

**CONSTITUTION, REGULATIONS**

**And BY-LAWS**

of the

***Grand Commandery  
Knights Templar  
Of the State of Maryland***

**CONSTITUTION  
-OF THE-  
GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR  
OF MARYLAND**

As Amended October 24, 2020

## TITLE

Sec. 1. This body shall be designated and known as The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Maryland.

A. Mission Statement *(TO BE WRITTEN)*

## MEMBERSHIP

Sec. 2. Its members are and shall be:

- A. All its Past Grand Commanders, Past Deputy Grand Commanders, Past Grand Generalissimos and Past Grand Captains General, so long as they remain members of its Constituent Commanderies.
- B. The Commander, Generalissimo, and Captain General of each of its Constituent Commanderies.
- C. Each Past Commander of its Constituent Commanderies and all such Past Commanders as may have demitted from other jurisdictions and have been elected to membership by the Grand Commandery of Maryland so long as they remain members of its Constituent Commanderies.
- D. All Knights Templar of other Grand Commanderies who have been elected honorary members. Such membership shall not confer the right to vote.

## CONCLAVES

Sec. 3. The conclaves of the Grand Commandery shall be:

- A. Stated: Annual which shall be held, on the fourth Friday or succeeding Saturday in October or on such date as may be determined from year to year by the Grand Commandery at its previous Annual Conclave.
- B. Semi-Annual Conclave, which shall be held at such time and place in May as determined by the Grand Commander.
- C. Special; which may be called by the Grand Commander, at his discretion or upon the written request of a majority of the Constituent Commanderies No business shall be transacted at such conclave save that specified by the Grand Commander in his summons or set out in the request of the Commanderies.

## QUORUM

Sec. 4. A quorum of a Grand Commandery consists of nine members entitled to vote therein, including an officer authorized to convene the same, provided three or more Commanderies are represented.

## CONDUCT OF CONCLAVES AND VOTING THEREIN

Sec. 5. Any member of this Grand Commandery who is an elected officer of either the Grand Commandery or a Constituent Commandery may be represented and vote by proxy. The said proxy being a non-voting member of the same Commandery as his principal and producing a certificate of his appointment. Each member present in person or by proxy shall have only one vote. The presiding officer shall vote only in case of a tie, when he shall decide the Issue.

Sec. 6. During a conclave an appeal lies to the Grand Commandery from a decision of the Grand Commander save on points of order. At all other times the decisions of the Grand Commander shall have full force and effect but the Grand Commandery at its next annual conclave must review them. If such decisions involve the construction of the laws of the Grand Encampment or of the Laws of the Grand Commandery, an appeal lies to the Grand Commandery.

Sec.7. Unless otherwise provided herein or by Grand Encampment Law, all questions submitted shall be decided by a majority vote of those present.

Sec. 8. Order of business at Annual and Semi-Annual Conclaves:

A. Annual Conclaves:

- Report of Committee on Credentials
- Reading of the minutes, unless dispensed with by resolution
- Grand Commander's Address
- Reports of Committees and disposition of same
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Installation of Officers

B. Semi-Annual Conclaves:

- Report of Committee on Credentials
- Grand Commander's Address
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Election of Officers

## POWERS AND DUTIES

Sec. 9. This Grand Commandery has the following powers and prerogatives, but the numeration shall not be construed as a limitation thereof;

- A. It shall review at its Annual and Semi Annual Conclaves all reports of its officers and may review the proceedings of its Constituent Commanderies.
- B. It may adopt such Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations as are not inconsistent with the Laws of the Grand Encampment and as it may deem necessary for the good of the Order.

- C. It shall, within its Jurisdiction, have exclusive power to form new Commanderies and to fix the fee therefore. The fee shall not be less than One Hundred Dollars and shall be paid in advance.
- D. It may prescribe Regulations for the government of its Constituent Commanderies and may determine whether nominations may be made at elections of officers by its Constituent Commanderies and may revoke any charter.
- E. It may require its several Constituent Commanderies to pay such portion it may deem proper of the sums received by them for conferring the Orders and in addition such sum annually from each member of such Commanderies as it may deem necessary for the support of the Grand Commandery.
- F. It shall examine the accounts of its Grand Treasurer, and Grand Recorder, supervise the state and condition of its finances and adopt such Measures in relation thereto as it may deem necessary to increase, secure, and preserve the same and to insure the utmost punctuality on the part of every accounting officer in the safe keeping and delivery of the funds and property of the Grand Commandery.
- G. It shall, on or before July 1st of each year pay to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment such an amount as may be prescribed by the Grand Encampment as dues for each member of its Constituent Commanderies, as shown by the returns to this Grand Commandery at its annual conclave next before July 1st.
- H. It shall prescribe all uniforms and may change the same from time to time.
- I. All funds of this Grand Commandery shall be deposited in the name of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Maryland in such depositories as may be designated by the Grand Commander, the Grand Treasurer, and Chairman of the Finance Committee. Funds of this Grand Commandery shall be disbursed only by check drawn and signed by any two of the following: the Grand Commander, the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder. In the event of the absence, or inability of any of these three, the Deputy Grand Commander or Chairman of the Finance Committee shall sign for the absent officer.

No checks shall be issued unless the Grand Commandery shall make an appropriation to cover it in the budget, save that in case of emergency or necessity, checks approved in writing by the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander and Chairman of the Finance Committee may be issued on the General Fund to a total amount not exceeding Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) in any fiscal year.

#### APPEAL TO THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT

Sec. 10. An appeal may be taken to the Grand Encampment from any decision or action of a Grand Commandery, on questions arising as to the construction or effect of the Constitution, Statutes, or Rituals of the Grand Encampment.

#### OFFICERS

Sec. 11. The officers of this Grand Commandery shall be:

- A. Elected by the Grand Commandery; Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder.
- B. Appointed by the Grand Commander; Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Prelate, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Warder and Grand Sentinel.
- C. The election of officers shall be held at the Semi-Annual Conclave.
- D. This Grand Commandery may determine whether nominations may be made at election of its officers.
- E. When nominations are permitted and more than one name is in nomination, the election shall be by ballot; if only one name is in nomination, the election may be by acclamation.
- F. A majority of all votes cast is necessary to an election.
- G. Any member in good standing is eligible to election to any office in the Grand Commandery.

#### TERM OF OFFICE

Sec. 12. Grand Officers shall hold office until their successors shall have been duly elected or appointed and installed.

#### ELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE

Sec. 13. No Sir Knight shall be eligible to any office in a Grand Commandery except that of Grand Prelate unless he shall be at the time a member thereof.

#### VOW OF OFFICE

Sec. 14. Each Officer of the Grand Commandery, before entering upon the exercise of the duties of his office, shall take the following vow of office. *viz: "I (A. B.), do promise and vow that I will support and maintain the Constitution, Statutes and Rituals of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of this Grand Commandery, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office to which I have been chosen to the best of my ability."*

#### GENERAL DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Sec. 15. The duties of the Officers of the Grand Commandery shall be such as appertain to their respective stations, conforming as nearly as may be to those of the corresponding officers of the Grand Encampment. The Grand Commandery may require other service and the Grand Commander may assign to his subordinate officers duties conformable to Templar law and usage. In addition to these general duties, certain ones are hereinafter set out for specific officers.

#### THE GRAND COMMANDER

Sec. 16. The Grand Commander shall have the following specific powers and duties but the enumeration shall not be deemed a limitation thereof.

- A. To maintain a watchful supervision over all the Commanderies in the jurisdiction and to see that the Constitution, Statutes and Rituals of the Grand Encampment, and the Constitution,

Laws and Regulations of this Grand Commandery are duly and promptly observed.

- B. To appoint all Committees and all officers, not made elective, and to fill all vacancies, such appointees to serve during his pleasure or until their successors have been elected and installed.
- C. To grant during any recess of the Grand Commandery Dispensations for the formation of new Commanderies. No Dispensation shall be issued unless the following requirements are met.
  - 1. A petition by nine or more duly qualified Knights Templar.
  - 2. The consent and recommendation of the nearest Commandery in this Jurisdiction, provided that if the new Commandery is to be located in a city having more than one Commandery of concurrent Jurisdiction, all the Commanderies therein stationed must consent and recommend. A Dispensation when issued shall be in force until the next annual conclave of the Grand Commandery.
- D. During any recess of the Grand Commandery to arrest the Charter or Dispensation of a Commandery or to suspend from his office any Officer of the Grand or of a Constituent Commandery, but in no case shall such suspension affect the standing in the Order of such Officer or his membership in the Commandery. The Grand Commander shall report his action in full to the next Conclave of the Grand Commandery for its final action.
- E. To visit and preside in any Commandery within this jurisdiction and to give such instructions and directions as the good of the Order may require always adhering to the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of this Grand Commandery.
- F. To grant Dispensations to Constituent Commanderies:
  - 1. To hold Special Conclaves for the conferring of the Orders at places within their Jurisdiction other than those named in their Charters.
  - 2. To permit them to ballot upon a petition or petitions for the Orders or for affiliation, reinstatement or dual membership at the same Stated Conclave or Special Conclave at which the same may be presented, with the requirement of such notice thereof, to the members of the Commandery as he may deem proper.
  - 3. In event the Asylum of the Commandery has been destroyed or damaged to such an extent as to render it unfit for occupancy, to hold stated conclaves at a place within its jurisdiction other than that named in the Charter, for the purpose of temporarily or permanently removing the Asylum of the Commandery, pursuant to the provisions of **Section 172** of the Regulations of this Grand Commandery.
- G. To appoint Past Grand Commanders, officers of the Grand Commandery, or Past Commanders of Constituent Commanderies to represent the Grand Commandery within sister Jurisdictions, such appointee to be known as "Grand Representative" and to serve at the pleasure of the Grand Commander or until a Successor is appointed.

## THE DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER

Sec. 17. The Deputy Grand Commander in the event of the absence of the Grand Commander or his inability to perform the duties of his office, shall act as Grand Commander. In the event of death, permanent removal from the Jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery or permanent disability of the Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander shall succeed to the office and be regularly Installed. At all other times he shall perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander.

## THE GRAND GENERALISSIMO AND GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL

Sec. 18. In case of the temporary absence or disability of their respective superiors, the Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General shall perform the duties of their respective superiors.

In case of the advancement, death, permanent removal from the Jurisdiction, or permanent disability of their respective superiors, the Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General shall severally succeed to the office of such superiors and be installed therein.

## THE GRAND TREASURER

Sec. 19. The Grand Treasurer shall receive and keep in charge all the money and property of this Grand Commandery. He shall pay all orders drawn by the Grand Recorder, approved by the Grand Commander and signed by both. He shall at each Annual Conclave present an accurate report of the state of the treasury, and be prepared to do likewise at each Special Conclave, if requested.

He shall be bonded in such form and amount and with such Corporate Surety as shall from time to time be required of him by the Grand Commandery. If the Grand Commander is satisfied with such bond, he shall approve it, authorize payment and assign it to the Grand Recorder for safe keeping.

He shall be reimbursed for expenses as may be approved by action of the Grand Commandery.

## THE GRAND RECORDER

Sec. 20. It is the duty of the Grand Recorder:

- A. To communicate annually to the Grand Master, the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment and to the Grand Recorders of each of the other Grand Commanderies, the Roll of Officers of this Grand Commandery and such other matters as may give information on the condition of the Order in this jurisdiction or may be conducive to the general good of the Order.
- B. To forward to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, on or before the First Day of July of each year, the Annual Returns and Dues of this Grand Commandery.
- C. To transmit annually to the Grand Master and the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment copies of all the Proceedings and of the Laws adopted by this Grand Commandery.

- D. To have charge of the Seal of the Grand Commandery, and attest all papers requiring the same.
- E. To send promptly to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment two copies of announcement and Notice of Death of members of the Grand Encampment, which may occur within this Jurisdiction, giving the date of birth and of death, together with the character of his official and other service.
- F. To mail to the members of this Grand Commandery, and to the Recorder of each Constituent Commandery of the jurisdiction, such number of copies of the annual proceedings and of the Laws and Regulations adopted by this Grand Commandery as may from time to time be determined; also, to the Constituent Commanderies notices of all rejections, suspensions, expulsions, re-instatements, withdrawals or deaths within this jurisdiction, that shall be communicated to him by the Recorders of the Constituent Commanderies. He shall keep in a suitable book a register of each Constituent Commandery - showing the present and past officers and members of each, all suspensions, expulsions, deaths and withdrawals, and in a separate book the names of all who have been rejected.
- G. To notify the Constituent Commanderies of the Stated Conclaves of the Grand Commandery one month previous to the same, and to give them at least one week's notice of all Special Conclaves.
- H. To perform such other duties as shall be prescribed by the laws of this Grand Commandery.
- I. When practicable to purchase a sufficient number of the Reviews of the several jurisdictions made up by the Grand Encampment and incorporate the same in the Proceedings of this Grand Commandery.
- J. To purchase all books, stationery and other supplies for the Grand Commandery and have all necessary printing done on the most reasonable terms. All purchases of the Grand Commandery exceeding Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) shall be made on a competitive basis, subject to prior approval of the Finance Committee.

Sec. 20.1: The Grand Recorder shall be reimbursed for his expenses from the funds of the Grand Commandery, such sum as may be fixed from time to time by action of the Grand Commandery.

#### WHEN A PAST GRAND COMMANDER ASSUMES THE DUTIES OF GRAND COMMANDER

Sec. 21. In the event of the absence, death or disability of the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General, the junior Past Grand Commander according to service, if not incapacitated, and if incapacitated the next ranking Past Grand Commander, shall assume the office and discharge the duties of the Grand Commander. (Sec. 53 Grand Encampment Constitution)

#### PRECEDENCE OF RANK

Sec. 22. The precedence of rank shall be as follows:

- The Grand Commander,
- The Deputy Grand Commander,
- The Grand Generalissimo,
- The Grand Captain General,
- The Past Grand Commanders according to seniority of service,
- The Grand Prelate,
- The Grand Treasurer,
- The Grand Recorder,
- The Grand Senior Warden,
- The Grand Junior Warden,
- The Grand Standard Bearer,
- The Grand Sword Bearer,
- The Grand Warder,
- The Grand Sentinel.

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

Sec. 23. At the Beginning of the Templar Year the Grand Commander shall appoint the following Standing Committees, each to consist of three Sir Knights (except that on Ritual which shall consist of four) which shall serve for the ensuing Templar Year and report upon the matters referred to them at the next Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery:

- Credentials
- Doings of Grand Officers
- Jurisprudence and By-Laws
- Dispensations and Charters
- Audit
- Finance
- Grievance
- Ritual
- Time and Place
- Unfinished Business
- Correspondence
- York Rite
- August Scene
- Knight Templar Educational Foundation
- Knights Templar Eye Foundation
- Holy Land Pilgrimage
- Membership

Sec. 24. The Committee on Credentials shall ascertain and report immediately after the opening of the Grand Conclave, preceding the reading of the minutes, the name of every Sir Knight entitled to a seat in this Grand Commandery. The Grand Recorder shall designate absentees with an asterisk.

Sec. 25. The Committee of Doings of Grand Officers shall study and examine the address of the Grand Commander and reports of other officers and report their conclusions to the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 26. The Committee on Jurisprudence and By-Laws shall examine all By-Laws and Amendments proposed by Constituent Commanderies and referred to them by the Grand Commander, approve, amend or reject the same and notify the Commandery in interest of their decision in writing. They shall also review the decisions of the Grand Commander, and report their findings to the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 27. The Committee on Dispensations and Charters shall assist the Grand Commander when requested, to ascertain the advisability of forming a new Constituent Commandery.

Sec. 28.

A. The Committee on Audit shall audit the books and accounts of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder, and report on same.

B. The Committee on Finance shall consist of three members. It shall cause to be audited: the books, accounts and vouchers, also all investments, in the hands of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, and of such Committees, Officers and Members of the Grand Commandery as may have custody of any funds or property of the Commandery, sufficiently in advance of the Annual Conclave so that copies of the audit may be furnished members of such Committee, the Grand Commander, and Deputy Grand Commander, prior to the convening of such Annual Conclave.

It shall recommend such appropriations as may be necessary as current expenses for the ensuing Templar period. No appropriations of Funds shall be made until the proposal thereof has been referred to the Finance Committee and its report made thereon.

Sec. 29. The Committee on Grievances shall investigate all cases of appeal and grievances referred to them by the Grand Commander and report their decisions at the next Annual Grand Conclave.

Sec. 30. The Committee on Ritual shall examine all Commanders, Generalissimos, and Captains General elect as to the knowledge of Commandery law and Procedures, and if found competent, issue their certificate to that effect.

Sec. 31.

A. The Committee on Time and Place shall consider all invitation from Constituent Commanderies for holding the Grand Conclave in places outside of the City of Baltimore, and make recommendation to the Grand Commandery.

B. The Committee on Unfinished Business shall examine the Minutes of the preceding Grand Conclave and bring all matters requiring further action to the attention of the Grand Commandery.

C. The Committee on Correspondence shall report such matters from the Reviews of the Grand Encampment and from other sources as may in their judgment be of interest to this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 32. The Grand Commander may appoint a competent Sir Knight as Grand Inspector General to serve for the ensuing Templar year, who shall visit each Commandery at least once during the year. He shall have supervision over, and power to require compliance with the several rituals adopted by the Grand Encampment. He shall be reimbursed for expenses as allocated by the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 33. The Committee on York Rite shall consist of three members, to be elected for terms of three, two and one year and thereafter for terms of three years with powers to recommend such matters as they shall deem beneficial to a closer cooperation between the bodies composing the York Rite of Freemasonry. (1980)

Sec. 34.

A. The Committee on The Educational Foundation shall consist of the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander and Grand Recorder, ex-officio, and six other members, two to be elected at each annual Conclave for three years. The Grand Recorder will serve as Secretary-Treasurer. The Committee shall have general oversight of the responsibilities of The Knight Templar Educational Foundation within the state of Maryland.

B. The Committee on the Knights Templar Eye Foundation shall consist of three members and shall have supervision of all funds collected, such funds to be disbursed to the Grand Encampment.

Sec 35. The Committee on Membership shall consist of at least three members and shall be responsible for promotion of Templary within the jurisdiction.

#### FEES, DUES AND FINANCE

Sec. 36. The revenues of the Grand Commandery shall be derived as follows:

A. For every Dispensation to form and open a new Commandery, to be paid before the same is issued \$100.00.

B. For every companion receiving the Order of the Red Cross, \$50.00 of the initiation fee of which \$25.00 shall be deposited in the Endowment Fund.

C. Each Commandery shall pay annually fees for each of its members as levied by the Grand Commandery, including assessments levied by the Grand Encampment.

Sec. 37. No funds of the Grand Commandery shall be expended for any entertainment, parade, celebration or other function unless every Constituent Commandery of this jurisdiction shall have opportunity to participate therein.

Sec. 38. The jewel presented to the retiring Grand Commander shall conform to the accepted standard or pattern now in vogue, and shall be paid for by the Grand Commandery. All Past Grand Commanders jewels presented after 2000 shall remain property of the Grand Commandery or

Grand Lodge, which ever had prior possession.

## COMMANDERIES - DEFINITIONS AND POWERS

Sec. 39. A Knight Templar is a Mason upon whom the Orders of the Red Cross, Knight of Malta and Knight Templar have been conferred by any organization recognized by the Grand Encampment as having authority to confer the same.

Sec. 40. A Commandery consists of at least three Knights Templar, hailing from three separate Commanderies, and acting under a lawful Warrant, or of nine or more Knights Templar acting under a lawful Dispensation or Charter.

Sec. 41. A Commandery has the exclusive right to receive Petitions from those within its Territorial Jurisdiction possessing the necessary qualifications, to elect petitioners by unanimous vote only, and to confer the Orders upon them.

Sec. 42. Before a Commandery can be formed or constituted within the territorial Jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, there are the following prerequisites:

- A.
  - 1. At least three Knights Templar hailing from at least three separate Commanderies; or
  - 2. At least nine Knights Templar residing in the proposed Territorial Jurisdiction.
- B. A lawful Warrant, which is: A Dispensation from the Grand Commander, or a Dispensation or Charter from the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 43. Commanderies under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery are styled "Constituent".

Sec. 44. The Order of Knights Templar is a uniformed Order and each Knight Templar, when dubbed, should possess the "Mandatory Uniform" as prescribed. However, the purchase of such a uniform by a Candidate shall be optional with him. Each and every officer of this Grand Commandery, and Jurisdiction, shall have and hold such "Mandatory Uniform" prior to his installation and throughout his term as such officer. Each Constituent Commandery shall maintain a unit, or units, equipped with such "Mandatory Uniform" to be worn at full-form openings and the conferring of the Order of the Temple.

## ALLEGIANCE

Sec. 45. All Commanderies within its Territorial Jurisdiction must enroll under this Grand Commandery, and shall respect and obey the Laws and Regulations thereof.

## HOW COMPOSED

Sec. 46. A Constituent Commandery consists of:  
A Commander,  
A Generalissimo,  
A Captain General,

A Senior Warden,  
A Junior Warden,  
A Prelate,  
A Treasurer,  
A Recorder,  
A Standard Bearer,  
A Sword Bearer,  
A Warder,  
A Sentinel,  
Three Guards and such other Knights Templar as may be members thereof.

The first eight shall be elected and the remaining officers shall be appointed by the Commander.

### CONCLAVES

Sec. 47. The Conclaves of Commanderies shall be:

- A. Stated, which shall be held at least Quarterly at such Place as may be specified in the Dispensation or Charter or otherwise provided for by law, and at such time as may be designated.
- B. Special, which may be called by the Commander or set by action of the Commandery. They shall be held for the conferring of Orders or for such business as may be prescribed by law, and at the place for Stated Conclaves provided that the Grand Commander may authorize the holding of such Conclaves (for the conferring of the Orders) at a Place other than that specified in the Charter or Dispensation. The notice or summons for all Special Conclaves shall specify the business to be transacted, and none other shall be considered at such Conclave.

### QUORUM

Sec. 48.

- A. A Quorum of a Commandery to open a Conclave to conduct business consists of five members entitled to vote therein, including an Officer authorized to open the same.
- B. In addition to the Quorum requirement to open a Conclave, nine Sir Knights (including visitors) must be present to confer the Orders upon candidate(s).

### OFFICERS' DUTY TO ATTEND GRAND CONCLAVE

Sec. 49. It is the duty of the Commander, the Generalissimo and the Captain General of Constituent Commanderies to attend the Conclaves of this Grand Commandery.

### APPEALS FROM COMMANDER'S DECISION

Sec. 50. No appeal shall lie to the Commandery from a decision of the Commander when the decision involves the construction or effect of the Constitution, Statues or Rituals of the Grand Encampment, or the Laws of the Grand Commandery, or By-Laws of the Commandery. An appeal may be taken to the Grand Commandery by a Constituent Commandery but pending the decision

of the appeal, such ruling of the Commander shall be in full force and effect.

#### TERM OF OFFICE

Sec. 51. Officers of Commanderies shall hold office and discharge the duties thereof for the term for which are elected or appointed and until their successors are duly installed.

#### VOW OF OFFICE

Sec. 52. Each Officer of a Commandery, before entering upon the discharge of the duties of his office, shall take the following vow, viz: *"I (A. B.), do promise and vow that I will support and maintain the Constitution, Statutes and Rituals of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery of this jurisdiction, and the By-Laws of this Commandery, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office in which I am about to be installed, to the best of my ability."*

#### THE COMMANDER

Sec. 53. It is the duty of the Commander:

To see that the officers and members of his Commandery duly observe the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Commandery, the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery, and the Constitution, Statutes and Rituals of the Grand Encampment.

#### SUCCESSION TO THE OFFICE OF COMMANDER

Sec. 54. In case of the temporary absence, disability, removal, or mental or physical incapacity of the Commander, the Generalissimo shall act as Commander. In case of like disability of both Commander and Generalissimo, the Captain General shall act. In case of the death, permanent removal from the Jurisdiction, or permanent mental or physical disability of the Commander, the Generalissimo shall succeed to the office and be installed. In case of like disability of the Generalissimo or his advancement as above, the Captain General shall succeed to the office and be installed. In case of the like disability of the Captain General or his advance as above, the office shall be vacant, and the Grand Commander shall issue a dispensation for an election to fill the vacancy, and any other that may occur in consequence thereof. In case of like disability of all three officers, a Dispensation may be issued for a special election to fill the vacancies and any other which may result there from, pending which the ranking Past Commander able to serve shall act as Commander.

The Grand Commander may vary this procedure for reasons he may deem sufficient, and may issue a Dispensation to fill any vacancy, pending which a junior Past Commander shall act as Commander.

#### THE TREASURER

Sec. 55. It is the duty of the Treasurer:

To perform such duties as are prescribed by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Commandery, and the By-laws of his

Commandery.

## THE RECORDER

Sec. 56. It is the duty of the Recorder:

- A. To give Notice of all Conclaves; Notice of Special Conclaves shall state the business to be transacted.
- B. To issue Summons when directed by the Commander or the Commandery.
- C. To record correctly all transactions of the Commandery.
- D. To collect all dues and assessments and other moneys due the Commandery, and promptly turn over the same to the Treasurer.
- E. To have in charge the Seal of the Commandery and affix it to all papers requiring the same.
- F. To report annually to the Grand Recorder the Roll of Officers and such other Information as may be prescribed by the Grand Commandery, to transmit promptly to the Grand Commander and Grand Recorder copies of all By-Laws and Resolutions adopted by the Commandery.
- G. To submit his books for examination when required by the Commandery, or when required by the Grand Commander.

## OFFICIAL BONDS

Sec. 57. Each Commandery shall provide a fidelity bond for Recorders and Treasurers of Commanderies under such regulations as the Grand Commandery may enact.

## SPECIAL ELECTION

Sec. 58. The Grand Commander may authorize a Special Election to fill vacancies in Commandery offices.

## PRECEDENCE OF RANK

Sec. 59. The precedence of rank shall be as follows:

- The Commander,
- The Generalissimo,
- The Captain General,
- The Past Commanders according to seniority of service,
- The Senior Warden,
- The Junior Warden,
- The Prelate,
- The Treasurer,
- The Recorder,
- The Standard Bearer,
- The Sword Bearer,
- The Warder,
- The Sentinel and the Guards.

## QUALIFICATIONS NOT TO BE CHANGED

Sec. 60. The Order of Knighthood shall be conferred only upon Candidates who possess the qualifications for membership fixed by the Statutes of the Grand Encampment. Such qualifications, when defined, shall not be changed by Grand Commanderies or Commanderies.

#### PETITIONS

Sec. 61. Petitions for the Orders or for affiliation, reinstatement or dual membership shall be acted upon at Stated Conclaves only. No petition for the Orders or membership shall be balloted on in a period less than two weeks from its presentation to the Commandery, provided however that the Grand Commander may by dispensation authorize the balloting upon petition or petitions for the Orders or for affiliation, reinstatement or dual membership at the same Conclave, at which the same may be presented, with the requirements of such notice thereof to the members of the Commandery, as he may deem proper.

#### FEE FOR ORDERS

Sec. 62. No Commandery in the State of Maryland shall confer the Orders of Knighthood for a less sum than one hundred fifty (\$150) dollars.

The fee may not be remitted directly or indirectly. In all cases the full amount of the fee for the Orders must accompany the petition.

#### SOJOURNERS

Sec. 63.

- A. No Commandery may confer any of the Orders, upon any Sojourner, unless the consent of the Commandery having territorial Jurisdiction is first obtained, provided, however, that it shall be lawful for any Commandery to receive the petition of and confer the Orders upon any person belonging to the Regular or Extended Active Duty in the uniformed Services of the United States who shall have been stationed within its territorial jurisdiction for at least Six months prior to the presentation of his petition. In the event of a violation of this Section, the Commandery offending shall pay to the Commandery having territorial jurisdiction, the fees received for such admission and be subject to such other penalties as may be provided by law.
- B. A Sir Knight of a Commandery under the Jurisdiction of another Grand Commandery, the laws of which so provide, may affiliate with a Commandery in Maryland if he meets all the requirements of affiliation. His petition must be accompanied by a current certificate of good standing from his home Commandery. A Sir Knight of a Commandery in Maryland may request a certificate of good standing for the purpose of transferring his membership or applying for dual membership in a Commandery under the jurisdiction of another Grand Commandery, the laws of which so provide. There is no residential requirement of territorial Jurisdiction applicable to petitioners for dual membership.

#### ORDER OF SUCCESSION

Sec. 64. The Orders shall be conferred in the following succession: Red Cross, Knight of Malta and Knight of the Temple. The Order of Malta may be conferred in short form.

## ASSESSMENTS

Sec. 65. A Commandery has the right to levy and collect such annual dues and per capita assessments as it may deem necessary to defray its expenses.

## AMENDMENTS AND ALTERATIONS

Sec. 66. The Grand Commandery upon the concurrence of three-fourths of its members present at any Stated Conclave, may revise, amend and alter the Constitution, and by a two-thirds vote of the members present, may revise, amend and alter the regulations; provided a written copy of the motion so to revise, amend or alter shall be filed at one Annual or Semi-Annual Conclave and acted upon at the next Annual or Semi-Annual Conclave, publicity being given by incorporating the proposed alteration or amendment in the printed proceedings.

## REPEALING CLAUSE

Sec. 67. All Constitution provisions not included in this Constitution are hereby repealed.

**THE REGULATIONS  
-OF THE-  
GRAND COMMANDERY, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR  
OF STATE OF MARYLAND**

**RANK OF COMMANDERIES**

Sec. 100. The Commanderies rank according to the dates of their Charters.

**CONTINUANCE**

Sec. 101. This Grand Commandery continues as long as it has Three Commanderies; when the number of its Commanderies is less than Three, it becomes extinct, and its property and effects vest in the Grand Encampment.

**DISSOLUTION**

Sec. 102. If this Grand Commandery should dissolve, its Commanderies become at once Subordinate Commanderies.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Sec. 103. A member of this Grand Commandery forfeits all rights of membership by being unaffiliated with a Commandery during such period of unaffiliation.

Sec. 104. Plural and Dual Membership

- A. A Sir Knight of a Commandery or Commanderies in other Grand Jurisdictions, whose laws do not forbid dual membership, may affiliate with a Maryland Commandery if he is at least eighteen years of age and meets and all other requirements of affiliation, and shall be known as a Dual Member if he is subsequently elected to membership in that Commandery. Petitions for dual membership or affiliation are governed by the Statutes of Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of United States of America.
- B. A Sir Knight of a Maryland Commandery may affiliate with other Maryland Commanderies and shall be known as a Plural Member if he is subsequently elected to membership in those Commanderies. In both situations his application must be accompanied by a current certification of good standing from his home Commandery.
  - 1. The membership of a plural or dual member in a Maryland Commandery shall not be affected by his demit from another Maryland Commandery or any Commandery in any other Grand Jurisdiction. Expulsion or suspension for cause by another Maryland Commandery or by a Commandery in any other Grand Jurisdiction shall automatically terminate his membership in a Maryland Commandery upon receipt of certified action by the other Commandery.
  - 2. Dual membership entitles an affiliating Sir Knight from any other Grand Jurisdiction to all the rights and privileges of a member of the Maryland Commandery with which he

affiliates, without regard to such honors and offices he may have received or attained in any other Grand Jurisdiction. However, a Sir Knight who affiliates with a Maryland Commandery and relinquishes his membership in all other Commanderies of another Grand Jurisdiction shall be recognized by his Maryland Commandery as having all of the honors that were accorded him in his former Commandery.

3. If a Plural Sir Knight is a member of two or more Maryland Commanderies, and Commandery membership is a factor in a particular situation, he shall be considered a member of his home Commandery.
4. An installed Commander holding plural memberships shall be automatically enrolled in the Commandery which has installed him as his home Commandery for all purposes of Grand Commandery functions and organization.
5. A Sir Knight may not be elected to serve as Commander when he has been elected to serve in the same term in another Maryland Commandery, except if granted prior dispensation of the Grand Commander, and it shall be the joint responsibility of the Sir Knight and Commandery to prohibit this situation without prior dispensation.

### COMMITTEES

Sec. 105. This Grand Commandery may provide for the appointment of such Committees as may be necessary for the transaction of its business or for the good of the Order, and may prescribe their duties.

### BY-LAWS

Sec. 106. This Grand Commandery may enact a uniform Code of By-Laws for the government of its Constituent Commanderies, but all By-Laws of such Constituent Commanderies must be approved by the Grand Commandery, provided however, that the Grand Commander may approve By-Laws or Amendments thereof adopted during the recess of the Grand Commandery, which action shall be subject to review at the next succeeding Conclave of the Grand Commandery.

### LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

Sec. 107. Life Memberships are not permitted in this Jurisdiction.

Sec. 108. A rejected petitioner for the Orders, if still residing within the Jurisdiction of the Commandery petitioned, may again petition after the expiration of six months, but shall not petition any other Commandery until the expiration of three years after such rejection, unless the consent of the Commandery by which he was rejected is given by unanimous ballot.

## COMMANDERIES UNDER DISPENSATION

### PETITIONERS

Sec. 109. A petition for a dispensation for a new Commandery may be signed by any Knight Templar residing within the territorial jurisdiction of the proposed new Commandery. Petitioners who are members of a Commandery need not demit, but may secure from the Recorder of their

respective Commanderies, Certificates of Good Standing under the Seal of the Commandery, showing that the member has paid for at least three months beyond the date of the certificate. The Certificate of Good Standing of the petitioners or their demits shall be filed with the petition. After action upon the petition by the Grand Commander or Grand Commandery, the certificates and demits shall be filed with the Grand Recorder whether such action has been favorable or unfavorable. If the action is favorable, the Grand Recorder shall report the same to the Commandery issuing the Certificates of Good Standing. If the action is unfavorable all demits, which accompanied the petition, shall be returned to the petitioners to whom they were issued, and all Certificates of Good Standing shall be canceled and returned to the Commanderies, which issued them.

#### STATUS OF PETITIONERS

Sec. 110. After a dispensation to form a new Commandery is granted, the membership of the petitioners in their own Commanderies remains in abeyance. They become Active Members of the Commandery under dispensation, and are not required to pay dues to their own Commanderies while members of the Commandery under Dispensation, unless they desire to be plural members of both Commanderies. If a Charter is refused, the petitioners resume membership in their own Commanderies.

Sec. 111. Any petitioner for a dispensation for a new Commandery may sever his connection with such new Commandery at any time before a Charter is granted by notice to the Grand Recorder, and the new Commandery, and his Certificate of Good Standing or demit shall be returned, and his former status resumed.

Sec. 112. When a dispensation for a new Commandery has been refused, the matter can be revived only by a new petition.

#### COMMENCEMENT OF WORK

Sec. 113. A Commandery under dispensation requires no formal proceedings in order to commence work. The members assemble and proceed as if the Commandery were regularly constituted.

#### POWERS

Sec. 114. A Commandery under dispensation cannot enact By-Laws, but it may prescribe such rules as are necessary for its government. A copy thereof must be recorded with the Grand Commandery, or it cannot be represented in this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 115. Except as otherwise provided, a Commandery under dispensation has the same rights and powers as a Chartered Commandery.

#### TERM OF OFFICE

Sec. 116. The officers of such Commandery hold office during the continuance of the dispensation, unless removed by the Grand Commander.

Sec. 117. Any officer of a Commandery under dispensation may resign with the consent of the Grand Commander.

#### STATUS OF INITIATES

Sec. 118. Knights Templar created in a Commandery under dispensation bear the same relation to that Commandery and to other Knights Templar as is borne by those created in chartered Commanderies.

Sec. 119. Petitions presented to a Commandery under dispensation and not balloted on may be considered and acted on by the Commandery after it is constituted under charter.

Sec. 120. When a Commandery under dispensation ceases to exist, the non-affiliated petitions and the Knights Templar created therein are entitled to a certificate from the Grand Recorder showing that they are non-affiliated Knights Templar, which shall have the effect of a demit.

#### COMMANDERIES - CONSTITUTION OF

Sec. 121. No Commandery shall be constituted until it is provided with a suitable Asylum properly furnished.

Sec. 122. A Commandery cannot be constituted without a Charter.

Sec. 123. Officers of a Commandery shall not be named in a Charter, but shall be elected and installed after the Commandery is constituted.

Sec. 124. Until the Commandery is constituted, the Officers thereof are not members of the Grand Commandery and cannot vote therein.

Sec. 125. A Commandery can be constituted only by the Grand Commander, or his appointed proxy. Nine members must be present.

Sec. 126. The Officer constituting the Commandery shall make report thereof to the Grand Commander whose proxy he was.

#### REGULATIONS COVERING BY-LAWS

Sec. 127. When a Commandery has been constituted, it shall enact By-Laws for its government and the transaction of its business, not in conflict with the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment and the laws and Regulations of this Grand Commandery.

Sec. 128. Grand Encampment laws govern consolidation of Commanderies and Grand Commanderies may not pass by-laws governing the subject. (1931, p. 82 & 267, No. 9, Sharp):

The Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery may investigate and may determine to initiate proceedings to consolidate two or more Commanderies if in their judgment it

should be undertaken. He shall cause a conference to be held by him with the Eminent Commanders of the Commanderies involved. Two or more Commanderies having concurrent jurisdiction or stationed in adjoining jurisdictions may be consolidated into one Commandery provided that the proposition for such consolidation shall be presented at a Stated Conclave of each Commandery, which proposition shall be acted upon at a subsequent Stated Conclave. Notice thereof shall be mailed to all Members of each Commandery involved at least ten days prior to such Conclave. A consolidation shall not be effected unless at least two-thirds of the Members present at each Commandery vote in favor of the proposition.

Two or more Commanderies having thus decided to consolidate may unite under the Charter of one of the said Commanderies, retaining the Officers thereof, or they may elect new Officers by a proper dispensation. The Charter or Charters surrendered must be deposited with the Grand Recorder.

Sec. 129. The title to all property and effects of the consolidating Commanderies shall upon consolidation vest in the new Commandery, and the new Commandery shall be liable for all indebtedness of the several Commanderies consolidating.

All Members of the Commanderies consolidation shall, immediately upon consolidation become members of the new Commandery.

Sec. 130. A Charter surrendered or arrested cannot be used to form a new Commandery, but may be restored by the Grand Commandery to not less than nine unaffiliated former members in good standing. In such case it is not proper to reconstitute the Commandery, but its number and rank shall be restored.

Sec. 131. The forfeiture or surrender of the Charter of a Commandery does not affect the good standing of the members thereof.

Sec. 132. When the Charter of a Commandery is surrendered or arrested, the members in Good Standing, upon payment to the Grand Commandery of the dues owing by them, respectively, to the Commandery, prior to its demise, shall be entitled to a Certificate of Good Standing from the Grand Recorder, which shall have the effect of a demit.

Sec. 133. A member of a Commandery, which has ceased to exist from any cause other than having been consolidated with another Commandery, is not liable for dues to such Commandery after the same has ceased to exist.

The Grand Commandery has the right to collect from the members of such extinct Commanderies all dues chargeable against them at the time it became extinct, and to discipline those who refuse or neglect to pay the same.

When such Commandery ceases to exist, its members may join another Commandery upon petition and certificates from the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery that his standing was good when said Commandery ceased to exist.

The funds and other property of such extinct Commanderies become the property of the Grand Commandery.

Sec. 134. The Charter of a Commandery may be arrested for failure of the Commandery to hold a Conclave for twelve consecutive months.

## **COMMANDERIES - ELECTION OF CANDIDATES AND MEMBERS**

### **QUALIFICATIONS OF PETITIONERS**

Sec. 135. Anyone, is eligible to petition for the Orders of Knighthood:

- A. Who is a Master Mason, Royal Arch Mason and Cryptic Mason affiliated in lodge, chapter and council; or who is an affiliated Master Mason, and who has petitioned a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the Capitular degrees and a Council of Royal and Select Masters for the Cryptic degrees, provided, however, that none of the Orders of Knighthood shall be conferred upon said petitioner until he shall have received the Capitular and Cryptic degrees; and
- B. Who is a firm believer in the Christian religion; and
- C. Who is physically able to conform to the ceremonies of the Order or whose physical inability to so conform shall have been waived by dispensation of the Grand Commander; and
- D. Who, immediately prior to the date of his petition, has resided for at least one year within the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery; or who is a sojourner on whom the Commandery having jurisdiction, has waived such jurisdiction; or who is a member of the regular Armed Forces of the United States and has resided within the jurisdiction of the Commandery petitioned for at least six months immediately prior to the date of his petition.

### **CONTENTS OF PETITION**

Sec. 136. Every petition for the Orders of Knighthood shall declare the Lodge in which the petitioner received the degrees, the Lodge in which he is affiliated, the Chapter and Council in which he received or is to receive the Chapter and Council degrees and also the Chapter and Council in which he is or will be affiliated. It shall also give his full name, date of birth, residence and occupation and shall state whether he has or has not been rejected by any Commandery and the facts as to his residence, showing qualification as required by **Section 135.D.**

Sec. 137. The petitioner shall declare that he is a firm believer in the Christian religion, that he has read the petition and that he has personally signed the same. The petition must be signed by two members of the Commandery petitioned who shall vouch for the good character and Masonic standing of the petitioner and recommend favorable action.

### **PETITION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

Sec. 138. A petition, whether for the orders or for membership, shall be certified by the Recorder that the petitioner is in Good-Standing in, or has petitioned the prerequisite bodies of Masonry to the Commandery. No ballot shall be taken until such certification has been made and the fact that such certification was made shall be entered into the minutes of the Commandery.

#### WITHDRAWAL OF PETITION

Sec. 139. A petition may be withdrawn by the petitioner at any time before ballot.

#### BALLOT

Sec. 140. An unfavorable report regarding the petitioner does dispense with the necessity of a ballot.

Sec. 141. Every member present when a ballot on a petition is taken is required to vote unless excused by the Commander or Commandery before the balloting has commenced.

Sec. 142. The ballot upon a Petition for the Orders or for membership must be unanimous. The reason for casting a negative ballot cannot be disclosed or inquired into.

Sec. 143. Two or more petitions, whether for Orders or membership, regularly presented, may be balloted upon at one time. If such ballot is unanimous, each petitioner shall be declared elected. In the event of the appearance of a negative ballot in such group ballot, there must be a ballot upon each petition separately. A Commander may order one additional re-ballot before the result of a ballot upon any separate petition has been announced and before any member of the Commandery has left the Asylum.

#### FILING OF PETITION AFTER REJECTION

Sec. 144. A rejected petitioner for the Orders, if still residing within the Jurisdiction of the Commandery petitioned, may again petition after the expiration of six months, but shall not petition any other Commandery until the expiration of three years after such rejection, unless the consent of the Commandery by which he was rejected is given by unanimous ballot.

#### OBJECTIONS TO CONFERRING ORDERS UPON CANDIDATES AFTER BALLOT

Sec. 145. A member of the petitioner's Commandery, in Good Standing, whether or not present when the ballot was taken, may object to the conferring of the Order of the Red Cross upon an elected Candidate, and cannot be required to disclose his reason therefore. The objection may be made either in open Commandery or to the Commander, and is equivalent to rejection by ballot, and the Orders shall not be conferred. The fact that objection was made, and not the name of the objector, shall be entered on the minutes, but such objection may be withdrawn before it has been so entered.

Sec. 146. Except as provided in **Section 150**, any Companion of the Order of the Red Cross is entitled to receive the remaining Orders unless found unworthy after trial on charges duly preferred. Any member of the petitioner's Commandery who seeks to prevent or delay the

conferring of the remaining Order or Orders on any elected Candidate who shall have been constituted a Companion of the Order of the Red Cross shall be required to prefer written charges against him, which shall be filed with the Recorder of the Commandery. The Candidate shall be entitled to receive a copy of such charges and to be heard in person and by counsel, if the counsel is a Knight Templar. The remaining Orders cannot be conferred until such charges have been disposed of, either by withdrawal or determination according to the Disciplinary Rules of the Grand Encampment. Only the fact that charges have been preferred, and not the name of the objector or the nature of the charges, shall be entered on the minutes. Before the commencement of the hearing and on the request of the complainant, such charges may be withdrawn by vote by the Commandery.

#### MEMBER ENTITLED TO DEMIT

Sec. 147. A Member, upon written request presented in open Commandery, is entitled to a Demit without a vote of the Commandery, provided he is not indebted to the Commandery and no charges are pending against him. Such request severs his membership.

#### AFFILIATION IN LODGE, CHAPTER AND COUNCIL NECESSARY

Sec. 148. Affiliation in Lodge, Chapter and Council is necessary to qualify petitioner for membership. (Nothing in this section shall prohibit any Knight Templar admitted before this regulation from any rights and privileges now afforded him, nor prevent the conferring of the orders on a Royal Arch Mason before the Cryptic degrees are actually conferred.)

#### CONTINUOUS AFFILIATION

Sec. 149. If a Member wishes to change his membership and be continuously affiliated, he may file his petition with the Commandery in which he desires membership and with it a Certificate of Good Standing from the Recorder of his Commandery under the Seal thereof showing that his dues have been paid three months in advance, and shall file a written application to his Commandery for a Demit. If he is elected to membership in the Commandery petitioned, the Recorder thereof shall immediately forward said Application for a Demit to the Commandery to which it is addressed, and when the Demit is received, it shall be filed with the Petition, and the Sir Knight's name shall be entered as a member of the Commandery petitioned as of even date with the Demit. If the Petitioner is rejected, the Certificate of Good Standing and Application shall be returned to him.

#### ELECTION VOIDED BY FAILURE TO RECEIVE ORDERS

Sec. 150. Failure of a candidate to present himself for the Orders within twelve months after receiving his first written notice to appear for the conferring of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross may void his election, and the disposition of any fees paid or any deposit made shall be determined according to the Laws of this Grand Commandery.

One constituted a Companion of the Order of the Red Cross who fails to receive the remaining Orders within One Year after having received the Order of the Red Cross may not be entitled to receive such remaining Orders unless by a favorable and unanimous ballot of the Commandery, such time shall be extended; but at any time that no such extension is in effect, he may be

suspended, after due notice and opportunity to be heard.

#### HEALING

Sec. 151. The Grand Commander has the power to heal an irregularly created Knight Templar residing in this jurisdiction, and may authorize a Commandery or Commander to do so.

One Knighted in a clandestine manner or in a spurious Commandery cannot be healed.

#### HONORARY MEMBERS

Sec. 152. A Commandery by unanimous ballot, after due reference to a committee and ballot had at a subsequent Stated Conclave, may elect as an Honorary Member a member of another Commandery, but such election does not confer the right to vote, nor does it create any liability for dues.

#### CONFERRING ORDERS UPON APPLICANT NECESSARY QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Sec. 153. Until the three Orders of Knighthood have been conferred upon an applicant, he is not possessed of the necessary qualifications for membership and therefore not subject to the payment of dues, but is subject to discipline by the Commandery for Knightly conduct.

Sec. 154. Those to whom a Charter is issued and those who receive the Orders in a Commandery are ipso facto Members thereof except where the Orders have been conferred for and by request of another Commandery.

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

Sec. 155. Voluntary non-affiliation in a Lodge, Chapter or Council for six months shall deprive a Knight Templar of his membership in the Commandery after due notice and hearing.

Sec. 156. When a Knight Templar has been suspended or expelled from his Lodge, Chapter, or Council for any reason, he shall, after due notice and hearing, with respect to the fact of such suspension or expulsion only, be suspended or expelled, as the case may be, from his Commandery.

Sec. 157. When a Knight Templar has been suspended or expelled from his Commandery solely because of his suspension or expulsion from his Lodge, Chapter or Council, restoration in such Lodge, Chapter or Council shall entitle him to restoration in his Commandery on written application therefore and a majority vote at a Stated Conclave.

When he has been suspended from his Commandery solely because of non-payment of dues to the Commandery, he may be restored to membership on written application therefore and a majority vote at a Stated Conclave and payment of such part of his dues in arrears as the Commandery may require.

## SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION FOR UNKNIGHTLY CONDUCT

Sec. 158. When a Knight Templar has been expelled from his Lodge, Chapter, or Council, for any reason, he shall be expelled, as the case may be, from the Commandery.

Sec. 159. Suspension or expulsion of a Knight Templar by the Grand Encampment, a Grand Commandery, or a Commandery deprives him of membership in the Commandery and all rights and privileges of Knighthood so long as the judgment remains in force.

## RESTORATION OF MEMBERSHIP OR GOOD STANDING

Sec. 160. When a Knight Templar has been suspended or expelled for un-knightly conduct, he may be restored to membership on petition if the ballot is unanimous. If it be only a majority ballot, he is restored to good standing but not to membership.

Sec. 161. The Grand Commandery may, on appeal, reverse a sentence pronounced by a Constituent Commandery; and when so reversed, the Knight is restored to his former status in his Commandery.

## NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

Sec. 162. No member shall be suspended for non-payment of dues until after due notice has been given to such member to appear at the time it is proposed to act upon the matter and an opportunity given him to be heard.

Sec. 163. When a member of a Commandery is summoned to show cause why he should not be suspended for non-payment of dues and fails to appear, the Commander cannot declare him suspended until the Commandery has so voted.

## DISCIPLINARY RULES

Sec. 164. In the conduct of all trials and all proceedings incident thereto, the Disciplinary Rules adopted by the Grand Encampment shall be observed.

## CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN COMMANDERIES

Sec. 165. Correspondence between Commanderies of different Grand Commanderies must be conducted through their respective Grand Commanders, except in cases of petitions for waiver of jurisdiction.

Sec. 166. Correspondence between a Subordinate Commandery and a Constituent Commandery must be conducted through the Grand Master and the Grand Commander.

Sec. 167. Complaints and correspondence must be addressed in the first instance to the Commander, through him to the Grand Commander, and if proper, through him to the Grand

Master. A member of the Grand Encampment may communicate directly with the Grand Master, and a Past Grand Commander and all Officers of a Grand Commandery may communicate directly with the Grand Commander. If the proper officer refuses or neglects to forward communications as herein provided, the complainant may transmit the same directly to the superior Officer.

## **COMMANDERIES MISCELLANIOUS PROVISIONS**

### **APPEARANCE IN PUBUC**

Sec. 168. Commanderies shall not appear in public without a dispensation, except upon funeral occasions or to attend religious service.

Sec. 169. The determination of what is proper occasion for a Commandery to appear in public belongs to the Grand Commander.

Sec. 170. A Commandery shall appear in public only in Templar Uniform.

Sec. 171. Neither this Grand Commandery nor any of its Constituent Commanderies shall hold a Conclave or perform any Templar work on Sunday, except for the purpose of conducting funerals, attending religious services, or conducting practice or tactical or other drills for instruction.

### **ASYLUM**

Sec. 172. A Constituent Commandery, with the approval of the Grand Commander, may remove its Asylum from one building to another in the same municipality by a vote of the majority of its membership present at a Stated Conclave after due notice of the proposed change.

### **CHARTER**

Sec. 173. The dispensation or charter of a Commandery must be in the Asylum throughout a Conclave.

Sec. 174. If the Charter of a Commandery, is lost, mutilated or destroyed, the Grand Commander, upon satisfactory proof, shall direct the Grand Recorder to issue an attested copy thereof under seal.

### **FUNERAL SERVICE**

Sec. 175. Only a Knight Templar in Good Standing is entitled to Templar funeral honors, but a Commandery may grant them to, or withhold them from, an unaffiliated Knight Templar. The funeral service adopted by the Grand Encampment shall be followed.

### **CONFERRING ORDERS FOR ANOTHER COMMANDERY**

Sec. 176. A Commandery may confer the Orders upon a candidate elected by another Commandery to receive them, at the request of such other Commandery.

## COMMANDERY ENTERING ANOTHER JURISDICTION

Sec. 177. When a Commandery by permission enters the jurisdiction of a Grand Commandery other than its own, it is under the immediate control of its own Grand Commander.

## VISITORS

Sec. 178. In so far as he is not properly vouched for, a visitor must be examined in all the preceding Degrees, as well as in the Orders, before admission to the Asylum.

Sec. 179. If a member objects, no member of another Commandery can be admitted into an Asylum unless he visits in an official capacity. The objection may be made openly in the Commandery or privately to the Commander, and in neither case can the objector be required to disclose the reason for his objection.

Sec. 180. A Knight Templar created in a foreign jurisdiction must be a Master Mason and Royal Arch Mason in good standing, and the Order of the Red Cross conferred or communicated before he can be admitted to the Asylum.

Sec. 181. In case a Knight Templar created in a Foreign Jurisdiction, which does not recognize the Order of the Red Cross as a necessary prerequisite for the Order of the Temple applies for permission to visit any Commandery under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, such Knight Templar cannot be allowed to visit until the Order of the Red Cross has been communicated to him. Such Order may be communicated by the Commander or a Past Commander of the Commandery proposed to be visited.

## SEAL

Sec. 182. The presiding Officer of a Commandery has the right to order its Seal affixed to any certificate or other document, which he can legally issue in the name of the Commandery.

## SUMMONS

Sec. 183. A Summons issued by the Commander shall be attested by the Recorder under the Seal of the Commandery.

Sec. 184. A Summons may be personally served on the Knight Templar to whom it is addressed, or it may be left at his place of residence or business, or mailed to him at his last known address.

## RITUAL

Sec. 185. The rituals, as promulgated by the Grand Encampment, cannot be altered or abridged except by the action of the Grand Encampment.

Sec. 186. The rituals of the Red Cross, Knight of Malta and Knight Templar are under the sole supervision and control of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of

America and may be published and issued by it alone. It is unlawful for any Commandery or member thereof to use any other than those authorized by the Grand Encampment and issued by it, or to write, print, publish, issue, or cause to be written, printed, published, issued or used any other Ritual in connection with said Orders or any one of them.

#### OFFICERS - RESIGNATION - FILING VACANCIES- RETENTION OF RANK RESIGNATION

Sec. 187. Any officer of this Grand Commandery or of a Constituent Commandery may resign his office by filing a written resignation with the respective Grand Recorder or Recorder, save that the resignation of the Grand Recorder shall be filed with the Grand Commander and of the Recorder of a Commandery with the Commander, provided that the resignation of an officer of a Constituent Commandery shall not be effective until accepted by the Commandery.

#### FILLING VACANCIES

Sec. 188. A vacancy in any office of the Grand Commandery created by resignation shall be filed as prescribed in Sections 17 and 18 of the Constitution as to the offices therein mentioned; as to all other offices, by appointment by the Grand Commander. A vacancy in a Commandery office shall be filled as prescribed in Section 54 of the Constitution.

#### RETENTION OF RANK

Sec. 189. One who has filled by installation and term of service the office of Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo or Grand Captain General in a Grand Commandery, or Commander in a Commandery, shall retain the title of the highest office attained by him in the Grand Commandery and Commandery, with the word 'Past' immediately preceding and qualifying the official title. Past rank is limited to the offices named in this section.

Sec. 190. A member resigning from any of the offices enumerated in the preceding section shall retain the title of the highest office attained by him in which he has served a full term, and shall not retain the title of the office occupied by him at the time of his resignation.

Sec. 191. The Commander of a Commandery under dispensation does not become a Past Commander when such Commandery is Chartered.

#### HONORARY TITLES

Sec. 192. Honorary titles may be conferred upon Sir Knights who have rendered long, outstanding and distinguished service in the cause of Templary in conformity with the provisions hereof. No titles of office, whether active or honorary, shall be conferred by this Grand Commandery, or any Constituent Commandery except the title of active officers named in, or authorized by, the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, or honorary titles as authorized in this section. This Grand Commandery, and each Constituent Commandery, shall have the right, in conformity to the provisions of this section, to confer honorary titles as follows:

Sec. 193. The Grand Commandery may confer the honorary titles of Honorary Past Grand

Commander, Grand Treasurer Emeritus, Grand Recorder Emeritus, and Grand Prelate Emeritus upon written approval of the Grand Master.

Sec. 194. Constituent Commanderies may confer the honorary titles of Honorary Past Commander, Treasurer Emeritus, Recorder Emeritus, and Prelate Emeritus upon written approval by the Grand Commander.

Sec. 195. The holder of such honorary title shall have no right, by virtue of such honorary title, to exercise any of the functions or powers of the office as to which he holds honorary title, nor shall he by virtue of such honorary title wear the jewel of the office to which such title pertains. The holder of such honorary title, however, shall be privileged to wear the uniform and shoulder straps of the office to which such honorary title applies, and there may be conferred upon him a jewel and shoulder straps appropriate to his honorary title, provided that such jewel and shoulder straps must bear a specific notation that the title which it represents is honorary only.

Sec. 196. Such honorary titles shall not be conferred upon any Sir Knight other than a member of the respective Commandery or Grand Commandery by which the honorary title is conferred.

Sec. 197. The precedence of rank for holders of such honorary titles shall be in the order of seniority appropriate to the office for which the honorary title is applicable, except that:

- A. The holder of the title of a past officer by virtue of service shall take precedence over the holder of any honorary title, and provided further:
- B. The Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, and all Past Grand Commanders shall take precedence over all holders of honorary titles, and
- C. In any Constituent Commandery the Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, and all Past Commanders shall take precedence over all holders of honorary titles.

#### APPROVAL OF BY-LAWS

Sec. 198. Amendments to the By-Laws of the Constituent Commanderies shall be referred to the Jurisprudence and By-Laws Committee for examination and recommendation to the Grand Commander before he takes action thereon. Such Amendments shall be submitted in triplicate and a copy thereof as finally approved shall be kept among the records of the Grand Recorder.

#### TRANSFER OF SECURITIES

Sec. 199. That the following officers, to wit: Grand Commander and Grand Treasurer of this Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Maryland be, and they hereby are, fully authorized and empowered to transfer, convert, endorse, sell, assign, set over and deliver any and all shares of stock, bonds, notes, stock purchase warrants, evidences of indebtedness, or other securities now or hereafter standing in the name of or owned by this Grand Commandery, and to make, execute and deliver, under the corporate seal of this Grand Commandery, any and all written instruments of assignment and transfer necessary or proper to effectuate the authority hereby conferred.

#### UNITED STATES FLAG

Sec. 200. All Commanderies in this Grand Jurisdiction shall display a regulation Flag of the United States in their respective Asylums to be placed on the dais at the extreme right.

## UNIFORM REGULATIONS

### Sec. 201. TEMPLAR COAT

#### A. FOR SIR KNIGHTS

1. The Templar coat shall be a double breasted coat made of dull black fabric with three outside pockets, one on each hip with straight square flaps and one on the left breast, and three black Cross and Crown No. 30 (3/4-inch diameter) Knights Templar Buttons down each forefront.
2. Each sleeve shall be trimmed with a strip of silver braid (lace), one-quarter inch wide, encircling the sleeve at a point three inches from the bottom of the braid to the bottom edge of the sleeve. Each sleeve shall be ornamented with a bullion/embroidered or metal red passion cross two inches in height which may be outlined in silver without rays, placed on the outside center one half inch above the lace. No sleeve buttons or velvet cuffs.
3. The coat shall have a three to four inch slit over the left hip either under the pocket flap or in the side seam (to be used for access to sword hook and sling straps).
4. Lapel pins shall be worn one-half inch below the notch and properly centered with base parallel with the notch. A silver "MD" lapel pin shall be worn on the right and on the left lapel the member's Commandery number in silver.
5. Shoulder straps, when authorized, shall be attached one-half inch in-board from each shoulder seam. Shoulder straps are authorized for: Captain General, Generalissimo, and Commander (green background with emblem of office in silver); Past Commander (red background with passion cross with rays); Grand Commandery Officer (red background with Templar cross); and Past Grand Commander (purple background with Templar cross).
6. The coat shall be worn with a plain white shirt having a turn down collar, a plain black tie without jewelry, black trousers and buff-colored gloves.

#### B. FOR COMMANDERS

The Templar coat shall be the same as that of the Sir Knights except as herein specified. Each sleeve shall be trimmed with a strip of Gold braid (lace), one-quarter inch wide, encircling the sleeve at a point three inches from the bottom of the braid to the bottom edge of the sleeve. Each sleeve shall be ornamented with a bullion/embroidered or metal red passion cross outlined in gold with rays, two inches in height. Lapel pins shall be gold toned.

#### C. FOR PAST COMMANDERS

The Templar coat shall be the same as that of Commanders with the addition of a strip of gold lace, one-quarter inch wide, encircling each sleeve at a point one-half inch from the bottom of the braid to the bottom edge of the sleeve.

#### D. FOR GRAND OFFICERS

The Templar coat shall be the same as that of a Past Commander except with a bullion/embroidered or metal red Templar cross outlined in gold, one and one-half inches in height and width, in place of the passion cross with rays. Both lapel pins shall be a gold tone MD.

#### E. FOR THE GRAND COMMANDER

The Templar coat shall be the same as that for the Grand Officers, with the addition of a stripe of gold lace one inch wide encircling each sleeve midway between the existing gold stripes. The Grand Commander of Maryland's jewel of office shall be suspended from a red cord about his neck, with only the Malta jewel worn on the left breast pocket.

#### F. FOR PAST GRAND COMMANDERS

The Templar coat shall be the same as that for the Grand Commander except that the Templar sleeve crosses shall be purple trimmed in gold.

#### Sec. 202. JEWELS

Only approved Knights Templar jewels and medals shall be worn; and these shall be attached to the left breast pocket in the following order from the left arm:

Red Cross Jewel

Malta Jewel

Award Jewel

Commandery Jewel

Past Officer Jewel

Officer or station jewel

The Past Commander's Association Jewel and Veteran's Medal\* may be worn centered above the row of jewels, with the Veteran's Medal\* inboard of the Past Commander's Jewel.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT JEWELS SHALL BE WORN BELOW THE NAME BADGE

\* Approved as a Service Award for all who have served on Active Duty a minimum of 180 continuous days in the recognized Armed Forces of the United States of America.

#### Sec. 203. NAME BADGE

Shall be 3-inches by ¾-inch and shall be worn on the right side of coat at the same level as other jewels.

#### Sec. 204. TEMPLAR CHAPEAU

The Templar chapeau with black plumes shall conform with those heretofore and now in general use. On the left side shall be a black satin rosette, elliptical in shape surrounded by black satin points.

- A. For Sir Knights – In the center of the rosette shall be a bullion/embroidered red passion cross three inches in height which may be bordered in silver without rays.
- B. For Commanders and Past Commanders – In the center of the rosette shall be a bullion/embroidered red passion cross three inches in height bordered in gold with rays.
- C. For Grand Officers - In the center of the rosette shall be a bullion/embroidered red Templar cross two and one half inches in height bordered in gold.
- D. For Grand Commanders - In the center of the rosette shall be a bullion/embroidered red Templar cross two and one half inches in height bordered in gold. The chapeau will have the front peak ornamented with gold or gilt tassels and with gold braid (lace) one and a half inches wide on both sides diagonally across both peaks and under the outer edges of the rosette and points.

- E. For Past Grand Commander – The same as for the Grand Commander except the Templar cross shall be purple bordered in gold.

#### Sec. 205. DRESS CAP

In lieu of the chapeau and/or fatigue cap, a military style black dress cap as follows:

- A. For Past Grand Commanders: Military style dress cap with black top, black band, and black visor with one row of gold oak leaves and acorns, purple Templar Cross two inches in height, bullion/embroidered or metal, trimmed in gold, fixed to the front of the cap, and a gold chin strap attached with gold buttons.
- B. For Grand Commander: Same as above except red Templar Cross.
- C. For Grand Commandery officers: Same as above except plain black visor.
- D. For Commanders and Past Commanders: Same as above except with a red Passion Cross two inches in height, bullion/embroidered or metal, trimmed in gold with rays.
- E. For all other Sir Knights: Same as above except using a red Passion Cross two inches in height, bullion/embroidered or metal, trimmed in silver without rays, and a silver chin strap attached with silver buttons.

#### Sec. 206. FATIGUE UNIFORM

The fatigue uniform shall consist of the Templar coat, trousers, fatigue cap, sword and scabbard, shirt, tie, black shoes and hose, and white gloves.

##### A. FATIGUE CAP

1. The fatigue cap shall be a military style cap having a black patent leather visor. It shall have a rigid standing front and the crown shall have a conductor style circular rim and be made of black cloth having a dull finish. It shall be trimmed with a black cap band; a flat black leather front strap fastened with white Knight Templar buttons; and a red passion cross, (one and one-quarter inches) in height with a raised center.
2. Commanders, Past Commanders, Grand Commanders, and Past Grand Commanders shall have the fatigue cap trimmed as applicably prescribed in accordance with **Section 205 A through E**.

#### Sec. 207. SUMMER UNIFORM

- A. Permitted Memorial Day through Labor Day, at the discretion of the presiding officer.
- B. Pants: Plain Black as prescribed.
- C. Shirt: White shirt, short sleeves, of military style with shoulder epaulets and two flap pockets, one on each breast.
- D. Tie: Black tie optional at the discretion of the Senior Officer present.
- E. Sword Belt & Sword: As prescribed. No slings to be used.
- F. Shoes: As prescribed.
- G. Name Badge: The name badge shall be of metal, gold color, 1/2-inch wide by 2 1/2-inch long, with the full name of the wearer in black letters to be worn centered above the wearer's right pocket.
- H. A metal ribbon bar, representing Commandery Jewels, to be worn centered over the wearer's left pocket.
  1. The metal bar shall contain three black panels, each surrounded with a silver line, each panel 1-inch wide.
  2. On the left panel shall be a miniature Red Cross Jewel, on the center panel shall be centered a miniature Malta Jewel

3. On the right panel, shall be a Templar Cross with a Cross and Crown in the center.
- I. Shoulder Insignia:
1. For Grand Commandery Officers: A red Templar Cross surrounded by a gold line, one-inch square, to be worn in the center of each epaulet.
  2. For Past Grand Commanders: The same except the color shall be purple.
  3. For Past Commanders, Commanders, Generalissimos, and Captains General: A metal bar, 3/4-inch by 1 1/2-inch of green or red color surrounded by a gold or silver line, as appropriate to the office, with appropriate emblems of their rank as currently prescribed to be worn centered on each epaulet. Essentially these are miniatures of currently prescribed shoulder straps in metal, and of similar configuration.
- J. Collar Insignia (optional):
1. For Grand or Past Grand Commandery Officers, shall be 1/2-inch gold cut out letters with the abbreviation of the State as prescribed by the US Postal Service to be worn on the wearer's left and right collar
  2. For Commanders or Past Commanders, 1/2-inch gold State Abbreviations as above on the left collar with 1/2-inch cut out gold Commandery Number on right collar.
  3. Sir Knights below the rank of Commander are the same as for Commanders and Past Commanders, except the color shall be silver. These insignia to be worn centered on the collar and parallel with the top edge and set back 3/4-inch from the leading edge of the collar.
- K. Cap:
1. For Past Grand Commanders: Military style Navel Garrison Cap with white top, black band, and black visor with one row of gold oak leaves and acorns, metal purple Templar Cross, 2-1/4-inch square, fixed to the front of the black band and a gold chin strap attached with gold buttons.
  2. For Grand Commanders: Same as above except red Templar Cross.
  3. For Grand Commandery Officers: Same as above except plain black visor.
  4. For Commanders and Past Commanders: Same as above except with a 1 3/4-inch by 2-inch red metal Passion Cross trimmed in gold with rays.
  5. For all other Sir Knights: Same as above except using a red metal passion cross trimmed in silver and a silver chin strap attached with silver buttons.

#### Sec. 208. Ceremonial Uniform

In lieu of the regulation Templar uniform, a Constituent Commandery, with approval of the Grand Commandery, may provide and use ceremonial attire conforming to and consistent with the historical traditions and practices of Templary.

**BY - LAWS  
OF THE  
GRAND COMMANDERY, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR  
OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND**

1.

The dues of members shall be payable January first, in advance, for the calendar year. A card issued by the Recorder showing such payment on the reverse side of which shall be a certificate of the Grand Recorder with a seal of the Grand Commandery stating that the Commandery issuing the card is legally constituted. These cards shall be furnished by the Grand Recorder at cost plus postage

2.

Each Commandery shall meet at least once every three months for business. Special Conclaves may be called by the Eminent Commander at any time. (See Constitution, **Sec. 47.B.**)

The Charter of a Commandery may be arrested for failure of the Commandery to hold a Conclave for twelve consecutive months.

3.

Each Commandery shall hold its annual election either on Good Friday or at its Stated Conclave next preceding that day.

4.

Each Commandery shall, before the twentieth day of April in every year, transmit to the Grand Recorder - in such form as shall be furnished, its annual returns, as of April first, accompanied by the fees and dues to the Grand Commandery.

5.

Any Commandery, which shall have omitted to make its annual returns and payments on or before the twentieth of April, shall thereby be deprived of its representation in the Grand Commandery until all its arrearages are paid, and the Commandery shall be reported by the Committee on Accounts to the Grand Commandery.

6.

Any Commandery neglecting or refusing to make its annual returns, accompanied by fees and dues, shall be notified thereof by the Grand Recorder, and if, after three months from date of notice, it fails to pay, it shall stand suspended until restored by the edict of the Grand Commander.

7.

The Treasurer of each constituent Commandery shall deposit the funds of his Commandery in a

Banking Institution, selected by the Commandery, in the name of the Commandery and subject to the order of at least two officers of the Commandery, one of whom shall be a bonded officer.

8.

The Recorder of each Constituent Commandery of this Jurisdiction shall notify the Grand Recorder, immediately after the Stated Conclave of his Commandery, of every rejection of an applicant for the Orders of membership, and of every suspension, expulsion, reinstatement, withdrawal or death of any member, upon a form to be furnished by the Grand Recorder.

9.

No public excursion or entertainment, where tickets of admission are sold to others than Knights Templar, shall be held by any Commandery of this Jurisdiction without the permission of the Grand Commander.

10.

Notices, which contain the names of applicants, shall be mailed in sealed envelopes. The Recorders shall place the names and addresses of the Grand Commander and the Grand Recorder on their mailing list for all notices issued to the members.

11.

The Grand Commander shall, upon the request of the Grand Commander of any other Jurisdiction, recommend a member of this Grand Commandery for appointment as Representative of such Grand Commandery near the Grand Commandery of Maryland. He may request a similar courtesy of the Grand Commanders of other jurisdictions and appoint the Sir Knights recommended as Representatives of the Grand Commandery of Maryland near such Grand Commanderies.

12.

All Representatives of Grand Commanderies near the Grand Commandery of Maryland shall hold office at the pleasure of the Grand Commander making the appointment, or his successor. Should a representative fail to attend three consecutive Grand Conclaves of the Grand Commandery of Maryland, the Grand Commander of Maryland may request termination of the neglected appointment and appoint another representative.

13.

The Commanders of the Commanderies in Baltimore County shall constitute a Committee to arrange: A joint Christmas Observance toast, Good Friday Service and Ascension Day Service. The expenses of each function to be Pro-rated and paid by the Baltimore County Commanderies.

14.

No Knight Templar within this jurisdiction shall wear or permit to be worn his Knight Templar or

Fatigue uniform or any portion thereof, upon any public or social occasion except he be in the line of his Commandery, or under command or orders of his superior officers; and any Knight Templar offending against the provisions of this law shall, after trial in his Commandery, if found guilty, be punished by suspension for such length of time as the Commandery shall deem proper.

15.

All Constituent Commanderies within this Grand Jurisdiction shall be required to, at least once a year, regardless of candidates, confer the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, Order of Malta and/or Order of the Temple and open their Commanderies in Full Form.

16.

A Finance Committee shall be appointed to assist the Grand Treasurer in handling the investments of this Grand Commandery.

17.

The moneys of this Grand Commandery shall be divided into Three Funds:

The First Fund shall be known as the General Fund and shall consist of all receipts not specifically designated.

The Second Fund shall be known as the “Keith A. Brown Endowment Fund” of this Grand Commandery. Shall consist of the bonds, stocks or any other form of investment, and any cash deposited in the endowment account.

Earnings from this fund may be drawn as follows:

- \$ 100,000 allows 60% drawn from earnings;
- \$ 150,000 allows 70% drawn from earnings;
- \$ 200,000 allows 80% drawn from earnings; and
- \$ 250,000 allows 90% drawn from earnings.

The Third Fund, to be known as the Education Foundation Fund of this Grand Commandery. Shall consist of bonds, stocks or any other form of investment, and any cash deposited in the educational foundation account.

Withdrawals on all Three Funds shall be signed as designated in **Section 9.I.**

A true copy of the Constitution, Regulations and By-Laws of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, of the State of Maryland, as adopted by the Grand Commandery, at the Annual Conclave, on October 24, 2020.

Kris D. Brown  
Grand Recorder

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