap.	

For additional members and visitors present, see Register.

The Lodge was then closed at _____ o'clock ____ m.

_____ Worshipful Master

Attest: _____ Secretary

No. 25
MINUTES OF CALLED MEETINGS

Called Meeting of _____ Lodge No._____, A.F. & A.M., held
at _____, Texas, on_____, the ____ day of _____, A.D. 20_____, A.D. 60_____.
Officers present:

_____	W.M.	_____ S.D.
_____	S.W.	_____ J.D.
_____	J.W. (If pro-tem)	_____ S.S.
_____	Treas. show which	_____ J.S.
_____	Secy.	_____ Tiler
_____	Chap.	

Additional members present: _____ Visitors present:
(or as per register)

A Master Mason's Lodge was duly opened at _____ o'clock p.m. (or a.m.)

The Worshipful Master stated the purpose of the Meeting as follows: (State the purpose.)

(If business other than degrees work is to be transacted it shall be recorded as provided in Art. 337.)

(If one or more degrees in one or more classes – that is E.A., F.C., and M.M. – are conferred the following form is to be used, varying it only to meet the particular situation when not all three classes are conferred. Each degree must be conferred in the Lodge of its class, and such Lodge closed before a Lodge in another class is opened. It is not necessary that any particular order be followed in conferring the different classes of degrees.)

The Master Mason's Lodge was then duly called from Labor and an Entered Apprentice Mason's Lodge duly opend, whereupon

the First Degree in Masonry (or)
the Entered Apprentice Degree (or)
the Entered Apprentice Mason's Degree

was conferred upon Mr. _____ (or separately conferred upon Messrs. _____) in due and ancient form.

The Entered Apprentice Mason's Lodge was then duly closed and a Fellowcraft Mason's Lodge duly opened, whereupon

the Second Degree in Masonry (or)
the Fellowcraft's Degree (or)
the Fellowcraft Mason's Degree

was conferred upon Bro. _____ (or separately conferred upon Bros. _____) in due and ancient form.

The Fellowcraft Mason's Lodge was then duly closed and the Master Mason's Lodge was duly called to Labor, whereupon

the Third Degree in Masonry (or)
the Master's Degree (or)
the Master Mason's Degree

was conferred upon Bro. _____ (or separately conferred upon Bros. _____) in due and ancient form.

The Master Mason's Lodge was then duly closed.

Secretary _____ Worshipful Master _____

(The phrase "peace and harmony prevailing," may be added at the end as in Form No. 24.)

No. 25a
MINUTES OF CALLED MEETING

Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M.
Called Meeting of _____ Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M., held
at _____, Texas, on _____, the _____ day of _____, A.D. 20____, A.L. 60____.

Officers present:

_____ W.M.	_____ S.D.
_____ S.W.	_____ J.D.
_____ J.W. (If pro-tem)	_____ S.S.
_____ Treas. show which)	_____ J.S.
_____ Secy.	_____ Tiler
_____ Chap.	

For members and visitors present, see Register.

A Master Mason's Lodge was duly opened at _____ o'clock p.m. (or a.m.)

(Note: The regular order of business as set forth in Art. 333 and Art. XII of Form 23 shall then be followed. The minutes shall conform to all the requisites prescribed in Art. 337. When degrees are conferred the minutes shall conform to the provisions in that respect set forth in Form No. 25, Minutes of Called Meeting.)

The _____ Masons Lodge was then duly closed.

Attest:

_____ Secretary _____ Worshipful Master
(Adopted 1987)

No. 26

THIS REPORT MUST BE USED IN THE GRAND JURISDICTION OF TEXAS



PETITION FOR THE DEGREES OF FREEMASONRY

_____ , Texas, _____, 20_____

Lodge No. A. F. & A. M. of Texas

The undersigned respectfully represents that, unbiased by friends and uninfluenced by mercenary or other unworthy motives, he freely and voluntarily makes application for the Degrees of Freemasonry; and he herewith submits the following information regarding himself as evidence of his qualifications for acceptance into the Fraternity. (Please note... space on last line is allotted for additional information in two questions.)

- | | | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Full Name | (Please print) | First | Middle | Age |
| | | | | Surname |
| 2. I was born at | City | State | on the _____ day of | Month and Year |
| If not born in the United States, have you been naturalized: If so, when and where? _____ | | | | |
| 3. Have you ever changed your name? _____ (Y/N). If so, give former name, when and where it was changed _____ | | | | |
|
4. A certified copy of a Birth Certificate must be attached to this petition before it can be received by the Lodge.
(Photostatic copy acceptable.) | | | | |
| 5. Have you any maims or physical defects? _____ (Yes or No). If so, explain fully _____ | | | | |
|
6. How long have you resided in the State of Texas? _____ Years | | | | |
| 7. How long have resided in the jurisdiction of this Lodge? _____ Years _____ Months | | | | |
| 8. Present residence address | Street | City | State | Zip |
| Telephone _____ | E-mail _____ | Cellular _____ | | |
| If you do not get your mail here, give mailing address also: | | | | |
| Street | City | State | Years | Zip |
| 9. How long have you resided at present address? _____ Years _____ Months | | | | |
| 10. Give addresses of places where you have resided for the past 15 years. | | | | |
| Street | City | State | Zip | Dates: From _____ To _____ |
| Street | City | State | Zip | Dates: From _____ To _____ |
| Street | City | State | Zip | Dates: From _____ To _____ |
| Street | City | State | Zip | Dates: From _____ To _____ |
| Street | City | State | Zip | Dates: From _____ To _____ |
| 11. Present employer's name and address _____ | | | | |
| Firm Name _____ | | | | |
| Street | City | Zip | Telephone _____ | |

Form No. 26 - Revised 2015

(Arts. 394, 403, 452)

12. My present occupation is _____
 13. Give names and addresses of your employers for the past 15 years:

Name	Street	City	State	Zip	Dates: From	To
Name	Street	City	State	Zip	Dates: From	To
Name	Street	City	State	Zip	Dates: From	To
Name	Street	City	State	Zip	Dates: From	To
Name	Street	City	State	Zip	Dates: From	To

14. State names and addresses of all schools attended and dates:

Name	Street	City	State	Zip	Dates: From	To
Name	Street	City	State	Zip	Dates: From	To
Name	Street	City	State	Zip	Dates: From	To

15. Do you believe in the Constitution of the United States? _____ (Yes or No)

16. Have you ever been charged with a felony? _____ (Yes or No)

If so, when and where? Give details: _____

17. Give names and locations of all organization, fraternal societies, etc., you now belong to or have ever belonged to.

(If none, state none.) _____

18. Married or single? _____

19. If married, give name and address of wife: _____ First _____ Maiden _____ Surname _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

20. Have you ever been divorced? _____ (Yes or No)

21. If you have been divorced, give name of your former wife or wives and address(es):

_____ Name _____ Present Address _____ Zip _____

_____ Name _____ Present Address _____ Zip _____

22. Give names of all dependents:

_____ Name _____ Age _____ Relationship _____ Address _____ Zip _____

_____ Name _____ Age _____ Relationship _____ Address _____ Zip _____

_____ Name _____ Age _____ Relationship _____ Address _____ Zip _____

23. What is your father's full name? _____
24. Where was he born? _____
25. Where does he now reside? _____
26. Do you promise, upon your honor, to strictly adhere to and be governed by the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and by the By-Laws of this Lodge? Answer _____
27. Do you sincerely declare, upon your honor, that unbiased by friends and uninfluenced by mercenary motives, you freely and voluntarily offer yourself as a candidate for the Mysteries of Freemasonry? Answer _____
28. Do you seriously declare, upon your honor, that you are prompted to solicit the privileges of Masonry by a favorable opinion conceived of the institution, a desire for knowledge, and a sincere desire to be of greater service to your fellow man? Answer _____
29. Do you seriously declare, upon your honor, that you will cheerfully conform to all the ancient established usages and customs of Masonry? Answer _____
30. Do you seriously declare, upon your honor, that you firmly believe in the existence of God, the immortality of the soul, and the Divine authenticity of the Holy Scripture? Answer _____
31. Have you ever petitioned any Lodge of Masons for the Degrees or any of them? Answer _____
32. If you have before petitioned any Lodge of Masons, state name, number, location of Lodge, approximate date, if rejected or not, and any other particulars relating thereto: _____
33. Do you hereby agree that you will not, until after passing a satisfactory examination in esoterical work in the Master's Degree, apply for or receive any degree or be initiated in any body, order or organization, where the requirement of membership is that a person be a Master Mason? Answer _____

I hereby certify on my honor that the above answers are true and correct.

"I understand that as part of this Lodge's procedure for processing my petition, an investigative report will be prepared whereby information is obtained through personal interviews with neighbors, friends or others with whom I am acquainted. This inquiry may include information as to my character, general reputation, personal characteristics and mode of living."

I hereby certify on my honor that the above answers are true and correct.

Signed _____
 (This petition CANNOT be accepted
 unless all questions have been answered.)
 First _____ Middle _____ Last _____
 Usual Signature _____

Drivers License No. & State _____

Recommended by members of this Lodge:

I have known Mr. _____ for _____ Years & Months _____ Signature of Recommender _____

Home Address	City	State	Home Phone	Business Phone
I have known Mr. _____ for _____ Years & Months _____				
Signature of Recommender _____				

Home Address	City	State	Home Phone	Business Phone
Home Address _____	City _____	State _____	Home Phone _____	Business Phone _____

Please PRINT the names of references who must be Masons (Required by Art. 394):

(1)	Name	Lodge No.	Location		
	Home Address	City	State	Home Phone	Business Phone
(2)	Name	Lodge No.	Location		
	Home Address	City	State	Home Phone	Business Phone
(3)	Name	Lodge No.	Location		
	Home Address	City	State	Home Phone	Business Phone

Three separate investigation reports must be attached to this Petition before ballot is taken. (It is not necessary for each investigator to sign all three reports.) Individual investigation shall be made.

Additional Information:

<hr/> <hr/>		
No. _____	Series _____	
Petition of		
Mr. _____		
For the Degrees of Freemasonry		
Received _____, _____ Date Year		
Referred to Committee Consisting of Brothers: _____ _____ _____		
Report Due _____	Date _____	Year _____
Date Read _____	Date _____	Year _____
Balloted _____	Date _____	Year _____
Protested _____	Date _____	Year _____
Record Book Folio _____	Date _____	Year _____
1st Optional L.S. of M.E. Reading _____	Date _____	Year _____
Date E.A. _____		
Date _____	Examined _____	E.A. _____
		2nd Optional
L.S. of M.E. Reading _____	Date _____	Year _____
Date _____	F.C. _____	
Date Examined F.C. _____		
3rd Optional L.S. or M.E. Reading _____	Date _____	Year _____
Date _____	M.M. _____	
Date Examined _____	M.M. _____	
Membership ID No. _____		
<hr/> <hr/>		

GOLDEN TROWEL AWARD RULES

(As Revised August 2017)

Art. 14c. **The Golden Trowel Award.** Grand Lodge hereby establishes the Golden Trowel Award to be presented to any living member of a Texas Lodge who has consistently demonstrated outstanding and exemplary service to his respective Lodge through any one or combinations of Masonic and community service. The Committee on Masonic Education and Service is authorized and directed to prepare and distribute, to the Lodges, the guidelines by which this award can be made. Such guidelines shall be binding on the Lodges, and may be amended by the Committee on Masonic Education and Service from time to time.

- Since its inception, the Golden Trowel Award continues to be an exciting means for Lodges to recognize and honor distinguished members with an official award from the Grand Lodge of Texas. It is for use by all Texas Lodges.
- The Golden Trowel is the Lodge's formal recognition of a Brother for his devoted service to Masonic principles in general, or to his Lodge. It is intended for the Brother who, year after year, quietly, but actively demonstrates his devotion to the teachings of Masonry without thought of recognition or special honors.
- Every Lodge has such members. They spread the living cement that binds our Fraternity into a true Brotherhood.
- You will find them at labor in the kitchens, on the work committees, in public office, on community projects, in service clubs, heavily involved in their church activities and in schools – anywhere that a true and steady hand of assistance is needed.
- It is to *those* Master Craftsmen that the Golden Trowel Award is designated, being the highest Award a Lodge can bestow upon an individual member.
- This award is not intended to replace or supersede any individual recognition award already established by a Lodge. It provides the advantages of a single, official award, which is recognized statewide.
- It is not intended that the award necessarily be given every year, nor is it intended that it necessarily be automatically given to every Brother who has served as Worshipful Master of the Lodge once he is eligible to receive it.

Requirements

1. Recipients of the award will be chosen by a Golden Trowel Committee appointed by the Worshipful Master at the beginning of the Masonic year. The Committee shall be comprised of any three of the five immediate, and available, Past Masters of the Lodge. If the sitting Worshipful Master falls into this category, he is not eligible to be on the committee, nor is he eligible to receive the award until such time as he is out of the East. In the event that three of the five immediate Past Masters are not available or eligible to serve on the committee, other Past Masters may be substituted, as well as other qualified Master Masons, at the full discretion of the Worshipful Master. The Chairman of the committee shall be the most Junior Past Master if available, if not, the Chairman shall be selected by the sitting Master of the Lodge. It is the responsibility of the committee to review the activities of all members during the previous year to determine if any qualify for this high honor. The committee should be directed to use care and be very selective in choosing recipients for this award so that its importance is demonstrated in your Lodge at the very highest level. **If none qualifies, then no award should be made.** A member who has served as Worshipful Master, or a Warden who did not continue to the East, is not eligible for the award until three years after the date he completes his initial term.
Make the award only when a member truly deserves it.
2. To ratify the committee's decision, the Worshipful Master may ask for a hand-vote in favor of the committee's choice. Other nominations shall not to be entertained from the membership. If a member wishes to suggest someone for the award, he should submit the member's name in writing to the Chairman of the committee for consideration prior to August 30th.
3. The Golden Trowel Award should not be made for routine Masonic activities.
4. Only one Golden Trowel Award may be presented by the Lodge during any Masonic year.
5. **The Award must be presented at an open meeting of the Lodge called for that purpose alone.** This is to ensure that absolutely nothing takes away from or diminishes the importance of this most prestigious award.
6. Any appropriate individual (does not have to be a Mason or a member of the Lodge) may make the award presentation.
7. The Lodge should make a genuine effort to appropriately publicize the open meeting and, without fail, other Lodges in the vicinity should be notified and invited to attend. All Lodges should make special efforts to help other Lodges in their vicinity to honor members by attending their Golden Trowel Award presentations. Such broad support lends additional dignity and importance to the award and increases the opportunity for publicity for the event.
8. When a candidate for the award is chosen, the Lodge should enter the information about the award in its official minutes.
9. The Lodge must send the completed form and appropriate payment to the Grand Secretary. The award will then be sent to the Lodge secretary. Please allow up to four weeks for receipt of the materials.

THE GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS, A.F. & A.M.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROCESSING THE GOLDEN TROWEL AWARD

The attached two-part form is to be completed by the Lodge. Please make sure your selection meets the GOLDEN TROWEL criteria. The original should be submitted to the Grand Secretary with the order form and a check for the amount due (determined by your order). No telephone orders or orders for later billing should be submitted. Please remember that only one award should be given per Masonic Year.

Upon receipt, the Grand Secretary's office will ship the GOLDEN TROWEL AWARD to the Lodge, including a brass presentation plate. Please allow at least two weeks for processing and up to four weeks for delivery.

The presentation of the GOLDEN TROWEL AWARD shall be made in an open meeting of the Lodge. The recipient's name will be recorded in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS, WHICH MAY BE PURCHASED:

Stock No.	Description	Price	Quantity
451	Golden Trowel Award	\$25.00	_____
30J	Golden Trowel Pin (only if purchased with award)	\$10.00	_____
463	Personalized Certificate	\$5.00	_____
30J	Pin Only	\$11.50	_____

Pertinent information for Stock No. 463

Lodge Name: _____ Lodge Number: _____

District Number: _____ City: _____

Recipient's Name: _____

Recipient's I.D. No.: _____

Presentation Date: _____

Send to: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

**APPLICATION
THE GOLDEN TROWEL AWARD**

TO: GRAND SECRETARY

Date: _____

The Grand Lodge of Texas,

A.F. & A.M. P.O. Box 446,

Waco, TX 76703

FROM: _____ Lodge No.: _____

Address: _____

Phone No.: _____

Please ship one each GOLDEN TROWEL AWARD, with presentation plate for engraving, to the above Lodge address.

This certifies that this Lodge has appointed a GOLDEN TROWEL AWARD Committee comprised of three of its five immediate Past Masters (or other qualified Brothers as deemed necessary) who have nominated a worthy member of this Lodge to receive the Golden Trowel Award.

The Nominee is: _____

The Nominee's I.D. No. is: _____

Last Lodge Office held, if any: _____ Year: _____

Date awarded/voted by Lodge: _____

This further certifies that the individual named above meets the GOLDEN TROWEL AWARDS criteria, as outlined in the following Citation:

CITATION

(This Citation should briefly justify the selection, and should be used in presenting the Award)

Award will be presented in an open meeting in honor of the recipient.

Signed: _____

Signed: _____

Worshipful Master

Secretary

Mail this completed form, with check for total amount due, to the Grand Secretary, P.O. Box 446, Waco, Texas

76703, Attn: Trowel. Please allow at least two weeks for processing and up to four weeks for delivery.

NOTE: Please see the **GOLDEN TROWEL AWARD RULES** sheet for qualifying information. See sheet entitled **INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROCESSING GOLDEN TROWEL AWARD** for administrative information and direction.

No. 28
INVESTIGATION REPORT

This Investigation Report must accompany petition before ballot can be taken. This report must be completed and returned to _____ Lodge No. _____, Address _____ By Day _____ Month _____ Year _____. If additional time is needed, request should be made to the Lodge. (Art. 407.)

To Secretaries: This form must be prepared in triplicate and copy delivered to each member of Investigating Committee. Brethren (1)_____, (2)_____, and (3)_____, you are appointed to investigate the character and eligibility of_____ for membership in our Lodge. (You are required to make your own personal investigation and return to Secretary of the Lodge a report as to your findings and recommendations.)

NOTE: A face-to-face interview is required by Article 412.

1. Petitioner's Full Name: First _____ Middle _____ Surname _____.
2. Present Address: Street _____ Zip Res. Telephone No. _____
Cell Telephone No. _____ E-mail. _____
3. Present Employer: Firm Name _____ Position with Firm _____
Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Telephone No. _____.
4. Recommended by members of this Lodge:
 - (1) Name _____ Known by Recommender _____ Years _____ Months
Home Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Ph. _____ Bus. Ph. _____
 - (2) Name _____ Known by Recommender _____ Years _____ Months
Home Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Ph. _____ Bus. Ph. _____
5. The following Masons have been given as references by the Petitioner:
 - (1) Name _____ Residence Address _____ Zip _____ Telephone No. _____
Business Address _____ Zip _____ Telephone No. _____
 - (2) Name _____ Residence Address _____ Zip _____ Telephone No. _____
Business Address _____ Zip _____ Telephone No. _____
 - (3) Name _____ Residence Address _____ Zip _____ Telephone No. _____
Business Address _____ Zip _____ Telephone No. _____

(The questions listed below must be answered in full by each investigator.)

6. Has petitioner changed initial address since petition was submitted?
____ Yes ____ No
If so, provide new information: Address _____ Zip _____
New Phone Number _____
7. Petitioner's Drivers License Number _____ State _____
8. How did the applicant learn about Masonry? (Please check one)

Friend's a Mason Family Member Shriners Open Event
 DeMolay Coworker Internet Scottish Rite Open Event
 Rainbow Girls Commercial Open Masonic Event
 York Rite Open Event Job's Daughters Other

9. Why does the petitioner want to become a Mason? _____
10. Has the petitioner ever petitioned another Masonic Lodge for the Degrees?
(Check one) Yes _____ No _____
11. If so, give the name and location of such Lodge and full particulars thereof:
Lodge _____ Lodge No. _____
12. Has petitioner changed occupation since petition was submitted? Yes _____ No _____
If so, provide information: Firm Name _____
Address _____ Zip _____ Work Phone _____
13. Does the petitioner have any maims or physical defects? Yes _____ No _____
If so, what are they? _____
14. Has the petitioner ever been charged or convicted of a felony? Yes _____ No _____
15. Is the petitioner married? Yes _____ No _____
If Yes, what is his wife's name? _____
16. Does the petitioner have children? Yes _____ No _____
If Yes, what is(are) their name(s)? _____
17. Explain to the petitioner that if elected to receive the degrees in Masonry, the petitioner will be responsible to learn the work required by the Lodge upon receiving each degree. This will require some time away from home in order to be taught by a knowledgeable Brother. Ask which night and/or day during the week would be the most convenient time for him to study. Also, ask if there is a Brother that he prefers. Day of the week _____ Location _____ Time _____
Preferred Brother _____
18. Explain to the petitioner that he will be visited by a total of three Members of the Lodge. Upon completion of the investigation, the Committee will report to the Lodge and a ballot taken. If a petitioner receives three negative (unfavorable) votes from the Brothers present, he will be rejected from Masonry for a period of one calendar year. However, if a petitioner receives enough positive (favorable) votges from the Brothers present, he will be elected to receive the degrees of Masonry. Within three days after the ballot has been taken, the Worshipful Master or his designee will notify the petitioner as to the outcome.

After complete investigation I have answered all of the above questions to the best of my knowledge and believe them to be true and correct. I, therefore, make the following recommendations: Favorable _____ Unfavorable _____. (Answer yes to one.) (Signed) _____ (Date Investigation completed) _____.

(Any correspondence you were required to have regarding the petitioner,
please attach to this Investigation Report.)

No. 29

This Certificate Issued Under the Authority

of

THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons

Is Presented to

Brother _____

who was Raised

to the

SUBLIME DEGREE OF A MASTER MASON

In _____ Lodge No. _____

under the Jurisdiction of said Grand Lodge

In grateful acknowledgement of his having contributed the sum of

TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS

to the

TEXAS MASONIC CHARITIES FOUNDATION

In witness whereof, I, as Worshipful Master of said Lodge, have signed this
Certificate and caused the Seal of said Lodge to be affixed hereto on this the
____ day of _____, A.D. 20____, A.L. 60____.

(Seal)

Worshipful Master

Secretary

No. 29-a
GEORGE WASHINGTON MASONIC MEMORIAL
CONTRIBUTION CERTIFICATE

CERTIFICATE
Issued Under the Authority of
The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas
Ancient Free & Accepted Masons

Whereas, the Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M. is a Life Member of The George Washington Masonic Memorial Association and did contribute to the construction of this most historic Masonic building in honor of our beloved Brother George Washington, First President of these United States of America, and has further pledged its continued support.

Therefore, the Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M. wishes to acknowledge that Brother _____
an Entered Apprentice Mason has contributed a portion of his initiation fee towards the continued maintenance and preservation of this beautiful Masonic edifice located in Alexandria, Virginia near Washington, D.C.

In witness whereof, I, as Worshipful Master of _____
Lodge No. A.F. & A.M. under the Jurisdiction of said Grand Lodge have signed this Certificate and caused the Seal of said Lodge to be affixed hereto on this _____ day of _____ A.D. 20____ A.L. 60_____.

Worshipful Master

(Seal)

Attest:

Secretary

No. 30

CERTIFICATE OF DISMISSAL

Lodge No. _____, _____, Texas, _____, 20____

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that Brother _____, an Entered Apprentice – a Fellowcraft*, of the above styled and numbered Lodge, has by a unanimous vote of the Lodge, been granted this Certificate of Dismissal under the terms and provisions of Art. 446 of the Statutes of the Grand Lodge of Texas. He was initiated _____, 20____, Passed _____, 20____. He has (has not) been examined and found proficient in the _____ Degree.

In testimony whereof, we have caused this Certificate to be issued and signed by the Worshipful Master under the seal of the Lodge this the _____ day of _____, A.D. 20____, A.L. 60_____.

Worshipful Master

(Seal)

Attest:

Secretary

*Strike out Fellowcraft, if Brother is only E.A.

No. 31
PETITION FOR ADVANCEMENT

EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 3, 1959, THIS FORM MUST BE USED IN THE GRAND JURISDICTION OF TEXAS

PETITION FOR ADVANCEMENT

(THIS FORM MAY NOT BE VARIED)

Note: If another Lodge holds personal jurisdiction over petitioner, or if he is an unaffiliated E.A. or F.C. and is not domiciled within the territorial jurisdiction of the Lodge petitioned, waiver of jurisdiction must be obtained from the Lodge holding personal or territorial jurisdiction over him before his petition can be received. If he holds a Certificate of Dismissal, it must be attached to his petition. The word "Residence" as used in Question 8 means "domicile" and "resided" as used in Question 7 and 9 and 10 means "domiciled" as defined in Note under Art 394 (431).

Membership ID Number _____



_____, Texas, _____ Date _____, 20 _____

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of _____ Lodge No. _____ A.F. & A.M.:

The undersigned, being desirous of Advancement in the Mysteries of Freemasonry represents that _____
Lodge No. _____ of _____, accepted his petition for the Mysteries of
Masonry and elected him to receive the Degrees on _____ day of _____ A.D. _____;
that he was initiated as an Entered Apprentice by said Lodge on the _____ day of _____ A.D. _____;
(and Passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft in said Lodge on the _____ day of _____ A.D. _____)

Wherefore, the undersigned prays that he may be advanced by this Lodge to the Degrees of _____,
and he herewith submits the following information regarding himself as evidence of his qualifications for Advancement:

1. Full Name _____ Age _____
(Please Print) First Middle Surname
2. I was born at _____ on the _____ day of _____ A.D. _____
If not born in the United States, have you been naturalized? _____ If so, when and where? _____
3. Have you ever changed your name? _____ (Yes or No). If so, give former name, when and where changed _____
4. A certified copy of a Birth Certificate must be attached to this petition before it can be received by the Lodge, unless it is
accompanied by the original petition. (Photostatic copy is acceptable.)
5. Have you any maims or physical defects? _____ (Yes or No). If so, explain fully _____
6. How long have resided in the State of Texas? _____ Years _____ Months
7. How long have you resided in the jurisdiction of this Lodge? _____ Years _____ Months
8. Present residence address _____
Street _____ City _____ Phone _____
Cellular Phone _____ E-Mail Address _____
9. How long have you resided at present address? _____ Years _____ Months
10. Give addresses of places you have resided for the past 15 years:

Street	City	State	Dates: From	To
Street	City	State	Dates: From	To
Street	City	State	Dates: From	To
Street	City	State	Dates: From	To

Form No. 31 - Revised 2011 (Arts. 394, 407, 430, 434a)

Street	City	State	Dates: From	To	
11. Present employer's name and address:		Firm Name	Address	Zip	Phone
12. My present occupation is _____					
13. Give names and addresses of your employers for the past 15 years.					
Name	Address	Zip	From	To	
Name	Address	Zip	From	To	
Name	Address	Zip	From	To	
Name	Address	Zip	From	To	
Name	Address	Zip	From	To	
14. State names and addresses of all schools attended and dates:					
Name	Address	Zip	Dates		
Name	Address	Zip	Dates		
Name	Address	Zip	Dates		
15. Do you believe in the Constitution of the United States? _____ (Yes or No)					
16. Have you ever been charged with a felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude? _____ (Yes or No). If so, give details _____					
17. Give names and addresses of all organizations, fraternal societies, etc., you now belong to or have ever belonged to. (If none, state none). _____					

18. Married or single? _____					
19. If married, give name and address of wife. _____ First _____ Maiden _____ Surname _____ Address: _____					
20. Have you ever been divorced? _____ (Yes or No)					
21. If you have been divorced, give name of your former wife or wives and addresses:					
Name	Present Address			Zip	
Name	Present Address			Zip	
22. Give names of dependents:					
Name	Age	Relationship	Address	Zip	
Name	Age	Relationship	Address	Zip	
Name	Age	Relationship	Address	Zip	
23. What is your father's name? _____					
24. Where was he born? _____					
25. Where does he now reside? _____					

Form 31 - Revised 2011 (Arts. 394, 407, 430, 434a)

<p>26. Do you promise, on your honor, to strictly adhere to and be governed by the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and by the By-Laws of this Lodge? Answer _____.</p> <p>27. Have you ever petitioned for advancement in any other Lodge of Masons? _____ If so, give name, number, and location of Lodge, approximate date, if rejected or not, and any other particulars relating thereto: _____ _____</p> <p>28. Do you hereby agree that you will not, until after passing a satisfactory examination in esoterical work in the Master's Degree, apply for or receive any degree or be initiated in any body, order or organization, where the requirement of membership is that a person be a Master Mason? Answer _____. I hereby certify on my honor that the above answers are true and correct.</p>																											
<p>(This petition CANNOT be accepted unless all questions have been answered.)</p> <p>Signed _____ First _____ Middle _____ Last _____ Usual Signature _____</p>																											
<p>Recommended by members of this Lodge:</p> <p>I have known Mr. _____ for _____ Yrs. & Mos. _____ Signature of Recommender</p> <p>I have known Mr. _____ for _____ Yrs. & Mos. _____ Signature of Recommender</p>																											
<p>References (Required by Article 394; must be Masons in good standing in a duly recognized Lodge by this Grand Lodge):</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Name</td> <td>Residence Address</td> <td>Zip</td> <td>Phone No.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Business Address</td> <td>Zip</td> <td>Phone No.</td> <td>Cellular Phone</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Name</td> <td>Residence Address</td> <td>Zip</td> <td>Phone No.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Business Address</td> <td>Zip</td> <td>Phone No.</td> <td>Cellular Phone</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Name</td> <td>Residence Address</td> <td>Zip</td> <td>Phone No.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Business Address</td> <td>Zip</td> <td>Phone No.</td> <td>Cellular Phone</td> </tr> </table> <p>(Three names and address)</p>				Name	Residence Address	Zip	Phone No.	Business Address	Zip	Phone No.	Cellular Phone	Name	Residence Address	Zip	Phone No.	Business Address	Zip	Phone No.	Cellular Phone	Name	Residence Address	Zip	Phone No.	Business Address	Zip	Phone No.	Cellular Phone
Name	Residence Address	Zip	Phone No.																								
Business Address	Zip	Phone No.	Cellular Phone																								
Name	Residence Address	Zip	Phone No.																								
Business Address	Zip	Phone No.	Cellular Phone																								
Name	Residence Address	Zip	Phone No.																								
Business Address	Zip	Phone No.	Cellular Phone																								
<p>Date Read _____ Date _____ E.A. _____ Date F.C. _____ Date M.M. _____</p>		<p>Date Examined E.A. _____ Date Examined F.C. _____ Date Examined M.M. _____</p>																									
<p>Three (3) separate investigation reports must be attached to this petition before ballot is taken. (It is not necessary for each investigator to sign all three reports.) Individual investigation must be made.</p>																											

Petition for Advancement	
<hr/> <hr/>	
Received _____	Date _____
<hr/> <hr/>	
RECOMMENDED BY	
<hr/> <hr/>	
<hr/> <hr/>	
<hr/> <hr/>	
REFERRED TO	
<hr/> <hr/>	
<hr/> <hr/>	
<hr/> <hr/>	
MEMORANDA	
<hr/> <hr/>	
<hr/> <hr/>	

Form 31 - Revised 2011 (Arts. 394, 407, 430, 434a)

This edition must be used after December 31, 2011. (Arts. 394, 403, 452)
(Revised 2010)

No. 32
INVESTIGATION REPORT – ADVANCEMENT

EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 3, 1959, THIS REPORT MUST BE USED IN THE GRAND JURISDICTION OF TEXAS

INVESTIGATION REPORT - ADVANCEMENT



This Investigation Report must accompany petition before ballot can be taken.

This report must be completed and returned to _____ Lodge No. _____

Address _____ By _____
Zip _____ Day _____ Month _____ Year _____

If additional time is needed, request should be made to the Lodge. (Art. 407)

To Secretaries: This form must be prepared in triplicate and copy delivered to each member of Investigating Committee.

Brethren (1) _____, (2) _____, and
(3) _____, you are appointed to investigate the character and eligibility
of _____ for Advancement in Masonry. (You are required to make
your own personal investigation and return to Secretary of the Lodge a report as to your findings and recommendations.)

NOTE: A face to face interview is required by Article 412.

1. Petitioner's Full Name First Middle Surname ID No.

Cellular Phone _____ E-mail address _____

2. Present Address Street Zip Res. Phone No.

3. Present Employer Firm Name Position with Firm

Street City State Zip Phone No.

4. Recommended by members of this Lodge

(1) Name _____ Known by Recommender. _____ Years _____ Months

Home Address City, State Cellular Phone No. Home Telephone No. Business Phone No.

(2) Name _____ Known by Recommender. _____ Years _____ Months

Home Address City, State Cellular Phone No. Home Telephone No. Business Phone No.

5. The following Masons have been given as references by the Petitioner.

(1) Name _____ Known by Recommender. _____ Years _____ Months

Home Address City, State Cellular Phone No. Home Telephone No. Business Phone No.

(2) Name _____ Known by Recommender. _____ Years _____ Months

Home Address City, State Cellular Phone No. Home Telephone No. Business Phone No.

(3) Name _____ Known by Recommender. _____ Years _____ Months

Home Address City, State Cellular Phone No. Home Telephone No. Business Phone No.

Petitioner received the Entered Apprentice Degree in _____ Lodge No. _____

on _____ Month _____ Day _____ Year _____, Fellowcraft Degree in _____ Lodge No. _____

on _____ Month _____ Day _____ Year _____, allowed his time to lapse (or was rejected).

Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

Form No. 32 - Revised 2011 (Art. 386)

(The questions listed below must be answered in full by each investigator.)

6. How long has applicant resided in the State of Texas? _____
7. How long has applicant resided in the jurisdiction of this Lodge? _____
8. Has he made application for Advancement in any other Lodge? _____
If so, give name and location of such Lodge and full particulars thereof:

9. What is his age? _____ What is his occupation? _____
10. Is he married or single? _____ Has he ever been divorced? _____
11. Give residence addresses for the past 15 years: _____

12. Has he any maims or physical defects? _____ If so, what are they? _____
13. Does he use profane language? _____ Has he any immoral habits? _____
14. Has he ever been charged or convicted of a felony or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude? _____
15. Does he possess the mental and physical ability to earn his own living? _____
16. Can he read and write? _____.

After complete investigation I have answered all the above questions to the best of my knowledge and believe them to be true and correct. I, therefore, make the following recommendation.
Favorable _____ Unfavorable _____
(Answer Yes to One)

I.D. No. _____ Date investigation completed _____ Signed _____

Please attach any correspondence you were required to have regarding the petitioner to this Investigation Report.
(Reports from all three Investigators must be attached to the Petition before the Lodge can ballot on it.)

From No. 32 – Revised 2011 (Art. 386)

No. 33
APPLICATION FOR DIMIT

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of _____
Lodge No._____, A.F. & A.M.

The undersigned, a Master Mason, and Member in good standing in your Lodge, respectfully asks to withdraw from membership, and that a Certificate of Dimission be issued to him certifying such fact.

My Lodge dues have been paid for the period ending_____, A.D. 20_____.

Dated_____, 20_____.

Signed: _____
 Address: _____

No. 34
CERTIFICATE OF DIMISSION

 Lodge No._____ (A.F. & A.M.)
 Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas
 _____ Texas,_____, A.D. 20_____

To Whom It May Concern, Greetings:

This is to certify that Brother_____ (write name in full) whose name, written by himself, appears on the margin hereof, is a Master Mason, and was a member of the above named Lodge in good standing until the _____ day of_____, A.D. 20_____. On said date a dimit was granted to him in conformity with the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and this certificate of Dimission is issued as evidence thereof.

RECORD

He was born at_____, State of_____, on the____ day of_____, A.D._____. He was initiated on the____ day of_____, A.D._____, passed_____, raised_____, in_____, Lodge No._____, located at_____, State of Texas. Dimitted on the____ day of_____, A.D._____. He has (has not) been examined and voted proficient in the Master's Degree.

In testimony whereof, we have caused this Certificate of Dimission to be issued and the seal of_____, Lodge No._____, to be impressed thereon, this the____ day of_____, A.D. 20_____, A.L. 60_____.
 (Seal)

Signature of dimitted member

Secretary

Worshipful Master

Waco, Texas, _____, A.D. 20____

This is to certify that _____ Lodge No. _____, located at _____, Texas, is a regular subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas (A.F. & A.M.)

Witness my hand and seal of the Grand Lodge of Texas, on this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20____, A.L. 60____.

(Seal)

Grand Secretary

----- PERFORATION -----

_____, A.D. 20____

To Brother _____, Grand Secretary, Waco, Texas.

This is to certify that Brother _____, late a member of _____ Lodge No. _____, located at _____, Texas, to whose Certificate of Dimission this form was attached, was duly elected to membership in _____ Lodge No. _____, located at _____, State of _____, by affiliation on the _____ day of _____, A.D. 20____.

His Certificate of Dimission issued by _____ Lodge No. _____ of _____, Texas, is dated the _____ day of _____, A.D. 20____.

(Seal)

Secretary

_____ Lodge No. _____ under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of _____, located at _____, State of _____.

Note: The Secretary of the Lodge with which the attached Certificate of Dimission is filed, will please detach this form, fill it out and forward same to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Texas, Waco, Texas, promptly, after election of petitioner for affiliation.

He was Initiated _____, 20____, Passed _____, 20____, Raised _____, 20____, in _____ Lodge No. _____, at _____, State of _____ (or) Affiliated with this Lodge on _____ day of _____, 20____, by Dimit from _____ Lodge No. _____ at _____, State of _____.

This dimit cancelled by his election to membership in _____ Lodge No. _____ at _____ on the _____ day of _____, 20____.

(Seal)

Secretary

(The Lodge Secretary, before issuing this Certificate of Dimission to the Brother named herein, will please fill in his historical data.)

No. 35
PETITION FOR AFFILIATION – UNAFFILIATED MASON

EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 3, 1959, THIS REPORT MUST BE USED IN THE GRAND JURISDICTION OF TEXAS

PETITION FOR AFFILIATION - UNAFFILIATED MASON

(THIS FORM MAY NOT BE VARIED)



Art. 385 (421, 422). Requisites of Petition. The petition for affiliation must be in writing and signed by the petitioner personally; be recommended by two members of the Lodge petitioned; and be presented at a stated meeting.

It must state the name, age, and place of birth, and domicile of the petitioner, and must be accompanied by his Certificate of Dimission from the Lodge of which he was last a member, or a certificate of good standing as provided for in Art. 392 or satisfactorily reasons shown for the absence of either of such certificates. A certificate of life membership in a Lodge of another recognized jurisdiction will be accorded the same effect as a Certificate of Dimission, when accompanied by a certificate of present good standing in the Lodge which issued such life certificate.

Form No. 35 (Arts. 384, 385) Revised 2010

 <p style="text-align: center;">PETITION FOR AFFILIATION UNAFFILIATED MASONS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">_____, Texas, _____, _____, _____, 20_____ City Zip Month Day Year</p> <p><i>To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of _____ Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M.</i></p> <p>The undersigned, a former member of _____ Lodge No. _____, at _____ under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of _____, respectfully petitions for membership in your Lodge, if found worthy. He pledges himself to a cheerful obedience to all requirements of your By-Laws, and to the ancient usages of Freemasonry, if admitted among you. He submits the following information regarding himself as evidence of his qualifications for membership. A Dimit or Certificate of Good Standing is attached hereto for your satisfaction.</p> <p>1. Full Name _____ (Print or type) First Middle Surname Age Membership ID No. _____</p> <p>Res. Phone _____ Cellular Phone _____ E-mail _____</p> <p>2. I was born at _____ on the _____ day of _____ Month Year _____</p> <p>3. Where do you now reside? _____ City Street Address or RFD No. and Box Zip If you do not get your mail here, give mailing address also.</p> <p>4. How long have you lived at this address? _____ Give addresses of places where you have resided for the past 10 years. Town or City Address Zip From _____, _____ to _____, _____ 5. What is your present occupation? _____ 6. Give name and address of your employer for the past 10 years: Name of Employer Address Zip From _____, _____ to _____, _____ From _____, _____ to _____, _____</p>
<small>Form 35 (Art 384, 385) Revised 2010</small>

<p>7. In what Lodge did you receive the Symbolic Degrees of Freemasonry? _____ Lodge No. _____ at _____</p> <p>8. What other Masonic Lodges have you been a member of? Name, Number and Location _____ _____ _____</p> <p>9. Have you ever petitioned a Lodge for affiliation and been rejected? _____. If you have ever petitioned and been rejected, give name, number and location of Lodge, with full particulars. _____</p> <p>10. Give names and locations of all other Fraternal Societies of other organizations (other than Masonic) to which you do belong or have belonged. _____</p> <p>11. Are you married or single? _____. If married, give address of your wife. _____ _____</p> <p>12. Have you ever been charged with a felony or other criminal offense? _____ All of the statements I have made in this petition are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Signed _____ First _____ Middle _____ Last _____</p> <p>REFERENCES (MUST BE MASON) Names and addresses to be given by the petitioner:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td>Name _____</td> <td>Address _____</td> <td>Zip _____</td> <td>Phone No. _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Name _____</td> <td>Address _____</td> <td>Zip _____</td> <td>Phone No. _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Name _____</td> <td>Address _____</td> <td>Zip _____</td> <td>Phone No. _____</td> </tr> </table> <p>Recommended by (Must be members of this Lodge):</p> <p>We hereby certify that we are acquainted with Brother _____ and do hereby recommend him for membership in our Lodge.</p> <p>I have known Bro. _____ for _____ years _____ months _____ Signature of Recommender Home Address _____ City, State _____ Zip _____ Home Phone No. _____ Business Phone _____ Cellular Phone _____</p> <p>I have known Bro. _____ for _____ years _____ months _____ Signature of Recommender Home Address _____ City, State _____ Zip _____ Home Phone No. _____ Business Phone _____ Cellular Phone _____</p>	Name _____	Address _____	Zip _____	Phone No. _____	Name _____	Address _____	Zip _____	Phone No. _____	Name _____	Address _____	Zip _____	Phone No. _____
Name _____	Address _____	Zip _____	Phone No. _____									
Name _____	Address _____	Zip _____	Phone No. _____									
Name _____	Address _____	Zip _____	Phone No. _____									

Form 35 (Arts. 384, 385) Revised 2010

	<hr/> <hr/> <p>No. _____ Series _____</p> <hr/> <hr/> <p>Petition of</p> <p>Bro. _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">for</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Affiliated-Unaffiliated Mason</p> <p>Received _____, 20_____</p> <p>Referred _____, 20_____</p> <p>To Committee Consisting of Brothers:</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <p>Balloted _____, 20_____</p> <p>and the Petition _____</p> <p>Record Book Folio _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Form 35 (Arts. 384, 385) Revised 2010</p>	
--	--	--

No. 36
INVESTIGATION REPORT FOR MEMBERSHIP OF
NON-AFFILIATE BY AFFILIATION

This Investigation report must accompany petition before ballot can be taken. This report must be completed and returned to _____ Lodge No. _____, A.F.&A.M., by: Day _____ Month _____ Year _____.

If additional time is needed, request should be made to the Lodge. (Art. 407).

To Secretaries: This form must be prepared in triplicate and copy delivered to each member of Investigating Committee.

Brethren (1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____, you are appointed to investigate the character and eligibility of for membership by affiliation in our Lodge. (You are required to make your own personal investigation and return to Secretary of the Lodge a report as to your findings and recommendations.)

1. Petitioner's Full Name: First _____ Middle _____ Surname _____
2. Present Address: Street _____ Res. Telephone _____
3. Present Employer: Firm Name _____ Position with Firm _____
Street _____ City _____ State _____ Telephone No. _____

4. Recommended by members of this Lodge:

(1) Name _____ Known by Recommender _____ Years _____ Months
 Home Address _____ City, State _____
 Home Ph. _____ Bus. Ph. _____

(2) Name _____ Known by Recommender _____ Years _____ Months
 Home Address _____ City, State _____
 Home Ph. _____ Bus. Ph. _____

5. The following Masons have been given as references by the Petitioner:

Name _____ Residence Address _____ Zip Telephone No. _____ Business
 Address _____ Zip _____ Telephone No. _____ Name _____ Residence
 Address _____ Zip _____ Telephone No. _____ Business
 Address _____ Zip _____ Telephone No. _____ Name _____
 Residence Address _____ Zip Telephone No. _____ Business
 Address _____ Zip _____ Telephone No. _____

(The questions listed below must be answered in full by each investigator.)

6. How long has applicant resided in the State of Texas? _____. 7. How long has applicant resided in the jurisdiction of this Lodge? _____. 8. What is his age? _____. What is his occupation? _____. 9. Is he married or single? _____. Has he ever been divorced? _____. 10. Give residence addresses for the past 15 years _____. 11. Does he use profane language? _____. Has he any immoral habits? _____. 12. Has he ever been charged or convicted of a felony or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude? _____. 13. Does he possess the mental and physical ability to earn his own living? _____. 14. Can he read and write? _____.
 After complete investigation I have answered all of the above questions to the best of my knowledge and believe them to be true and correct. I, therefore, make the following recommendations: Favorable _____ Unfavorable _____. (Answer yes to one.)
 (Signed) _____ (Date Investigation completed) _____.

(Any correspondence you were required to have regarding the petition, please attach to his Investigation Report.)
 (Revised 1997)

No. 37
 APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

Membership ID No. _____

the _____, Texas Date, _____ To
 Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of _____
 _____ Lodge No. _____, located at _____, State of _____:

I hereby apply to your Lodge of which I am a member for a Certificate of Good Standing for the purpose of:

- Transferring my membership to _____ Lodge No. _____ located at _____, State of _____.
- Obtaining a plural membership in _____ Lodge No. _____ located at _____, State of _____.
- Transferring my membership to a new Lodge, petition for which I expect to sign, located at _____, State of _____.

Fraternally yours,

_____, _____, _____
 Signature Print or type name Phone

_____, _____, _____, _____
 (Art. 392) Street City State Zip

No. 38
 (THIS FORM MAY NOT BE VARIED)
 CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

(THIS FORM MAY NOT BE VARIED)

CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

Membership ID No. _____  Dated _____, 20 _____

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of _____ Lodge No. _____,
 located at _____ in the State of _____:
 (Or)

To (the Most Worshipful Grand Master) or (the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas):
(Strike out the words not applicable.)

This is to certify that Brother _____, whose name appears in the margin of this Certificate, written by himself, is a Master Mason, and is a (single) (parent) (plural) member in good standing
(Strike out the words not applicable.)
 in this _____ Lodge No. _____, located at _____, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas. In case of plural membership, Only Parent Lodge has authority to act.

He has applied for and has been granted this Certificate in order that he may

□ transfer his membership to another Lodge
 Check One: □ apply for plural membership to another Lodge
 □ sign a petition for a new or restored Lodge

and we do commend him to your favorable regard.

He was:

Born on the _____ day of _____, A.D. 19 _____ and
 Initiated _____, in _____ Lodge
 No. _____, located at _____, State of _____

Passed _____, in _____ Lodge
 No. _____, located at _____, State of _____

Raised _____, in _____ Lodge
 No. _____, located at _____, State of _____

NOTE: Issuing Lodge should provide complete Masonic history, if possible, to accompany this certificate.

He now resides at _____, in _____, Texas _____
 Dues have been paid to the _____ day of _____, 20 _____

This Certificate expires automatically on the _____ day of _____, 20 _____ unless on or before that date the Brother (files with your Secretary his application for membership in your Lodge by affiliation) (signs a petition for a new or restored Lodge) with his Certificate attached.
(Strike out the words not applicable.)

(SEAL) _____, Worshipful Master
 Attest: _____, Secretary

THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS APPLY, IF THE CERTIFICATE
IS ADDRESSED TO A LODGE

If the Brother to whom this Certificate is issued is elected to and affiliates with the Lodge to which this certificate is addressed, the Secretary of the Lodge is required to detach the two forms, fill out and forward, one to the Secretary of the Lodge issuing the Certificate and the other to the Grand Secretary.

If the Brother's application for affiliation is rejected, the Secretary of the rejecting Lodge shall at once return the Certificate to the issuing Lodge for cancellation, with an endorsement thereon signed by him as Secretary and under the Seal of the Lodge, certifying such rejection.

All of the above requirements are imperative, in order that a correct record may be kept by each Lodge affected and by the Grand Secretary.

THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS APPLY IF THE CERTIFICATE IS
ADDRESSED TO THE GRAND MASTER OR GRAND LODGE

If the petition for a new or restored Lodge is granted, notice thereof shall be promptly given to the Secretary of the issuing Lodge, and of any other Lodge which the holder is a member. If the petition is denied, the Certificate shall be returned to the issuing Lodge for cancellation.

Membership ID No. _____

To the Secretary of _____ Lodge No. _____ Located at _____
_____, _____, _____.

City _____ State _____

This is to Certify that Brother _____, to whom your Lodge issued a Certificate of Good Standing, was on the _____ day of _____, 20_____, affiliated with _____
Lodge No. _____, located at _____
_____, _____, _____, as authorized by
Art. 392 of the Statute Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas as a (single) (plural) member of this Lodge.
(Strike out words not applicable.)

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Lodge, this _____ day of _____, 20_____

(SEAL)

Secretary

Membership ID No. _____

To the Hon. _____ Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Texas:

This is to Certify that Brother _____, a member of _____
Lodge No. _____, located at _____
_____, _____, _____, to whom a
Certificate of Good Standing was issued by said Lodge was, on the _____ day of _____,
20_____, elected and affiliated as a (single) (plural) member of _____ Lodge No. _____,
(Strike out words not applicable.)
located at _____
_____, _____, _____.

(SEAL) _____ Secretary of _____ Lodge No. _____

No. 39
PETITION FOR AFFILIATION
BY CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

 PETITION FOR AFFILIATION BY CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING					
<small>Texas</small>					
<small>Month Day Year Month Day Year</small>					
To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of _____ Lodge No. _____					
The undersigned respectfully requests affiliation with your Lodge as a (single) (plural) member. He represents that he was born on					
Month	Day	Year	at	City	State
that he was made a Master Mason at _____ Lodge No. _____, working under the jurisdiction of the					
Grand Lodge of _____; and that he is now a member in good standing in:					
_____ Lodge No. _____ located at _____					
_____ Lodge No. _____ located at _____					
_____ Lodge No. _____ located at _____					
(and other Lodges shown on the reverse side).					
A copy of his current dues card(s) is attached hereto. Also attached is a Certificate of Good Standing from his parent Lodge					
and/or from his Grand Lodge stating he is eligible for plural membership.					
He further represents that he has lived in this Grand Jurisdiction _____ months _____ years, in the					
jurisdiction of this Lodge for _____ months _____ years, and he has last lived before coming to this					
Grand Jurisdiction at _____.					
Petitioner's Name (Print) _____					
First	Middle	Surname			
Present Address _____					
Street	City	Zip	Home Phone		
Cellular Phone _____ E-mail address _____					
Present Employer _____					
Name					Business Phone
City	State	Zip			
_____ Signature (Full Name)					
Texas ID # _____					
Recommended by:					
_____ Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____					
_____ Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____					

Form No. 39 (Arts. 384, 392)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Hall of _____ Lodge No. _____

Date _____, Year _____

Your Committee to whom was referred the petition of Bro. _____

ID # _____,

for affiliation by plural membership find in answer to the following:

1. What is his age? _____

2. Is he married or single? _____

3. If married, is he living with his wife? _____

4. What is his occupation, and where is he employed?

5. What is the character of his associates? _____

6. Does he gamble? _____

7. Does he habitually use profane language? _____

8. Has he licentious or immoral habits? _____

9. Is he a law-abiding citizen? _____

10. Has he been domiciled within the jurisdiction of this Grand and Subordinate

Lodge for the time required by the laws of the Grand Lodge? _____

11. What is the opinion of the Secretary of the Lodge within whose jurisdiction he

last resided as to his character and conduct while there? _____

We report _____ on the application.

Given under our hands this Date: _____

Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

(The above must be filled out by the Investigating Committee and read at the time of balloting.)

No. 39-a
INVESTIGATION REPORT FOR AFFILIATION

	INVESTIGATION REPORT FOR AFFILIATION		
<i>This Investigation Report Must accompany petition before ballot can be taken.</i>			
This report must be completed and returned to _____ Lodge No. _____ by _____ Brethren (1) _____ Day Month Year _____ (2) _____, and (3) _____ You are appointed to investigate the character and eligibility of Brother _____ for affiliation with our Lodge. (You are required to make your own personal investigation and return to Secretary of the Lodge a report as to your findings and recommendation.) Brother's Full Name _____ First _____ Middle _____ Surname _____ Present Address _____ Street _____ Res. Phone _____ Cellular Phone _____ E-mail _____ Present Employer _____ Firm Name _____ Bus. Phone _____ Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone No. _____ Recommended by: _____ Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____ _____ 1. What is his age? _____ 2. Is he married or single? _____ 3. If married, is he living with his wife? _____ 4. What is the character of his associates? _____ 5. Does he gamble? _____ 6. Does he habitually use profane language? _____ 7. Has he licentious or immoral habits? _____ 8. Is he a law-abiding citizen? _____ 9. Has he been domiciled within the jurisdiction of the Grand and Subordinate Lodge for the time required by the laws of the Grand Lodge? _____ 10. What is the opinion of the Secretary of the Lodge within whose jurisdiction he last resided as to his character and conduct while there? _____ I report: FAVORABLE (<input type="checkbox"/>) UNFAVORABLE (<input type="checkbox"/>) on the application. Given under my hand this _____ day of _____, 20_____. <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">(The above must be filled out by the Investigation Committee and read at the time of balloting.)</p>			

Form No. 39A Revised 2010 (Art. 386)

No. 40
PETITION FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM PLURAL MEMBERSHIP

PETITION FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM PLURAL MEMBERSHIP

To the Secretary of _____ Lodge No. _____

I hereby petition for withdrawal from (plural) parent membership in your Lodge, and attach hereto my receipt card showing dues paid to the _____ day of _____, 20 _____.
This card is to be canceled upon granting this petition.

My (plural) (parent) membership is in:

Lodge No. _____, _____, _____
City _____ State _____

Lodge No. _____, _____, _____
City _____ State _____

Lodge No. _____, _____, _____
City _____ State _____

Respectfully submitted,

Signature _____

Print Name _____

ID # _____

Address _____
Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Form 40 - Revised 1996 (Art. 355)

No. 41
CERTIFICATE OF WITHDRAWAL FROM PLURAL MEMBERSHIP

CERTIFICATE OF WITHDRAWAL FROM PLURAL MEMBERSHIP

This is to certify that Brother _____ ID # _____,
 a (plural) (parent) member of this _____ Lodge No. _____,
 at _____, _____, who also holds membership in
 _____ City _____ State _____
 _____ Lodge No. _____, at _____ City _____ State _____
 _____ Lodge No. _____, at _____ City _____ State _____
 _____ Lodge No. _____, at _____ City _____ State _____

has on this date withdrawn from his said membership in this Lodge.

The only purpose of this certificate is to evidence such withdrawal of membership from this Lodge. It is not a demit and cannot be used as a certificate of good standing to apply for affiliation in any Lodge.

(Seal) Given under my hand and the Seal of the Lodge this _____ day of _____, 20 _____.
 _____ Secretary

Form No.41 - Revised 1989

To the Secretary of _____ Lodge No. _____, located at _____, _____
 City _____ State _____
 This is to certify the Brother _____ ID # _____, who is a (plural) (parent)
 member of your Lodge, has on this day withdrawn his (plural) (parent) membership from this _____
 Lodge No. _____, located at _____, Texas, as authorized by Article 392 of the Laws of the
 Grand Lodge of Texas.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Lodge this _____ day of _____, 20 _____.
 (Seal)
 _____ Secretary

To the Hon. _____, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Texas:
 This is to certify that Brother _____ ID # _____, a
 (plural) (parent) member of this _____ Lodge No. _____, located at
 _____, _____, has on this date withdrawn from his said membership in this Lodge.
 _____ City _____ State _____
 He holds (plural) (parent) membership in _____ Lodge No. _____, located at
 _____, _____
 Given under my hand and the seal of the Lodge this _____ day of _____, 20 _____.
 (Seal)
 _____ Secretary

No. 42
APPLICATION FOR WAIVER OF JURISDICTION

_____, Texas, _____, 20 ____

To the Worshipful Master and Brethren of _____ Lodge No.
Mr./Brother _____ who resides at _____
_____, Phone: _____ requests to us that

- He wishes to make application for the degrees in this Lodge and that he is domiciled within the territorial jurisdiction of your Lodge, **and has never before made application for Freemasonry in any Lodge.**
- He wishes to make application for advancement in this Lodge and that he
 - was rejected on _____ for a period of _____ years,
month day year
 - was protested before receiving the Entered Apprentice Degree on _____ for a period of _____ years.
month day year
 - is an Entered Apprentice Mason of your Lodge.
 - is a Fellowcraft Mason of your Lodge,

and requests that all further jurisdiction over him be waived by your Lodge as provided by law.

(Seal)

Fraternally yours,

_____, Secretary
_____, Lodge No. _____
_____, Texas

(Revised 1983)

No. 42a
REPORT OF COMMITTEE
(On Request for Waiver of Jurisdiction)

REPEALED 1987

No. 43
WAIVER OF JURISDICTION

_____, Texas _____, 20____

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of _____ Lodge
No. _____, _____, Texas.

This is to Certify That:

On the _____ day of _____, 20____, _____ Lodge No. _____,
located at _____, State of _____, granted a waiver of all jurisdiction over
(Mr.)
(Bro.) _____ in favor of your Lodge.

(If applicant has received a degree in granting Lodge the following blanks
should be filled in):

Brother _____ was elected to receive the degrees in _____
Lodge No. _____, on _____ day of _____, 20____, was initiated as an Entered
Apprentice in said Lodge on the _____ day of _____, A.D. 20____, (and passed
to the Degree of a Fellowcraft in said Lodge on the _____ day of _____,
A.D. 20____), and at his request all further jurisdiction over him has been waived
by said Lodge, as provided by law.

The fee for the degrees in this Lodge is \$_____, divided as follows:
E.A. \$_____, F.C. \$_____, M.M. \$_____, of which he has paid \$_____.

Given under my hand, and the seal of the Lodge, and by order of the Lodge,
this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20____, A.L. 60____.

(Seal) _____, Secretary

----- PERFORATION -----

To _____, Grand Secretary, Waco, Texas:

I hereby Certify that _____ Lodge No. ___, A.F. & A.M., located at _____
Texas, under the authority granted by a waiver of jurisdiction,
by _____ Lodge No. ___, A.F. & A.M., located at _____, Texas,
conferred degrees upon Bro. _____, as follows:
Entered Apprentice _____, Fellowcraft _____, and Master Mason _____

Date Date Date

The Fee for these degrees in _____ Lodge No. _____
(Lodge granting waiver)
is \$_____.

The Fee for these degrees in _____ Lodge No. _____
(Lodge conferring degrees)
is \$_____.

Herewith Fees due the Grand Lodge, as per Art. 464. \$_____.
Given under my hand and the Seal of the Lodge this the _____ day of _____, A.D.

20____.

(Seal)

_____ Secretary,
_____ Lodge No. _____

(Detach and mail to the Grand Secretary when degrees are conferred.)

----- PERFORATION -----

To _____, Texas, _____, 20_____
Grand Secretary, Waco, Texas:

I hereby Certify that Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M.,
located at _____, Texas, under date of _____, 20_____, granted to
Lodge No. _____, located at _____, Texas, a waiver
of jurisdiction over (Mr. or Bro.) _____ for the degrees
of (E.A., F.C., and M.M.; or F.C. and M.M.; or M.M.) The fees for these degrees in
Lodge No. _____, are:

E.A. \$_____, F.C. \$_____, and M.M. \$_____.
(Lodge Granting Waiver)

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Lodge, this _____ day of
_____, A.D. 20 _____. .

(Seal)

_____ Secretary,
_____ Lodge No. _____

(Detach and mail to Grand Secretary promptly)

No. 44
PETITION FOR REINSTATEMENT

PETITION FOR REINSTATEMENT



To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of

_____, Lodge No._____, A.F. & A.M.:

The undersigned,_____, once a Master Mason in good standing, but now under sentence of suspension (or expulsion), prays to be reinstated to membership in this Lodge, promising cheerfully to conform to all the established usages, and to yield a cheerful obedience to all the requirements of the Lodge.

Recommended by members of said Lodge (list below):

1._____

2._____

Petitioner Signature _____

Membership ID No. _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Cellular Phone _____

Place of Business _____

Business _____

address _____

Residence address _____

Signed and dated at _____, Texas _____, _____, Day _____, Year _____
 City _____ Zip _____ Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

INTERROGATORIES

Date Suspended (or expelled) _____ Cause _____

In for N. P. D., how much did you owe for dues at time of suspension? \$ _____

_____ Has this amount been paid? _____

_____ or remitted? _____

_____ Are you now in position to

continue to pay dues? _____

What is the state of your health? _____

_____ When were you

Form No. 44 – Revised 2011 (Arts. 324, 327, 658)

PETITION FOR REINSTATEMENT

No. 44-a
REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PETITION FOR REINSTATEMENT

**Report of Committee on
Petition
FOR REINSTATEMENT**

_____, 20____

Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M. _____, Texas

The undersigned member of a committee appointed to investigate the Petition for Reinstatement of:

ID No. _____

Home Phone

Business Phone

Cellular Phone

Residence Address: _____

report as follows:

1. Age of petitioner: _____
2. Married or single: _____
3. If married, is he living with his wife? _____
4. If not, why not? _____
5. Occupation and employment: _____

6. What is the character of his associates? _____
7. Does he gamble? _____
8. Has he licentious or immoral habits? _____
9. If so, explain: _____
10. Does he possess the mental and physical ability to earn his own living? _____

After complete investigation I have answered all above questions to the best of my knowledge and I believe them to be true and correct. I, therefore, make the following recommendation:

_____ Favorable _____ Unfavorable (Answer Yes to One)

Signed _____

Date Investigation Completed _____

(Any correspondence you were required to have regarding the petitioner, please attach to this Investigation Report.)

No. 45
PETITION FOR RESTORATION

PETITION FOR RESTORATION



To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of _____, Lodge No._____, A.F. & A.M.: _____

The undersigned, _____ once a Master Mason in good standing in _____
Lodge No._____, located at _____ but now under sentence of suspension (or expulsion)
by this Lodge, prays to be restored to the rights and privileges of Freemasonry as an unaffiliated Mason, promising
cheerfully to conform to all the established usages, and yield a cheerful obedience to all the requirements of the Lodge.
Recommended by members of said Lodge (listed below):

1. _____

2. _____ Petitioner Signature _____

Membership ID No.	Home Phone	Work Phone	Cellular Phone
-------------------	------------	------------	----------------

Place of Business _____

Business address _____

Residence address _____

Signed and dated at _____, Texas _____, _____, 20_____
City Zip Month Day Year

INTERROGATORIES

Date Suspended (or expelled) _____ Cause _____

If for N. P. D., how much did you owe for dues at time of suspension? \$ _____

When were you born? _____ day of _____ Month _____ Year

What is your occupation? _____

Give all facts, date, and cause of expulsion _____

Form No. 45 (Arts. 327, 658) Revised 2011

PETITION FOR RESTORATION

Received _____, _____

Recommended By

Referred To

Memoranda

Form No. 45 (Arts. 327, 658) Revised 2011

No. 45-a
REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PETITION FOR RESTORATION

**Report of Committee on
PETITION FOR RESTORATION**

_____, 20____

Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M.

_____, Texas

The undersigned member of a committee appointed to investigate the Petition for Restoration of

ID No. _____

Home Phone

Business Phone

Cellular Phone

Residence Address: _____

report as follows:

1. Age of petitioner: _____
2. Married or single: _____
3. If married, is he living with his wife? _____
4. If not, why not? _____
5. Occupation and employment: _____

6. What is the character of his associates? _____
7. Does he gamble? _____
8. Has he licentious or immoral habits? _____
9. If so, explain: _____
10. Does he possess the mental and physical ability to earn his own living? _____

After complete investigation I have answered all above question to the best of my knowledge and I believe them to be true and correct. I, therefore, make the following recommendation:

_____ Favorable _____ Unfavorable (Answer Yes to one)

Signed _____

Date Investigation Completed _____

(Any correspondence you were required to have regarding the petitioner, please attach to this Investigation Report.)

No. 46
REQUEST TO CONFER DEGREES BY COURTESY

_____, Texas, _____, 20 _____
To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of _____ Lodge No.
_____, A.F. & A.M.:

You are hereby fraternally requested by _____ Lodge No. _____ of the Grand Jurisdiction of _____ to confer the Degree of Entered Apprentice (or Fellowcraft or Master Mason) on _____ for this Lodge, he having been duly elected by this Lodge to receive the same, and to lecture and examine him in the work of said degree and to vote on his proficiency therein.

He should be required to pay _____ dollars for such Degrees.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Lodge, and by order of the Lodge, this _____ day of _____ A.D. 20 _____

(SEAL) _____ Secretary

(As soon as the work has been completed in accordance with the above request, the Secretary should report the fact to the Lodge making the request, giving the dates when the work was done, and remitting the fees collected.)

No. 47
NOTICE OF ELECTION
(To Candidate)

_____, Texas, _____, 20 _____
To _____

Dear Sir:

I have the pleasure to inform you that at a Stated Communication of _____ Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M., held _____, 20 _____, you were elected

to receive the Degrees of Freemasonry in this Lodge. Please present yourself on _____, 20 _____, at _____ o'clock. Should your religious belief be based upon other than the Holy Bible, please bring the "Book of Faith" appropriate to your religious persuasion when you appear for the conferral of your degrees.

to (single) (plural) membership with this Lodge. Our dues are \$ _____ per Masonic year and your dues for the remainder of this Masonic year are \$ _____. Our Stated Communications are held _____ and we look forward to your attendance and active participation.

for advancement. Please present yourself to the Lodge on _____, 20 _____, at _____ o'clock for further instructions.

(SEAL)

Respectfully yours,

_____, Secretary
_____, Phone

No. 48
NOTICE OF REJECTION
(To Candidate)



NOTICE OF REJECTION

_____, Texas, _____, 20_____

To _____

Dear Sir:

It is with regret that I have to inform you that at the Stated Communication of _____

Lodge No._____, A.F. & A.M., held_____, 20_____,

rejected your application in this Lodge for a period of _____ years

to receive the Degrees of Freemasonry.

for advancement.

Respectfully yours,

Signed: _____
Worshipful Master

(seal)

Attested by: _____
Secretary

Copy: Grand Secretary

Form No. 48 (Art. 413)

No. 49

NOTICE NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

Dues to a Masonic Lodge are NOT DEDUCTIBLE as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purposes.

_____, Texas, _____, 20____

To Brother _____

You are hereby notified that you are indebted to Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M., for dues for the current year in the sum of \$_____.

This notice is given in compliance with Art. 319 of the Statutes of the Grand Lodge of Texas (copied in full below) by the terms of which you are hereby notified that unless these dues are paid on or before June 23, 20____, you will be automatically suspended from membership in this Lodge.

If you hold plural membership in any other Texas Lodge, you are hereby further notified that under the provisions of Art. 351 of the Statutes of the Grand Lodge of Texas (also copied in full below) your suspension from membership in this lodge will automatically suspend you from membership in your other Texas Lodge or Lodges.

Given under my hand, and the seal of said Lodge this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20____

(Seal)

_____ Secretary.

Art. 319. (354). **Automatic Suspension.** Lodge dues are due and payable one year in advance on January 1st of each year (unless otherwise exempt) and if not paid on or before that date a member shall be in arrears for his dues; and on or before thirty days before the last stated meeting of the Lodge held before June 24th of each year, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to notify each member, in writing, who may be in arrears for any dues, and if such member fails to pay such dues on or before June 23rd of such year, he shall stand automatically suspended for non-payment of dues without action by the Lodge, and such suspension shall be recorded in the minutes at the first subsequent stated meeting of the Lodge.

Art. 351. (387). **Effects of Suspension or Expulsion in One Lodge.**

A. When a Brother who holds membership in any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, is suspended or expelled for any reason from any Lodge, he is automatically suspended or expelled from all other Lodges in which he might hold membership, without further action than noting the fact in the minutes. The Secretary of the Lodge inflicting such penalty shall immediately report the fact to the other Lodge or Lodges and to this Grand Lodge.

B. When a Brother who holds his parent or plural membership in another Grand Jurisdiction and his other membership in this Jurisdiction is suspended or expelled in this Jurisdiction, such fact shall be immediately reported to the Secretary of his Lodge in the other Jurisdiction. (For Suspension or Expulsion for other than non-payment of dues in another Grand Jurisdiction see Art. 641.)

(Arts. 319,351)

**FORM 49A
INVESTIGATION
MEMBERS IN ARREARS**

**FORM 49A
INVESTIGATION
MEMBERS IN ARREARS**

This form should be used to investigate the reason for a member being in arrears and possibly being suspended for Non-Payment of Dues. Upon completion and final disposition, a copy of this form is to be placed in the member's file.

**PART I
RECORDS**

To be completed by the Secretary:

Date: _____ / _____ / _____	Lodge No. _____
Name: _____	I.D. No.: _____
Address: _____	Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____
City: _____	State: _____ Zip: _____
Tel. No. R: _____ - _____ - _____	Tel. No. B: _____ - _____ - _____
Date Raised: _____ / _____ / _____	Date of Affiliation: _____ / _____ / _____

Plural Member Lodge: _____
 Recommenders: _____, _____, _____
 Secretary's Comments: _____

**PART II
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Every effort should be made to make personal contact!

Contact: Personal: Phone: Letter:
 Comments: _____

Committee Recommendation: Remission: Dimmission: Suspension:
 Signature: (Chairman): _____ Date: _____ / _____ / _____

**PART III
DISPOSITION**

To be completed by the W.M.
 Remission: Dimmission: Suspension:
 Comments: _____

Signature: (W.M.): _____ Date: _____ / _____ / _____

No. 50
FINAL NOTICE
NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

To Brother _____, Texas, _____, 20_____

By the terms of Article 319 of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas, you are hereby notified that unless your dues are paid on or before June 23rd following this notice you shall stand automatically suspended for non-payment of dues. Your Brethren will greatly regret it, if you permit this to happen, and urgently request you to promptly pay same.

Amount of dues unpaid \$ _____.

No. 51.

To Former Members of _____ Lodge No. _____
who were suspended for N. P. D.:

This Lodge earnestly desires to have its members, suspended for non-payment of dues, restored to good standing among your Brethren. The Lodge has authorized me to advise you that for payment of \$_____ you will be issued a dues card which will show your dues paid up to _____, and again be in good standing.

You may be automatically reinstated by payment of the above amount.

You are fraternally invited to reinstate at once.

By order of the Lodge.

(Seal) _____ Secretary.

(Revised 1998)

No. 52.
SPECIAL SUMMONS.

Hall of _____ Lodge No. _____ A.F. & A.M.
_____, Texas, _____, 20_____.

You are hereby summoned to attend a _____ meeting of this Lodge, to be held on the _____ day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M., at the usual place of meeting.

This Communication is called for the purpose of

By order of the Master.

(Seal) Secretary.

No. 53
NOTICE OF LODGE MEETING

Hall of _____ Lodge No. _____ A.F. & A.M.
_____, Texas.

Brother _____

A _____ Meeting of this Lodge will be held at
its hall on _____ Evening, _____ for business and work in _____
Degree, at which you are requested to be present.

By order of the Worshipful Master.

(Seal) _____ Secretary.

No. 54
VISITORS' CARD

Hall of _____ Lodge No. _____ A.F. & A.M.
_____, Texas, _____, 20 _____.

Name of Visitor _____ Residence _____ (full address) Visitor's
Lodge _____ No. _____ Jurisdiction Rank or Title _____
Chairman of Examining Com. _____ Date of Visitation _____.

(Note: To be filled out by Tiler for information of the Master.)

No. 55
NOTICE OF VISITATION

_____ Lodge No. _____ A.F. & A.M.
_____, Texas, _____, 20 _____.

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of _____ Lodge No.
_____, A.F. & A.M., Brothers:

At a Meeting of this Lodge held on _____ we had the pleasure of meet-
ing Brother _____ of your Lodge, who favored us with a visit.

We would be pleased to meet any of your members who may have occasion
to stop in our city.

Fraternally,

_____ Secretary.

No. 56-a
STANDARD UNIFORM DUES RECEIPT

ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF TEXAS	
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT BROTHER:	
NAME: _____ IS AN E.A., F.C., TEMP. M.M. IN GOOD STANDING OF	
LODGE _____ NO. _____	
ID#: _____ DEGREE DATE _____	
SECRETARY _____	
MEMBER'S SIGNATURE: _____	
FEES/DUES PAID TO: DATE: _____	
ID#: _____	
Grand Lodge of Texas, A. F. & A. M.	
This is to certify that the Lodge named on the reverse of this Certificate is a regular and legally constituted and Chartered Lodge under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.	
	
Grand Secretary	

To issue dues card to Entered Apprentice and Fellowcraft Members, use beige dues card with the last degree properly noted. Examples shown on Page 291b and 291c.

No. 56-b
STANDARD UNIFORM ENTERED APPRENTICE CARD

E.A. (DATE) Mo/Day/Yr		\$ 100.00	ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF TEXAS		
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT BROTHER:					
NAME: Adam Q. Mason					
IS AN E.A., xxx , [xxxxxx] IN GOOD STANDING OF					
TEMP. M.M. (DATE)		\$	LODGE	Sample	NO. 1
NAME: Adam Q. Mason			ID#:	111111	DEGREE DATE
FEES / xxxxxxxx DATE: Mo/Day/Year			SECRETARY	Hand-signed by Sec'y	
FEES / xxxxxxxx DATE: Mo/Day/Year			MEMBER'S SIGNATURE:	Hand-signed by Member	
<p style="text-align: center;">Grand Lodge of Texas, A. F. & A. M.</p> <p>This is to certify that the Lodge named on the reverse of this Certificate is a regular and legally constituted and Chartered Lodge under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.</p> 					
Grand Secretary					

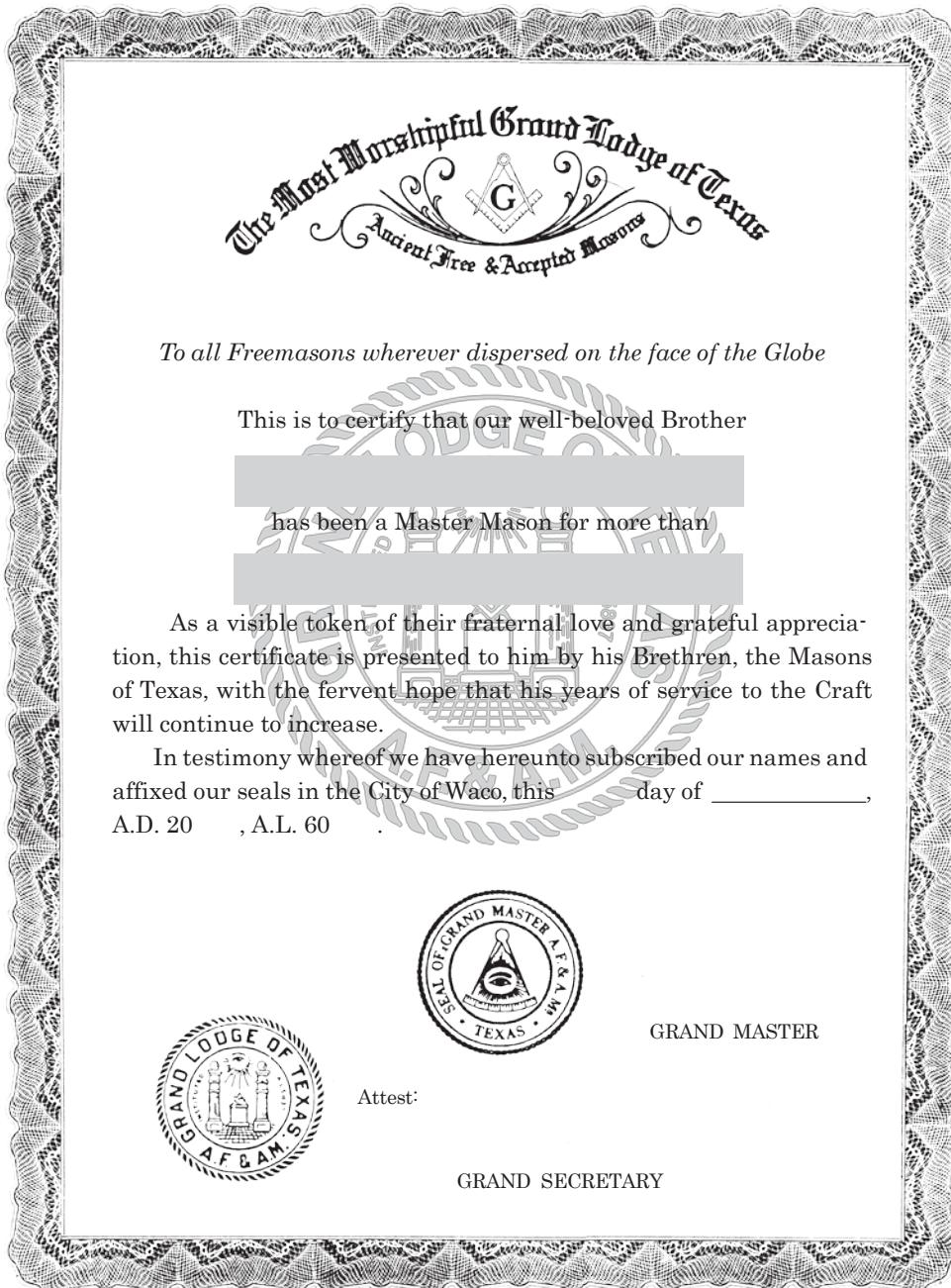
Reverse side of Card

No. 56-c
STANDARD UNIFORM FELLOWCRAFT CARD

FEES:	E.A. (DATE) Mo/Day/Yr	\$ 100.00	ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF TEXAS THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT BROTHER:		
	F.C. (DATE) Mo/Day/Yr	\$ 100.00	NAME: Adam Q. Mason		
	TEMP. M.M. (DATE)	\$	IS A X XX F.C., XXXXXX IN GOOD STANDING OF	LODGE Sample	NO. 1
	NAME: Adam Q. Mason		ID#: 111111	DEGREE DATE	Mo/Day/Yr
	FEES/ XXXXXXXXXX : DATE: Mo/Day/Year		SECRETARY	Hand-signed by Sec'y	
	ID#: 111111		MEMBER'S SIGNATURE:	Hand-signed by Member	
Grand Lodge of Texas, A. F. & A. M. This is to certify that the Lodge named on the reverse of this Certificate is a regular and legally constituted and Chartered Lodge under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.  Grand Secretary					

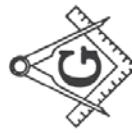
Reverse side of Card

No. 56-d
50-60-65-70-75-80 YEAR CERTIFICATES



NOTE: Shaded area to reflect appropriate names, dates and years of service.

No. 56-f
25-40 YEAR CERTIFICATES



This Certifies That Brother

has been a Master Mason in good standing for

We recommend him to all Masons wherever dispersed for his earnestness and zeal for the Craft.

A T T E S T

Worshipful Master

Secretary

NOTE: Shaded area to reflect appropriate names and years of service.

No. 57
CERTIFICATE OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP (Past Master)
A.F. & A.M.

<h1 style="margin: 0;">Certificate of Life Membership</h1> <h2 style="margin: 0;">A. F. & A. M.</h2>	
	
<p><i>To All Enlightened Ancient Free and Accepted Masons Throughout the Globe, Greetings:</i></p>	
<p>Know Ye. That the Bearer hereof, Brother <u>John Q. Mason</u> is a Life Member of <u>Sample</u> Lodge No. <u>1</u> A. F. & A. M., and a Past Master, having served from <u>June 24, Year</u> to <u>June 23, Year</u>, and having labored among us to our entire satisfaction as a true, faithful and worthy brother, We, the Officers and Members of <u>Sample</u> Lodge No. <u>1</u>, A.F. & A. M. , recommend that he be received and acknowledged as such by all Free and Accepted Masons wherever dispersed.</p>	
<p>In Testimony Whereof. We have granted him this Certificate under the seal of our Lodge, first causing him to sign his name below, that he alone may benefit therefrom.</p>	
<p>Ne Varietur <u>Hand-signature of Member</u> Given at <u>My City</u>, Texas, this <u>Day</u> day of <u>Month</u>, A. D. 20 <u>Year</u> A. L. 60 <u>Year</u> <u>Worshipful Master</u> <u>Secretary</u></p>	
<p> This is to certify that <u>Sample</u> Lodge No. <u>1</u> A. F. & A. M., is a regularly constituted Lodge working under a charter granted by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.</p>	
<p>In Testimony of Which, I have hereunto affixed my official signature and the seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, this _____ day of _____ , A. D. 20 _____, A. L. 60 _____.</p>	
<p>Grand Secretary</p>	

No. 57-a
CERTIFICATE OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP (Not a Past Master)
A.F. & A.M.

To all Enlightened, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons Throughout the Globe,
Greetings:

Know Ye, that the Bearer hereof, Brother _____, is a life member of
_____ Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M., and having labored among us
to our entire satisfactions a true, faithful and worthy Brother, we the officers and
members of _____ Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M., recommend
that he be received and acknowledged as such by all Free and Accepted Masons
wherever dispersed.

In testimony whereof, we have granted him this Certificate under the seal of our
Lodge, first causing him to sign his name, below, that he alone may benefit therefrom.

Ne Varieture _____

Given at _____, Texas, this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20____, A.L. 60____.
(Seal) _____ Worshipful Master

_____ Secretary

This is to certify, That _____ Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M.,
is a regularly constituted Lodge working under a Charter granted by the Most
Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

In testimony of which, I have hereunto affixed my official signature and the
Seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas this _____ day of _____,
_____, A.D. 20____, A.L. 60____.

(Seal) _____ Grand Secretary

No. 57-b
PAST MASTER CERTIFICATE
THE GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS
A.F. & A.M.

PAST MASTER

This Certifies That Brother

IS A PAST MASTER OF
_____ Lodge No. _____
Located at _____
Having Served for the Year Ending A.D. 20____
and as Such Is Recommended to the Craft
Wherever Dispersed
In Testimony Whereof
I Have Hereunto Subscribed My Name
and Affixed the Seal of
The Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M.
in the City of Waco, This
_____ Day of _____, A.D. 20____, A.L. 60____

Attest:

(Seal) _____ Grand Secretary

No. 58
TRAVELING CERTIFICATE

To all Free and Accepted Masons throughout the Globe – Greetings:

Know ye, that the bearer hereof, Brother _____ has been regularly initiated an Entered Apprentice, passed Fellowcraft, and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason; and having worked among us to our entire satisfaction, as a true, faithful and worthy Brother, we, the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of _____ Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M., recommend that he be received and acknowledged as such by all Free and Accepted Masons, wherever dispersed.

His dues have been paid to the _____ day of _____, A.D. 20 _____. After which date this certificate becomes out of date.

In Testimony whereof, we have granted him this certificate, under the Seal of our Lodge, first causing him to write his name in the margin, that he alone may have the benefit thereof.

Given at _____, Texas, this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20 ___. A.L. 60 _____.
(Seal) _____ Secretary.

This is to Certify That _____ Lodge No. is a regularly constituted Lodge, working under a charter granted by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

In testimony of which, I have hereunto affixed my official signature and the Seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20 ___. A.L. 60 _____.
(Seal) _____ Grand Secretary.

No. 59
WIDOWS AND ORPHANS CERTIFICATE

To all Free and Accepted Masons Throughout the Globe – Greetings:

We do hereby certify that our lamented Brother _____ was a worthy member of our Lodge, in good standing at the time of his death. We do, therefore, commend his widow, _____ and his orphan children, to the brotherly affection and kind consideration of all the household of the faithful. We thus commit the widow and orphans of our late Brother, under the Providence of the Grand Master of the Universe, to the care and protection of all true Masons.

Witness our hands and the seal of _____ Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M., at _____, Texas, this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20 ___. A.L. 60 _____.
(Seal) _____ Worshipful Master

Attest: _____ Secretary.

This is to Certify That _____ Lodge No. _____, is a regularly constituted Lodge, working under a charter granted by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

In testimony of which, I have hereunto affixed my official signature and the Seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20 ___. A.L. 60 _____.
(Seal) _____ Grand Secretary

No. 59-a
WIDOW'S CERTIFICATE

To all Free and Accepted Masons throughout the Globe – Greetings:

We do hereby certify that our lamented Brother _____ was a worthy member of our Lodge, in good standing at the time of his death. We do, therefore, commend his widow, _____, to the brotherly affection and kind consideration of all the household of the faithful. We thus commit the widow of our late Brother, under the Providence of the Grand Master of the Universe, to the care and protection of all true Masons.

Witness our hands and the seal of _____ Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M., at _____, Texas, this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20_____, A.L. 60_____.

(Seal) _____ Worshipful Master

Attest: _____ Secretary.

This is to Certify That _____ Lodge No. _____, is a regularly constituted Lodge, working under a charter granted by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

In testimony of which, I have hereunto affixed my official signature and the Seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20_____, A.L. 60_____.

(Seal) _____ Grand Secretary

No. 59-b
ORPHAN'S CERTIFICATE

To all Free and Accepted Masons Throughout the Globe – Greetings:

We do hereby certify that our lamented Brother _____ was a worthy member of our Lodge, in good standing at the time of his death. We do, therefore, commend his orphan child, _____, to the brotherly affection and kind consideration of all the household of the faithful. We thus commit the orphan of our late Brother, under the Providence of the Grand Master of the Universe, to the care and protection of all true Masons.

Witness our hands and the seal of _____ Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M., at _____, Texas, this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20_____, A.L. 60_____.

(Seal) _____ Worshipful Master

Attest: _____ Secretary.

This is to Certify That _____ Lodge No. _____, is a regularly constituted Lodge, working under a charter granted by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

In testimony of which, I have hereunto affixed my official signature and the Seal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20_____, A.L. 60_____.

(Seal) _____ Grand Secretary

No. 60.
MEMBERS AND VISITORS REGISTER.
____ Lodge No. ____ A. F. & A. M.

Date	Name	Lodge	No.	Location

No. 61.
LOOSE LEAF SECRETARY'S ACCOUNT BOOK.

DATE			NAME	Ledger Page	AMOUNT	TOTAL
Day	Month	Year				

BOUND SECRETARY'S ACCOUNT BOOK.

(Left hand page.)
Secretary

Cash Received by			Secretary				
DATE		NAME	Ledger Page	Dues	Fees	Other Sources	Total
Month	Day						

(Right hand page.)

Cash Paid to Treasurer

Orders Drawn

Date	Name of Treasurer	Amount		Date	No.	For Whom Drawn	Amount

No. 62.
TREASURER'S ACCOUNT BOOK.

Lodge No. , A. F. & A. M.

RECEIPTS		DISBURSEMENTS			
Date of Treasurer's Receipt	Amount Received	Date of Order	No. of Order	For whom Drawn	Amount

No. 63
MEMBERS LEDGER

Name _____ Lodge No._____, A.F. & A.M.
 Date Petition Received_____, Elected_____, Occupation_____,
 Residence_____, Date of Birth_____, Where Born_____,
 Date affiliated_____, Affiliation on Dimit from_____Lodge No._____,
 located at_____, Received Degrees in_____Lodge No._____,
 located at_____.
 Initiated_____, Passed_____, Raised_____, Examined in M.M. Degree_____,
 Suspended—N.P.D._____, Suspended—U.M.C._____, Expelled_____,
 Reinstated_____, Dimitted_____, Died_____.

	DEBITS				CREDITS					DEBITS				CREDITS			

No. 64
WARRANT

Cleburne Lodge No. 315, A.F. & A.M.
(WARRANT)

TO_____ Authorized_____, 20_____
Treasurer

Following authorization by the Lodge, you are hereby directed to pay the following account:

TO_____ DR.

Date	Description of Claim	Amount

Worshipful Master

Secretary

No. 65
CHECK

No. _____ \$ _____ _____ 20	This check is issued as Directed in Warrant No. _____ Cleburne, Texas, _____ 20 _____	No. _____
To _____ For _____ _____		Pay To The Order of _____ \$ _____ Dollars
Amount Brought Forward \$ _____	Cleburne Lodge No. 315, A.F. & A.M.	
Amount Deposited \$ _____	TO: Cleburne National Bank Cleburne, Texas	Worshipful Master _____ Treasurer _____ Secretary
Total Amount of this Check \$ _____		
Carried Forward \$ _____		

No. 66
FORM OF BONDTHE STATE OF TEXAS }
COUNTY OF }

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That we, _____,* (Secretary-Treasurer) of _____ Lodge
 No. _____, A.F. & A.M., of _____, Texas, as principal, and _____
 _____ and _____, as sureties, are held and firmly bound
 unto said _____ Lodge No. _____, in the penal sum of
 _____ Dollars to the payment of which well and truly to be made
 we hereby bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and administrators, firmly by
 these presents:

DATED this the _____ day of _____, A.D. 20 ____.

The condition of the above obligation is such that the said _____
 duly elected and installed Secretary-Treasurer of said Lodge aforesaid shall faithfully
 perform the duties of his office, and account for all moneys and other property
 of said Lodge coming into his custody from time to time, as may be required by the
 Constitution and Laws of The Grand Lodge of Texas, (A.F. & A.M.)

NOW THEREFORE, if the said _____, his heirs, executors
 or administrators shall faithfully account for all such moneys and such other
 property of the said Lodge coming into his custody, and well and truly pay over
 same as and when ordered by the Lodge, then the above obligation shall be null
 and void, otherwise, to be and remain in full force and effect.

*(Strike out office not covered.)

Principal _____

Sureties _____

The foregoing bond is approved this the
 _____ day of _____, A.D. 20 ____.

Worshipful Master of _____
 Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M.

No. 67
PROXY FOR REPRESENTATIVE IN GRAND LODGE

To All whom it May Concern, Greeting:

Be it known, that at a stated meeting of _____ Lodge No. _____ held at _____, County of _____, State of Texas, on the _____ day of _____, A.D. 20____, A.L. 60____, our worthy Brother _____ Id.No._____

was duly chosen as the representative of said Lodge, in the M:W: Grand Lodge of Texas, at its next Grand Annual Communication, as fully appears in the minutes of our Lodge at said Stated Meeting; said proxy has not directly or indirectly solicited his appointment or election.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of our Lodge, this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20____, A.L. 60____.

(See Art. 5)

(Seal) _____ Secretary

No. 68
COMMISSION FOR GRAND OFFICERS BY APPOINTMENT

The Grand Lodge of Texas, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons;

To all whom it may concern:

Know ye, That I, _____, Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in and for the State of Texas, and the Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging, reposing special trust and confidence in the Masonic abilities and virtues of our worthy Brother _____, do hereby nominate and appoint him by virtue of the power and authority in me vested by the laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas, _____, and do hereby invest him with the power and privileges of such office and enjoin upon him the performance of the duties thereof.

The officers and members of Lodges under our jurisdiction, and the Fraternity in general, are exhorted to recognize, respect and obey him, the said Brother _____ as our _____.

In testimony Whereof, I have hereunto signed my name and caused the seal of the Grand Lodge and signature of our R:W: Grand Secretary to be affixed, this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20____, A.L. 60____.

(Seal) _____ Grand Secretary _____ Grand Master

No. 69
SPECIAL DEPUTATION

In the name and by the authority of the M:W: Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M. – To whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

Whereas, _____ (set forth purposed of appointment.)

Now, therefore, to the end that the rules and regulations of said Grand Lodge may be complied with and the ancient customs of the Craft in such matters observed, by virtue of the power and authority in me vested, and reposing full confidence in the skill and ability of _____ I do hereby constitute and appoint him my Special Deputy, Granting unto him full power in the premises to

represent me as such and direct that he shall make due return of his acts, hereunder as required by the Laws of said Grand Lodge.

Given under my hand and seal of office at _____, this the _____ day of _____, A.D. 20____, A.L. 60____.

_____ Grand Master

No. 70

CERTIFICATE OF WAIVER OF JURISDICTION IN FAVOR OF
REGULAR LODGE IN THE REPUBLIC OF MEXICO

The undersigned Secretary of hereafter stated Lodge, under the jurisdiction of The Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M., certifies that the attached is a true original counterpart of Petition for Waiver of Jurisdiction executed by _____ (Name of Applicant), residing at _____ (Town), Texas, within the jurisdiction of this Lodge, and report of Committee thereon.

The petition was duly presented to this Lodge on the _____ day of _____, 20____, and on said date read at Stated Meeting of this Lodge; that said petition was referred to investigation committee, and report of such investigating committee was presented to Stated Meeting of this Lodge on _____ day of _____, 20____. At such time such Lodge duly voted to grant such Waiver.

Given under my hand and seal of this Lodge this _____ day of _____, 20____.

_____ Secretary

(Seal of Lodge)

_____ Lodge No. _____
under the jurisdiction of The Grand
Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M.

PETITION FOR WAIVER OF JURISDICTION IN FAVOR OF
RECOGNIZED MASONIC LODGE WITHIN THE REPUBLIC
OF MEXICO

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of _____ Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M., _____, Texas:

The subscriber respectfully states that he is desirous of applying for membership in some regular Lodge within the Republic of Mexico, operating under the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge recognized by the Grand Lodge of Texas, and here enters his petition praying that _____ Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M., located at _____, Texas, waive such jurisdiction as it now holds over him in favor of _____ Lodge No. _____, located in the city of _____, Mexico.

He further states that his answers to the following questions are true as he believes:

(1) Do you seriously declare, upon your honor, that you believe in God and the authenticity of the Holy Scriptures? Answer _____

(2) Do you seriously declare, upon your honor, that unsolicited by friends and uninfluenced by mercenary motives, you freely and voluntarily offer yourself a candidate for the Mysteries of Freemasonry? Answer _____

(3) Do you seriously declare, upon your honor, that you are prompted to solicit the privileges of Masonry by a favorable opinion conceived of the institution, a desire of knowledge, and a sincere wish of being serviceable to your fellow-creatures? Answer _____

(4) Do you seriously declare, upon your honor, that you will cheerfully conform to all the ancient Charges, and established usages and customs of the Fraternity? Answer _____

(5) Do you declare, upon your honor, that you have never before petitioned for initiation in any Lodge of Masons? Answer _____. If the answer is NO, give name, number, location and approximate date and any other particulars.

Petitioner further states that he is _____ years of age, and was born on the _____ day of _____, _____, in the city of _____, county of _____, that he now resides at _____, Texas, and is employed by _____ located at _____ with occupation as that of _____.

Signed: _____
 (First Name) (Middle Name) (Last Name)

We do hereby certify that we are personally acquainted with Mr. _____ and propose him as worthy of membership in the Masonic Fraternity.

(Members of this Lodge)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of _____ Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M.:

We, your Committee to whom was referred the petition of Mr. _____ for Waiver of Jurisdiction to a Regular Lodge within the Republic of Mexico, find in answer to the following questions:

1. Is he married or single? _____
 2. If Married, is he living with his wife? _____
 3. What is his occupation and where is he employed? _____

 4. Is he physically qualified for Initiation? _____
 5. What is the character of his associates? _____
 6. Is he a law-abiding citizen? _____
 7. Does he have sufficient education and intelligence to appreciate the value, doctrines and tenets of Freemasonry? _____
 8. Does the candidate meet the qualifications as set out by Article 466, Grand Lodge Laws? _____
- We report _____ on this petition.
-
-

No. 71
MINIMUM AUDIT FORM

Completing Form 71

The Form 71 should be completed covering the Masonic year, beginning June 24 of the previous year and ending on June 23 of the current year.

Heading: The heading is self-explanatory and should be completed in total.

Receipts and Disbursements: Cash on hand at the beginning of the current year must agree EXACTLY with the ending cash on hand for the preceding year from Last year's Form No. 71.

Current Year Receipts: Receipts includes all income, donations, interest, dividends and other sources of funds received by the Lodge. Any amount listed under "Other" must be explained in detail. Use extra sheet if necessary.

Current Year Disbursements: Any money that leaves the Lodge funds should be categorized and entered on an appropriate line. Any disbursement amount not listed above should be entered under "Other Disbursements" and must be explained in detail. Use extra sheet if necessary.

Assets: Ending Cash from the Receipts & Disbursements section should be entered as the first item under Assets. All other holdings such as certificates of deposit, mutual funds, stocks, land, building & fixtures should be entered at the appropriate value. Any amount listed under "Other" must be explained in detail. Use extra sheet if necessary.

Endowed Membership Units: should be included under Assets, using the current unit value as determined by the Investment Committee each year. This amount is available from the Grand Secretary as soon as available in July and is included with your Endowed Membership check. The number of units as of June 23 of the current year is multiplied by the current unit value and is shown under the Assets.

Liabilities: The remaining balances of any mortgages or credit purchases of the Lodge should be shown under Liabilities. Any loans to individuals or other entities must also be listed as separate line items under Assets. Any amount listed under "Other" must be explained in detail. Use extra sheet if necessary.

Annual Charitable Activities: This report is the total dollar value of all charitable activities of your Lodge for the Masonic year, which should be kept on monthly records in your Lodge. Include all cash gifts and the estimated value of non-cash gifts. Mileage is computed at .40 cents per mile, and volunteer charitable hours are calculated at minimum wage (\$7.25 per hr) for each hour worked. The portion of the per capita paid to Grand Lodge that is distributed to charities, (which is \$7.25 of the \$14.25) is reported by multiplying the number of Members subject to the per capita fee time \$7.25. Do not include 50 year or suspended Members. Also report the \$25.00 paid for each MM Degree and the \$5 for each EA Degree conferred in the Masonic year.

Form 71 should be completed by the Treasurer of the Lodge, who will present the completed form, the Lodge check book and validated balance statements from banks, mutual funds or brokerage houses for savings and investments to the Lodge Audit Committee for their annual audit. Investment accounts should be itemized individually.

The new incoming Master shall appoint an Audit Committee at his 1st meeting. They should, that day, ask the Treasurer for a completed Form 71, along with the checkbook and all bank statements so that they can perform the audit on time. The Lodge Audit Committee should draft a report to the Lodge stating their findings and whether or not Form 71 and its accompanying document accurately reflect the financial condition of the Lodge.

The Lodge Secretary must read the Audit Report during a stated meeting and enter the report as part of Lodge minutes. The original of the signed and audited Form 71 must be forwarded to the Grand Secretary no later than September 15 of that Masonic year. See Grand Lodge Article 284. Be sure to retain a copy for the Lodge's permanent files. The District Deputy Grand Master will ask to see the copy in your files during his official visit.

MINIMUM AUDIT FORM No. 71 Due by September 15th	
To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Members of _____ Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M., _____, Texas, District No. _____	
We, your Auditing Committee, in accordance with the provisions of Article 284 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Texas, have audited the books and records of the Treasurer and Secretary, and submit our report.	
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR ENDED JUNE 23, _____	
Cash on hand and in bank June 23, _____ (for previous year) \$ _____	
RECEIPTS:	
Dues	\$ _____
Fees.....	_____
Rent	_____
Endowed Disbursement check.....	_____
Lodge Investment earnings.....	_____
Fund Raisers	_____
Donations & Gifts.....	_____
Other: _____	_____
TOTAL RECEIPTS \$ _____	
TOTAL BEGINNING CASH AND RECEIPTS \$ _____	
DISBURSEMENTS:	
Printing and Office Expense	\$ _____
Newspaper Notices.....	_____
Charity	_____
Aprons & Lodge Awards.	_____
Salaries.....	_____
S.S. and Other Taxes	_____
Refreshments	_____
Utility Bills.	_____
Insurance	_____
Note Principal	_____
Interest.....	_____
Rent	_____
Maintenance and Repairs.....	_____
Grand Lodge – Annual Return	_____
Lamar Medals & Scholarships	_____
Funerals & Flowers	_____
Loans	_____
Other Disbursements _____	_____
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$ _____	
CASH ON HAND AND IN BANK, JUNE 23, _____ (current year) \$ _____ *	

STATEMENT OF WORTH FOR CURRENT YEAR - JUNE 23, _____		
ASSETS:		
Cash on hand and in Bank (current year)	\$	* Same as previous line
Land.....	_____	
Building.....	_____	
Furniture and Fixtures.....	_____	
Endowment Value (Number of Units _____ x \$ _____)	_____	
Loans.....	_____	
Investments (Other Types)	_____	
Other: _____	_____	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	_____
LIABILITIES:		
Accounts Payable	\$	_____
Notes Payable.....	_____	
Taxes Payable.....	_____	
All Other Liabilities _____	_____	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$	_____
NET WORTH (Assets less Liabilities)	\$	_____
TOTAL LIABILITIES and NET WORTH (Current Year)	\$	_____
 ANNUAL CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES REPORT:		
Convert your charitable activities into a dollar value. Include all of the following:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash gifts and non-cash gifts, estimated value • Mileage vouchers, computed at .40 cents per mile • Manpower hours, calculated at minimum wage (\$7.25 per hour) for each hour worked • Charitable portion of the per capita paid in annual returns, calculated at \$7.25 times the number of Members subject to per capita fees. Do not include 50 year or suspended members. • Include the \$25 for each Master Mason's Degree and \$5 for each Entered Apprentice Degree conferred 		
Total \$ Value of Annual Charitable Activities	\$	_____
 COMMITTEE: _____		
Chairman	Member	Member
 Form No. 71 - Revised 7-1-2010 Art. 284		

No. 72
CASH RECEIPTS

No. 73
CASH DISBURSEMENTS

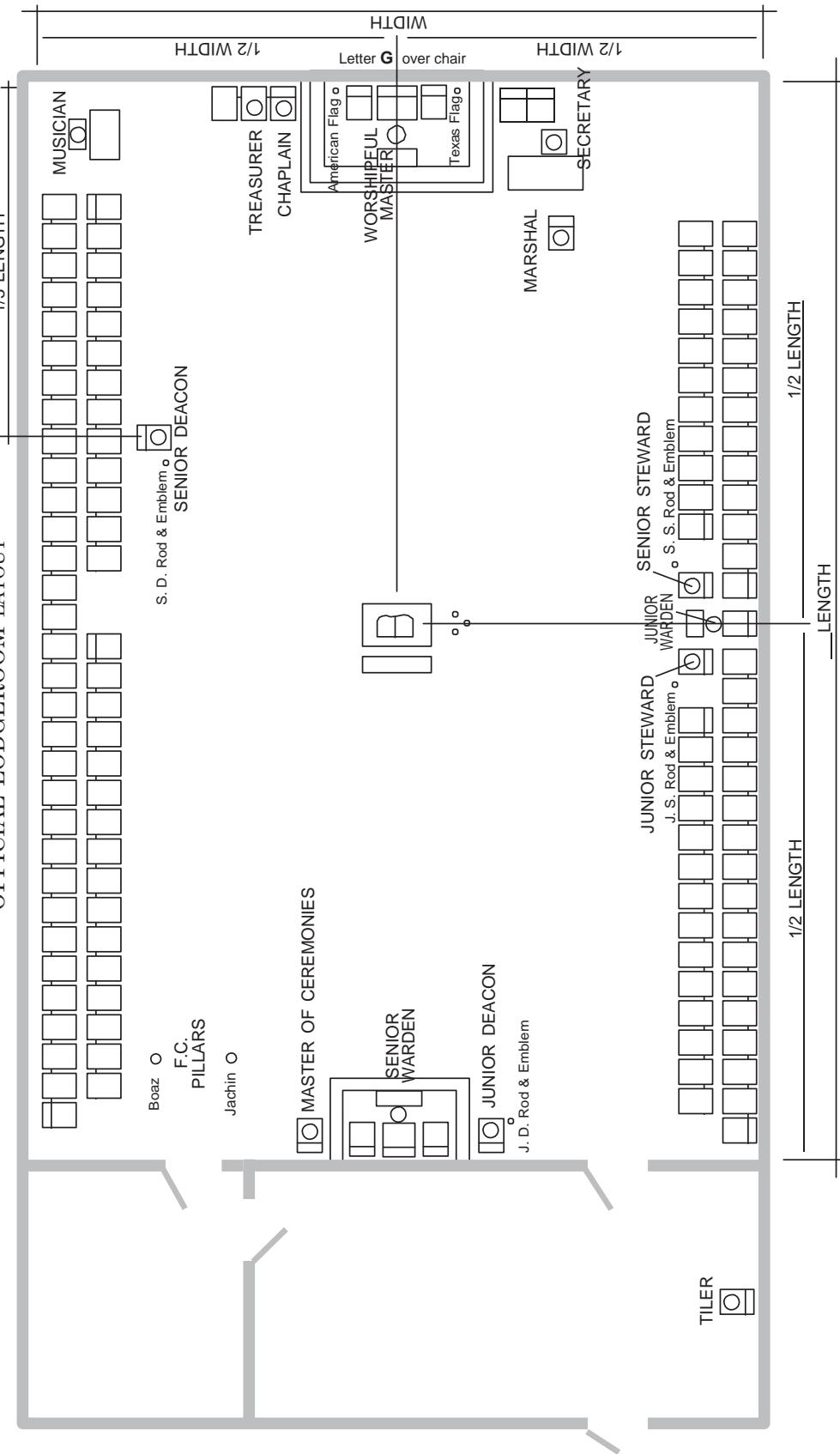
Reverse Side

No. 74
RECAPITULATION

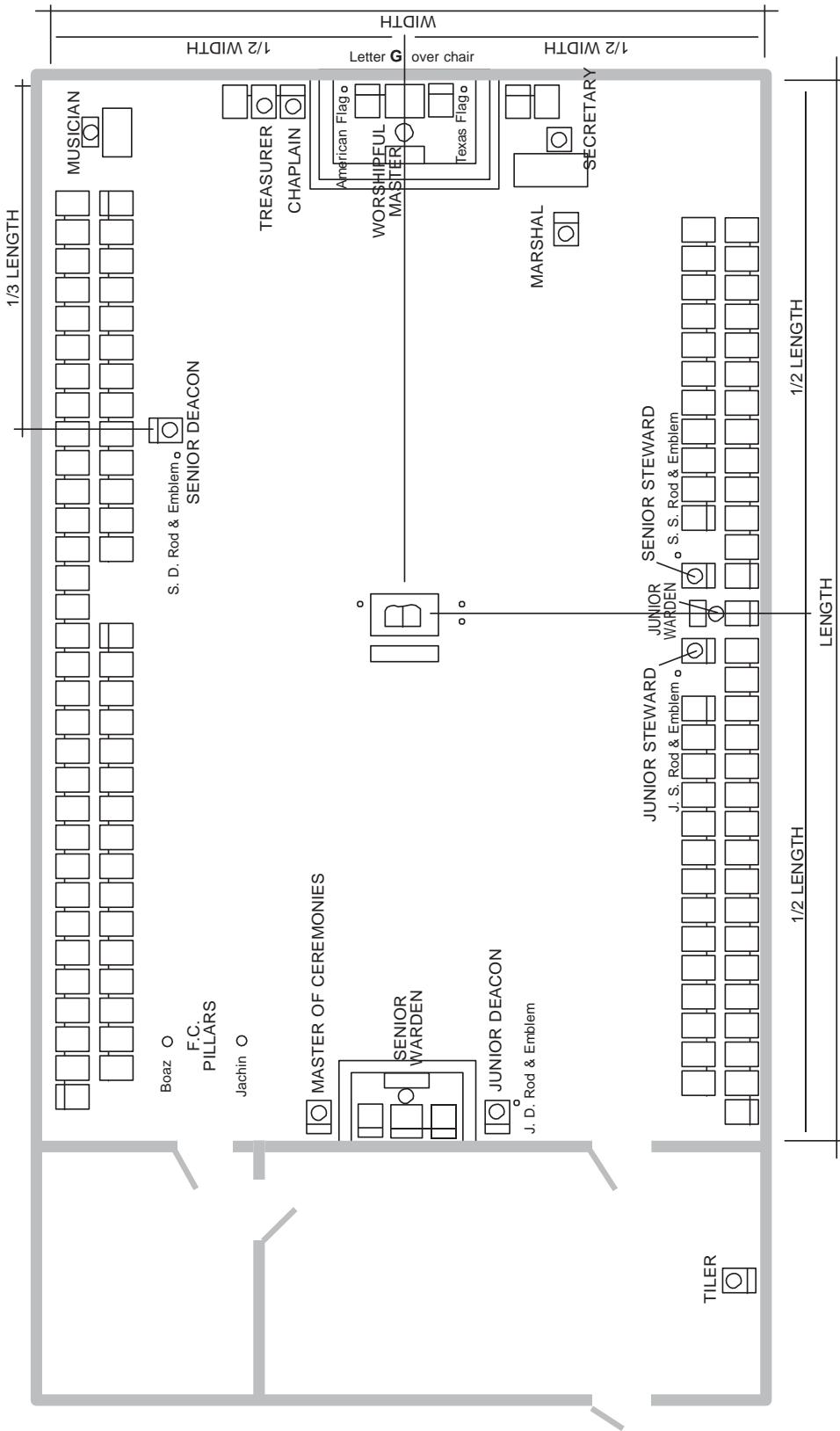
RECAPITULATION

Reverse Side

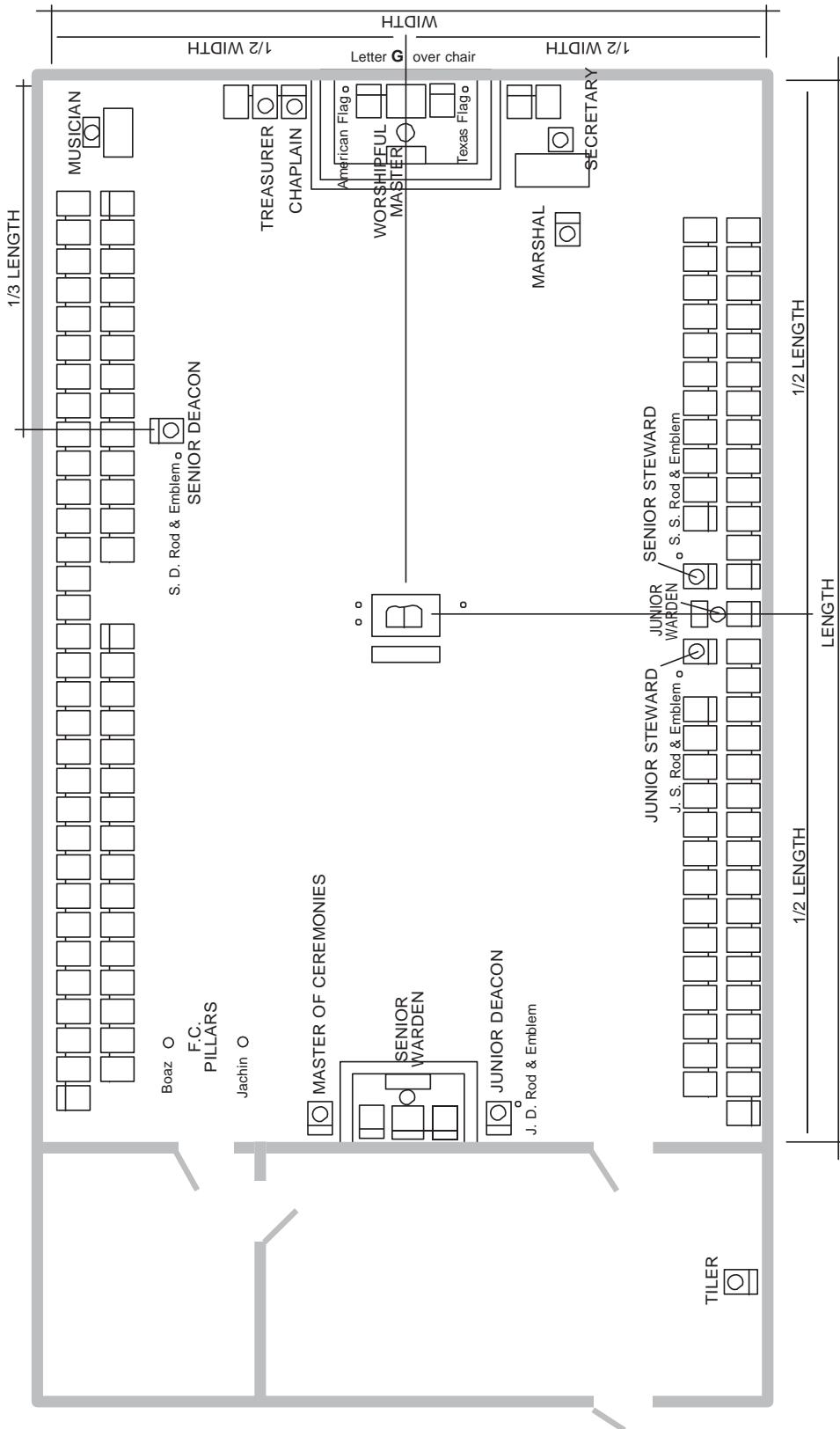
No. 75
OFFICIAL LODGEROOM LAYOUT



OPTIONAL PLACEMENT OF LESSER LIGHTS IN THE ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGRE
No. 75a



OPTIONAL PLACEMENT OF LESSER LIGHTS IN THE FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE
No. 75b



Form No. 76
FORM OF DEED

REPEALED 2005

76-a
RESOLUTION

REPEALED

76-b (Side 1)

**GRAND LODGE APPROVED FUNDS OF CONSTITUENT LODGES
FOR THE PURPOSE OF INSTALLMENT PURCHASE OF
ENDOWED MEMBERSHIPS AND
APPLICATION AND PURCHASE AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE
ENDOWED MEMBERSHIPS ON INSTALLMENT PURCHASE PLAN**

**GRAND LODGE APPROVED FUNDS OF CONSTITUENT LODGE
FOR THE PURPOSE OF INSTALLMENT PURCHASE OF
ENDOWED MEMBERSHIPS AND
APPLICATION AND PURCHASE AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE
ENDOWED MEMBERSHIPS ON INSTALLMENT PURCHASE PLAN**

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS TO ESTABLISH FUNDS

Permission for Lodges to establish special accounts for the purpose of assisting and encouraging those members and other authorized persons who wish to purchase Endowed Memberships on an installment plan by making regular, systematic and regulated contributions to such special fund for the purpose of accumulating the fee required to purchase an Endowed Membership is authorized by Article 318-a (7) of Grand Lodge Law. The following rules and requirements apply to such special funds.

1. Any plan of a Lodge to permit a member (or other person authorized under the provisions of Article 318-a) to purchase Endowed Memberships on an installment basis must first be approved by the Lodge at its regular Stated Meeting, and such action by the Lodge shall be recorded in the minutes of that meeting, and the Grand Secretary shall be promptly notified of such action by the Lodge.
2. The written agreement on the reverse side of this form shall be executed in duplicate, and copy shall be placed in the files of the Lodge.
3. All monies of such fund shall be placed in an account separate and apart from the Lodge general fund, and the depository shall be a reputable financial institution whose deposits are insured and interest-bearing.
4. The principal balance of such fund shall not be used for any purpose except to purchase Endowed Memberships for those who contribute to the fund.
5. An annual accounting of the fund shall be included in the audit of Lodge funds, and the fund shall be designated as "Installment Purchase Fund for Endowed Memberships".
6. The maximum period of time allowed to accumulate the required purchase price of an Endowed Membership shall not exceed five (5) years.
7. Any principal amount less than the required fee remaining to the credit of any depositor at the end of five (5) years shall be returned to the depositor, but such depositor, his heirs or legal representatives may donate any such remaining balance to the Lodge at any time, and the Lodge may either leave the balance in the fund or transfer same to the Lodge general fund.
8. All interest earned from deposits to the fund shall accrue to the credit of the Lodge, and any such earned interest may be transferred to the Lodge general fund on an annual basis, but no interest shall be charged Purchaser by Lodge.
9. Any owner of any amount less than the required fee in the fund, his heirs or legal representatives may withdraw such principal balance at any time upon written notice given thirty (30) days in advance of such withdrawal; in any of the following instances:
 - a. should the owner of any such balance request that his funds be returned to him, or
 - b. should the member or the person making the deposits die, or
 - c. should the member of the Lodge remove his membership from the Lodge, or
 - d. should the member be suspended for non-payment of his Lodge dues, or
 - e. should the member be either suspended or expelled for disciplinary reasons.
10. This agreement shall not be voided or the purchase price adversely affected if the Lodge later increases the endowed Membership purchase price in compliance with Article 318-a (2).

NOTE: Lodge and Purchaser to complete form on reverse side in duplicate

76-b (Side 2)

**APPLICATION AND AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE
ENDOWED MEMBERSHIP ON INSTALLMENT PURCHASE PLAN**

**GRAND LODGE APPROVED FUNDS OF CONSTITUENT LODGE
FOR THE PURPOSE OF INSTALLMENT PURCHASE OF
ENDOWED MEMBERSHIPS AND
APPLICATION AND PURCHASE AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE
ENDOWED MEMBERSHIPS ON INSTALLMENT PURCHASE PLAN**

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS TO ESTABLISH FUNDS

Permission for Lodges to establish special accounts for the purpose of assisting and encouraging those members and other authorized persons who wish to purchase Endowed Memberships on an installment plan by making regular, systematic and regulated contributions to such special fund for the purpose of accumulating the fee required to purchase an Endowed Membership is authorized by Article 318-a(7) of Grand Lodge Law. The following rules and requirements apply to such special funds.

1. Any plan of a Lodge to permit a member (or other person authorized under the provisions of Article 318-a) to purchase Endowed Memberships on an installment basis must first be approved by the Lodge at its regular Stated Meeting, and such action by the Lodge shall be recorded in the minutes of that meeting, and the Grand Secretary shall be promptly notified of such action by the Lodge.
2. The written agreement on the reverse side of this form shall be executed in duplicate, and copy shall be placed in the files of the Lodge.
3. All monies of such fund shall be placed in an account separate and apart from the Lodge general fund, and the depository shall be a reputable financial institution whose deposits are insured and interest-bearing.
4. The principal balance of such fund shall not be used for any purpose except to purchase Endowed Memberships for those who contribute to the fund.
5. An annual accounting of the fund shall be included in the audit of Lodge funds, and the fund shall be designated as "Installment Purchase Fund for Endowed Memberships".
6. The maximum period of time allowed to accumulate the required purchase price of an Endowed Membership shall not exceed five (5) years.
7. Any principal amount less than the required fee remaining to the credit of any depositor at the end of five (5) years shall be returned to the depositor, but such depositor, his heirs or legal representatives may donate any such remaining balance to the Lodge at any time, and the Lodge may either leave the balance in the fund or transfer same to the Lodge general fund.
8. All interest earned from deposits to the fund shall accrue to the credit of the Lodge, and any such earned interest may be transferred to the Lodge general fund on an annual basis, but no interest shall be charged Purchaser by Lodge.
9. Any owner of any amount less than the required fee in the fund, his heirs or legal representatives may withdraw such principal balance at any time upon written notice given thirty (30) days in advance of such withdrawal; in any of the following instances:
 - a. should the owner of any such balance request that his funds be returned to him, or
 - b. should the member or the person making the deposits die, or
 - c. should the member of the Lodge remove his membership from the Lodge, or
 - d. should the member be suspended for non-payment of his Lodge dues, or
 - e. should the member be either suspended or expelled for disciplinary reasons.
10. This agreement shall not be voided or the purchase price adversely affected if the Lodge later increases the endowed Membership purchase price in compliance with Article 318-a (2).

NOTE: Lodge and Purchaser to complete form on reverse side in duplicate

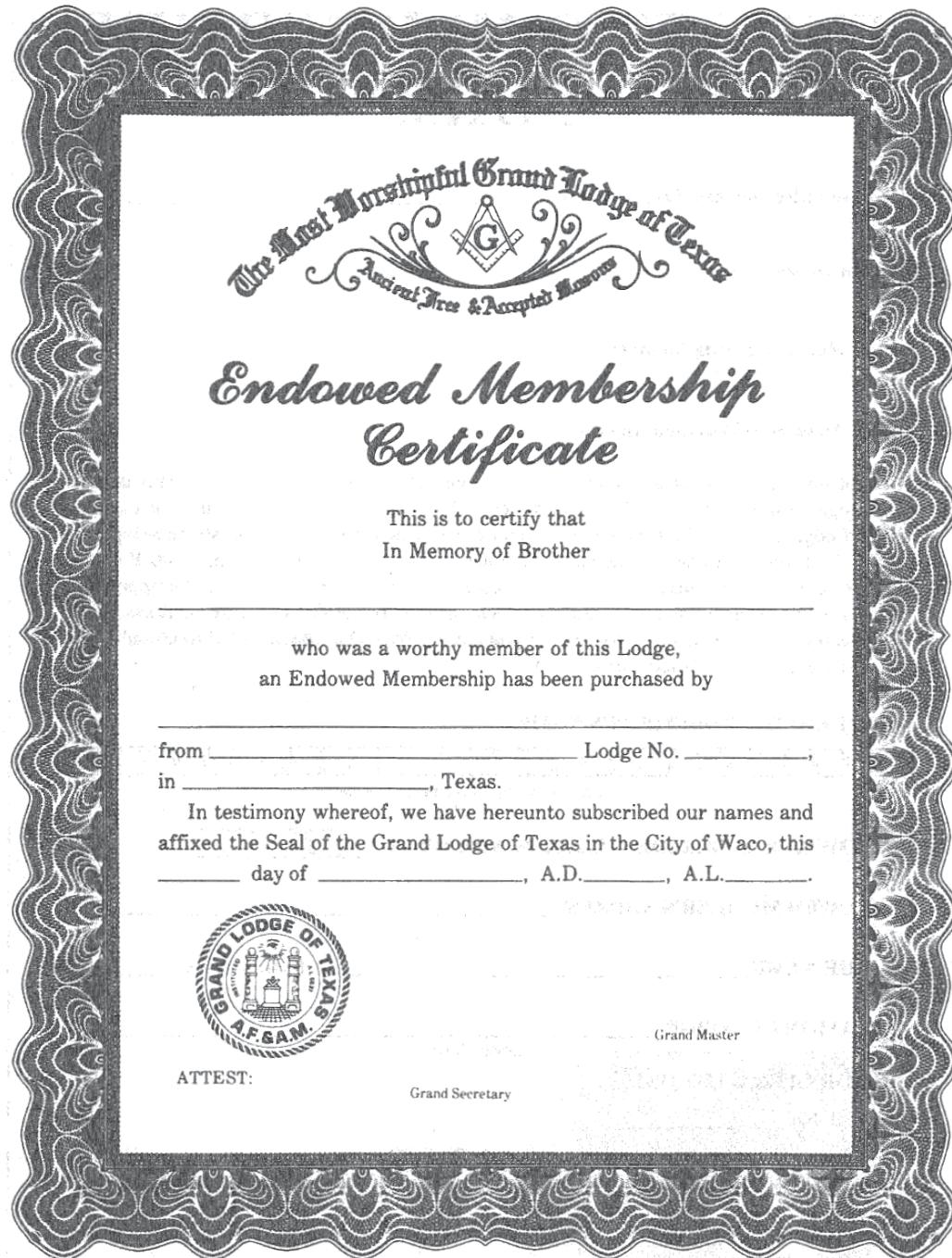
No. 76-c
ENDOWED MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE, BROTHER



No. 76-d
ENDOWED MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE, IN HONOR OF



No. 76-e
ENDOWED MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE, IN MEMORY OF



No. 77
ENDOWED MEMBERSHIP FORM

ENDOWED MEMBERSHIP FORM

Endowed Membership Purchased by: _____

For Myself

50+ Member (\$500.00)

In Honor of Living Member

In Memory of Deceased Member (\$500.00)

Cost of this Endowed Membership is _____ times \$100 = \$_____. This depends on Lodge By-Laws and must be in multiples of \$100 with a \$500 minimum. For example, if the Lodge amended their By-Laws to require their subsequent Endowed Memberships to be \$700, the form would be completed as "7 times \$100 = \$700" (A Fifty-plus Year Mason or a Life Member at the rate of \$500.00). All existing \$500 Endowed memberships of the Lodge will remain in place and the Lodge will receive the appropriate returns for these endowments. Make check payable to The Grand Lodge of Texas. Extra Certificates are \$2.00 each and **MUST be paid by a SEPARATE check**. Mail to Grand Lodge of Texas, P.O. Box 446, Waco, Texas 76703.

PRINT ENDOWED MEMBER'S NAME:

(As it is to be shown on the Certificate)

ENDOWED MEMBER'S IDENTIFICATION NUMBER _____

ENDOWED MEMBERS

ADDRESS _____

LODGE NAME AND NUMBER _____

LOCATION OF LODGE _____

City or Town

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Check No. _____

Amt. _____

Duplicate _____

Check No. _____

Amt. _____

Art. 318a. Endowed Membership.

1. Any member in good standing in a Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction whose dues are paid to date may purchase an endowed membership for the benefit of such Lodge (hereinafter referred to as the "Endowed Lodge"), and be thereby relieved from the further payment of dues in the Endowed Lodge effective as of the date such purchase is made. The secretary of the Endowed Lodge shall issue annually a regular dues card to the member holding the endowed membership certificate at the same time other dues cards of the Lodge are issued.

2. (a) The purchase price for an endowed membership shall be fixed annually by the Endowed Lodge as may be determined by a majority vote of the members present; provided that such purchase price shall be a multiple of \$100 (\$100 being the par value of an endowment unit) and shall be not less than \$500 (5 endowment units). The vote to fix the purchase price for an endowed membership shall be had at the time provided by Article 292 and any change in the purchase price shall be effective June 24.

(b) A deceased Master Mason may be honored in a Texas Lodge with the purchased of an Endowment in his name at the rate of \$500.00 (5 endowment units) or at the current lowest rate of the Texas Grand Lodge Endowment program.

(c) A Fifty-plus Year Mason or a Life Member may purchase an Endowment for himself or be honored with the purchase of an Endowment in his name at the rate of \$500.00 (5 endowment units) or at the current lowest rate of the Texas Grand Lodge Endowment program.

(d) The increase of an endowed membership purchase price shall not void or adversely affect any previously agreed upon installment purchase plans established under article 318a(7).

(e) An Endowed member who wishes to support his Lodge by adding to what he has previous paid for his Endowment may do so in units of \$100 or multiples. (Revised 2013)

3. The purchase price collected by an Endowed Lodge for endowed memberships shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary so as to be received by him on or before the next succeeding June 23 in order to qualify for an income distribution under Paragraph 4 hereof. Funds received by an Endowed Lodge for the purchase of endowed memberships may be invested by the Endowed Lodge in an insured interest bearing account in a reputable financial institution, and all such funds except as provided under Paragraph 7 hereof, shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary no later than the next succeeding June 23rd. The Grand Secretary shall cause all monies received by his office for the purchase of endowed memberships to be promptly deposited into the Endowed Membership Fund and shall provide a monthly summary of such deposits to the Grand Lodge Trustees and to the Committee on Investments.

4. (a) The Endowed Membership fund shall be invested and reinvested from time to time under the supervision of the Grand Lodge Trustees.

The Grand Lodge Trustees shall take action as they may determine necessary to protect the Endowed Membership Fund for the benefit of the Lodges, including, without limitation, the formation of Trusts, Limited Liability Partnerships, corporations, or any other appropriate entity as may be determined by the Trustees.

(b) For accounting and investment purposes the Endowed Membership Fund shall be composed of endowment units with an initial value of \$100 each. The net asset value of an endowment unit may vary from one investment period to the next. For the purposes of computing the net asset value of an endowment unit, interest and dividends received, any net realized capital gain or loss and the distribution required by this Article, the investment period shall begin July 1 and end the following June 30. All endowment units shall be credited and allocated to the Endowed Lodges.

(c) Annually, not later than the first day of August, Endowed Lodges shall receive a distribution from the Endowed Membership Fund computed as follows:

(1) An amount equal to the interest and dividends received.

(2) Plus sixty percent (60%) of the net realized capital gain received; provided, the additional distribution may be reduced so that the additional distribution shall not cause the net asset value of an endowment unit to be less than \$100 after the additional distribution.

No distribution shall be paid for any endowed membership unit until August 1 of the 2nd calendar year after such endowment membership unit is received by the Grand Secretary.

(d) An administrative fee not to exceed five percent (5%) of the annual distribution paid to the Endowed Lodges may be deducted from the distribution before payment is made to the Endowed Lodges. (Revised 2012)

5. The Grand Secretary shall issue to the member in whose name an endowment has been created for the benefit of an Endowed Lodge an Endowed Membership Certificate under the Seal of the Grand Lodge, signed by the Grand Master and attested by the Grand Secretary. Replacement or duplicate certificates may be obtained from the Grand Secretary, by the endowed member, a family member of a deceased endowed member, or the Endowed Lodge upon payment of the current fee established by the Grand Lodge Trustees.

6. Endowed memberships are not transferable with Lodge membership, and remain to benefit the Endowed Lodge where such memberships are purchased. Endowed memberships purchased by members and endowed memberships purchased in any part in honor or memory of a member, or endowed memberships purchased in any part by a Lodge, organization, individual or group of individuals in the name of a member or former member and, the endowed memberships of deceased members cannot be transferred to any Lodge except as provided for consolidated or demised Lodges.

Consolidated Lodges. Within 12 months after the date of consolidation of two or more Lodges, an endowed member whose endowed membership was not purchased in the surviving Lodge may, if he affiliates with another Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction, at the time of the affiliation, transfer the endowed membership to the Lodge with which he affiliates, provided the Lodge did not purchase the endowed membership. The transfer of the endowed membership shall be effective as of the fiscal year-end of the Endowed Membership Fund following receipt by the Grand Secretary of the request to transfer the endowed membership.

Demised Lodges. After the dissolution or demise of an Endowed Lodge, the holder of an endowed membership certificate therein, if he affiliates with another Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction, may transfer the endowed membership to the Lodge with which he affiliates. If the holder of an Endowed Membership certificate affiliated with another Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction within twelve months after the dissolution or demise of the Endowed Lodge, any interest accruing from the Endowed Membership Fund for that endowed membership shall transfer to the credit of the Lodge with which he affiliates. If the holder of such an endowed membership fails to affiliate with another Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction within twelve months after the dissolution or demise of the Endowed Lodge, any interest accruing from the Endowed Membership Fund from the date of the dissolution or demise of the Endowed Lodge to the date of the transfer of an endowed membership shall be added to the principal of the Grand Lodge Endowed Membership Fund until the date the holder of the endowed membership affiliates with another Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction, from which time the interest will accrue to the benefit of the Lodge with which the holder of the endowed membership affiliated. (Revised 2012)

7. Lodges are prohibited from donating or selling endowed memberships in any other manner than as provided in this Article except Lodges may establish special accounts for the purpose of assisting and encouraging those members who wish to purchase endowed memberships on an installment plan by making regular, systematic, and regulated contributions to such account for the purpose of accumulating the necessary fee required to purchase an endowed membership. After the required fee has accumulated in the special account, the Lodge shall transmit such fee to the Grand Secretary as provided in this Article. The plan for such special account must be approved by a favorable vote of the Lodge, and must conform to those rules and requirements listed on Form No. 76-B of the Laws of this Grand Lodge. The funds in such special account shall be deposited in an insured interest bearing account in a reputable financial institution until such time as the funds are transmitted to the Grand Secretary.

8. Holders of endowed membership certificates are subject to all of the provisions of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and loss of membership due to suspension or expulsion may automatically terminate such endowed membership certificate, and may cause such holder to forfeit his endowed membership and any future claim to fees paid or to revenues earned from such endowed membership. The Lodge which held the endowed membership at the time of forfeiture, as provided herein, shall continue to receive the revenues earned from such endowed membership.

9. Upon the death of a holder of an endowed membership, the endowed Lodge shall continue to receive the income from the endowed membership.

No. 78
TWENTY-FIVE YEAR CERTIFICATE

 <p><i>This Certifies That Brother</i></p> <p style="background-color: #cccccc; height: 15px; margin-top: 10px;"></p> <p>has been a Master Mason in good standing for Twenty-five or more years</p> <p>We recommend him to all Masons wherever dispersed for his earnestness and zeal for the Craft. Given under our hands and seal of this Lodge on the</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small; margin-top: 10px;"> Secretary Worshipful Master </div>

No. 78-A
FORTY YEAR CERTIFICATE

 <p><i>This Certifies That Brother</i></p> <p style="background-color: #cccccc; height: 15px; margin-top: 10px;"></p> <p>has been a Master Mason in good standing for Forty or more years</p> <p>We recommend him to all Masons wherever dispersed for his earnestness and zeal for the Craft. Given under our hands and seal of this Lodge on the</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small; margin-top: 10px;"> Secretary Worshipful Master </div>

**Form No. 79
ADVISOR CERTIFICATION FORM**

**FORM NO. 79
ADVISOR CERTIFICATION FORM**

I, _____ (name), a resident of _____

County, Texas, wishing to serve as an advisor of a Youth Organization, declare that I am over 21 years of age and am fully qualified to make this statement, and under oath state that each of the following is true and correct:

1. I am a Master Mason in good standing in the Grand Lodge of _____

and each of the following Subordinate Lodges
of the Grand Lodge of _____.

Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M.

Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M.
2. I have never been arrested for, nor convicted of, any crime of moral turpitude.
3. I have never been arrested for, nor convicted of, any crime involving child abuse, child molestation, child exploitation or any other like or similar crime involving a child as same is defined by any law of the United States, a state or a municipality.
4. I am not, to the best of my knowledge, listed by the Texas Department of Human Services, or any other federal, state or local agency having responsibility for overseeing the welfare of children, as a suspicious person.
5. I understand that as part of this application, an investigative report will be prepared whereby information is obtained through personal interviews with neighbors, friends or others with whom I am acquainted. This inquiry may include information as to my character, general reputation, personal characteristics and mode of living.

Sworn this _____ day of _____, 20_____

Applicant Signature _____ ID# _____

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

Member I.D. No. _____

Form No. 80
CERTIFICATION OF MENTAL INCOMPETENCE

CERTIFICATION OF MENTAL INCOMPETENCE

(To be attached to Annual Return)

Member Name: _____

Membership I.D. No. _____

I, _____, a physician
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

licensed to practice medicine in the State of Texas, do hereby certify that I have examined

Mr. _____, and in my opinion, he is mentally incompetent.
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

Attest: _____ SECRETARY OF LODGE _____ SIGNATURE OF PHYSICIAN

LODGE NAME & NO. _____

DATE _____

SEAL
OF THE LODGE

DATE _____

Form 81
CERTIFICATION FOR MILITARY MEMBER'S COMBAT EXEMPTION

Form 81
CERTIFICATION FOR MILITARY MEMBER'S COMBAT EXEMPTION
(To be attached to Annual Return)

Member's Complete Name _____

Membership ID No. _____ has provided a portion of a copy of his *Leave and Earning Statement (LES)* or has completed and signed the following statement:

LES, date, showing hostile fire pay for combat area _____.
OR
 "I swear that I have received hostile fire pay for military service in the Country of _____ during the period of: _____"
 (Month, day, year to Month, day year)

Signature: _____

LODGE AFFIRMATION

The above member is a member in good standing of _____
 Lodge No. _____, (City) _____ that passed the resolution at its Stated Meeting on (date, year) _____ to waive his per capita payments from this year's Annual Returns under Article 316. The Lodge understands that this certification is only for the current year and must be re-accomplished in the succeeding years, if appropriate.

Attest _____ DATE _____
 (Secretary of Lodge)

SEAL OF THE LODGE

Under Article 316, Lodges have the authority to exempt a member that has served on active military duty in a combat area from Lodge dues and/or Grand Lodge per capita. The Member is responsible for informing the Lodge of his eligibility and the Lodge must approve the exemption at a Stated meeting for each appropriate member. The Secretary will complete Form 81 and attach it to the Annual Return to receive the deduction for per capita. If the member has received hostile fire pay for actively serving in a combat area, he is eligible but he must either provide the Lodge with a partial copy of a LES showing that he received the pay or signed this Form. One day's service in a combat area for which hostile fire pay is provided is required to be eligible for the exemption during the Masonic year. Exemptions in previous years are not permitted.
Printed 2009

(Article 316)

2011

Form No. 100
MEMBERSHIP CHANGE FORM

*Memb.
Increase *Address
Change *Name
Change *Memb.
Decrease *Rejection

* Please fill in this information regardless of the change.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGE FORM

DATE _____

GRAND SECRETARY

Send to:

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS, A.F. & A.M.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

P.O. BOX 446 / WACO, TEXAS 76703

*LODGE NAME _____ *LODGE NO. _____ DISTRICT NO. _____

MEMBER'S I.D. NO. _____

MEMBER'S NAME _____ (Last Name) _____ (First Name) _____ (Middle Name) _____ (Suffix)

ADDRESS _____ c/o _____ OR _____ APT. _____ NO. _____

_____ CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____ PHONE: (R) _____ (B) _____

CELL _____ E-MAIL _____

*DATE OF BIRTH: _____ / _____ / _____

PLACE OF BIRTH: _____ City _____ State _____ Country _____

*Required DATE PETITION READ: _____ / _____ / _____ *OCCUPATION: _____

*Do not list "Retired" as an occupation. If retired, list the former occupation

**GIVE DATES ON
DEGREE WORK**

ELECTED
_____/_____
Mo. Day Year

INITIATED
_____/_____
Mo. Day Year

PASSED
_____/_____
Mo. Day Year

RAISED
_____/_____
Mo. Day Year

PROFICIENCY
_____/_____
Mo. Day Year

**REASON FOR
INCREASE**

*SINGLE
AFFILIATION
_____/_____
Mo. Day Year

*PLURAL
AFFILIATION
_____/_____
Mo. Day Year

REINSTATED
_____/_____
Mo. Day Year

FROM LODGE

LODGE NAME NUMBER & STATE (if other than Texas)

* TO AVOID ERRORS - Please use the appropriate AFFILIATION blank for reporting single and plural affiliations. Also submit Tear-off Portion of Certificate of Good Standing

**REASON FOR
DECREASE**

WITHDRAWAL
_____/_____
Mo. Day Year

TRANSFERRED
_____/_____
Mo. Day Year

DIMITTED*
_____/_____
Mo. Day Year

DIED
_____/_____
Mo. Day Year

*Must submit Certificate of Dimission

SUSPENDED
_____/_____
Mo. Day Year

EXPELLED
_____/_____
Mo. Day Year

Non-Payment UnMasonic Conduct

MM Exam

*WAIVER of
JURISDICTION
_____/_____
Mo. Day Year

TO LODGE

REJECTION
_____/_____
Mo. Day Year

Enter Number of
Years of Rejection

INSTRUCTIONS: Use One Sheet for each INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP; One Sheet for each DECREASE IN MEMBERSHIP; and One Sheet for each ADDRESS CHANGE.

On other than new member or new EA, please indicate the member's I.D. number. Grand Secretary's office will assign an I.D. number to each member. When the status of a member changes regarding his membership, rejection, suspension, death or etc. - please fill in the appropriate information and mail immediately to the Grand Secretary

Form No. 101
INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE LODGES OF TEXAS, A.F. & A.M.

This is to certify that Brother _____ ID # _____,
(Print Full Name)
a member of _____ Lodge No. _____
(Name of Lodge)
located at _____, Texas, Masonic District No. ____, has met the
(City)
requirements of Article 276a of the Grand Lodge Laws as follows:

1. Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Lodge

Approved by _____ Date _____
(Print Name & Number of Lodge)

(Print Name of Lodge Secretary) Signature _____ Date _____

Or:

Is a holder of current Class A, B, or C Certificate from the Committee on Work

2. Lodge Administration

L.I.F.E. Program. Certified by Chairman of L.I.F.E/A.L.L. Committee of the Lodge

(Print Name) Signature _____ Date _____

Or:

Attended a Wardens Retreat (copy of Diploma attached)

**3. Exempt - Previously served as Worshipful Master of a Lodge under the Jurisdiction of
The Grand Lodge of Texas.**

Copy of TLSD Record Attached.

Or:

Verified by _____
(Print Name of Lodge Secretary)

Signature _____ Date _____

Note to Installed Officer: It is your duty to provide a copy of this document and attachments to the District Deputy Grand Master of your District, five (5) days prior to your Installation.

A copy shall also be retained by the Lodge as a part of the minutes of the meeting at which installation was done.

This page intentionally left blank.

INDEX

This page intentionally left blank.

INDEX

INDEX

to the CONSTITUTION, ANCIENT CHARGES and MASONIC LAWS

— O —

ABBREVIATIONS USED:

Const.	Constitution
Anct. Chrgs.	Ancient Charges
Art.	Article
Sec.	Section
E. A.	Entered Apprentice
F. C.	Fellowcraft

— O —

Article	Article
ABSENT—ABSENCE: Of certificate, proxy not recognized in Grand Lodge 4 Dimit, in petition for Lodge, must be accounted for 187 in petition for affiliation 385 From State, excuse for failure to learn work in Master's Degree 439 Grand Master, who presides Const., Art. VI, Sec. 2 (b) Master, who presides 285 at funeral ceremony 361 Protester, Master to announce protest 428 Proxy cannot Sit unless Master and Wardens are absent 3	
ACCOUNTS: Grand Treasurer, Audited by Finance Committee 119 Of District Deputy Grand Masters, how approved 24 Grand Secretary, audited by Finance Committee 119 Treasurer of Masonic Home and School, audited annually 145	
ADDRESS: Annual, of Grand Master, copies furnished to Committees 43	
ADOPTED CHILD: Entitled to benefits 377	
ADVANCEMENT: Certificate recommending, when issued 446 Petition for, how made 407, 430 after lapse of time 430, 433, 434a after rejection 430, 434, 438 must lie over one month 433 not less than one month 433 Vote on proficiency precedes ballot on 433, 437	
AFFILIATION: Ballot for, at stated meetings only 387, 392 if favorable, dimit to be filed 387 members only can vote 388 more than three blackballs reject 389 when taken 387, 392 By transfer of membership, procedure 392 Fee for, none to be charged 387 Lodges under Dispensation may receive members by 195 Past Masters must, to restore Grand Lodge membership, when 6 Petitions for requisites 384, 385 as plural members 349 dimit to accompany, or accounted for 385 certificate of life membership accorded effect of 385 if rejected, may file again, when, how 389, 390 may be filed in any Lodge 384 must be in writing 385 referred to committee to report on 386 when to be presented 385 who entitled to 384 members of other Grand Jurisdictions, when 348 members of suspended and demised Lodges 260, 391 Petitioner must be known to 384, 385 Protest will not reject 389 Residence requirements for plural membership 357	
AGE: Of candidate, must be eighteen 393 at time petition presented 393 must be stated in petition 403	
AGED MASONS: Care and maintenance of 161	
AMERICAN CHARGES: Recognized as binding, when Const. Art. III, Sec. 3	
AMERICAN DOCUMENT: Charter fifty years old is 212	
AMENDMENTS: To Constitution, how made Const., Art. XIII, Secs. 1 and 2 Approved bylaws, how made 219 Bylaws must be approved by Grand Lodge 219 To laws, when to be filed, unless 172	
ANNUAL COMMUNICATIONS OF THE GRAND LODGE: Special Communications, how called Const., Art. VI, Sec. 3 When held 2 Where held Const. Art. VI, Sec. 3, 2	
ANNUAL REPORTS: Board of Directors of Masonic Home and School 145 Committee on Finance 119, 121 Grand Lodge Assistance Fund 126 Masonic Education and Service 113 District Deputy Grand Masters 83 Grand Master 43 Grand Secretary 48, 53 Lodges 488	
ANTE ROOMS: Subject to same rules as to use of Lodgerooms 224	
APPLICANT See "Candidates: Degrees"; "New Lodges"; "Petitions."	
APPLICATION: See "Dispensations"; "Degrees"; "Petitions"; "Lodges under Dispensation"; "Trials."	
APPOINTMENT: District Deputy Grand Master 24 Employees of Masonic Home and School 158 superintendent of 158	

INDEX

Article	Article
APPOINTMENT: (continued)	
Grand Lodge Committees.....	93, 100, 105
Grand Lodge Officers	Const. Art. IV, Sec. 3
Grand Representatives.....	30
Lodge Officers	292
Special Committees during recess of the Grand Lodge	40
APPROPRIATION:	
Of funds of Lodge, allowed for what.....	335
not restricted in making for charity	486
APRON:	
For members of the Lodge	274
Lambskin, Grand Officers to be provided with.....	12
Past Grand Masters presented with	13
ARREARS:	
See "Fees and Dues"; "Returns to the Grand Lodge."	
Dues of members in may be remitted, when.....	314
Lodges in not entitled to representation.....	57
may be suspended	57, 59
ASSESSMENTS:	
No Lodge can assess members.....	311
ATHEIST:	
Mason must not be.	Anct. Chrgs. 1
ATTENDANCE:	
Lodge may make regulations to enforce	235, 343
AUDIT OF BOOKS:	
Secretary and Treasurer of Lodge	284
Minimum Audit	284
Treasurer of Masonic Home and School	145
Trustees Audit Committee	20c
AUTOMATIC SUSPENSION:	
Nonpayment of dues.....	319
AVAILABILITY - STATEMENT OF	6a
AWARDS:	
Beard, Daniel Carter, Masonic Award	14e
Carrell, WB. and Brandon, Humanitarian Award	14b
Community Builder Award	14d
Golden Trowel Award	14c
Houston, Sam, Medal	14a
BALLOT:	
See "Vote – Voting."	
Affiliation, when taken	387, 392
effect of rejection.....	390
more than three blackballs reject	389
Collective balloting	419
Consolidation of Lodges, determined by	246, 249
Degrees, taken at stated meetings.....	415
all members must vote.....	417
effect of blackball	418
Grand Master may allow taken at called meeting	39, 415
had when Committee reports	413
joint protests count as one blackball.....	425
retaken, Grand Lodge cannot order, after reject	20
prohibited, when	420
who entitled to vote	417
Grand Officers, election of, when by whom without	Const., Art. IV, Sec 7
how conducted.....	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 7
One ballot for three degrees	416
result, how announced	420
BEHAVIOR OF MASON:	
See "Charges of a Freemason."	
BELIEF:	
In existence of God, prerequisite	397
divine authenticity of the Bible.....	397
immortality of the Soul.....	397
BIBLE:	
Belief in, prerequisite	397
BLACK BALL:	
Ballot for degrees, effect of.....	418
period of rejection	418
Petition for affiliation, more than three rejects	389
for no definite period	389
may petition another Lodge, when	389, 390
Protest has effect of, when	425
joint, count only as One	425
BLANKS:	
Grand Secretary to furnish Lodges	54, 55
BLASPHEMY:	
See "Profanity."	
BOARD OF DIRECTORS:	
See "Masonic Home and School."	
BODIES:	
See "Grand Lodge"; "Grand Lodges."	
BOND – BONDS:	
Finance Committee to approve, when	119
Grand Secretary to furnish.....	46
Treasurer of Committee on Masonic Education and Service to give	112
Treasurer of Masonic Home and School to furnish	160
BOOKS:	
For registering members and visitors, how kept	378
Of Grand Secretary, closed for year, when	53
Of Lodges	
To be audited	284
Under dispensation, sent to Grand Lodge, when	200
Officers to turn over to successors	275
BOOK OF OLD CHARGES:	
Recognized as binding	Const., Art. III, Sec. 3.
BRETHREN:	
See "Masons"; "Members."	
BROTHER:	
See "Masons"; "Members"; "Membership."	
BUILDINGS, DEDICATION OF:	
Must be of undoubted Masonic, public or sacred character	178
BURIAL:	
See "Funeral."	
BUSINESS – IN THE GRAND LODGE:	
At stroke of gavel, silence	164
Election of Grand Officers	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 4
has precedence, when	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 4
Laying cornerstones limited to buildings, Masonic, etc	178
Majority vote decides all questions	Const., Art. VII, Sec. 1
Members must appear with regalia, unless	168
avoid moving about	169
called to order, when	170
a second time, penalty	170
can speak but once on a subject, unless	170
cannot represent more than one Lodge	Const., Art. VII, Sec 2
has only one individual vote	Const., Art. VII, Sec. 2
must rise to address the Chair	170
when two arise at same time, who recognized	170
Motion, precedence of	174
proposition decided, can be reached by	176
reconsidered, how	176
senior had precedence, unless	174
to amend not divisible	175
to strike out and insert not divisible	175
withdrawn, how	173
Order of business, first day	165
may be suspended, how	167
other days	166
Questions of order decided without debate or appeal	Const., Art. XII, Sec. 4
proposing change in laws, how filed	172
Speaker must not be interrupted, unless	170
Tie vote decided by presiding officer	Const., Art. VII, Sec. 3
Visitors, who may be	7
Voting by Lodges and Members, manner of	Const., Art. VII
BUSINESS – IN THE SUBORDINATE LODGE:	
All done in Master's Lodge, except	331, 332
Appointive officers, when	292
As near as possible as in the Grand Lodge	333
Cannot meet except in Lodgeroom unless	231
Ceremony when Grand Master visits Lodge	34
"Committees of the Whole" not recognized	334
Conferring degrees, only Master Mason to preside, when	236
Consolidating Lodges, pending business, how acted on	250
E. A. and F. C. Lodges, how opened and closed	332
no work in except pertaining to such degrees	332
Elections, when held	292
in open Lodge	290

INDEX

Article	Article
BUSINESS – IN THE SUBORDINATE LODGE: (continued)	
Liens and debts not to be created, except	340
description and plan of furnished to Grand Master	341
penalty for not securing permission	342
permission to acquire property required	340
permission to bring Court Action required	342a
Master, presides "covered," except	278
cannot appoint proxy to Grand Lodge	483
entitled to one vote only	282
has custody of and is responsible for Charter	279
may require each member to vote	281
no appeal from except to Grand Lodge	283
May appropriate funds, for what	335
May make regulations to enforce attendance	343
Minutes:	
report of Committee finding candidate, disqualified	411
dead or insane	410
Secretary of Lodge to keep	288
suspensions for nonpayment entered in	319
used only for Masonic purposes	338
Worshipful Master responsible for correctness of	280
approved only at stated meetings	337
must show members and officers present, except	337
protest entered in, when	428
proxy to Grand Lodge to appear in	4
Opening and closing Master's Lodge effects no other	332
Order of	333
Property, acquisition of	340
Reconsideration of resolutions, permissible	336
Revocation, revision of action, maybe made when	336
Shall not sponsor organizations	339
Stated meetings, open in third degree	331
business of not transacted on St. John's Day	238
cannot be reopened when once closed	234
maybe culled off and opened on other degree	331
The "Word" must not be given except	130
Wardens cannot, appoint proxy to the Grand Lodge	483
What transacted at special meetings	235
BUTTON, OR EMBLEM:	
Given to Masons of fifty years good standing	14
BYLAWS:	
See "Committee on."	
Amendments to, to be submitted for approval	218, 219
Any in conflict with Constitution or Laws null and void	220
Certain changes in, allowed without referring	221
In appendix, may be adopted, without approval	219
Lodges under Dispensation to use what	194
Must be submitted for approval, when	219
CALLED MEETINGS:	
Balloting for degrees at stated, only, unless	234, 415
Business transacted at	216, 235, 332
Defined	233
Degrees maybe conferred at	235
District Deputy may visit Lodge	78
Examination for proficiency may be had at	436
Minutes, not approved at	337
Stated meeting when closed and reopened is called meeting	234
Worshipful Master may call, when	235
CALL FOR VOTE BY LODGES AND MEMBERS:	
How made	Const., Art. VII, Sec. 1
CALL OFF:	
Lodge may, to install officers in public	302
Stated meeting cannot to another day	233
CANDIDATES:	
Application of, to Lodge	394, 452
if made previously to another Lodge, action suspended	399
lie over one lunar month, unless	407
may be made to Lodge refusing waiver of jurisdiction	460
may be withdrawn, how	405, 406
any member may blackball	423
can if unlawfully filed	405, 406
how made after rejection	438
must be signed and recommended	403
Application of, to Lodge (continued)	394, 452
must state age, previous residence	403
presented at stated meeting	403, 407
referred to committee	407
requisites of, general	403
Ballot	
at stated meeting only, unless	39, 415
cannot be retaken, when	420
CANDIDATES (continued):	
Ballot (continued)	
not by order of Grand Lodge	20
collective, on same degree, permissible	419
effective protest	418, 421
every member required to vote	417
protest, may be cast by any member	423
single ballot elects to three degrees	416
visitors may for degrees, not for affiliation	417
who entitled to cast	417
who not entitled to cast	417
Committee on, must report at stated meeting	415
face to face investigation required	412
failure to report, new appointed	409
new, cannot report instanter	409
report, should show what	412
if candidate becomes mentally incompetent	410
if candidate dies	410
if totally disqualified	411
E.A. and F.C. must be proficient	433
in Lodge where petition is pending	435
names shall not be published	405a
Failure to be initiated within twelve months after election, effect of	430
Fees for not less than	307
in Lodges having concurrent jurisdiction	309
must be paid secretary in advance	312
no agreement to confer for less than prescribed	310
returned when candidate found disqualified	411
special for Master Mason's degree	318
when waiver is granted	464
Initiation of, when	413
Masonic ritual indispensable to admission	393
refusing to conform to, cannot proceed	432
Proficiency, prerequisite to advancement	433
examination and vote, on, how taken	435
by show of hands	437
in Master's Lodge	437
prerequisite to ballot	433, 435
vote on in Lodge where application pending	435
Qualifications of, in general	393
belief in God, the Bible, Immortality of Soul	397
eighteen years old before petition is read	393
freeborn	393
good moral character	393
known by three members in jurisdiction of the Lodge	394
Repeated 2018	27, 401
candidate must not have	393
candidate receiving after taking degrees	402
Repeated 2018	401
mental and physical ability to earn own living	393, 412
residence not required of soldiers and sailors	395
nor of residents of countries having no Grand Lodge	395
resident of State six months	394
six months in jurisdiction of Lodge	394
sound, mentally and physically	393
unnaturalized foreigner is eligible, when	396
women Cannot be made Masons	Const. Art III
Rejected candidates, names of not to be published	427
Where rejected by another Lodge, procedure	400
CASTING VOTE:	
Presiding Officer gives in case of tie in Grand Lodges .. Const., Art. VIII, Sec. 3	
Worshipful Master may if he has not voted with members	282
CEREMONY:	
See "Funerals."	
Candidate must conform to	432
Installation, when, where	298, 299
CERTIFICATE:	
Authorizing Holder:	
life, to teach the work	135
Lodges may employ holders of	140
may be renewed	134
when renewal issued	134
must have before teaching the work	139
not granted until Grand Lodge meets, when	141
shall not solicit work, penalty	138
Authorizing holder to teach the work	132
classifications	132a
examinations for, not on Sunday	131
for one, two, and three years, when issued	133
how signed	137
Consolidation of Lodges, Grand Masters to grant	252
disposition of	252
Dimission, only evidence of the fact	368
issued by Secretary, when	372

INDEX

Article	Article
CERTIFICATE: (continued)	
Dismissal, effect of 446, 447	
Equity in Masonic Temple 28	
Good standing, to member of demised Lodge 261, 391	
To transfer membership 392	
Life membership, accorded effect of dimitt 385	
Proxy's, to Grand Lodge, must be furnished 4	
To E.A. and F.C. as such 60	
To E.A. or F.C. transferring jurisdiction 446	
Transfer of membership, how given 392	
Widows and Orphans, may be given, when 374	
adopted child entitled to 377	
CHARGE:	
And lecture may be given to candidates collectively 431	
CHARGES AND SPECIFICATIONS:	
If none filed, waiver of jurisdiction to issue when 459	
If preferred before adoption of this Code, tried under tire rules	
set out herein 179	
No formal required to suspend for nonpayment 319	
Status of member laboring under 297, 370	
cannot be installed in office 297	
not entitled to dimitt 370	
not entitled to Masonic funeral, except 360	
CHARGES OF A FREEMASON, THE:	
Concerning God and religion Anct. Chrgs. I	
behavior of the Lodge while constituted Anct. Chrgs. VI, (1)	
after Lodge is over Anct. Chrgs. VI, (2)	
at home and in neighborhood Anct. Chrgs. VI, (5)	
in presence of strangers Anct. Chrgs. VI, (4)	
to a stranger Brother Anct. Chrgs. VI, (6)	
when Brethren meet Anct. Chrgs. VI, (3)	
civil magistrates Anct. Chrgs. II	
Lodges Anct. Chrgs. III	
management of Craft in working Anct. Chrgs. V	
Masters, Wardens, Fellows and Apprentices Anct. Chrgs. IV	
Form a part of the Constitution Const. Art. III, Sec. 3	
CHARITY:	
See "Aid and Relief."	
CHARTER:	
See "Lodges under Dispensation"; "New Lodge."	
Application for by dimitted or nonaffiliated Masons, procedure 205	
Application for by Lodges under Dispensation 202	
accompanied by work and returns 199	
elective officers, named by Grand Lodge 192	
if satisfactory as to work and skill, granted 200	
original records must be sent to Grand Lodge 199	
Application for when Lodge has grown too large 202	
dimitted Masons may join in 204	
dues must be paid up 202	
in cities having two Lodges 183, 185, 207	
having more than two Lodges 183, 185, 207	
members signing become members of new Lodge 210	
must give names of proposed officers 203	
must have approval of old Lodge 203	
after laid over one month 203	
if disapproved, what 203, 208	
requisites of certificates of approval 203	
vote on approval at regular meeting 203	
must state causes making it expedient 203	
Duplicate, how issued 211	
Fee, for original Const., Art. IX Sec. 4	
for duplicate 163, 211	
when dispensation issues Const., Art. IX, Sec. 4	
Fifty years old, duplicate may be used, how 212	
Granted by Grand Lodge only Const., Art. VIII, Sec. 4	
Master is custodian of 279	
Of consolidating Lodges, sent to Grand Secretary 250	
Restoration, effect on members 262	
Requirements of, must be signed, by whom 209	
have seal attached 209	
when delivered 209	
Returning and revoking, how proposition is considered 254	
if Grand Lodge affirms Lodge demises 256	
if Grand Lodge refuses to affirm, what 254	
schedule of effects, funds, etc 255	
Returning and revoking, how proposition is considered (continued)	
to be submitted to the Grand Lodge 255	
two thirds vote required 254	
CHILD:	
adopted, entitled to orphan's certificate 374, 377	
CIVIL AUTHORITIES:	
Duty of Masons toward Anct. Chrgs. II	
CLANDESTINE:	
Lodges regard as 15	
One made in Lodge without jurisdiction is not 463	
CLOSE - CLOSING:	
See "Business."	
Of Master's Lodge affects no other 332	
Stated and Called Meetings defined 233	
CLUB ROOM:	
Closed during funerals, and while Lodge open 224	
CODE OF LAWS:	
All laws, miles, regulations and edicts not included in repealed 179	
Becomes effective after adoption by Grand Lodge 179	
Supersedes Revised Code of 1921 179	
COLLECTIVE BALOTTING:	
On petitions for same degrees permissible 419	
On petitions for affiliation, permissible	
effect of black ball appearing 419	
On petitions for different degrees, not permissible	
nor for degrees and affiliation at same time 419	
COMMITTEES IN THE GRAND LODGE:	
Bylaws, created, how, when	
duties of 97	
Cannot Succeed Self 126d	
Civil Law: appointment of	
duties of 105	
Committee Member Removal 126b	
Communication: appointment of	
duties of 105a	
Finance, appointed, how	
approve bonds, when 119	
general duties of	
meet in vacation and examine and investigate officers 26, 121	
to make report, when 119, 121	
Fraternal Relations: appointment of	
duties of 105	
Grand Lodge Assistance Fund: appointment	
funds of, for what purpose used 125	
funds of, how disbursed 123, 124	
special fee for use of 163	
to make annual report of all activities 126	
Grievances and Appeals: appointment of	
general duties of 105	
Internet: Appointment of	
duties 105	
Investments: Term	
duties 126h	
Masonic Education and Service: appointment of	
duties of, general 105	
funds of, how kept, how disbursed 111	
may appoint Treasurer 115	
not to create debts in excess of funds provided for 115	
special fee for use of 163	
to make annual report of activities 113	
under supervision of Grand Master 111	
Masonic Graduates Advisory	
duties 105	
duties of 118	
Masonic Jurisprudence: appointment of	
duties of 105	
Const., Art. XII, Sec. 2; Art. XIII, Sec. 1, 107	
reports of have authority of law, when 107, 177	
Mediation Nos. 1 and 2, appointment of	
duties of 100	
Membership Maintenance	
duties of 126f, 514	
Memorials: appointment of	
duties of 100	
Petitions and Returns of Lodges U.D: appointment of	
duties of 93	
Public Education: appointment of	
duties of 105	
Purposes and Policies: appointment of	
duties of 105	
Special Assignments	
duties of 116	
Texas Masonic History: Appointment of	
duties of 100-103	
What Committees appointed first day of session	
last day, or during session 105	
others when necessary 105	

INDEX

Article	Article
COMMITTEES IN THE GRAND LODGE: (continued)	
Work: members of, how elected Const., Art. XI, Sec. 1 See "Certificate." Certificates to be issued for one, two and three years 133 how signed 137 life, to teach the work 135, 136 Lodges may employ holders of 140, 141 may be renewed 134 not granted until Grand Lodge meets, when 141 revoked, if holder solicits work 138	
Degree Team Recognition 142a	
Duties of, general 129 give instruction to Lodge representative 129 may be employed by Lodges 141 to examine applicants for certificates 131	
Ex-Chairman issued life certificate to teach work 136	
Grand Master Ex-officio Chairman of Const. Art. XI Meetings, after close of annual communication 131 may remain in session two days longer 131 schools of instruction 142 special meetings 141	
Members: may lecture 141 must be proficient 128 receive pay and expenses 141, 143, 144	
Only ritual promulgated by Grand Lodge to be taught 127	
Youth Activities 105, 126c	
COMMITTEES IN THE SUBORDINATE LODGE:	
On members in arrears 319a	
On petition for advancement 386, 405, 407, 438	
On petition for affiliation 386	
On petition for degrees 405, 407, 412	
On applications for waiver of jurisdiction 458	
Of the Whole not permitted 334	
Standing committees not permitted 408	
COMMUNICATIONS:	
Of Grand Lodge, annual, when and where held Const., Art. VI, Sec. 3, Art. 2 special communications, where and when held Const., Art. VI, Sec. 3	
COMPROMISE:	
Dues of members, demised Lodges 328, 329	
Dues of members of Lodges 314	
CONCEALED WEAPONS:	
Cannot be carried into Lodgerooms 226	
CONCURRENT JURISDICTION:	
Candidate may apply to any Lodge 452	
Lodges must confer degree within 12 months or lose jurisdiction 430	
Plural membership permitted in Lodges having 347	
Waiver must be given by oldest Lodge in Jurisdiction 458	
CONFERRING DEGREES OUT OF TIME:	
Grand Master may issue dispensation for 39, 414 must give facts showing emergency 414	
CONFESSION:	
Pleas of guilty cannot be entered by proxy for accused, unless 545	
CONFLICT:	
Of bylaws with Constitution or Laws renders null and void 220	
Of laws and edicts with Constitution, Constitution controls 179, 220	
Of Resolutions, Laws, etc., what governs 179, 220	
CONSECRATION OF BUILDINGS:	
None unless building of undoubted Masonic, public or sacred character 178	
CONSOLIDATION OF LODGES:	
Certificate of issued by Grand Master 252	
Grand Master to report number and name of all in annual report 44	
Grand Secretary to file and preserve papers 253	
Lodge petitioned has territorial jurisdiction 251 holds jurisdiction 251	
Status of Lodge when consolidation is approve 250	
Written declaration necessary to be made 245 ballot necessary: two thirds vote required 246 certified copy sent to Lodge petitioned 247 invoice of all property also sent to 247 presented at stated meeting 245 procedure in the Lodge petitioned 248, 249 procedure if consolidation is agreed to 250 read at not less than two successive stated meetings 246 when acted on 246	
CONSTITUTING NEW LODGES:	
Grand Master and Deputy or proxy only authorized to 213, 216 procedure 32, 216, 223 Lodge to pay expenses 217 Master of new Lodge to receive charter 216 Officers of Chartered Lodges must be installed 216	
CONSTITUTION OF GRAND LODGE:	
All bylaws or regulations of Lodge in conflict with null and void 220 Amendments, if approved, lie over one year Const., Art. XIII majority of Lodges and of members adopt Const., Art. XIII Paramount to general laws, rules, regulations, edicts 220	
CONSTRUCTION OF LAWS:	
Construction is paramount to laws, rules, regulations and edicts when inconsistent 220 To be construed liberally Cannons of Construction I thru IX	
CONTRIBUTION:	
Of Lodge property, none without consent 28	
CONTRIBUTIONS:	
See "Fees and Dues," "Revenues of Grand Lodge," "Returns to Grand Lodge." Must be sent to Grand Secretary when 493 Penalty for failure to make Const., Art. IX, Sec. 3; 57; 59; 492 To consist of Const., Art. IX, Sec. 2; 163; 488	
CORNERSTONES:	
Building must be of Masonic, Public or Sacred character 178 must be constructed of what 178 Requirements and regulations governing laying of 178	
CORPORATIONS:	
Formation of 339a	
COUNCIL:	
Meet in Lodgerooms 225	
COURTESY DEGREES:	
Conferred by Lodge in this jurisdiction for another Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction 478 procedure 478	
Conferred on candidate of another Grand Jurisdiction 473 Grand Secretary to handle requests for 471, 472, 474 No fee to be charged 480 What Lodge confers 478	
Conferred on candidate of Texas Jurisdiction in another Grand Jurisdiction, allowed 475 Grand Secretary to request 475 may refuse 476 Not allowed for casual visitors 477 Work done according to regulations of Lodge conferring 475	
Correspondence may be between Lodges 472 Examinations for proficiency may be requested as a courtesy 475, 478	
"COVERED":	
Master presides – in ancient custom 278 Members may remain, at funerals 363	
CREDENTIALS:	
See "Committee on."	
DAUGHTER:	
Of Master Mason entitled to Masonic recognition 374, 377	
DEACON:	
See "Grand Deacon."	
DEATH:	
Of candidate pending report of Committee, what 410 Of Master Mason, widow's certificate may be issued 374 Under discreditable circumstances, Masonic funeral may be denied 360	
DEBATE:	
See "Business."	
DEBT:	
Lodge property may be mortgaged, how 28 Lodges cannot create, except 340, 341 Penalty for 342 Lodges not to create lien to secure without permission 340 to submit plans and purposes of 341 penalty for creating liens without permission 342 Member may offset dues with 312	

INDEX

Article	Article
DECISIONS:	
Of Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, effect of.....	177
Of Grand Master, have force of edicts, if approved	177
Of Worshipful Master may be appealed from, how.....	283
DECLARATION:	
To Consolidate Lodge	245
procedure on.....	246-250
DEDICATION OF BUILDING:	
None less building of undoubted Masonic, public, or sacred character	178
DEFECTS:	
See "Maims and Defects"; "Candidates."	
DEFUNCT:	
See "Demised Lodges."	
DEGREES:	
See "Ballot"; "Candidates"; "Jurisdiction"; "Courtesy Degrees."	
Advancement:	
any member may protest	423
ballot on may be postponed, when.....	39
how made after rejection	438
physical defects acquired after initiation, effect of	402
Grand Master passes on before advancement	402
referred to committee	407
Ballot cannot be retaken in any case after result announced	420
negative, cannot be withdrawn	424
Ballot for Degrees: not repassed after rejection announced	420
at stated meeting	415
collective balloting permissible, when	419
effect of blackballs.....	418
Grand Lodge cannot order retaken	20
had when Committee reports.....	413
who entitled to vote	417
all members required to vote	417
Ballot on advancement, follows vote on proficiency	433
at stated meeting	415
must be in Lodge where application pending, except	435
Candidates, qualifications of, general.....	393
belief in God, Bible, and immortality of Soul	397
freeborn.....	393
good moral character	393
known by three members in the jurisdiction of the Lodge	394
Repealed 2018.....	27
candidate must not have	393
candidate receiving after taking degrees	402
Repealed 2018.....	401
mental and physical ability to earn own living.....	412
residence not required of soldiers and sailors	395
no of residents of countries having no Grand Lodge	395
resident of State six months.....	412
six months in jurisdiction of Lodge	412
sound, mentally and physically.....	393
eighteen years old before petition is filed	393
unnaturalized foreigner eligible, when	396
Conferred only in regular Lodge.....	35
by Lodge in this State without jurisdiction, not clandestine	463
by whom.....	236
Courtesy Degrees, conferred on candidates of other jurisdictions ..	471, 473, 474
conferred by Lodges within this jurisdiction	478
conferred on candidate of Texas jurisdiction in another Grand Jurisdiction	475, 476, 477
E.A. or F.C. must learn trial lectures.....	433
examination as to, when	433
proficiency in ritual a prerequisite	433
voted on in Masters Lodge.....	437
by show of hands	437
favorably, prerequisite to ballot.....	433
Fees:	
for degree conferred in Grand Lodge.....	163
for each Master Mason's Degree, special	163, 318
no agreement to confer for less than prescribed valid	310, 312
none for courtesy degrees	480
not less than \$30.00 for each degree	307
of new Lodge, in jurisdiction of other Lodge, how fixed	309
paid in advance to Secretary	312
payable in nothing but money.....	312
returned when candidate found disqualified.....	411
when waiver of jurisdiction granted, what charged	464
Grand Master may issue dispensation to confer out of time	414
Masonic ritual essential in conferring.....	35
Petition:	
report followed by ballot	413
requisites of general	403, 404, 407
standing committees prohibited.....	408
DEGREES: (continued)	
Petition for, must be signed by applicant	403
may be withdrawn	405, 406
maybe held up if Lodge, believes previously rejected	400
must state age, name, and previous domicile	403
recommended by two members	403
referred to Committee	35, 405, 407
lie over one month	407
Grand Master may shorten time	407
if found disqualified	411
report of should show	412
at stated meeting	413, 415
failing to report, new may be appointed	409
new cannot report instanter	409
if candidate dies or becomes incompetent	410
Protests, election set aside by	421
any member may, before or after election	423
cannot be withdrawn, after announced	424
joint, count only as one blackball	425
Master to announce, when	428
penalty for failure to	429
Rejected applicants, names not to be published	427
Side Degrees prohibited	16
DEMISED LODGES:	
Definition of	256, 257
Fees and dues of, how collected	350
How restored	32
Members of, who has jurisdiction of	283, 451
degrees conferred, how	259, 281
dues of, how collected	328, 329, 350
Grand Master may make reduction	328
Lodge may compromise, when	329
may obtain certificate from Grand Secretary	261, 391
has force of dimitt	391
Status of during suspension of Lodge	258
members who sign petition for restoration	262
that of nonaffiliated Masons	258
when charter is restored	262
Property of, taken by District Deputy Grand Master	
equity certificate in Masonic Temple, disposition of	28
real, can be sold, how	29
Property sold, how	29
Rejected candidates of, who has jurisdiction of	451
DEMOLAY:	
May meet in Lodge rooms	225
DEPOSITIONS:	
See "Evidence"; "Trials."	
DEPUTY GRAND MASTER:	
Duties and powers	Const., Arts. V and VI
member of the Grand Lodge	Const., Art. II, Sec. 1
Duty to preside in Grand Lodge, when	Const., Art. VI
How nominated and elected	Const., Art. IV
May install officers	295
DIMIT:	
Certificate of only evidence of fact	368
Secretary to issue, when	372
Certificate of restoration in Grand Lodge has effect on	
of good standing has effect of	261, 391
members of demised Lodges may obtain, how	261, 391
of life membership accorded effect of, when	385
Definition of	368
Dues must be paid up	317
portion for unexpired time refunded	317
Effect of, Brother becomes nonaffiliated Mason	368
dues cease from date of issuance	317
Must be attached to petition for new Lodge, when	187
to petition for affiliation, unless	385
Not allowed while holding office	294
Petition for, how granted	369
action on entered in the minutes	369
ballot on must be unanimous	369
if not unanimous, dimitt issued at next stated meeting	369
dues must be paid before ballot	317, 368, 369
Who entitled to dimitt	369, 370
E.A. or F.C. is not	344
members of Lodges under Dispensation are	195
Officers of Lodges are not, after installation	371
Plural members are not	368

INDEX

Article	Article
DIMITTED MASONS:	
Cannot join in Masonic procession, unless	373
Cannot visit in Lodge but three times, unless	382
Degrees received in traveling Lodge, treated as	450
May petition for charter	202, 204, 205
DIPLOMA:	
Master Masons entitled to	65
fee for	65, 163
how issued	65, 163
Past Grand Masters entitled to	64, 163
how issued	64, 66
DISBURSEMENTS OF FUNDS:	
Grand Secretary to report all in annual report	53
Of Committee on Grand Lodge Assistance Fund, how made	123-126
Of Committee on Masonic Education and Service, how made	111-115
Of General Fund of Masonic Home and School, how made	149
none from Endowment Fund of Masonic Home and School	148
DISEASES:	
Relief of members suffering from incurable or malignant	125
DISPENSATION:	
See "Lodges Under Dispensation," "New Lodges," "Charter."	
District Deputy Grand Masters cannot grant	85
Grand Master may grant for:	
conferring degrees Out of time	39, 414
conferring degrees in territory of demised Lodge	259
court action	342a
creation of debtor lien or acquisition or sale of Lodge property	340
holding joint meetings	37
holding public displays	38
meeting except in Lodgerooms	31
meeting in place not named in Charter	232
new Lodges	Const., Art. VIII, Sec. 3
postponement of examination for proficiency	414
public processions or displays, except	240
shorten time to act on petition for initiation	39, 407, 414
None granted to Masons out of the State	Const., Art. VIII, Sec. 2
DISSEMINATION OF WORK:	
Grand Lodge alone has power to for first three degrees	10
DISTANCES:	
Affecting jurisdiction of Lodges	441, 442, 431
DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS:	
Annual report to be made, contents of	83
Appointment of by Grand Masters	Const., Art. IV, Secs. 3 and 8
furnished warrant of appointment	24, 76
Duties, powers and authority, in general	77
cannot collect dues from members of active Lodges	82
collect arrears from Lodges, when	58
examine security of Lodge halls	25, 80
inspect and correct errors	79
may preside over Lodge, when	78
perform duties imposed by Grand Master	81
reception with honors, when	34
report condition of Lodges in district	79
report errors to Grand Master	79
to install officers, when	295
transmit requests for dispensation to Grand Master	85
Expenses, necessary, paid, when	84
certified to Grand Master	24
how paid	24, 84
Is member of the Grand Lodge	Const. Art. II, Sec 1
Not authorized to grant dispensations	85
Qualifications of	Const. Art. IV, Sec. 8
Removal from office, Grand Master may, when	24
Vacancy in office, how filled	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 8
DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICERS:	
Appointed by Grand Master	111
DISTRICT INSTRUCTOR:	
Appointed by Grand Master	129
DISTRICT MASONIC RELATIONS OFFICERS:	
Appointed by Grand Master	126g
DIVINE AUTHENTICITY OF SCRIPTURES:	
Belief in prerequisite to initiation	397
DOCUMENTS:	
Ancient, Charter fifty years old is	212
Emanating from Grand Lodge to bear seal, except	66
from Subordinate Lodge, must have seal	222
DOMICILE:	
Of applicants for plural membership, requisite	357
Of candidates for degrees, must have in Texas for six months	394
jurisdiction of Lodge for six months	394
must be stated in petition	403
DONATIONS:	
Masonic Home and School may receive, what	155
Of Lodge funds for charity, not restricted	486
DORMANT LODGE:	
Disposition of property and assets of	255
DUES:	
See "Fees and Dues," "Revenues of Grand Lodge," "Returns to Grand Lodge."	
Endowed Membership	318a
Lodge shall refund unexpired portion, when	317
Uniform Dues Card	Form 56-A, Art. 611
Lodges may compromise	314, 328, 329
Lodges may remit	314
Members of Home exempt	316
Minimum dues of members	311
Shall not accrue during suspension	321
DUPLICATE CHARTER:	
Grand Master may issue, when	211
Fee for	211
If charter fifty years old, duplicate may be used	212
EASTERN STAR, ORDER OF:	
May meet in Lodgerooms	225
EDICTS:	
Decisions of Grand Master have force of, if approved	177
Not Included in this revised Code, repealed	179
EDUCATION:	
Of orphans of Masons enjoined a duty	Const., Art. X, Sec. 1
ELECTION OF OFFICERS:	
In the Grand Lodge:	
Elected officers installed	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 4
Eligible for reelection	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 6
Failure to hold, old officers hold over	Const., Art. IV Sec. 5
How and when	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 4
Majority necessary to elect	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 7
No one can hold two elective	21
When by ballot, when without	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 7
Who elected, who appointed, by whom	Const., Art. TV
Who entitled to vote, and how many votes	Const., Art. VII
In the Subordinate Lodges:	
Any member eligible to be elected Warden	291
Cannot resign after installation	267
Cannot Transfer or Dimit	294
Must be in open Lodge	290
None but members eligible, except Tiler	265
Of Master who was never Warden, when	276
Of Past Master from another State	276
Void if not held on day appointed	293
When held	292
When not held old officers hold over	293
EMBLEMBS:	
Fifty, Sixty, Seventy, Seventy-five and Eighty Year, awarded	14
Forty Year Awarded	346s
Ostentatious display of disapproved	505
Sam Houston Medal	14a
Twenty-five Year, awarded	346
EMERGENCY:	
Degrees may be conferred out of time, in case of, how	414
Special Committees, in case of, appointed by Grand Master during recess ..	40
EMPLOYMENT BUREAUS:	
For use of Masons, exclusively, permitted	
ENDOWED MEMBERSHIP:	
Endowed Membership	318a
Endowed Membership Fund	163b
ENDOWMENT FUND:	
For Masonic Home and School, created	147448
The Grand Lodge Endowment Fund	163c

INDEX

Article	Article
ENTERED APPRENTICE AND FELLOWCRAFT:	
Advancement of	433
application for lies over, when	430, 438
any member may protest	423
how made, after rejection	438
receiving maims after initiation, effect of	402
proficiency a prerequisite to	433
ballot on at stated meeting	415
examination as to what Lodge had in Lodge when application pends	435
prerequisite to advancement	433
vote on in Lodge	437
by show of hands	437
Annual returns must show how obtained	491
Are Masons	344
Business transacted in Lodge of	332
Cannot dimit	344
Cannot Vote	344
Effect of removal to another jurisdiction	445
May receive certificate of dismissal	446, 447
Names shall not be published	405a
Not members of the Lodge	344
Procedure after lapse of time	434
Status of, when Lodge demises	451
entitled to Masonic burial	344
when from another State	448
how advanced	448
when Lodge consolidates with another	251
when made in a traveling Lodge	450
Waiver of jurisdiction of, issued in ninety days, when	459
ESOTERIC WORK:	
Grand Lodge alone has power to establish and disseminate	10
Members of Committee on Work to become proficient in	128
EXAMINATION:	
Examination for proficiency:	
had in Lodge where application ponds, except	435
Master Masons, had within ninety days	439
failure, a Masonic offense	439
may be had in Lodge conferring courtesy degree	473
may be postponed, when	39, 414
may be requested as a courtesy	475, 478
prerequisite to advancement	433, 435
procedure after lapse of time	434
vote on, taken in Lodge	437
by show of hands	437
by majority vote	437
in less than one month since receiving preceding degree	436
may be had at called meeting	436
precedes ballot for advancement	434
Of Affairs of Grand Officers by Finance Committee, when	121
Applications for creation of debts and liens	341
Books of Grand Secretary and Treasurer, when, by whom	120
Records of Lodges by District Deputy Grand Masters	79
Security of Lodge Halls by District Deputy Grand Masters	80
EXCLUDED:	
Visitor must be on objection of three members	383
may be on objection of one member, when	383
EXEMPLIFYING THE WORK:	
See "Committee on Work."	
Committee on Work to, when	129
None to unless holding certificate	139
EXEMPT:	
Lodge member may be from dues, when	314
Member of Home exempt	316
EXPelled MASON:	
May be, for nonpayment of dues, how	326
Not entitled to Masonic funeral	360
Reinstatement of: where no appeal is taken	
after expulsion for nonpayment, how	327
when Lodge demises	329
EXPENSES:	
Of District Deputy Grand Masters, when and how paid	24, 84
FAILURE:	
Master Mason to learn work within 90 days, penalty	439
Master to announce protest, penalty	429
Of Candidate to take degree in 12 months after election, what	430
Lodges to hold election, officers hold over	293
penalty for	Const., Art. IX, Sec. 3, 57, 59
to confer degree after receiving waiver, what	445
to make returns to Grand Lodge by	57, 59
to meet in three months, penalty	228
to secure permission for creation of debt or lien	342
FAMILY OF:	
Master Mason entitled to certificate	374
Master Mason, suffering from tuberculosis, etc., how aided	125
FEES AND DUES:	
In the Subordinate Lodge:	
Fees for Degrees: not less than \$30.00 for each degree	307
for each Master Mason's degree, special	163, 318
no agreement to confer for less than prescribed valid	310, 312
none for courtesy degrees	480
of new Lodge in jurisdiction of other Lodge, how fixed	309
paid in advance	312
payable in nothing but money	312
returned when candidate found disqualified	411
when waiver of jurisdiction granted, what charged	464
How paid by members of suspended Lodge when affiliating	260
assessment of members other than dues prohibited	311
amount of dues fixed by Lodge	311
may remit or exempt members from Lodge dues	314
but not from Grand Lodge Dues on such members	314
Minimum dues	311
Must be paid before dimit granted	317
cease when dimit is issued	317
unexpired portion refunded	317
None to be charged during suspension of member	321
Non-Payment of dues: Suspensions for –	
Automatic suspension	319
action entered in minutes	319
notice to precede suspension	319, 320
Reinstatement: before one year by payment of dues	323
dues must be collected for year suspended	320
where Lodge demises	328
if more than two years or is expelled	329
where suspension runs one year or more	324
if application is rejected, effect of	325
may be expelled	326
how reinstated when expelled for nonpayment	327
Suspension: of plural member, effect of	351
all reported to Grand Secretary	320
dues not to accrue during	321
insane member not liable to	322
Uniform receipt card to be used	60, 313
What contributions paid to the Grand Lodge	163
The Grand Lodge:	
All sources from which derived	Const., Art. IX: 163
Fee for degree conferred in the Grand Lodge	163
Lodge contributions	Const., Art. IX: 57, 163
penalty for default	IX: 57, 59
None on suspended members	321
Suspension of charter does not abate	330
accrue until charter is forfeited and Lodge demised	330
FELLOWCRAFT:	
Advance of	433
application for lies over, when	430, 438
any member may protest	423
how made, after rejection	438
receiving maims after initiation, effect of	402
proficiency, a prerequisite to advancement	433
examination as to proficiency, when had	435, 436
had in Lodge where application pending	435
vote on in Lodge	437
by show of hands	437
Annual returns must show how obtained	491
Are Masons	344
Business transacted in Lodge of	332
Cannot dimit	344
Cannot vote	344
Effect of removal to another Jurisdiction	445
Entitled to Masonic burial	344
May receive certificate of dismissal	446, 447
Name not to be published	405a
Not members of the Lodge	344
Status of, when Lodge demises	451
when from another state	448
how advanced	448
when Lodge consolidates with another	251
when made in traveling Lodge	450
Waiver of jurisdiction of, issued in ninety days, when	459
FESTIVAL:	
Fifty years a Mason award given	14
Saints John Days are	238
FINANCE:	
See "Committee on."	

INDEX

	Article
FIRE:	
Loss of Charter by Duplicate issued, how	211
No relief to Lodge for loss by unless	485
petition for, how made	485
FISCAL YEAR:	
Books of Grand Officers closed, when	53
FOREIGNER:	
Eligible to receive degrees, when	396
FORFEITURE OF CHARTER:	
See "Arrest of Charter"; "Charter."	
Delinquency in making returns to Grand Lodge	57, 59
Failure to enforce discipline	499
to assemble once in three months	228
to obtain consent for sale of, or creation of lien or debt against Lodge property	342
FORMS:	
General Forms: (Division IV)	
Advisor Certification	Form No. 79
Bond, form of	Form No. 66
Bylaws	Form No. 23
Masters, Wardens and Secretary's Association	Form No. 23A
Cash Receipts	Form No. 72
Certificates: of contribution to George Washington Masonic National Memorial	Form No. 29a
of contribution to Texas Masonic Charities	Form No. 29a
Foundation	Form No. 29
of dismissal	Form No. 34
of dismissal	Form No. 30
of endowed membership, brother	Form No. 76-C
of endowed membership, in honor of	Form No. 76-D
of endowed membership, in memory of	Form No. 76-E
of good standing	Form No. 38
application for	Form No. 37
of life membership	Form No. 57-A
of Lodge voting on dispensation or charter	Form No. 16
of waiver of jurisdiction in favor of regular Lodge in Republic of Mexico	Form No. 70
of withdrawal from plural membership	Form No. 41
Past Master	Form No. 57-B
25 and 40 Year Member	Form No. 56-F
50, 60, 65, 70, 75 and 80 Year Member	Form No. 56-D
Certification of Mental Competence	Form No. 80
Charter of Subordinate Lodge	Form No. 18
CheckForm	Form No. 65
Commission for Grand Officers by appointment	Form No. 68
Declaration to consolidate Lodge	Form No. 20
Deed	Form No. 76
Deed, Special Warranty	Form No. 76-A
Deputation for constituting a Lodge	Form No. 19
Dimit, application for	Form No. 33
Dispensation to form new Lodge	Form No. 17
Endowed Membership Form	Form No. 77
Endowed Membership Installment Application	Form No. 76-B
Investigative report: Advancement	Form No. 32
Affiliation by Certificate of Good Standing	Form No. 39-A
Mysteries of Freemasonry	Form No. 28
Petition for Reinstate	Form No. 39-A
Petition for Restoration	Form No. 45-A
Unaffiliated Mason	Form No. 36
Lodgeroom Layout	Form No. 75
Members and visitors register	Form No. 60
Members Ledger	Form No. 63
Minimum audit	Form No. 71
Minutes: of Stated Meeting	Form No. 24
of Stated Meeting	Form No. 24-A
of Called Meeting	Form No. 25
of Called Meeting	Form No. 25-A
Notice: of election	Form No. 47
of Lodge meeting	Form No. 53
of nonpayment of dues	Form No. 49
final notice	Form No. 50
of rejection	Form No. 48
of visitation	Form No. 55
to former member suspended NPD	Form No. 51
Orphan's certificate	Form No. 59-B
Petition: for advancement	Form No. 31
for affiliation, certificate of good standing	Form No. 39
for affiliation, unaffiliated Mason	Form No. 35
Article	
FORMS (continued):	
General Forms: (Division IV) (continued)	
Petition: (continued)	
for charter	Form No. 15
for dispensation for new Lodge	Form No. 14
for mysteries of Freemasonry	Form No. 26
for reinstatement	Form No. 44
for removal of Lodge	Form No. 22
for restoration	Form No. 45
for withdrawal from plural membership	Form No. 40
to return charter	Form No. 21
Repealed 2018	Form No. 27
Proxy for representative in Grand Lodge	Form No. 67
Request to confer degrees by courtesy	Form No. 46
Secretary's account book, loose leaf	Form No. 61
Special deputation	Form No. 69
Special summons	Form No. 52
Square and Compasses	Form No. 57
Standard uniform dues receipt	Form No. 56-A, 56-B, 56-C
Traveling certificate	Form No. 58
Treasurer's account book	Form No. 62
Visitor's card	Form No. 54
Waiver of jurisdiction	Form No. 43
Application for	Form No. 42
Warrant	Form No. 64
Widow's and orphan's certificate	Form No. 59
Widow's certificate	Form No. 59-A
FORTY YEAR EMBLEM	346A
FRATERNAL RELATIONS:	
See "Committee on."	
FREEBORN:	
Candidate must be	393
FREEMASON:	
See "Mason;" "Master Masons."	
FUNDS:	
Disbursement of Committee on Grand Lodge Assistance Fund, how ..	123, 124
Committee on Masonic Education and Service, how	111, 112, 113
General Fund of Masonic Home and School, how ... 149	
none from Endowment Fund of Masonic Home and School ...	148
Grand Secretary to include all in annual report	53
Lodge not restricted in making for charity	486
allowed for what	335, 486
Raised Only For Masonic Purposes	38
FUNERALS:	
Grand Lodge Funeral	359-a
dimitted Masons not to join procession, unless	373
dispensation not necessary	40
entire control by Lodge after taking charge	362
heads to be uncovered, when	278, 363
how held: on Sunday permissible	237, 360
Lodge opened in third degree	361
Master to conduct	361
in absence of, who	361
may enter territory of other Lodges to conduct	366
order of funeral procession	362
pallbearers, who may be	362
Lodge of Sorrow	361
Master may refuse, when	359, 360
Request for, who may make	359
Who entitled to: Masons in good standing	359
nonaffiliated Masons, when Master consents	359
Who not entitled to: members dying under discreditable circumstances, except	360
suspended or expelled Masons	360
cannot be restored after death by payment of dues	360
FURNITURE:	
Lodges must have all necessary before being set to work	223
GENERAL FUNDS:	
Collected, how	52
Loans made from, when	52
GENERAL GRAND LODGE:	
Formation of disapproved	17
GOD:	
Belief in the existence of prerequisite to admission	397
Grand Lodges not recognized that do not require	18

INDEX

Article	Article
GOOD SAMARITAN: May meet in Lodgerooms.....	Absence of, who presides Const., Art. VI, Sec. 2 (a) (b)
GOOD STANDING: Certificate of to transfer membership 392	Death of, order of succession Const., Art. VI, Sec. 2 (a) (b)
Members demised Lodge, how 328	from State, who acts as Const., Art. VI, Sec. 2 (a) (b)
dues compromised, how 328	Election and installation of Const., Art. IV, Secs. 7 and 10
GRAND CHAPLAIN: Appointed by Grand Master..... Const., Art. IV, Sec. 3	Expenses of, allowed, what 42
Duties of 86	Honors exclusive, except 34
GRAND DEACONS: Appointed by Grand Master..... Const., Art. IV, Sec. 3(a-b)	May be suspended from office, how 36
Duties of 89	Member of Grand Lodge Const., Art. II, Sec. 1
GRAND LODGE: Assumes no liability when property sold by Grand Master 28	ex-officio Chairman Committee on Work Const., Art. XI, Sec. 1
Authority and powers of: exclusive jurisdiction over Lodges and Masons Const., Art. III	Proxy may act for, when, who 41
maintain uniformity in mode of working Const., Art. III	
revoke charters Const., Art. III	Powers, Duties and Authority:
may grant Charter when Lodge disapproves, how 208	General Const., Art. V, Secs. 1 and 2; 22
no other Grand Lodge can exercise rights in this jurisdiction 9	annual address, copies to be furnished, who 43
none in territory of other Grand Lodges 11	annual report, to contain names of consolidating Lodges 44
to constitute new Lodge Const., Art. III	call special meetings of Grand Lodge Const., Art. VI, Sec. 3 (b)
to establish and disseminate esoteric work first three degrees 10	cannot act as officer of Lodge 277
to make local ordinances and regulations Const., Art. III	cannot make Masons at sight 35
Book of Constitutions recognized as authority Const. Art. III, Sec. 3	demised Lodges, can sell property of, when 29
Does not recognize Clandestine Lodges 15	direct investigation of finances, who, when 26
Meeting of: when held 2	grant duplicate charters 211
Representations of Grand Lodge 2a	grant waiver of territorial jurisdiction, when 31
special communications, how called Const., Art. VI, Sec. 3	install officers 295
where held Const., Art. VI, Sec. 3; 2	may exclude visitors from Grand Lodge, when being opened 8
Member of Masonic Relief Association of U.S. & Canada 19	may loan money 52
dues in, what 19	may sell property of demised Lodges, when 29
Members of: who are Const., Art. II	nominate Deputy Const., Art. IV, Sec. 7
loss of membership 6	preside in any Lodge Const., Art. V, Sec. 2
must be citizens of State 6	presides in the Grand Lodge when present Const., Art. VI, Sec. 2
Past Masters no inherent rights to Const., Art. II	report official acts during recess, how 43
Officers of: cannot hold two offices at same time 21	request degrees to be conferred by courtesy 473
eligibility of: every member eligible Const., Art. IV, Sec. 6	sale of property of demised Lodges to be reported 29
hold over on failure to elect successor or install, except Const., Art. IV, Sec. 5	sign diplomas given to Past Grand Masters 64
how elected and installed Const., Art. IV Secs. 7 and 10	supervise Committee on Masonic Education and Service, when 111
may be investigated by Finance Committee, when 121	visit Lodges 33, 34
name and rank of Const., Art. IV, Sec. 1	Grant Dispensation for: any purpose according to laws and customs of
presiding, who Const., Art. VI, Sec. 2	Grand Lodge Const., Art. V, Sec. 2
regalia furnished for 12	conferring degrees Const., Art. V Sec. 2
time elected and installed Const., Art. IV, Sec. 4	on candidates in territory of suspended Lodges 259
vacancies, how filled Const., Art. VI, Sec. 2	out of time, when 39, 414
who elected, who appointed, by whom Const., Art. IV, Secs. 2 and 3	holding joint meetings 37
Officiates at burial of elective Grand Officers only 367	new Lodges Const., Art. V Sec. 2; 180, 188
Only, can reinstate suspended or expelled members of traveling Lodge 450	postponement of examination for proficiency 39, 414
Proceedings in, to be drawn up and printed, how 47	public displays or processions 38
Purposes of Const., Art. I, Sec. 2	removal of Lodges 242
Quorum in, what constitutes Const., Art. VI, Sec. 1	shortening time to act on petition for initiation 407, 414
Regalia for Grand Officers provided for 12	to meet in place other than Lodge room 232
Revenues of, what, how derived Const., Art. IX; 162	waive jurisdiction, when 31
Seal, to be affixed to all documents, except 66	
Title and corporate name of Const., Art. I, Sec. 1	
Honorary title of 1	
Trustees 20a	
GRAND LODGE ASSISTANCE FUND: Repealed 2018..... 122	May appoint: Committees in the Grand Lodge, to serve during
Duties and powers of 123, 124, 125, 126	Communication 93
Special fee for provided 163	other committees as directed by the Grand Lodge 99
GRAND LODGE TEMPLE: Building Maintenance Reserve Fund 163a	permanent, what 105
Finance Committee shall meet in 119	special, during recess of Grand Lodge, when 40
Revenues, rents, and income, profits on, set aside for the Masonic Home and School Const., Art. X, Sec. 3 (c)	to serve one year, what 100
GRAND LODGES: Censurable for any to grant charter to Clandestine Lodge 15	District Deputy Grand Masters Const., Art. IV, Sec. 8; 24, 76
Has authority to exercise any rights in this Jurisdiction 9	Grand Lodge Officers, who Const., Art. IV, Sec. 1
List of in fraternal correspondence with this Grand Lodge, to be printed 72	temporary, who Const., Art. VI, Sec. 2
from whom recognition has been withdrawn, denied, printed 72	Grand Representatives 30
Members of may visit in this Grand Jurisdiction, when 379	
Representatives not received from that abolish belief in God as essential to membership 18	
GRAND MARSHAL: Appointed by the Grand Master Const., Art. IV, Sec. 3	May approve: accounts of District Deputy Grand Masters 24
Duties of 88	bond of Grand Secretary 46
	consolidation of Lodges 250
	May consent to: acquisition, sale or mortgage of Lodge property 28, 340
	appeal for aid by Subordinate Lodge 484
	court action 342a
	creation of lien or debt against Lodge property 340
	GRAND MUSICIAN: Appointed, by Grand Master Const., Art. IV, Sec. 9
	Duties of 91b
	GRAND OFFICERS:
	Duty of to attend Annual Communication Const., Art. V, Sec. 1
	Election of, when Const., Art. IV, Secs. 1-4
	Eligibility of Const., Art. IV, Sec. 6
	any member is Const., Art. IV, Sec. 6
	for reelection Const., Art. IV, Sec. 6
	Hold over on failure to elect successor Const., Art. IV, Sec. 5
	Constit., Art. IV, Sec. 5
	How nominated and elected Const., Art. IV, Sec. 7
	when only one in nomination, when two or more Const., Art. IV Sec. 7
	Installation of, when and how Const., Art. IV, Sec. 10
	Names and rank of Const., Art. IV, Sec. 1
	No one can hold two elective offices 21
	Regalia and jewels provided for, what 12
	Who appointed Const., Art. IV, Sec. 3
	by whom Const., Art. IV, Sec. 3
	Who elected Const., Art. IV, Sec. 2

INDEX

Article	Article
GRAND OFFICERS' REPORTS:	
Committee on, appointment, term of office.....	105
GRAND ORATOR:	
Appointed, by Grand Master	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 3
Duties of 87	
GRAND PHOTOGRAPHER:	
Appointed, by Grand Master	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 9
Duties of 91a	
GRAND PURSUANT:	
Appointed, by Grand Senior Warden.....	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 3 (b)
Duties and station	91
GRAND REPRESENTATIVES:	
Grand Master may appoint	30
Grand Secretary to keep register of	30, 72, 74
Not received from Grand Lodge abolishing belief in God as prerequisite to membership	18
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER:	
Arrangement made with to care for widows.....	146, 161
GRAND SECRETARY:	
Duties, Powers, and Authority:	
General	Const., Art. V, Sec. 3
bond of, requisites	46
approved by the Grand Master, or	46
books of, when closed for the year.....	53
courtesy degrees/ to handle and dispose of requests	471, 474
designate Lodge to confer degrees by courtesy.....	474
may direct correspondence to be had between Lodges ..	472
may refuse request for	476
may request of another Grand Jurisdiction	475
deduct loans from per capita tax collections.....	52
distribute matters referred to Committees.....	62
election and installation of	Const., Art. IV
file papers of Lodges consolidating	253
furnish Lodges Under Dispensation with Laws and Monitor ..	196
investigation of by the Finance Committee, when, how ..	26, 119
keep register of appointments and removals	
of Grand Representatives	72, 74
member of the Grand Lodge	Const., Art. II, Sec. 1
Repealed 2018.....	122
preserve description of regalia of Grand Officers, how	12
procure diplomas for Past Grand Masters	64
for Master Masons, and others, fee for	65
rank and Title of	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 1
receive and file papers	61
reports of Committee on Grievances and	
Appeals, how to be kept	63
salary and expenses	46a
sign and seal Charters, etc.....	66
turn over proxy certificates to Committee on Credentials ..	5
Funds of the Grand Lodge:	
all receipts and disbursements to appear in annual report	53
audit and count of by the Finance Committee	26, 119
by certified public accountant, when	120
during recess of the Grand Lodge, when	121
issue warrant to Treasurer of Masonic Home monthly, how	51
receive all moneys due the Grand Lodge, except	48
pay into Grand Treasury monthly	49
to deposit funds monthly	49
Printed Proceedings of the Grand Lodge:	
duty to draw up and record	47
send copies to Lodges	73
to Past Grand Officers, and others	73
to place Lodge returns in hands of printer, when	68
what not printed in:	
annual reports of District Deputy Grand Masters.....	83
names and number found guilty of Masonic offenses.....	70
names of beneficiaries of the Grand Lodge Assistance Fund ..	126
what printed in:	
Grand Lodges in fraternal correspondence with this Grand Lodge	72
from which recognition withdrawn or denied	72
halftone portrait of outgoing Grand Masters, and others ..	69
Lodge returns, when	68
Masonic districts, number of	75
memorial page to deceased members of Grand Lodge ..	71
name, number, location, date of Charter of Lodges.....	67
complete roster of living members	67
names of officers, etc	67
permanent laws to be printed	
in the appendix	Const., Art. XIII, Sec. 4
GRAND SECRETARY: (continued)	
Returns of Lodges:	
examine and return for corrections, if necessary	56
furnish Lodges with forms for returns	54, 55
notify Lodges of arrearages	57
of suspension for arrearages, when	59
place in printer's hands, when	68
send list of arrearages to District Deputy Grand Masters	58
should be sent to Grand Secretary by August 15th	493
to prepare uniform receipt cards for dues	60
to receive dues from members of suspended Lodges, effect of	260
to return all Returns not properly authenticated	490
GRAND STEWARDS:	
Appointed, by Grand Junior Warden	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 3
Duties of	90
GRAND TILER:	
Appointed, by the Grand Master	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 3(a)
Duties of, generally	92
to summons members, when	92
GRAND TREASURER:	
Duties of	45
Duties, powers, and Authority	Const., Art. V, Sec. 3
Election and installation of	Const., Art. IV
Investigation of by Finance Committee	26, 119, 121
Member of the Grand Lodge	Const., Art. II, Sec. 1
Rank and title of	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 1
Trustees may employ accountant to audit books of	120
GRAND WARDENS:	
Duties of	Const., Art. V, Sec. 1; Art. VI
Election and installation of	Const., Art. IV
Eligibility to Office (Grand Junior Warden)	6a
Members of the Grand Lodge	Const., Art. II, Sec. 1
Repealed 2018.....	122
Preside in absence of Grand Master, when	Const., Art. VI, Sec. 2(a)
Rank and title of	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 1
Vacancies in office, how filled	Const., Art. VI, Sec. 2(b)
HALLS:	
See "Lodgerooms."	
HEAD:	
Uncovered at funerals and other times, when	278, 363
HOLD OVER:	
Grand Officers hold over on failure to elect or install	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 5
Lodge Officers, when no election is held	293
when elected officer fails to be installed	293, 295
HOLY SCRIPTURE:	
Belief in Divine authenticity of prerequisite to initiation	397
HOME:	
See "Masonic Home and School."	
Members of Home exempt from dues	316
HONORARY TITLE:	
Of the Grand Lodge	1
HONORS, GRAND:	
Who entitled	34
HOUR:	
Of convening of the Grand Lodge	2
HUMANITARIAN AWARD:	
W. B. and Brandon Carrell	14b, 126g
IDENTITY:	
Of protester not to be disclosed	423
Of rejected candidates not to be published to the world	427
IMPROVEMENTS:	
To Masonic Home and School, how made	156
INDEBTEDNESS:	
See "Mortgage."	
INITIATION:	
See "Degrees", "Candidates", "Petitions."	
Of candidates, after election, when	413
if not within twelve months after election, what	430
of two or more at same time forbidden	431
Repealed 2018.....	401, 402

INDEX

Article	Article
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS:	
In the Grand Lodge:	
of Grand Master, by whom Const., Art. IV Sec. 10 when Const., Art. IV, Sec. 10(a); 166	Election of, when 92
of Officers of Grand Lodge Const., Art. IV, Sec. 10 when Const., Art. IV, Sec. 10(b); 166	Eligibility of, any member maybe 291
failure to install, incumbents hold over Const., Art. IV, Sec. 5 provision may be made for any not present. Const., Art. IV, Sec. 4	Not affected by Senior Warden acting as Master 286
In the Subordinate Lodge:	Presides when Master and Senior Warden are absent 285
absent from jurisdiction, what 299	Requirements for installation 297a
elected officers must be, in person 296	
failure to install, old officers hold over 293, 295	
joint, by two Lodges, in same place, proper, except 303	
Lodges must be opened in Master's Degree 302	
cannot out of Jurisdiction 300	
may call off to, in public 302	
officers of new chartered Lodges must 213	
procedure 216	
public, requires dispensation for, except 301	
Lodge to be called off when 302	
when held 298	
where held: may be in place other than Lodge room 300	
but in jurisdiction of Lodge, except 299	
who may install 216, 295	
INSTRUCTION IN THE WORK:	
See "Committees in the Grand Lodge: Work".	
Committee on Work to give 129, 141	
Masonic Schools of, how held 142	
No one can give and receive compensation without certificate 139	
INSURANCE:	
If none carried, no relief to Lodge from fire loss, except 485	
The Grand Lodge Insurance Reserve Fund 163d	
INTEREST:	
On Endowment Fund, Masonic Home and School, goes in General Fund of 146	
INTERVAL BETWEEN DEGREES:	
14 Days, and must be examined and voted proficient 433	
dispensation may be granted 39, 414	
INVASION OF GRAND JURISDICTION:	
No Grand Lodge to exercise any rights in this	
Grand Jurisdiction Const., Art. III	
INVASION OF LODGE JURISDICTION:	
Permission, for burden of Mason 366	
INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE:	
On petition for advancement, after rejection, when 407, 438	
On petition for affiliation 386	
On petition for affiliation, appointment of 405, 407	
failure to report, new appointed 409	
not to report instanter 409	
interview required 412	
no standing committees permitted 408	
to answer certain questions, what 412	
when candidate dies or becomes insane pending report of 410	
when candidate found disqualified, the	
INVESTMENT:	
Of Endowment Fund, Masonic Home and School, how 148	
Investments:	
committee on 126h	
IRREGULARITIES IN CONFERRING DEGREES:	
By Lodge without jurisdiction, effect of 463	
IRRELIGIOUS LIBERTINE:	
Cannot be a Mason Anct. Chrgs. I	
JEWELS:	
Grand Officers to be provided with, what 12	
Past Grand Masters, provided with, what 13	
to appear clothed, with proper 12, 168	
Lodge Officers must wear in Lodge 272	
to be provided with, what 273	
JOB'S DAUGHTERS:	
Lodge may sponsor 339	
May meet in Lodgerooms 225	
JOINT MEETINGS:	
Grand Master may grant dispensation for, when 37	
JOINT PROTESTS:	
Count as a blackball 425	
JUNIOR WARDEN:	
Election of, when 92	
Eligibility of, any member maybe 291	
Not affected by Senior Warden acting as Master 286	
Presides when Master and Senior Warden are absent 285	
Requirements for installation 297a	
JURISDICTION, AS TO DEGREES:	
Concurrent Jurisdiction:	
candidate may apply to any Lodge having 452	
waiver must be given by oldest Lodge 458	
Consolidated Lodge, jurisdiction of 251	
Demised Lodges: jurisdiction over uninitiated material in the territory of 451	
over all rejected candidates of 451	
over Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts of 451	
over suspended or expelled Master Masons of 451	
Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts:	
from another State 448	
may obtain certificates of dismissal 446, 447	
not lost by removal of Brother 445	
of demised Lodge 451	
of traveling Lodges 450	
General Jurisdiction of Subordinate Lodges:	
after rejection of candidate, what 445	
attaches on reception of petition 405, 445	
not when illegally received 405, 406, 462	
candidate receiving third degree in Lodge not having effect 345, 463	
Lodges under Dispensation, same as chartered Lodges 195	
Mason made in Lodge not having clandestine 463	
Mason made in traveling Lodges, jurisdiction of 450	
must confer degrees within 12 months or lose jurisdiction 445	
rejected candidate of another Grand Jurisdiction 449	
residence, actual, necessary to give 394	
change of, after petition is filed, effect of 445	
change of, after rejection, does not destroy, until expiration 445	
change of, by elected candidate, does not destroy 445	
permittable, for burial of Mason 366	
Plural membership, none retained after rejection for 356	
Suspended Lodge: Jurisdiction not to be appropriated 259	
Waiver of Jurisdiction:	
application for:	
balloted on at stated meeting 456	
must be in writing 456	
over rejected candidate 400	
cannot be granted until Committee reports, if petition	
for degrees is pending 455	
and ballot taken thereon 455	
cannot issue until period of rejection has elapsed 457	
certificate of dismissal has effect of, when 446	
expires if not acted upon within one year 445	
Lodge acting on petition for degrees without securing waiver 462	
no jurisdiction acquired thereby 462	
Mexico Lodges, authorized 466, 467, 468	
necessary: when Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft removes 445	
by oldest Lodge, when 458	
over Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft from	
another Grand Jurisdiction 448	
over rejected candidate from another Grand Jurisdiction 449	
over rejected candidate of another Lodge 400	
when candidate lives near another Lodge 453	
when candidate received degree in another Grand	
Jurisdiction 461	
not necessary over those receiving degrees in traveling Lodge 450	
over Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts, to be issued	
in ninety days, when 459	
petition for degrees to be filed before requested 454	
refusal to grant: effect of 460	
does not operate as a rejection, unless 460	
may petition Lodge refusing for the degrees 460	
to be issued in ninety days after refusal 459	
rejection for degrees: waiver cannot be granted until expires 457	
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR:	
May meet in Lodgerooms 225	
LAMBSKIN APRON:	
Grand Officers to be provided with 12	
Lodge Officers, may be provided with 273	
Members of the Lodge, may wear what 274	
LAWS:	
Any in conflict with Constitution null and void 220	
Copy of Masonic, furnished Lodges under Dispensation 196	
Not included in this Revised Code, repealed 179	
Of permanent nature to be printed in	
Appendix when passed Const., Art. XIII, Sec. 4	

INDEX

Article	Article
LAYING CORNERSTONES:	
Building must be of public, sacred or Masonic character.....	178
must be constructed of, what.....	178
Requirements and regulations governing laying of.....	178
LECTURE:	
And Charge, may be given candidates collectively	431
cannot be postponed	431
Must be proficient in before advancement.....	433
LIABILITY:	
Grand Lodge assumes none when Grand Master consents to sale of Lodge property	28, 340
LIENS:	
Lodges not to create against property without consent.....	28, 340
must give purpose and plan of.....	341
penalty for not securing consent	342
LIFE CERTIFICATES:	
To teach the work, how and when issued	135-136
LIFE MEMBERSHIP:	
Certificate of, accorded force of dimitt.....	385
One granted annually	315
LIGHTS:	
Lodgerooms must be equipped with necessary	223
LITIGATION:	
Permission to bring court action required	342a
LIVELIHOOD:	
Candidates must be physically and mentally able to earn.....	402
LOANS:	
May be made by Grand Master, when.....	52
Grand Secretary to collect, how	52
May be made by Masonic Home and School, how.....	147
LODGE – LODGES:	
Affiliation with; see Affiliation	
Appeals for Relief:	
cannot ask for without consent of Grand Master.....	484
loss by fire, when aid given.....	485
reimbursement for extending aid to members of other Lodges, when..	487
Arrest of Charter:	
for failure to make annual returns	Const., Art. IX: 57, 59,
failure to meet within three months	228
failure to provide safe and secure Lodge rooms	25
Attendance of Members:	
May make regulations to enforce.....	343
Business of:	
all done in Master's Lodge, except	331
appointive officers, when appointed.....	292
as near as possible as in the Grand Lodge	333
cannot meet except in Lodge room, unless	231
ceremony when Grand Master visits Lodge	34
"committees of the whole" not recognized	334
conferring degrees, a Master Mason must preside when.....	236
consolidating Lodges, pending business in how acted on	250
E.A. and F.C. Lodges, how opened and closed.....	332
no work in except pertaining to such degree	332
elections, when held	292
in open Lodge	290
liens and debts not to be created, except.....	340
description and plan of furnished to Grand Master	341
penalty for creating without permission	342
permission to acquire property required	340
Master, presides "covered"	278
cannot appoint proxy to Grand Lodge	483
has custody of and is responsible for Charter	279
may require each member to vote.....	281
no appeal from except to the Grand Lodge	283
may appropriate funds, for what	
may make regulations to enforce attendance.....	343
minutes (see "Minutes.")	
opening and closing of Master's Lodge affects no other	332
reconsideration of resolution, permissible.....	336
shall not sponsor organizations of arty kind, except.....	339
stated meetings, open in third degree	331
the "Word" must not be given, except	130
Wardens cannot appoint proxy to the Grand Lodge	483
what transacted at special meetings	235
Bylaws of:	
any in conflict with Constitution or Laws null and void.....	220
certain changes allowed without approval of Grand Lodge.....	219, 221
LODGE – LODGES (continued):	
Bylaws of (continued)	
in appendix, may be adopted without approval	219, 221
Lodges under Dispensation, to use what.....	194
must be submitted for approval, when	219
Called Meeting:	
business transacted at	235
degrees may be conferred at	235
examination for proficiency may be had at	436
Master may call, when	235
no balloting for degrees at	234, 415
Clandestine Lodges:	
Closing Lodge:	
must be closed and reopened for stated meetings	331
of Master's Lodge affects no other	332
of stated meeting must be on day of meeting	233
Committees In:	
of the whole, not allowed	334
on petitions for advancement	438
on petitions for affiliation	386
on petitions for degrees (initiation)	405
standing committee not permitted	408
Consolidation of	245, 253
Constituting:	
Grand Master only authorized to	213, 216
Lodge to pay expenses of	217
Master of new Lodge to receive charter	216
officers of Chartered Lodges must be installed at	216
procedure	32, 216, 223
Dedication of	178
Definition of	Anct. Chrgs. Ill
Demised:	
definition of	257
how restored	32
members of, who has jurisdiction of	263, 451
may obtain certificate from Grand Secretary	261, 391
has force of dimitt	391
property of, taken by District Deputy Grand Master	254
real, can be sold only by the Grand Lodge	29
equity certificates in Masonic Temple, disposition of	28
rejected candidates of, who has jurisdiction of	451
status of during suspension of Lodge	258
members who sign petition for restoration	262
that of non-affiliated Masons	258
when charter is restored	262
suspended or expelled members of, how reinstated	329
jurisdiction over, who has	451
Dormant:	
disposition of property and assets of	255
Elections:	
any member eligible to be elected Warden	291
cannot resign after installation	267
Master cannot decline to serve after, unless	294
none but members eligible, except Tiler	265
must be in open Lodge	290
of Master who has never been Warden, prohibited	276
of Past Master from another State	276
void, if not held on day appointed	293
when held	292
when not held old officers hold over	293
Fees and Dues:	
fees for degrees: not less than \$30.00 for each degree	307
for each Master Mason's degree, special fee	163, 318
George Washington Masonic National Memorial ..	163, 307, 318b
no agreement to confer for less than prescribed valid	310, 312
none for courtesy degrees	480
of new Lodge in jurisdiction of another Lodge, how fixed	309
paid in advance, to the Secretary	311
payable in nothing but money	312
returned when candidate found disqualified	411
when waiver of jurisdiction granted, what charged	464
how paid by members of suspended Lodge when affiliating	260
Lodges fix time of payment	311
may remit or exempt members from Lodge dues	314
but not from Grand Lodge dues on such members	314
minimum dues of members	311
automatic suspension, nonpayment	319
suspended members to be notified	320
must be paid before any dimitt granted	317
cease when dimitt is issued	317
none to be charged during suspension of member	321
nonpayment of (See "Suspension for nonpayment of Dues.")	
uniform receipt card to be used, prepared by Grand Secretary ..	60, 313
what contributions paid to the Grand Lodge	163
Funds of:	
allowed for what	335
Lodge not restricted in making donations to charity	486

INDEX

Article	Article
LODGE – LODGES (continued):	LODGE – LODGES (continued):
Funeral Services by: See “Funerals.”	Meetings: (continued)
Installation of Officers:	stated meetings: open in third degree 331 business at: ballot for advancement 234 ballot for degrees 415 ballot for waiver of jurisdiction 456 petition for initiation presented at 403 consolidation of Lodges 45 for affiliation 385 vote on removal of Lodge at 241 change of number in month to be approved by Grand Lodge. 221 hour and day of may be changed 221 if falls an Saints John Day, when held 38 when stated meeting falls on, when held 238 Sunday: no meetings for work to be held, except 237 Saints John Day falling an, what 239
elected officers must be in person 396 failure to install, old officers hold over 295 joint, by two Lodges, in same place, proper, except 303 Lodge must be opened in Master's Degree to 302 may call off to, in public 302 Officers of newly chartered Lodges must be 216 procedure 216 public, requires dispensation for, except 300, 301 Lodge to be called off, when 302 qualifications, Master 276-276a when held 298 where held: may be place other than Lodgeroom 300 but in jurisdiction of Lodge, except 299 who may install 216, 295	Members — Membership:
Insurance on:	applicants for charter become, when 184 aprons for 274 attendance of may be enforced 35, 343 Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts are not members 344 entitled to button for fifty years membership 14 entitled to diploma, when 65 made in Lodge without jurisdiction, is member of 345, 463 Masons affiliating with Lodge under Dispensation are 198 may be required to vote 281 may belong to two Lodges, plural membership 347-358 mentally incompetent member, not hable to discipline or for dues 2 to be reported as a member 322 of demised Lodges
Jurisdiction As to Degrees:	jurisdiction of, who has 263, 451 may obtain certificates from Grand Secretary 261, 391 members who sign petition for restoration 62 nonaffiliated Masons 58 status during suspension of Lodge 258, 260 when charter is restored 262 of suspended Lodge: may affiliate with other Lodge 261 dues must be paid on, how 260 status of 260 plural membership permitted 347-358 dues paid on, what, how 353 how counted 350 rights and privileges of 354, 355 Secretary to report all such other Lodge(s) 351 suspension or expulsion, effect of 351 status of members when charges pending: cannot be installed in office 297 to register, book provided for 378 transfer of membership allowed, procedure 392 traveling Lodge, members of, jurisdiction of status of 450
concurrent jurisdiction: must confer degrees within 12 months or lose 445 waiver given by oldest Lodge in cities having 458 consolidated Lodge, jurisdiction of 251 demised Lodges: jurisdiction of territory of, who has 263 over all rejected candidates of 263 over Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts of 451 over suspended or expelled Masons of 263 Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts: from another State 448 may obtain certificates of dismissal 446-447 not lost by removal of 445 of demised Lodge 451 of traveling Lodges 450 General jurisdiction of Lodges 441, 458 after rejection of candidate, what 445 attaches on reception of petition 405, 445 not when illegally received 405-406, 462 candidate receiving third degree in Lodge not having, effect 345 Lodges under Dispensation, same as chartered Lodges 195 invasion of charter may be arrested for 648 penalty for 647 permissible, for burial of Mason 366 Mason made in Lodge not having, not clandestine 463 Masons made in traveling Lodges, jurisdiction of 450 plural membership, none retained after rejection of 356 rejected candidate of another Grand Jurisdiction 449 residence, actual, necessary to give 394 change of, by elected candidate, does not destroy 445 change of, after petition is filed, effect of 445 change of, after rejection, does not destroy until 445 suspended Lodge, jurisdiction not to be appropriated 259 Waiver of: see “Waiver of Jurisdiction.”	Minutes of:
Liens against property of:	approved only at stated meetings 333 summary permitted 338a used only for Masonic purposes 338 what entered in: action on petition for dimit 369 all business transacted by the Lodge 337 charter copied in, when 215 officers and members present, except 337 protests, when 428 proxy to the Grand Lodge, election of 4 report of Committee when candidate found disqualified 411 when found insane, or deceased 410 suspension for nonpayment of dues 319 Worshipful Master responsible for correctness of 280
Lodgerooms:	Mortgage of property of:
anterooms, subject to same rules governing halls 224 certain other Bodies may meet in, who 225 club room closed, when 224 may be suspended if Lodge does not provide safe and secure 25 meetings must be held in, except 231-232 must be safe and secure before Lodge is set to work 32, 223 must be used for Masonic purposes only 224 must have necessary furniture and lights 223 weapons must not be carried in 226	Grand Master may authorize, when 28 Lodges not to create, except 340 penalty for creating without consent of Grand Master 342 plans and purposes of to be given to Grand Master 341
Master: see “Master of Lodge.”	Name of:
Meetings:	how changed 190 not to bear that of any living man 190
called meetings: business transacted at 235 degrees maybe conferred at 235 examination for proficiency may be had at 436 minutes not approved at 337 no balloting at permitted 234 when and how called 235 joint, Grand Master may grant dispensations for 37 must be held once in three months, penalty for failure to 228 must meet in Lodgerooms, except 231 Grand Master may issue dispensation to meet in other place 232 opening and closing Master's Degree affects no other 332 rule in computing time 230 Saints John Day are festival meetings 38 falling on Sunday, celebrated next day 239 ordinary business not transacted on 238	New Lodges:
	Charter, how signed 209 delivered to Master of Lodge after constituted 209 what to contain 209
	Constituting: expenses of paid by Lodge 217 Lodge under Dispensation, how constituted 214 Lodge under Charter: special meeting called 216 proceedings, general 216 members of all who sign petition are, when 210 dues must be paid to date Lodge constituted 210 name of, must not be after any living man 190 petition for charter for: lone petitions set to work by Grand Master, or representative 213 who maybe Grand Master's representative 213

INDEX

Article	Article
LODGE – LODGES (continued):	
Officers of Lodge:	
appointed, who	292
cannot hold two elective offices at same time, except	266
elected, who, when	292
election of:	
any member eligible to be elected Warden	291
cannot resign after installation	267
Mason cannot decline to serve, unless	294
must be in open Lodge	290
none but members eligible, except Tiler	265
none for Lodge under Dispensation	192
of Master who has never served as Warden, prohibited	276
Past Master from another State	276
qualifications, Master	276-276a
when held	292
when not held on day set, old officers hold over	293
installation of cannot be if charges are pending against	297
elected officers must be in person	296
failure to install, old officers hold over	298
joint, by two Lodges, in same place, proper, except	303
Lodge opened in Master's Degree	302
may call off to install in public	302
Lodge to be called off when public installation held	302
officers of newly chartered Lodges must be:	
procedure	216
public, requires dispensation for, except on St. John's Day	301
when held, must be before August 1st	298
where held: may be in place other than Lodge room	300
but must be in jurisdiction of Lodge, except	299
who may install	295
Masters office vacant if he is installed Grand Master	277
must wear regalia and jewels	272
Lodge to provide, description of	273
presides, who in Masters absence	285
Past Master of another Lodge cannot, when	269
who in absence of Masters and Wardens	285
required to turn over all books to successors	275
vacancies, filled pro tempore, by presiding officers only, when	268, 271
Opening Lodge:	
closing Masters Lodge affects no other Degree	332
in third degree necessary at stated meetings	331
necessary to transact business, except	331
"Parent" Lodge:	
defined	347
notified of election of resident member, when	350
suspension or expulsion of resident member reported to	351
Plural Membership:	347-358
Presiding Officer:	
District Deputy Grand Masters may, when	78
Grand Master may in any Lodge	Const. Art. V, Sec. 2(a)
Master to be "covered"	278
Past Master may over his lodge, when	285
if from another Lodge, cannot if Master and Wardens absent ..	269
when degrees are conferred, a Master Mason must	236
Processions:	
see "Funerals."	
dimitted Mason cannot join, except	373
Grand Master may grant dispensation for, when	38
Lodge not to appear in without dispensation	240
may celebrate Saints John Days without dispensation	240
proceeding reported to Grand Master immediately after	240
order of funeral procession	362
Property of:	
consolidating Lodges, disposition of	250
demised, Grand Lodge alone can sell	29
dormant, disposition of	254
Grand Master may authorize acquisition, sale or mortgage of, when	28, 340
no Lodge to create lien against without consent of Grand Master	340
penalty incurred for creating lien without consent	342
returning charter, disposition of	254
Proxy of to the Grand Lodge:	
cannot be seated if Master or Wardens present	3
certificate to be furnished to	4
must certify, what	4
not recognized in absence of	4
sent to Grand Secretary, when	5
elected, how	5
entitled to	Const. Art. II, Sec. 1(d)
Master or Wardens cannot appoint	483
must be member of the Lodge	Const. Art. II, Sec. 1(d)
must be resident of Texas	Const. Art. II, Sec. 1(d)
name of must appear in minutes of Lodge	4
only one can be appointed	482
Past Master cannot be represented by	3
Real Estate of:	
consolidating Lodges, disposition of	250
dormant, disposition of	255
Grand Lodge only may sell of demised Lodge	29
Grand Master may authorize acquisition, sale or mortgage of, when	28, 340
Title to, how taken and held	28, 340
Regalia of Officers:	
aprons for Lodge members	274
Lodge may provide, what	273
officers must wear, when	272
Removal of:	
jurisdiction of Lodge, after removal	441, 445
petition for removal, procedure an	241
two-thirds vote necessary when Master opposes	244
majority vote if Master does not oppose	244
Returning Charter:	
how proposition considered	254
if Grand Lodge affirms, Lodge demises	254
if Grand Lodge refuses to affirm, effect of	254
schedule of effects, funds, etc., sent to Grand Secretary	254
to be submitted to Grand Lodge, when	254
two-thirds vote required	254
Restoration of Charter:	
conditions of, what, where Lodge long demised	32
effect of on members	262
Grand Lodge may, after suspension or arrest of charter	256
Returns to the Grand Lodge:	
all fees and dues sent by August 15th	493
annual contributions, what	Const., Art. IX: 163
contents of returns	489
have Lodge seal attached	488
made in duplicate	488
delinquent Lodges, not represented	Const., Art. IX: 57
suspended, when	Const., Art. IX: 57, 59, 492
how reinstated	492
District Deputy Grand Masters to see are made	651
forms for furnished by the Grand Secretary	54, 55
Lodges to make annual	Const., Art. IX, Sec. 1
not printed if received after, when	68
returns not properly authenticated to be returned	490
show how Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts obtained	491
show officers of ensuing year	489
to be made to what date	488
Sale and acquisition of property:	
demised, only Grand Lodge may	29
Grand Master may authorize, when	28, 340
Secretary of Lodge:	
duties, powers, and authority: general	288
collect revenues of Lodge	288
issue summons, dimits, etc., when	288
make Out returns to Grand Lodge	288
make transcripts and send to Grand Secretary, when	288
record all business of the Lodge	288
report resident members to parent Lodge	350
report suspensions and expulsions to parent Lodge	351
send proxy's certificate to Grand Secretary	5
election of, when	292
installation of, when	298
may be deposed from office, how	643
notice of appeal filed with	621
salary of, fixed by Lodge	221
Sorrow, Lodge of	361
Suspended Lodges:	
definition of	257
dues of members of, how paid	260
to Grand Lodge accrue during suspension of Lodge	330
Grand Master to make full report of to Grand Lodge	256
if Grand Lodge falls to restore charter, Lodge demises	256
Jurisdiction of, not to be appropriated or invaded	259
may be suspended for:	
failure to make annual returns	Const., Art. IX: 57, 59, 492
failure to meet within three months	228
failure to provide safe and secure Lodge rooms	25
reinstatement of	492
by the Grand Lodge, how, when	256
failure to by Grand Lodge, Lodge demises	256
restoration of charter to, effect on membership	262
status of members of general	258
may affiliate with other Lodge	260
dues shall be paid up before	260
Traveling Lodges:	
all receiving degrees in treated as dimitted Masons	450
status of Masons receiving degrees in	450
suspended or expelled Masons of, how reinstated	450

INDEX

Article	Article
LODGE – LODGES (continued):	
Under Dispensation:	
See "Lodges Under Dispensation."	
Visitors in:	
District Deputy Grand Masters shall, when 78	
examination of, official 381	
Grand Master has right to visit and inspect 33	
manner of reception when 34	
Lodge must keep visitors register 378	
Objections to:	
any member may make 383	
if three members object, exclusion mandatory 383	
may exclude without vote 383	
qualifications of, who may visit 380	
Master Masons in good standing 380	
members of other Grand Jurisdictions, when 379	
must show receipt for dues, if demanded 380	
nonaffiliated Masons may, when 382	
voucher for, must have satin Lodge with 381	
cannot be made by request 381	
when allowed to vote 388, 417	
Visitation by the Grand Master:	
Grand Master has right to visit and inspect 33	
manner of reception and ceremonies attendant upon 34	
Vote – Voting:	
see "Ballot."	
collective balloting, when allowed 419	
Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts cannot 344	
every member may be required to 281	
for degrees: effect of blackball 418	
every member must 417	
visitors may, provided 417	
who entitled to 417	
how, for reconsideration 336	
tie vote, decided by Master, unless 282	
visitors, when may vote 417	
LODGEROOMS:	
anterooms, subject to same rules governing halls 224	
certain other Bodies may meet in, who 225	
club room closed, when 224	
maybe suspended if Lodge does not provide safe and secure 25	
meetings must be held in, except 231-232	
must be safe and secure before Lodge is set to work 32, 223	
must be used for Masonic purposes only 224	
must have necessary furniture and lights 223	
weapons must not be carried in 226	
LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION:	
Books and records of sent to Grand Lodge, when 199-200	
Bylaws, what, how adopted 194, 219	
Dispensation for a prerequisite Const., Art. VIII	
how obtained 180	
Petition for in county where there is no Lodge 181	
in cities of 10,000 or more inhabitants 182	
in country where there is a Lodge 182	
must be submitted to nearest Lodge for recommendation 185	
must have dimits attached 184	
recommendation to show what 187	
signers cannot vote on 186	
signers become members 184	
signed in person 184	
to cities having two or more Lodges 183	
termination of dispensation 189	
Grand Lodge Monitor, etc., to be furnished to 196	
Hall safe and secure, must be provided 32, 223	
not to be used except for Masonic purposes 224	
Jurisdiction of, over material and Masons 195	
Name of, must not be after any living man 190	
No representation in the Grand Lodge 193	
Officers of, must be examined 32	
cannot vote in Grand Lodge 193	
elective officers named by Grand Lodge 192	
may be recommended 192	
not elected or installed 192-193, 214	
Powers of, defined 195	
grant dimits 195	
make Masons 195	
receive members by affiliation 195, 198	
rights of 198	
try and punish for un-Masonic conduct 195	
Returns of work, and dues to be made, how 189, 197	
contributions to Grand Lodge, how computed 197	
Set to work by Grand Master, or 213	
no business to be transacted, until 191	
procedure in setting to work 214	
Work to be examined by the Grand Lodge 200	
by Committee on Returns of Lodge under Dispensation Nos. 1 & 2 96	
MAGISTRATES:	
Civil, duty of Masons towards Anct. Chrgs. II	
MAIMS AND DEFECTS:	
Candidate must not have 393	
Repealed 2018 401	
receiving after initiation, effect of, procedure 402	
Repealed 2018 27, 401	
MAJORITY:	
Of votes elects Grand Officers Const., Art. VII	
MANNER OF CONDUCTING TRIAL IN LODGE:	
See "Trials."	
MARSHAL:	
Duties of 88	
Grand Marshal, appointed by Grand Master Const., Art. IV, Sec. 3	
MASON – MASON:	
Can be made only in regular Lodge 35	
Can be tried and punished for offenses committed before adoption of this Code	
under rules herein set out 179	
Cannot be made by Grand Master at sight 35	
Duty in:	
be peaceable citizens Anct. Chrgs. II	
obey the moral law Anct. Chrgs. I	
Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts are 344	
but not members of the Lodge 344	
Lodges under Dispensation may make 195	
Made in Lodge without jurisdiction not thereby clandestine 463	
Master Masons entitled to diploma, fee for	
adopted child of entitled to benefits 377	
duty to belong to the Lodge Anct. Chrgs. III	
to serve when chosen to office, unless 294	
to attend Lodge Anct. Chrgs. III	
may hold plural membership 347	
may visit in the Grand Lodge 7	
must preside, when degrees are conferred 236	
of fifty years membership, entitled to Fifty Year Award 14	
right to apply for affiliation 384	
right to ballot on degrees 417	
suspended or expelled of demised Lodge, jurisdiction of 451	
widows and orphans of entitled to certificate 374	
MASONIC BURIAL:	
See "Funerals."	
Lodge of Sorrow 361	
MASONIC DISTRICTS:	
Provided for Const., Art IV, Sec. 8; 75	
MASONIC EDUCATION AND SERVICE COMMITTEE:	
Committee on, appointment of 105	
Duties 111, 112, 113	
Special fee for use of 163	
Treasurer of, how appointed 112	
MASONIC HOME AND SCHOOL:	
Administration of purposes of Const., Art. X	
Admission to, who eligible Const., Art. X: 157	
Aged Masons, how provided for 161	
Board of Directors, how elected Const., Art. X	
powers and duties of, general Const., Art. X	
annual report of condition of Home 145	
annual report of financial condition of 145	
audit annually Treasurers accounts 145	
make improvements and erect necessary buildings 156	
make rules and regulations for government of 157	
may receive donations, what 155	
to appoint Superintendent and other employees 158	
to define duties of, fix salaries, and remove 158	
to elect Treasurer, to be approved by Grand Lodge 159	
bond of 160	
salary of 160	
receive no compensation Const., Art. X	
Endowment Fund created 147	
how managed 148	
interest on goes to General Fund 146	
not to be expended, unless 148	
Funds for Home, how derived. Const., Arts. IX and X 155, 163	
warrants to be issued monthly by Grand Secretary 51	
General Fund, how derived, how expended 146, 149	
Land on which now situated not to be sold, unless 153	
Lands of, may be sold, when 152	
Grand Master may sign deeds 152	

INDEX

Article	Article
MASONIC HOME AND SCHOOL: (continued)	
Lease contracts, how executed.....154	
Loans, may be made, how.....147	
Releases, how executed.....150, 151	
Securities may be sold, when.....151	
Students of, may visit Grand Lodge, when.....162	
expenses of, how paid.....162	
Widows, how provided for.....161	
MASONIC PROCESSIONS:	
See "Funerals."	
Dimitted Mason cannot join in, except.....373	
Grand Master may grant dispensation for, when.....38	
Lodge not to appear in, without dispensation.....240	
may celebrate Saints John Days without dispensation.....240	
proceedings reported to Grand Master immediately after.....240	
may conduct funeral without dispensation.....240	
Order of funeral procession.....362	
MASONIC RELIEF ASSOCIATION OF U.S. AND CANADA:	
Grand Lodge member of.....19	
dues in, how paid.....19	
MASONIC RITUAL:	
Candidates refusing to conform to, cannot proceed.....432	
Examination for proficiency:	
had in Lodge where application pends, except.....435	
Master Masons, had within ninety days.....439	
failure, a Masonic offense.....439	
may be had in Lodge conferring courtesy degree.....478	
may be postponed, when.....39, 414	
prerequisite to advancement.....435	
vote on, taken in Master's Lodge.....437	
by majority vote.....437	
by show of hands.....437	
may be had at called meeting.....436	
precedes ballot for advancement.....437	
Only that promulgated by this Grand Lodge used or taught.....127	
MASONIC SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION:	
Where and how held.....142	
MASONIC TEMPLES:	
Lodges may sell, contribute, or mortgage for purpose of building	28
MASONRY:	
System of instruction in fundamental principles to be formulated by Committee on Masonic Education and Service	111
MASTER OF LODGE:	
Absence of, who presides.....285	
at funeral.....361	
Duties, Powers, and Authority:	
appoint auditing committee.....284	
call special meetings, when, business transacted at	234, 235
may summon members to attend.....235	
Election and installation of	292, 297a, 298
Entitled to one vote only.....282	
Has custody of Charter.....279	
Jewels and regalia to be worn when presiding.....272	
description of.....273	
May install officers.....295	
May refuse Masonic funeral to members under charges.....360	
members dying under discreditable circumstances.....360	
may grant funeral to nonaffiliated Masons when.....359	
May re-pass the ballot, when.....420	
May require each member to vote.....281	
No appeal from decision of, except to the Grand Lodge.....283	
how made, procedure.....283	
Oldest presides in the Grand Lodge, when.....Const., Art. VI, Sec. 2	
Presides "covered".....278	
Qualifications of, and eligibility.....Anct. Chrgs. IV and V	
additional qualifications.....276a	
Representative in Grand Lodge	Const., Art. II, Sec. 1(d)
cannot appoint proxy to represent him.....483	
Responsible for correctness of the minutes.....280	
To announce protests, when.....428	
penalty for not announcing.....429	
protests made to, or.....421	
shall not disclose identity of protester.....423	
To order dimit granted, when.....369	
To order waiver of jurisdiction issued, when.....459	
must have served as Warden.....276	
Past Master of another jurisdiction eligible.....276	
Vacates office if elected Grand Master.....277	
MASTER MASON DEGREE:	
Candidate becomes member of Lodge where received, regardless.....345	
Examination for proficiency in ninety days.....439	
excuses for not taking.....439	
Lodge opened in to conduct Masonic funeral.....361	
Special fee for, to Masonic Home and School.....318	
Stated meetings opened in.....331	
Vote on proficiency taken in Lodge of.....437	
MASTERS, WARDENS AND SECRETARIES ASSOCIATION:	
Authorized Art. 10, Note	
MEETINGS:	
Of the Grand Lodge when held	2
special communications, how called.....Const., Art. VI, Sec. 3(b)	
where held	Const., Art. VI, Sec. 3
Of the Subordinate Lodge:	
called: when and how called.....233, 234, 235	
degrees may be conferred at.....235	
examination for proficiency may be had at.....436	
members may be summoned, when: business transacted at	235
minutes not approved at.....337	
no balloting permitted at.....234	
certain Open Meetings permitted	232a
joint, Grand Master may grant dispensation for.....37	
must be held once in three months at least.....228	
penalty for failure to meet in three months.....228	
must meet in Lodge rooms, except	231
Grand Master may issue dispensation to meet in other place	232
opening and closing Master's Degree affects no other	331, 332
rule in computing time	230
Saints John Days: are festival meetings.....238	
on Sunday, celebrate next day.....239	
ordinary business not transacted.....238	
when stated meeting falls on, when held	238
stated meetings: opened in the third degree.....331	
ballot for degrees.....415	
ballot for waiver of jurisdiction.....456	
business at	234
cannot be called off to another day	233
cannot be reopened after being closed	234
change of number in month to be reported	221
hour and day maybe changed	221
if falls on Saint John Days or Sunday, effect of, when held	238
petition for initiation presented at	403
consolidation of Lodges.....245	
for affiliation	385
vote on removal of Lodge had at	241
Sunday, no meetings for work to be held on	237
except for burial of a Mason	237
Saint John Days falling on, what	239
MEMBERS – MEMBERSHIPS:	
Of the Grand Lodge: who are	Const., Art. II
Past Masters lose membership when: restored, how	
6	
Past Masters no inherent right to	Const., Art. II
qualifications of	Const., Art. II
Of the Subordinate Lodge:	
applicants for charter become, when	184
aprons for	274
attendance maybe enforced	235, 343
Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts are not members	344
entitled to award for 50 years membership	14
entitled to diploma, when	65
made in Lodge without jurisdiction, is member of	345
Masons affiliated with Lodge under Dispensation are	198
may be required to vote	281
may belong to two Lodges, plural membership	347
mental incompetent member, not liable to discipline, or for dues	322
to be reported as such	322
of demised Lodges:	
jurisdiction of, who has	263
may obtain certificates from Grand Secretary	261, 391
members who sign petition for restoration	262
nonaffiliated Masons	258
when charter is restored	262
status during suspension of Lodge	261, 391
of suspended Lodge: dues must be paid on, how	260
dues paid on, what, how	353
rights and privileges of	354, 355
status of	260
permitted in multiple Lodges	347
all Lodges must pay Grand Lodge dues	353
effects of suspension or expulsion in one Lodge	351
in two Grand Jurisdictions	348
plural membership in another Grand Jurisdiction	358
procedure	349

INDEX

Article	Article
MEMBERS – MEMBERSHIPS: (continued)	
Of the Subordinate Lodge: (continued)	
permitted in multiple Lodges (continued)	
record and reports of Secretary 350	
reinstatement in one Lodge, effect 352	
rejection of petitioner for plural membership 356	
requirements as to domicile 357	
rights of plural members 354	
withdrawal, transfer of membership, dimit 355	
status of member when charges pending:	
cannot be installed in office 297	
suspension or expulsion, effect of 355	
Secretary to report all such to other Lodges(s) 351	
to register, book provided for 378	
transfer of membership, allowed, procedure on 392	
traveling Lodge, members of, jurisdiction of, status of 450	
MEMORIALS:	
Committee on, how appointed 100	
duties of 101	
MENTAL INCOMPETENCE:	
Grand Lodge dues on, remitted 322	
Status of: not liable to discipline 322	
not liable to suspension for nonpayment of dues 322	
To be reported as a member of the Lodge 322	
When candidate becomes before report of Committee, effect of 410	
MEXICO:	
Waiver in favor of Mexican Lodges 466, 467, 468, 469, 470	
MINIMUM AUDIT:	284
MINIMUM DUES OF MEMBERS 311	
MINIMUM FEES FOR DEGREES:	
Not less than \$30.00 for each degree 307	
MINUTES OF THE LODGE:	
Approved only at stated meetings 337	
Secretary of the Lodge to keep 288	
summary permitted 338a	
Used only for Masonic purposes 338	
What entered in: action on petition for dimit	
all business transacted by the Lodge 337	
charter copied in when Lodge constituted 216	
officers and members present, except 337	
protests, when 428	
proxy to the Grand Lodge, election of 4	
report of Committee when candidate found disqualified 411	
when found insane, or deceased 410	
suspension for nonpayment of dues 319	
Worshipful Master responsible for correctness of 280	
MINUTES OF LODGE TRIALS:	
Transcript on appeal to contain full and complete minutes of trial 622	
MONEY:	
Fees payable in nothing but 312	
Of Masonic Home and School kept by Treasurer thereof 146	
MONITOR:	
To be furnished each Lodge under Dispensation 196, 214	
MONTH:	
Penalty for failure of Lodge to meet in three 228	
Petition for degrees lies over one, unless 407	
Grand Master may issue dispensation shortening the time 407	
Rule in computing term of 230	
MORAL CHARACTER:	
Candidate must be of good Anct. Chrgs. III: 393	
MORAL LAW:	
Mason bound to obey the Anct. Chrgs. I	
MORTGAGE:	
Grand Master may authorize of Lodge property, when 28, 340	
Lodges not to create except 340	
Penalty for creating without consent of Grand Master 342	
Purposes and plans of to be given to Grand Master 341	
MOTION:	
See "Business."	
To reconsider, revoke, or rescind action 336	
MUSICIAN:	
Duties of 91	
Grand, appointed by Grand Master Const., Art. IV, Sec. 9	
NAME – NAMES:	
Lodge not to have that of any living man 190	
Of beneficiaries of Grand Lodge Assistance Fund not to be printed 126	
Brother entering protest not to be disclosed 423	
candidate must be stated in petition 403	
candidates shall not be published 405a	
members found guilty of Masonic offenses, not to be printed 70	
rejected candidates, not to be published to the world 427	
Style and title of the Grand Lodge 1	
NEAREST LODGE:	
Has jurisdiction of, what 451	
Must approve petition for dispensation for new Lodge 183, 185	
Venue of Lodge trial may be changed to, when 552	
Waiver of jurisdiction granted when in another State 31	
NEGLECT:	
Of Lodge to make returns to Grand Lodge, penalty 57, 59, 492	
Of Lodge to meet within three months, penalty 228	
NEW BALLOT:	
Cannot be retaken on any petition after result is announced 420	
Grand Lodge cannot order, after rejection of candidate 20	
NEW LODGES:	
See "Charter: Lodges under Dispensation"	
Charter, how signed 209	
delivered to Master of Lodge after constituted 209	
what to contain 209	
Constituting:	
elective officers of, named by Grand Lodge 192	
expenses of paid by Lodge 217	
Lodge under Dispensation: how constituted 214	
Lodges under Charter: special meeting called 216	
proceedings, general 216	
set to work by Grand Master's representative 213	
who may be Grand Master's representative 213	
Members of all who sign petition are, when 210	
dues must be paid to date Lodge constituted 210	
Name of must not be that of any living man 190	
Petition for Charter for: who may 202	
approval of what required, in cities having two Lodges 181, 185, 207	
failure to approve, Grand Lodge may grant, how 208	
in cities having more than two Lodges 183, 185, 207	
by dimitted or nonaffiliated Masons 202	
dimits to be attached 205	
referred to nearest Lodge for approval 205	
requisites of 205	
to be signed by each applicant 205	
by fifty Master Masons if in county where there is a Lodge 205	
by seven Master Masons if in county where no Lodge, who reside ten miles from a regular Lodge 205	
by Lodge under Dispensation 202	
all dues must be paid 202	
by members of an existing Lodge 202	
all dues must be paid 202	
may be signed by dimitted or nonaffiliated Masons 204	
procedure on petition 203	
requisite of petition 201	
to be approved by Lodge 203	
written notice to Lodge must be given 202	
sent to the Grand Secretary 206	
NOMINATIONS:	
For Grand Officers, how made Const., Art. IV, Sec. 7	
NONAFFILIATED MASON:	
Can visit in Lodge but three times, unless 382	
Cannot be accorded Masonic Burial, unless 359	
Cannot join in Masonic procession, unless 373	
May apply for charter for new Lodge 202, 204, 205	
May join Lodge under Disposition 195	
What constitutes 368	
dimitted Masons are 368	
members of demised Lodges are 258	
NON-MASON:	
Widows of, whose brother or father is Mason, entitled to recognition 375	
NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:	
See "Fees and Dues;" "Suspension and Expulsion for Non-payment of dues."	

INDEX

Article	Article
NOTICE:	
Appear in suspension for nonpayment of dues	320
Election of plural member, given to other Lodge(s)	350
Lodge, of suspension for arrears	59
Lodge, when members petition for charter for new Lodge.....	202
Of appeal, maybe given by accused	
of candidate's election or rejection	413
Of meeting for discussing removal of Lodge.....	241
Of suspension or expulsion of given to other Lodge	351
Visit of District Deputy Grand Masters, must be given	78
NUMBERED:	
Masonic District to be	Const., Art IV, Sec. 8: 75
OBEDIENCE:	
To moral law, duty of Mason	Anct. Chrgs. I
OBJECTION:	
Can be made against election of candidate.....	421
before or after election.....	423
Cannot be made on petitions for affiliation, or	
applications for dimits, etc	389, 422
Entered in minutes.....	428
Has effect of blackball, when	421, 425
Joint, count only as one	425
Master to notify Secretary and Wardens of, when	423
to announce, when	428
not to, if objector is present	428
penalty for not announcing.....	429
Must be made to Master	421
Name of objector not to be disclosed.....	423
Who may make	423
Withdrawal of, not allowed, except	421, 424
OFFICE:	
Holding two elective at same time restricted.....	21, 266
Vacancies in filled pro tempore, how	268, 277
OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE:	
Election of how and when	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 4
elected officers installed in person	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 10
eligibility to office (Grand Junior Warden)	6a
eligible for re-election	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 6
failure to hold, old officers hold over	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 5
majority necessary to elect	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 7
no one can hold two elective	21
vote taken by Lodges and Members	Const., Art. VII, Sec. 1
when by ballot, when without	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 7
who elected, who appointed, by whom.....	Const., Art. IV
who entitled to vote, and how many votes	Const., Art. VII
Eligibility of	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 6
any member is	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 6
for re-election	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 6
Installation of Grand Master, by whom	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 10
failure to install, incumbents hold over	Const., Art. I, Sec. 4
of other Officers	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 10
provision may be made for any not present	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 4
when	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 10(b)
Names and Rank of	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 1
Presiding, who	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 2(a) and 2(b)
Regalia and jewels provided for what	12
Reports of, referred to Committee on Grand Officers Reports	108
Statement of Availability	6a
Who appointed	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 3
by whom	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 3
Who elected	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 2
OFFICERS OF THE SUBORDINATE LODGE:	
Appointed, who, when	264, 292
Cannot hold two elective offices at same time, except.....	266
Elected, who, when	264 292
Election of	
any member eligible to be elected Warden.....	291
cannot resign after installation	267, 294
must be in open Lodge	290
none but members eligible, except Tier.....	265
none for Lodge under Dispensation	192
of Master who has never served as Warden	276
of newly chartered Lodge, named by Grand Lodge	192
of Past Master from another State	276
void if not held on day appointed.....	293
when held.....	292
when not held on day set, old officers hold over	293
Installation of	
elected officers must be in person	296
failure to install, old officers hold over	305-306
joint, by two Lodges, in same place, proper, except	303
OFFICERS OF THE SUBORDINATE LODGE: (continued)	
Installation of (continued)	
Lodge must be opened in Master's Degree	302
may call off to install in public	302
officers of new chartered Lodges must be	214
procedure.....	216
public, requires dispensation for, except on St. Johns Day.....	301
Lodge to be called off when public installation held	302
requirements for as Worshipful Master or Warden	297a
when held, must be before August 1st.....	298
where held: maybe in place other than Lodgeroom	300
but must be in jurisdiction of Lodge, except	299
who may install	216, 295
Master's office vacant if he is installed Grand Master	277
Must wear regalia and jewels	272
Lodge to provide, description of.....	273
Presides: who in Master's absence	285
Past Master of another Lodge cannot	269
when Past Master presides, has same powers as Master	270
who in absence of Master and Wardens.....	285
Required to turn over all books to successors	275
Vacancies, filled pro tempore, by presiding officer only, when	268, 271
OPEN LODGE:	
Certain Open Meetings permitted	232a
Examination as to proficiency held in	433, 439
Officers elected in	290
OPENING LODGE:	
See "Business"	
Closing Master's Lodge affects no other degree	331
In third degree, necessary at stated meetings	331
Necessary to transact business, except	331
ORATOR:	
Duties of	87
Grand, appointed by Grand Master	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 3
ORDER:	
See "Business"	
Granting dimit, to be issued, when	369
Of business in Lodge, to follow that of Grand Lodge, near as possible.....	333
Of business in the Grand Lodge	165-166
ORDER OF AMARANTH:	
May meet in Lodgerooms	225
ORDER OF EASTERN STAR:	
May meet in Lodgerooms	225
ORPHANS OF MASON'S:	
See "Masonic Home and School"	
Admitted to Masonic Home and School	157
Adopted child entitled to benefits	377
May be furnished certificate	374
Rendering assistance to, one purpose of this Grand Lodge. .Const., Art. I, Sec. 2	
PALLBEARERS:	
Active, at Masonic funeral, should be Master Masons	362
PARENT LODGE:	
Defined	347
Notified of election of plural member	350
Suspension or expulsion of plural member reported to	351
PAST GRAND OFFICERS:	
Death of Worshipful Master while in office	277
Grand Lodge officiates at burial of elective	367
Past Deputy Grand Masters, members of Grand Lodge	Const., Art II
Past Grand Masters: may install officers	
entitled to diploma	64
members of the Grand Lodge	Const., Art II
portrait of placed in Proceedings	69
presented with jewels and regalia	12-13a
Past Grand Wardens: members of the Grand Lodge	Const., Art II
PAST MASTERS:	
Members of the Grand Lodge, while	Const., Art. II
how membership lost or prevented	6, 277
how restored, after dimitting	6
no inherent right to	Const., Art. II
Powers and Authority:	
install officers	295
preside over their Ledges, when	285
if from another Lodge, cannot preside as Master	269
powers of, when presiding in Lodge	270

INDEX

Article	Article
PAY - SALARY:	
Grand Lodge shall not to officers, members, or committees, except Const., Art. XII	
Of	
Grand Treasurer 45	
Masonic Home and School, Treasurer thereof, how fixed 160	
Board of Directors of, not to receive Const., Art. X, Sec. 4 (c)	
superintendent and other employees of, how fixed 158	
Members of the Committee on Work 143, 144	
Treasurer, of subordinate Lodge, how fixed 221	
PENALTY:	
For Failure of Lodge to:	
make returns and pay dues Const., Art. IX, Sec. 3: 57, 59	
meet within three months 228	
obtain consent for sale of or creation of lien on property 342	
For Master failing to announce protest 429	
PER CAPITA:	
Dues, for Masonic Belief Association of U.S & Canada, what 19	
PER DIEM:	
Committee on Work allowed, what 143	
PERSONAL JURISDICTION:	
Attaches when petition for degrees received and referred 445	
Lost, when certificate of dismissal is issued 446	
if petitioner moves and not voted on in twelve months 445	
Over Masons receiving degrees in traveling Lodge 450	
candidate who moves before degree is conferred, after election 445	
members of demised Lodges 451	
rejected candidate, what 445	
expires after period of rejection 445	
not to extend over three years 445	
where rejected candidates moves out of jurisdiction of Lodge 445	
PETITIONS FOR:	
Advancement 386, 407, 437, 438	
after protests, new, required 426	
after rejection 434, 438	
after twelve months since receiving degree 430, 434a	
must lie over 407, 430	
ballot on:	
any member may blackball 423	
not less than one month 433	
proficiency a prerequisite to 433	
Affiliation: requisites 384, 385	
as plural member 349	
dimit to accompany, or be accounted for 385	
certificate of life membership accorded effect of 385	
if rejected, may file again, where, how 389, 390	
may be filed in any Lodge 384	
must be in writing 385	
referred to Committee, for report on 386	
when presented 385	
who entitled to present 384	
members of other Grand Jurisdictions, when 348	
members of suspended or demised Lodges 260, 391	
Charter for New Lodge: who may petition 202	
approval of, what required, in cities having two Lodges 183, 207	
failure to approve, Grand Lodge may grant, how 208	
in cities having more than two Lodges 183, 207	
by dimitted or nonaffiliated Masons 202	
dimits to be attached 205	
referred to nearest Lodge for approval 205	
to be signed by each applicant 205	
by fifty Master Masons if in county where is Lodge 205	
by seven Master Masons if in county where	
no Lodge 205	
who reside ten miles from regular Lodge 205	
by Lodge under Dispensation 202	
all dues must be paid 202	
Charter for New Lodge: who may petition (continued)	
by members of an existing Lodge 203	
all dues must be paid 202	
may be signed by dimitted or nonaffiliated Masons 204	
procedure on 203	
requisites of 203	
to be approved by Lodge 203	
written notice to Lodge must be given, when 202	
Sent to the Grand Secretary 206	
Consolidation of Lodges 245-253	
ballot necessary, two-thirds vote required 246	
presented at stated meeting 245	
read at not less than two successive stated meetings 245	
requisites of 245	
when acted on 245	
PETITIONS FOR (continued):	
Degrees (Initiation): requisites of, in general 403	
applicant must sign 403	
be known by three members 394	
may be held up if Lodge believes previously rejected 400	
may be withdrawn 405, 406	
must state age, name, and previous domicile 403	
recommended by two members 403	
referred to Committee 407	
failing to report, new Committee may be appointed 409	
new committee cannot report instanter 409	
Grand Master may shorten the time 407	
lies over one lunar month 407	
report followed by ballot 413	
report of Committee, to show what 412	
if candidate dies or becomes insane 410	
if found disqualified 411	
made at stated meeting 413	
standing committees forbidden 408	
Dimit: how granted 369	
action on entered in the minutes 369	
ballot on must be unanimous 369	
dues must be paid before ballot on 317, 368, 369	
if not unanimous, dimit issued at next stated meeting 369	
who entitled to petition for 368	
Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts are not 344	
members of Lodges under Dispensation are 195	
officers of Lodges are not, after installation 371	
plural members are 355	
Lodge Under Dispensation 180-200	
in cities having two or more Lodges 183	
in cities of 10,000 or more inhabitants 182	
in county where there is a Lodge 182	
in county where there is no Lodge 181	
must be submitted to nearest Lodge for recommendation 185	
must have dimits attached 184	
recommendation to show what 186	
signers of cannot vote on recommendation 186	
signed in person 184	
signers of become members, when 184	
Plural Membership 347-358	
contents of 349	
procedure on, same as for petition for affiliation 349	
recommended by two Master Masons 349	
rejection of, effect of 356	
who may petition for: Master Masons only 347	
members of other Grand Jurisdictions may, when 348	
Reinstatement:	
where expelled for nonpayment of dues 327	
Lodge demised 328, 329	
Removal of Lodge: procedure on petition for 241	
two-thirds vote required when Master opposes removal 244	
Waiver of Jurisdiction: must be in writing 456	
balloted on at stated meeting 456	
over rejected candidate 400	
PHOTOGRAPHER:	
Duties of 91b	
Grand, appointed by Grand Master Const. Art. IV, Sec. 9	
PHYSICAL DEFECTS:	
Repealed 2018 393	
Repealed 2018 401	
receiving after initiation, effect of, procedure 402	
Repeated 2018 27, 401	
PHYSICAL QUALIFICATIONS:	
Of candidate: must have ability to earn own living 393	
must be sound physically 393	
must not have physical maims or defects 393	
PLOTS:	
Mason should not be engaged in against State Anct. Chrgs. II	
PLURAL MEMBERS:	
Dues to Grand Lodge paid by all Lodges 353	
Election of reported to Parent Lodge 350	
How counted:	
by Parent Lodge 350	
when Parent Lodge in other Grand Jurisdiction 350	
Master Masons only may hold 347	
may in Lodge having concurrent jurisdiction 347	
Members of other Grand Jurisdiction may hold 348	
petitions of must have certificate attached, what 348	
to show right to make 348	
Members of this Jurisdiction may hold in other Jurisdiction 358	
No fee charged for affiliation plural member 349	

INDEX

	Article
PLURAL MEMBERS: (continued)	
“Parent Lodge” defined.....	347
Petition for plural membership	349
contents of.....	349
procedure on same as for affiliation	349
recommended by two Master Masons	349
rejection of, effect of	356
“Plural Member” defined.....	347
Residence requirements not same as for original applicants	357
Restoration of, after suspension or expulsion, effect of.....	352
Rights and privileges of.....	354
may hold office, except.....	354
may not petition for dimitt until	355
Secretary to make annual report of to Grand Secretary.....	350
Suspension or expulsion of, effect	351
for nonpayment of dues, effect.....	351
when Parent Lodge in another Jurisdiction, effect of	351
Withdrawal from	355
POSTPONEMENT:	
None of lecture	431
Of examination for proficiency, Grand Master may, when	39, 414
PRESIDE – PRESIDING OFFICER:	
District Deputy Grand Master may, when.....	78
Grand Master must when present in Grand Lodge.....Const. Art. VI, Sec. 2(a)	
has right to in any Lodge	Const. Art. V, Sec. 2
who in his absence	Const., Art. VI, Sec. 2(b)
Master to be “covered”.....	278
Past Master may over his Lodge, when.....	285
if from another Lodge, cannot in absence of Master and Wardens	269
powers of when presiding, same as Master.....	270
When degrees are conferred, a Master Mason must	236
PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE:	
Grand Secretary to draw up and record	47
send copies to Lodges	73
to Past Grand Officers, and others.....	73
to place Lodge returns in hands of printer, when	68
What not printed in:	
annual reports of District Deputy Grand Masters	83
names and number found guilty of Masonic offenses	70
names of beneficiaries of the Grand Lodge Assistance Fund	126
What printed in:	
Grand Lodge in fraternal correspondence with this Grand Lodge	72
from which recognition withdrawn or denied.....	72
halftone portrait of outgoing Grand Master	69
Lodge returns, when	68
Masonic districts, number of.....	75
memorial page to deceased members of Grand Lodge	71
name, number, location of charter of Lodges	67
names of officers, etc.....	67
printed in separate volume.....	67
permanent laws, to be printed in the appendix .. Const., Art. XIII, Sec. 4	
PROCESSION:	
See “Funerals”	
Dimitted Masons cannot join, except.....	373
Grand Master may grant dispensation for, when	38
Lodge not to appear in without dispensation	240
may celebrate Saints John Days without dispensation.....	240
proceeding reported to Grand Master immediately after	240
may conduct funeral without dispensation.....	240
Order of funeral procession	362
PROFICIENCY:	
Examination for:	
had in Lodge where application ponds, except	435
Master Mason, had within ninety days.....	439
failure, a Masonic offense	439
maybe had in Lodge conferring courtesy degree	475, 478
maybe postponed, when	39, 414
may be requested as a courtesy	475, 478
prerequisite to advancement	435
vote on, taken in Lodge	437
by majority vote	437
by show of hands.....	437
may be had at called meeting	436
precedes ballot for advancement.....	437
since receiving a preceding degree.....	436
PROPERTY:	
Grand Master may authorize acquisition, sale or mortgage of, when	28, 340
revenue from to Masonic Home and School	Const., Art. X
Of Lodge, acquisition, sale or mortgage of to have Grand Master’s consent ..	2, 340
consolidating, disposition of	250
demised, Grand Lodge alone can sell	29
Dormant, disposition of	254
returning charter, disposition of	254
Of Masonic Home and School, maybe sold what, how	152
PROTESTS:	
PRO TEMPORE:	
Offices filled by presiding Officer, when	268, 271
PROTESTS:	
See “Objections”	
Can be made against election of candidate	421
before or after election	423
Cannot be made on petitions for affiliation, dimits, certificates of good standing, etc	389
Effect of	425
Entered in minutes	428
Joint, count as a blackball	425
Master to notify Secretary and Wardens of, when	423
to announce, when	428
not if protester is present	428
penalty for not announcing	429
Must be made to Master	421
Name of protester not to be disclosed	423
New petition required after expiration of	426
Other petitions	422
Separate and joint protests defined	423a
When announced	428
Who may make	423
Withdrawal of, not allowed, except	421, 424
PROXY:	
See “Counsel”	
Of Lodge to Grand Lodge	Const., Art. II, Sec. 1(d)
cannot be seated if Master or Wardens present	3
certificate to be furnished to	4
must certify what	4
not recognized in absence of	4
sent to Grand Secretary, when	5
elected, how	4
Master or Wardens cannot appoint	483
must be member of Lodge	Const., Art. II, Sec. 1(d)
must be resident of Texas	Const., Art. II, Sec. 1(d)
name of must appear in minutes of the Lodge	482
only one can be appointed	482
Past Master cannot be represented by	3
PUBLIC DISASTER:	
Grand Master may render aid in event of, how	111
assisted by Committee on Masonic Education and Service	111
PUBLIC INSTALLATIONS:	
Lodge to be called off, when	302
Requires dispensation, except	301
PUBLIC PROCESSIONS AND DISPLAYS:	
See “Processions,” “Masonic Processions,” “Funerals.”	
PUBLICATION OF NAMES PROHIBITED:	
Candidates and Petitioners	405a
Rejected Candidates	427
PURPOSES AND POLICIES:	
Committee on, appointment of	105
duties of	116
QUALIFICATIONS:	
Of candidates, general	393
belief in God, Bible, and Immortality of Soul	397
freeborn	393
good moral character	393
known by five members in jurisdiction of Lodge	394
Repeated 2018	27
candidate must not have	393
candidate receiving after taking degree, effect of	402
Repeated 2018	401
mental and physical ability to earn own living	393
residence not required of soldier and sailors	395
nor of residents of countries having no Grand Lodge	395
residence of married man, what is	394
of single man, what is	394
resident of State six months	394
six months in jurisdiction of Lodge	394
sound, mentally and physically	393
eighteen years old before petition is filed	393
unnaturalized foreign eligible, when	396
Of members of the Grand Lodge	Const., Art. II
Of Officers of the Grand Lodge	Const., Art IV, Sec. 6
Of Officers of the Lodge	265
of Master	276
QUESTIONS:	
To be answered by Investigating Committee	412
To be answered in writing by candidate for initiation	398

INDEX

Article	Article
QUORUM:	
Absence of 269	REJECTED – REJECTION: (continued)
What constitutes in a Lodge for each of the Three Degrees 229	Petition for degrees, how made after rejection 438
What constitutes in the Grand Lodge Const., Art VI, Sec. 1	Procedure after rejection 434
RAINBOW, ORDER OF:	Refusal to waive jurisdiction does not operate as, except 460
May meet in Lodgerooms 225	Waiver of jurisdiction not to be granted during period of 457
RANK:	
And title of Grand Officers Const., Art VI, Sec. 1	RELIEF:
REAL ESTATE:	Certificate furnished widows, when 374
Grand Master may authorize acquisition, sole or mortgage of, when 28, 340	Grand Lodge Assistance Fund, how expended 125
revenue from to Masonic Home Const., Art. X	to sufferers from tuberculosis 125
Of Lodge, acquisition, sale or mortgage of to have	other incurable and malignant diseases 125
Grand Master's consent 28, 340	In case of public calamities 111
consolidating, disposition of 250	Lodges not restricted to extending 486
Grand Lodge only may sell 29	cannot ask for without consent of Grand Master 484
dormant 254-255	loss of by fire, when aid given 485
Of Masonic Home and School, may be sold, what, how 152	may remit dues, when 314
REBEL – REBELLION:	reimburse for extending, when 487
Not to be countenanced Anct. Chrgs. II	Masonic Home and School, who admitted to 157
RECEIPT:	Widows and Orphans Const., Art. I, Sec. 2; Art. X: 161
For dues maybe demanded of visitor before admitted to Lodge 380	
Grand Secretary to take deposit, for funds 49	RELIGION:
to prepare uniform receipt for Lodge dues 60	A Mason obliged by what Anct. Chrgs. I
Lodges to use no other 313	
RECOGNITION CRITERIA:	REMISSION OF DUES:
Of other Grand Lodges 18	Lodge may, when, how 314
RECONSIDERATION:	
Of Ballot for degrees not permissible 420	REMOVAL FROM OFFICE:
Of business in the Grand Lodge, how done 176	Committee Member removal 105a
Prohibited at subsequent meeting of Lodge, unless 336	Of Master for failing to announce protest 429
RECORDS:	Of the Grand Master 36
See "Minutes."	
Of Lodges under Dispensation, sent to Grand Lodge, when 199-200	REMOVAL OF LODGE:
REFUND:	Petition for removal, procedure on 241
Of dues on issuing dimit or certificate of good standing 317-392	two-thirds vote necessary when Master opposes removal 244
REFUSAL:	
To conform to ceremonies, candidate cannot proceed 432	REPASSING BALLOT:
REGALIA:	Prohibited, when 420
Grand Officers to be provided with, what 12	
of Past Grand Masters, what 12	REPEAL – REPEALED:
to appear in, unless 168	All laws, rules, edicts and regulations not included
Lodge Officers must wear, when 272	in Revised Code repealed 179
aprons for Lodge members 274	
Lodge may provide, what 273	REPRESENTATIVE:
REGISTER:	See "Proxy."
For members and visitors 337, 378	
REGULATIONS:	REQUEST:
All inconsistent with this Revised Code repealed 179	for courtesy degrees, how made 473, 478
Grand Lodge has inherent right to make Const., Art. III, Sec. 2	handled by the Grand Secretary 471
Lodges may make to enforce attendance of members 343	
Of Lodge in conflict with Constitution or Laws null and void 220	RESCIND:
REINSTATE – REINSTATEMENT:	Motion to, may be made, when 336
Cannot by paying dues after death 360	
Of Lodge, after suspension for failure to make returns 492	RESEARCH LODGE:
Of suspended or expelled member holding plural membership 352	Creation: Membership, Government 201
To membership in Grand Lodge by Past Master who dimits, how 6	
Where expelled for nonpayment of dues 327	RESIDENCE:
Lodge demising subsequently 328	Candidates must have lived in State six months 394
suspended over two years or expelled and Lodge demised 329	in jurisdiction of Lodge six months 394
Where suspended for nonpayment of dues:	before date of petition 394
how 323, 324	Of married man, what is 394
REJECTED – REJECTION:	Of single man, what is 394
Candidates from another State, how jurisdiction of obtained 448, 449	Requirements do not apply to soldiers or sailors 395
Candidates of demised Lodges, jurisdiction of 451	do not apply to those living in country where no Grand Lodge 395
Effect of on candidate, period of 418	for plural membership, what 357
Grand Lodge cannot order new ballot after 20	
Jurisdiction of Lodge over candidate rejected 445	RESIGN:
Jurisdiction over candidate who moves after rejection 445	An officer cannot, after installation 267
Names of candidates, not to be published 427	
Notification of rejection 413	RESOLUTIONS:
Of application for plural membership, effect of 356	How reconsidered 336
Of petition for affiliation, effect of 389, 390	Proposing changes in laws to be filed, when 172
	order considered 172a
	RESTORATION:
	See "Reinstatement."
	Grand Lodge may after suspension or arrest 256
	Of Charter, conditions of, what, where Lodge long demised 32
	effect of on members 262
	RETURNING AND REVOKING CHARTERS:
	How considered 254
	If Grand Lodge affirms, Lodge demises 254
	If Grand Lodge refuses to affirm, effect of 254
	Schedule of effects, funds, etc. 254
	To be submitted to Grand Lodge 254
	Two-thirds vote required 254

INDEX

Article	Article
RETURNS TO THE GRAND LODGE:	
All fees and dues sent by August 15th	493
Annual contributions, what	Const., Art. IX; 163
Contents of	489
have Lodge seal attached	488
made in duplicate	488
show officers of ensuing year	489
Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts, how obtained.....	491
Delinquent Lodges not represented	Const., Art. IX
suspended, when	Const., Art. IX: 57, 59, 492
how reinstated.....	492
Form for furnished by Grand Secretary.....	54-55
Lodges to make annual	Const., Art. IX, Sec. 1
Lodges under Dispensation, how made, when.....	197
Not printed if received after then	68
Returns not properly authenticated to be returned.....	490
To be made to what date.....	488
REVENUES:	
Of the Grand Lodge, how derived	Const., Art. IX: 163
REVISED CODE:	
Supersedes revised Code of 1921	179
Becomes effective after adoption by Grand Lodge.....	179
All former laws, rules, regulations and edicts not included in this Revised Code repealed	179
REVOKE:	
Motion to, maybe made, when.....	336
RITUAL:	
See "Masonic Ritual."	
ROOMS:	
See "Lodgerooms."	
ROSTER:	
Of Lodge members, printed in separate volume	67
of officers, etc	67
ROYAL ARCH MASON:	
May meet in Lodgerooms.....	225
SABBATH:	
Lodges not to meet on for work	237
burial rites excepted	237, 363
Saints John Days on, Lodge meets Monday	239
SAILORS:	
Residence requirements do not apply to	395
SAINTS JOHN DAYS:	
Business of stated meeting not transacted on.....	238
Festival, not stated meeting.....	238
Lodge installations held on.....	238
public installation may be held on without dispensation	301, 303
Occurring on Sunday celebrate Monday	239
Public procession allowed on, what	240
SALARY:	
See "Expenses," "Pay."	
SALE OF PROPERTY:	
Of Demised Lodge.....	29
Of Lodge: Grand Master may authorize, when	28, 340
Of Masonic Home and School, what, how	152
SAM HOUSTON MEDAL:	
To whom awarded	14a
SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION:	
How held	142
SCHOOLS WEEK:	
Observance of	342b
SCOTTISH RITE MASON:	
May meet in Lodgerooms.....	225
SEAL:	
Of the Grand Lodge: affixed to all documents, except	66
Of the Lodge: each Lodge must provide	222
necessary to authenticate all documents	66, 222
of Lodges consolidating, sent to Grand Secretary	250
proxy's certificate must have affixed	4
to be affixed to returns to Grand Lodge	488
SECRETARY OF LODGE:	
Bonding of	284
Duties, Powers and Authority: general	288
collect revenues of Lodge	288
issue summons, dimits, etc. when	288
make out returns to the Grand Lodge	288
make transcript and send to Grand Secretary, when	288
report plural members to Parent Lodge	350
make annual returns of	350
report suspensions and expulsions to Parent Lodge	351
send proxy's certificate to Grand Secretary, when	5
Election of, when	292
Installation of, when	298
Notified of protests	423
Salary of, to be fixed by the Lodge	221
Shall deduct Grand Lodge dues of mentally incompetent members.....	322
Submit books for audit	288
SENIOR WARDEN:	
Election of	292
Eligibility, any member maybe	291
May be representative to Grand Lodge	Const., Art. II, Sec. 1(d)
Presides in Masters absence	285
Requirements for installation	297a
SERVICE AWARDS:	
Awarded to members, when	14
Exemption from dues	316
Twenty-five year awards	346
Forty year awards	346a
SHRINERS:	
May meet in Lodgerooms	225
SIDE DEGREES:	
No part of Masonry, are prohibited	16
SISTER:	
Of Master Mason entitled to Masonic recognition, when	375
SMOKING:	
Smoking in Grand Lodge	47b
Smoking in Lodgerooms and Anterooms	224a
SOLDIERS:	
Of United States Army, residence requirements do not apply to	395
SOLICIT:	
For financial aid	484
Members	393a
Must not, to teach the work, penalty for	138
Proxy to Grand Lodge must not, for election	4
SOUL:	
Belief in immortality of, prerequisite to initiation	397
SOUND MIND:	
Candidate must be of	393, 430
SPECIAL MEETING:	
Of the Grand Lodge: how called	Const., Art. VI, Sec. 3
Of the Lodge: Business transacted at, what allowed	235
degrees may be conferred at	235
examination for proficiency	436
Master may call, when	234, 235
no balloting permitted at	234
Minutes not to be approved at	234, 235
SPECIFICATIONS:	
See "Charges and Specifications."	
SPONSOR:	
Lodges shall not act as for any organization	339
STANDING - STATUS OF:	
Mason receiving degrees in traveling Lodge	450
Mason under charges or punishment when this Revised Code adopted	179
Members of suspended or demised Lodges	258
Mentally incompetent members	322, 410
STANDING COMMITTEE:	
Repealed 2018	122
What, in the Grand Lodge	100, 105
None allowed in Lodge to investigate applicants for initiation	408

INDEX

Article	Article
STATED MEETINGS:	
Business at: opened in third degree	331
ballot for advancement.....	234
ballot for degrees	415
ballot for waiver of jurisdiction	456
minutes approved at only	337
petition: for initiation presented at	234, 403
for affiliation	234, 385
for consolidation of Lodges	245
vote on removal of Lodge had at.....	241
Cannot be called off to another day.....	233
Cannot be reopened after being closed.....	234
Defined	233
Hour and day of maybe changed.....	221
If falls on Saints John Days, or Sunday, effect of, when held	238
STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY:	
Elected office or position.....	6a
SUMMONS:	
To members, when issued.....	235
SUNDAY:	
Lodges not to meet on for work.....	237
burial rites excepted	237, 363
Saints John Days on, Lodge meets Monday	239
SUPREME GRAND LODGE:	
Formation of discountenanced	17
SUSPENDED LODGES:	
Definition of.....	257
Dues of members of, how paid.....	260
to Grand Lodge accrue during suspension of Lodge.....	330
Grand Master to make full report of all to Grand Lodge.....	256
If Grand Lodge fails to restore Charter, Lodge demises.....	256
Jurisdiction of not to be invaded or appropriated	259
dispensation issued, when	259
May be suspended for:	
failure to make annual returns, Const., Art. IX	57, 59, 492
failure to meet within three months	228
failure to provide safe and secure Lodgerooms	25
Reinstatement of.....	492
by the Grand Lodge, how, when	256
failure of by Grand Lodge, Lodge demises.....	256
Restoration of Charter to, effect on membership.....	262
Status of members of.....	260
may affiliate with other Lodge	260
dues shall be paid up before	260
SUSPENDED MASON:	
See "Reinstatement."	
Dues of do not accrue during suspension	321
Maybe expelled for nonpayment, procedure	326
Must be reported in Returns to Grand Lodge	489
Of traveling Lodge, restored only by the Grand Lodge, how	450
Reinstatement	324, 328, 329
Status of:	
if holding plural membership	351
not entitled to Masonic burial	360
SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS FOR NONPAYMENT OF DUES:	
Automatic suspension.....	319
action entered in minutes	319
notice of suspension.....	320
Reinstatement	323, 324
if expelled	329
where Lodge demised, if suspension runs less than one year	328
where suspension runs for three years or more.....	326
may be expelled	326
how reinstated after expulsion for nonpayment.....	327
Suspension:	
all to be reported to Grand Secretary	320, 489
dues not to accrue during	321
mentally incompetent member not liable to	322
of member holding plural membership, effect of.....	351
TEMPERANCE:	
In eating, drinking, and proper hours to be observed	Anct. Chrgs. VI, 2
TEMPLE:	
Masonic Lodges may sell or mortgage property for building	28
Of the Grand Lodge:	
Finance Committee to meet in.....	119
Revenues, rents and income, profits on, set aside for	
Masonic Home	Const., Art. X, Sec. 3(c)
TESTIMONY:	
See "Evidence," "Witnesses."	
TEXAS MASONIC ASSOCIATIONS:	
Discountenanced	10
TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS WEEK:	
Observance of	342b
THIRD DEGREE:	
Candidate becomes member of Lodge where received, regardless.....	345
Examination for proficiency in ninety days.....	439
Lodge opened in to conduct Masonic funeral.....	361
Special fee for, to Masonic Home and School	318
Stated meetings opened in	331
Vote on proficiency taken in Lodge of.....	437
TIE VOTE:	
In Grand Lodge, Chair decides	Const., Art. VII, Sec. 3
In subordinate Lodge, Master may cast, unless	
proposition negated if Master already voted	282
TILER:	
Grand:	
appointed by Grand Master	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 3(a)
duties of generally	92
Of the Lodge: need not be a member of Lodge	265
salary of, may be fixed by the Lodge	221
to announce appearance of Grand Master or Representative	34
TITLE:	
Of Grand Officers	Const., Art. I, Sec. 1
Of the Grand Lodge:	
corporate and honorary	Const., Art. I, Sec. 1; 1
used in legal documents, what	1
used in opening and closing of ceremonies	1
TRANQUILITY LODGE:	
Creation; Membership; Government	201a
TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP:	
Allowed, procedure on	392
Not allowed while holding office	294
TRANSPORTATION:	
Committee on, in Grand Lodge, appointment of	100
duties of	104
TRAVELING LODGE:	
All receiving degrees in, treated as demitted Masons	450
Status of Masons receiving degrees in	450
Suspended or expelled Masons of, reinstated only by Grand Lodge	450
Waiver of jurisdiction from not necessary to confer additional degrees	450
TREASURER:	
Of Committee on Masonic Education and Service	112
to give bond, maybe required	112
Of Lodge: salary to be fixed by Lodge	221
bonding of	284
duties defined	287
election of	292
submit books for audit	284, 287
Of Masonic Home and School, how elected	159
salary of	160
to give bond	160
TRUSTEES:	
Who is a member of	20a
TUBERCULOSIS:	
Brethren suffering with may obtain relief, how	125
TWENTY-FIVE YEAR EMBLEM:	
.....	346
UNCOVERING OF HEAD:	
At Masonic burial, when required	363
UNIFORM RECEIPT FOR DUES:	
Grand Secretary to prepare	60
form of (see Form No. 56'a)	60
None other to be used by Lodges	60, 313
UNITED STATES:	
Enlisted men in Army and Navy of, not required to meet residence test	395

INDEX

Article	Article
UNLAWFUL FILING:	
Of petition for initiation, may be withdrawn when	405
What constitutes unlawful filing.....	406
VACANCIES IN:	
District Deputy Grand Master's office, how filled	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 8
Grand Lodge Committees, how filled.....	105
Grand Lodge Offices, how filled	Const., Art. VI, Sec. 2(a)
Lodge Offices, filled pro tempore, how.....	268, 271
VISIT – VISITORS:	
In the Grand Lodge:	
may be excluded while Grand Lodge being opened, when.....	8
not to speak unless	7
who may.....	7
In the Subordinate Lodge:	
District Deputy Grand Master shall, when	78
examination of official.....	381
Grand Master has right to, and inspect	33
mode of reception when.....	34
Lodge must keep visitor's book.....	378
objection to:	
any member may make.....	383
if three members object exclusion mandatory	383
may exclude without vote	383
qualifications of, who may visit:	
Master Masons in good standing	380
members of other Grand Jurisdictions, when	379
must show receipt for dues, if demanded.....	380
nonaffiliated Masons may, when.....	382
voucher for must have sat in Lodge with	381
cannot be made by request	381
when allowed to vote	388, 417
VISITATION BY GRAND MASTER:	
Grand Master has right to visit and inspect	33
Mode of reception and ceremonies attendant upon	34
VOTE – VOTING: See "Ballot."	
In the Grand Lodge:	
Amending Constitution, how	Const., Art. XIII, Sec. 1
necessary to adopt, what	Const., Art. XIII, Sec. 2
Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts cannot	344
Every member must, may be required to	281, 417
For Degrees:	
effect of blackball	418
every member must.....	417
single ballot elects.....	416
visitors may, provided.....	417
who entitled to	417
For Officers	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 7
How, for reconsideration.....	336
In the Subordinate Lodge: collective balloting, when allowed	419
Majority decides	Const., Art. VII
Manner of general	Const., Art. VII
Officers of Lodge Under Dispensation cannot	193
Tie vote, decided by Master, unless.....	282
Visitors, when may vote	388, 417
VOUCH:	
Ability to, who acquired	381
WACO:	
Annual Communications of Grand Lodge held in	Const., Art. VI, Sec. 3; 2
WAIVER OF JURISDICTION:	
Application for:	
balloted on at stated meeting.....	456
must be in writing	456
over rejected candidate.....	400
Cannot be granted if petition for degrees is pending	455
and ballot taken thereon.....	455
Cannot issue until period of rejection, if any, has elapsed	457
Certificate of dismissal has effect of, when	446
Grand Master may grant, when.....	31
Lodge acting on petition for degrees without securing waiver	462
no jurisdiction acquired thereby	462
Mexican Lodge, how granted.....	466
Necessary:	
by oldest Lodge, when	458
over Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft from another Grand Lodge ..	448
over rejected candidate from another Grand Jurisdiction.....	448
over rejected candidate of another Lodge	400
when candidate lives in another jurisdiction.....	453
when candidate received degree in another Lodge	461
Not necessary:	
over those receiving degrees in traveling Lodges.....	450
WAIVER OF JURISDICTION: (continued)	
Over Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts to be issued	
in ninety days, when	459
Petition for degrees to be filed before requested	454
Refusal to grant: effect of	460
does not operate as a rejection	460
may petition Lodge refusing for the degrees.....	460
to be issued in ninety days after refusal, unless	459
Rejection for degrees: waiver cannot be granted until expires	457
WARDENS:	
Grand Wardens:	
duties of	Const., Art. V, Sec. 1; Art. VI
election and installation of	Const., Art. IV
members of the Grand Lodge	Const., Art. II, Sec. 1
preside in absence of Grand Master, when	Const., Art. VI, Sec. 2(a)
rank and title of	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 1
vacancies in office, how filled	Const., Art. VI, Sec. 2(b)
of the Subordinate Lodge:	
Junior Warden:	
election of, when	292
eligibility of, any member may be	291
may appeal from dismissal of charges, when	513
may be representative to Grand Lodge ..	Const., Art. II, Sec. 1(d)
not affected by Senior Warden acting as Master	286
presides when Master and Senior Warden are absent	285
requirements for installation	297a
Senior Warden:	
election of	292
eligibility of, any member may be	291
may be representative to Grand Lodge ..	Const., Art. II, Sec. 1(d)
presides over Lodge when	285
requirements for installation	297a
WEAPONS:	
Repealed 2017. Refer to lodge by-laws.....	226
WIDOWS:	
Of deceased Masons:	
care of, arrangements made for	161
may be furnished certificate	374
shall be assisted	Const., Art. I, Sec. 2
Of profanes, whose father or brother is Master Mason, entitled	
to Masonic recognition	375
WITHDRAWAL OF:	
Petition for initiation	405
unlawfully filed.....	405
what constitutes unlawful filing	406
Protest, cannot be, after announced	421, 424
Resolution in Grand Lodge, how done	173
WOMEN:	
Cannot be made Masons	Anct. Chrgs. III
WORD:	
The, not to be given, except	130
WORK:	
Esoteric, Grand Lodge alone has right to establish and disseminate	10
Grand lodge to maintain uniformity in	Const., Art. III, Sec. 1
Lodges may employ holder of certificate to teach	140
Of lodges under Dispensation, to be examined by Grand Lodge	200
WORSHIPFUL:	
Who entitled to title of	Const., Art. IV, Sec. 1
WORSHIPFUL MASTER:	
See "Master of Lodge."	

This page intentionally left blank.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE V. DISCIPLINE

CHAPTER 1.

JURISDICTION OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

- Art. 494. Powers, Jurisdiction and Duty of Grand Lodge.
- Art. 495. Masons Amenable.
- Art. 496. Right To Hearing.
- Art. 497. Disciplinary Violation Committed in Jurisdiction Other Than That of Membership.
- Art. 498. Where Lodges Have Concurrent Jurisdiction.
- Art. 499. Accused's Lodges to Be Notified.
- Art. 500. Neglect by Lodges of Duty to Discipline.
- Art. 501. Powers of the Grand Master.
- Art. 502. Personal or Pecuniary Differences Between Members.
- Art. 503. Exclusive Jurisdiction of Grand Lodge.
- Art. 504. No Time Limitation on Preferring Allegations.
- Art. 505. Disciplinary Hearings For Suspended Masons.

CHAPTER 2.

MASONIC DISCIPLINARY VIOLATIONS

- Art. 506. Term Masonic Offenses Repealed.
- Art. 507. Violations Of Obligations And Laws.
- Art. 508. Certain Other Masonic Disciplinary Violations.
- Art. 509. Automatic Suspension or Expulsion.
- Art. 510. Voluntary Expulsion for Life.

CHAPTER 3.

ALLEGATION OF MASONIC VIOLATIONS

- Art. 511. Necessity of Allegations and Specifications.
- Art. 512. Status of Mason Under Allegations of a Masonic Disciplinary Violation.
- Art. 513. Duty of Junior Warden.
- Art. 514. Complaint by Any Master Mason.
- Art. 515. Non-affiliated Mason May Prefer Allegations.
- Art. 516. Duty of Worshipful Master.
- Art. 517. When Worshipful Master Dismisses Allegations, Appeal to Grand Master.
- Art. 518. Procedure When Allegations Approved by Worshipful Master.
- Art. 519. Acts Committed Before Accused Became A Mason.
- Art. 520. Withdrawal of Allegations.

- Art. 521. No Withdrawal of Allegations After Disciplinary Proceeding.

CHAPTER 4.

SERVICE OF NOTICE OF ALLEGATION

- Art. 522. Notice Delivered to Tiler for Service.
- Art. 523. Copy of Allegations Sent to Grand Master.
- Art. 524. If Accused Cannot Be Found.
- Art. 525. Service Beyond Jurisdiction of Lodge or by Mail.
- Art. 526. Service on Accused Essential.

CHAPTER 5.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

COMMISSION

- Art. 527. Selection of Disciplinary Procedure Commission.
- Art. 528. Opinion of Member as Disqualification.
- Art. 529. Effect of Disqualification of Commissioners.
- Art. 530. Place of Disciplinary Procedure.

CHAPTER 6.

TRIAL MASTER: DUTIES AND POWERS

- Art. 531. Who Shall Be Trial Master.
- Art. 532. Appointment of Trial Master To Be Made Promptly.
- Art. 533. Matters Determined by Trial Master.

CHAPTER 7.

TAKING OF TESTIMONY PRIOR TO

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

- Art. 534. Witnesses May Testify by Deposition.
- Art. 535. Oral Depositions.
- Art. 536. Written Interrogatories.
- Art. 537. Interrogatories Delivered to Master.
- Art. 538. Interrogatories to Be Answered.
- Art. 539. Custody and Use of Depositions.
- Art. 540. Witnesses to Be Summoned.
- Art. 541. Proxy for Accused.

CHAPTER 8.

CHANGE OF VENUE

- Art. 542. When Change of Venue Granted.
- Art. 543. Power of Grand Master.
- Art. 544. Procedure After Change of Venue.
- Art. 545. Allegations Pending in Suspended or Demised Lodges.

CHAPTER 9.

GENERAL PROCEDURE AT

DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDING

- Art. 546. Order of Proceedings.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 10.

COUNSEL AT MASONIC DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

- Art. 547. Appearances in Person or by Proxy.
- Art. 548. Either Side May Choose Counsel.
- Art. 549. Trial Master May Appoint Proxies and Counsel.
- Art. 550. Duties of Proxies for Accused.

CHAPTER 11.

CONTINUANCE OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

- Art. 551. Grounds for Continuance.
- Art. 552. Continuance Shall Be for Definite Time.
- Art. 553. Postponements Limited.
- Art. 554. Acquittal by Civil Courts Not to Govern Lodge Action.

CHAPTER 12.

PRESENTATION OF PLEADINGS

- Art. 555. Allegations and Specifications to Be Read and Plea of Accused Received.
- Art. 556. Two Sets of Allegations May Be Tried Together.
- Art. 557. Burden on Prosecution.
- Art. 558. In Absence of Plea by Accused, Plea of Not Guilty Recorded.
- Art. 559. Accused May Plead Orally or in Writing.
- Art. 560. Procedure on Guilty Plea.

CHAPTER 13.

INTRODUCTION OF EVIDENCE:

WITNESSES

- Art. 561. Order of Proof.
- Art. 562. Oral Testimony If Witness Present.
- Art. 563. Masons May Be Summoned as Witnesses.
- Art. 564. Those Connected With Masonic Disciplinary Procedure May Be Summoned.
- Art. 565. Witnesses Shall Be Sworn and May Be Put Under Rule.
- Art. 566. Oath of Witnesses.
- Art. 567. Qualifications of Witness.
- Art. 568. Certain Witnesses to Retire After Testifying.
- Art. 569. Accused Cannot Be Compelled to Testify.

CHAPTER 14.

EVIDENCE

- Art. 570. Official Record As Evidence.
- Art. 571. Certain Court Records Admissible.
- Art. 572. Voluntary Statement of Accused.
- Art. 573. Hearsay Inadmissible.
- Art. 574. Ex Parte Affidavits Inadmissible.
- Art. 575. Proof of Day Offense Committed.
- Art. 576. Truth of Alleged Defamation Admissible in Mitigation.
- Art. 577. Accused May Testify.
- Art. 578. Masonic Disciplinary Commission May Question Witnesses.

- Art. 579. Masonic Disciplinary Procedure of Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft.
- Art. 580. Testimony Given in Previous Disciplinary Proceeding Admissible.

CHAPTER 15.

ARGUMENT OF COUNSEL AND BALLOTING

- Art. 581. Argument of Counsel.
- Art. 582. No Comments After Argument.
- Art. 583. Specification Unsupported by Evidence May Be Dismissed.
- Art. 584. Who May Be Present During Balloting.
- Art. 585. Lodge Members May Attend Disciplinary Proceeding.
- Art. 586. Masonic Disciplinary Commission May Discuss Case Before and During Balloting.
- Art. 587. Ballot on Guilt or Innocence.
- Art. 588. Preparation of Ballot Box.
- Art. 589. Meaning of Black and White Balls.
- Art. 590. Manner of Voting.
- Art. 591. Ballot on Punishment.
- Art. 592. Certain Ballot Cannot Be Reconsidered.
- Art. 593. Suspension.
- Art. 594. Where Penalty Specified by Law.
- Art. 595. Result of Tie Vote.
- Art. 596. Results of Ballot Recorded.
- Art. 597. Notification of Action of Masonic Disciplinary Commission.
- Art. 598. Result of Acquittal.
- Art. 599. Report to Lodge and Grand Lodge.

CHAPTER 16.

NEW DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

- Art. 600. Masonic Disciplinary Commission Alone May Grant.
- Art. 601. Time for Filing.
- Art. 602. Procedure.
- Art. 603. No New Disciplinary Proceeding After Notice of Appeal.
- Art. 604. When New Disciplinary Proceeding Granted.
- Art. 605. Result of Acquittal on Subsequent Disciplinary Proceeding.

CHAPTER 17.

APPEALS TO GRAND LODGE

- Art. 606. Notice of Appeal.
- Art. 607. Secretary of Commission to Prepare Transcript.
- Art. 608. Time for Filing Appeal in Grand Lodge.
- Art. 609. Duty of Lodge Secretary.
- Art. 610. Contents of Transcript.
- Art. 611. When Secretary Is Prosecutor, Accuser or Accused.
- Art. 612. Penalty for Failure of Lodge to Send Transcript.
- Art. 613. Appeal Does Not Suspend Judgment.
- Art. 614. Appeal by Junior Warden Mandatory: When. Accused May Abandon Appeal.
- Art. 615.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 18.

APPEALS IN THE GRAND LODGE FROM SUBORDINATE LODGE MASONIC DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

- Art. 616. Duty of Grand Secretary.
- Art. 617. Transcript Sent to Committee on Grievances and Appeals.
- Art. 618. Duty of Committee on Grievances and Appeals.
- Art. 619. Appeals Decided Upon Record.
- Art. 620. Appeal Dismissed Unless Transcript Shows Notice to Accused and Notice of Appeal.
- Art. 621. Committee on Grievances and Appeals to Report Promptly.
- Art. 622. Status of Accused After Reversal by Grand Lodge.
- Art. 623. Grand Secretary to Notify Lodge of Grand Lodge Action.
- Art. 624. Cost of Transcript If Accused Appeals.
- Art. 625. Cost of Transcript If Other Master Mason Appeals.
- Art. 626. Affidavit of Inability to Pay Cost of Transcript.
- Art. 627. When Lodge Shall Pay Cost of Transcript.

CHAPTER 19.

REINSTATEMENT AND RESTORATION

- Art. 628. Definitions.
- Art. 629. Jurisdiction.
- Art. 630. Reinstate or Restoration by Lodge: Petition and Vote.
- Art. 631. In Cases of Appeal to Grand Lodge.
- Art. 632. Protest.
- Art. 633. Where Lodge Having Jurisdiction Is Demised.
- Art. 634. When Suspended for Definite Time.
- Art. 635. When Suspended for Definite Time: WhenAppealed to Grand Lodge.
- Art. 636. When Suspended for Definite Time: Reversal by Grand Lodge.
- Art. 637. Reinstate to Grand Lodge Membership.
- Art. 638. Where Right of Appeal Lost.
- Art. 639. No Appeal from Refusal to Reinstate or Restore.
- Art. 640. No Reinstate or Restoration Where Suspension or Expulsion in Another Jurisdiction.

CHAPTER 20.

DISCIPLINARY JURISDICTION AND POWERS OF THE GRAND LODGE

- Art. 641. Exclusive Original Jurisdiction.
- Art. 642. Concurrent Original Jurisdiction.
- Art. 643. Appellate Jurisdiction and Powers.
- Art. 644. Enumerated Powers Cumulative.
- Art. 645. Disciplinary Violation Committed in Other Grand Jurisdiction.
- Art. 646. Texas Mason Convicted in Other Grand Jurisdiction.

CHAPTER 21.

MASONIC VIOLATIONS BY LODGES

- Art. 647. Invasion Of Jurisdiction.
- Art. 648. Lotteries, Raffles, Etc.

CHAPTER 22.

GRAND MASTER: POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO MASONIC OFFENSES

- Art. 649. Grand Master May Arrest or Suspend Charter of Lodge.
- Art. 650. Allegations Against Worshipful Master.
- Art. 651. When Lodge Officer Suspended.

CHAPTER 23.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER: DUTIES AND POWERS RELATING TO MASONIC DISCIPLINE

- Art. 652. Inquiry Into Masonic Disciplinary Violations.
- Art. 653. Inquiry Into "Cypher Work."
- Art. 654. Duty on Discovery of Error or Evil.
- Art. 655. Financial Affairs of Demised Lodges.
- Art. 656. Returns of Lodges and Annual Dues
- Art. 657. Amounts Due by Delinquent Lodges and Property of Suspended or Demised Lodges.
- Art. 658. Shall Not Be Proxy in Lodge Disciplinary Proceeding.

CHAPTER 24.

PROCEDURE IN GRAND LODGE DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

- Art. 659. Accused Grand Lodge Officer Cited.
- Art. 660. Suspension Pending Masonic Disciplinary Proceeding.
- Art. 661. Accused to Be Cited.
- Art. 662. Service on Accused.
- Art. 663. Summons for Witnesses.
- Art. 664. Commissioner for Taking of Testimony.
- Art. 665. Authority of Commissioner.
- Art. 666. Commissioner to Certify Record of Testimony.
- Art. 667. Disciplinary Proceeding: When Held.
- Art. 668. Disciplinary Proceeding in Grand Lodge: Procedure.
- Art. 669. Masonic Disciplinary Proceeding Before Committee on Grievances and Appeals: Procedure.
- Art. 670. Committee to Report to Grand Lodge.
- Art. 671. Report May Be Argued in Grand Lodge.
- Art. 672. Grand Lodge to Render Judgment.
- Art. 673. Punishment.
- Art. 674. Copies of Judgment Furnished.
- Art. 675. Summary Procedure.
- Art. 676. Effect of Judgment on Accused's Status in His Lodge.

CHAPTER 25.

RESTORATION AFTER GRAND LODGE DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDING

- Art. 677. When Suspended for Definite Time.
- Art. 678. Expulsion or Indefinite Suspension.
- Art. 679. Vote by Grand Lodge.

This page intentionally left blank.

TITLE V DISCIPLINE

CHAPTER 1 – TITLE V JURISDICTION OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Purpose

The procedures set forth in this title are to be called Masonic Disciplinary Procedures, and they establish the procedures to be used by the Grand Lodge of Texas for Masonic discipline. These procedures are to be broadly construed to insure that a fair, just, and legal hearing system is afforded to any Mason involved in Masonic discipline.

Art. 494. Powers, Jurisdiction and duty of Lodges. Each Lodge has the power, jurisdiction and duty to try and punish by reprimand, suspension or expulsion any Mason, including Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts, in its jurisdiction for a Masonic disciplinary violation according to such rules as may be prescribed by this Grand Lodge.

Art. 495. Masons Amenable. All Masons, including Entered Apprentices, Fellowcrafts, demitted and suspended Masons, who are amenable to the Constitution, Laws, Edicts and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of Texas are subject to the provisions of this title.

Art. 496. Right To Hearing. Any Mason accused of a Masonic disciplinary violation has a right to a hearing under the provisions of the disciplinary procedures set forth in this title.

Art. 497. Disciplinary Violation Committed in Jurisdiction Other Than That of Membership. Any Mason accused of a Masonic disciplinary violation may be tried in the Lodge where he holds his membership or by the Lodge within whose jurisdiction the offense may have been committed; provided such accused shall not be subject to a disciplinary proceeding in both Lodges; and provided further, that the Lodge in which allegations shall first be filed shall have priority of jurisdiction.

Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts have the status of members of the Lodges holding personal jurisdiction over them for the purposes of this article.

Art. 498. Where Lodges Have Concurrent Jurisdiction. In a City where there are two or more Lodges having concurrent jurisdiction, the Lodge whose jurisdiction first attached to a case charging a Masonic offense shall retain it to the exclusion of the others.

Art. 499. Accused's Lodges to Be Notified. If the accused is a member of any Lodge or Lodges other than the Lodge in which allegations are filed against him, such Lodge shall immediately notify such other Lodge or Lodges in which he holds membership of the allegations preferred and of the date of the disciplinary proceeding.

Art. 500. Neglect By Lodges Of Duty To Discipline. It is the duty of each Lodge under this Grand Jurisdiction to insure that the rules of conduct among Masons are enforced. Neglect by any Lodge to report Masonic disciplinary violations, will subject such Lodge to a disciplinary action, to include forfeiture of its Charter, upon the evidence of such fact being presented to the Grand Master. It is the duty of all District Deputy Grand Masters to report to the Grand Master any such neglect by Lodges in their respective districts.

Art. 501. Powers of the Grand Master. The Grand Master, when the Grand Lodge is not in session, shall have full power and authority to order filing of allegations in particular cases, to order disciplinary procedures in particular cases, to order appeals in particular cases at any time and notwithstanding time

limits or procedural requirements otherwise applicable to appeals, and generally to supervise and direct procedure in all disciplinary procedures, appeals, and other disciplinary actions whenever and as he deems it proper to do so. When allegations and specifications are filed by or on order of the Grand Master, Articles 516, 517, 518 and 520 shall not apply except that the Master shall set time for disciplinary proceeding and provide for a Masonic Disciplinary Commission and Trial Master as provided for in Article 518. When disciplinary procedure is had on allegations filed by or on order of the Grand Master, neither the time limit for notice of appeal provided for in Article 606 nor the time limit for filing the appeal provided for in Article 608 shall apply.

Art. 502. Personal or Pecuniary Differences Between Members. Lodges shall not take cognizance of differences or controversies between members, growing out of purely personal or pecuniary transactions, unless a Masonic disciplinary violation or a violation of a Masonic obligation or law is involved.

Art. 503. Exclusive Jurisdiction of Grand Lodge. The officers of this Grand Lodge and the Masters of Lodges, are not subject to disciplinary proceeding by a Subordinate Lodge on any allegations growing out of or connected with any official act of any such officer. The Grand Lodge has exclusive jurisdiction over such matters. No such officer shall be subject to disciplinary proceeding by a Subordinate Lodge during his term of office on any allegation of un-Masonic conduct, but may be tried after said term of office has expired, on any such allegation where this Grand Lodge has not exercised jurisdiction thereof.

Art. 504. No Time Limitation on Preferring Allegations. This Grand Lodge recognizes no positive rule or limitation against preferring allegations for un-Masonic conduct or offenses, and any such rule or limitation is null; but the lapse of time after an offense is known is a matter to be considered on the disciplinary proceeding, according to circumstances.

Art. 505. Disciplinary Hearings For Suspended Masons. These Masonic disciplinary procedures apply to a suspended Mason for Masonic disciplinary violations committed after suspension. He is not to be restored to membership for the purposes of processing the allegations of Masonic disciplinary violations under this title, but the new allegations are to be served on him; he shall be notified to appear; and the same Masonic disciplinary hearing procedures shall be followed as for all other Masons accused of a Masonic disciplinary violation. He shall have the benefit of a proxy to represent him before the Masonic Disciplinary Commission.

CHAPTER 2 – TITLE V MASONIC DISCIPLINARY VIOLATIONS

Art. 506. Term Masonic Offenses Repealed. The use of the term “Masonic offenses” is no longer used in Title V. The term that is now used is “Masonic Disciplinary Violations.” Any reference to “Masonic offenses” found in any part of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas, except Title V herein, are not repealed, but continue to be part of the Law of the Grand Lodge of Texas. As continuing revisions of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas are made, the term “Masonic offenses” will be replaced with “Masonic Disciplinary Violations.”

Art. 507. Violations Of Obligations And Laws. Every violation of a Masonic obligation, every violation of the Constitution, Laws, Resolutions or Edicts of this Grand Lodge, or usages and customs of Masonry, and every violation of the laws of the United States, a State, or of a municipality, involving moral turpitude is a Masonic disciplinary violation.

Art. 508. Certain Other Masonic Disciplinary Violations. It shall also be a Masonic disciplinary violation for a Lodge, a committee or any combination of Masons, or an individual Mason:

1. To traduce, slander, libel or falsely accuse any person.

2. To make false allegations, or utter any word or statement, either orally, in writing or otherwise, or to commit any act or engage in any activities or conduct calculated to bring reproach upon this Grand Lodge or any of its officers, institutions, agencies or subordinate Lodges or officers thereof; or which is calculated to bring discredit or disgrace on Masonry; or which is reasonably calculated to reflect unfavorably on the good name of Masonry.
3. To consume, possess, have in possession, or sell intoxicating liquor in any portion of the Grand Lodge Memorial Building, or of any building or portion of any building occupied or used by any Lodge, provided, however, that this prohibition does not apply to small quantities of any such beverages or liquors required by existing rituals of such organization in the conferring of its degrees or orders, or in the ceremonies in observance of special occasions required by existing regulations of such organizations; and further, this prohibition shall not apply to space properly leased for commercial purposes. Constituent Lodges may meet in buildings where alcoholic beverages may from time to time be served. Constituent Lodges of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas may meet in buildings where other appendant Masonic organizations may, from time to time, serve alcoholic beverages, so long as such service is not in progress while the Lodge is open there; and further, be it enacted, that Constituent Lodges may let, lease, or rent portions of their buildings to other appendant Masonic organizations who may, from time to time, serve alcoholic beverages, so long as such service does not occur in the Lodgeroom of the building. (Revised 2000)
4. To willfully abandon his family.
5. To cohabit with lewd women.
6. To belong to the Communist Party, or any Communist front organization knowing it to be such; and belonging to, or adhering to the principles of, the Communist party, or any related or subversive organization, disqualifies any applicant from being made a member or admitted to any Masonic Lodge.
7. To contribute to the delinquency, dependency or abuse of a child, or having cause to believe that a child's physical or mental welfare has been or may be adversely affected by abuse or neglect by any person and fails to report the same in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Family Code.

Note: For purposes of definition as applies to the above Masonic offense, "child" means an individual under 17 years of age. "Delinquency" includes, without limitation, doing any act that tends to debase or injure the morals, health, or welfare of a child; drinking intoxicating liquor; using narcotics; going into or remaining in any bawdy house, assignation house, disorderly house, or road house, hotel, public dance hall where prostitutes, gamblers, or thieves are permitted to enter and ply their trade; going into a place where intoxicating liquors or narcotics are kept, drunk, used or sold; or associating with thieves and immoral persons, causing a child to leave home or to leave the custody of his parents, guardian, or persons standing in lieu of his parent or guardian without first receiving their consent or against their will; and doing any other act that would constitute delinquent conduct or cause him to become delinquent by committing the act. "Abuse" includes without limitation, mental or emotional injury to a child that results in an observable and material impairment in the child's growth, development, or psychological functioning; causing or permitting the child to be in a situation in which the child sustains a mental or emotional injury that results in an observable and material impairment in the child's growth, development, or psychological functioning; physical injury that results in substantial harm to the child, or the genuine threat of substantial harm from physical injury to the child; failure to make a reasonable effort to prevent an action by another person that results in physical injury that results in substantial harm to the child; sexual contact, sexual intercourse, or sexual conduct, as those terms are defined by the Texas Penal Code, incest, sexual assault or sodomy inflicted on, shown to, or intentionally practiced in the presence of a child whose presence is only to arouse or gratify the sexual desires of any person; and failure to make a reasonable effort to prevent any such abuse herein and defined. Conviction in a court of Law shall not be a prerequisite to Masonic allegations or disciplinary proceedings hereunder. A Masonic disciplinary violation is not committed by the mere fact that a child is taken into a hotel, restaurant or private home that serves intoxicating liquors, if the child by such action is not caused to become a delinquent.

8. To use the words "Masonic," "Mason," or "Masonry," or the faith and credit of Masonry, to display Masonic emblem, for a secular, business or political purpose; or, being a candidate for office, to mention in his announcements or political advertisement or literature, or to otherwise publish the fact of his Masonic connection; or to permit knowingly the printing of any advertisement in a Masonic book, journal or other periodical in which advertisement the words "Masonic," "Masons," "for Masons only," "for Masons and their families," or any other term, sign or symbol of Masonry are used, or to solicit business for any company or firm making use of such words, terms, signs or symbols for any such purpose; provided, however, that such regulations shall not apply to:
 - (a) The manufacture and sale of Masonic supplies, paraphernalia and equipment;
 - (b) Advertisements, publications, sale or distribution, of Masonic books, journals or other such periodicals;
 - (c) Masonic Temple Associations, cemetery associations or companies which set aside a section for the exclusive use of Masons and their families;
 - (d) Employment and relief bureaus operating wholly under the management and control of Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, without profit, for the benefit of Masons and their families;
 - (e) The display of Masonic symbols upon tombstones, monuments or vaults erected in cemeteries or mausoleums or the cornerstones of buildings laid with Masonic ceremonies.
 - (f) The statement by a candidate for office in a political announcement or advertisement of the fact that he is a Mason, if such announcement or advertisement also lists his church and civil club affiliations. He shall not be permitted to list offices held or the names of his Lodge or the names of other Masonic Bodies. Neither shall he be permitted to display any Masonic emblem nor in any other manner to solicit directly or indirectly, the vote or votes of any person or persons based on any Masonic affiliation or connection.
 - (g) Travel tours arranged and conducted under the supervision of the Grand Master as provided for in Grand Master's Recommendation No. 6, approved at the 1972 Annual Grand Communication of this Grand Lodge.
 - (h) To use the Square and Compasses emblem on commonly accepted items of jewelry, such as lapel pins, tie tacks, tie chains, tie bars, rings, and belt buckles and on articles of clothing such as caps, ties, shirts and jackets regardless of manufacture or source of supply. To prevent improper use, Texas Masons are required to remove Square and Compasses emblems from autos or clothing prior to changing ownership or discarding. (Revised 1993)
9. To publish or print, or to participate in the publishing or printing, or to advertise in, or subscribe for, solicit advertisement or subscriptions for, or otherwise knowingly aid any publication not authorized under the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas and approved by the Grand Master, which publication uses the word "Masonry", "Masons", or any derivative of such word, in the title, slogan, catch word or advertisements of such publication, or any insignia, emblems, hieroglyphs, or Masonic picturization as a part of the format of such publication or which purports to be for or in the interest of Masons or Masonry, except as permitted under the immediately preceding subparagraph.
10. To give circulation, either orally or in writing, to any statement reasonably calculated to bring Masonry, its history, traditions, institutions, ritualistic work, ceremonies, officers or membership into disrepute.
11. To criticize Masonry, either publicly or privately.
12. To refuse willfully to pay a just debt to a Lodge if financially able to do so.
13. To affiliate with a Lodge under an assumed name with intent to deceive the Lodge or its members.
14. To knowingly permit an expelled Mason to visit Lodge.
15. To knowingly permit any of the degrees of Masonry to be conferred on a candidate who has been previously rejected and who has not disclosed such fact of rejection to the Lodge.
16. To conceal from, or fail to reveal to, a Lodge to which he has applied for any of the degrees of Masonry, the fact that he has been previously rejected by it or any other Lodge.
17. To represent in his petition for the degrees that he has never petitioned any other Lodge for the degrees, when such representations is false.

18. To inquire into, or in any way investigate, either directly or indirectly, the ballot upon any petition for affiliation, or for either of the three degrees, or on any question decided by a secret ballot.
19. To give a rejected applicant the names of members present at his rejection with a view to ascertaining who cast a blackball.
20. To disclose to any person how he voted on any applicant for affiliation or for the degrees, or on any question decided by a secret ballot.
21. To canvass publicly for or against the admission of a candidate into Masonry.
22. To inform a candidate by whom he was black-balled.
23. To inform any person, not a member of the Lodge taking such action, of the rejection of a candidate.
24. To possess, or use a cipher/code book on a Lodge premises, or to use a cipher/code book or access a cipher/code book in any form, including electronic access, in the presence of a candidate when instructing the candidate in the esoteric work of a Masonic Degree. (Revised 2013)
25. To receive or accept a fee or gift, either directly or indirectly, for the prosecution or the defense of a Brother Mason in any Masonic disciplinary proceeding.
26. To, being a suspended or expelled Mason, knowingly wear, display or use a Masonic badge, button, label or emblem during the time of his suspension.
27. To participate in, approve, or aid in the formation of any organization predicated its membership on Masonic membership or in the formation of any local chapters or groups, by whatever name called, of any organization predicated membership of Masonic membership. It shall be a Masonic disciplinary violation for any Texas Mason to be, remain, or continue as, a member of any organization predicated its membership of affiliation on Masonic membership unless such organization is now currently approved or recognized in Article 225 or Article 225a.

This Grand Lodge always has had and retained the right to withdraw at its pleasure, approval of any organization heretofore approved by it or listed in Article 225, or any local unit or subordinate body of any such, and this Grand Lodge continues to reserve that right as to all such heretofore approved by it.

It shall be a Masonic disciplinary violation for any Texas Mason to be, remain, or continue as, a member of any organization predicated its membership on Masonic membership or affiliation unless such organization is now currently approved or recognized in Article 225.

28. To circularize by letter or other form of publication other Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction proposing or advocating any amendments, repeal or enactments of laws in or by this Grand Lodge, without first securing a dispensation for such purpose from the Grand Master.
29. To directly or indirectly solicit or procure the vote of a Mason or campaign for the election of a Mason or to otherwise electioneer for any Mason, in any location where Masons assemble, including, without limitation, in a Lodge, a Lodgeroom, the Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge building, or any other such location or facility.
30. To willfully, or without an excuse found by the Lodge to be satisfactory, neglect or refuse to present himself and be examined as to his proficiency in the Master's Degree within ninety (90) days after being raised.
31. For any Mason who applies for the position of, or in fact performs as, an advisor to a youth organization approved for Masonic sponsorship, does not complete, execute and deliver to the youth organization and its Chief Executive Officer in Texas, the sponsoring body and to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Texas at the time of application, or in any event, before performing as such an advisor, a completed Form No. 79, in which, in summary, the applicant states that he has no arrests or convictions, misdemeanor or felony, nor any form of child abuse or child molestation or child exploitation.
32. To willfully disobey a summons to a Masonic disciplinary proceeding, as a witness, member of the Masonic Disciplinary Commission, or otherwise.
33. To knowingly give false testimony in a Masonic Disciplinary Commission hearing.
34. To willfully fail or refuse to appear at the appointed time and place, after due notice, to receive a reprimand which has been duly inflicted upon him by a Masonic Disciplinary Commission.
35. Having been duly summoned as a witness, to refuse to answer the questions propounded to him, or to give his testimony.

36. To discuss privately with any member of the Masonic Disciplinary Commission the facts of any case pending before said Commission, or attempt in any way to influence the action of the Commission or any member thereof for or against the Brother being tried under Masonic disciplinary proceedings.
37. To make use of any stenographic or electronic record of a Masonic Disciplinary Proceeding except as provided in these laws.
38. The foregoing enumeration of offenses shall not be exclusive, nor shall it be considered or deemed to have the effect of repealing any other law of this Grand Lodge, now existing or hereafter to be enacted, specifying or defining any other Masonic disciplinary violation.

Art. 509. Automatic Suspension or Expulsion. Any Mason in the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas shall be expelled or suspended, as hereinafter provided, upon his conviction of a felony by any court of competent jurisdiction of this or any other state of the United States, or by any federal court of the United States, or upon the discovery of an undisclosed or concealed felony conviction occurring prior to said person becoming a Mason.

1. Suspension shall be effective on the date of sentence and continue until said conviction shall become final, at which time the subject Mason shall be expelled, said expulsion to be effective as of the date of sentence without further action of the Lodge.
2. Should such conviction be reversed or set aside by the judgment of any court, the suspension shall continue until the final disposition of the case, unless the allegations shall be dismissed in which event the subject Mason shall be restored to good standing without further action of the Lodge.
3. In any case in which probation or deferred adjudication is not in issue, should such conviction be reversed or set aside by the judgment of any court, the suspension shall continue until the final disposition of the case, unless the allegations shall be dismissed in which event the subject Mason shall be restored to good standing without further action of the Lodge.
4. In any instance where a Mason is alleged to have committed of a felony and there is a finding of guilty by a court or jury or if a Mason enters a plea of guilty or a plea of nolo contendere to such offense of felony and the court, after receiving evidence, finds that the defendant is guilty and places the defendant on probation or otherwise suspends the imposition of the sentence, or in the event a defendant is charged with the offense of a felony and enters a plea of guilty or enters a plea of nolo contendere and the court, after hearing evidence, finds that such evidence substantiates the defendant's guilt and defers further proceedings without entering an adjudication of guilt and places the defendant on probation, such proceedings shall be deemed a conviction of a felony for all purposes relative to this article, and said Mason shall be expelled to be effective as of the date defendant is placed on probation.
5. The Secretary of the Lodge shall notify the subject Mason by U.S. mail at his last known address of his expulsion or suspension from the Lodge as a result of his conviction. (Note: See Form 2)
6. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to certify the record of expulsion or suspension, in writing, to each Subordinate Lodge of which the Mason is a member and any other known organization upon which membership is in any manner dependent upon being a Mason under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas in good standing of which the Mason is a member. (Note: See Form 2)

Art. 510. Voluntary Expulsion for Life. In addition to an occurrence contemplated in Article 509 hereinabove, any Mason in the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge shall be EXPELLED without Notice of and Masonic Disciplinary Proceeding upon allegations and specifications in due Masonic form, if such Mason, upon becoming aware AT ANY TIME of written allegations and specifications naming him as the Accused, completes, executes and delivers to the Secretary of a Subordinate Lodge, Form 3, or a like or similar form satisfactory in form and content to the Grand Master, thereby requesting to avoid and waive for all purposes Notice and disciplinary proceeding in due Masonic form upon such allegations and specifications, and thereby agreeing to EXPULSION FOR LIFE without (i) any right to appeal same or to request any modification or reduction of same at any future date or (ii) any right to ever request his status as a Mason to ever be restored or his membership in any Subordinate Lodge or in the Grand

Lodge of Texas to ever be reinstated. The Secretary of the Subordinate Lodge which received Form 3, upon verifying the genuineness of the Accused's signature shall sign Form 3 in the space provided and apply the seal of the Lodge to same and then shall forward same to the Grand Master for action; if said form is executed by the Grand Master, then the Accused will then be EXPELLED FOR LIFE and the Grand Secretary will notify in writing each Subordinate Lodge of which the Accused is a member and any other organization upon which membership is in any manner dependent upon being a Mason under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas in good standing of which the Accused is a member, that the Accused has been EXPELLED FOR LIFE; however, if said form is not executed by the Grand Master, notice and/or disciplinary procedure in due Masonic form will occur as otherwise required herein.

CHAPTER 3 – TITLE V ALLEGATIONS OF MASONIC VIOLATIONS

Art. 511. Necessity of Allegations and Specifications. No penalty can be inflicted upon a Brother without allegations, specifications, notice and Masonic disciplinary procedure in due Masonic Form, except as provided in Title V hereof. Allegations shall be made in writing (so far as proper to be written), signed by the accuser, or be approved by the Grand Master, and filed with the Secretary of the Lodge. The Masonic violation must be alleged with certainty; and time, place and particulars distinctly specified. A general allegation of un-Masonic conduct without specifications shall not be entertained. In case of an allegation of violation of national, state or municipal law, the crime itself should be alleged, rather than the conviction.

Art. 512. Status of Mason Under Allegations of a Masonic Disciplinary Violation. When allegations of Masonic disciplinary violation have been referred to, accepted by the Grand Master, and referred to a Masonic Disciplinary Commission, his standing will be a "*Mason laboring under Masonic disciplinary action*" and, until such Masonic disciplinary violations have been fully disposed of, he shall not be entitled to a demit, a certificate of withdrawal, a certificate of good standing, or be elected or appointed to office, installed in office or, in case of death, prior to final conclusion of the disciplinary action, a Masonic burial; otherwise, his rights and privileges shall be unaffected thereby until Masonic disciplinary violations have been found and his penalty assessed by the Grand Master, mediation, or Masonic Disciplinary Commission. (Revised 2018)

Art. 513. Duty of Junior Warden. It is the duty of the Junior Warden to prefer allegations against offending Brethren and prosecute same; but he is invested with discretion in the exercise of this duty, except when ordered to do so by the Grand Master. In case of his refusal to act, allegations may be preferred by any member, on his own motion, or by the request of the Worshipful Master, or when ordered by the Grand Master to do so.

Art. 514. Complaint by Any Master Mason. Any Master Mason feeling himself aggrieved or injured by any member of his Lodge, or by any Master Mason under the jurisdiction of said Lodge, shall make his complaint known in writing, at a stated meeting; or in case a matter of grievance is known to exist, and no allegations are preferred by a Brother, or when ordered to do so by the Grand Master, then it shall be the duty of the Junior Warden to immediately present such allegation, in the manner and form required by Masonic law.

Art. 515. Non-affiliated Mason May Prefer Allegations. A non-affiliated Mason may prefer allegations against another non-affiliated Mason, or against a member of a Lodge.

Art. 516. Duty of Worshipful Master. The Worshipful Master shall determine whether or not the allegation and specifications distinctly constitute a Masonic disciplinary violation. This question should not be submitted to the Lodge. If, in the judgment of the Master, no such Masonic violation is alleged, he shall on his own motion, or on motion of the accused or any member, dismiss such allegations.

Art. 517. When Worshipful Master Dismisses Allegations, Appeal to Grand Master. If the Worshipful Master shall determine that the allegations and specifications in any case do not distinctly define a Masonic disciplinary violation, and dismisses such allegations, the Junior Warden, or any three members of the Lodge, may appeal from his decision to the Grand Master. In any such case, the Grand Master may pass upon the sufficiency of the allegations and specifications, and if he finds the allegations and specifications sufficient to deserve a Masonic disciplinary violation, as required by Masonic law, he may overrule the decision of the Worshipful Master, and order a disciplinary proceeding to be held thereon, or on such of them as he may conclude to be adequate.

Art. 518. Procedure When Allegations Approved by Worshipful Master. When the Worshipful Master finds that the allegations and specifications distinctly define a Masonic disciplinary violation, the procedure shall be as follows:

1. Within ten (10) days of receiving the allegations, the Worshipful Master shall refer them, through the District Deputy Grand Master of the District where the allegations are pending, to the Grand Master. The Grand Master may refer the pending allegations to the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Mediation having jurisdiction over the same as defined in Article 126f (2). The appropriate Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Mediation shall then proceed to attempt to resolve the pending allegations within thirty (30) days of receiving the referral, and report the result to the Grand Master and Worshipful Master of the Lodge in which the allegations were filed. Should that Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Mediation determine that the allegations referred involve exclusively a private wrong, as between accused and accuser, and do not amount to a gross Masonic disciplinary violation, the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Mediation shall report this finding to the Grand Master and Worshipful Master of the Lodge in which the allegations were filed and the Worshipful Master shall act as provided in subparagraph 2 below. The Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Mediation shall act in the manner described in Article 126f (2). Mediation is binding when signed by the parties thereto.
2. If, as provided in the paragraph immediately above, the appropriated Grand Lodge finds that the allegations involve exclusively a private wrong, as between accused and accuser, and do not amount to a gross Masonic disciplinary violation, the Worshipful Master of the Lodge in which the allegations were filed, within ten (10) days of receiving this finding, shall appoint a Lodge Committee on Reconciliation, consisting of three (3) members of the Lodge, whose duty it shall be to make every reasonable effort to compose or adjust such wrong and report the result of their efforts to the Worshipful Master. No record shall be made of such appointment in the minutes of the Lodge.
3. Upon a reconciliation, composition, compromise, or adjustment being affected by the Lodge Committee on Reconciliation, the allegations with the endorsement thereon to that effect, signed by said Lodge Committee on Reconciliation, and the accuser, and the accused, shall be returned to the Worshipful Master and delivered to the accuser, in which case the fact of a reconciliation, or a satisfactory adjustment, shall be made upon the records of the Lodge, and no further action shall be taken on such allegations;
4. When the allegations:
 - (a) Involve exclusively a private wrong, amounting to a Masonic disciplinary violation, against another member, and the Lodge Committee on Reconciliation reports that the same cannot be adjusted; or
 - (b) Specify a gross Masonic disciplinary violation, that cannot be resolved by the appropriate Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Mediation, and the Worshipful Master, having found that said allegations and specifications are in proper form, shall then read Article 510 to the Accused and allow the Accused to choose to execute Form 3 hereof or, in the alternative, choose to proceed with a Masonic disciplinary proceeding as provided for in Title V hereof.
5. If the Accused chooses not to follow the procedures set forth in Article 510, or if the Grand Master does not execute the Form 3 submitted by the Accused in accordance with Article 510, then, the

Worshipful Master shall immediately refer the allegations to the District Deputy Grand Master for the Masonic District in which the Lodge is located, who shall immediately send such allegations to the Grand Master, who may change the venue of the case by assigning the case for a Masonic disciplinary procedure to a neutral venue of his selection, where a fair disciplinary procedure may be had in accordance with existing Masonic Law and practice. All Masonic disciplinary procedures shall be held in a neutral Lodge selected by the Grand Master. A “neutral Lodge” shall be one selected by the Grand Master, with the advice of the Grand Lodge Permanent Committee on Grievances and Appeals, but the neutral Lodge shall not be a Lodge which is located more than 100 miles from the Lodge in which the allegations were received. Note: Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Accused may AT ANY TIME, but on one occasion only, submit Form 3 in accordance with Article 510, including, without limitation, AT ANY TIME in the Masonic disciplinary procedure set forth in Title V hereof.

Art. 519. Acts Committed Before Accused Became A Mason. Allegations of Masonic disciplinary violations cannot be based upon acts committed before the accused was made a Mason, unless he procured admission into the Lodge by fraudulent representation or concealment.

Art. 520. Withdrawal of Allegations. When allegations have been preferred against a Brother, and a Disciplinary Procedure Commission appointed, such allegations cannot be withdrawn without the consent of a majority of the Disciplinary Procedure Commission; if withdrawal is desired, such shall be presented in the form of a motion, and the reasons for such withdrawal shall be set forth; provided, however, that if said allegations are permitted to be withdrawn, any other member of the Lodge may refile same with the Worshipful Master, who shall appoint a new Disciplinary Procedure Commission to hear same, if he deems the grounds of withdrawal insufficient or not proper.

Art. 521. No Withdrawal of Allegations After Disciplinary Proceeding. When a Brother prefers allegations against another, he cannot, after the disciplinary proceeding, withdraw the allegation and have the record erased from the minutes of the Lodge, because they reflect on him. Being the accuser and actor in the matter, he must bear the consequences, and certainly cannot be permitted to expunge the record to the injury of the accused.

CHAPTER 4 – TITLE V SERVICE OF NOTICE OF ALLEGATION

Art. 522. Notice Delivered to Tiler for Service. When the Master appoints the time for disciplinary procedure, the Secretary shall issue a notice to the Tiler, requiring him to summon the Mason accused to appear at the time and place appointed, and also to deliver to him a certified copy of the allegations and specifications preferred against him, not less than fifteen full days before the time appointed for such disciplinary procedure, the day of service, and day of disciplinary procedure being excluded in the computation. The Master may appoint any Master Mason in good standing as Tiler pro tempore to serve for this purpose if for any reason he deems it advisable to do so.

Art. 523. Copy of Allegations Sent to Grand Master. The Secretary shall also forthwith send to the Grand Master a copy of the allegations certified under the seal of the Lodge.

Art. 524. If Accused Cannot Be Found. If the Tiler cannot find the accused, so as to serve him with notice of the allegations, he shall make inquiry as to the cause of his absence, and make a brief return of the facts to the Lodge, which shall be recorded; and if it appears that the accused is a fugitive from justice, or secretes himself to evade being notified, then the Disciplinary Procedure Commission may proceed with the disciplinary procedure.

Art. 525. Service Beyond Jurisdiction of Lodge or by Mail. If the residence of the accused is beyond the jurisdiction of the Lodge, the Secretary shall send a summons and certified copy of the allegations and specifications to the Tiler of the Lodge nearest where accused lives, or was last known to be, which shall be served on him by said Tiler at least fifteen days before the time set for disciplinary procedure. The Tiler shall execute and return same as soon as practicable. If he cannot be found and his residence is unknown, then the Disciplinary Procedure Commission may proceed with the disciplinary proceeding. If there is no Lodge near where he was last known to be, the summons and copy shall be sent by mail to the last known post office address of the accused, in an envelope properly addressed, upon which shall be endorsed an order to the postmaster to return the same to the Secretary, if not delivered within ten days, which letter shall be registered, and such service shall be deemed to be sufficient after thirty days from the time of mailing notice, and the disciplinary procedure may proceed, unless in the meantime the whereabouts of the accused is ascertained, and it appears that he has not been served or has not evaded service.

Art. 526. Service on Accused Essential. No legal Masonic disciplinary procedure can be held until the accused has been served with a copy of the allegations and specifications and has been duly summoned to the procedure except as provided in this Chapter.

CHAPTER 5 – TITLE V DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE COMMISSION

Art. 527. Selection of Disciplinary Procedure Commission. The Disciplinary Procedure Commission shall act for, and in the place of the whole Lodge in taking, hearing, and considering testimony and finding as to the guilt or innocence of the accused. It shall be selected in the following manner:

1. Not more than three days after setting the time for disciplinary procedure on any allegation filed with him, the Worshipful Master shall select from the membership of the Lodge a Committee of three, who shall be fair and unbiased, which Committee shall, not more than three days after notice of appointment, select from the membership of the Lodge, twenty-four members, who shall be fair and unbiased; and if there be not twenty-four such members, aside from the officers of the Lodge, the Committee of three, the accuser, accused, and their counsel; the remaining membership of the Lodge shall constitute the list;
2. A copy of such list shall be forthwith delivered to each, the accuser and the accused, or their proxies, and if there are twenty-four on such list, the accuser and accused shall each have the right to strike six of such names, and if there are less than twenty-four on such list, the right of challenge shall be proportionately reduced, and the list shall, within five days, be returned to the Secretary of the Lodge, and the first twelve unchallenged names on such list shall constitute the Disciplinary Procedure Commission;
3. The Masonic Disciplinary Commission so selected shall be promptly summoned, under the seal of the Lodge, to appear at the time and place set for the disciplinary procedure, and failure to answer such summons shall subject such member to discipline. If for any reason a member selected fails, or shall be unable, to appear and act, the next following unchallenged name on the list shall be at once summoned and called in, if available, to fill out the Commission, and if there are no remaining unchallenged names on the list, the Trial Master shall appoint from the membership of the Lodge a sufficient number who shall be fair and unbiased, to fill out the Disciplinary Procedure Commission.
4. A material witness in the case shall not serve on the Disciplinary Procedure Commission.

Art. 528. Opinion of Member as Disqualification. A member who has expressed an opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the accused is not disqualified from serving as a member of the Disciplinary Procedure Commission, unless said opinion is so fixed as to cause him to be so prejudiced against, or

biased in favor of the accused, as to render him incapable of giving the accused a fair and impartial verdict, based solely on the testimony and Masonic Law.

Art. 529. Effect of Disqualification of Commissioners. If, after the selection of the twelve commissioners, any of said commissioners should become disqualified by sickness, death, removal, or refusal to act, the disciplinary procedure shall nevertheless proceed, provided there still remain as many as nine qualified commissioners. In case less than nine remain, the proceedings shall be suspended and a new Disciplinary Procedure Commission selected.

Art. 530. Place of Disciplinary Procedure. The Disciplinary Procedure Commission shall conduct Masonic disciplinary procedures in the Lodge room or adjoining anteroom, or other room connected therewith, and may, when circumstances warrant, have one or more adjourned meetings during the progress of the disciplinary procedure.

CHAPTER 6 – TITLE V TRIAL MASTER: DUTIES AND POWERS

Art. 531. Who Shall Be Trial Master. It shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master to preside at any disciplinary procedure in his Lodge unless he is the accuser; or he may, on his own initiative, or upon the request of either the prosecution or defense, appoint the District Deputy Grand Master, or any Past Master of a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, to preside thereat. The Grand Master may appoint a Trial Master, if he deems it advisable, and said appointee shall supersede the Master or his appointee as Trial

Master. The necessary expenses of a Trial Master, when a non-resident, appointed by the Master or the Grand Master, shall be paid by the Lodge. The Worshipful Master should not act as prosecutor or defense counsel in a disciplinary procedure in his Lodge.

Art. 532. Appointment of Trial Master to Be Made Promptly. When the Worshipful Master of a Lodge, or the Grand Master, appoints a Trial Master to preside at any Masonic disciplinary procedure, such appointment shall be made as soon after the filing of the allegations as practicable, in order to facilitate the taking of testimony and making other necessary preparations for the Masonic disciplinary procedure.

Art. 533. Matters Determined by Trial Master. The Trial Master shall pass on all motions to amend or dismiss any allegation or specification; on the regularity or sufficiency of the service of citation and copies of the allegations, and the return thereon; on the regularity and legality of the taking of depositions, and of motions to quash the whole, or any part thereof; and on all questions of the materiality and admissibility of testimony.

He may allow or refuse amendments of the pleadings after announcement of ready for disciplinary procedure has been made by both the prosecution and the accused. He shall control the number of arguments to be made by each side, and shall divide the time thereof equally; but the prosecution shall open and close the argument. No appeal shall be taken from his decision to the Disciplinary Procedure Commission, or the Lodge; but he shall be responsible to the Grand Lodge for any abuse of his powers. When a Trial Master is appointed, he shall be vested with all the prerogatives, powers and functions usually exercised by the Worshipful Master, or by Civil Magistrates in the disciplinary procedure of causes, except he shall not have power to inflict punishment for disobedience to his orders, but may cause allegations to be filed against any member who acts in a disorderly or disrespectful manner in the presence of the Disciplinary Procedure Commission, or refuses to obey the lawful orders of the Trial Master, in the conduct of the disciplinary procedure.

CHAPTER 7 – TITLE V TAKING OF TESTIMONY PRIOR TO DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

Art. 534. Witnesses May Testify by Deposition. The testimony of any witness, who for any reason cannot attend any disciplinary procedure before a Disciplinary Procedure Commission, may be taken prior thereto, either orally or on written interrogatories.

Art. 535. Oral Depositions. An accuser or an accused may take the oral deposition of any person or entity by deposition on oral examination before any person authorized to take oral depositions under the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure (preferably a Master Mason); or take a video or audio recorded oral deposition under rules that are set forth by the Trial Master. If a request is made to take a video or audio recorded oral deposition without the use of a person authorized to take oral depositions under the Texas Rules for Civil Procedure, the Trial Master shall either personally supervise the taking of such depositions, or appoint another Master Mason to supervise the taking of such video or audio recorded oral deposition. Such person shall provide a copy of the oral deposition to the Trial Master with his certification that it is a true and correct representation of the testimony of the witness being deposed.

The accuser and the accused shall diligently work to set an agreed date and place for the taking of any oral depositions as soon as possible. If an agreement as to a date and place for oral depositions cannot be determined by the parties, the Trial Master, upon request of either the accuser or the accused, shall determine the date and place of any oral depositions.

Notice of an oral deposition upon an accuser, an accused or any other Master Mason shall be given in writing delivered in person, or by delivery through the U.S. mail, registered mail, return receipt requested, setting for the date, time, place of the deposition and the manner in which the deposition will be taken. Each Mason shall be given not less than three (3) days written notice of the time, date and place of his oral deposition, if within the jurisdiction of the Lodge, and five (5) days written notice if outside the jurisdiction of the Lodge. Said notice to a Mason shall inform him that it is a Masonic disciplinary violation for him to willfully fail to appear for his oral deposition. If a Mason fails to appear after receiving notice of his deposition, he shall be immediately contacted by the District Deputy Grand Master in his jurisdiction to ascertain why he did not appear. If the Mason does not have good cause for his failure to appear for his oral deposition, the District Deputy Grand Master shall file Masonic disciplinary violations against such person.

Every witness whose deposition is taken by oral examination must first be placed under oath as prescribed by Article 566 (Oath of Witnesses), and, if the deposition is taken in writing, the witness shall be given the opportunity to read, correct, and sign his oral deposition if he chooses to do so.

Art. 536. Written Interrogatories. An accuser or an accused may serve on the other person written interrogatories to inquire about any matter that is relevant to the Masonic disciplinary violations pending before the Masonic Disciplinary Commission. Such interrogatories may inquire into the specific Masonic disciplinary violations, to include asking the responding person to state the factual basis for the other's claims and/or defenses. Such interrogatories shall not be used to require the responding person to marshal all of his available proof or the proof the party intends to offer at the Masonic Disciplinary Commission hearing. An accuser or an accused may not submit more than twenty-five (25) written interrogatories to the other person without leave from the Trial Master.

Art. 537. Interrogatories Delivered to Master. When a witness whose deposition is to be taken on written interrogatories is within the jurisdiction of the Lodge in which the allegations are pending, it shall be the duty of the Secretary, as soon as the interrogatories and cross interrogatories, if any, are returned to him as provided in Article 536, to deliver same to the Worshipful Master of the Lodge; or, if such witness is a non-resident of said jurisdiction, the Secretary shall forward same to the Worshipful Master of a Lodge in whose jurisdiction the witness may be found.

Art. 538. Interrogatories to Be Answered. When the Worshipful Master of any Lodge receives from the Secretary of a Lodge written interrogatories propounded to any witness residing in, or temporarily within the jurisdiction of his Lodge, it shall be the duty of such Master, in person, or by a duly appointed representative, who shall be a Master Mason, to immediately take the answers of such witness to such interrogatories and cross interrogatories, if any; to reduce such answers to writing, and have the witness sign same. The Master, or representative acting for him, shall certify that the answers were made and signed in his presence by the witness named in the depositions or interrogatories, under his hand and the seal of his Lodge. When completed and certified to, the interrogatories and answers thereto, shall be sealed in an envelope and delivered, or mailed by registered mail, as the case may be, to the Secretary of the Lodge from whom they were received.

Before propounding the interrogatories or taking answers thereto, the witness shall be sworn as provided in Article 566.

Art. 539. Custody and Use of Depositions. The Secretary of the Lodge may permit either party to examine any deposition returned to him, but shall keep same under his control. On or before the date of the disciplinary procedure of the accused, the Secretary of the Lodge shall deliver all such depositions to the Trial Master, taking his receipt therefor. Any of such depositions taken orally, or on written interrogatories, shall be admissible in evidence, subject to objections of being irrelevant or immaterial, or for failure to comply with Masonic Law, or the ordinary rules of evidence in the Courts of the land.

Art. 540. Witnesses to Be Summoned. Upon the written application of either party or his counsel, the attendance of witnesses who are Masons, to give testimony for use in a Masonic disciplinary procedure, or to testify before a Disciplinary Procedure Commission, may be enforced by summons of the Master, Trial Master, or person authorized to take the testimony, as the case may be.

Art. 541. Proxy for Accused. If the accused secretes himself, or in any manner evades service of a copy of interrogatories, or if his residence or whereabouts are unknown, and cannot be ascertained by reasonable effort to do so, then the Master shall appoint some member to represent the accused, as proxy, in all matters pertaining to the disciplinary procedure, upon whom notice can be served, which will have the same effect and be as binding as if served on the accused in person.

CHAPTER 8 – TITLE V CHANGE OF VENUE

Art. 542. When Change of Venue Granted. (a) In addition to the automatic referral by the Worshipful Master of Masonic Allegations which such Worshipful Master has accepted, to the District Deputy Grand Master for the Masonic District in which the Lodge of such Worshipful Master is located, and the immediate forwarding of such allegations to the Grand Master as provided in Article 518, paragraph 4 (b) in addition (but not as an alternative) to a possible change of venue by the Grand Master under Article 518, paragraph 4 (b), the Worshipful Master of any Lodge may apply to the Grand Master for a change of venue, in any case pending for disciplinary procedure in his Lodge, in the following cases:

1. Upon motion of either the accuser or accused, if, in the Worshipful Master's opinion, the grounds thereof are adequate;
2. When it is apparent that a fair and impartial disciplinary procedure cannot be obtained;
3. When a new disciplinary procedure has been granted in any proceeding before a Disciplinary Procedure Commission, and there appears to be an insufficient number of qualified members in the Lodge to provide a new Disciplinary Procedure Commission;
4. Where a judgment has been rendered by the Disciplinary Procedure Commission, and appealed to this Grand Lodge, and a new disciplinary procedure ordered therein; and
5. Where allegations are preferred in a Lodge whose membership, exclusive of counsel, material witnesses and Trial Master, is not sufficient to provide a Disciplinary Procedure Commission of at least nine (9) qualified Commissioners.

Provided, that motions or applications for change of venue under subdivisions 1, 2, and 5 herein must be made and disposed of before the date set for the disciplinary procedure. No motion for a change of venue shall be made by either side, and no application for change of venue shall be made to the Grand Master by the Worshipful Master after a Lodge disciplinary procedure is actually commenced before a Disciplinary Procedure Commission; and, provided, further, that all expenses incurred by the Lodge to which a disciplinary procedure has been sent on a change of venue, shall be paid by the Lodge from which the case was removed.

Art. 543. Power of Grand Master. Whenever it shall become apparent to the Grand Master that a fair and impartial disciplinary procedure cannot be obtained in a Lodge, or when a new disciplinary procedure is granted by a Disciplinary Procedure Commission and there is an insufficient number of qualified members in a Lodge to provide a new Disciplinary Procedure Commission, the Grand Master is authorized to transfer the case to any Lodge which is located not more than one hundred (100) miles from that Lodge in which the Masonic allegations originated and which is not open to the same objection for disciplinary procedure.

Art. 544. Procedure After Change of Venue. When the venue of any case has been changed to another Lodge for disciplinary procedure, the Master thereof shall proceed in the same manner, and shall exercise the same powers in relation thereto as in cases originating in his Lodge. In all such cases the jurisdiction of the Lodge from which the case was transferred shall terminate; provided, that the Trial Master of the Lodge may in his discretion permit the counsel of the Lodge from which the case was transferred, to conduct or assist in the prosecution of the case.

Neither the Lodge in which the case originated nor the Grand Master may withdraw or dismiss the allegations.

Art. 545. Allegations Pending in Suspended or Demised Lodges. When allegations are pending in a Lodge at the time of its suspension or demise, the Grand Master may transfer the case and all the records pertaining thereto to another Lodge for disciplinary procedure.

CHAPTER 9 – TITLE V GENERAL PROCEDURE AT DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDING

Art. 546. Order of Proceedings. On the day designated for the disciplinary proceeding, the proceedings thereof shall be conducted as nearly as practicable in the following manner:

1. The Disciplinary Proceeding Commission shall be empanelled and pledged upon their honor as Master Masons to render a fair and impartial decision according to Masonic law, and upon the testimony presented at the disciplinary procedure;
2. The Trial Master shall appoint a Secretary (preferably a stenographer, if one who is a Master Mason can be procured) who shall keep a correct record of the proceedings and of the testimony introduced; however a video recording of a Masonic Disciplinary Procedure, including depositions supplementary thereto, shall be permitted in lieu of the making of a stenographic record by a Certified Court Reporter; under the following conditions:
 - (a) That both the Accused and/or his Counsel, the Accuser and/or Prosecutor, and the Worshipful Master of the Lodge in which the disciplinary procedure is held, agree in writing that a video record in lieu of a stenographic record of the disciplinary procedure is satisfactory; and to the competency of the operator of the video equipment.
 - (b) That such video recordings are certified to be “true, correct and complete” by a Master Mason in good standing in a Texas Lodge who has made the recording.

- (c) That the operator of the video equipment shall furnish certified copies of the disciplinary procedure only to both the Accused and/or his Counsel; the Accuser and/or Prosecutor, and when applicable, to the Lodge in which the disciplinary procedure is held, and the original recording shall in all cases be submitted to the Grand Secretary for secured storage in the event of an appeal requiring a review by an appropriate Grand Lodge Committee(s), and his receipt therefor taken by the operator of the video equipment who made the recording of the disciplinary procedure.
 - (d) That any use and/or distribution of such video recording other than herein provided shall constitute a Masonic offense under the provisions of Article 508.38 of these laws.
3. In an appeal of a disciplinary procedure from a Lodge, the submission of a tape recording of the evidence submitted before the disciplinary procedure commission will not be accepted as a substitute for minutes and statement of facts; provided, however, a tape recorder or other electronic device may be used in lieu of a shorthand reporter or stenographer, if such recording is reproduced in print in the customary form of disciplinary procedure records and certified as true and correct by the Trial Master and Secretary of the disciplinary procedure, and the recording destroyed; provided the transcription from an electronic recording device to typed form shall be done only by a Master Mason.
 4. The Trial Master will see that the prosecution and the accused are represented in the manner and under the regulations provided in Art. 549.
 5. If a motion for a continuance is presented by either side, it shall be heard and acted on by the Trial Master; if granted, the Trial Master shall reset the date for the disciplinary procedure under the rules and regulations prescribed in Arts. 551 and 553.
 6. If the motion for a continuance is overruled, the proceedings shall continue as nearly as practicable as follows:
 - (a) All motions to quash depositions; or to dismiss allegations or specifications; or to amend pleadings; shall be heard and acted upon by the Trial Master;
 - (b) The allegations and specifications shall be read to the Masonic Disciplinary Commission;
 - (c) The answer of the accused shall be read or, if it consists of a verbal denial, or a plea of guilty, same shall be entered upon the minutes by the Secretary;
 - (d) The prosecution shall present its direct testimony;
 - (e) The accused shall present his direct testimony;
 - (f) The prosecution may present testimony in rebuttal;
 - (g) The accused may present testimony in rebuttal;
 - (h) The Trial Master may permit any additional testimony by either side necessary to present all material facts. The introduction of testimony shall be governed by the provisions of Chapters 13 and 14 of Title V as far as applicable, but the Trial Master is not restricted by technical rules employed in legal trials, and may exercise a reasonable discretion in admitting testimony which tends to throw light upon and to develop the essential facts;
 - (i) Upon the conclusion of the testimony, the Trial Master shall hear and act upon any motion to dismiss any allegation and specification offered on the ground that it is not supported by evidence.
 - (j) Arguments of council shall be heard;
 - (k) The Masonic Disciplinary Commission shall consider and ballot upon the allegations and if the accused is found guilty, ballot upon the penalty as provided in Art. 591.
 - (l) All subsequent proceedings relating to application for a new disciplinary procedure, appeal, and restoration, shall be governed by the provisions of the Chapters of the law of this Title applicable thereto.
 - (m) No Lodge is opened for a Masonic Disciplinary Procedure.

CHAPTER 10 – TITLE V COUNSEL AT MASONIC DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

Art. 547. Appearances in Person or by Proxy. On the day of the disciplinary procedure the accuser and the accused may appear in person, or by proxy, or both. The accuser or his proxy shall conduct the prosecution and may not be excluded under Article 565 “The Rule,” and the accused or his proxy shall conduct the defense. A proxy may be any Master Mason in good standing in any Lodge in Texas.

Art. 548. Either Side May Choose Counsel. Either the accuser or the accused may choose counsel for his assistance. None but a Master Mason in good standing shall appear as counsel, but he need not be a member of the Lodge in which the disciplinary procedure is had. The Master may also appoint counsel to assist the prosecutor, even though not requested, and the willful refusal of the brother or brothers so appointed to serve, without valid reasons, shall subject him or them to discipline.

(NOTE: If Master not presiding, Trial Master appoints counsel, see Arts. 546 and 549.)

Art. 549. Trial Master May Appoint Proxies and Counsel. If the accused does not appear, and no proxy has been previously appointed, the Trial Master shall appoint counsel for the defense, whose duty it shall be to see that the disciplinary procedure is fairly conducted, and that the accused is not deprived of any of his legal rights. He may also appoint proxies for the Junior Warden if for any reason he is disqualified or fails or refuses to act.

Art. 550. Duties of Proxies for Accused. A proxy appointed to represent an absentee cannot plead guilty for him, unless so authorized by the accused, and a conviction had upon such a plea will not be sustained. It shall be the duty of such proxy to present any legal defense of the accused and to see that his rights are protected according to Masonic Law.

CHAPTER 11 – TITLE V CONTINUANCE OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Art. 551. Grounds for Continuance. Application to continue a Lodge disciplinary procedure for failure to secure service within the time, or as required by Masonic law; for absence of accused, of counsel, or of an important witness; on account of sickness; or for any other just and equitable reason; may be granted by the Trial Master, in his discretion. Provided that such continuance shall not be granted for a longer period than one month. Applications to continue such disciplinary procedures for a longer time than one month, or to await the action of the courts of the country on allegations against the accused, shall be decided by a majority vote of the Disciplinary Commission.

Art. 552. Continuance Shall Be for Definite Time. The Disciplinary Procedure Commission, in granting a continuance to an accused, shall fix a specific time for the disciplinary procedure. No postponement for an indefinite period shall be granted. An indefinite postponement of a disciplinary procedure shall be construed as a dismissal of the allegations, and they cannot again be considered, but new allegations may be filed.

Art. 553. Postponements Limited. On the first application of postponement of a disciplinary procedure, the purpose of which shall be to await the action of the courts of the country shall be granted for a period of time no longer than six months. If the courts shall not have acted within that time, the Disciplinary Procedure Commission shall proceed to a disciplinary procedure of the allegations, unless in its sound discretion, upon application therefor, further postponement shall be granted. Before a second postponement of more than one month shall be granted, the testimony of all important witnesses of the prosecution shall be taken before the Disciplinary Procedure Commission, or a subcommittee consisting of not less than three members thereof, and reduced to writing and

signed by each of said witnesses. Said testimony shall be carefully preserved and shall be admissible on the subsequent disciplinary procedure of said accused if any such witness is not present thereat. When the important testimony of any case has been so reduced to writing and signed by the witness or witnesses, the Disciplinary Procedure Commission may grant additional continuances of the case, for reasonable periods, if there appears to be any just or valid reason therefor. Such postponements should not be granted in any case of gross immorality, or of reprehensible conduct, of an accused, a postponement of whose Lodge disciplinary procedure would appear to condone such a crime or tend to reflect upon the institution of Masonry. In taking the testimony of witnesses as provided herein, they may be cross-examined by the accused or his counsel.

Art. 554. Acquittal by Civil Courts Not to Govern Lodge Action. The acquittal of any Mason by the courts of the country of any offense of which he also stands under allegations in a Lodge shall not serve as a criterion for, or govern the action to be taken by the Lodge thereafter. The Lodge may proceed with its disciplinary procedure notwithstanding, if the facts show that a Masonic disciplinary violation has been committed. Each such case must be governed by its own facts and the demands of Masonic justice, tempered by the exercise of such charity as the circumstances justify.

CHAPTER 12 – TITLE V PRESENTATION OF PLEADINGS

Art. 555. Allegations and Specifications to Be Read and Plea of Accused Received. Counsel for the prosecution shall first read to the Masonic Disciplinary Commission the allegations and specifications, at the conclusion of which the accused shall enter his plea.

Art. 556. Two Sets of Allegations May Be Tried Together. Two sets of allegations, different in their nature, preferred at different times, may be tried at the same time; but each must be voted on separately.

Art. 557. Burden on Prosecution. The accused is presumed to be innocent, and the burden of establishing his guilt devolves upon the prosecution.

Art. 558. In Absence of Plea by Accused, Plea of Not Guilty Recorded. If the accused neglects or refuses to answer or stands mute, an answer of not guilty shall be recorded, and the disciplinary procedure shall proceed in all things as though he had thus answered.

Art. 559. Accused May Plead Orally or in Writing. The answer of the accused may be in writing or he may answer generally “guilty” or “not guilty.” In case he answers orally, such answer shall forthwith be recorded by the Secretary. If he answers in writing, his answer shall be read to the Masonic Disciplinary Commission, recorded, and filed with the papers in the case.

Art. 560. Procedure on Guilty Plea. When a plea of guilty is entered in any case called for disciplinary proceeding before a Disciplinary Proceeding Commission, it shall not be necessary to vote on the question of his guilt. But the question of the punishment shall be voted on in order to determine the degree of punishment to be inflicted. In any such case, it shall be optional with the Disciplinary Proceeding Commission, determined by a majority vote, whether the testimony in the case, or any part thereof, shall be introduced for the limited purpose of ascertaining the gravity of the offense, in order that proper punishment shall be inflicted.

CHAPTER 13 – TITLE V INTRODUCTION OF EVIDENCE: WITNESSES

Art. 561. Order of Proof. The counsel for the prosecution shall present his witnesses and introduce his evidence. The accused shall then present his witnesses and introduce his evidence, after which rebuttal evidence may be introduced by both the prosecution and the defense.

Evidence introduced cannot be used outside the Lodge room for any purpose except before Grand Lodge on appeal.

Art. 562. Oral Testimony If Witness Present. The testimony of all resident Masons who can attend a Masonic disciplinary procedure must be given orally before the Masonic Disciplinary Commission.

Art. 563. Masons May Be Summoned as Witnesses. The attendance of witnesses who are Masons may be enforced by summons, to be issued by the Secretary of the Lodge or the Trial Master, upon application of either party.

Art. 564. Those Connected With Masonic Disciplinary Procedure May Be Summoned. The Trial Master is authorized to issue summons to enforce the attendance of members of the Masonic Disciplinary Commission, or of any other person officially connected with a Masonic disciplinary proceeding. Disobedience of any such summons shall be a Masonic disciplinary violation.

Art. 565. Witnesses Shall Be Sworn and May Be Put Under Rule. Witnesses testifying before a Masonic Disciplinary Commission shall first be sworn as provided in Article 566. In all hearings or disciplinary procedure, upon the request of either side, the witnesses (other than the accused, the accuser, or any other Officer of the Masonic Disciplinary Commission), after being sworn, shall be removed from the room in which the disciplinary procedure is being conducted to some place where they cannot hear the testimony of any other witness. This is termed placing the witness under the rule. Witnesses, when placed under the rule, shall be instructed by the Trial Master that they are not to converse with each other or with any other person about the case other than the accused or his counsel or proxy or counsel for the prosecution, except by permission of the Trial Master, and that they are not to read any report of or comment upon the testimony in the case while under the rule.

Art. 566. Oath of Witnesses. Any Worshipful Master of a Lodge, or any Master Mason appointed by him to preside at any hearing where depositions, either on oral or written interrogatories are taken for use in a Masonic disciplinary proceeding, or any Trial Master, is vested with the power and authority to administer an oath to any witness before he testifies. Said oath shall be as follows:

“Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony which you shall give in the case pending against Brother ----- shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?”

In case any witness refuses to be sworn, the fact shall be noted and his testimony taken notwithstanding, but same shall be given such credence as the Masonic Disciplinary Commission shall accord to it.

Art. 567. Qualifications of Witness. Any person of normal intelligence or understanding is a competent witness. A witness cannot be compelled to incriminate himself.

Art. 568. Certain Witnesses to Retire After Testifying. When a suspended or expelled Mason, or a non-Mason, is a witness at any Masonic disciplinary procedure, and his testimony has been completed, he shall be courteously requested to retire.

Art. 569. Accused Cannot Be Compelled to Testify. A Mason on trial before a Masonic Disciplinary Commission cannot be compelled to testify.

**CHAPTER 14 –
TITLE V EVIDENCE**

Art. 570. Official Record as Evidence. The official books and records of the Lodge; the Charter of the Lodge; and the official records of this Grand Lodge or certified copies thereof, as well as the laws of the Grand Lodge; are admissible as evidence and are proof of any fact contained therein.

Art. 571. Certain Court Records Admissible. A copy of the evidence taken before an Examining Court, in a preliminary hearing, cannot be used upon a Masonic disciplinary proceeding, except by agreement of parties. However, the record of a Court of competent jurisdiction, duly certified, showing indictment, arraignment, conviction and sentence of the accused, according to the forms of law, for the same offense for which he is being tried in the Lodge, is legal and competent evidence against the accused, and, if offered, should be admitted in the disciplinary proceeding, and such weight given to it as the Masonic Disciplinary Commission may deem it entitled to. (See also Art. 554.)

Art. 572. Voluntary Statement of Accused. The voluntary statement of an accused is not admissible as evidence in his behalf but may be used against him when made under such circumstances as to constitute a voluntary confession of the truth of a Masonic disciplinary violation.

Art. 573. Hearsay Inadmissible. Hearsay evidence is inadmissible, and a finding of true to a Masonic disciplinary violation based on such evidence cannot be sustained.

Art. 574. Ex Parte Affidavits Inadmissible. Ex parte affidavits cannot be used in evidence. The accuser and the accused have the right to require that all witnesses appear and subject themselves to cross examination of the other party.

Art. 575. Proof of Day Offense Committed. Proof of the day on which the Masonic violation was committed is not confined to the particular day specified in the allegation.

Art. 576. Truth of Alleged Defamation Admissible in Mitigation. A Mason alleged with defaming a Brother or a profane may introduce evidence to establish the truth of the alleged defamation in mitigation of his fault.

Art. 577. Accused May Testify. Accused shall, in all cases, be allowed to testify in the same manner and under the same rules as other witnesses; provided, that if the accused be an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft, or a suspended or expelled Mason, such testimony shall be taken in the same manner and under the same rules as provided for the taking of the testimony of persons who are not Masons.

Art. 578. Masonic Disciplinary Commission May Question Witnesses. Members of the Masonic Disciplinary Commission may propound questions to witnesses testifying at the disciplinary procedure.

Art. 579. Masonic Disciplinary Procedure of Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft. Disciplinary procedure of an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft, shall be conducted with the same procedure employed in the disciplinary procedure of a Master Mason.

Art. 580. Testimony Given in Previous Disciplinary Proceeding Admissible. Testimony given before the Masonic Disciplinary Commission and reduced to writing shall be admissible in evidence on a subsequent disciplinary procedure of the case, in the same Lodge, or in another Lodge to which the case has been sent or transferred on a change of venue; said testimony, or a copy thereof, being certified to as correct by the Secretary of the Lodge in which the same was given. Provided, that both the prosecution and the accused, against whom said testimony is offered, had the opportunity for cross-examination of the witness while said testimony was being given; and provided further, that either party may re-examine the witness on such subsequent disciplinary procedure, if present, notwithstanding the former testimony of such witness may have been read under the provisions of this article.

CHAPTER 15 – TITLE V ARGUMENT OF COUNSEL AND BALLOTING

Art. 581. Argument of Counsel. Arguments may be presented to the Masonic Disciplinary Commission by the prosecution and the defense counsel, or by the accuser and the accused, under such regulations and restrictions as to time as the Trial Master shall determine; provided that both sides shall be accorded an equal division of time for argument; and provided, further, that the prosecution shall have the right to open and close.

Art. 582. No Comments After Argument. After the argument is concluded, it is improper for any remarks to be made by any Brother, not connected with the disciplinary procedure, on the merits of the case; on the guilt or innocence of the accused, or the penalty to be inflicted.

Art. 583. Specification Unsupported by Evidence May Be Dismissed. A specification may be dismissed by order of the Trial Master where there is no evidence to sustain it; but a new allegation may be presented, based on the same facts.

Art. 584. Who May Be Present During Balloting. When balloting on the guilt or innocence of the accused, and in assessing the penalty, no one shall be allowed in the room except the Trial Master, the Masonic Disciplinary Commission, and its Secretary.

Art. 585. Lodge Members May Attend Disciplinary Proceeding. Any member in good standing of the Lodge where the disciplinary proceeding is being held, or where the allegations arose, may be present except during balloting on the allegations and penalty.

Art. 586. Masonic Disciplinary Commission May Discuss Case Before and During Balloting. Before and during the balloting on the allegations and punishment, if any, and after the accused and the members of the Lodge have retired, any member of the Masonic Disciplinary Commission has the right to discuss the merits of the case and present his reasons governing his judgment in the matter.

Art. 587. Ballot on Guilt or Innocence. After the arguments on both sides are concluded, the Masonic Disciplinary Commission shall proceed to determine, by ballot, whether the party accused is guilty or not guilty; provided however, that if the accused shall plead guilty, it shall not be necessary to ballot on his guilt or innocence. The party accused shall in all cases, before the ballot is taken, retire from the Masonic Disciplinary Commission. A majority of the votes of all the members of the Commission present shall be necessary for conviction and infliction of the grade of punishment.

Art. 588. Preparation of Ballot Box. Before the ballot is taken the Trial Master shall see that not less than twelve ballots, each, of black and white, are provided and placed in the ballot box.

Art. 589. Meaning of Black and White Balls. In balloting upon the guilt of the accused, and in assessing the penalty, a black ball shall be held as a vote of "guilty," or as favoring a particular penalty, and a white ball as a vote of "not guilty," or as against a particular penalty.

Art. 590. Manner of Voting. The vote shall be by secret ballot, and shall be taken upon each specification separately and presented in this manner. The Secretary should read the first specification; then the Trial Master thus: "Is first specification sustained by the evidence?" and then vote will be taken; and in like manner should the other specifications, if any, be disposed of if neither specification is sustained, the Trial Master will declare the accused duly acquitted of the allegation; but if either or all of them are sustained, the ballot will then be taken upon the punishment.

Art. 591. Ballot on Punishment. After conviction or in the event the accused shall plead guilty, the vote shall immediately be taken upon the penalty in the following order, beginning with the highest and descending until the requisite vote is given to declare the sentence, viz:

1. Expulsion;
2. Indefinite suspension;
3. Definite suspension;
4. In the event the vote shall be against expulsion, indefinite suspension, or definite suspension, the penalty of reprimand will be inflicted without the necessity of voting thereon, and such reprimand shall be given by the Worshipful Master or some officer or brother named by him for such purpose, in open Lodge, after the time for appeal has expired, and provided such conviction has not been reversed. Where reprimand is ordered, and accused moves out of the jurisdiction of the Lodge before sentence is executed, the Grand Master may deputize the District Deputy Grand Master of the district wherein the accused resides to summon the accused before a Lodge there and to give him such reprimand.

Art. 592. Certain Ballot Cannot Be Reconsidered. A ballot resulting in a refusal to inflict a named punishment cannot be reconsidered.

Art. 593. Suspension. A member may be suspended indefinitely or for a definite period determined by majority vote of the members of the Disciplinary Commission present.

Art. 594. Where Penalty Specified by Law. If a specified penalty be provided by law for any offense, no other penalty than the one provided shall be assessed.

Art. 595. Result of Tie Vote. A tie vote as to the guilt of the accused or as to the infliction of a penalty, defeats either proposition.

Art. 596. Results of Ballot Recorded. The result of the ballot upon each specification and penalty shall be entered upon the record, with the number of votes for and against in each instance, and in the order in which the proceedings occur.

Art. 597. Notification of Action of Masonic Disciplinary Commission. The parties and the Grand Master shall at once be notified of the action of the Commission. All cases of expulsion and suspension shall be reported by the Secretary of the Lodge to the Grand Secretary. If the person expelled or suspended was a member of a Lodge or Lodges other than the one in which he was tried, the Lodge or Lodges of which he was a member shall be immediately notified of the sentence, and the cause of same, by the Secretary of the Lodge. No person or organization, not a Mason or Lodge of Masons, shall be notified.

Art. 598. Result of Acquittal. A Mason, after acquittal, cannot be tried a second time for the same offense, unless, upon appeal the judgment of acquittal is set aside and a new disciplinary procedure is ordered by this Grand Lodge.

Art. 599. Report to Lodge and Grand Lodge. Upon the conclusion of a disciplinary proceeding, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Masonic Disciplinary Commission to prepare and file with the Secretary of the Lodge a full and correct report of the proceedings of the proceeding and the results thereof in duplicate. Thereupon it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Lodge to transmit as soon as possible a copy of such report to the Grand Secretary for his records.

CHAPTER 16 – TITLE V NEW DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

Art. 600. **Masonic Disciplinary Commission Alone May Grant.** The Masonic Disciplinary Commission alone has authority to grant a new disciplinary proceeding to the accused and only when there is a conviction, and should do so upon good cause being shown, or where it is apparent that a fair and impartial disciplinary proceeding was not had.

Art. 601. **Time for Filing.** Motion for new disciplinary proceeding, and reasons therefor, must be filed with the Trial Master in writing within thirty days from the time the decisions of the Masonic Disciplinary Commission is rendered.

Art. 602. **Procedure.** The Trial Master shall submit the motion for new disciplinary proceeding to the Masonic Disciplinary Commission within ten days after receipt thereof by him. The Commission may grant the adverse party the right to file an answer to the motion, and may permit oral arguments on the motion and the answer. The Commission shall act promptly upon the motion and either grant or overrule the same by a majority vote. If not acted upon within fifteen days after being presented, it shall be considered as having been overruled as of the expiration of such fifteen day period, for the purpose of fixing the time within which notice of appeal may be given. A motion for new proceeding is not a necessary predicate or prerequisite to an appeal.

Art. 603. **No New Disciplinary Proceeding After Notice of Appeal.** A new disciplinary proceeding cannot be granted after notice of an appeal has been given to the Grand Lodge.

Art. 604. **When New Disciplinary Proceeding Granted.** If a new disciplinary proceeding is granted, same shall be conducted before a new Commission, selected in the same manner as the first Commission, and the same proceedings shall be followed in the second disciplinary proceeding as in the original disciplinary proceeding, so far as practicable or necessary.

Art. 605. **Result of Acquittal on Subsequent Disciplinary Proceeding.** In case of expulsion or suspension of a member of a Lodge, and if upon a subsequent disciplinary proceeding in the Lodge where the accused held membership he is acquitted, he is thereby reinstated as a member of such Lodge; but if such acquittal on a subsequent disciplinary proceeding is in another Lodge, the accused is thereby restored and has the status of an unaffiliated Mason.

CHAPTER 17 – TITLE V APPEALS TO GRAND LODGE

Art. 606. **Notice of Appeal.** Within thirty days after the decision of the Masonic Disciplinary Commission is rendered, or, if a motion for new proceeding is filed, within thirty days after the overruling of such motion, the accused, or the Junior Warden, or any member of the Lodge shall have the right to appeal to the Grand Lodge from any final judgment of the Masonic Disciplinary Commission, or shall do so upon order of the Worshipful Master; and notice of appeal shall be given, either orally or in writing, to the Secretary of the Commission, whose duty it shall be to enter the appeal and the date of the notice of appeal in the record of the disciplinary proceeding and promptly report the notice of appeal to the Secretary of the Lodge.

Art. 607. **Secretary of Commission to Prepare Transcript.** In all cases where notice of appeal is given, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Commission to promptly prepare, as expeditiously as possible, a full and correct transcript of the proceedings, together with a true and correct copy of all the evidence introduced in said proceeding by both parties, including any evidence which may have been excluded by the Trial Master. Any such excluded evidence shall be noted in such manner that it

can be identified as excluded evidence. Said transcript shall, as nearly as practicable, follow the forms for transcripts set forth in these laws, and shall contain the facts indicated therein insofar as they were developed in the proceeding. Said transcript, when completed, shall be certified as a true and correct transcript of the proceedings of said proceeding by the Secretary of the Commission and then filed with the Secretary of the Lodge.

Art. 608. Time for Filing Appeal in Grand Lodge. It is the duty of Masters of Lodges to see that the transcripts of all cases of appeal are sent to the Grand Secretary within one month after notice of appeal is given; and in no case will the Grand Lodge entertain an appeal from a conviction before a Masonic Disciplinary Commission unless a complete transcript of the record is filed with the Grand Secretary within twelve months from the date of the notice of appeal, or satisfactory cause shown for failure to do so.

Art. 609. Duty of Lodge Secretary. In case of an appeal, the Secretary of the Lodge duly certifies the record of said proceeding and sends it to the Grand Secretary. If a member appeals, he shall have the right to copy the record of appeal himself, and when so done, the same, after having been examined and found correct, shall be duly certified by the Secretary of the Lodge and forwarded to the Grand Secretary. When requested, the defendant should be furnished a copy of the evidence to be used in an appeal to the Grand Lodge.

Art. 610. Contents of Transcript. When an appeal is made to this Grand Lodge, the transcript shall contain a full and complete transcript of the minutes of the Lodge and of the Masonic Disciplinary Commission relating to the case from its commencement until its termination, including all orders and motions, written or verbal, of whatever nature; and shall contain, without fail, copies of the following, to wit:

1. A statement that the allegations were presented at a stated meeting of the Lodge, and the date of such meeting;
2. The allegations and specifications;
3. Order designating day set for Masonic disciplinary proceeding;
4. Summons to the accused;
5. Order to Tiler to serve summons and allegations on accused;
6. Return of Tiler showing service of summons and allegations on the accused; if the accused was not personally served, showing how served, and if not served, full reasons and facts for nonservice;
7. If accused is not present at disciplinary proceeding, the order appointing a proxy and the minutes showing denial of allegations;
8. The answer of accused; if verbal, the minutes showing same;
9. Minutes showing action of Masonic Disciplinary Commission relative to its findings and the punishment inflicted; also copy of all evidence taken before Masonic Disciplinary Commission, including excluded evidence, which shall be so marked;
10. Notice of appeal;
11. Certificate of the Secretary of the Masonic Disciplinary Commission certifying that said transcript is a true and correct transcript of the proceedings;
12. Certificate and seal of Secretary of Lodge certifying to correctness of the record.

Art. 611. When Secretary Is Prosecutor, Accuser or Accused. When the Secretary of a Lodge is the prosecutor, accuser or accused in any case, it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master of the Lodge to appoint some competent Brother to act as Secretary in all matters pertaining to the proceeding and in preparing the record for an appeal to this Grand Lodge.

Art. 612. Penalty for Failure of Lodge to Send Transcript. When any Lodge has been instructed by this Grand Lodge to prepare and send up full and complete transcript of the proceedings of any disciplinary proceeding had in said Lodge, and said Lodge shall neglect or fail to send up said transcript, thereafter said Lodge shall not be allowed representation in this Grand Lodge until said instructions have been complied with.

Art. 613. Appeal Does Not Suspend Judgment. An appeal to the Grand Lodge shall not suspend the findings and judgment of the Masonic Disciplinary Commission, but same shall remain in force until reversed or otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge; except that if a reprimand is assessed and an appeal is taken, the reprimand cannot be administered until and unless the judgment is affirmed by Grand Lodge, or the appeal dismissed.

Art. 614. Appeal by Junior Warden Mandatory: When. Whenever a Brother has been tried and convicted of a felony or other crime involving moral turpitude in the Courts of the country, and he is subsequently tried by a Lodge and acquitted, or the penalty assessed is a reprimand, it shall be the duty of the Junior Warden to appeal the case to this Grand Lodge for review.

Art. 615. Accused May Abandon Appeal. The accused may abandon his appeal by formal notice to the Secretary of the Lodge before the transcript is sent to the Grand Secretary; or by notice to the Lodge and the Grand Secretary in case the transcript has been sent up.

CHAPTER 18 – TITLE V APPEALS IN THE GRAND LODGE FROM SUBORDINATE LODGE MASONIC DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

Art. 616. Duty of Grand Secretary. When the transcript of the record in any case appealed to this Grand Lodge is received by the Grand Secretary, it shall be his duty to number the case and enter the name and style of same; the date received; the name of the Lodge from which it is appealed; and any other information necessary to be preserved, upon a docket provided for such purpose. He shall also stamp or mark the date received and filed on the cover of said record.

Art. 617. Transcript Sent to Committee on Grievances and Appeals. When an appeal has been properly docketed, the transcript of the record shall be sent to the Chairman of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, and notation of the fact and date thereof shall be entered on the docket.

Art. 618. Duty of Committee on Grievances and Appeals. Upon the receipt of a transcript of the record in any case appealed to this Grand Lodge it shall be the duty of the Chairman of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals to make record of the receipt thereof and acknowledge same to the Grand Secretary.

Art. 619. Appeals Decided Upon Record. All appeals to this Grand Lodge from the decision of a Masonic Disciplinary Commission shall be decided upon the record in the case. No additional or new testimony shall be heard or considered by the Committee on Grievances and Appeals or by this Grand Lodge.

Art. 620. Appeal Dismissed Unless Transcript Shows Notice to Accused and Notice of Appeal. An appeal from a judgment of a Masonic Disciplinary Commission will be dismissed if the transcript fails to show (1) proper notice to the accused and (2) notice of appeal; provided, however, that the Grand Lodge may grant additional time to correct the transcript to show such matters if they were inadvertently omitted therefrom.

Art. 621. Committee on Grievances and Appeals to Report Promptly. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals to examine and report its recommendations upon each case referred to it at the first Annual Communication thereafter. If the transcript of the record of such a case is received during a Communication of this Grand Lodge and such Committee cannot examine and report thereon, it shall report the fact to this Grand Lodge and request additional time, which, if granted, shall continue the appeal until the next Annual Communication.

Art. 622. Status of Accused After Reversal by Grand Lodge. When, on appeal of any case, where the judgment is indefinite suspension or expulsion, the Grand Lodge reverses the action of the Subordinate Lodge and remands the cause for another disciplinary proceeding, such action of the Grand Lodge shall in no wise affect, alter, or change the Masonic status of the accused, as it existed before said action of the Grand Lodge, unless it is specifically ordered otherwise by the Grand Lodge in its judgment of reversal and remanding. If the Grand Lodge on appeal reverses and dismisses the case, the accused shall thereby be restored to the rights and privileges of Freemasonry, and reinstated to membership in his Lodge, if he was a member of a Lodge when convicted, and reinstated to membership in the Grand Lodge, if he was a member thereof when convicted.

Art. 623. Grand Secretary to Notify Lodge of Grand Lodge Action. When this Grand Lodge acts upon any case appealed to it from a Subordinate Lodge, it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to note the action upon the docket and, immediately after the adjournment of the Annual Communication, to notify such Lodge and any other Lodge or Lodges of which the accused was a member of the action taken thereon, and transmit to each such Lodge or Lodges a copy of the resolution adopted by this Grand Lodge, duly attested by the Grand Secretary. Provided, that such Lodge or Lodges and all parties interested shall be deemed to have constructive notice of said action from and after the final action of this Grand Lodge.

Art. 624. Cost of Transcript If Accused Appeals. If the accused appeals he shall pay to the Secretary of the Lodge, on giving notice of appeal, the estimated cost of the preparation of the transcript. If, on such appeal, the case is reversed and remanded, reversed and dismissed, or reversed and the penalty lessened, the Lodge shall refund to the accused the amount so paid by him.

Art. 625. Cost of Transcript If Other Master Mason Appeals. If any Master Mason, other than the accused or the official proxy of the Lodge, appeals, he shall, on giving notice of appeal, pay to the Secretary of the Lodge the estimated cost of the preparation of the transcript. If, on such appeal, the case is reversed and remanded, or reversed and the penalty increased, the Lodge shall refund to him the amount so paid by him.

Art. 626. Affidavit of Inability to Pay Cost of Transcript. If an appellant be unable to pay the estimated amount of the costs of the preparation of the transcript, or any part thereof, or be unable to give security for such costs, or any part thereof, and shall file with the Secretary of the Lodge an affidavit of such facts, he shall be entitled to appeal, and the Lodge shall prepare and send up the transcript.

Art. 627. When Lodge Shall Pay Cost of Transcript. If the Lodge decides by vote to appeal, or if the Grand Lodge or Grand Master directs the Lodge to send up a transcript in any case, the Lodge shall pay the cost of the transcript.

CHAPTER 19 – TITLE V REINSTATEMENT AND RESTORATION

Art. 628. Definitions. Reinstate and restoration have generally the same meaning and are often used interchangeably. In these Statutes they are given separate and distinct meanings, as follows:

Reinstatement is applied to membership in a Lodge or in the Grand Lodge, and carries with it the rights, privileges and honors attaching to such membership. It means reestablishment therein when such membership has been lost through fault or dereliction.

Restoration is applied to the rights and privileges of Freemasonry, and means the re-investiture thereof when they have been lost through fault or dereliction. A Mason so restored, if he is not also reinstated, has the status of an unaffiliated Mason.

Art. 629. Jurisdiction. 1. The Lodge of which the accused was a member at the time of his loss of membership has exclusive jurisdiction over his reinstatement therein.

1. Where a Brother holds a plural membership and that brother is expelled or suspended under Article 509, jurisdiction for reinstatement and/or restoration is vested in the parent Lodge; the parent Lodge, however, by majority vote of the parent Lodge at a stated meeting of the Lodge, can assign its jurisdiction to any other Lodge where membership was held by that Brother.
2. The Lodge in which the proceeding was had which resulted in a final conviction therein or in the Grand Lodge on appeal from a judgment therein, has exclusive jurisdiction over reinstatement and restoration. Unless the convicted was a member of such Lodge at the time of his conviction, he cannot be reinstated by such Lodge. He can only be restored by such Lodge to the rights and privileges of Freemasonry and the status of an unaffiliated Mason; in which case he may (a) Apply to the Lodge of which he was a member for reinstatement therein; or (b) without applying for reinstatement, as aforesaid, or having applied therefor and having been rejected, he may obtain from the Grand Secretary a demit entitling him to apply for affiliation in any regular Lodge.
3. The Grand Lodge has exclusive jurisdiction to reinstate to membership therein; except where automatic reinstatement is provided for elsewhere in these Statutes.

Art. 630. Reinstatement or Restoration by Lodge: Petition and Vote. The Lodge having jurisdiction may, by a unanimous favorable ballot of the members of said Lodge present, reinstate or restore, as the case may be, a suspended or expelled Mason. If an appeal has been taken in the case to the Grand Lodge, such reinstatement or restoration will not be effective until approved by the Grand Lodge as provided in Article 631. A written petition for such reinstatement or restoration, signed by the petitioner, must be filed with the Secretary and presented to the Lodge reciting facts showing that he has made expiation for his offense and has discharged the terms and conditions of his sentence, including completion of probation, parole, or supervised release; said petition shall be read at the first stated meeting of the Lodge after it is filed. The Worshipful Master shall appoint a committee on investigation which shall report its findings and recommendations at a subsequent stated meeting of the Lodge, whereupon a ballot shall be taken upon said petition. Only members of the Lodge acting may vote. In balloting on a suspended or expelled Mason for reinstatement or restoration, other than non-payment of dues, three blackballs shall reject for one year, four blackballs for two years, and five or more blackballs for three years. Protests shall be allowed in accordance with Art. 632 of these laws, and the ballot shall be announced accordingly.

Notwithstanding the above, any member who is found guilty of or who enters a plea of guilty or of no contest to the allegation of pedophilia or related allegations (such as Indecency with a Child by sexual contact or any other means, Aggravated Sexual Assault with a child by any means and Sexual Assault with a Child by any means) and having been previously expelled from Masonry, shall not be considered for reinstatement or restoration of any Masonic membership and said member shall be expelled from Masonry for life and never again be considered for any Masonic related activity or membership. Any current Member having been alleged and found guilty of, or having pleaded no contest to allegations of pedophilia (such as Indecency with a Child by sexual contact or any other means, Aggravated Sexual Assault with a child by any means, Sexual Assault with a Child by any means) shall be expelled immediately, for life, from this Grand Jurisdiction.

Art. 631. In Cases of Appeal to Grand Lodge. Where there has been an appeal to the Grand Lodge from a judgment rendered by a Masonic Disciplinary Commission, and the Grand Lodge has either affirmed a judgment of suspension or expulsion, or raised or lowered the penalty, or assessed a penalty when there had been an acquittal, any action of the Lodge in reinstating or restoring the member shall not be effective or final until it is affirmed by the Grand Lodge. In any such case of reinstatement or restoration appeal to the Grand Lodge shall be automatic and it shall be the duty of the Lodge to send to the Grand Secretary a copy of the petition for reinstatement or restoration, as the case may be, and a full and complete transcript of the allegations and evidence upon which the petitioner was convicted in his original proceeding, and a full statement of the reasons actuating the Lodge in recommending the reinstatement or restoration, together with a statement of the number of members present and voting upon said petition for reinstatement or restoration.

Art. 632. **Protest.** Any member of the Lodge in which the petition is filed shall have the right to file with the Worshipful Master his protest against the reinstatement or restoration of any Mason laboring under a sentence of indefinite suspension or expulsion for a Masonic disciplinary violation, other than non-payment of dues, who may petition for such reinstatement or restoration, and such protest shall have the full force and effect of one blackball on the petition. Protests in such cases shall be governed by the provisions of Chapter 3 of Title IV of these Statutes insofar as they may be applicable. Only members of the Lodge in which the petition is filed may protest. (See Art. 352)

Art. 633. **Where Lodge Having Jurisdiction Is Demised.** Where a member has been suspended or expelled on allegations of having committed a Masonic disciplinary violation, and the Lodge having jurisdiction over his reinstatement or restoration has subsequently demised, he may petition the Grand Lodge for restoration to the rights and privileges of Freemasonry as an unaffiliated Mason, and shall file with his petition a certificate of the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he may then be domiciled, recommending his restoration. Such recommendation shall be under the seal of the Lodge, and shall certify to the number of members of said Lodge who voted on said recommendation, and the number of votes cast for and against said recommendation, and the time during which the petitioner has been domiciled within the jurisdiction of the certifying Lodge. Said petition shall be governed by the procedural provisions of Articles 673 and 674 of these Statutes. If said petition is granted the Grand Secretary shall issue a demit to the petitioner entitling him to apply for affiliation in any regular Lodge.

Art. 634. **When Suspended for Definite Time.** When a Brother is suspended for a definite period of time and no appeal therefrom is taken to the Grand Lodge, he will be automatically reinstated in the subordinate and Grand Lodge, as the case may be, without action of the Lodge or Grand Lodge when the time specified in the judgment shall have expired.

Art. 635. **When Suspended for Definite Time; WhenAppealed to Grand Lodge.** When, after disciplinary proceeding, a Brother is suspended for a definite period of time, and appeal is made to this Grand Lodge, such appeal shall not suspend the findings and judgment of the Masonic disciplinary Commission, but if this Grand Lodge dismisses the appeal or affirms the judgment, or changes the length of time of the suspension to any other definite period, the time of his suspension shall begin to run from the date of the dismissal, affirmation, or other final action, by this Grand Lodge, and he shall be automatically reinstated to his membership in the Lodge and in the Grand Lodge, as the case may be, at the expiration of such time without further action of the Lodge or of this Grand Lodge.

Art. 636. **When Suspended for Definite Time: Reversal by Grand Lodge.** In any appeal from a judgment of suspension for a definite period of time, if this Grand Lodge reverses and dismisses the case, the Brother shall thereupon be automatically reinstated to his membership in his Lodge and in the Grand Lodge, as the case may be, without further action of his Lodge, unless otherwise specifically ordered by this Grand Lodge. In any such appeal, where such a case is reversed and remanded for a new disciplinary proceeding, the judgment of the Masonic Disciplinary Commission shall not be suspended, and his Masonic status shall remain unchanged from that of a suspended Mason until the decision is rendered by the new Masonic Disciplinary Commission. If he should be acquitted, he shall be automatically reinstated to membership in his Lodge and in the Grand Lodge, as the case may be; otherwise, his Masonic status shall be governed by the judgment rendered at the new disciplinary proceeding.

Art. 637. **Reinstatement to Grand Lodge Membership.** A Past Master, Past Grand or Deputy Grand Master, or Past Grand Warden who has lost his membership in the Grand Lodge through dereliction, suspension or expulsion can only be reinstated thereto by petition to the Grand Lodge in accordance with the procedure prescribed in Articles 678 and 679: Provided that this shall not apply in cases of: 1) re-affiliation within one year after demit as provided in Article 6; 2) automatic reinstatement by payment of dues within one year after suspension for non-payment thereof, as provided in Article 323, and 3) automatic reinstatement in case of suspension for a definite time as provided in Art. 634.

Art. 638. **Where Right of Appeal Lost.** When the right of appeal is lost by lapse of time, the proper procedure for reinstatement or restoration, as the case may be, is by petition therefor to the Lodge having jurisdiction in the case.

Art. 639. **No Appeal from Refusal to Reinstate or Restore.** An appeal cannot be taken to the Grand Lodge from the refusal of a Lodge to reinstate or restore, as the case may be, a suspended or expelled Mason.

Art. 640. **No Reinstatement or Restoration Where Suspension or Expulsion in Another Jurisdiction.** This Grand Lodge will not reinstate or restore to good standing a Mason who has been suspended or expelled by a Lodge of another jurisdiction.

CHAPTER 20 – TITLE V DISCIPLINARY JURISDICTION AND POWERS OF THE GRAND LODGE

Art. 641. **Exclusive Original Jurisdiction.** The Grand Lodge has exclusive original jurisdiction and power to:

1. Try officers of this Grand Lodge and the Masters of Lodges on allegations growing out of or connected with any official act of any such officer or Master.
2. Discipline members of a Grand Lodge or of a subordinate Lodge for un-Masonic Conduct or insubordination committed in its presence during Communications of the Grand Lodge and/or during meetings of the Committees of the Grand Lodge, regardless of the time or place of the Committee meeting.
3. Discipline officers of the Grand Lodge and Masters of Lodges, while holding such offices, for Masonic offenses whosoever committed by them.

Art. 642. **Concurrent Original Jurisdiction.** The Grand Lodge may exercise concurrent original jurisdiction with Subordinate Lodges:

1. To try allegations against any Mason who, either orally, in writing or otherwise, shall traduce, slander, libel or falsely accuse any Grand Officer, or shall make any false allegations calculated to bring reproach upon any Grand Officer, the Grand Lodge or any of its institutions or their officers.
2. In the discipline of officers of the Grand Lodge and Masters of Lodges, after their terms of office have expired, for Masonic offenses, other than allegations growing out of or connected with their official acts; and when any such jurisdiction is exercised in any case by the Grand Lodge, it shall supersede and exclude the jurisdiction and powers of the Lodge therein.

Art. 643. **Appellate Jurisdiction and Powers.** The Grand Lodge has exclusive appellate jurisdiction in all appeals from the actions and decisions of Lodges, Masters and Masonic Disciplinary Commissions; and has power to reverse any judgment, whether of conviction or acquittal, dismiss, affirm, reverse and acquit, reverse and convict, reverse and dismiss, reverse and remand for a new proceeding, or reverse and reform the decision, action, judgment or penalty, including but not limited to the power to increase or decrease a penalty and to assess a penalty where none had been assessed.

Art. 644. **Enumerated Powers Cumulative.** The enumeration of the powers and jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge herein shall not be construed to affect or limit in any manner its right to exercise all of its powers as a Sovereign Grand Lodge in any specific manner or in any manner in which it may determine.

Art. 645. **Disciplinary Violation Committed in Other Grand Jurisdiction.** This Grand Lodge does not recognize the right of any Grand or Subordinate Lodge of another jurisdiction to try and punish a Mason who has been duly demitted and removed therefrom into this jurisdiction and has affiliated with a Lodge herein; but allegations of a Masonic disciplinary violation, committed by a Brother prior

to his removal must be certified with proof thereof, to the proper Lodge in this jurisdiction for action. In any such case the Lodge will be governed by the procedure provided for other Masonic disciplinary procedures.

Art. 646. Texas Mason Convicted in Other Grand Jurisdiction. When a Mason belonging to a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction has been convicted of a Masonic disciplinary violation and expelled or suspended by a Lodge not under this Grand Jurisdiction, said Mason shall be suspended or expelled by his Lodge or Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction upon receipt of proper written communication from the Lodge in the other Jurisdiction; provided such conviction is for an disciplinary violation of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas. This provision shall not apply to suspension or expulsion for non-payment of dues. Notice of such action shall be mailed to the suspended or expelled Mason at his last known address.

CHAPTER 21 – TITLE V MASONIC VIOLATIONS BY LODGES

Art. 647. Invasion of Jurisdiction. Any Lodge in this jurisdiction which shall invade the jurisdiction of another Lodge and make a Mason of a candidate domiciled in another jurisdiction, without the consent of such Lodge, shall pay to the Lodge whose jurisdiction it has invaded the amount of the fees received on account thereof, and be subject to such other discipline as the Grand Lodge may inflict; provided that if the territory of Lodges holding concurrent jurisdiction is so invaded, such fee shall be paid to the oldest Lodge, as provided in Art. 465.

Art. 648. Lotteries, Raffles, Etc. It is a Masonic offense for any Lodge to raise money by lotteries or other gambling devices, with the exception of legal charitable raffles conducted in compliance with the laws of the State of Texas.

CHAPTER 22 – TITLE V GRAND MASTER: POWERS AND DUTIES RELATING TO MASONIC OFFENSES

Art. 649. Grand Master May Arrest or Suspend Charter of Lodge. The Grand Master may immediately suspend or arrest the charter of any Lodge when, after careful investigation or upon receipt of satisfactory proof, it is shown that such Lodge has willfully violated the territorial jurisdiction of another Lodge, or the laws, edicts or resolutions of the Grand Lodge, or has been guilty of un-Masonic conduct.

Art. 650. Allegations Against Worshipful Master. Whenever the Worshipful Master of a Lodge violates his Masonic duty by committing an act which is a Masonic disciplinary violation involving moral turpitude, or official misconduct, the Wardens of the Lodge, or either of them, with five other members, may prefer allegations against him to the Grand Master, accompanied by a detailed statement of such facts as they can vouch for, as Masons, to be true. Upon receipt of such allegations and statement, if the Grand Master deems them sufficient, he may suspend such Master, and shall proceed as provided in Article 661. If the Grand Master deems the allegations and statements insufficient, he shall promptly inform the Lodge thereof.

Art. 651. When Lodge Officer Suspended. When a Worshipful Master or other officer is suspended from office by order of the Grand Master, said officer shall cease to exercise any of the duties, rights, or prerogatives of said office until he is thereafter restored, but he shall not thereby be deprived of any of the rights and privileges of membership in his Lodge. However, he shall not be entitled to the rights and privileges of a Past Master, or be or become a member of the Grand Lodge, unless and until he is restored thereto by the Grand Lodge.

**CHAPTER 23 – TITLE V DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER:
DUTIES AND POWERS RELATING TO MASONIC DISCIPLINE**

Art. 652. **Inquiry Into Masonic Disciplinary Violations.** District Deputy Grand Masters shall inquire into all Masonic disciplinary violations committed in their respective districts, and when the Lodges have failed to act thereon shall report the same to the Grand Master.

Art. 653. **Inquiry Into “Cypher Work.”** It shall be the duty of District Deputy Grand Masters to report any cypher work violation of Art. 508 (25) to the Grand Master.

Art. 654. **Duty on Discovery of Error or Evil.** When any District Deputy Grand Master shall discover any error or evil in his district involving or affecting Masonry, he shall endeavor to arrest the progress thereof, and shall report to the Grand Master such as is of a grave nature.

Art. 655. **Financial Affairs of Demised Lodges.** Each District Deputy Grand Master shall collect all the unpaid dues of members of demised Lodges, and all delinquent members may be prosecuted by him before the nearest Lodge in the manner prescribed by this Grand Lodge for the infliction of punishment for non-payment of dues. When the assets of such Lodges shall have been collected he shall pay the debts of such Lodges, and remit to the Grand Secretary all money and other property remaining in his hands, with a full statement of all moneys received and paid out by him and upon what account.

Art. 656. **Returns of Lodges and Annual Dues.** It is the special duty of each District Deputy Grand Master to admonish all Lodges in his district which fail to send up their returns and annual dues within the time required by law, and to aid the Grand Secretary in securing compliance with the law governing such cases. When a Lodge has been suspended for failure to make its returns, or pay its dues, by June first of the following year, it shall be the duty of the District Deputy Grand Master, upon receipt of a notice to that effect from the Grand Secretary, to promptly secure the Charter of any such Lodge and to require it to cease its labors until such returns and the payments due thereon are made, as provided in Article 492; or to such time as the Grand Master may direct.

Art. 657. **Amounts Due by Delinquent Lodges and Property of Suspended or Demised Lodges.** District Deputy Grand Masters are each authorized, after receiving from the Grand Secretary notice thereof, to collect and pay to the Grand Secretary the amounts due by the delinquent Lodges of his district; and also to demand and receive from the last Secretary and Treasurer of any suspended or demised Lodge all the property, including charter, jewels, seal, books, and funds, of such Lodge, and to account therefor to the Grand Lodge. He is also required to include in his annual report a list of the property of all such Lodges, and if any real estate, a description thereof, together with a statement of all debts owed by such Lodges.

Art. 658. **Shall Not Be Proxy in Lodge Disciplinary Proceeding.** No District Deputy Grand Master shall appear as proxy in any Lodge Disciplinary Proceeding in the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, either for the prosecution or defense.

**CHAPTER 24 – TITLE V PROCEDURE IN
GRAND LODGE DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS**

Art. 659. **Accused Grand Lodge Officer Cited.** When any officer of the Grand Lodge commits a Masonic Disciplinary Violation involving moral turpitude, he may be cited by the Grand Master to appear before the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, or this Grand Lodge, for disciplinary process, as he may direct.

Art. 660. Suspension Pending Masonic Disciplinary Proceeding. Whenever any officer of this Grand Lodge, or of a Subordinate Lodge, is alleged with official misconduct, or a Masonic disciplinary violation involving moral turpitude, the Grand Master may suspend such officer from the functions of his office pending a proceeding on any such allegation. When the Master of a Lodge is suspended from office, the Senior Warden shall perform the duties of the Master during the period of such suspension.

Art. 661. Accused to Be Cited. Whenever the original jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall be invoked by the filing of complaint or allegations with the Grand Master, and the Grand Master, after examination, determines that the complaint or allegations set forth a Masonic disciplinary violation, and the accused is an officer of this Grand Lodge, or the Worshipful Master of a Lodge, or is a Mason subject to such jurisdiction, he shall cause the accused to be cited by the Grand Secretary to appear and answer the complaint or allegation at the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge; or before the Committee on Grievances and Appeals at a stated time and place during such Communication, or prior thereto, as the Grand Master may decide.

Art. 662. Service on Accused. When directed by the Grand Master, it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to cause a copy of any complaint or allegations filed with the Grand Master to be made and served upon the accused by the Master, Warden, or Secretary of the Lodge of which the accused is a member.

Art. 663. Summons for Witnesses. At the request of any of the parties to a complaint or allegations filed with the Grand Master; or of the accused; the Grand Secretary shall issue summons for the attendance of witnesses and cause the same to be served through the Master, Warden, or Secretary of the Lodge nearest the residence of the witnesses.

Art. 664. Commissioner for Taking of Testimony. In any case pending before this Grand Lodge for disciplinary procedure, the Grand Master may, upon his own motion or on the application of either side, appoint one or more Commissioners to take testimony to be presented at such proceeding. A Commissioner may be a Worshipful Master, a Past Master, or any Master Mason in good standing within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge; such testimony may be taken before him either orally or upon written interrogatories and cross-interrogatories, filed with him by either side.

Art. 665. Authority of Commissioner. Any Commissioner appointed by the Grand Master to take testimony for use in any Grand Lodge disciplinary proceeding is vested with like powers and jurisdiction exercised by officers taking testimony for disciplinary procedures before a Masonic Disciplinary Commission, and shall be governed by the procedure established by Masonic law in such cases.

Art. 666. Commissioner to Certify Record of Testimony. At the conclusion of the taking of the testimony, the Commissioner shall certify the record of same as being a true and correct statement of the testimony taken before him in said cause and shall file same with the Grand Secretary.

Art. 667. Disciplinary Proceeding: When Held. The Grand Master may cause the accused complained against to be tried in open session of this Grand Lodge; or he may refer the complaint or allegations to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals to hear and report the evidence thereon, either prior to or during the Annual Communication, with its recommendation to this Grand Lodge for final action.

Art. 668. Disciplinary Proceeding in Grand Lodge: Procedure. When a disciplinary procedure is conducted in open session of this Grand Lodge, the procedure established for the conduct of proceeding before a Masonic Disciplinary Commission shall govern in so far as same may be applicable, except in balloting upon the guilt or innocence of the accused; or, this Grand Lodge may adopt special procedure to govern any special case.

Art. 669. Masonic Disciplinary Proceeding Before Committee on Grievances and Appeals: Procedure. When the Grand Master directs the Committee on Grievances and Appeals to conduct a disciplinary proceeding of a Brother under allegations, prior to the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, said Committee shall set a date for the proceeding and cause notice thereof to be served on all interested parties through the Secretary of the Lodge where said proceeding shall be conducted.

At the appointed time set for any such disciplinary proceeding, said Committee on Grievances and Appeals shall assemble at the place designated for the proceeding and proceed therewith.

All such proceedings before the Committee on Grievances and Appeals shall be conducted with the same procedure as disciplinary proceedings before Masonic Disciplinary Commissions, and for such purpose said Committee is vested with all the jurisdiction and powers of a Masonic Disciplinary Commission, as provided by Masonic law, except as herein otherwise provided.

During a proceeding before the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, the Chairman of said Committee shall be clothed with the functions, duties, and powers of a Trial Master, as defined in Masonic law, in so far as same may be applicable in such proceeding.

Art. 670. Committee to Report to Grand Lodge. At the conclusion of a disciplinary proceeding before the Committee on Grievances and Appeals it shall cause a complete transcript of the proceedings to be made in writing, including the evidence introduced. Said Committee shall have no power to render a verdict in such cause. But such Committee shall prepare a report setting forth its findings of fact, and may submit such recommendations as to the guilt or innocence of the accused as it may determine, and the punishment, if any, which in its opinion should be inflicted. The actual necessary expenses incurred in a disciplinary procedure held during a recess of this Grand Lodge, including the expenses of the members of the Committee, upon approval by the Grand Master, shall be paid out of the general funds of this Grand Lodge.

Art. 671. Report May Be Argued in Grand Lodge. When the report of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals in any such case is submitted to this Grand Lodge, it may hear argument for and against the findings and recommendations of said Committee, under such restrictions as this Grand Lodge may, by a majority vote, impose.

Art. 672. Grand Lodge to Render Judgment. Upon conclusion of a Grand Lodge disciplinary proceeding in open session, or upon the report of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, this Grand Lodge shall vote upon and render judgment as the merits of the case may require, including the penalty to be imposed, if the accused be found guilty. Voting in a Grand Lodge disciplinary proceeding may be by secret written ballot or by a show of hands, according as this Grand Lodge may determine.

Art. 673. Punishment. The penalties which may be imposed by this Grand Lodge in any disciplinary proceeding had before it, or upon a Report of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, shall be:

1. Expulsion.
2. Suspension from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, which shall be for a time either definite or indefinite;
3. Reprimand.

When a judgment of expulsion, or of suspension, definite or indefinite, is rendered by this Grand Lodge, the offending Brother shall be deprived of all Lodge and Grand Lodge privileges.

Art. 674. Copies of Judgment Furnished. Upon the conclusion of any disciplinary proceeding before this Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary shall furnish all parties to the complaint or allegations, including the accused and the Lodge of which he is a member, with a copy of the judgment of this Grand Lodge rendered with respect thereto.

Art. 675. Summary Procedure. In every case where a flagrant Masonic disciplinary violation is committed by any Mason present while this Grand Lodge is at labor, the rules requiring notice and

citation may be dispensed with and the Grand Master may order the offending Brother to show cause why he should not be punished.

Art. 676. Effect of Judgment on Accused's Status in His Lodge. When after a disciplinary proceeding by this Grand Lodge exercising original jurisdiction, an officer or member of the Grand Lodge, or the Worshipful Master of a Lodge, or a Mason subject to such jurisdiction, is adjudged guilty and is either suspended or expelled from membership, he shall likewise stand suspended or expelled, as the case may be, from membership in his Lodge. He may be restored to all Masonic rights as an unaffiliated Mason by the Grand Lodge under the procedure provided in Art. 678 and 679.

CHAPTER 25 – TITLE V RESTORATION AFTER GRAND LODGE DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDING

Art. 677. When Suspended for Definite Time. When in any original disciplinary proceeding before this Grand Lodge the judgment is suspension for a definitely stated period of time, said judgment shall expire by limitation. A Mason so suspended shall, at the expiration of the time defined in the judgment of suspension, become reinstated to membership and to all his rights and privileges, including membership in his Lodge, without vote or other action by this Grand Lodge.

Art. 678. Expulsion or Indefinite Suspension. When in any original disciplinary proceeding before this Grand Lodge the judgment is for expulsion or for an indefinite period of suspension, such a Mason seeking restoration shall file his petition therefor with the Grand Secretary, which petition shall be referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals for examination and report thereon.

Art. 679. Vote by Grand Lodge. When any such petition has been reported by such committee the Grand Lodge shall vote thereon and may grant said petition by a majority vote of the members and representatives of the Grand Lodge present and voting thereon, otherwise, it shall stand rejected. If such petition is granted the Brother shall be restored to all his Masonic rights as an unaffiliated Mason without Lodge membership; and the Grand Secretary shall issue to him a demit entitling him to apply for affiliation in any regular Lodge.

This page intentionally left blank.

DIVISION IV

MASONIC FORMS

CHAPTER ONE

FORMS FOR MASONIC DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS

Masonic Form No. 1

CHARGES OF MASONIC DISCIPLINARY VIOLATIONS

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas:

I hereby charge Brother _____, a member of _____ Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M., or "a non-affiliated Mason residing within the jurisdiction of this Lodge," (as the case may be) with a Masonic Disciplinary Violation, to wit:

Specification 1: In that the said Brother _____, ID # _____, on or about the _____ day of _____, 20_____, did violate Article _____, Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas in the following particulars:

_____ (Here describe in plain and concise language the facts constituting the violation, which must be charged with certainty, and the time, place and all particulars distinctly specified. A general charge of violations of Masonic disciplinary violations without specifications shall not be entertained. If violations involve matters not proper to be written, they should be so stated, and the accused, at the time of service of the charges, should be orally informed of the specific facts, to which the charges must then be confined.)

The Witnesses to the foregoing Masonic disciplinary violation are:

1. Name _____
 Address _____
 Telephone _____
 Lodge _____ Name & No. _____ (if a _____ number _____ Mason) _____
 ID No. _____

2. Name _____
 Address _____
 Telephone _____
 Lodge _____ Name & No. _____ (if a _____ number _____ Mason) _____
 ID No. _____

3. Name _____
 Address _____
 Telephone _____
 Lodge _____ Name & No. _____ (if a _____ number _____ Mason) _____
 ID No. _____

Specification 2: In that the said Brother _____, ID # _____, on or about the _____ day of _____, 20_____, at _____ did violate Article _____, Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas in the following particulars:

(State particulars as set forth for Specification 1, above.)

(Other specifications, if any).

Dated the _____ day of _____, 20 _____.
 Signed: _____, ID# _____

(To be signed by Accuser)

Lodge Name & No. _____

Location of Lodge _____

(If the Junior Warden signs the charges he should do so officially)
 Charges should be delivered to the Secretary, who shall mark the same: "Filed
 this _____ day of _____, 20 ___, and forwarded to the Grand Master on
 the _____ day of _____, 20 _____.

Secretary

(Article 508) Previous versions of this Form may not be used. (Revised 2005)

Masonic Form 2
SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION DUE TO CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

Brother _____, I.D. No. _____

This is to certify that on the _____ day of _____, 20 ___, the above person was charged with the commission of a **FELONY** or **MISDEMEANOR INVOLVING MORAL TURPITUDE** to which charge he entered a plea of (i) guilty or nolo contendere, or (ii) in which he was found guilty by a court or jury, or (iii) in which the court or jury found that the evidence substantiated his guilt and placed him on probation or (iv) in which the court found the evidence was sufficient beyond a reasonable doubt to support a finding of guilt but the Court deferred the adjudication of Guilt and placed him on probation. Certified copies of such proceedings are on file in the Grand Secretary's office.

The Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas provide for, under any of the above circumstances, either the (i) automatic suspension of a Mason pending the appeal of criminal proceedings or (ii) automatic expulsion of any Mason when criminal proceedings are final and no appeal has been taken.

On this the _____ day of _____, 20 ___, I, the undersigned do hereby certify that Brother _____, a member of _____ Lodge No._____, A.F.&A.M., at _____, Texas is the person named as the defendant in the judgment attached hereto.

Master, Wardens, or Secretary of Lodge

The member has been therefore notified that he was (1) **SUSPENDED** or (2) **EXPELLED** from membership in _____ Lodge No., A.F. & A.M., at _____, Texas, and any other Masonic Lodges of which he was a member, effective as of _____, 20_____.
 .

 (Date of sentence)

Grand Secretary

Form No. 2 (Revised 2008) (Articles 504, 505, 506, 658)

Masonic Form 3
WAIVER OF MASONIC TRIAL AND CONSENT TO EXPULSION

WHEREAS, Brother _____, ID # _____ has been made aware of certain charges (and specifications) of violations of Masonic Disciplinary Conduct in which he is named as the Accused (the "Accused") which charges (and specifications) are attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and are incorporated herein by reference for all purposes ("Charges");

WHEREAS, the Accused desires, and herein below requests, to avoid, and waive in all respects, notice and Masonic Disciplinary Hearings as provided for in Title V, Statutes of the Grand Lodge of Texas, on said charges (and specifications), and to accomplish same, the Accused herein below agrees to be EXPELLED from Freemasonry in general, and in particular from the Grand Lodge of Texas and any and all organizations upon which membership is in any manner dependent upon being a Mason under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas in good standing, including all subordinate Lodges of the Grand Lodge of Texas in which the Accused is a member including without limitation the following Lodges:

_____ Lodge No. _____ A.F.& A.M.
 _____ Lodge No. _____ A.F.& A.M.
 _____ Lodge No. _____ A.F.&

A.M. (list additional Lodges on a separate sheet and attach to this form)

WHEREAS, the Grand Lodge of Texas, through its Grand Master, has the authority under the provisions of Article 507 of the Statutes of the Grand Lodge of Texas to agree to such request by the Accused to avoid and waive Notice and Masonic Disciplinary Hearing.

NOW THEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, it is agreed by and between each of the undersigned as follows:

1. The charges, as set forth on Exhibit "A," are properly prepared and do set forth good and valid charges of Masonic Disciplinary Violations against the Accused.

2. The Accused, having read and reviewed the Charges, hereby agrees specifically that a Masonic Disciplinary Commission not be selected and that the procedures in Chapters 3 through 16 of Title V of the Statutes of the Grand Lodge of Texas, as they exist from time to time, be not invoked; and does hereby specifically waive and release in all respects any and all rights he may have to a Masonic Disciplinary Hearing on the Charges (and specifications) being had in which the evidence could be presented.

3. The Accused hereby agrees specifically to permanent EXPULSION from Freemasonry in general, and in particular the Grand Lodge of Texas and any other organizations upon which membership is in any manner dependent upon being a Mason under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas in good standing including without limitation any Subordinate Lodge of the Grand Lodge of Texas including without limitation:

Lodge No. A.F. & A.M.
Lodge No. A.F. & A.M.
Lodge No. A.F. &

A.M. (List any additional Lodges on a separate sheet and attach to this form)

The Accused hereby agrees and fully recognizes that his EXPULSION is FOR LIFE and may not, under any circumstance, be altered, modified, reduced, removed, appealed, or overturned, nor may his status as a Mason under any circumstances be restored, nor may his membership in a Subordinate Lodge or in the Grand Lodge of Texas ever under any circumstances be reinstated.

Executed this _____ day of _____, _____.
(month) (year)

Accused

Given under my hand and seal of _____ Lodge No. _____
A.F. & A.M. this _____ day of _____, A.D., _____
(month) (year)

(seal)

Secretary

Witness the hand of the undersigned Grand Master and the seal of said office on
this the _____ day of _____, _____.
(month) (year)

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS A.F. & A.M.
By: _____

Attest: _____ Grand Master

Grand Secretary

(Article 507) Previous versions of this form may not be used. (Revised 2005)

MASONIC FORMS NOS. 4-10

REPEALED 2004

No. 11
NOTICE OF SUSPENSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

Hall of _____ Lodge No._____, A.F. & A.M.
_____, Texas,_____, 20____

To _____

Greeting:

You are hereby notified that in accordance with Article 319 of the Statutes of the Grand Lodge of Texas, you were automatically suspended on June 24th, 20____, for non-payment of dues.

At the time of your suspension you were in arrears \$_____.

You will be automatically reinstated upon payment of all dues to date of suspension and the current dues. If you remain suspended for more than three years, to be reinstated will require a petition and election by a two-thirds vote. We invite your prompt reinstatement.

(SEAL) _____ Secretary.

No. 12
NOTICE OF EXPULSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

Hall of _____ Lodge No._____, A.F. & A.M.
_____, Texas,_____, 20____

To _____

Dear Sir:

You are hereby notified that at a regular meeting of _____ Lodge No._____, A.F. & A.M., held _____, 20____, you were expelled for non-payment of dues.

By Order of the Lodge _____
(SEAL) _____ Secretary

No. 13
NOTICE OF SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT

Repealed 2006

This page intentionally left blank.

TITLE V INDEX

INDEX

to
TITLE V
MASONIC DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

— O —

ABBREVIATIONS USED:

Const.	Constitution
Anct. Chrds.	Ancient Charges
Art.	Article
Sec.	Section
E. A.	Entered Apprentice
F. C.	Fellowcraft

— O —

Article	Article
ABANDONMENT: Of appeal, how, accused may abandon	615
ABUSE OF MASONIC NAME AND EMBLEMS: A Masonic offense	508(8)
ACCUSED: Cannot be compelled to testify	569
Entitled to counsel may choose	548
appointed for	549
Guilt or innocence of, passed on by Trial Commission	587, 590
If a member of another Lodge, such Lodge notified of charges	499
of result of trial	597
Innocent, supposed to be, until convicted	557
May testify in own behalf	577
take appeal to the Grand Lodge	606
Refusal to answer, how treated	558
Service of notices and charges on	526
by whom and when	522
cannot be tried until served, except	524, 526
how served, when cannot be found	524, 525
when evades process	541
when is fugitive from justice	524
Status of when Grand Lodge acts on case on appeal	622
After charges are preferred	512
During pendency of appeal	613
To retire during balloting	584
Voluntary statement of, inadmissible	572
ACCUSER: To sign charges	511
ACQUITTAL—ACQUITTED Mason cannot be tried after for same offenses, except	598
Of accused in Courts, no criterion for Lodge trial	554
When Mason is, standing not affected by appeal of prosecution	613
ADMISSION OF TESTIMONY: See "Evidence."	
ADMISSION: To Lodge, by fraudulent acts, is Masonic offense	519
ADVERTISING: Use of Masonry for, Masonic offense, when	508
AMENABLE: To Masonic charges, who: All Masons	495
E.A.s and F.C.s	495
Suspended NPD and Dimitted	495
ANSWER: To charges, shall be in writing, when	559
if oral, must be recorded	559
refusal to, how treated	558
To motion for new trial, may be filed	602
APPEALS: Accused has right to	606
Does not suspend judgment of Trial Commission	613
Effect of Grand Lodge action, where suspended for definite time	634
Grand Lodge action on, what allowed	600, 619
May be abandoned	615
Member may, from reinstatement	630
Motion for new trial not prerequisite to	602
APPEALS: (continued) Notice of, when and how given	606
after given, new trial, cannot be granted	603
entered in records of trial	607
transcript must contain, or appeal dismissed	610
Procedure on in the Grand Lodge: Grand Secretary to docket	616, 617
Committee on Grievances and Appeals to examine and report	616
no new evidence considered by	619
shall make report, when	621
dismissed, unless transcript contains notice to accused	620
Grand Lodge may set aside penalty	622
Lodge notified of Grand Lodge action, when, how	674
Status of accused not altered by Grand Lodge action, except	607
costs of, when accused appeals	624
when appellant unable to pay, procedure	626
when Grand Lodge directs transcript sent up	627
when member appeals	624
form of, general	607
made by Secretary of Trial Commission, what, when	607
certified to and filed with Secretary of Lodge	607
requisites	610
requisite of, general	610
must contain full minutes of the trial	607, 610
notice of appeal	606
notice to accused	610
when sent to Grand Secretary	608
APPELLATE JURISDICTION: Grand Lodge has exclusive	645
APPOINTMENT: Secretary for Lodge Masonic Disciplinary Commission	546
Trial Master, who	532
ARGUMENT OF COUNSEL: After finished, improper for any person to comment on case	582
Prosecution to open and close	581
Trial Master to control and regulate	533, 581
ARREST OF CHARTER: Failure of Lodge to meet for three months	228
exercise Masonic discipline	500
obey edicts and laws of the Grand Lodge	649
Un-Masonic conduct of Lodge	649
Willful invasion of territorial jurisdiction of another Lodge	649
ASSETS: Lodges, consolidating, disposition of	250
demised	655
dormant	255
suspended	657
ATTENDANCE: Of witnesses, enforced by summons	563
Trial Commission, how enforced	563
BALLOT: Cannot be inquired into, a Masonic offense	508 (19)
Degrees, taken at stated meetings	415
cannot be inquired into	508 (19)
Trial Commission, on guilt or innocence, and penalty	587, 591
cannot reconsider refusal to inflict	592
degree of punishment	591
majority vote necessary to decide	587
may suspend for definite or indefinite period	591
tie vote defeats proposition	595
upon each charge separately	590

TITLE V INDEX

Article	Article
BALLOT BOX: Trial Master to examine before balloting.....	COSTS: Of Transcript, on appeal to Grand Lodge.....
BLACK BALL: Informing who cast, a Masonic offense	COUNSEL: Accused and accuser entitled to may choose
BOOKS: Of Lodges, admissible in evidence.....	Argумент of, how controlled and regulated for and against motion for a new trial, permitted
BUSINESS—IN THE SUBORDINATE LODGE: Cypher work, prohibited.....	Cannot accept fee, a Masonic offense.....
Minutes, to show all business transacted.....	District Deputy Grand Masters cannot act as.....
action on petition for dimitt entered in.....	For accused, duties of
of reconciliation committee not entered in	failure of accused to appear, proxy appointed
CANDIDATES: Ballot, must be had when committee reports	Only Master Masons in good standing may be
not to be inquired into.....	
Fraudulent representation cause for expulsion	
CEMETERY ASSOCIATIONS: For exclusive use of Masons, permissible	COURTS OF THE COUNTRY: Acquittal of accused in, no criterion for Lodge trial.....
CERTIFICATE: Restoration, after expulsion in Grand Lodge Trial, how granted	Continuance to await trial in, how granted
has effect of dimitt	Records of admissible as evidence, when
CHALLENGE: Right to, in selection of Trial Commission	of examining Court not admissible, except
CHANGE OF VENUE: None after trial actually commenced	CYPHER WORK: District Deputy Grand Masters to inquire into use of
Procedure, when granted.....	Use of relating to esoteric work is Masonic offense
CHARGES AND SPECIFICATIONS: Balloted upon separately	DAY: Of trial, set by Worshipful Master, when
result of each ballot to be recorded	Particular, need not be proved in trial
How made, when offense committed in another jurisdiction	
No positive rule of limitation against preferring	
Prerequisite to trial and punishment	
Read at trial	
Requisites of, how made	
must be specific	
signed by accuser	
Status of member laboring under	DEATH: Of member of Trial Commission, what is a quorum
Suspended Mason, subject to	
Two sets may be tried at same time	
CHARTER: Admissible in evidence in trials.....	DEBT: Of Demised Lodges, how paid
Arrest of, by Grand Master, for cause	
failure to meet	
to enforce discipline	
to obey Edicts and Laws of Grand Lodge	
un-Masonic conduct in Lodge	
willful invasion of territorial jurisdiction of other Lodge	
CIRCULARIZING LODGES: An offense	DEFAMATION: Truth of words spoken, evidence of admissible
CITATION AND SERVICE: Appeal dismissed if transcript does not contain notice of	DEGREES: Ballot for Degrees: not repassed after rejection announced
COMMITTEES IN THE SUBORDINATE LODGE: On reconciliation	cannot be inquired into
COMPLAINTS: See "Charges and Specifications."	Fraud practiced in receiving degree cause of expulsion
CONDUCT OF TRIAL: General procedure in subordinate Lodge	DEMISED LODGES: Property of, taken by District Deputy Grand Master
CONFSSION: Pleas of guilty cannot be entered by proxy for accused, unless	Suspended or expelled members of, how reinstated
CONTINUATION OF TRIALS: By Trial Commission when	DIMITT: Certificate of restoration in Grand Lodge has effect on
by Trial Master, when	Who entitled to dimitt
not longer than one month, except	members under charges are not
Grounds for	
Must be for definite time	
indefinite continuance tantamount to dismissal	
To await action of Courts, how	
testimony of prosecution witnesses taken during, how	
CONVICTION: In another jurisdiction, effect of	DISCIPLINE: See "Trials."
when dimitt and removed to this State	
Majority vote of Trial Commission necessary for	DISMISSAL—DISMISSED: Appeal is when does not contain notice to accused
	or notice of appeal
	Of case on appeal, effect on accused
	Of charges, when Trial Master may
	DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS: Duties, powers and authority, in general
	admonish Lodges for failure to make returns
	correct evils affecting Masonry
	inquire into Masonic offenses and report to Grand Master
	inquire into the use of "Cypher work"
	secure Charter of Lodges, when
	settle estates of suspended or demised Lodges
	account for proceeds
	collect unpaid dues of members of
	demand Charter and effect of
	Shall not approve as proxy in Lodge trial
	DOCKET: Grand Secretary to keep and enter appeals in
	to note Grand Lodge action on appeal in
	EMBLEM: Suspended or expelled Mason wearing, a Masonic offense
	Use of for private gain, a Masonic offense
	ENTERED APPRENTICE AND FELLOWCRAFT: Trial of procedure
	EVIDENCE: See "Witness," "Trials."
	Admissibility, in general:
	Admissible testimony:
	depositions, when
	laws of Lodge and Grand Lodge
	official Charter, books and records of the Lodge

TITLE V INDEX

Article	Article
EVIDENCE (continued):	
Admissibility, in general: (continued)	
Admissible testimony: (continued)	
records of courts of the Country 554, 571	
testimony, in second trial of same case..... 580	
taken when trial is continued 553	
truth of words spoken, in defamation trial 576	
Inadmissible testimony:	
ex parte affidavits 574	
hearsay testimony 573	
records of examining Court, unless 571	
voluntary statement of accused, except..... 572	
Depositions taken before trial:	
Oral, how taken..... 535	
Where witness is in jurisdiction of Lodge 535	
Witnesses to be sworn, how 565	
If guilty plea is made, Trial Commission may take 560	
Included in Secretary's report of trial, when 607	
New, not considered on appeal to Grand Lodge 619	
Particular day alleged need not be proved 575	
Transcribed, when..... 607	
Transcript on appeal, to contain 607	
all excluded evidence, properly marked as such 607	
Witnesses: who qualified to be 567	
accused may be, how testimony taken 577	
when an E.A. or F.C. 577	
when suspended Mason 577	
any person of normal intelligence and understanding 567	
resident Masons, how testimony of taken..... 534	
to be sworn, form of oath 565, 566	
refusal to be sworn, effect of 566	
EX PARTE AFFIDAVITS:	
Inadmissible as evidence in Lodge trial 574	
EXAMINING COURT:	
Evidence taken in not admissible in Lodge Trial, except 559	
EXCLUDED:	
Evidence, to be marked as such and inserted in transcript..... 607	
EXPelled MASON:	
By another Grand Jurisdiction not final, until..... 646	
Masonic offense to wear Masonic emblems, etc. 508 (27)	
Reinstatement of where no appeal is taken 630	
protest may be filed against, effect of 632	
record to be sent to Grand Lodge, when 631	
where case is passed on by Grand Lodge, not final until..... 631	
where expelled in Grand Lodge trial 677, 679	
where Lodge demised, how 633	
To retire after giving testimony in Lodge trial..... 568	
EXPULSION:	
Expulsion by Consent 510	
Waiver of Masonic Trial and Consent to Expulsion Form No. 3	
FALSE SWEARING:	
At trial, a Masonic offense..... 508	
FEES AND DUES:	
In the Subordinate Lodge:	
Suspended or demised Lodges, how dues collected 328, 329	
FELLOWCRAFT:	
Trial of, procedure..... 579	
FORFEITURE OF CHARTER	
Failure to enforce discipline 500	
to obey Edicts and Laws of the Grand Lodge 649	
Un-Masonic conduct of Lodge 649	
Willful invasion of territorial jurisdiction..... 649	
FORMS:	
For Masonic Trials (Division IV)	
Charges and specifications Form No. 1	
Felony Proceedings Form No. 2	
Notice:	
of expulsion for nonpayment of dues Form No. 12	
of suspension for nonpayment of dues Form No. 11	
of suspension or expulsion for un-Masonic conduct .. Form No. 3	
FRAUD:	
In obtaining degrees, cause for expulsion 508	
FUNERALS:	
Who not entitled to:	
members under charges of non-Masonic conduct, unless 360, 512	
GRAND LODGE:	
Jurisdiction disciplinary, of Grand Lodge:	
exclusive, over Grand Lodge Officers and Master, when 641	
over members committing offense in Grand Lodge's presence. . 641	
Officers of: cannot be tried by Lodge 641	
Trials in the Grand Lodge:	
how held:	
when held, before Grand Lodge in open session 667, 668	
procedure 635	
punishment: penalties which may be imposed..... 640	
fixed by Grand Lodge, how 639	
suspension or expulsion extends to Lodge membership 678	
reinstatement: where suspended for definite period, automatic..... 679	
where suspended for indefinite time or expelled, how..... 678	
Grand Lodge may grant..... 679	
Status of Mason if granted 679	
Petition to be filed, procedure on..... 678	
summons to accused 610	
to witnesses 663	
Will not reinstate Mason expelled or suspended by Lodge	
of another Grand Jurisdiction 646	
GRAND LODGES:	
None has right to try Mason residing here 646	
GRAND MASTER:	
May be tried while in office, how 641	
Order File Charges in particular cases 501	
Powers, Duties and Authority:	
General:	
arrest charters of Lodges, when 228, 492, 500	
change venue of Lodge trial, when. 518, 542	
in Grand Lodge trials..... 501	
suspended Grand Lodge Officers, when 676	
Masters and Officers of subordinate Lodges, when ... 676	
Suspended Lodges for cause 649	
May appoint:	
Trial Master for Lodge trial, when..... 532	
GRAND OFFICERS:	
Offenses against 641, 659	
GRAND SECRETARY:	
Duties, Powers, and Authority:	
General:	
trials: to give notice of judgment in Grand Lodge trials 674	
appeals from Subordinate Lodge, to enter on docket.. 606	
to notify Lodge of action of Grand Lodge on..... 623	
to send to Committee on Grievances and Appeals .. 617, 618	
GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS:	
See "Committees in the Grand Lodge"	
GUILT – GUILTY:	
Burden on prosecution to show accused is..... 557	
No vote on when plea of guilty is entered..... 560	
evidence taken in guilty plea to determine punishment, when 560	
Trial Commission ballots to determine guilt or innocence in Lodge Trial .. 590	
INNOCENT – INNOCENCE:	
Accused presumed to be until found guilty..... 557	
INSCRIPTIONS:	
What allowed on cornerstones 178	
On tombstones, monuments and vaults..... 508	
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS:	
In the Subordinate Lodge:	
cannot be if charges pending against 297, 512	
INSUBORDINATION:	
In the Grand Lodge, how disciplined..... 641	
INTERROGATORIES:	
How filed, procedure on 536, 537, 538	
INTOXICATING LIQUORS:	
Intemperate use of, a Masonic offense 508 (3)	
Unlawful sale, manufacture, etc., of, a Masonic offense 508 (3)	
INVASION OF LODGE JURISDICTION:	
Charter may be arrested for, when..... 649	
Penalty for..... 647	
JUDGMENT:	
Of Trial Commission, not suspended by appeal..... 613	
all parties to be notified of, when..... 597	

TITLE V INDEX

Article	Article
JURISDICTION, AS TO DEGREES:	
Invasion of Charter may be arrested for	649
penalty for	647
JURISDICTION, DISCIPLINARY:	
Of the Grand Lodge:	
concurrent, over Officers for Un-Masonic conduct	503
exclusive, over Grand Lodge Officers and Masters, when	503
over members committing offenses in Grand Lodge	641
may try Masons charged with certain offenses	641
Of the Subordinate Lodge:	
To charge, try and punish for offenses	494-495
any Mason in its jurisdiction	494
whether member of the Lodge or not	495
attaches, when, where	494-496
over dimittied Masons of other Grand Jurisdictions	645
over officers of Grand Lodge and Masters for	
Un-Masonic conduct	503
none for official misconduct	503
over suspended Masons	505
LAWs:	
Of Grand Lodge and Lodge admissible in evidence	570
Penalty provided by must be inflicted	594
Violation of, Masonic Laws, penalty	507
charter may be arrested for	649
of Country, Masonic offense, when	507
LIMITATON:	
No rule of against preferring charges	504
LIQUORS, INTOXICATING:	
Unlawful sale, manufacture, etc., of, a Masonic disciplinary violation .	508 (3)
LODGE – LODGES:	
Arrest of Charter:	
for failure to make annual returns	Const., Art. IX, 57, 59, 492
failure to exercise Masonic discipline	500
failure to obey edicts and laws of Grand Lodge	649
un-Masonic conduct of Lodge, in general	649
willful invasion of territorial jurisdiction	649
Business of:	
Cypher work prohibited	508
Circularizing Lodges, an offense	508
Committees In:	
on reconciliation, when appointed, duties	518
Demised:	
fees and dues of, how collected	261, 655
members of, who has jurisdiction of	263, 451
dues of, how collected	261, 655
property of, taken by District Deputy Grand Master ..	254, 655, 656, 657
suspended or expelled members of, how reinstated	329, 633
Fees and Dues:	
Suspended or demised Lodges, how dues collected	655
Installation of Officers:	
Cannot be if charges pending against	297512
Jurisdiction, Disciplinary:	
to charge, try and punish for offenses	494-495
any Mason in its Jurisdiction	494
whether member of Lodge or not	495
Grand Lodge, jurisdiction	641
over officers of Grand Lodge and Masters for	
un-Masonic conduct	503
none for official misconduct	503
over suspended Masons	505
Lodgerooms:	
Anterooms, subject to same rules governing halls	224
Masonic Trials to be conducted in	530
Masonic Disciplinary Violations:	
accepting fee for appearing as counsel in Lodge trial	508
attempting to influence members of Trial Commission	508
electioneering for Mason or Masonic offices	508
failure of member of Trial Commission to appear	564
failure of witness to answer questions at trial	508
failure of witness to appear, after summons	508
for Lodge to raise money by lotteries	648
for suspended Masons to wear or display Masonic emblems	508
fraud practiced in receiving degree	508
giving false testimony after being sworn	508
to inform candidate by whom blackballed	508
to inquire into or investigate secret ballots	508
unlawful manufacture, sale, etc. of intoxicating liquors	508
use of cypher work relating to esoteric work	508
use of faith and credit of Masonry for business purposes	508
use of Masonry for secular purposes	508
use of word "Masonic" for business purposes	508
violation of a Masonic obligation	507
violation of laws of country involving moral turpitude	507
violation of Usages and Customs of Masonry	507
what are general	507
LODGE – LODGES (continued):	
Members – Membership:	
cannot remark upon guilt or innocence of accused, when	582
may vote on reinstatement	630
of demised Lodges:	
dues of, how collected	655
status of members when charges pending	512
cannot dimit	512
not entitled to masonic burial	512
suspended or expelled in Grand Lodge, deprived of	531, 660, 676
Minutes of:	
of Lodge trial:	
to be kept by Secretary appointed for trial	546
transcript on appeal to contain full and complete minutes	607
Secretary of the Commission to keep	607
Presiding Officer:	
absence of Master, who	285, 651
Property of:	
demised or suspended, disposition of	29, 254, 655, 657
when charter arrested, disposition of	649
Real Estate of:	
demised or suspended	29, 254, 655, 657
Secretary of Lodge:	
may be deposed from office, how	660
notice of appeal filed with	606
Suspended Lodges:	
may be suspended for:	
failure to exercise Masonic discipline	500
failure to obey edicts and laws of this Grand Lodge	649
un-Masonic conduct of Lodge, in general	649
willful invasion of jurisdiction	649
property of, disposition of	657
Trials:	
see "Trials in the Subordinate Lodge."	
Visitors in:	
not permitted at trials, except	585
qualifications of, who may visit	380
Texas Masons expelled outside, when	646
LODGEROOMS:	
Masonic Trials to be conducted in	530
LOTTERIES, RAFFLES, ETC:	
Masonic offense for Lodge to raise money by	648
MASON – MASONS:	
Amenable to nearest Lodge	495
Expelled in another Grand Jurisdiction, not final, until	645
MASONIC:	
Abuse of name by mercenary use, a Masonic offense	508
MASONIC DISCIPLINARY VIOLATIONS:	
What are: general	507
accepting fee for appearing as counsel in Lodge Trial	508
attempting to influence members of Trial Commission	508
circularizing Lodges	508
electioneering for Masons for Masonic Disciplinary Violation	508
failure of member of Trial Commission to appear	564
failure of witness to appear, after being summoned	564
failure of witness to answer questions, at trial	508
failure of witness to appear, after summons	508
felony, expulsion upon final conviction of a	509
for suspended Masons to wear or display Masonic emblems	508
fraud practiced in obtaining of degrees	508
Grand Lodge jurisdiction of certain offenses	641, 642
giving false testimony, after being sworn	508
slander, libel or false accusation	508 (1)
to inform candidate by whom he was blackballed	508
to inquire into or investigate secret ballots	508
use of cypher work relating to esoteric work	508
use of faith and credit or Masonry for business purposes	508
use of Masonry for secular purposes	508
use of word "Masonic" for business purposes	508
use of unauthorized "Masonic" Publication	508
violation of Constitution, Laws and Edits of Grand Lodge	508
violation of laws or the Country, when involving moral turpitude ..	507
violation of Masonic obligation	507
violation of Usages and Customs of Masonry	507
MASONIC RITUAL:	
Cypher work prohibited	508
MASONRY:	
Evils affecting to be corrected by District Deputy Grand Masters	654
MASTER OF LODGE:	
Charges against, how preferred, for what	660
trial of for official misconduct, by Grand Lodge only, how	503
trial of for un-Masonic conduct, none till term expires	503

TITLE V INDEX

	Article
MASTER OF LODGE: (continued)	
In Lodge trials:	
appoints Committee on Reconciliation, when.....	518
May be suspended, how, for what.....	660
membership not hereby forfeited	651
MEMBERS – MEMBERSHIPS:	
Of the Subordinate Lodge:	
cannot remark upon guilt or innocence of accused, when	528
may appeal from decision of Trial Commission.....	606
may appeal from reinstatement	631
may attend Lodge trial, if in good standing.....	585
of demised Lodges:	
dues of, how collected	655
status of member when charges pending:	
cannot dimit	512
not entitled to Masonic burial.....	512
suspended or expelled in Grand Lodge trial, deprived of	676
MINUTES OF THE LODGE:	
Of Lodge trial:	
transcript on appeal to contain full and complete minutes	607
MISREPRESENTATION:	
Obtaining degrees by fraudulent, a Masonic offense.....	508
MORAL TURPITUDE:	
Violation of law of country involving, a Masonic offense	507
Worshipful Master, charged with offense involving, may be deposed.....	660
MOTION:	
For new trial, when and how made.....	601
filed with Trial Master.....	601
not a prerequisite to an appeal	602
NEGLECT:	
Of Lodge to enforce discipline, penalty	500
NEUTRAL LODGE:	
Venue of Lodge trial may be changed to, when.....	518, 542
NEW TESTIMONY:	
Will not be considered on appeal	619
NEW TRIAL:	
Authority to grant vests in Trial Commission only	600, 602
Grand Lodge may grant an appeal, when	606
How re-hearing conducted, if granted	604
Motion for, when to be made	601
answer may be filed to	602
cannot be granted after appeal is filed	603
filed with Trial Master	601
may be argued	602
not prerequisite to appeal.....	603
submitted to Trial Commission, when	602
NONAFFILIATED MASONS:	
Are amenable to discipline	494, 495
Can be required to appeal as witnesses	563
From another State, status of	646
how tried for offense before removal.....	646
NON-MASON:	
To retire after giving testimony	568
NOTICE:	
Charges, if accused member of another Lodge, how given	499, 613
Grand Lodge action on appeal, given to Lodge	623
Judgment in Grand Lodge trial, given to all parties	674
Of appeal, may be given by accused.....	606
given to Secretary promptly	606
if transcription does not contain, appeal dismissed	620
to be filed within thirty days after	606
Taking of testimony before trial, how given	534, 535
To accused of date of trial	522
of charges.....	522
of result of trial	597
OATH:	
Form of to be administered to witness in Lodge trials	566
OBJECTION:	
Can be against reinstatements and restorations	421, 632
Has effect of blackball, when	421, 425, 632
on petitions for reinstatement.....	632
OBLIGATION:	
Violation of Masonic, a Masonic offense.....	508
OFFENSE – OFFENSES:	
See "Masonic Disciplinary Violation"	
OFFICE:	
Electioneering for Mason, a Masonic offense.....	508
OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE:	
May be suspended from office, when	660
when under charges involving moral turpitude.....	660
when under charges of official misconduct.....	660
Offenses against, where tried	641, 659
Trial of for official misconduct during term of office	503
for Masonic offenses, when	503, 651
not subject to trial by Lodge during term of office.....	503
OFFICERS OF THE SUBORDINATE LODGE:	
Installation of:	
cannot be if charges are pending against	297, 512
May be suspended, if charged with offense involving moral turpitude	660
OFFICIAL MISCONDUCT:	
Grand Lodge has exclusive jurisdiction to try officers for.....	503
Officers may be suspended for	641
OPINION:	
Formed, no bar to serving on Trial Commission, unless	528
PARTICULAR DAY:	
Alleged in charges need not be proven	575
PENALTY:	
For failure of Lodge to:	
enforce and maintain Masonic discipline	500
None to be inflicted without trial	508
What inflicted in subordinate Lodge trials	591, 593
PETITONS FOR:	
Dimit: how granted	369
who entitled to petition for	368
members under charges are not	370, 508
Reinstatement: when no appeal is taken	630
in Grand Lodge, how made	678, 679
where Lodge demise after suspension or expulsion	633
to be made to the Grand Lodge	633
PLEA:	
If accused refuses to make, "not guilty" entered for	558
Of accused, to be entered in the record	559
Of guilty, not necessary to vote on guilt	560
POSTPHONEMENT:	
Of Lodge trial, procedure, effect of	551, 552, 553
PRESIDE – PRESIDING OFFICER:	
Absence of Master, who	285, 660
PROCEDURE AT TRIALS:	
General outline of	518
Grand Lodge trials	635-636
PROOF:	
Burden of on prosecution in Lodge trial	557
Particular day alleged in charges need not be	575
PROPERTY:	
Of Lodge, acquisition, sale or mortgage of to have	
Grand Master's consent	2, 340
demised or suspended, disposition of	656, 657
when charter arrested, disposition of	657
PROTESTS:	
Expelled Mason, restoration, may be	630
Has effect of blackball, when	425
on petitions for reinstatements	630
PUNISHMENT:	
Grand Lodge may set aside, impose new, or	636
Infliction of in Lodge, Trial Commission votes upon	587
degree of	593
how voted upon by Trial Commission	591
if specified by law, to be inflicted	594
refusal to inflict cannot be reconsidered	592
QUESTIONS:	
The Trial Master may propound to witnesses	578
QUORUM:	
What constitutes of Trial Commission	527, 528

TITLE V INDEX

Article	Article
RAFFLES: See "Lotteries."	
REAL ESTATE: Of Lodge, acquisition, sale or mortgage of to have Grand Master's consent 28, 340 demised.....657	
RECONCILIATION: Committee on, appointment and duties 518 to make effort to compose private wrongs.....518	
RECONSIDERATION: Of refusal to inflict punishment forbidden 592	
RECORDS: Of Courts of the country competent testimony when.....571 of Examining Court not admissible, except.....571	
REFUND: Of costs paid for transcript, when made 624, 625, 626, 627	
REFUSAL: To inflict punishment, cannot be reconsidered 592	
REINSTATE - REINSTATEMENT: Action of Grand Lodge does not, unless specifically ordered 622 Application for, in Lodge 630 vote necessary 630 must lie over regular meeting 630 Application for in the Grand Lodge 678, 679 Definitions.....628 Jurisdiction 629 Mason suspended or expelled by another Grand Lodge cannot be here 640 No appeal from refusal to 639 Protest, right to make, effect of.....632 Suspended Mason not reinstated when charges preferred 505 When case affirmed by Grand Lodge, not final until affirmed 631 When no appeal is taken, how 630 Where Lodge demises after suspension or expulsion 633 application made to the Grand Lodge 633 Where suspended for nonpayment of dues: for Masonic discipline violation 633, 638	
REMOVAL FROM OFFICE: Officers of the Grand Lodge, how 660 Officers of the Subordinate Lodge, how, when 277, 660	
REPRIMANDED: A Masonic penalty, how inflicted in Grand Lodge 673 how inflicted in the Lodge 494, 591	
RESIDENCE: Of accused unknown, procedure 524	
RETURNS TO THE GRAND LODGE: District Deputy Grand Masters to see are made 656	
REVERSAL: Of case by Grand Lodge, effect a status of accused 622	
SECRETARY: For Trial Proceedings: how appointed, duties 546 keep correct record of proceedings and testimony 546 record result of each ballot of Trial Commission 596 to enter notice of appeal in records of trial 606 to file report of trial with Secretary of Lodge, when.....599 to make transcript of trial proceedings, when.....607	
SECRETARY OF LODGE: Duties, Powers and Authority: general.....288 make transcript and send to Grand Secretary, when 288, 608 report all suspensions and expulsions to Grand Secretary, when. . 597 Notice of appeal to be filed with 606	
SOJOURNER: Amenable to laws of this Grand Jurisdiction, if a Mason.....495	
STANDING - STATUS OF: Accused, when Grand Lodge acts on case on appeal.....622 Mason, member in this Grand Jurisdiction, expelled in another.....646 Mason, suspended for definite period and Grand Lodge reverses.....636 Mason, suspended or expelled in Grand Lodge trial 677, 678 Mason, under charges.....512 cannot be installed in office 297, 512 dimit cannot be issued to 512 not entitled to Masonic burial.....512	
SUMMONS: To accused: prerequisite to trial, except.....526 how served when beyond jurisdiction of the Lodge 525 when cannot be served with, trial to proceed 526 To Trial Commission: served how 527, 564 penalty for failure to obey 527, 564 To Witnesses: how served 563, 564 failure of to appear after being served, Masonic offense.....508	
SUSPENDED LODGES: May be suspended for: failure to exercise Masonic discipline 500 failure to obey edicts and laws of this Grand Lodge 649 un-Masonic conduct of Lodge, in general 649 wilful invasion of territorial jurisdiction 649 Property of, disposition of 657	
SUSPENDED MASON: Grand Secretary to be notified of after trial 597 If member of another Lodge, such Lodge notified of 597 Masonic offense for to wear Masonic emblems 508 Of Lodge of another Grand Jurisdiction, cannot be reinstated in this Grand Jurisdiction 640 Status of: charges maybe preferred against 505 how tried 505 Testimony of, how taken 559 to retire after giving 568	
SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE: Officers of Grand Lodge, and of Lodge, how 277, 651 of Grand Master 36, 641	
SUSPENSIONS OR EXPULSIONS: Grand Lodge may set aside any voted by Trial Commission 631 How, in the Lodge, by Trial Commission 591, 593, 591	
SWORN: Witnesses giving depositions shall be, how 534, 535 Witnesses testifying before Trial Commission, how 565 form of oath administered 566	
TIE VOTE: In trials, defeats proposition 609, 595	
TIME OF TRIAL: Set by Worshipful Master 522	
TOMBSTONE: Inscription allowed on, what 508	
TRANSCRIPT: Commission Secretary to make up and certify to 607 to send to Grand Secretary, when 608 Cost of, how paid, when accused appeals 624 when Grand Lodge directs Lodge to send up 627 when Lodge appeals 627 when member appeals 624, 625 where appellant unable to pay, what 626 Form of, to follow forms set out in these laws 610 Of Trial Proceedings, made by Secretary of Trial Proceedings 607 requisites of 610 Procedure on in the Grand Lodge, docketed by Grand Secretary 616, 617 Committee on Grievances and Appeals to examine and report on. . 621 nothing considered not embraced in transcript 619 when Committee to report 621, 670 Requisites of, general 607, 610	
TRIAL COMMISSION: Appeal does not suspend findings and judgment of.....613 Attendance of, how enforced, penalty for failure 527, 564 Ballot, on guilt, innocence, and infliction of punishment 587, 587, 590 cannot reconsider refusal to inflict 592 degree of punishment 591 majority vote necessary to decide 587, 587 may suspend for definite or indefinite period 593 must specify duration of suspension, when 593 the vote defeats proposition 595 Conduct trial in Lodgeroom, etc 530 Empaneled and pledge, how 527 Expression of opinion does not disqualify, unless 528 How selected, procedure 527 Masonic offense to attempt to influence members of.....508 New, to be selected when new trial is granted 604 Powers, Duties, and Authority of, general 527 continuance of case, may grant, when 551 must be for definite time 552 discuss merits of case, when 586 grant new trials 600 motion for, when and how filed 601	

TITLE V INDEX

Article	Article
TRIAL COMMISSION: (continued)	
Powers, Duties, and Authority of, general (continued)	
propound questions to witness	578
take evidence when plea of guilty is made	560
take testimony and pass on guilt or innocence of accused.....	527
Qualifications of	527, 528
TRIAL MASTER:	
Appointment of, made after charges filed	531, 532
Expenses of, when nonresident, how paid.....	531
Motion for new trial filed with, when	600, 601
No appeal from, except to Grand Lodge	606
Powers, Duties, and Authority: in general	533
appoints proxy when accused fails to appear	541
Trial Master appoints Secretary for Trial Proceedings.....	546
issues summons to Trial Commission	564
to witnesses, when	563
may administer oath to witnesses, when	565, 566
may dismiss charges, when.....	533
may grant continuance of trial, when	552
passes on admissibility of testimony.....	546, 533
passes on regularity of pleadings	546, 533
regulates and controls argument of counsel.....	546, 533
to examine ballot box before balloting	588
Who may be (Grand Master appoints).....	531
TRIALS IN THE GRAND LODGE:	
Charges, how filed.....	661
Grand Master determines sufficiency	661
Grand Secretary to supervise service of	661, 662
none required when offense committed in Grand Lodge.....	675
service of an accused, how	668
Evidence: before whom taken	580, 668
appointment of Commission to take depositions.....	534
to certify and file with Grand Secretary	546
How held:	
Before Committee on Grievances and Appeals, when	621
hears evidence and makes recommendations	621
procedure	668, 669
to assemble at place of trial	667
When held in Grand Lodge.....	669
procedure	668
Jurisdiction of Grand Lodge to try:	
exclusive over officers for official misconduct	641
over Mason committing offense in Grand Lodge	641
offenses against Grand Officers	661
Reinstatement in the Grand Lodge:	
where suspended for definite period, is automatic	677
where suspended for indefinite period, or expelled, how	678
petition to be filed	678
Grand Lodge may grant	679
procedure on.....	678
status of Mason, if granted	679
TRIALS IN THE SUBORDINATE LODGE:	
Accused:	
cannot be compelled to testify	569
entitled to counsel	548
appoint for, when	548
may choose	548
guilt or innocence of passed on by Trial Commission 533, 598, 599, 603	
if member another Lodge, such Lodge notified of charges	499
of result of trial.....	597
innocent, supposed to be, until convicted	557
may testify in own behalf.....	577
service of notice and charges on	526
by whom, and when.....	522
cannot be tried until served, except.....	526
how served, when cannot be found	524, 526
when evades process	524, 541
when is fugitive from justice.....	524
status of, when Grand Lodge acts on appeal	622
to retire during balloting	584
voluntary statement of inadmissible, when	572
Acquittal:	
of accused in Courts, no criterion for Lodge trial	554
Answer:	
if oral, must be recorded	559
refusal to, how treated	563
to charges, shall be in writing, when	559
to motion for new trial, may be filed	602
Appeals:	
accused has right to	606
does not suspend judgment of trial	613
member may appeal from decision of Trial Commission	606
members may, from reinstatement.....	631
motion for new trial not prerequisite to.....	603
none from Master, except to Grand Lodge	283
Trials in the Subordinate Lodge (continued):	
Appeals: (continued)	
notice of, when and how given	606
after given, new trial cannot be granted by Lodge	603
entered in records of trial.....	606
may be oral or written	606
transcript must contain, or appeal dismissed	620
status of accused not altered by Grand Lodge action, unless	622
transcript: to be made by Secretary of Lodge	288, 610
cost of, when accused appeals.....	624
when appellant unable to pay, procedure	626
when Grand Lodge directs sent up	627
when Lodge appeals	624
when member appeals	607
form of, general.....	607
made by Secretary of Trial Commission, what, when	607
requisites	607
member may make, when	606
requisites of, general	606
must contain notice of appeal	620
must contain notice to accused	620
when sent to Grand Secretary	609
withdrawal of appeal, how	615
Change of Venue:	
procedure, when granted	542
Trial Master may apply for, when	542
Charges and Specifications:	
against Master, how made	660
balloted upon separately	590
result of each ballot recorded	596
dismissal of, Trial Master may, when	533
how made, when offense committed in another jurisdiction	645
no formal required to suspend for nonpayment of dues	319
no positive rule of limitation against preferring	504
officers may be suspended pending	660
prerequisite to trial and punishment	511
read at the trial	546
requisites of, how made	511
must be specific	511
signed by the accuser	511
status of member laboring under	297, 370, 512
cannot be installed in office	297
cannot demit	370
not entitled to Masonic burial, except	60
suspended Mason subject to	505
two Sets may be tried at same time	556
Continuance of Trial:	
by Trial Commission, when	551
by Trial Master, when	551
not longer than one month	551
grounds for	551, 553
must be for definite time	552
(indefinite continuance tantamount to dismissal)	552
to await action of Courts, procedure	553
testimony of prosecution witnesses taken, when	553
Conviction:	
in another jurisdiction, effect of	640
when dimitted and removed to this State	9
majority vote of Trial Commission	587
Counsel:	
accused and accuser entitled to	548
may choose	548
argument of, how controlled and regulated	533
for and against motion for new trial, permitted	602
cannot accept fee, a Masonic offense	508
District Deputy Grand Masters cannot act as	658
for accused, duties of	548, 549
failure of accused to appear, proxy appointed	541
only Master Mason in good standing may be	548
Evidence:	
accused cannot be compelled to testify	569
admissibility, in general:	
technical rules do not apply	546
Trial Master passes on	546, 533
admissible testimony:	
laws of Lodge and Grand Lodge	570
official books, records and Charter of Lodge	570
records of Courts of the Country	571
testimony, in second trial of same case	580
truth of words spoken in defamation trial	576
depositions taken before trial:	
oral: how taken	535
witnesses to be sworn, how	565
written: how taken	536
excluded evidence to be transcribed and marked	607, 610
if guilty plea is made, Trial Commission may take	560

TITLE V INDEX

Article	Article
TRIALS IN THE SUBORDINATE LODGE (continued):	TRIALS IN THE SUBORDINATE LODGE (continued):
Evidence (continued):	Reinstatement:
inadmissible testimony:	application for, how made 630 must lie over 630 vote necessary 630 when granted new trial by Lodge, and acquitted 604
ex parte affidavits 574 hearsay testimony 573 records of examining Court, unless 571 voluntary statement of accused, unless 572	cannot, by paying dues after death 360 Mason suspended by other Grand Lodge cannot be here 640 no appeal from refusal to 639 protest, right to make, effect of 632 suspended Mason not, when charges preferred 505 when no appeal is taken, how 630 where Lodge demises after suspension or expulsion 633 application to be made to the Grand Lodge 633
included in Secretary's report of trial, when 607, 608 new, not considered on appeal to Grand Lodge 619 particular day alleged need not be proven 575 transcribed, when 607 transcript on appeal to contain all 607 to contain all excluded evidence, properly marked 607	Transcripts:
Trial Commission to take, hear and consider 527 witnesses, who qualified to be 567 accused may be, how testimony taken 577 when an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft 577 when suspended Mason 577	costs of, how paid 624, 625, 626, 627 where appellant unable to pay, procedure 626
any person of normal intelligence and understanding 567 resident Masons, how testimony of taken 534 to be sworn, form of oath 565, 566 refusal to be sworn, effect of 570	form of to follow forms set out in these laws 607 of trial proceedings, made by Secretary of Trial Commission 607 procedure in the Grand Lodge, docketed by Grand Secretary 616, 617 Committee on Grievances and Appeals to examine, when 621 nothing considered not contained in transcript 619
Interrogatories:	Secretary of Commission to make up and certify to 607 to send to Grand Secretary, when 608 sent to the Grand Secretary when Brother is reinstated 631
how filed, procedure on 536, 535, 548	Trial Commission:
Manner of Conducting:	appeal does not suspend findings and judgment of 613 attendance of, how enforced, penalty for failure 527, 564 ballot of, on guilt, innocence, and infliction of punishment 587, 590 cannot be reconsidered after refusal to inflict 592 degree of punishment 591 majority vote necessary to decide 560, 587 may suspend for definite or indefinite period 593 tie vote defeats proposition 595 upon each charge separately 590
general procedure 527 adjournment of meetings, how 530 argument of counsel, how regulated and controlled 546, 533 date of trial, how set, by Worshipful Master 522 place of Trial 530	empaneled and pledged, how 527 expression of opinion does not disqualify, unless 528 how selected, procedure 527
Trial Commission, how selected 527 Trial Master, who acts as 531 who may be present 585	Masonic offense to attempt to influence members of 508 new, to be selected when new trial is granted 619 place of Trial 530 powers, duties, and authority, in general 527 adjourn meetings during trial 527 continue case, may, when 551 must be for definite time 552
Masonic Offenses:	discuss merits of case, when 537 grant new trials 600, 602 take evidence when guilty plea is made, when 560 take testimony and pass on guilt or innocence of accused 527, 546
what are general 507 accepting fee for appearing as counsel in Lodge trial 508 attempting to influence members of Trial Commission 508 electioengineering for Masons for Masonic offices 508 failure of member of Trial Commission to appear 508 failure of witness to answer questions, at trial 508 failure of witness to appear, after summons 508, 564 failure of witness to appear, after summons 508, 564 for Lodges to raise money by lotteries 648 for suspended Masons wearing or displaying emblems 508 fraud practiced in obtaining degrees 508 giving false testimony, after being sworn 505 slander, libel and false accusations 508 to inform candidate by whom blackballed 508 to inquire into or investigate secret ballot 508 unlawful sale, manufacture, etc. of intoxicating liquors 508 use of cypher work relating to esoteric work 508 use of faith and credit of Masonry for business purposes 508 use of Masonry for business purposes 508 use of word "Masonic" for business purposes 508 violation of Constitution, Laws and Edicts of Grand Lodge 508 violation of laws of Country involving moral turpitude 507 violation of Masonic obligation 508 violation of Usages and Customs of Masonry 508	Trial Master:
Minutes of Trial:	appointment of, made after charges filed 532 expenses of, when nonresident, how paid 531 motion for new trial filed with, when 601, 602 Powers, Duties, and Authority: general 533 appoints proxy when accused fails to appear 541 issues summons to Trial Commission 564 to witnesses, when 564
to be kept by Secretary appointed for the trial 546 transcript on appeal to contain full and complete minutes 610	may administer oath to witnesses, when 566 may dismiss charges, when 533, 546 may grant continuance of trial, when 551 passes on admissibility of testimony 546, 533 passes on regularity of pleadings 546, 533 to examine ballot box before balloting 588 who may be, duty of Trial Master to act as, when 531 Grand Master may appoint, who when 531
New Trials:	Trials of Officers:
authority to grant vests in Trial Commission only 600 Grand Lodge may grant an appeal, when 606, 619 grounds for granting 602 how conducted if granted 604 if acquitted, restores to membership 604 motion for: when to be made 601 answer may be filed to 602 cannot be granted after appeal is filed 603 filed with Trial Master 600 submitted to Trial Commission, when 601, 602	cannot try Grand Lodge Officers and Masters for official misconduct 503 cannot try Officers during term of office 503 may try Officers for Masonic Offenses, when 641
Plea:	Witnesses:
if accused refuses to make, "not guilty" entered for 558 of guilty, cannot be entered by proxy, unless 565 of guilty, not necessary to vote on guilt when made 560	accused cannot be compelled to testify 569 attendance of, enforced by summons 563 may be put under the rule 565 depositions of: oral: may be taken before trial, how 535 where witness is in jurisdiction of Lodge 535 where witness without jurisdiction of Lodge 535 written: may be taken before trial, how 536 procedure in taking 536, 537 witness to be sworn 565
Present:	failure of to appear after summons, a Masonic offense 508 failure of to testify, after appearance, a Masonic offense 505 false testimony given, after sworn, a Masonic offense 508 if suspended, expelled, or a profane, to retire after giving 572 not compelled to criminate themselves 567 oath administered to, form of 566 resident Masons, testimony taken orally 535
who may be 585	
Punishment:	
if specified by law to be inflicted 594 refusal to inflict, cannot be reconsidered 592	
infliction of Trial Commission votes upon 587 degree of 591 how voted upon by Trial Commission 590	
Reconciliation Committee:	
how appointed, when 518 to make effort to compose private wrongs 518	

TITLE V INDEX

	Article
TRIALS IN THE SUBORDINATE LODGE (continued):	
Witnesses: (continued):	
sworn, all should be.....	565
effect of refusal to be sworn	565, 566
testimony of may be taken before trial, when	534
who may be: any person of normal intelligence or understanding ..	567
accused may be in own behalf.....	577
when a suspended Mason	577
when an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft	577
TRIALS OF OFFICERS:	
Of the Grand Lodge:	
for Masonic disciplinary violations:	
cannot be tried by Lodge during term of office	503
Grand Lodge and Lodge have concurrent jurisdiction of, when.....	642
Grand Lodge trial if involving moral turpitude.....	659
for official misconduct:	
Grand Lodge has exclusive jurisdiction to try	503, 641
Of Worshipful Masters:	
for Masonic disciplinary violations:	
cannot be tried by Lodge during term of office	503, 642
charge, how made when involving moral turpitude	660
Grand Lodge and Lodge have concurrent jurisdiction of	641
for official misconduct:	
charges, how made.....	660
Grand Lodge has exclusive jurisdiction of	503, 641
TRUTH:	
Of words spoken in defamation trial, admissible.....	576
UN-MASONIC CONDUCT:	
See "Masonic Disciplinary Violations."	
USE OF MASONRY:	
For business purposes and personal gain, a Masonic disciplinary violation.....	508
VENUE:	
Procedure, when granted.....	542
VERDICT:	
Of Courts of Country, no criterion for Lodge Trials	554
Of Trial Commission, notice of given to all concerned.....	597
not suspended by appeal.....	613
VIOLATION:	
Of Constitution, Laws and Edicts of Grand Lodge,	
a Masonic disciplinary violation.....	507
laws of country, involving moral turpitude, a Masonic disciplinary violation	507
Masonic obligation, a Masonic disciplinary violation.....	507
usages and customs of Masonry, a Masonic disciplinary violation ..	507
VISIT – VISITORS:	
In the Subordinate Lodge:	
qualifications of, who may visit:	
Masons residing in Texas, expelled outside, may, when	646
VOLUNTARY STATEMENT:	
Of accused, inadmissible on his behalf.....	572
may be used against accused, when.....	572
VOTE – VOTING:	
In the Grand Lodge:	
Trials in Grand Lodge, manner of voting.....	672
By Trial Commission:	
On guilt, innocence, or penalty, how	587, 590
tie vote defeats proposition	595
upon each charge separately.....	590
WITNESSES:	
Accused cannot be compelled to testify.....	569
Attendance of, enforced by summons.....	563, 564
may be put under the rule.....	565
Depositions of:	
oral: may be taken before trial, how.....	534
where witness is in jurisdiction of Lodge	535
where witness without jurisdiction of Lodge	535
written: may be taken before trial, how.....	536
procedure in taking	536
witnesses to be sworn.....	565
Failure of to appear after summons, a Masonic offense.....	508
Failure to testify after appearance, a Masonic offense.....	508
How produced at trial.....	563
If suspended, expelled, or a profane, to retire after giving	568
Not compelled to criminate themselves.....	567
Oath administered to, form of	566
Resident Masons, testimony taken orally.....	535
WITNESSES: (continued)	
Sworn, all should be	565
effect of refusal to be sworn	566
Who may be: any person of normal intelligence and understanding	567
accused, may be in own behalf.....	577
when a suspended Mason	577
when an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft.....	577
WORD:	
"‘Masonic’ not to be used for business purposes, penalty for.....	508
WORK:	
“Cypher,” District Deputy Grand Masters to inquire into use of	653
use of, a Masonic offense, when.....	508

This page intentionally left blank.