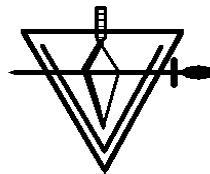


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**PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS**  
**AND**  
**RECOMMENDATIONS**  
**TO BE CONSIDERED**  
**AT OUR**  
**ANNUAL GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION**  
**AND**  
**ANNUAL GRAND COUNCIL ASSEMBLY**  
**TO BE HELD**  
**OCTOBER 19-20, 2009**

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PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED AT
OUR
ANNUAL GRAND CHAPTER CONVOCATION -- OCTOBER 19- 20, 2009

RESOLUTION NO. 1

Referred to Committees on Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence*

To: The Most Excellent Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas.

WHEREAS, the Royal Arch Chapters of Texas are entirely dependent upon the Lodges for qualified candidates for the Capitular Degrees, and

WHEREAS, except on rare occasions; and then only upon dispensation granted by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Texas, applicants for the Degrees of Masonry are required to await the time with patience for no less than one lunar month between receipt of their petition and vote of the Lodge being taken on same, and

WHEREAS, some Companions of Royal Arch Chapters seem to have the mindset that a Special Convocation of the Chapter should be opened at any convenient time to receive and vote on petitions for the Capitular Degrees as late as the eve or perhaps on the day of a scheduled festival to receive and vote on petitions for the Capitular Degrees. In many instances, with proper planning the petition could be received and vote taken at a previous or ensuing regular Stated Convocation of the Chapter.

Which begs the question: Is such procedure meant to accommodate the petitioner, or does it indicate a lack of orderly planning on the part of leadership and membership of the Chapter? Do we really believe that the petitioner will not display the same patience to receive the Capitular Degrees as was the case when he petitioned the Lodge for the Degrees of Masonry? It would seem that a more orderly and less hurried procedure for receiving and voting on petitions for the Capitular Degrees at regular Stated Convocations would be much more impressive to all petitioners. Some are either sent or brought to a festival bewildered at the urgency displayed by the present procedure. Could the urgency displayed by some overzealous Companions lead a petitioner to believe that he is being offered a one time opportunity to participate in a fire sale for the Capitular Degrees? The way we currently handle petitioners can certainly convey such thought; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Article C-141 (290) of the laws of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas be amended as follows:

Art. C-141 (290) **Petitions for Degrees.** *Except as herein provided, A every* petition for the degrees ~~must~~ *shall* be in writing, signed by the applicant, and recommended by at least two members of the Chapter. Such petition ~~should~~ *shall* be presented *only* at a Stated Convocation, however, *upon receipt of satisfactory information from a Chapter pertaining to a circumstance which merits his consideration, the Grand High Priest may grant a dispensation whereby* such petition may be received and balloted on at a Special Convocation, ~~by unanimous consent of all members present,~~ and such petition shall contain all of the provisions set forth in the form prescribed by this Grand Chapter, and shall be accompanied by the fee fixed by the By-Laws for the Chapter degrees, and shall be accompanied by a proper petition for the degrees of Royal and Select Master, addressed to the nearest Council, together with the fee for such degree prescribed by said Council, which petition and fee shall immediately be forwarded by the Secretary to the Recorder of such Council. *(See Article C-064 (205))*

Be it further

RESOLVED that Article C-147 (298) of the laws of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas be amended as follows:

Art. C-147 (298) **Balloting.** *Except as herein provided, B-balloting* on petitions for the degrees or for affiliation ~~(should)~~ *shall* be held *only* at Stated Convocations,

however, upon receipt of satisfactory information from a Chapter pertaining to a circumstance which merits his consideration the Grand High Priest may grant a dispensation whereby ~~unanimous consent of the members present~~, such petitions may be received and balloted on at a Special Convocation called for the purpose, but no other business required to be acted upon at a Stated Convocation shall be considered or acted upon at a Special Convocation. Any such dispensation granted by the Grand High Priest shall expire upon closing such Special Convocation. ~~(See Article C-064 (205)).~~

Be it further

RESOLVED that Paragraph 1 of Article C-064 (205) of the laws of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas be amended as follows:

Art. C-064 (205) **Special Convocations.** Special Convocations may be called at any time upon the call of the High Priest, or in his absence by the King, or in the absence of both, the Scribe. Petitions for the degrees or for affiliation may be received and ballot taken thereon at such Convocations but only by dispensation granted by the Grand High Priest, ~~consent of all members present~~, but and no other business transacted than that for which the Convocation was called. Except as provided in paragraph 4 of this Article, any Special Convocation called under this Article shall be opened and closed in accordance with the ritual taught by the Committee on Work and adopted by this Grand Chapter.

Be it further

RESOLVED that Paragraph one of Article C-178 (328a) of the laws of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas be amended to read as follows:

Art. C-178 (328a) **York Rite Festival.** One or more Subordinate Chapters in any Capitular District may confer the Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and a representative trio in the Royal Arch Degree. The Sponsoring Chapter ~~(must)~~ shall vote to conduct a York Rite Festival at a Stated ~~(or Called)~~ Convocation. No degree or degrees shall be conferred upon a Candidate at a York Rite Festival unless he shall first present his Notice of Election (Form No. 8-B) attesting to his election to receive the degree or degrees and his payment of the fees for the degree or degrees to the Secretary of the Chapter which elected him.

Paragraph 2 – no change.

Fraternally submitted,
Leonard P. Harvey, Past High Priest
Love Field Chapter No. 478, RAM

RESOLUTION NO. 2

Referred to Committees on Finance, Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence*

WHEREAS, it is essential for a Chapter to be financially sound, which can be accomplished through the use of a sound budget and audit program.

WHEREAS, there have been Chapters which have not followed such sound business practices thereby finding themselves experiencing financial problems, whereby the income is not sufficient to support the Chapter's expenses.

WHEREAS, Article 196, Audit of Books, of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas provides that an audit of the Secretary's and Treasurer's books be conducted at the end of the Capitular Year, and that there is insufficient analysis of the audit report by some of the Chapters thereby not making appropriate changes in their budget process in regards to income vs. expenses thereby finding themselves in financial distress.

WHEREAS, in an effort to assist the Chapters with an analysis of their audit report to insure financial stability that the audit report be submitted to the Grand Secretary for review by the Grand Chapter Finance Committee, and upon review provide guidance to those Chapters experiencing financial issues in an effort to avert a financial crisis by the Chapter.

WHEREAS, the third paragraph of Article 196, Audit of Books, reads as follows: "Each audit after being read in the Chapter shall be recorded in the minutes in full. The District Deputy Grand High Priest shall inspect the audit of the Chapter books on his regular visitation."

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the third paragraph of Article 196, Audit of Books, be amended as follows: "Each audit after being read in the Chapter shall be recorded in the minutes in full. That a properly completed and signed copy of the Minimum Audit Form No. 24 shall be delivered to the Grand Secretary no later than September 1st of each year for review. The District Deputy Grand High Priest shall inspect the audit of the Chapter books on his regular visitation."

Respectfully submitted,
Timothy M. La Vergne Sr., PHP
Bonham Chapter No. 52, RAM

RESOLUTION NO. 3

Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

For the purposes of having Article 197 reflect the proper date for submission of by-laws changes to the Grand Secretary's office,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Article 197 reads:

ARTICLE 197. CHAPTERS MAY ADOPT. Chapters may adopt by-laws for their own government, not in conflict with the Constitution and Laws of this Grand Chapter, but such by-laws shall not become effective until they have been submitted and are approved by this Grand Chapter. The by-laws changes must be submitted to the Grand Secretary by ~~September 4th~~ *July 15th*, preceding the opening of the Convocation of the Grand Chapter and by him distributed to the Committee on By-Laws. Subsequent changes as provided by Article 200 do not require such approval.

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas Collins, PHP, George Washington Chapter No. 422, R.A.M.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST RECOMMENDATION NO. 1

*Referred to Committee on Finance, * Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence*

WHEREAS, the minimum fee for degrees in Article 261 is fifty dollars (\$50.00), and

WHEREAS, this amount was set either in 1925 or prior to 1925, according to the Proceedings of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas 1925 (Appendix, Article 166, p. 170) reflecting that this amount has been in effect for eighty-four (84) years or more, and

WHEREAS, according to Measuring Worth.com, which is an internet service for calculating relative worth over time, the comparative minimum degree fees in 2008 would be Nine Hundred Twenty Eight Dollars and fifteen cents(\$928.15), and

WHEREAS, the great majority of Royal Arch Chapters in Texas are suffering from insufficient funds to maintain and operate their Chapters, and

WHEREAS, the future financial health of the Grand Chapter of Texas and the constituent Chapters requires that we operate in terms of 2009 and not 1925 or prior, therefore,

Be it Resolved,

That Article 261, Fee for Degrees, be amended to read as follows:

Article 261. FEE FOR DEGREES. The minimum fee for the Chapter degrees shall be One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). ~~except for the periodic and special Festival occasions when the minimum fee may be reduced, but in no event to an amount lower than \$40.00 and any shall be preceded by a favorable vote for such reduction, stating the amount of the Degree fee agreed to by a majority of the members present and voting at a Stated Convocation of the Chapter desiring to have and participate in a Festival form of Degree conferral.~~ The entire fee charged by the Chapter shall be paid prior to the conferral of any degree.

2nd paragraph – no change

3rd paragraph – no change

4th paragraph – no change

5th paragraph – no change

6th paragraph – no change

7th paragraph – A minimum fee of Fifty (\$50.00), or the fees fixed by the by-laws of the Council for the Council Degrees shall accompany the petition for the Chapter Degrees, and shall immediately be paid over to the Council petitioned.

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas Collins, PHP, George Washington Chapter No. 422, R.A.M.
Most Excellent Grand High Priest

GRAND HIGH PRIEST RECOMMENDATION NO. 2

Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence*

WHEREAS, amendments to the by-laws of a Chapter have an effect on every member of the Chapter, and

WHEREAS, every Companion, no matter how active or inactive he may be, has a right to voice his opinion on Chapter matters, and

WHEREAS, when a proposal to amend the by-laws of a Chapter is presented and accepted in proper form, there is a requirement that it lay over until the next or subsequent Convocation for final action, and

WHEREAS, the intended purpose of the layover is to give the members an opportunity to consider the proposal and be present to vote on it, and

WHEREAS, there are many instances where Secretaries of Chapters either do not know that ALL members should be notified or claim that there is no responsibility on their part to notify the members thus denying every member the right to express his opinion on matters concerning the Chapter such as, but not limited to, Stated Convocation times and days, removal of Chapter from one location to another, dues, degree fees, etc., therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That Article 199 be amended to read:

ARTICLE 199. AMENDMENTS. Amendments to by-laws must be submitted in writing at a Stated Convocation and must lie over until the next or subsequent *Stated Convocation for final action and within seven (7) days the Secretary shall notify every member of the Chapter of the proposed amendment and the scheduled date for final action to be taken. Such notice shall be given either by U.S. Mail or in electronic form;* and an amendment not so proposed and acted upon is not legal. All of the provisions of the by-laws with reference to amendment must be complied with.

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas Collins, PHP, George Washington Chapter No. 422, R.A.M.
Most Excellent Grand High Priest

GRAND HIGH PRIEST RECOMMENDATION NO. 3

Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence*

While visiting Chapters all over Texas since January 2005, I have sat in some Chapters whose officers did not or would not wear the appropriate regalia for Chapter officers. In one case, they had not worn regalia in over forty (40) years

WHEREAS, Article 247 allows an "out" on wearing the proper regalia at Convocations and other Chapter functions, a substitute for the word "should" will leave no doubt as to the proper actions required of the officers.

Therefore, be it resolved that Article 247. OFFICERS MUST WEAR JEWELS, ETC. be amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE 247. OFFICERS MUST WEAR JEWELS, ETC. No officer ~~should~~ **shall** appear in a Chapter, while open, without the jewel and clothing appropriate for his station. In the event that the officers of a Chapter are found not to be properly clothed due to lack of the proper regalia, the District Deputy Grand High Priest shall immediately inquire into the circumstances surrounding this situation and notify the Grand Secretary for the purpose of determining if the Grand Secretary has the proper regalia for their use until such time as the Chapter may procure their own. The regalia shall be procured within six (6) months of the date in which the regalia was loaned from the Grand Chapter.

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas Collins, PHP, George Washington Chapter No. 422, R.A.M.
Most Excellent Grand High Priest

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED AT
OUR
ANNUAL GRAND COUNCIL ASSEMBLY -- OCTOBER 19-20, 2009

RESOLUTION NO. 1

Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

To: The Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas.

WHEREAS, the Councils of Royal and Select Masters of Texas are jointly dependent upon Lodges and Chapters of Royal Arch Masons for qualified candidates for the Cryptic Degrees, and

WHEREAS, except on rare occasions; and then only upon dispensation of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Texas, applicants for the Degrees of masonry are required to await the time with patience for no less than one lunar month between receipt of their petition and vote of the Lodge being taken on same, and

WHEREAS, some Companions of Councils of Royal and Select Masters seem to have the mindset that a Special Assembly of the Council should be opened to receive and vote on petitions for the Cryptic Degrees as late as the eve or even on the day of a scheduled festival to accommodate the receiving and voting on petitions for the Cryptic Degrees. In most cases, with proper planning the petitions could be received and vote easily taken at a previous or ensuing regular Stated Assembly.

Which begs the question: Is such procedure done to accommodate the petitioner, or is it due to lack of orderly planning on the part of leadership and membership of the Council? Do we really believe that the petitioner will not await the time with patience as was the case when he petitioned the Lodge for the Degrees of Masonry? It would seem that a more orderly and less hurried procedure for receiving and voting on petitions for the Cryptic Degrees at regular Stated assemblies would be much more impressive to all petitioners. Some are either sent or brought to a festival bewildered at the urgency displayed by the present procedure. Could the urgency displayed by some overzealous Companions lead a petitioner to believe that he is being offered a one time opportunity to participate in a fire sale for the Cryptic Degrees? The way we currently handle petitioners can certainly convey such thought; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Article C-118 (249) of the laws of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas be amended to read as follows.

Art. C-118 (249) **Petitions: For Degrees.** *Except as herein provided*, every petition for the degrees *shall be received and vote taken thereon at a regular Stated Assembly of the Council*; shall be in writing and comply (~~in substance~~) with the form prescribed by the Grand Council; must be signed by the applicant in person; recommended by two members of the Council to which addressed and the amount of the degree fee shall be attached *thereto. Upon receipt of a request submitted by a Council pertaining to a circumstance which merits his consideration, the Grand Master may issue his dispensation to ballot upon a petition for the degrees or for affiliation at a Special Assembly called for that purpose, but any such dispensation shall expire upon closing such Special Assembly.*

Be it further

RESOLVED, that Article C-121 (253) of the laws of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas be amended by the addition of Paragraph 2 to read as follows:

Art. C-121 (253) **Procedure and Ballot.** Paragraph 1 (No Change)

Art. C-121 (253) Paragraph 2 added as follows:

When a candidate for the Cryptic Degrees is elected by a Council and the degrees are to be conferred by a Council other than the one which elected him, no degree or degrees shall be conferred upon him except he first tender to the conferring Council a notice of his election to receive the Degree or Degrees, (Form 8-b) together with receipt from the Recorder of the Council which elected him that all degree fees required by the by-laws of the Council and the laws of the Grand Council have been paid in full.

Be it further

RESOLVED, that Article C-123 (255) of the laws of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas be amended to read as follows.

Art. C-123 (255) **Five: To Elect.** ~~(To elect a candidate to receive the degrees)~~ **Except as herein provided, the ballot on the petition for the degrees or for affiliation shall be taken at a regular Stated Assembly of the Council.** The ballot must be secret, but a unanimous ballot is not required. There must be at least five (5) ballots cast to elect a candidate **or a petitioner for affiliation** Every member present when a ballot is taken is required to vote, and members of other councils of this Grand Jurisdiction may vote on a petition for the degrees, but not on a petition for affiliation. After the ballot has been announced, it cannot be retaken. An elected candidate must receive the Royal master's Degree within twelve (12) months after his election; otherwise a new written petition will be required to be acted upon. **Upon receipt of a request submitted by a Council pertaining to a circumstance which merits his consideration, the Grand Master may issue his dispensation to ballot upon a petition for the degrees or for affiliation at a Special Assembly called for that purpose, but any such dispensation shall expire upon closing of such Special Assembly.** (See Articles C-053 (169) (C-158 (289)

Be it further

RESOLVED, that Paragraph 2 of Article C-053 (169) of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas be amended to read as follows:

Art. C-053 (169) **Stated Assembly.** *(Paragraph 1 – no change)*

Paragraph 2

Except as herein provided, balloting on petitions for the degrees or for affiliation ~~(should)~~ **shall** be held at Stated Assemblies, however, **upon receipt of a request submitted by a Council pertaining to a circumstance which merits his consideration, the Grand Master may issue his dispensation to ballot upon a petition for the degrees, or for affiliation at a Special Assembly called for that purpose, and any such dispensation shall expire upon closing of such Special Assembly,** such petitions may be received and balloted on at on and degrees conferred

at a ~~Special Assembly by the unanimous consent of all members present~~, but no other business required to be transacted at a regular Stated Assembly ~~(can)~~ shall be considered or acted upon at a Special Assembly.

Be it further

RESOLVED, that Article C-054 (170) of the laws of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas be amended as follows:

Art. C-054 (170) **Special Assemblies.** Special Assemblies may be held at any time upon the call of the Master, or in his absence, of the Deputy Master, or in the absence of both, by the Principal Conductor of the Work. **Except as provided in paragraph 3 of this Article, any such Special Assembly shall be opened and closed in accordance with the ritual taught by the Committee on Work and adopted by this Grand Council.**

Paragraphs 2 & 3 – (No Change.)

Fraternally submitted,
Leonard P. Harvey, PTIM
Love Field Council No. 396, R&SM

RESOLUTION NO. 2

Referred to Committees on Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence*

Whereas; the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas is the supreme authority on Cryptic Masonry in Texas, and

Whereas; some of the members of this Grand Council since becoming a Master Mason ,a Royal Arch Mason and further a Companion in the Cryptic Rite have been arrested or convicted of a felony or a crime of moral turpitude or acted in a lewd or public drunken manner, to bring disgrace upon themselves and this Grand Council and have not acted in a Masonic manner by concealing their activity or conviction, and

Whereas; there are no current questions to address instances of criminal activity and inappropriate public behavior in reference to issuing a certificate of good standing to transfer membership or for requesting plural membership, thereby passing an undesirable member or a member with a criminal history from one Council to another,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved: that Council Form 8A be amended to include the text in bold italics and read as follows:

Form No. 8A

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

Dated _____ A.D.
20____

To the T:I: Master, Officers, and Companions of
_____ Council No. _____
_____, Texas:

I hereby apply to your Council, of which I am a member, for a Certificate of Good Standing for the purpose of:

☐ Transferring my membership to _____

Council No. _____

located at _____ State of _____.

☐ Obtaining a plural membership in _____

Council No. _____

located at _____ State of _____.

Enclosed please find my check for the sum of \$ _____ which you will place to my credit for dues.

Additionally, I attest that since becoming a Master Mason, a Royal Arch Mason, and further a Companion in the Cryptic Rite, that I have not been indicted, charged, arrested or convicted in connection with any felony or a crime of moral turpitude, and further that I have not engaged in any activity prohibited by Article 319 of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas.

Any false statement given in regards to this section will be grounds for expulsion in accordance with the current procedures of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas.

Signed

Address: _____

city

state

zip

Form No. 8A

Fraternally submitted,
Cliff Cameron, D.D., PTIM
Jerusalem Council No. 7, R&SM

RESOLUTON NO. 3

Referred to Committees on Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence*

Whereas; the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas is the supreme authority on Cryptic Masonry in Texas, and

Whereas; some of the members of this Grand Council since becoming a Master Mason ,a Royal Arch Mason and further a Companion in the Cryptic Rite have been arrested or convicted of a felony or a crime of moral turpitude or acted in a lewd or public drunken manner, to bring disgrace upon themselves and this Grand Council and have not acted in a Masonic manner by concealing their activity or conviction, and

Whereas; there are no current questions to address instances of criminal activity and inappropriate public behavior in reference to becoming a Grand Council Officer, District Deputy Grand Master, a member of any Grand Council Committee or being installed as a Thrice Illustrious Master,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved: that a new Grand Council Form be created to include the following text, and that said affidavit be executed before a Notary Public in and for Texas at the signers expense:

**Affidavit of Fact for Grand Officers, District Deputy Grand Masters,
Grand Council Committee Members and Thrice Illustrious Masters**

Dated _____ A.D. 20____ At _____,
Texas

To the Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas

Under the penalty of executing false information before a Notary Public ,I do swear or affirm that ***since becoming a Master Mason, and a Royal Arch Mason, and further a Companion in the Cryptic Rite, that I have not been indicted, charged, arrested or convicted in connection with any felony or a crime of moral turpitude, and further that I have not engaged in any activity prohibited by Article 319 of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas.***

Any false statement given in regards to this section will be grounds for expulsion in accordance with the current procedures of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas.

Signed _____

Address: _____

city

state

zip

This for must be executed before a Notary Public in and for Texas with their attachment and official seal, paid at the signers expense and must be filed with Grand Records Office not later than 5 days prior to installation of office or serving on a committee,

Fraternally submitted,
Cliff Cameron, D.D., PTIM
Jerusalem Council No. 7, R&SM

RESOLUTON NO. 4

Referred to Committees on Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence*

Whereas; The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas is a corporation within the State of Texas, and as such, Corporations in Texas are subject to the laws of the State of Texas and those of the United States of America, and

Whereas; ex post facto laws, or laws applied after the fact or in a retroactive manner, violate principles of the common law, and are against sound administrative procedures and in the past have been considered the favorite tool of tyrants, and

Whereas; ex post facto applications are prohibited by Article I, section 9 of the U.S. Constitution, and being further prohibited in Texas by Article 1 section 16 of the Texas Bill

of Rights, and being that the membership of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas are not tyrants,

Now therefore be it resolved, that The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas be prohibited from adopting any resolution, rule, regulation, edict, or decision in an ex post facto, retroactive, or tyrannical manner, and that any current ex post facto, retroactive or tyrannical applications, be declared null and void and any disability imposed by such applications be removed and the original request be granted, provided that matter in question was otherwise made in accordance with procedures of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas.

Submitted by
Cliff Cameron, PTIM
Jerusalem Council No. 7, R&SM

RESOLUTION NO. 5

Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

Whereas; The Companions of the Cryptic Rite under the jurisdiction of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas deserve to know all of the relevant education, leadership and management skills and other related information or abilities of those seeking elected office in this Grand Council, so they may better choose the most qualified candidate, and

Whereas; there is a current section in the Grand Council Constitution that address statements of availability, but this article does not provide an opportunity for candidates to list their relevant education, leadership and management skills, and other related information or abilities,

Now therefore Be It Resolved: that Article VII Eligibility Section 1 (a) of the Constitution of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas be amended to read as follows with the new text in bold italics:

Section 1(a) Availability. Any eligible member of this Grand Council desiring to serve in any elected office as provided in the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas may, on or before the fifteenth day of July preceding each annual Assembly, file with the Grand Recorder a "Statement of Availability" for such office; containing a resume of his service to his Councils or Councils in which he holds or has held membership; his service to this Grand Council; and a photo, if available. ***The Companion seeking elected office may additionally include other information he feels relevant to be considered, in order to properly document and communicate his qualifications, education, leadership and management abilities as well as other information by providing answers to questions listed in a Statement of Availability Questionnaire including but not limited to the following:***

Statement of Availability Questionnaire

- 1. Why do you want to be elected the Grand Officer Line of the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas?***
- 2. Write a vision statement for the betterment of Cryptic Masonry in Texas while you are serving if elected to the Grand Officer Line?***
- 3. What are your educational qualifications? Include all college degrees and graduate course work:***
- 4. What are your leadership qualifications? Include any verifiable training programs for Capitular Masonry, any programs from any political subdivision of the government including any branch of the military or programs from private industry:***

5. *List any significant leadership and management experience:*
6. *List any significant leadership or management projects you have developed and brought to completion:*
7. *In accordance with the general provisions of Article 319 of the Grand Council Constitution, and related moral activities, please answer the following:*

Since becoming a Master Mason, a Royal Arch Mason, and further a Companion in the Cryptic Rite, have you been indicted, charged, arrested, or convicted of a felony or a crime or moral turpitude?

(A) Do you use profane language?

(B) Have you ever lied in order to advance yourself in any branch of Freemasonry or to intentionally harm the reputation of any Council Mason?

(C) At any time have you ever sold illegal drugs?

(D) At any time have you ever owned or been employed in a business that sold intoxicating liquor, thereby having helped to poison the moral fabric of society?

(E) At any time have you ever been in any business that promoted, participated in, or permitted prostitution?

If so list the circumstances to any of the above questions:

Such "Statement of Availability" Shall be printed and forwarded by the Grand Recorder to all constituent Councils along with all Resolutions and/or Recommendations as required by this Grand Council. However, this Grand Council may elect any eligible member whether or not he has previously submitted such statement of availability, ***provided that he verbally answer any questions pertaining to his criminal history education, leadership and management skill, and ability or related experience, before the Grand Council when so called for by any eligible voting member of this Grand Council prior to elections being conducted.***

Fraternally submitted,
Cliff Cameron, D.D., PTIM
Jerusalem Council No. 7, R&SM

RESOLUTION NO. 6

Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS, it is essential for a Council to be financially sound, which can be accomplished through the use of a sound budget and audit program.

WHEREAS, there have been Councils which have not followed such sound business practices thereby finding themselves experiencing financial problems, whereby the income is not sufficient to support the Council's expenses.

WHEREAS, Article 157, Audit, of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas provides that an audit of the Recorder's and Treasurer's books be conducted at the end of the Cryptic Year, and that there is insufficient analysis of the audit report by some of the Councils thereby not making appropriate changes in their budget process in regards to income vs. expenses thereby finding themselves in financial distress.

WHEREAS, in an effort to assist the Councils with an analysis of their audit report to insure financial stability that the audit report be submitted to the Grand Recorder for

review by the Grand Council Finance Committee, and upon review provide guidance to those Councils experiencing financial issues in an effort to avert a financial crisis by the Council.

WHEREAS, the third paragraph of Article 157, Audit, reads as follows: "Each of these audits, after being read in the Council, shall be recorded in the minutes in full."

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the third paragraph of Article 157, Audit, be amended as follows: "Each audit after being read in the Council shall be recorded in the minutes in full. That a properly completed and signed copy of the Minimum Audit Form No. 22 shall be delivered to the Grand Recorder no later than September 1st of each year for review. The District Deputy Grand Master shall inspect the audit of the Council books on his regular visitation."

Respectfully submitted,
Timothy M. La Vergne, Sr., PTIM
Bonham Council No. 37, R&SM

RESOLUTION NO. 7

Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS, Amendments to the by-laws of a Council have an effect on every member of the Council, and

WHEREAS, every Companion, no matter how active or inactive he may be, has a right to voice his opinion on Council matters, and

WHEREAS, when a proposal to amend the by-laws of a Council is presented and accepted in proper form, there is a requirement that it lay over until the next or subsequent Assembly for final action, and

WHEREAS, the intended purpose of the layover is to give the members an opportunity to consider the proposal and be present to vote on it, and

WHEREAS, there are many instances where Recorders of Councils either do not know that ALL members should be notified or claim that there is no responsibility on their part to notify the members thus denying every member the right to express his opinion on matters concerning the Council such as, but not limited to: Stated Assembly times and days, removal of Council from one location to another, dues, degree fees, etc., therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Article 162 be amended to read:

ARTICLE 162. AMENDMENTS. Amendments to by-laws must be submitted in writing at a Stated Assembly and ~~lie~~ lay over until the next or a subsequent Stated Assembly for final action, *and the Recorder shall notify by United States mail or in electronic form every member of the Council of the proposed amendment and the scheduled date for final action to be taken unless the exact same proposal has been made in the Chapter and the date for final action in the Chapter is the same as the date for final action in the Council;* an amendment not so presented and acted upon is void. All of the provisions of the by-laws with reference to amendment thereof must be complied with. All amendments to by-laws of a subordinate Council, except those specified in Article 163 must be submitted to the Grand Recorder by ~~September 1st~~ July 15th preceding the opening of the *Grand* Assembly of the Grand Council and by him distributed to the Committee on By-Laws and approved by this Grand Council before they will become effective.

Douglas Collins, PTIM
John C. Callahan Council No. 408, R&SM

**STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY
FOR
R:E: GRAND KING**



REESE L. HARRISON, JR.

San Antonio Chapter No. 381, R.A.M.

Exalted – December 19, 1959

Awarded Life Membership July 22, 1970

Most Excellent High Priest – 1969-1970

Treasurer 1970 to present

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas

Consecrated in the Order of High Priesthood on December 1, 1969

District Deputy Grand High Priest 1971

Excellent Grand Orator 1972, 1997

Excellent Grand Captain of the Host 1973

Grand Representative to the Netherlands 1973 to present

Grand High Priest of the Order of High Priesthood 1987

Recipient of the Golden Keystone Award 2007

Committee on Jurisprudence 1986-1990, 2004-2008, Chairman 1988, 1989, 1990, 2008

Life Certificate of Proficiency in the Esoteric Work awarded 1989

**STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY
FOR
R:E GRAND KING**



THOMAS W. SNYDER

Midlothian Chapter No. 211, R.A.M.
Exalted – January 18, 1986

Love Field Chapter No. 478, R.A.M.
Affiliated Member since 1988
Most Excellent High Priest 1989
Endowed Members since September 12, 1991

Dad Pender Chapter No. 80, R.A.M.
Plural Affiliated Member since 2001
Most Excellent High Priest 2002-2003

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas
District Deputy Grand High Priest 1991
Grand Representative to Iowa – 1991 to present
Excellent Grand Principal Sojourner 1992
Excellent Grand Guard 2004
Excellent Grand Orator 2007
Committee on Purposes and Policies 1995—1997
Committee on Recognitions, Honors and Awards, Chairman 1998 – 2002, and 2005-2007
Committee on Festivals, Liaison and Coordinating 2008 to Present

**STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY
FOR
R:E: GRAND SCRIBE**



TOMMY F. CHAPMAN

Port Neches Chapter No. 436, R.A.M.

Exalted – September 9, 1989

Most Excellent High Priest – 1992-1993

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas

Order of High Priesthood 1992

Esoteric Certificate holder 1994 to present

Served on Credentials Committee 1995

District Deputy Grand High Priest, Capitular District No. 5 – 2000

Grievances and Appeals Committee – 2007, 2008, 2009

Grand Officers Reports Committee – 2009

**STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY FOR
R:I: GRAND PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE WORK**



GARY D. DIXON

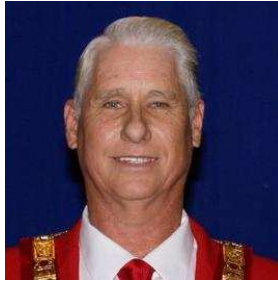
Mineola Council No. 258, R&SM
Greeted November 7, 1987

George M. Patrick Council No. 13, R&SM
Affiliated 1999
Endowed Member since March 26, 1999
Thrice Illustrious Master 2001

Kilgore Council No. 366, R&SM
Plural Affiliation July 16, 2002
Thrice Illustrious Master 2003
Council Instructor 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009
Cryptic Triangle Award 2008

Grand Council R.&S.M. of Texas
Super Excellent Masters Degree August 5, 2000
Order of the Silver Trowel December 11, 2001
District Deputy Grand Master, Cryptic Dist. 4 – 2003
Grand Council Tellers Committee 2003
Assistant Grand Sentinel 2005
New Councils Committee, Chairman, 2007
Credentials Committee 2008

**STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY FOR
R:I: GRAND PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE WORK**



GARY W. HOREJSI

Army Council No. 411, R&SM
Greeted September 28, 1985
Thrice Illustrious Master 1989
Endowed Member since November 1, 1986

Seguin Council No. 281, R&SM
Affiliated Plural May 30, 2005
Recorder 2007 to 2009

Grand Council R.&S.M. of Texas
District Deputy Grand Master, District 22 – 2009
Esoteric Certificate holder since 1988

**STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY FOR
R:I: GRAND PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE WORK**

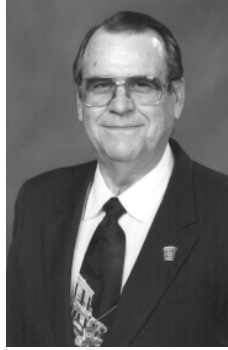


JACK THOMAS PEEBLES

Park Place Council No. 373, R&SM
Greeted November 19, 1994
Thrice Illustrious Master 2000
Endowed Member since July 25, 2003

Grand Council R.&S.M. of Texas
Order of the Silver Trowel 2000
Super Excellent Masters Degree 2000
Committee on New Councils 2009

**STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY FOR
R:I: GRAND PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE WORK**



PAUL D. WARREN

Abilene Council No. 100, R.&S.M.

Greeted April 10, 1971

Thrice Illustrious Master 1976-1977 and 2004-2005

Treasurer 2000-2002

Endowed Member since May 23, 1986

Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Texas

Super Excellent Masters Degree September 1975

Order of the Silver Trowel December 1977

District Deputy Grand Master District No. 30 1987, 1991

Grand Representative to California 1987 to 2001

Grand Representative to Kentucky 2002 to present

Member Finance Committee 1997 to 2002

Member Recognitions, Honors and Awards Committee 2005 to present

**STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY
FOR
TEXAS MASONIC RETIREMENT CENTER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



FARRIS L. BENHAM

Sam J. Helm Chapter No. 445, R.A.M.
Exalted on September 13, 1968
Most Excellent High Priest – 1974
Endowed Member since December 6, 1986

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas
R:E: District Deputy Grand High Priest -1976-1977
E: Grand Royal Arch Captain 1981
Grand Representative to Nevada - 1989 to Present
R:E: Grand Scribe 1987
R:E: Deputy Grand High Priest 1988
M:E: Grand High Priest 1989
Committee on Jurisprudence 1991 to 1994 and 2000 to 2004
Committee on Purposes and Policies 1995 – 1999, Chairman 1998 & 1999
Committee on Finance 2006 to present
TMRC Board of Directors 1990-1994, 1996-2000, 2002-2006
Treasurer of TMRC 1999, 2000, 2002 to Present

**STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY
FOR
TEXAS MASONIC RETIREMENT CENTER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



CLARENCE J. LANEY

Z.E. Coombes Chapter No. 421, R.A.M.
Exalted – October 22, 1974

Love Field Chapter No. 478, R.A.M.
Affiliated Member since 1990
Most Excellent High Priest 1991
Endowed September 12, 1992

Midlothian Chapter No. 211, R.A.M.
Plural Affiliated Member since 1994

Dad Pender Chapter No. 80, R.A.M.
Plural Affiliated Member since 1997
King 1998
Most Excellent High Priest 1999-2000
Endowed October 7, 1999

Whitesboro Chapter No. 377, R.A.M.
Plural Affiliated Member since 2008
Most Excellent High Priest 2008

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas
Served on Credentials Committee
Served on Committee on New Chapters 1998-2002
Grand Representative to Iowa – 1998 to 2008
Grand Representative to New Jersey – 2008 to present
Excellent Grand Junior Stewart 1995
Excellent Grand Master of the 2nd Veil 1999
R:E: District Deputy Grand High Priest 2003
R:E: Grand Scribe 2005
R:E: Grand King 2006
R:E: Deputy Grand High Priest 2007
M:E: Grand High Priest 2008

**STATEMENT OF AVAILABILITY
FOR
TEXAS MASONIC RETIREMENT CENTER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



DWIGHT W. PHILLIPS

Washington Chapter No. 2, R.A.M.

Exalted on October 28, 1996

Endowed Member since June 18, 1999

Most Excellent High Priest - 2002

Treasurer - 2003 to Present

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas

Order of High Priesthood - 2002

E: Grand Marshal - 2004

Grand Representative to Portugal - 2005 to Present

Committee on Fraternal Correspondence (Member) - 2006

R:E: District Deputy Grand High Priest, Capitular District No. 9 - 2006

Committee on Fraternal Correspondence (Member) - 2007

Committee on Fraternal Correspondence (Chairman) - 2008