

Washington Masonic Code

2003



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WASHINGTON MASONIC CODE
2003
OF THE
MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE

OF
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF WASHINGTON

WITH
PREFACE AND APPENDICES



CLARIFIED AND AMENDED BY
GRAND LODGE CODE COMMISSIONS
APPOINTED IN JUNE 2001, AND JUNE 2002
SUBMITTED TO THE DELEGATES AND CONSTITUENT
LODGES FOR CONSIDERATION AND REPORTED TO
GRAND LODGE FOR ACTION JUNE 2003.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF
THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE
OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF WASHINGTON

Preface

Beginning in 2001, the Code Commission was charged to perform a complete review of the Washington Masonic Code. It was tasked especially to correct any typographical or omission errors, and to modify any language in the Code that was unclear, assuring that these changes remained faithful to the original intent. Their charge was similar to that given the 1980-83 Commission, “. . . by restructuring and rewriting the accumulated material . . . every member of the Constituent Lodges throughout Washington Jurisdiction will find the Code’s wisdom readily accessible and understandable.”

The 1983 Code had required nearly three years to complete and was a most worthy product. However, by 2001, the Code had not undergone a comprehensive review for nearly two decades, and the intervening years of legislative modifications had materially impaired the Code’s clarity, consistency, and usability. Understandably, in the Spring of 2000 The Grand Lodge Long Range Strategic Plan identified making the Code more “user friendly” as one of the Jurisdiction’s primary goals. To that end, the Code Commission remained essentially in tact for two successive Grand Lodge years, 2001 to 2003. Thanks to the application of modern technology, the Commission completed a draft revision of the Code in less than one year, allowing an extensive period for review and comment by the membership.

The Code Commission has spent many hours at the task and the revision presented here is the result of that effort. This revised Code is characteristically a work in progress. As the Commission completed its efforts, it acknowledged that several areas in the Code will require more complete study. However, both the Code Commission and the Jurisprudence Committee agree this new Code warranted acceptance, and it was adopted at the 2003 Grand Lodge Session in Tacoma.

M.: W.: Robert L. Van Zee
Grand Master
2001-2002

M.: W.: James N. Reid, Jr.
Grand Master
2002-2003

W. M. C. Historical Changes

The Constitutional Convention of December 6-8, 1858, at which was formed “The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington,” adopted a Constitution which in due time would be expanded as a compilation of Masonic laws and be known as the Washington Masonic Code.

The compilation was revised frequently and in 1929, after seventy-one years, had undergone seven re-printings and was due for its eighth. In that year, the delegates to the Seventy-second Annual Communication foresaw the need to guard against potential degrading of the literary quality of the Code. Permanent legislation was approved authorizing the designation of the Jurisprudence Committee as a Special Code Commission charged with the maintenance of the Code

In 1973, deficiencies in the structure and composition of the Code had increased to a serious degree. To maintain the quality of the Code, new legislation was adopted authorizing the Grand Master to annually appoint an independent Code Commission.

Code Commissions were appointed in 1975 and again in 1976 for the purpose of beginning the work of restoring the high quality of the Code. The initial studies revealed the great magnitude and extreme difficulty of the project. The studies were to be helpful by forewarning subsequent Commissions of the extraordinary effort and skill that would be required.

M.:W.: Wayne A. Sparger in 1980 directed the Code Commission to revise and clarify the Washington Masonic Code. M.:W.: Herbert M. Edman reappointed the Commission in 1981 with this comment: “The work you are doing is very important and long overdue.”

M.:W.: George R. Bordewick, after examining a preliminary draft of the Code clarification in 1982 and approving plans for reviews by the Committee on Jurisprudence and by the Constituent Lodges, expressed hope that delegates to the 1983 Annual Communication would accept and approve “this monumental work.”

The 1983 Edition of the Washington Masonic Code was adopted at the 126th Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, June 1983.

M.:W.: Robert L. Van Zee in 2001 charges the Code Commission to perform a complete review of the Washington Masonic Code. During this process, the Code Commission were to make any revisions and restructuring necessary to make the Code more accessible and understandable to the Craft. Considering the Washington Masonic Code had not had a complete review in 18 years the time for the change was due.

The 2003 Edition of the Washington Masonic Code to be presented to the delegates at the 145th Annual Communication of Grand Lodge June 2002 for their consideration and action by the Grand Lodge by the next Annual Communication in June 2003.

STATEMENT OF CODE COMMISSION

All Masons have promised to faithfully observe the laws of Masonry. Most have heard the admonition to the Worshipful Master at installation to “Cause (the Book of Constitutions) to be read in your Lodge that none may pretend ignorance of the excellent precepts which it enjoins.” It follows logically that every member is entitled to understand what the laws of Masonry require of him and his Brethren.

The objective of the Code Commission of 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 has been to bring the Washington Masonic Code into an elevated state of usefulness by restructuring and rewriting the accumulated material so that every member of Constituent Lodges throughout the Washington Jurisdiction will find the Code’s wisdom readily accessible and understandable.

V.: W.: James A. Mosley

V.: W.: James A. Smyth

M.: W.: Sidney Kase

M.: W.: Matt Martin

M.: W.: Bill R. Wood, Chairman

Ad-hoc Members:

Bro. Todd A. Oberlander

V.: W.: Christopher J. Coffman

M.: W.: Wayne J. Deming

LIST of ABBREVIATIONS USED

| | |
|------------|----------------------------|
| B.L. | By-Laws |
| Const. | Constitution |
| D.G.M. | Deputy Grand Master |
| D. of G.M. | Deputy of the Grand Master |
| E.A. | Entered Apprentice |
| F.C. | Fellowcraft |
| G.L. | Grand Lodge |
| G.M. | Grand Master |
| Gr. Sec. | Grand Secretary |
| J.G.W. | Junior Grand Warden |
| J.W. | Junior Warden |
| L. | Lodge |
| Mas. | Masonic |
| M.M. | Master Mason |
| M.W. | Most Worshipful |
| N.P.D. | Non Payment of Dues |
| Para. | Paragraph |
| P.G.M. | Past Grand Master |
| Rev. | Revised |
| R.W. | Right Worshipful |
| Sec. | Section in Code |
| S.G.W. | Senior Grand Warden |
| S.W. | Senior Warden |
| U.D. | Under Dispensation |
| V.W. | Very Worshipful |
| W.M. | Worshipful Master |
| W.M.C. | Washington Masonic Code |

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Part 1 – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 1 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 1.01 Const. – Style and Title of Grand Lodge**
- Sec. 1.02 Const. – Supreme Jurisdiction**
- Sec. 1.03 Const. – Members**
- Sec. 1.04 Const. – Powers**
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- Sec. 1.07 Const. – Grand Lodge By-Laws**
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- Sec. 1.09 B.L. – Recognition of Foreign Grand Lodges**
- Sec. 1.10 B.L. – Seal**

Part I -- Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 1.01 Const.

Style and Title of Grand Lodge. The style and title of this Grand Lodge is and shall be: “The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington.”

Sec. 1.02 Const.

Supreme Jurisdiction. This Grand Lodge has Supreme Jurisdiction over all matters of Ancient Craft Masonry within the territorial limits of the State of Washington; and like Jurisdiction over such Lodges as it has established and hereafter shall establish in open territory belonging to the United States of America, except for the shared and independent Jurisdiction of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Washington and Jurisdiction, which it exercises over its Lodges, members and Ancient Craft Masonry within this State.

With the foregoing single exception, this Grand Lodge does not recognize or admit the existence of any coordinate or superior Masonic authority, however styled, and it has the inherent power, not including Prince Hall Masons, to investigate and determine all Masonic matters relating to the Craft in general, to particular Lodges, and to individual Brethren, either directly or by its delegated authority, and its authority cannot be called into question.

Sec. 1.03 Const.

Members. Members of the Grand Lodge shall consist of the following:

- A. Past Masters of Chartered Lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction, while members therein,
- B. Masters and Wardens, or their duly appointed proxies, of the Chartered and duly constituted Lodges of this Jurisdiction; and
- C. Members of Lodges of this Jurisdiction who are Past Masters of any other Jurisdiction which is in fraternal communication with the Grand Lodge of Washington.

Sec. 1.04 Const.

Powers. The powers of the Grand Lodge are legislative, executive, and judicial, and are limited only by its own Constitution and Laws and by the Ancient Landmarks of Masonry.

- A. **Legislative:** The **legislative powers** extend to every case of legislation not immemorially inherent in the Constituent Lodges. The Grand Lodge Constitution, By-Laws and regulations are binding on all Lodges and Masons of this Jurisdiction.
- B. **Executive:** The **executive powers** include, but are not limited to:
 1. Granting dispensations and Charters for Lodges within this Jurisdiction and in open territory,
 2. Revoking or suspending dispensations and Charters for cause,
 3. Issuing special dispensations and Charters for Lodges Constitution; and
 4. Exercising such authority as may be necessary to put its legislation into effect.
- C. **Judicial:** The **judicial powers** are of two kinds: Original and Appellate.
 1. Original judicial power includes:
 - a. Resolutions of all controversies between Lodges, between a Lodge and a member or members of another Lodge, or between members of different Lodges,
 - b. Enforcement of discipline upon members of Grand Lodge and upon Lodges under its Jurisdiction,

[Rev. 2009]

- c. Disposition of all charges of un-Masonic Conduct accepted by a Lodge against any Mason within this Jurisdiction; and
 - d. Disposition of all charges preferred against the Master of a Lodge during his incumbency or against a Past Master for official misconduct during his term of office.
2. Appellate power embraces the review and disposition of all matters of controversy proper for Masonic investigation that have arisen in any of the Lodges or the result of the action of a Grand Lodge Trial Committee.

Sec. 1.05 Const.

Divisions of Masonic Law. The action of Freemasons in the Grand Lodge and in their Lodges and in their individual capacity is regulated and controlled by the Masonic Law consisting of:

- A. The moral law - our obligations, charges and rituals.
- B. The common law of Masonry, which is the Immemorial Law and includes the Ancient Landmarks.
- C. The written law of Masonry, which includes:
 - 1. Constitutions; and
 - 2. General and specific laws, rules, edicts, Resolutions and By-Laws enacted by competent authority.
- D. Usages and customs of Masonry:
 - 1. Usages which are those practices and modes of behavior of Brethren, individually and collectively, in Grand Lodge and in Lodges and toward each other, long observed in this Jurisdiction by voluntary assent; and
 - 2. Customs that are usages of such universality and antiquity as to have acquired the force and effect of law.

Sec. 1.06 Const.

Constitutions. Constitutions are those written compacts or laws enacted by Freemasons for the government of Grand Lodge and Lodges and their members - including fundamental provisions, constitutionally adopted, that are intended to be permanent in their character.

Sec. 1.07 Const.

Grand Lodge By-Laws. By-Laws are those enactments adopted by the Grand Lodge for the regulation of its internal affairs and its dealings with other Jurisdictions, and for the government of its members.

Sec. 1.08 B.L.

Washington Masonic Code. The codification of the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of Washington shall be known as the Washington Masonic Code.

Sec. 1.09 B.L.

Recognition of Foreign Grand Lodges. The basis of recognition for a foreign Grand Lodge shall be that such Grand Body:

- A. Shall have been legally formed by at least three regularly Constituted Lodges, or Chartered by some legally authorized body of Masons to act as a Grand Lodge,
- B. Is self-governing, responsible and independent, with undisputed authority over its Symbolic Lodges conferring the first three Degrees of Freemasonry; and not subject to or holding divided Jurisdiction with a Supreme Council or any other claiming to have ritualistic control over the Symbolic Degrees,
- C. Requires that the membership of the Symbolic Lodges under its Jurisdiction shall be composed of men only,
- D. Requires that each candidate for the Degrees of Masonry, shall express a belief in a Supreme Being,
- E. Requires of its Constituent Lodges a strict adherence to the Ancient Landmarks, Customs and Usages of the Craft, as set forth in the Constitution adopted by the Grand Lodge of England in 1723, except insofar as they have been modified since that date by the United Grand Lodge of England or by this Grand Body,
- F. Shall have no Masonic relations of any kind with mixed Lodges or Bodies which admit women to membership,
- G. Obligates its initiates on a book of Sacred Law,
- H. Prohibits the discussion within the Lodge Room of any and all religious or sectarian doctrines, or any political subjects; and
- I. Requires that when at work, in either Grand or Constituent Lodges, there shall be displayed the Three Great Lights of Masonry.

Sec. 1.10 B.L.

Seal. The seal of the Grand Lodge shall be as follows:



(W.M.C. 1913. Sec. 41.)

[Rev. 2003]

Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 2 – OFFICERS

- Sec. 2.01 Const. – List and Title**
- Sec. 2.02 Const. – Manner of Selection and Installation**
- Sec. 2.03 Const. – Eligibility**
- Sec. 2.04 B.L. – Statement of Availability**
- Sec. 2.05 B.L. – Elections and Appointments**
- Sec. 2.06 B.L. – Holding Two Offices**
- Sec. 2.07 B.L. – Installation**
- Sec. 2.08 B.L. – Regalia**
- Sec. 2.09 B.L. – Vacancies**

Part I - Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 2 - OFFICERS

Sec. 2.01 Const.

List and Title. The officers of the Grand Lodge shall be as follows:

ELECTIVE

- A. Grand Master
- B. Deputy Grand Master
- C. Senior Grand Warden
- D. Junior Grand Warden
- E. Grand Secretary

APPOINTIVE

- F. Grand Chaplain
- G. Grand Lecturer
- H. Grand Orator
- I. Grand Historian
- J. Grand Marshal
- K. Senior Grand Deacon
- L. Junior Grand Deacon
- M. Grand Standard Bearer
- N. Grand Sword Bearer
- O. Grand Bible Bearer
- P. Senior Grand Steward
- Q. Junior Grand Steward
- R. Grand Musician
- S. Grand Tyler
- T. Assistant Grand Secretary

Titles of office for Grand Officers shall be:

- A. Grand Master, Most Worshipful
- B. Elective Officers other than Grand Master, Right Worshipful
- C. Appointive Officers, Worshipful or higher previous title

Sec. 2.02 Const.

Manner of Selection and Installation. The election, appointment, and installation of all Grand Officers shall be regulated and conducted as prescribed by ceremonial usage by the constitution and the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 2.03 Const.

Eligibility. Any member of Grand Lodge who has been installed Master of a Lodge of Masons shall be eligible for any office in the Grand Lodge.

[Rev. 2005]

Any member of a Lodge of this Jurisdiction shall be eligible for appointment as Grand Chaplain, Grand Musician, or Grand Tyler.

Sec. 2.04 B.L.

Statement of Availability. On or before the first day of September preceding the Annual Communication, any eligible member of the Grand Lodge desiring to serve as Junior Grand Warden or Grand Secretary may file with the Grand Secretary a Statement of Availability containing a resume setting out in no more than one page his qualifications, not limited by format only to his service in his Symbolic Lodge or Grand Lodge, and including a black and white photograph.

Prior to October first, all such statements shall be printed and forwarded by the Grand Secretary to all Constituent Lodges for study prior to the next Annual Communication.

This action does not preclude the right of the Grand Lodge to elect any eligible member without such statement.

Sec. 2.05 B.L.

Elections and Appointments.

A. Elective Grand Lodge Officers shall be chosen by a secret ballot at each Annual Communication in the following manner:

1. Balloting for Grand Officers shall be the first order of business on the afternoon of the second day of each Annual Communication, taking precedence over all other matters,
2. Ballots will be collected and counted under the direction of the Committee on Credentials,
3. A majority of all votes cast shall be necessary for a choice. A blank ballot does not count as a vote. Results shall be reported immediately after the tabulation. Following the second ballot in which no candidate has a simple majority for a particular office, subsequent balloting shall be limited to the two candidates with the highest number of votes for that office until one is elected; and
4. The election of officers must be concluded before the Grand Lodge can be recessed.

B. Appointive Grand Officers, shall be selected by the Grand Master-elect prior to the time of installation. The Assistant Grand Secretary shall be selected in accordance with Sec. 3.05 Const. O.

Sec. 2.06 B.L.

Holding Two Offices. No elective or appointive Grand Officer shall hold two Grand Lodge offices at the same time. If a member of Grand Lodge is elected to two offices, he shall immediately accept the office of his choice and decline the other office. A ballot for the declined office shall be held immediately.

Sec. 2.07 B.L.

Installation. Grand Officers shall be installed in tiled session before the close of the Annual Communication, unless the Grand Lodge has, at the request of the Grand Master-elect and by majority vote, authorized a public installation.

Public installation of Grand Officers, shall be performed after the Grand Master has declared the Grand Lodge at "off-session" and has directed the Junior Grand Deacon to inform the Grand Tyler to tile accordingly.

Any such public installation of Grand Officers shall be monitorial and shall conform to proper Masonic usage. The public installation shall be recorded as part of the regular minutes of the Grand Communication.

Sec. 2.08 B.L.

Regalia. Each Grand Officer shall appear in the Grand Lodge with his proper jewel and clothing.

Sec. 2.09 B.L.

Vacancies. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in any Grand Office, the Grand Master may appoint any eligible member of Grand Lodge to discharge the duties of the office until the vacancy shall be filled at the next Annual Communication.

In case of the death, absence or inability of the Grand Master, the powers and duties of the office shall be assumed in succession by the:

- A. Deputy Grand Master
- B. Senior Grand Warden
- C. Junior Grand Warden

In case of the simultaneous vacancy in the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, and Junior Grand Warden the powers and duties of the Grand Master shall be assumed by the Junior Past Grand Master.

Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 3 – POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- Sec. 3.01 Const. – Grand Master’s Powers Rev. 2014**
- Sec. 3.02 Const. – Grand Master’s Duties Rev. 2013**
- Sec. 3.03 Const. – Deputy Grand Master’s Duties**
- Sec. 3.04 Const. – Grand Wardens’ Duties**
- Sec. 3.05 Const. – Grand Secretary’s Duties Rev. 2015**
- Sec. 3.06 Const. – Grand Chaplain’s Duties**
- Sec. 3.07 Const. – Grand Lecturer’s Duties**
- Sec. 3.08 Const. – Grand Orator’s Duties**
- Sec. 3.09 Const. – Grand Historian’s Duties**
- Sec. 3.10 Const. – Other Grand Officers’ Duties**

[Rev. 2015]

Part I - Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 3 - POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Sec. 3.01 Const.

Grand Master's Powers. The Grand Master has power to:

- A. Convene any Lodge within the Jurisdiction, preside therein, inspect its proceedings, and require its conformity to Masonic rules,
- B. Depose any officer of a Lodge from the functions of his office for just cause and to arrest the Charter of any Lodge for dereliction of duty or other un-Masonic conduct, until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, when he shall present in writing the reasons for such deposition or arrest,
- C. Suspend, for a definite or indefinite time, any Brother from the rights and privileges of Masonry for un-Masonic Conduct, provided that a suspended Brother may, within thirty days of receipt of notice of his suspension request a trial by the Grand Lodge Trial Committee to determine whether the Brother is guilty of un-Masonic Conduct. Any suspension should remain in effect pending the outcome of the trial. **Rev. 2014**
- D. Grant dispensations:
 1. To a Lodge for an election to fill the three vacancies when the offices of the Master and Wardens become vacant all at the same time,
 2. For a Lodge to elect its officers when the Lodge shall have failed to hold its election at the proper time,
 3. For a new Lodge, under the restrictions of the Constitution; and
 4. For other purposes as may be requested in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.
- E. Appoint such officers and committees as may be authorized under the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge. He may act as ex-officio chairman of any committee so appointed,
- F. Require the attendance of and information from any Grand Officer respecting his office,
- G. Authorize Grand Lodge Committees to meet while Grand Lodge is actually in session,
- H. Appoint Representatives of this Grand Lodge near other Grand Lodges and to receive and accredit Representatives of other recognized Grand Lodges near this Grand Lodge,
- I. Sell, convey, or relinquish interest in and to real property and manage the Grand Lodge assets in cooperation with the Grand Secretary and with approval of the Committee on Finance,
- J. Draw from the Charity Fund, in cooperation with the Committee on Charity, for the relief of worthy applicants and for the emergency relief of distressed Masons following an extraordinary calamity,
- K. Do such other things as are inherent in and pertain to his office, in accordance with Ancient Usage and not in conflict with this Constitution; and
- L. To call a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of allowing a Constituent Lodge or Lodges to complete unfinished Degree work or to confer Degrees as provided in Sec. 20.01 B.L. E.

Sec. 3.02 Const.

Grand Master's Duties. It is the duty of the Grand Master to:

- A. Preside in the Grand Lodge,

[Rev. 2014]

- B. Present at each Annual Communication a written message, setting forth his official acts during the year, exhibiting the general condition of Masonry within the Jurisdiction, and recommending such legislation as he may deem necessary or expedient for the welfare of the Fraternity,
- C. Approve for publication the minutes of the Annual Communication over which he presided,
- D. Constitute all Chartered Lodges, either in person or by a duly authorized representative who shall be a Past Master of this Jurisdiction, in accordance with the Ancient Usages and Regulations,
- E. Exercise a general and careful supervision over the Craft and see that the Constitution, By-Laws, and Regulations of the Grand Lodge are strictly observed,
- F. Discharge all the necessary executive functions of the Grand Lodge when it is not in session; and
- G. As Grand Master and Chief Executive Officer of the "Sole Voting Member" of the Washington Masonic Charities Corporation, report, or cause to be reported, the Annual Operating Budget of Washington Masonic Charities to the Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication. **Rev. 2013**

Sec. 3.03 Const.

Deputy Grand Master's Duties. The Deputy Grand Master shall discharge such executive functions of the Grand Lodge as may be delegated to him by the Grand Master.

Sec. 3.04 Const.

Grand Wardens' Duties. The Grand Wardens shall assist the Grand Master in conducting the affairs of the Grand Lodge and shall diligently endeavor to preserve the Ancient Landmarks throughout the Jurisdiction.

Sec. 3.05 Const.

Grand Secretary's Duties. The Grand Secretary shall:

- A. Record all Proceedings of the Grand Lodge proper to be written,
- B. Register all initiates and members of Lodges in this Jurisdiction reported to him on the Lodge returns,
- C. Receive, file, and keep all papers and documents of the Grand Lodge committed to his custody,
- D. Prepare, sign, and certify all dispensations, Charters, and other instruments issuing from the Grand Lodge and affix its seal thereto when required,
- E. Receive all monies of the Grand Lodge, keep a proper account of the same, and pay them over promptly to the depositories selected by the Grand Master and the Committee on Finance,
- F. Submit a financial report annually to the Grand Lodge, including operating statements of the various Grand Lodge funds, all prepared in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles and procedures,
- G. Report annually to the Grand Lodge those Lodges that have failed to render proper returns of their elections, members, and dues and such general facts regarding the financial and membership condition of the Lodges as may be proper for the information or action of the Grand Lodge,
- H. Conduct the correspondence of the Grand Lodge under the direction of the Grand Master,

[Rev. 2013]

- I. Attend, with the necessary books and papers under his control, all communications of the Grand Lodge and, when required, attend upon the Grand Master on Masonic business,
- J. Supervise all printing ordered during the Annual Communication, and cause to be produced and distributed, after approval by the Grand Master, the Proceedings and such reports and documents as may be required,
- K. Arrange promptly for the printing and distribution of sufficient copies of all Code changes after approval of Grand Lodge and codification by the Code Commission,
- L. Examine the returns made by the Lodges for the preceding year and see that errors and irregularities are corrected. Tabulate the Master Masons, Fellowcrafts, and Entered Apprentices reported, the number admitted, initiated, passed, raised, reinstated, dimitted, dropped, suspended, expelled, deceased, and rejected; the net increase and decrease of membership in each Lodge for the year; the amount of dues paid and the amount due to the Grand Lodge,
- M. Obtain the blank forms required for Grand Lodge use, and provide to the Lodges, at Grand Lodge expense, the forms to be used by the Lodges in transmitting returns and other reports required by the Grand Lodge,
- N. Make, and retain in his office, duplicates of all Lodge Charters,
- O. Appoint and be responsible for the official acts of an Assistant Grand Secretary who must be a member in good standing and a Past Master of a Lodge in this Jurisdiction, and who will, in the absence, disability, or illness of the Grand Secretary, perform the duties of that office under the direction of the Grand Master,
- P. Be placed under surety bond, along with the Assistant Grand Secretary in like amount, at Grand Lodge expense. The limits of bonding to be determined by the Grand Master and approved by the Committee on Finance,
- Q. Appoint such assistants as he may require,
- R. Print and mail to the Constituent Lodges, prior to April 1, a budget of estimated income and expenditures for the General Fund and Washington Masonic Charities for the ensuing year and;
- S. Review, update and maintain as necessary the Grand Lodge Forms, Appendix K – Grand Lodge Forms, and report at the Annual Communication for approval of the Grand Lodge Forms. **Rev. 2015**

Sec. 3.06 Const.

Grand Chaplain's Duties. The Grand Chaplain shall open and close the Communications of the Grand Lodge with appropriate prayer and perform services on special occasions at the request of the Grand Master. He shall also make suitable reports on the Fraternal Dead for the past Masonic year.

Sec. 3.07 Const.

Grand Lecturer's Duties. The Grand Lecturer shall sign for a copy of the Standard Work at the Annual Communication in which he is installed, or such other times when a Grand Lecturer is installed, and he shall return such copy upon the termination of his tenure as Grand Lecturer. While assigned to him, the Grand Lecturer will not allow the Standard Work to leave his personal supervision. The Grand Lecturer shall give needed instruction to the Lodges under the direction of the Grand Master. He shall also review the Standard Work, and where errors or conflicts are noted, prepare a Resolution to correct the error and/or resolve the conflict and deliver said Resolution to the Grand Master for the Grand Master's approval. If the Grand Master concurs with said Resolution, it will be included in the Grand Master's Message for action by the Grand Lodge at its next Annual Communication.

[Rev. 2015]

Sec. 3.08 Const.

Grand Orator's Duties. The Grand Orator shall, at each Annual Communication, deliver an address on the subject of Freemasonry or upon a topic bearing thereon and shall render like service on special occasions at the request of the Grand Master.

Sec. 3.09 Const.

Grand Historian's Duties. The Grand Historian shall prepare and write a history of the Grand Lodge of Washington and collect, classify, arrange, and file with the Grand Secretary all available data, documents, and material concerning matters of interest to the Grand Lodge for use in the preparation of subsequent histories.

Sec. 3.10 Const.

Other Grand Officers' Duties. The Grand Marshal, Grand Deacons, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Bible Bearer, Grand Stewards, Grand Musician, and Grand Tyler shall perform the duties incident and appropriate to their respective places and in accordance with the traditions, Usages, and Customs of the Craft. The Grand Lodge or the Grand Master may from time to time assign other duties to them.

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Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 4 – DISTRICTS AND DEPUTIES

- Sec. 4.01 Const. – Deputies of the Grand Master**
- Sec. 4.02 B.L. – Deputy Appointment and Title**
- Sec. 4.03 B.L. – Deputy Eligibility Rev. 2017**
- Sec. 4.04 B.L. – Deputy’s Power and Duties**
- Sec. 4.05 B.L. – Deputy Removal and Vacancy in Office**
- Sec. 4.06 B.L. – Special Deputy New 2013**
- Sec. 4.07 B.L. – Retention of Title Rev. 2013**
- Sec. 4.08 B.L. – Assignment of Lodges U.D. to Districts Rev. 2013**
- Sec. 4.09 B.L. – Districts Rev. 2018**

Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 4 – DISTRICTS AND DEPUTIES

Sec. 4.01 Const.

Deputies of the Grand Master. The Grand Lodge, having provided in its By-Laws for the designation of Districts, may authorize the appointment of a Deputy of the Grand Master to represent the Grand Master in each District.

Sec. 4.02 B.L.

Deputy Appointment and Title. The Grand Master shall appoint at each Annual Communication, or as soon thereafter as possible, a Deputy of the Grand Master for each of the Districts. The Jurisdiction of each Deputy shall extend only to the Lodges within the District to which he is assigned.

The Deputy shall be known as the "Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. _____," and shall bear the title "Very Worshipful." He shall receive a warrant for his appointment signed by the Grand Master and attested by the Grand Secretary under the seal of the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 4.03 B.L.

Deputy Eligibility.

- A. Every Deputy of the Grand Master shall be well skilled in the Standard Work and Lectures of this Jurisdiction and in the Customs of the Craft. He shall be a Master or a Past Master and a member in good standing of a Lodge in the District for which he is appointed.
- B. No one shall be eligible to be appointed to the Deputy of the Grand Master in a specific District for more than two successive one year terms but shall be eligible for reappointment after a lapse of one year.
- C. Notwithstanding subparagraph B., if, in the opinion of the Grand Master, there is no qualified Brother who is willing to assume the duties of Deputy of the Grand Master, the Grand Master may reappoint the Deputy of the Grand Master for a third successive one year term.
- D. In the event the Grand Master reappoints a Deputy of the Grand Master for a third year, the Brother appointed shall submit to the Grand Master a plan to train and prepare a qualified Brother(s) to assume the duties of the Deputy of the Grand Master the following year. **Rev. 2017**

Sec. 4.04 B.L.

Deputy's Powers and Duties. The powers and duties of a Deputy of the Grand Master are:

- A. Visit every Lodge within his District officially at least once each year and at such other times as requested by the Worshipful Master of the Lodge. The Grand Master may grant Deputies permission to forego a visit to a Lodge or Lodges if weather conditions, illness or financial hardships prevail,
- B. Report to the Grand Master after each visit, on forms to be furnished by the Grand Secretary, the general and/or particular condition of the Lodge visited and his official acts in relation thereto,

[Rev. 2017]

- C. Each District Deputy shall sign for a copy of the Standard Work at the Annual Communication in which he is installed, or such other times when a Deputy is installed, and he shall return such copy upon the termination of his tenure as Deputy of the Grand Master. While assigned to him, the Deputy will not allow the Standard Work to leave his personal supervision. He shall disseminate the Standard Work and Lectures to officers and members of each Lodge within his District, and give them such general instructions as they may require concerning their duties. For this purpose the Deputy shall receive instructions from the Grand Master,
- D. Examine such books and records of each Lodge within his District as the Grand Master may direct; and
- E. Perform such other duties as the Grand Master may direct.

Sec. 4.05 B.L.

Deputy Removal and Vacancy in Office. The Grand Master may remove any Deputy of the Grand Master from office.

The Grand Master shall fill any vacancy in the office of Deputy of the Grand Master with an appointment for the un-expired term.

Sec. 4.06 B.L.

Special Deputy. The Grand Master may as deemed necessary appoint Special Deputies with a specific assignment to aid in governing the Craft. Special Deputies at the discretion of the Grand Master may be titled during their term of service Very Worshipful and may be re-appointed by succeeding Grand Masters. **New 2013**

Sec. 4.07 B.L.

Retention of Title. Only a Deputy of the Grand Master in a Specific District shall retain permanently the title of “Very Worshipful.” He may also be appointed as Special Deputy. Special Deputies that have not served as a District Deputy shall not retain such title. **Rev. 2013**

Sec. 4.08 B.L.

Assignment of Lodges U.D. to Districts. The Grand Master, upon issuing a dispensation for a new Lodge, shall assign the Lodge initially to the District in which it is situated. The assignment shall become permanent upon the granting of a Charter to the Lodge, unless the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master shall order otherwise. Historic Lodges shall not be assigned to a District.

Sec. 4.09 B.L.

Districts. The Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall be divided into geographical Districts and every Chartered Lodge shall be assigned to a District.

The Grand Master shall have the authority to make such rearrangements of the Districts as he may deem advisable, if he shall determine that a change will facilitate the operation of the system. The rearrangement shall be effective until the next Annual Communication when the Grand Master shall report his action to the Grand Lodge for its approval.

District No. 2 Ashler, No. 121, Bothell; Edmonds, No. 165, Edmonds; Mill Creek, No. 243, Edmonds; Shoreline, No. 248, Shoreline; Yancey C. Blalock, No. 265, Seattle. **Rev. 2018**

District No. 3 Mount Moriah, No. 11, Shelton; Union City, No. 27, Shelton; Port Orchard-John Paul Jones, No. 98, Port Orchard; Hood Canal, No. 288, Belfair. **Rev. 2018**

District No. 4 Occidental, No. 72, Seattle; Doric, No. 92, Seattle; Green Lake, No. 149, Seattle; Rainier, No. 189, Seattle; Greenwood, No. 253, Seattle; Walter F. Meier Lodge of Research, No. 281, Seattle. **Rev. 2018**

District No. 5 St. John's, No. 9, Seattle; Eureka, No. 20, Seattle; University No. 141, Seattle; Daylight, No. 232, Seattle; Lafayette, No. 241, Seattle; Queen Anne, No. 242, Seattle; Esoterika, No. 316, Seattle. **Rev. 2013**

District No. 6 South Gate, No. 100, Burien; Ark, No. 126, Tukwila; Alki, No. 152, Seattle; Delta-White Center, No. 172, Tukwila; Mark P. Waterman, No. 177, Burton; Lodge Alba, No. 315, Seattle; LuzViMinda, No. 317, Seattle **Rev. 2013**

District No. 7 Falls City, No. 66, Fall City; Myrtle, No. 108, Issaquah; West Gate, No. 128, Kirkland; Kirkland, No. 150, Kirkland; Unity, No. 198, North Bend; Lakeside, No. 258, Bellevue; Mercer Island, No. 297, Mercer Island; Renaissance, No. 312, Redmond.

District No. 8 Centennial, No. 25, Snohomish; Peninsular, No. 95, Everett; Crystal, No. 122, Marysville; Arlington, No. 129, Arlington; Everett, No. 137, Everett; Sultan-Monroe, No. 160, Monroe; Damascus, No. 199, Granite Falls; Alpha, No. 212, Everett; Karl E. Warren Masonic Railroad Lodge at Skykomish, No. 259, Skykomish. **Rev. 2018**

District No. 9 Whidby Island, No. 15, Coupeville; Camanio, No. 19, Stanwood; Mount Baker, No. 36, Mt. Vernon; Garfield, No. 41, LaConner; Fidalgo, No. 77, Anacortes; Burlington-United, No. 93, Sedro Woolley; San Juan, No. 175, Friday Harbor; Langley, No. 218, Freeland. **Rev. 2016**

District No. 10 Bellingham Bay, No. 44, Bellingham; Lynden International, No. 56, Ferndale; Whatcom, No. 151, Bellingham. **Rev. 2018**

District No. 11 Port Townsend, No. 6, Port Townsend; Port Angeles, No. 69, Port Angeles; Quilcene-Jefferson, No. 107, Quilcene; Sequim, No. 213, Sequim; Mt. Olympus, No. 298, Forks.

District No. 12 Franklin, No. 5, Port Gamble; William Renton, No. 29, Winslow; Bremerton, No. 117, Bremerton; William H. Upton Naval & Military, No. 206, Bremerton; Steadfast, No. 216, Bremerton; Warren G. Harding, No. 260, Poulsbo; Silverdale, No. 311, Silverdale.

District No. 13 St. Andrew's, No. 35, Renton; Verity, No. 59, Kent; King Solomon, No. 60, Auburn; Western Cascade, No. 61, Enumclaw; Diamond, No. 83, Black Diamond; Crescent, No. 109, Enumclaw; Des Moines, No. 245, Des Moines; Thornton F. McElroy, No. 302, Federal Way; Frank S. Land, No. 313, Des Moines. **Rev. 2010**

District No. 14 Trivium, No. 22, Tacoma; Evergreen State, No. 68, University Place; Lincoln Park, No. 80, Tacoma; Fairweather, No. 82, Tacoma; Horace W. Tyler, No. 290, University Place; Krucible, No. 318, Federal Way. **Rev. 2018**

District No. 15 Steilacoom, No. 2, Tacoma; Corinthian, No. 38, Puyallup; Phoenix, No. 154, Sumner; Mt. Tahoma, No. 190, Ashford; Terrestrial-Mt. View, No. 228, Eatonville; Parkland-Lakewood, No. 299, Parkland. **Rev. 2018**

District No. 16 Olympia, No. 1, Tumwater; Harmony, No. 18, Tumwater; Wynooche, No. 43, Montesano; Grays Harbor, No. 52, Hoquiam; Tenino, No. 86, Tenino; Yelm, No. 244, Yelm. **Rev. 2012**

District No. 17 Chehalis, No. 28, Chehalis; Centralia, No. 63, Centralia; Robert Morris, No. 97, Silver Creek; Little Falls, No. 176, Vader. **Rev. 2016**

District No. 18 Woodland-Kalama, No. 17, Woodland; Castle Rock, No. 62, Castle Rock; Kelso, No. 94, Kelso; Occident, No. 48, Ilwaco; Longview, No. 263, Longview. **Rev. 2016**

District No. 19 Washington, No. 4, Vancouver; Mount Hood, No. 32, Vancouver; White Salmon, No. 163, White Salmon; North Bank, No. 182, Washougal; Ridgefield Daylight, No. 237, Vancouver; Silver Star, No. 286, Battle Ground. **Rev. 2014**

[Rev. 2018]

District No. 20 Cobalt, No. 24, Yakima; Goldendale, No. 31, Goldendale; Ellensburg, No. 39, Ellensburg; Cle Elum-St. Thomas, No. 139, Cle Elum; Toppenish-Meridian, No. 178, Toppenish; Naches, No. 211, Naches. **Rev. 2017**

District No. 21 Badger Mountain, No. 57, Waterville; Riverside-Jett, No. 112, Wenatchee; Zarthan, No. 148, Leavenworth; Hermanos del Arte, No. 314, Brewster. **Rev. 2017**

District No. 22 Okanogan, No. 169, Okanogan; Aurora, No. 201, Oroville; Palestine, No. 214, Omak; Methow Valley, No. 240, Twisp.

District No. 23 Euclid, No. 125, Prosser; Sunnyside, No. 138, Sunnyside; Kennewick, No. 153, Kennewick; Pasco, No. 173, Pasco; Grandview, No. 191, Grandview; Benton, No. 277, Benton City; Richland, No. 283, Richland.

District No. 24 Walla Walla, No. 7, Walla Walla; Blue Mountain, No. 13, Walla Walla; Waitsburg, No. 16, Waitsburg; Evening Star, No. 30, Pomeroy; Nitosa, No. 204, Asotin. **Rev. 2016**

District No. 25. Removed, 2013

District No. 26 Whitman, No. 49, Pullman; Oakesdale, No. 55, Oakesdale; Rosalia, No. 84, Rosalia; Spangle, No. 131, Spangle; Malden, No. 188, Malden; Waverly, No. 231, Waverly. **Rev. 2017**

District No. 27 Spokane, No. 34, Spokane; Temple, No. 42, Cheney; Oriental, No. 74, Spokane; Medical Lake, No. 102, Medical Lake; Orchard, No. 200, Millwood; North Hill, No. 210, Spokane; Manito, No. 246, Spokane; Concordia, No. 249, Millwood; Audubon Park, No. 272, Spokane; Eastern Washington Lodge of Research, No. 310, Spokane.

District No. 28 Quincy, No. 161, Quincy; Moses Lake, No. 174, Moses Lake; Paul Revere, No. 205, Othello. **Rev. 2018**

District No. 29 Acacia, No. 58, Davenport; Grand Coulee Dam, No. 120, Coulee Dam; Almira, No. 127, Almira; Odessa, No. 156, Odessa. **Rev. 2010**

District No. 30 Colville, No. 50, Colville; Kettle Falls, No. 130, Kettle Falls; Boyer Mountain, No. 134, Deer Park; Newport, No. 144, Newport. **Rev. 2016**

[Rev. 2018]

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Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 5 – AMENDMENTS, RULES OF ORDER AND VOTING

- Sec. 5.01 Const. – Amendments Rev. 2011**
- Sec. 5.02 Const. – Voting on Amendments**
- Sec. 5.03 Const. – Number of Votes Rev. 2017**
- Sec. 5.04 Const. – Tie Vote**
- Sec. 5.05 B.L. – Procedure for Code Adoption**
- Sec. 5.06 B.L. – Time Limit**
- Sec. 5.07 B.L. – Manner of Voting Rev. 2015**
- Sec. 5.08 B.L. – Disposal of Question**
- Sec. 5.09 B.L. – Majority Vote Required**
- Sec. 5.10 B.L. – Blank Ballot**
- Sec. 5.11 B.L. – Motion in Order**
- Sec. 5.12 B.L. – Adjournment**
- Sec. 5.13 B.L. – One Amendment at a Time**
- Sec. 5.14 B.L. – Subject-Matter Cannot be Amended**
- Sec. 5.15 B.L. – Reconsideration**
- Sec. 5.16 B.L. – Speaker to Stand**
- Sec. 5.17 B.L. – Proposition Should be in Writing**

Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 5 – AMENDMENTS, RULES OF ORDER AND VOTING

Sec. 5.01 Const.

Amendments.

- A. **Presentation.** Proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws shall be presented as Resolutions at an Annual Communication. All Resolutions submitted to the Annual Communication for consideration must be submitted by a Constituent Lodge of this Jurisdiction or by a Grand Master's recommendation. Legislation submitted or withdrawn by a Constituent Lodge shall first be approved by an affirmative majority of the members at a Stated Meeting of the Lodge.
- B. **Referral.** Drafts of all proposed amendments shall first be referred to the Code Commission for approval or revision of the composition and format and then to one or more appropriate committees who shall report thereon before a vote is taken,
- C. **Format.**
 1. A clear, factual and concise statement of purpose of the proposed legislation shall preface proposed amendments,
 2. A Resolution to amend the Constitution, By-Laws, and/or Standard Work and Freemason's Guide shall set out in full each section or sub-section to be amended or added, with material to be deleted enclosed in parenthesis and struck out, and material to be added underlined. The Code Commission shall see that Resolutions submitted comply with this requirement, **Rev. 2011**
 3. A Resolution must be submitted using the approved form maintained by the Grand Secretary; and
 4. A Resolution not in compliance with proper format will be returned to the proponent for correction. If not corrected and returned to the Code Commission by March 1 in proper format, the Resolution will be rejected and the Committee on Jurisprudence shall report the rejection at the next Annual Communication. **Rev. 2011**
- D. **Distribution.** New proposals and those held over from the previous Annual Communication shall be distributed in full by the Grand Secretary to the Constituent Lodges for reading and discussion in open Lodge at least sixty days in advance of the next Annual Communication.

Sec. 5.02 Const.

Voting on Amendments.

- A. A proposed amendment to the Constitution that receives a ninety percent (90%) vote shall be declared adopted and shall become a part of the Constitution at the close of that Annual Communication.

If the vote is not ninety percent (90%), but is an affirmative majority, the proposal shall be declared held over for one year and shall be published with the Proceedings under the caption of "Proposed Amendments to the Constitution."

At the next Annual Communication, the proposed amendment shall be reported by the Grand Secretary and called by the Grand Master for action in advance of any new business.

[Rev. 2011]

If it shall receive two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast thereon, it shall be declared adopted and shall become a part of the Constitution at the close of that Annual Communication; otherwise it shall be declared rejected.

- B. A proposed amendment to change the Constitution necessitating a correlating change of the By-Laws, may be included in the change and may be submitted as one Resolution; provided the necessary vote for adoption remains as a Constitutional amendment.
- C. A proposed amendment to the By-Laws that receives a three-fourths (3/4) vote shall be declared adopted and shall become effective at the close of that Annual Communication.

If the vote is not three-fourths (3/4) affirmative, but is an affirmative majority, the proposal shall be declared held over for one year and shall be published with the Proceedings under the caption "Proposed Changes to the By-Laws."

At the next Annual Communication, the proposed amendment shall be reported by the Grand Secretary and called by the Grand Master for action in advance of any new business.

If it shall receive a majority of favorable votes, it shall be declared adopted and shall become effective at the close of that Annual Communication; otherwise it shall be declared rejected.

Sec. 5.03 Const.

Number of Votes. Each member of the Grand Lodge shall be entitled to one vote and no more; except:

- A. If holding proxies, his own plus the proxy votes of his Lodge,
- B. An individual member may not act as proxy or in any way vote for more than one Lodge; and
- C. A Past Master in attendance at Grand Lodge while serving as Master or Warden cannot appoint a proxy for that vote. **Rev. 2017**

Sec. 5.04 Const.

Tie Vote. In all cases of a tie, the Grand Master, in addition to his proper vote, shall have the deciding vote.

Sec. 5.05 B.L.

Procedure for Code Adoption. The accomplished codification of written material into the Washington Masonic Code shall establish the basis of the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations, and Standing Resolutions of the Grand Lodge. Upon receipt and adoption by the Grand Lodge, the Code shall bear the date of such adoption.

Nothing in the process of codification shall be construed to repeal or amend established matters or to enact new matters. In case of any conflict, the prior Grand Lodge legislation enactment or approved ruling shall prevail.

Sec. 5.06 B.L.

Time Limit. All Resolutions which if adopted would change the Constitution or By-Laws shall be delivered to the Grand Secretary or mailed to him under postmark not later than December 1 preceding each Annual Communication.

The Grand Secretary shall forward all Resolutions to appropriate Standing Committees after the Code Commission has reviewed and approved the composition and format of the Resolutions, as shown in Flow Chart Appendix B. The Grand Secretary shall, prior to April 1, print the Resolutions and Committee Recommendations, together with any Resolutions held over from the previous Annual Communication, and forward the same to all Constituent Lodges for study.

[Rev. 2017]

Recommendations of the presiding Grand Master shall be received by the Grand Secretary not later than March 1 preceding each Annual Communication and shall be printed and circulated to the Constituent Lodges for study prior to April 1 along with proposed Resolutions. Recommendations of the Grand Master presented at the Annual Communication, and not previously circulated, shall be presented as Resolutions by the appropriate Committee prior to the following Annual Communication in the prescribed manner unless declared emergent.

Any Resolution submitted after December 1 and prior to twelve o'clock noon of the second day's session of any Annual Communication shall be forwarded to the Grand Master. If the Grand Master believes that any such proposal is urgent and that it should, for the good of Masonry, be considered by Grand Lodge at the ensuing Annual Communication, he may, at his discretion, order the same to be processed and circulated in such manner as time will permit.

If time will not permit the processing and subsequent mailing of late Resolutions to the Constituent Lodges, the Grand Secretary when possible shall make such Resolutions and committee reports available to each member of Grand Lodge at the time of registration.

Any Resolution submitted after twelve o'clock noon of the second day's session shall not be considered.

Sec. 5.07 B.L.

Manner of Voting. All questions in Grand Lodge shall be decided by members either by voting with their left hand or secret ballot as determined by the Grand Master. The election of officers shall be by secret ballot. The secret ballot may be conducted by means of the use of an electronic device. **Rev. 2015**

Sec. 5.08 B.L.

Disposal of Question. Whenever a vote is required to dispose of any question submitted to Grand Lodge, the affirmative and negative of such shall be taken directly thereon unless the question is resolved in some preliminary manner agreeable to Masonic Law.

Before any vote shall be taken, the report and recommendation of any committee to which the question may have been referred shall be read.

Sec. 5.09 B.L.

Majority Vote Required. All motions are to be decided by a simple majority vote except as provided for in Sec. 5.02 Const.

Sec. 5.10 B.L.

Blank Ballot. A blank ballot does not count as a vote.

Sec. 5.11 B.L.

Motion in Order. When a motion is under discussion no other motion shall be in order except to amend, commit, or postpone.

Sec. 5.12 B.L.

Adjournment. A motion to adjourn is not in order, but the Grand Lodge at any time may be called off at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master.

[Rev. 2015]

Sec. 5.13 B.L.

One Amendment at a Time. A motion to amend the main question must be decided before another motion to amend can be received.

Sec. 5.14 B.L.

Subject-Matter Cannot be Amended. A motion presented as an amendment but which actually changes the subject-matter of the original motion shall not be entertained.

Sec. 5.15 B.L.

Reconsideration. No member except one of the majority which decided the question shall be entitled to move for reconsideration.

Sec. 5.16 B.L.

Speaker to Stand. Any member who wishes to speak shall rise and remain standing and shall address the presiding officer.

Sec. 5.17 B.L.

Proposition Should be in Writing. Every proposal and Resolution shall be put in writing if so requested by any member.

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Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 6 – MASONIC WORK AND LECTURES

Sec. 6.01 Const. – Standard Work Rev. 2010

Sec. 6.02 B.L. – Certificates of Proficiency

Sec. 6.03 B.L. – Lectures in the Standard Work

Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 6 – MASONIC WORK AND LECTURES

Sec. 6.01 Const.

Standard Work. The master copy of the combined Esoteric Work, together with the Monitorial Work and amendments thereto adopted by the Grand Lodge, shall be the Standard Work of this Grand Jurisdiction. The Grand Lodge shall print the Esoteric Work in cipher, but with the essential secrets excluded. Every Lodge shall practice that Standard Work and no other.

Work of a recognized foreign Jurisdiction, upon request from the Grand Secretary of that foreign Jurisdiction, review of the proposed ritual by the Grand Lecturer of Washington for reasonable conformity with the Standard Work, and approval of the Grand Master, may be used by members of said foreign Jurisdiction to confer a Degree on the candidate of a Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction. The candidate must subsequently receive training in and demonstrate proficiency in the Standard Work as provided for in Sec. 20.10 B.L.

- A. The Grand Secretary shall be the custodian of the master copy of the Esoteric Work at all times and he shall store the document in a suitable safe within the vaults of his office. The master copy, being for reference only, shall be placed at the disposal of the Craft under such regulations and safeguards, as he shall deem prudent and proper,
- B. The Grand Secretary is authorized to make copies of the Standard Work in plain English, including the Esoteric Work, available for use by the Grand Lecturer, elected Grand Lodge Officers, and by Deputies of the Grand Master in their several Districts, subject to the following:
 1. The Grand Secretary shall maintain a numbered register of all copies of the Standard Work which shall indicate when and to whom each was issued, and when returned to his custody,
 2. Each copy of the Standard Work issued to the Grand Lecturer, elected Grand Lodge Officers, and each Deputy of the Grand Master shall be under their direct supervision at all times. It will not be loaned to anyone; and **Rev. 2010**
 3. It shall be a Masonic offense for any Mason other than the Grand Secretary to reproduce the Standard Work in plain English in any medium.
- C. Any Lodge violating the provisions of this chapter, without express authority from the Grand Lodge, shall be subject to discipline,
- D. Booklets authorized by this chapter shall be sold only to members of Constituent Lodges at a price not to exceed twenty-five percent (25%) above the cost of printing,
- E. The Standard Work of any Degree may be made available to a candidate who has received that Degree at the discretion of a Lodge; and
- F. The Grand Secretary is authorized to exchange copies with recognized foreign Grand Jurisdictions.

Sec. 6.02 B.L.

Certificates of Proficiency. A Certificate of Proficiency shall be issued to any Brother who shall pass a satisfactory examination in all or part of the Standard Work before a Deputy of the Grand Master. The Certificate shall be attested by the Grand Master, and by the Deputy of the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary shall keep a record thereof. Certificates shall be issued for the periods of time shown:

- A. All the Standard Work.
 1. Three years, upon an examination with less than ten errors,
 2. Two years, upon an examination with less than twenty-five errors,
 3. One year, upon an examination with less than fifty errors.

[Rev. 2010]

- B. An individual Degree of the Standard Work.
 - 1. Three years, upon an examination with less than five errors,
 - 2. Two years, upon an examination with less than ten errors,
 - 3. One year, upon an examination with less than fifteen errors.

A reasonable opportunity shall be given during the examination to correct any error made.

Sec. 6.03 B.L.

Lectures in the Standard Work. Lodges are authorized to provide Lectures on any of the Three Degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry either delivered by a Mason from memory or delivered through use of media systems which employ video, digital, or computer stored images and sounds provided that:

- A. No electronically or optically produced Lecture shall contain or reveal the words, steps, grips, signs of recognition, tokens, or obligations of an Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft or Master Mason,
- B. Any electronic or optical media production shall have first been approved for use by the Grand Master,
- C. Such Lectures shall have been produced by the Grand Lodge of Washington and the Grand Lodge of Washington shall retain all rights, including copyright copy, to each and every copy, and each Grand Lodge reproduction shall be password protected or have standard language regarding copyright infringements as part of the disc to guard against unauthorized reproduction,
- D. Each copy shall be registered with the Grand Secretary, who shall retain the right to recall and/or replace any or all copies, without remuneration, at the order of the Grand Master or the Annual Communication,
- E. All Lectures, however delivered, shall be given or presented in a tiled Lodge or in a secure place for instruction; and
- F. Constituent Lodges may acquire a copy of a media reproduction of any one of the Three Degrees, at fair market cost of production and distribution, from the Grand Secretary; however, such acquisition is for use only and does not constitute conveyance of any rights to the material contained therein.

[Rev. 2006]

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CHAPTER 7 – FINANCE AND REVENUE

- Sec. 7.01 Const. – Sources**
- Sec. 7.02 Const. – Financial Procedures**
- Sec. 7.03 B.L. – Revenue for the General Fund Rev. 2017**
- Sec. 7.04 B.L. – Revenue for the Charity Fund**
- Sec. 7.05 B.L. – Revenue for the Washington Masonic Charities Rev. 2018**
- Sec. 7.06 B.L. – Dues for N.P.D. Reinstatements**
- Sec. 7.07 B.L. – Powers to Sell and Convey Securities and Real Estate**
- Sec. 7.08 B.L. – Fund Management**
- Sec. 7.09 B.L. – Charity Fund**
- Sec. 7.10 B.L. – Masonic Home Fund**
- Sec. 7.11 B.L. – Masonic Home Endowment Fund**
- Sec. 7.12 B.L. – Masonic Loan Fund**
- Sec. 7.13 B.L. – Masonic Scholarship Endowment Fund Rev. 2014**
- Sec. 7.14 B.L. – Endowed Life Membership Fund**
- Sec. 7.15 B.L. – Grand Lodge Endowment Fund**
- Sec. 7.16 B.L. – Grand Lodge Self Insurance Fund**
- Sec. 7.17 B.L. – Grand Lodge Capital Fund Rev. 2015**

Part I Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 7 – FINANCE AND REVENUE

Sec. 7.01 Const.

Sources. Revenue of the Grand Lodge shall be derived from the following sources:

- A. Fees charged for dispensations, Charters, diplomas and other documents issued under the Grand Lodge authority,
- B. Dues and contributions, paid by the Lodges, in an equal and uniform manner,
- C. Assessments voted by the Grand Lodge for special purposes and paid by the Lodges in an equal and uniform manner,
- D. Assets of dissolved Lodges, subject to all legal and equitable rights of creditors of such Lodges,
- E. Proceeds from investments, loans and other transactions made by the Grand Lodge,
- F. Earnings from various Grand Lodge funds,
- G. Penalties for late returns and late payments; and
- H. Penalties for Charter reinstatements.

Sec. 7.02 Const.

Financial Procedures. Methods for levying and collecting revenues and for the management and disbursement of funds of the Grand Lodge shall be regulated by the By-Laws.

Sec. 7.03 B.L.

Revenue for the General Fund.

- A. Every Lodge shall pay into the treasury of the Grand Lodge in support of Grand Lodge general activities the following:
 1. Ten dollars (\$10.00) for a Charter granted to a new Lodge,
 2. Twenty dollars (\$20.00) for each petition approved for conferral of the Degrees,
 3. One dollar (\$1.00) for each Degree conferred during the year,
 4. One dollar (\$1.00) for each member enrolled during the year by affiliation, in Lodges charging an affiliation fee,
 5. Ten dollars (\$10.00) for each petition for affiliation from a member of some other Jurisdiction, unless the petitioner, through prior membership, has contributed to the Masonic Home Fund, Masonic Home Endowment Fund or General Fund of this Jurisdiction; and
 6. A sum to be set annually by the Grand Lodge [but not to exceed twenty-eight dollars and no cents (\$28.00)] for each enrolled Master Mason, except those whose dues are remitted or not required for any reason. One dollar (\$1.00) shall be designated for contribution to each of the following organizations: the George Washington Masonic Memorial Association, Washington/Idaho International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, Job's Daughters International of Washington and Washington Order of DeMolay. The exceptions are: **Rev. 2017**
 - a. A Mason who is supported at the expense of the Lodge or Grand Lodge,
 - b. A Mason whose dues are permanently waived by the Lodge because of inability to pay the same,
 - c. An honorary member who is not also an active member and who resides outside this Jurisdiction,
 - d. An honorary member for whom any other Lodge of this Jurisdiction is liable for Grand Lodge dues,

[Rev. 2017]

- e. A fifty-year member whose Lodge has remitted his dues,
- f. A member of a Lodge of Research, who holds dual membership in another Lodge of this Jurisdiction; and
- g. A fifty-year Life Member shall be exempt from paying Grand Lodge dues or assessments. **Rev. 2016**

7. The Grand Master may establish a fee to cover the cost of providing the Grand Lodge mailing list or labels for those purposes approved at the Annual Communication.

- B. Any member in this Jurisdiction may pay one dollar (\$1.00) to the treasury of the Grand Lodge and obtain from the Grand Secretary a diploma bearing the seal of the Grand Lodge and attesting that the Brother is a Master Mason in good standing,
- C. The General Fund shall receive annually from each Grand Lodge Fund, with the exception of the Grand Lodge Self Insurance Fund and the Endowed Life Membership Fund, a maximum of two percent (2%) of the fund's fair market value as established at the close of business on the last day of the calendar year. The Endowed Life Membership Fund shall be charged no more than one percent (1%) on the date specified above. Billing for the care and welfare of the Masonic Retirement Center Residents will be satisfied prior to the two percent (2%) assessment being charged to the Masonic Home Endowment Fund and the fee will not invade the Fund's principal; and **Rev. 2012**
- D. Each attending delegate at the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge shall be charged a registration fee that shall be established at twenty dollars (\$20.00) per registrant. Funds derived from this registration fee shall be used to offset the expenses incurred during and pursuant to holding the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge commencing with the fiscal year 2003-2004. Any sums not expended for the payment of such expenses (which may accrue as a surplus in any year) shall be deposited in the Grand Lodge General Fund.

Sec. 7.04 B.L.

Revenue for the Charity Fund. Every Lodge shall pay as follows for dispensations and documents, and the money shall be placed in a special fund, to be known as the Charity Fund:

- A. Dispensation to form a new Lodge - one hundred dollars (\$100.00),
- B. Dispensation for any other purpose - five dollars (\$5.00),
- C. Twenty-five cents (\$.25) annually from each enrolled Master Mason, except those whose dues are remitted or are not required for any reason; and
- D. Twenty dollars (\$20.00) from fees for the Degrees.

The Grand Lodge may, from time to time, appropriate money for the Charity Fund.

Sec. 7.05 B.L.

Revenue for Washington Masonic Charities. Financial support for Washington Masonic Charities shall be provided by the Constituent Lodges paying one dollar (\$1.00) for each Degree conferred annually.

Additional revenue from the Charity Fund and Scholarship Fund, approved by the Grand Master, Grand Secretary and Committee on Finance. **Rev. 2014**

No other charges or fees shall be required of any Lodge for support of Washington Masonic Charities. **Rev. 2013**

[Rev. 2016]

All fees, charges and appropriations to support Washington Masonic Charities will be reported to the Annual Communication by the Committee on Finance in the form of a separate report immediately following the report of the Board of Trustees of Washington Masonic Charities. **Rev. 2018**

Sec. 7.06 B.L.

Dues for N.P.D. Reinstatements. All Lodges must pay dues to the Grand Lodge on N.P.D. reinstatements for the year in which the member was dropped.

Sec. 7.07 B.L.

Powers to Sell and Convey Securities and Real Estate. The Grand Master and the Grand Secretary, with approval of the Committee on Finance, shall have power to:

- A. Sell and convey any real estate now held or hereafter acquired in liquidation of indebtedness or received as a donation; and
- B. Acquire, purchase, sell, exchange, convert, assign, and endorse for the transfer of capital stock, bonds or securities and where such stock, bonds or securities are issued or registered in the corporate name of this Grand Lodge, then upon sale, exchange, conversion or assignment to endorse the same in its corporate name, attested by the seal.

Sec. 7.08 B.L.

Fund Management. Monies from the various funds now authorized by the Grand Lodge or to be created in the future for specific purposes, if not needed for current expenses, shall be invested under Grand Lodge management to generate revenue. Funds managed by the Grand Lodge shall be subject to such reasonable fees as may be established under Sec. 7.03 B.L.

The Grand Master and the Grand Secretary, with the approval of the Committee on Finance shall be responsible for the management of such investments that may be in interest bearing bank deposits or in such securities as are legal investments for trust funds under the laws of the State of Washington. Those include Government bonds, notes and bills, corporate bonds, preferred and common stock, and real estate contracts.

Sec. 7.09 B.L.

Charity Fund. This special fund shall be maintained for charity purposes. The fund shall be supported by monies listed in Sec. 7.04 B.L.

Sec. 7.10 B.L.

Masonic Home Fund. This special fund shall be maintained exclusively for the support of the Masonic Retirement Center and Masonic Outreach Services.

Sec. 7.11 B.L.

Masonic Home Endowment Fund. This special fund shall be maintained exclusively for the use and benefit of the Masonic Retirement Center of Washington.

- A. **Principal.** The principal shall constitute, be and remain a permanent trust fund consisting of the following:
 - 1. All monies and property contributed to the Fund by gift, bequest, or devise; and

2. Funds appropriated by the Grand Lodge that are designated as principal. The asset value of proceeds from the sale of any real or personal property, which has been conveyed to the Fund by gift, bequest or devise shall be a part of this Fund if designated for the benefit of the Masonic Retirement Center or not designated for any other specific use or disposition.

B. Capital Gains or Losses. Capital gains net of capital losses, whether realized or unrealized, in either case, (“net capital gains”) may be used for the operation and maintenance of the Masonic Retirement Center of Washington. Net capital gains may only be used to the extent authorized by the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary, with the approval of the Committee on Finance. The exception is that net capital gains reasonably attributable to contributions made to this fund by gift, bequest or devise from 1994 through the fiscal year ending April 30, 2005, inclusive, shall be limited as follows:

1. The authorized amount may not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the prior year’s net capital gains; and
2. The prior year’s net capital gains available shall be reduced by the amount of any net capital loss that has not previously reduced a prior year’s net capital gains.

The use of net capital gains attributable to contributions made before 1994 or after April 30, 2005, shall not be subject to the limitation.

Sec. 7.12 B.L.

Masonic Loan Fund. This special fund shall be maintained to provide loans to Constituent Lodges and Masonic Building Corporations for Masonic purposes.

The Fund shall consist of such monies as may be appropriated for that purpose by Grand Lodge, money and property contributed by gift, bequest and devise, and from any other source.

The Fund shall be managed and disbursed by a committee composed of the Grand Master, the Grand Secretary, and the Committee on Finance. This Committee shall have the authority to make loans pursuant to this Chapter and in such amounts, and under such terms and conditions as may be determined by the Committee; provided, however, that no such loans shall be made unless:

- A. The loan is a matter of urgent necessity to the borrower,
- B. The loan is a matter of proper concern to Grand Lodge; and
- C. The loan will be adequately secured and repaid when due.

Any real and personal property of the Fund may be sold, leased, conveyed or otherwise disposed of by the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary with the approval of the Committee on Finance.

Sec. 7.13 B.L.

Masonic Scholarship Endowment Fund. This special Fund shall be maintained for the purpose of awarding Grand Lodge scholarships annually to deserving students as selected by the Committee on Public Schools Outreach.

The principal of the Fund shall constitute, be, and remain, a permanent trust Fund. This fund shall receive:

- A. Money or property that may be donated to the Fund by gift, bequest or devise; and
- B. Five dollars (\$5.00) for each petition approved for conferral of the Degrees, from the conferring Lodge.

[Rev. 2014]

Revenue generated by this fund shall be divided among programs that provide Grand Lodge scholarships to high school juniors and seniors for academic and/or vocational pursuits. At least one scholarship shall be awarded to a deserving applicant who is a member of the Order of DeMolay, Job's Daughters International or the International Order of Rainbow for Girls. If there are no deserving applicants in this category, then this scholarship may be awarded to another deserving student. **Rev. 2014**

Sec. 7.14 B.L.

Endowed Life Membership Fund. The Grand Lodge, having sponsored and established an endowed life membership plan for Masons of this Jurisdiction, shall maintain a special Fund for the management of money received for Endowed Life Memberships under the plan. The principal sum of the Fund shall constitute, be and remain a permanent trust Fund.

- A. All sums collected by Lodges for Endowed Life Membership under the Grand Lodge plan shall be immediately remitted to the Grand Secretary who shall place all money so received in the Endowed Life Membership Fund,
- B. The Grand Secretary shall immediately issue to the member paying the required fees an Endowed Life Membership Certificate under Seal of the Grand Lodge,
- C. The holder of an Endowed Life Membership Certificate may voluntarily transfer to another Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction, whereupon the Grand Secretary, upon notice thereof, shall transfer on the books of the Endowed Life Membership Fund, to the credit of the new Lodge of membership, the fees received for the holder's endowed life membership. Endowed Life memberships which are purchased with Lodge Funds shall remain in trust for said Lodge of purchase,
- D. The holder of an Endowed Life Membership Certificate in a Lodge that becomes dissolved shall, upon affiliation with another Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, have his Endowed Life Membership transferred in the same manner as for a voluntary transfer,
- E. All money in the Endowed Life Membership Fund to the credit of two or more Lodges that consolidate shall be combined to the credit of the Consolidated Lodge,
- F. Earnings of the Endowed Life Membership Fund, shall be distributed annually to participating Lodges based on their share of the Fund. As set forth in Section 7.03 B.L., one percent (1%) of the annual asset valuation shall be retained by the Grand Lodge to defray expenses of managing the Fund,
- G. Interest accruing from the Fund, as the share of a dissolved Lodge, shall be added, at the end of each year, to the principal of the Fund,
- H. Nothing in this section shall preclude the transfer of Life or Endowed Life Membership Funds on behalf of Lodges that have affiliated with the Grand Lodge of Alaska; and
- I. The fiscal year for the Endowed Life Membership Fund shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31 of each calendar year.

Sec. 7.15 B.L.

Grand Lodge Endowment Fund. This special Fund shall be maintained for the use and benefit of the General Fund. The principal shall consist, be and remain a Permanent Trust Fund.

This Fund may receive such sums as may be appropriated thereto by the Grand Lodge and one-fourth (1/4) of the excess income over expenses occurring in the General Fund annually will be transferred to this Fund.

[Rev. 2014]

Sec. 7.16 B.L.

Grand Lodge Self Insurance Fund. This special Fund shall be maintained for the purpose of self insuring paraphernalia and other property belonging to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington and its Constituent Lodges and paying such deductibles resulting from property loss claims on other Grand Lodge insurance. Eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00) shall be budgeted and transferred from the General Fund each year until the assets of the Self Insurance Fund total twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00).

Any earnings of the Fund in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) shall be returned to the General Fund. The principal of the fund shall be maintained at twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) and in the event of the payment of losses, if the principal is reduced to less than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) funds shall be budgeted and transferred from the General Fund to the Self Insurance Fund, provided no more than twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) be transferred each year until the principal of the fund is returned to twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00).

The Committee on Finance shall develop such procedures as necessary for the submission and processing of claims and shall review and approve or disapprove all claims made against the Fund.

Sec. 7.17 B.L.

Grand Lodge Capital Fund. This special Fund shall be maintained for the purpose of capital costs directly associated with the Grand Lodge Office. This Fund may receive such sums as may be appropriated for that purpose by the Grand Lodge, together with all monies or property donated to or for the benefit of said Fund by gift, bequest or devise. Expenditures from this Fund will require approval of the Grand Master, Grand Secretary, and Grand Lodge Finance Committee and will be reported at the subsequent Annual Communication. **Rev. 2015**

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Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 8 – COMMITTEES, FOUNDATIONS AND THEIR DUTIES

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Part I - Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 8 - COMMITTEES, FOUNDATIONS AND THEIR DUTIES

Sec. 8.01 B.L.

Standing Committees. The newly-installed Grand Master shall appoint, before the close of the Annual Communication, the following Standing Committees to serve until the close of the next Annual Communication. The number of Committee members shall be a minimum of three, with the exception of the Committees on Correspondence and Masonic Tribune which shall be one.

- A. Arrangements (**New 2014**)
- B. By-Laws
- C. Charity
- D. Code Commission
- E. Correspondence
- F. Credentials
- G. Finance
- H. Grand Lodge Medical Response Team (**New 2018**)
- I. Grand Lodge Trial (**New 2014**)
- J. Grievances and Appeals
- K. Jurisprudence
- L. Leadership Training
- M. Long Range Planning
- N. Masonic Public Relations
- O. Masonic Research and Education
- P. Masonic Tribune
- Q. Membership Development
- R. Military and Veterans Services
- S. Photography (**New 2014**)
- T. Technology
- U. Youth

The Committees on Jurisprudence, Finance, and Credentials shall meet on the day immediately preceding the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge. **Rev. 2012**

Sec. 8.02 B.L.

Arrangements. The Committee shall provide for or assist in the provision of transportation, accommodations, concierge and other such arrangements as directed by the Grand Master at prescribed Grand Lodge events and activities. **New 2014**

Sec. 8.03 B.L.

By-Laws. The Committee shall:

- A. Receive from the Grand Secretary all By-Laws or By-Law amendments, Standing Resolutions or Standing Resolution amendments, and all conditional bequests and gifts submitted by the Lodges for approval, review the same and forward promptly to the Grand Master with a recommendation of approval or disapproval; and **Rev. 2013**

[**Rev. 2018**]

- B. Report to the Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication a list of the By-Laws and By-Law amendments, Standing Resolutions or Standing Resolution amendments, and all conditional bequests and gifts submitted for consideration. **Rev. 2013**

Sec. 8.04 B.L.

Charity. The Committee shall investigate and report upon all applications for assistance, and may report upon the necessities of any worthy Brother whose condition may claim the attention of the Grand Lodge.

Requests for charity will be on forms provided by Grand Lodge. It is the duty of the Chairman to develop and implement a process for review and approval of charitable funds with the approval of the Grand Master. The Charity Committee is authorized to approve charity requests of five hundred (\$500.00) or less.

Sec. 8.05 B.L. Renumbered 2015

Code Commission. The Commission shall:

- A. Compile and maintain a continuing review of the Washington Masonic Code. Where such review reveals misspelled words, extra, missing, or misplaced punctuation, or similar errors, whether related to grammar, syntax, agreement in number, gender or sentence structure, the Code Commission, with the concurrence of the Committee on Jurisprudence, may jointly authorize publication of such changes, which action shall be reported to the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge for its approval,
- B. Receive from the Grand Secretary each Resolution proposing an addition or an amendment to the Code; review, and, when necessary, restructure and/or rewrite the proposal, with the concurrence of the sponsors, to preserve the desired qualities of the Code; approve or revise the proposed placement in the Code,
- C. Receive from the Grand Secretary all enactments of Grand Lodge affecting the Code, confirm the placement in the Code and the indexing for each item, and file a report of the same with the Grand Secretary,
- D. Perform a systematic review and upgrading of the Constitution and By-Laws as deemed necessary. The upgrading shall include the restructuring and/or rewriting of portions of the Code when necessary for clarification. Extreme care shall be exercised during this procedure to avoid changing or obscuring the original intent of the legislation. Proposed amendments to the Constitution or By-Laws shall be reported to the Grand Lodge for consideration at the Annual Communication following the completion of the clarification project; and
- E. Perform a systematic review and upgrading of the Rulings and Decisions as deemed necessary. Clarification, removal or relocation of Rulings and Decisions shall be discussed with the Committee on Jurisprudence and the conclusions shall be reported in the form of a joint report to the Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication for their approval or disapproval and any relevant decisions to be included in the Rulings and Decisions will be forwarded to the Grand Secretary by the Code Commission in the proper format and added to the Grand Master's Rulings and Decisions Document.

Sec. 8.06 B.L. Renumbered 2015

Correspondence. The Committee shall examine the printed or written proceedings or other documents emanating from other Grand Lodges, and report, at each Annual Communication, whatever may seem of sufficient importance and interest to the Craft. He shall deliver his report to the Grand Secretary before the meeting of the Grand Lodge.

[Rev. 2015]

Sec. 8.07 B.L. Renumbered 2015

Credentials. The Committee shall:

- A. Verify the credentials of all Masons claiming the right of membership in the Grand Lodge,
- B. List, for the record, at each Annual Communication:
 1. The names of Grand Officers and other members of the Grand Lodge in attendance,
 2. Names and numbers of Lodges represented,
 3. Names of Masters, Wardens and Past Masters present; and
 4. Names of proxies present.
- C. Report to the Grand Lodge, after the call to order and before the ceremonial opening of the Annual Communication, that the required number of Lodges are present to provide a quorum for the transaction of business; and
- D. Conduct the annual election of officers at the direction of the Grand Master, and report the results to the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 8.08 B.L. Renumbered 2015

Finance. The Committee shall:

- A. Examine and report on all matters concerning the finances of the Grand Lodge, not otherwise provided for; and upon all subjects involving an appropriation of its funds. Without such report no appropriation shall be made,
- B. Examine and compare the books, papers, vouchers and accounts of the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary, and make detailed reports thereon and submit the same to the Grand Lodge before the close of each Annual Communication; and report the financial condition of the Grand Lodge,
- C. Present, before the close of each Annual Communication, an estimate of the probable expenses of the ensuing year (giving each class of expenditure under its proper heading), and recommend the appropriation of such sums as it shall deem necessary,
- D. Oversee and approve management and disposition of all real and personal property not assigned to another committee, including any held in trust for the benefit of any charitable activity,
- E. Consider for approval the recommendations made by the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary for investment of monies from the various Funds that the Grand Lodge has authorized,
- F. Provide knowledgeable oversight on all Grand Lodge Insurance matters including:
 1. Review and audit all Grand Lodge property and casualty insurance policies to maximize amounts of insurance coverage for the premiums paid, seek methods to eliminate gaps or omissions in coverage and improve coverage while reducing cost,
 2. Review insurance coverage of Constituent Lodges, Temple Corporations or Associations, and recommend improvements in coverage; and
 3. Act as liaison between insurance providers and Grand Lodge to resolve complaints within this Jurisdiction, and resolve questions regarding Constituent Lodge, Temple Corporation or Association coverage.
- G. Make report of audit findings and provide recommendations for change when deemed advisable and as provided in Sec. 11.06 B.L.,
- H. Review all matters that affect the affairs of the 401(k) pension program for employees of the Grand Lodge Office and Washington Masonic Charities including but not limited to:
 1. Oversee the investment policy of the fund; and

[Rev. 2015]

2. Assure the 401(k) program and actions taken on its behalf are within the rules of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and its amendments and any future laws that govern this type of retirement plan.
- I. May engage Certified Public Accountants and such other professional assistance as may be required to assist and report to the Committee as to the details of the financial, property and insurance, or other matters pertaining thereto, and subject to the approval of the Grand Master.

Sec. 8.09 B.L.

Grand Lodge Medical Response Team. The committee shall provide medical assistance to those in need at the Annual Communication and other Masonic events as requested, until emergency medical assistance arrives. **New 2018**

Sec. 8.10 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Grand Lodge Trial. The Grand Lodge Trial Committee shall investigate, consider, conduct, report and make recommendation of action(s) upon the merits and facts presented at trial (including audio and video recordings) upon the request for a Masonic Trial.

- A. The Committee shall forward recommendations regarding the judgement and proposed penalty to the Grand Master for his action and distribution.
- B. The Members of the Grand Lodge Trial Committee shall be appointed by the Grand Master.
- C. They shall follow the dictates as outlined in Chapters 27 and 28 of the W.M.C. **Rev. 2017**

Sec. 8.11 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Grievances and Appeals. The Committee shall consider, report upon, and make such recommendations as it may deem proper on the following matters:

- A. Any complaint or grievance appertaining to Masonic discipline,
- B. All appeals from the judgment of a Grand Lodge Trial Committee or discipline administered by the Grand Master; and
- C. All petitions for restoration.

Matters contained in the report of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals shall be mentioned in our Proceedings only by titles of the cases and statements of action taken. No details of the case shall be mentioned.

Sec. 8.12 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Jurisprudence. The Committee shall consider and report upon all questions, documents, papers, decisions on Masonic Law and Usage, and proposed amendments to the Constitution, By-Laws, and Regulations.

Sec. 8.13 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Leadership Training. The Committee shall develop leadership training material and assist in the structuring of training forums to help promote leadership development throughout the Jurisdiction.

Sec. 8.14 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Long Range Planning. The Committee will be custodians of the Washington Grand Lodge Long Range Plans, incorporating and implementing changes necessitated by evolving circumstances within the Grand Lodge.

[Rev. 2018]

Sec. 8.15 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Masonic Public Relations. The Committee shall assist Grand Lodge and its Constituent Lodges with information and news releases on Masonic matters, including Grand Lodge communications, cornerstone laying, dedications and similar matters.

Sec. 8.16 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Masonic Research and Education. The Committee shall:

- A. On request, furnish speakers on Masonic and kindred subjects for Lodges and for community meetings held under the auspices of Lodges,
- B. Select for printing and circulation such Masonic addresses proper and suitable for circulation,
- C. Invite and conduct correspondence with Lodges, or members thereof, concerning Masonic subjects; and
- D. Have power to expend in its work such funds as may have been appropriated for its use by the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 8.17 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Masonic Tribune. The Committee shall be responsible for publication of the official publication of the Grand Lodge on a regular basis as directed by the Grand Master.

Sec. 8.18 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Membership Development. The Committee shall research, develop and promote programs to enhance and increase Masonic membership among the constituent Lodges. To assist the Lodges in creating interesting and viable programs for its meetings and activities to promote and create an interesting Masonic environment for greater attendance and participation among its enrolled membership; and shall make an annual report and recommendations to Grand Lodge concerning its activities and findings.

Sec. 8.19 B.L. Renamed 2017 Renumbered 2018

Military and Veterans Services. The Committee shall:

- A. Research, develop and promote programs to serve and honor our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Coast Guard, Reservists and National Guard Forces and the veterans of the same, within the evolving opportunities and priorities of this Grand Jurisdiction,
- B. Recommend programs and activities that engage the military community, veteran community, Brethren who are veterans, and their families,
- C. Work in concert with Washington Masonic Charities and other agencies to provide a clearinghouse of available resources from charities, veterans' organizations, government agencies, and such other assets and resources as are identified by the Committee,
- D. Recommend or devise such other programs and special events as determined by the priorities of and as directed by the Grand Master,
- E. Working with the Technology Committee, Grand Secretary and Washington Masonic Charities, establish and oversee a database of Masonic veterans and military as self-identified on a voluntary basis. The database will only be used to further the efforts of the Committee and Washington Masonic Charities; and
- F. Have the power to expend in its work such funds as may have been appropriated for its use by the Grand Lodge. **Rev. 2017**

[Rev. 2018]

Sec. 8.20 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Photography. The Committee will provide photographic services at all Grand Lodge events and activities or meetings, events and activities where the Grand Master is in attendance, unless excused. The committee will, on request, provide photographic services at Lodge functions or other Masonic related events. The committee will provide public access to photographs and work with the Library and Museum committee for the preservation and documentation of selected photographs. **New 2014**

Sec. 8.21 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Technology. The Committee shall:

- A. Develop, promote and improve methods of communication between Grand Lodge and Constituent Lodges,
- B. Provide a review of current communication methods and computer technology available,
- C. Make recommendation about technology which will assist and improve Masonic Communication; and
- D. Create electronic formatted presentations of certain ritual work as authorized by the Washington Masonic Code.

Sec. 8.22 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Youth. The Committee shall maintain a program of guidance and assistance which shall be available to Constituent Lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction for assisting and guiding the Order of DeMolay, International Order of Rainbow for Girls and Job's Daughters International in their areas. **Rev. 2014**

Sec. 8.23 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Special Committees. Special Committees may be appointed by the Grand Master to facilitate business of the Grand Lodge whenever it shall be deemed necessary. They shall perform such duties as may be assigned to them by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge. Special Committees whose duties and functions are continued for three successive years following their institution, beginning with the conclusion of the 1995 Annual Communication, shall be reviewed thereafter at the Annual Communication following the third anniversary of their creation and Grand Lodge may choose to make such committees Standing Committees or abolish them.

Sec. 8.24 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Committee Reports. Every Committee to which any question or matter has been referred shall, after making an investigation, submit a written report-if proper to be written-of the facts determined by its inquiry. Recommendations which the Committee shall deem proper, regarding the subject under investigation, shall be submitted as Resolutions attached to the report. Each Grand Lodge Committee so defined in this chapter shall give a written accounting of those expenses incurred for which the Grand Lodge made reimbursement as part of their annual report. **Rev. 2011**

Sec. 8.25 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Meetings During Annual Communication. Committees shall not meet while the Grand Lodge is actually in session, except by permission of the Grand Master.

[Rev. 2018]

Sec. 8.26 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Bill P. Horn Memorial Masonic Medal Foundation. The Bill P. Horn Memorial Masonic Medal Foundation is constituted in order to recognize a Mason of note on the world scene who has quietly contributed in a significant way to the improvement of society. A Board of Trustees appointed by the Grand Master shall manage the affairs and operation of the Foundation.

- A. The Board of Trustees shall consist of five members, each of whom shall serve a term of five years so arranged that one Trustee shall be appointed or reappointed each year in June following the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge,
- B. The Board of Trustees shall develop and establish operating procedures for the award of the Bill P. Horn Memorial Masonic Medal; and
The Board of Trustees may create and administer a trust fund to support this activity; and The Trustees shall report annually to the Grand Lodge on the income, expenses, and activities, including the name or names of the recipients of this award.

Sec. 8.27 B.L. Renumbered 2018

Washington Masonic Grand Lodge Building Association. The Board of Trustees for Washington Masonic Grand Lodge Building Association will be composed of the Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Two Master Masons of this Jurisdiction appointed by the Grand Master and three elected Trustees; one elected each year at the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge. In the event of a vacancy the Board will elect a replacement and that position filled subject to the election of Grand Lodge Officers at the subsequent Annual Communication. The corporation is governed by the Article of Incorporation and By-Laws.

Each year, prior to September 1st any Master Mason can file a written resume with the Grand Lodge of Washington to serve as Trustee on the Washington Masonic Grand Lodge Building Association Board. Only one trustee will be elected unless more than one vacancy must be filled. If no Master Mason files for the position the Grand Master may appoint a Master Mason to fill a vacancy.
New 2014

Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 9 – ANNUAL COMMUNICATION PROCEDURE

Sec. 9.01 B.L. – Communications

Sec. 9.02 B.L. – Quorum

Sec. 9.03 B.L. – Hours of Convening and of Labor and Refreshment

Sec. 9.04 B.L. – Opening Proceedings

Sec. 9.05 B.L. – Continuing Proceedings

Sec. 9.06 B.L. – Approval of Minutes

Sec. 9.07 B.L. – Distribution of Proceedings

[Rev. 2008]

Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 9 – ANNUAL COMMUNICATION PROCEDURE

Sec. 9.01 B.L. Communications.

Annual. The Grand Lodge shall meet annually on the second Friday of June in the City of Wenatchee, unless an invitation to hold the Annual Communication for a given year in another city shall have been received and accepted by vote of the Grand Lodge, after having been referred without debate to the Committee on Finance for report and found to have a negligible financial impact on the budget of Grand Lodge. [This change shall take effect as of the Annual Communication held in June 2012.]

Special.

- A. The Grand Master may call Special Communications for ceremonial purposes; and
- B. Special Communications may also be called by the Grand Master for purpose of enactment of legislation of an emergent nature after forty-five days written notice to all Lodges.

Sec. 9.02 B.L.

Quorum. The Representatives of fifty-one percent (51%) of the Chartered Lodges, convened on due notice to all the Lodges, shall be indispensably necessary to open Grand Lodge for the transaction of business; however, on occasions of ceremony, the Grand Master or his special Deputy, with a number of Brethren sufficient to fill the stations and places, may open the Grand Lodge and perform the ceremony for which it is called.

Sec. 9.03 B.L.

Hours of Convening and of Labor and Refreshment. The Grand Lodge shall convene at ten o'clock A.M. on the first day of each Annual Communication. Thereafter the hours of labor and refreshment shall be at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master.

Sec. 9.04 B.L.

Opening Proceedings. The Annual Communication shall observe the following initial order of proceedings and business:

- A. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain,
- B. Roll Call of elective, appointive and past elective officers by the Grand Secretary,
- C. Receive the report of the Committee on Credentials regarding the number of Lodges represented,
- D. Solemn Ceremonies of Opening the Grand Lodge in Ample Form,
- E. Read and approve the minutes of the last Annual Communication, unless dispensed with,
- F. Appointments to fill vacancies on Standing Committees and other business affecting the organization of the Grand Lodge,
- G. Message of the Grand Master,
- H. Referral of the Grand Master's Message to appropriate committees,
- I. Report of the Grand Secretary,
- J. Referral of the Grand Secretary's Report to appropriate committees,
- K. Report of the Grand Secretary on Unfinished Business,

[Rev. 2008]

- L. Report of the Committee on Correspondence,
- M. Report of the Committee on Charity; and
- N. Other business of the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 9.05 B.L.

Continuing Proceedings. Business during the several sessions after the convening of Grand Lodge shall include the following:

- A. Presentation and referral or other disposition of memorials, petitions and communications,
- B. Presentation of Resolutions and referral to Committees,
- C. Reports from Standing and Special Committees and action on recommendations,
- D. Reports from Grand Officers as required,
- E. Consideration of amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws,
- F. Report of Committee on Credentials in preparation for the election of officers,
- G. Election of officers,
- H. Special orders, if any,
- I. Installation of Grand Officers and Deputies of the Grand Master,
- J. Appointment of Standing Committees,
- K. Other business; and
- L. Solemn Ceremonies of Closing the Grand Lodge in Ample Form.

Sec. 9.06 B.L.

Approval of Minutes. The Grand Secretary shall submit the minutes of an Annual Communication for examination, correction if necessary, and approval by the Grand Master who presided, prior to December 31 of the year in which the Annual Communication occurred and before the record of the Proceedings shall be produced.

Sec. 9.07 B.L.

Distribution of Proceedings. Electronic media and hard copies of the Proceedings of the Annual Communication shall be produced annually and distributed by the Grand Secretary prior to April 1 of the calendar year following the Annual Communication as follows:

- A. At a price which shall reflect the cost of production, handling, and distribution, one copy to each of the following upon receipt of an order for the same:
 - 1. Each Chartered Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction,
 - 2. Each appointed Grand Lodge Officer,
 - 3. Each appointed Grand Lodge Committeeman,
 - 4. Each District Deputy of the Grand Master; and
 - 5. Each Past Grand Master.
- B. One copy each without cost to:
 - 1. Each Elected Grand Lodge Officer,
 - 2. Each Grand Representative of this Grand Lodge near another Grand Lodge,
 - 3. Each Grand Lodge which corresponds with and furnishes this Grand Jurisdiction with a copy of its Annual Proceedings,
 - 4. Each member of the Committees on Jurisprudence, Finance, and the Code Commission, as needed; and
 - 5. Each Research Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction.

[Rev. 2004]

- C. Such additional copies as may be produced shall be held by the Grand Secretary and may be sold under the same or similar terms as pertain to those in paragraph A, above, to any interested party; and
- D. Copies of the Proceedings may also be distributed in an electronically or optically stored and reproduced media provided that they are available in a format which is generally accessible and affordable, and that the price charged reflects the actual costs of production, duplication, handling, and distribution.

Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 10 – WASHINGTON MASONIC CHARITIES

Sec. 10.01 B.L. – Washington Masonic Charities Rev. 2015

Sec. 10.02 B.L. – Board of Trustees Rev. 2014

Sec. 10.03 B.L. – Authority of the Board

Sec. 10.04 B.L. – Board Reports Rev. 2018

[Rev. 2018]

Part I - Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 10 - WASHINGTON MASONIC CHARITIES

Sec. 10.01 B.L.

Washington Masonic Charities. The Grand Lodge may establish and maintain a Public Charity, the purpose of which will encompass the charitable activities of the Grand Lodge of Washington. The Public Charity shall be incorporated as a Washington State not-for-profit corporation subject to the laws of the State of Washington and the Internal Revenue Code of the U.S. Treasury Department, which laws, rules, regulations, and requirements shall have supremacy over the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington, and the Rulings and Decisions of the Grand Masters, and any By-Laws of the corporation established or any successor corporation established hereafter.

Washington Masonic Charities, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization will serve as the Grand Lodge's charitable activity and will encompass the following purposes:

- A. Investing in youth, education, and safety through literacy, scholarships, Bikes for Books, child identification, teacher training for at risk students and additional programs designed to enhance, encourage and protect children.
- B. Advise and assist with programs enhancing the ability of the aging and other individuals to access functional needs to live independently, transition to higher levels of care, or meet financial necessities. Maintain a Planned Giving sub-Committee whose purpose will be to provide information and to assist Masons with estate gift planning and giving issues. Preserving and sharing the Masonic heritage of our Grand Jurisdiction through the administration of the Washington Masonic Library and Museum, photographic archives and heritage education. **Rev. 2015**

Sec. 10.02 B.L.

Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees for Washington Masonic Charities will be composed of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Secretary, Immediate Past Grand Master and members of this Jurisdiction, governed by the corporate By-Laws. In the event of a vacancy the Board will elect a replacement and that position filled subject to the election of Grand Lodge Officers at the subsequent Annual Communication. **Rev. 2014**

Each year, prior to September 1st any Master Mason can file a written resume with the Grand Lodge of Washington to serve as Trustee on the Washington Masonic Charities Board. Only one trustee will be elected unless more than one vacancy must be filled. If no Master Mason files for the position the Grand Master may appoint a Master Mason to fill a vacancy. **Rev. 2013**

Sec. 10.03 B.L.

Authority of the Board. The Board shall direct the expenditure of all money appropriated by the Grand Lodge in support of Washington Masonic Charities. The Board shall make all necessary rules and regulations for the government of the Washington Masonic Charities. The adoption and any amendment to the corporation's Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws will first be reviewed by the Grand Lodge Jurisprudence Committee.

[Rev. 2015]

Sec. 10.04 B.L.

- A. **Board Reports.** The Board shall make an annual report to the Grand Lodge as part of the Annual Communication. Said report shall summarize the activities of Washington Masonic Charities for the preceding year and shall include a budget for the current year. **Rev. 2018**

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Part 1 – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 11 – APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 11.01 B.L. – Disbursements

Sec. 11.02 B.L. – Payments

Sec. 11.03 B.L. – Referrals

Sec. 11.04 B.L. – Emergency Aid

Sec. 11.05 B.L. – Retirement Plan

Sec. 11.06 B.L. – Blanket Insurance Coverage

Sec. 11.07 B.L. – Authorization for May – June Expenditures

Sec. 11.08 B.L. – Fiscal Year

Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 11 – APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 11.01 B.L.

Disbursements. Funds of the Grand Lodge shall be disbursed only by checks duly signed by the Grand Master or, in his absence or disability, the Deputy Grand Master, and by the Grand Secretary or, in his absence or disability, the Assistant Grand Secretary.

Sec. 11.02 B.L.

Payments. Checks shall be issued in payment for duly authorized labor or material only after the labor is finished or the material actually furnished.

Sec. 11.03 B.L.

Referrals. Proposals and Resolutions presented for the appropriation or expenditure of money shall be referred to the Committee on Finance for review and report before final consideration by the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 11.04 B.L.

Emergency Aid. The Grand Master, in cooperation with the Committee on Charity, may draw upon the Charity Fund for the relief of worthy applicants at any time and for instant relief in an emergency following an extraordinary calamity which has caused extensive distress to large numbers of the Fraternity.

Sec. 11.05 B.L.

Retirement Plan. Employees of the Grand Lodge, and employees of Washington Masonic Charities, are eligible to participate in the Grand Lodge 401(k) Retirement Plan as set forth in the requirements of the plan documents.

Sec. 11.06 B.L.

Blanket Insurance Coverage. The Grand Lodge may authorize and appropriate funds to cover the cost of the following insurance coverage for the Constituent Lodges:

- A. Comprehensive Public Liability,
- B. Medical Payments,
- C. Fidelity and Depository Forgery – Blanket Policy,
- D. Monies and Securities/Broad Form for Lodges; and
- E. The Grand Lodge shall self insure all paraphernalia belonging to the Grand Lodge and constituent Lodges for replacement cost new and will pay all losses of more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for any one occurrence up to a maximum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) per occurrence.

The limits of insurance coverage provided in sub-sections A, B, C and D shall be published annually to the Constituent Lodges and the cost included in the General Fund Budget.

Sec. 11.07 B.L.

Authorization for May-June Expenditures. The Grand Lodge is authorized to expend funds for the normal operation of business during May and June, following the end of the Grand Lodge fiscal year. Said expenditures shall not exceed the average monthly expenditures of the previous fiscal year.

Sec. 11.08 B.L.

Fiscal Year. The fiscal year for the Grand Lodge shall begin on May 1 and end on April 30 of each calendar year.

Part II – Restrictions

CHAPTER 12 – RESTRICTIONS

Sec. 12.01 B.L. – Use of Masonic Name and Emblem Rev. 2017

Sec. 12.02 B.L. – Business or Begging Letters

Sec. 12.03 B.L. – Intoxicating Liquors in Lodge Room

Sec. 12.04 B.L. – Lotteries

Sec. 12.05 B.L. – Incorporation of Lodges

Part II Restrictions

CHAPTER 12 - RESTRICTIONS

Sec. 12.01 B.L.

Use of Masonic Name and Emblem. It shall be a Masonic offense for any Mason to:

- A. Display any Masonic emblem upon any place of business, or in connection with any business advertisement, or upon any sign, flag or banner used in conjunction with that business,
- B. In conjunction with any private business, or any insurance or other business enterprise use any Masonic emblem, or the word "Mason" or any variation whatsoever, or make any reference thereto for the purpose of soliciting patronage of any kind to that business,
- C. Accept employment with, or solicit business for, any person or persons violating the provisions of this Section,
- D. Permit the printing while in the business of publishing Masonic books, journals or periodicals, of an advertisement on behalf of a client, using the word "Mason" or a variation thereof or a term, sign or symbol of Freemasonry, the use of which is prohibited in this Section; provided that this Subsection shall not apply to Masonic books, journals, periodicals, handouts, programs, and materials for use in the Lodge or for the promotion of the Lodge, or to legitimate trade in Masonic supplies,
- E. Fail to obtain written approval from the Grand Master before any advertising material shall be solicited, accepted or published by any publication claiming to be Masonic in character.

Such approval may be withheld by the Grand Master or revoked after granting whenever, in his opinion, the welfare of Masonry will be compromised thereby. Any revocation shall become effective after ten days following written notice served in person, or by registered mail with return receipt requested, and an offer of opportunity to be heard in person and/or by counsel,

- F. Fail to obtain written approval from the Grand Master before any permanent sign, monument of a Masonic nature, Masonic emblem, or the word "Mason" or any variation whatsoever shall be affixed to a building; and
- G. Use any Masonic emblem or design or the word "Masonic" in connection with any unauthorized publication. Further, such violation shall subject the offender to the penalties of the civil law. It shall be accepted that Masons and their Lodges can use Masonic emblems, or the word "Mason" or any variation whatsoever as positive public relations for that Lodge and the Jurisdiction as a whole. For example:
 1. In a Masonic Procession; or
 2. In a community, historical, educational, or patriotic parade or event that the Lodge has deemed beneficial for the good image of their Lodge and Masonry. **Rev. 2017**

Sec. 12.02 B.L.

Business or Begging Letters.

- A. No Lodge shall:
 1. Issue, furnish or endorse any letter or document to any person whomsoever, or to any organization to be used for business or begging purposes,

[Rev. 2017]

2. Solicit monetary assistance or donations of money for any purpose whatsoever, by circular letter or otherwise, from any Lodge or Mason in this or any other Jurisdiction, or from the general public; or
 3. Entertain or permit to be read in Lodge any begging letter from Masons or Lodges of other Jurisdictions or from other sources, unless such letter or document shall have received the approval of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master of this Jurisdiction, which approval shall appear on the face of such letter.
- B. No Mason shall circulate in any Lodge a petition asking for financial aid for any matter or thing not of a strictly Masonic nature; and
- C. The elective Grand Lodge officers shall not use the Grand Lodge mailing list for any commercial purpose, whatsoever, or engage themselves in any professional fund raising enterprise whatsoever, without first obtaining the consent of Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication.
- Policies for usage are:
1. Grand Lodge authorization for fund raising enterprises and the use of the Grand Lodge mailing list shall be renewed annually at the annual Communication,
 2. Use of the Grand Lodge mailing list, or portions thereof, by Masonic Family organizations other than Grand Lodge 501(c) 10 (1, 2, and 3) may be allowed for a fee established and approved by the Grand Master; and
 3. Authorization of the Grand Lodge mailing list for use by Masonic Family organizations is limited exclusively to the purposes of promoting membership and Fraternal communication between bodies and that no commercial or fund raising use, charitable or otherwise, may be made of it whatsoever.

Sec. 12.03 B.L.

Intoxicating Liquors in Lodge Room. Intoxicating liquors shall not be introduced into a Lodge Room. Lodges or Temple Corporations may, at their option, by Standing Resolution, adopt and enforce such regulations relating to other areas than a Lodge Room, as they, in their wisdom, may deem appropriate.

Sec. 12.04 B.L.

Lotteries. The conduct of raffles, bingo, and other lotteries to the extent authorized by civil law is permitted, provided that any organization conducting the same shall fully comply with all State and local laws, rules and regulations.

Sec. 12.05 B.L.

Incorporation of Lodges. No Lodge, other than a Lodge that was incorporated on or before 14 June 1893 and has continually maintained incorporated status with the Territory of Washington and/or the State of Washington, shall form itself into a corporate body without permission from the Grand Lodge.

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Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 13 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 13.01 Const. – Authority to Hold Lodge**
- Sec. 13.02 B.L. – Lodge Membership**
- Sec. 13.03 B.L. – Sunday Labor**
- Sec. 13.04 B.L. – Proper Time for Business**
- Sec. 13.05 B.L. – Off-Session**
- Sec. 13.06 B.L. – Voting Members**
- Sec. 13.07 B.L. – Change of Meeting Place Rev. 2017**
- Sec. 13.08 B.L. – Public Appearance as Masons Rev. 2017**
- Sec. 13.09 B.L. – Grand Honors**
- Sec. 13.10 B.L. – Admitting Visitors**
- Sec. 13.11 B.L. – Objection to Visitor Rev. 2013**
- Sec. 13.12 B.L. – Inspection of Charter by Visitor**
- Sec. 13.13 B.L. – Examination for Masonic Fraternal Relations**
- Sec. 13.14 B.L. – Inclement Weather and Cancellation of Stated Communication**

Part III - Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 13 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 13.01 Const.

Authority to Hold Lodge. Every Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction is and shall be held by virtue of a Charter from the Grand Lodge or under a dispensation issued by the Grand Master.

Sec. 13.02 B.L.

Lodge Membership. A Lodge shall be composed of those who retain membership after having been:

- A. Named in the warrant of dispensation,
- B. Raised and enrolled as a member,
- C. Admitted to the Lodge by affiliation; or
- D. A member of a Lodge which consolidates with another.

Sec. 13.03 B.L.

Sunday Labor. No Lodge shall meet on the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday, for Masonic Labor other than the burial of an Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, or Master Mason.

Sec. 13.04 B.L.

Proper Time for Business. Except as provided in Section 15.08 B.L., a Lodge may transact its business and conduct its balloting when at labor on any Degree at a Stated Communication. When one or more Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft Degree Masons desire to attend, the Worshipful Master, at his discretion, may open Lodge on the appropriate Degree.

A Lodge at labor on any Degree for other than business shall be limited to such proceedings as pertain respectively to the Degree on which it is open:

- A. The Work and Lectures; and
- B. Programs or ceremonies permitting attendance of E. A.'s or F. C.'s.

Sec. 13.05 B.L.

Off-Session. A Worshipful Master may call a Lodge to Off-Session only for the purpose of a public ceremony and/or the admission of non-Masons into the Lodge room while the Lodge is at Labor. Off-Session is a condition with the Three Great Lights, Lesser Lights and other Jewels displayed in the usual and customary manner. While a Lodge is Off-Session the Esoteric Work will not be used nor is Off-Session to be used in lieu of calling to Refreshment as part of normal business. Prior to a Lodge being called back On-Session the Worshipful Master will have the Lodge purged.

Sec. 13.06 B.L.

Voting Members. All Master Masons present who are members, unless excused by unanimous consent must ballot on the following questions:

- A. A petition for the Degrees or for Affiliation,
- B. The acceptance or rejection of charges for a Masonic Trial,
- C. The expulsion or suspension of a member; and
- D. A proposal for consolidation of Lodges.

A vote of all members present is not required on other business matters.

Sec. 13.07 B.L.

Change of Meeting Place.

- A. **Regular Meetings.** A Lodge may permanently change its regular place of meeting by amending its By-Laws.
- B. **Temporary Meetings.** The Grand Master may grant permission for a Lodge to temporarily change its regular meeting place for the purpose of:
 - 1. Holding a Stated Communication at a suitable place in event of an emergency preventing the Lodge from meeting at its regular place of meeting,
 - 2. Holding a Special Communication upon good cause shown, at a safe place in this Jurisdiction other than its own Lodge Room; and
 - 3. Hosting the Lodges of one or more Districts for a District meeting. **Rev. 2017**

Sec. 13.08 B.L.

Public Appearance as Masons.

- A. A Lodge or Mason may appear in public in Masonic clothing:
 - 1. To attend a Masonic funeral service,
 - 2. When participating in parades, **Rev. 2014**
 - 3. At meetings of the Job's Daughters International, the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, or the Order of DeMolay; and
 - 4. When attending Divine Services, Masonic sponsored events, Masonic information booths at community Fairs and CHIPS events under the following rules:
 - a. The Worshipful Master of the Lodge which is sponsoring the event must approve of the appearance and record this approval in the minutes of his Lodge,
 - b. The Deputy of the Grand Master in the District is to be informed of the event sufficiently in advance to provide additional guidance, as needed; and
 - c. Each event and the participation in it must reflect credit upon Masonry as it is presented in the Ancient Landmarks, the written law of Masonry, and other Usages and Customs of Masonry.
- B. A Lodge or Mason may not otherwise appear publicly in Masonic clothing without the consent of the Grand Master. The occasions for which the Grand Master may consider granting a dispensation for Masons of Lodges to appear publicly in Masonic clothing are:
 - 1. A strictly Masonic occasion,
 - 2. The performance of Masonic duty, ceremony, or custom; and
 - 3. To take part in a community patriotic, historical, cultural, civic, or educational event. **Rev. 2017**

[Rev. 2017]

Sec. 13.09 B.L.

Grand Honors.

- A. The Worshipful Master of a Lodge is the sole judge of what honors, if any, shall be tendered to visitors, other than the Grand Master,
- B. In the absence of a preference by the Grand Master, he should be received as follows:
 - 1. The Worshipful Master shall direct one or more officers or distinguished members to meet a visiting Grand Master in the Tyler's Room and remain with him until the proper time for his entrance,
 - 2. After Lodge has been opened, the Grand Master shall be escorted to the altar and, after the salutation, be presented to the Worshipful Master; and
 - 3. The Worshipful Master, while receiving the Grand Master, is in full charge of the Lodge and shall remain covered until the Grand Master shall have accepted the gavel.
- C. Other Grand Officers may be received in a ceremony of introduction similar to that used for the Grand Master; and
- D. No Mason has the right to demand that he be accorded the Grand Honors of Masonry.

Sec. 13.10 B.L.

Admitting Visitors.

- A. Every Master Mason, on applying for admittance as a visitor to a Lodge, shall exhibit either a receipt for dues or a document showing him to be in good standing, or a dimit that was issued within the previous three years. Such documents shall not be conclusive as to the identity of the holder, who must provide additional evidence of his identity,
- B. A Lodge must be satisfied as to the good Masonic standing of an applicant for admission and as to the regularity of the Lodge from which he hails. A Lodge becoming satisfied as to the identity of a visitor and the genuineness and regularity of his documentation shall require additionally, either:
 - 1. The personal avouchment by a Brother knowing him to be in good Masonic standing and having met him in open Lodge (examination by a Brother outside of Lodge is not sufficient); or
 - 2. That he shall take the Test Oath and submit to a strict trial and due examination by a committee appointed by the Master.
- C. A Mason who has been unaffiliated for more than three years shall not be permitted to visit a Lodge in this Jurisdiction, unless, in an exceptional case, he shall have received written permission from the Master of the Lodge to attend the Lodge for a period not to exceed six months.

Sec. 13.11 B.L.

Objection to Visitor. The privilege of a Mason to visit a Lodge other than his own is subject to the right of three or more members thereof to object to his admittance. Such members shall inform the Worshipful Master of the Lodge of the reason for the objection, and the Worshipful Master will make the final determination of the validity of the objection. The objection shall hold good only during the Communication at which it is made and while the objectors are present. **Rev. 2013**

[Rev. 2013]

Sec. 13.12 B.L.

Inspection of Charter by Visitor. Inspection of the Charter of a Lodge by one seeking admittance as a visitor is a privilege that the Master may grant or withhold at his discretion. It is not an absolute right.

Sec. 13.13 B.L.

Examination for Masonic Fraternal Relations. Masonic Communications shall be held with Masons only. Whenever it becomes necessary for one Brother to prove another, he may do so in any secure place, after first taking the precaution of administering the Test Oath. When by strict trial each is fully satisfied, the two may converse Masonically, but one cannot vouch for the other for purpose of visitation.

Sec. 13.14 B.L.

Inclement Weather and Cancellation of Stated Communication. The Worshipful Master of a Lodge may cancel a Lodge Stated Communication when inclement weather is hazardous to the safety of the Brethren.

[Rev. 2009]

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Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 14 – LODGE POWERS AND DUTIES

- Sec. 14.01 Const. – Powers and Duties
- Sec. 14.02 Const. – Powers of a Lodge
- Sec. 14.03 Const. – By-Laws Rev. 2013
- Sec. 14.04 Const. – Standing Resolutions New 2013
- Sec. 14.05 Const. – Bequests and Gifts New 2013
- Sec. 14.06 Const. – Form 28A New 2013
- Sec. 14.07 B.L. – Communications
- Sec. 14.08 B.L. – Lodge Correspondence
- Sec. 14.09 B.L. – Books
- Sec. 14.10 B.L. – Minutes
- Sec. 14.11 B.L. – Annual Reports Rev. 2016
- Sec. 14.12 B.L. – Lodge Representation in Grand Lodge
- Sec. 14.13 B.L. – Lodge Communications During Grand Lodge
- Sec. 14.14 B.L. – Audit Committee
- Sec. 14.15 B.L. – Welcome Sign
- Sec. 14.16 B.L. – Lodges May Sponsor Youth Groups

Part III - Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 14 - LODGE POWERS AND DUTIES

Sec. 14.01 Const.

Powers and Duties. The powers and duties are those prescribed and determined by the Immemorial Laws and Usage of the Fraternity, and which have not been delegated to the Grand Lodge or expressly modified by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge or by the terms of the Lodge dispensation or Charter.

Sec. 14.02 Const.

Powers of a Lodge. The powers of a Lodge are executive, legislative, judicial and educational, and include the following:

- A. **Executive.** The performance of its proper work under control of its Master and in accordance with the law,
- B. **Legislative.** The enactment of legislation relative to its own affairs, not in conflict with the Constitution or By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, or with the Immemorial Customs and Usages of the Fraternity,
- C. **Judicial.** The right to determine if charges of un-Masonic conduct, if proved, constitute a Masonic offense,
- D. **Educational.** The education of deserving persons is a Masonic purpose, and Lodges have power, individually or collectively, to disburse Lodge funds to, or for the benefit of, deserving persons for their education; and
- E. **Charitable.** The contribution of funds for the relief of the poor and distressed, whether members in good standing or not, is a Masonic purpose, and Lodges have power, individually or collectively to disburse Lodge funds for the relief of deserving persons in time of emergency or need.

Sec. 14.03 Const.

By-Laws.

- A. A Lodge has full power and authority to enact, for its own government, By-Laws not in conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge or with the principles of Masonry,
- B. By-Laws can be amended after adoption only at a Stated Communication and after written notice, either by mail or electronic media, of the proposed amendment has been sent to each member of the Lodge at least ten days before such Stated Communication, **Rev. 2012**
- C. A minimum of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast must be favorable for the approval of a change of By-Laws, **Rev. 2013**
- D. The Lodge, after adopting its By-Laws or an amendment thereto, shall transmit to the Grand Secretary one copy on Form 28, provided without charge by the Grand Lodge. The Grand Secretary shall transmit copies to the Committee on By-Laws who, after review, shall forward the form to the Grand Lodge with a recommendation of approval or disapproval, and for signature of the Grand Master, **Rev. 2013**
- E. The Grand Master shall affix his approval or disapproval on the copies of the document after which the original shall be returned to the Lodge and a copy transmitted to the Grand Secretary,

[Rev. 2013]

- F. By-Laws shall be immediately effective when approved by the Grand Master, whose action shall be conclusive; and
- G. Form 28 as managed by the Grand Secretary shall be adopted for By-Laws and By-Law amendments. **Rev. 2013**

Sec. 14.04 Const.

Standing Resolutions.

- A. A Lodge has full power and authority to enact, for its own government, Standing Resolutions not in conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, the By-Laws of the Lodge, or with the principles of Masonry,
- B. Standing Resolutions can be amended or adopted only at subsequent Stated Communication,
- C. A minimum of a simple majority of the votes cast must be favorable for the approval of or change to a Standing Resolution, except as changed by Lodge By-Laws,
- D. The Lodge, after adopting a Standing Resolution or an amendment thereto, shall transmit to the Grand Secretary one copy on Form 28A, provided without charge by the Grand Lodge. The Grand Secretary shall transmit a copy to the Committee on By-Laws who, after review, shall forward the form to the Grand Lodge with a recommendation of approval or disapproval, for signature of the Grand Master,
- E. The Grand Master shall affix his approval or disapproval on the copy of the document, after which the original shall be returned to the Lodge and a copy transmitted to the Grand Secretary; and
- F. Standing Resolutions shall be immediately effective when approved by the Grand Master, whose action shall be conclusive. **New 2013**

Sec. 14.05. Const.

Bequests and Gifts.

- A. A Lodge has full power and authority to accept outright bequests and gifts. A Lodge, also, may accept conditional bequests and gifts not in conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, the By-Laws of the Lodge, or with the principles of Masonry,
- B. Conditional bequests and gifts can be accepted only at a subsequent Stated Communication,
- C. A minimum of a simple majority of the votes cast must be favorable for the acceptance of a conditional bequest or gift,
- D. The Lodge, after acceptance of a conditional bequest or gift, shall transmit to the Grand Secretary one copy on Form 28A, provided without charge by the Grand Lodge. The Grand Secretary shall transmit a copy to the Committee on By-Laws who, after review, shall forward the form to the Grand Lodge with a recommendation of approval or disapproval, for signature of the Grand Master,
- E. The Grand Master shall affix his approval or disapproval on the copy of the document after which the original shall be returned to the Lodge and a copy transmitted to the Grand Secretary; and
- F. Acceptance of a conditional bequest or gift shall be immediately effective (or at such later date as specified in the conditional bequest or gift) when approved by the Grand Master, whose action shall be conclusive. **New 2013**

[Rev. 2013]

Sec. 14.06 Const.

Form 28A. Form 28A as managed by the Grand Secretary shall be adopted for Standing Resolutions and amendments thereto as well as the acceptance of conditional bequests and gifts. Lodges that adopted Form 28, as revised 8/2012, and who have not adopted or amended its By-Laws or any Standing Resolutions or accepted any conditional bequest or gift since that time, may submit to the Grand Secretary separate Forms 28 and 28A attested by the Worshipful Master and Secretary without additional vote of the members of the Lodge. **New 2013**

Sec. 14.07 B.L.

Communications. Every Lodge shall meet at least once in six months. Neglect by a Lodge to hold any Communication for six months may subject it to forfeiture of its Charter.

Sec. 14.08 B.L.

Lodge Correspondence. All documents or papers emanating from the Lodge and requiring attestation, shall bear the signature of the Worshipful Master or Secretary.

Sec. 14.09 B.L.

Books. Every Lodge shall provide the books needed by the Secretary in the performance of his official duties.

Sec. 14.10 B.L.

Minutes. The Secretary shall record the minutes of the meeting which shall be read and approved at the direction of the Worshipful Master after which the Worshipful Master shall affix his signature. The minutes, thus approved, cannot be altered or expunged. At the direction of the Worshipful Master, minutes of a previous meeting may be read at a subsequent meeting for the purpose of information. A transcript of such meeting will be submitted to the Grand Lodge when required.

Sec. 14.11 B.L.

Annual Reports.

- A. **End-of-Year Return.** Each Chartered Lodge shall transmit annually to the Grand Secretary on or before February 1, an end-of-the-year return for the previous calendar year, on such forms as may be specified by the Grand Secretary. Each Lodge under dispensation shall transmit a similar return for the period from the date of its organization to December 31 of each year.

Any Chartered Lodge that shall fail to submit an annual report on time may have its representatives barred from all privileges of the Grand Lodge and may have its Charter forfeited by a vote of the Grand Lodge. Each Lodge so offending shall, in addition to forfeiting its Charter, be fined five dollars (\$5.00) for each day's delinquency after February 1.

Each Lodge shall receive from the Grand Secretary, by March 20, an itemized statement of the amount owed by the Lodge for dues, fees and contributions. Payment shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary on or before April 15. Any Lodge that fails to transmit payment by the required date shall be fined five dollars (\$5.00) for each day's (delay) delinquency after April 15, and the principal officers of the Lodge, if payment is not received by the first day of the Annual Communication, will not have the right to vote on legislation or balloting without the approval of the Grand Master. **Rev. 2013**

[Rev. 2013]

B. Internal Revenue Service Form 990 or 990N (E-postcard). Each Lodge shall transmit to the Grand Secretary a copy of their Form 990 or 990N (E-postcard) as filed with the Internal Revenue Service. All Lodges who are members of incorporated entities under-the Washington Masonic Code who are required to file Form 990 or 990N (E-postcard) will also file a copy with the Grand Secretary. The most recent Form 990(s) or 990N(s) (E-postcard) shall be included with the Lodge End-of-the-Year Return. **Rev. 2016**

Sec. 14.12 B.L.

Lodge Representation in Grand Lodge. Each Lodge shall be represented at every Annual Communication by its Master and Wardens, or by their duly appointed proxies. Any member of the Lodge may be appointed as a proxy except an individual Master Mason may not represent more than one Lodge.

Any Lodge that neglects to be properly represented in Grand Lodge for two successive years, without being excused by the Grand Master, shall have its Charter suspended until the next Annual Communication when the Charter shall be forfeited unless it is restored by vote of the Grand Lodge.

A Charter that has been forfeited may be restored at the next Annual Communication by a request of the Lodge, a favorable vote of the Grand Lodge, and upon payment of a one hundred dollar (\$100.00) penalty.

Sec. 14.13 B.L.

Lodge Communications During Grand Lodge. A Lodge shall hold no Communication while Grand Lodge is in Annual Session, except for burial of an Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft or, Master Mason or by permission of the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 14.14 B.L.

Audit Committee. Every Lodge shall have an Audit Committee which shall be appointed by the Worshipful Master at the last Stated Communication on or before the annual election of officers and no later than the meeting when officers are elected. The Audit Committee shall:

- A. Audit the books of the Secretary and Treasurer or the Secretary-Treasurer; and
- B. Report its findings in full to the Lodge:
 - 1. By the second Stated Communication following the annual installation of officers; or
 - 2. At the earliest, convenient time, if the date for reporting cannot be met, due to the additional time required for an audit by professional accountants as specified in the Lodge By-Laws.

The report of the Audit Committee shall be recorded in the minutes of the Lodge at the Stated Communication the report is received.

Sec. 14.15 B.L.

Welcoming Sign. A Lodge may place or erect a welcoming sign at the entrance to its city or town.

Sec. 14.16 B.L.

Lodges May Sponsor Youth Groups. Any Lodge may, by majority vote of the members at any Stated Communication, sponsor a Chapter of DeMolay, a Bethel of the Job's Daughters International, an Assembly of the Rainbow for Girls, or similar youth activity. All financial activities associated

with the youth organization or activity must be kept separate and apart from those of the sponsoring Lodge. The sponsoring Lodge has no authority over or power to disburse, distribute or control the funds of any youth group or activity sponsored by the Lodge and, in the event the sponsorship is ended or the youth group or activity disbanded, the Lodge shall have no claim on any assets or funds of the said youth group or activity.

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 15 – LODGE OFFICERS

- Sec. 15.01 Const. – Officers
- Sec. 15.02 B.L. – Who May Vote
- Sec. 15.03 B.L. – Officer Qualification
- Sec. 15.04 B.L. – Holding Two Offices
- Sec. 15.05 B.L. – When To Elect Officers
- Sec. 15.06 B.L. – Election
- Sec. 15.07 B.L. – Failure To Elect
- Sec. 15.08 B.L. – Installations
- Sec. 15.09 B.L. – Objection to Installation or Absence of Master-Elect
- Sec. 15.10 B.L. – No Installation Pending Charges
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- Sec. 15.12 B.L. – Office Tenure
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- Sec. 15.20 B.L. – Treasurer’s Duties Rev. 2016
- Sec. 15.21 B.L. – Secretary’s Duties
- Sec. 15.22 B.L. – Secretary – Treasurer’s Duties
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- Sec. 15.24 B.L. – Other Officers’ Duties

Part III - Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 15 - LODGE OFFICERS

Sec. 15.01 Const.

Officers. Each Lodge shall *elect* the following:

Worshipful Master
Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Treasurer
Secretary; or
Secretary-Treasurer

The Master shall *appoint* the following:

Senior Deacon
Junior Deacon
Senior Steward
Junior Steward
Tyler

The Master may also in his discretion appoint the following:

Chaplain
Marshal
Musician

Sec. 15.02 B.L.

Who May Vote. Only Master Masons who are members in good standing of the Lodge holding the election are entitled to vote.

Sec. 15.03 B.L.

Officer Qualification. All Officers of a Lodge, either elected or appointed, shall be Master Masons in good standing who are voting members thereof, and who shall have passed a proficiency on the Third Degree. Exception: The Chaplain, Musician, and Tyler, who may be members of other Lodges.

Sec. 15.04 B.L.

Holding Two Offices.

- A. No Member shall hold two offices in a Lodge at the same time except that a Lodge may at its discretion elect one member to the combined offices of Secretary and Treasurer.
- B. No Member may be installed as Worshipful Master or Warden in more than one Lodge at the same time.

Sec. 15.05 B.L.

When To Elect Officers. The elective officers of every Chartered Lodge shall be chosen annually at a Stated Communication of such Lodge during the period beginning the first Monday after the close of Grand Lodge and ending December 14.

[Rev. 2005]

Sec. 15.06 B.L.

Election. Election of officers shall be by written ballot. A Brother receiving a majority of all votes cast is duly elected. A blank ballot is not a vote. A show of hands is not permitted for an election of officers.

Sec. 15.07 B.L.

Failure to Elect. If a Lodge shall fail to elect its Master and Wardens, or any one of them, before December 15, or if the Master-elect or a Warden-elect shall fail or refuse to be installed, the Lodge shall immediately notify the Grand Master, who, for good cause shown, may grant a dispensation to hold an election as soon thereafter as may be practicable. Such dispensation shall be entered at length upon the records of the Lodge.

Sec. 15.08 B.L.

Installations. The Master of a Lodge may, for the Installation of Officers, either separate or joint, open his Lodge on the Master Mason Degree in a tiled Lodge Room of either Lodge.

Officers of a Chartered Lodge shall be installed at a Stated or Special Communication as soon as possible after the election but not later than January 31. The ceremony shall be tiled unless, at the request of the Master-elect, the Lodge shall decide by a majority vote to hold it open to the public.

The public Installation of Officers shall be performed after the Master has declared the Lodge at "off-session", and has directed the Junior Deacon to inform the Tyler to tile accordingly. The Three Great Lights, Lesser Lights, Columns and other Jewels shall remain displayed.

Any public Installation of Officers shall be Monitorial and shall conform to proper Masonic Usage deleting those parts of the ceremony not proper to be used outside of a tiled Lodge.

Officers of a Chartered Lodge must be installed as often as elected or appointed. No officer shall be installed by proxy.

Sec. 15.09 B.L.

Objection to Installation or Absence of Master-elect. In the absence of the Master-elect, or should valid objection be made to the installation of the Brother named as Worshipful Master, which cannot be harmonized or settled, the ceremony of installation cannot proceed until ordered by the Grand Master. In other cases, the installation of the Brother or Brothers objected to, alone, will be deferred.

Sec. 15.10 B.L.

No Installation Pending Charges. A Brother shall not be installed while charges of un-Masonic conduct are pending against him.

Sec. 15.11 B.L.

Jewels and Aprons. The jewels of Lodge Officers shall be of silver or of white metal, to be worn as a badge on the left breast or suspended from a blue velvet collar, or satin collar, or blue cord, which may be trimmed appropriately with silver lace and silver thread emblem or with silver or white metal chain collar on blue velvet or satin backing. **Rev. 2015**

The jewels of a Past Master and of the officers of a Lodge are:

- Past Master - the Blazing Sun within the Compasses extended on a Quadrant,
- Master - the Square,
- Senior Warden - the Level,

Junior Warden - the Plumb,
Treasurer - the Crossed Keys,
Secretary - the Crossed Pens,
Secretary-Treasurer - the Crossed Pens (same as Secretary),
Chaplain - the Bible which may be within a Circle,
Marshal - the Baton or Crossed Batons which may be in a Square,
Senior Deacon - the Square and Compasses united with a Sun,
Junior Deacon - the Square and Compasses united with a Moon,
Stewards - the Cornucopia which may be in a Circle,
Musician - the Lyre which may be in a Circle; and
Tyler - the Sword or the Crossed Swords.

The Deacons' and Stewards' rods shall be surmounted by the proper jewels in silver or white metal. The Deacons' rods shall be blue; the Stewards' rods shall be white.

The officers' aprons shall be white and should be of lambskin, or simulated lambskin, approximately fifteen inches wide and thirteen inches deep, of a rectangular shape, and may have a blue lining and edging, with the respective emblems thereon. The aprons may also be adorned with the Lodge number, "all seeing eye", or other appropriate Masonic emblem. Adornments to the aprons should be of a matching color to the edging, but may include silver or gold highlights.

Past Master Aprons should conform to the qualities of the Officers' aprons, but with additional latitude to adornment, and color (to exclude purple). **Rev. 2015**

Sec. 15.12 B.L.

Office Tenure. Every installed officer is entitled to hold his office until his successor is installed, unless he vacates his office by:

- A. Death,
- B. Resignation, but the Master cannot resign,
- C. Election and installation into a vacated office of Warden, Treasurer or Secretary,
- D. Suspension for a time extending beyond the next annual election,
- E. Expulsion; or
- F. Removal from office.

Sec. 15.13 B.L.

Filling Vacancy. A vacancy in the office of Warden, Treasurer, or Secretary may be filled by ballot at any Stated Communication, after due notice to the members. A vacancy in an appointive office may be filled at any time.

In case the offices of Master and Wardens all become vacant, the Lodge shall apply to the Grand Master for a dispensation to hold an election. The application must be approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and be so certified by the Secretary. When the dispensation has been received, the members shall be notified, the election held, the results reported immediately to the Grand Secretary and the officers duly installed.

Sec. 15.14 B.L.

Powers of a Master. The Master of a Lodge has the power to:

- A. Discharge all the executive functions of the Lodge,
- B. Congregate the Lodge members in an emergency; and
- C. Remove any appointed officer for just cause.

[Rev. 2015]

Sec. 15.15 B.L.

Permission to Preside. The Master, or a Warden acting as Master, may call to the East any Master Mason and permit him to preside or confer the Degrees while the Master or acting Master is present.

Sec. 15.16 B.L.

Absence of Master. The Master shall not designate anyone to open the Lodge in his absence, to the exclusion of a Warden present. The Lodge shall not be opened for any purpose, in the absence of the Master and both Wardens, except by the Grand Master or by his Special Deputy.

Sec. 15.17 B.L.

Vacancy in Master's Office. In case of the death, absence or inability of the Master, or of a vacancy in his office, the Senior Warden and the Junior Warden shall in that order succeed to his prerogatives and duties for all purposes, except such as pertain to the installation of officers.

Sec. 15.18 B.L.

Appeal From Master's Decision. The only appeal from a decision of the Master, or of a Warden presiding in the absence of the Master, shall be to the Grand Master or to the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 15.19 B.L.

Immediate Relief. The Master, on application for assistance or relief when the Lodge is not in session, may draw upon the general funds of the Lodge for that purpose. The By-Laws shall specify the maximum permissible for such relief.

Sec. 15.20 B.L.

Treasurer's Duties. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to:

- A. Receive from the Secretary all monies paid into the Lodge,
- B. Keep just and regular accounts thereof,
- C. Pay them out by order of the Master and consent of the Lodge,
- D. Submit a financial report annually to the Lodge and transmit a copy thereof to the Grand Lodge, when requested and on such forms and in such manner as prescribed by the Grand Secretary; and
- E. File when required the IRS Form 990 with the Internal Revenue Service. The most recent Form 990(s) or 990N(s) (E-postcard) shall be included with the Lodge End-of-the-Year Return. **Rev. 2016**

Sec. 15.21 B.L.

Secretary's Duties. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to:

- A. Record, under the direction of the Master, all proceedings of the Lodge proper to be written at each communication and submit the same to the Lodge as provided in Sec. 14.07 B.L.,
- B. Receive all monies paid into the Lodge and promptly pay the same to the Treasurer,
- C. Attest the signature of the Master to all Masonic documents, when necessary,
- D. Report to the Grand Secretary on the monthly report all suspensions and expulsions, and their causes and all information pertaining to plural members being elected, granted dimitts, suspended, expelled or dropped N.P.D.,
- E. Prepare and send to the Grand Secretary:

1. A monthly return showing the dates of those elected, initiated, passed, raised, and enrolled new Masons, affiliations, reinstatements, and those dropped by death, expulsion, suspension and by N.P.D.,
 2. A monthly return containing such other matters as may be required by the Grand Secretary,
 3. A year end return on a form provided by the Grand Lodge,
- F. Transmit to the Grand Secretary, immediately after every election, the Election Form with the names and addresses of the officers to be installed,
- G. Certify all returns and the Election Form made to the Grand Lodge; and
- H. Purchase from the Grand Secretary the requisite blank forms for petitions, dimits, certificates and diplomas.

Sec. 15.22 B.L.

Secretary-Treasurer's Duties. When a Secretary-Treasurer is elected, it shall be his duty to perform all the duties of the Treasurer (Sec. 15.20 B.L.) and the Secretary (Sec. 15.21 B.L.).

Sec. 15.23 B.L.

Secretary's Books and Accounts. The Secretary shall keep the following books:

- A. Minute and record books,
- B. A Membership Register which shall contain the By-Laws and in which:
 1. Each member shall sign his name, in the order of his admittance,
 2. The Secretary shall record in alphabetical order, for each member of the Lodge:
 - a. Full name or names,
 - b. Present post office address,
 - c. Birthplace and Date of Birth,
 - d. Dates of initiation, passing, raising, and Master Mason proficiency, or the date of affiliation together with the name, number and location of Lodge of previous enrollment,
 - e. Age and occupation when received,
 - f. Name, number and location of any other Lodge or Lodges in which a member may also hold membership,
 - g. Dates of withdrawal, dropping from the roll, expulsion, suspension, restoration or death,
 - h. The full names of those expelled, suspended or restored; and
 - i. Member's identification number of Grand Lodge and Endowed Life Membership certificate.
- C. An attendance Register, to be kept in the Tyler's Room, in which all members shall record their names, and all visitors shall record their names along with the names, numbers and locations of their respective Lodges, before entering the Lodge,
- D. Account books as may be necessary to present clearly:
 1. The account of each member of the Lodge,
 2. The receipts of the Secretary,
 3. The Secretary's payments to the Treasurer,
- E. An updated copy of the Washington Masonic Code; and
- F. All Proceedings of the Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge.

[Rev. 2007]

Sec. 15.24 B.L.

Other Officers' Duties. The appointive officers of a Lodge shall perform such duties as may be directed by the Master and Wardens. These duties shall not be in conflict with the By-Laws of the Lodge, the Washington Masonic Code or the Usages and General Regulations of Masonry.

The appointive officers shall, in all things relating to their official duties, be subject to the direction of the Master or acting Master.

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Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 16 – FORMATION OF NEW LODGES

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Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 16 - FORMATION OF NEW LODGES

Sec. 16.01 B.L.

Application for Dispensation. A new Lodge may be formed within this Jurisdiction, or in foreign territory where no Sovereign Grand Lodge exists, upon the petition of fifteen or more Master Masons, a recommendation by the nearest or most convenient Chartered Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons and granting of a dispensation by the Grand Master.

The petition shall be accompanied by proposed By-Laws for the new Lodge fixing the place and dates for Stated Communications, fees for Degrees, annual dues, and such other matters as deemed necessary. The By-Laws shall become effective upon the Grand Master granting a dispensation.

The petitioners shall be residents of this Grand Jurisdiction and each shall provide a dimit, or a certificate of good standing or the equivalent, to accompany the petition.

The recommending Lodge shall certify that the Master and Wardens named in the petition are fully competent to confer the Three Degrees of Masonry and that all of the petitioners are in good Masonic standing.

The Grand Master shall in every case satisfy himself through an examination, conducted either by himself or by a Deputy specially authorized, that the petitioners are fully competent to confer the Three Degrees of Masonry according to the Standard Work of Washington.

Sec. 16.02 B.L.

Notice to Lodges. The Grand Master, before acting upon a petition for a new Lodge, shall report the receipt of the application to each Lodge which might be affected by the new Lodge and notify the Lodges of the District assignment of the new Lodge.

Sec. 16.03 B.L.

Officers of a Lodge U.D. The officers named in the dispensation for a new Lodge shall hold their offices at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master until the expiration of the dispensation.

Sec. 16.04 B.L.

Permanent Lodge Records. The dispensation shall be copied at length upon the records of a new Lodge. The Charter, when issued, shall be recorded in like manner.

Sec. 16.05 B.L.

Members. The members of a Lodge Under Dispensation shall consist of those Brethren who:

- A. Are named in the dispensation,
- B. Formally affiliate with the Lodge; and
- C. Receive the Third Degree therein and qualify for enrollment.

Brethren who become members of a Lodge U.D. by affiliation or by receiving the Third Degree therein are members in the full sense of the term and entitled to vote and participate in the transaction of business in common with those named in the dispensation.

[Rev. 2005]

Sec. 16.06 B.L.

Powers of a Lodge U.D. A Lodge Under Dispensation shall have the general powers and privileges and shall perform the duties of a Chartered Lodge, except that it cannot:

- A. Install its officers,
- B. Discipline its members or other Masons; and
- C. Be represented in Grand Lodge. **Rev. 2011**

Sec. 16.07 B.L.

Grand Lodge Dues. A Lodge Under Dispensation must pay Grand Lodge dues.

Sec. 16.08 B.L.

By-Laws. A Lodge Under Dispensation shall have By-Laws conforming to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge. The By-Laws of a Lodge Under Dispensation may be amended in the same manner as those of a Chartered Lodge.

Sec. 16.09 B.L.

Discipline. All matters of charges and discipline against a member or members, except the Master, of a Lodge U.D. shall be vested in the nearest Chartered Lodge, whose Jurisdiction shall be complete, subject to appeal to the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 16.10 B.L.

Master Not Subject to Lodge Discipline. The Master of a Lodge Under Dispensation shall not be subject to discipline by any Chartered Lodge during his official term of office. In case such dispensation is annulled, or the Charter is refused, the Lodge of Original Jurisdiction over him may consider preferring charges against such Master, unless the charges are of official misconduct during his term of office.

Sec. 16.11 B.L.

Extension of Dispensation. Every Lodge working under a dispensation shall, when applying for an extension of such dispensation, submit its books of record for inspection by the Grand Secretary on or before the 31st day of May preceding the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge response to the application shall be to annul the dispensation, or to continue the dispensation until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 16.12 B.L.

Charter Requirements. A Lodge Under Dispensation and seeking a Charter shall:

- A. Have a membership of at least fifteen,
- B. Give proof of its members' skill and ability to perform the work, including the conferring of the Three Degrees,
- C. Deliver to the Grand Lodge:
 1. Its dispensation,
 2. An attested transcript of all its Proceedings; and
 3. A copy of its By-Laws,

[Rev. 2011]

- D. Show that it is clear of all indebtedness; and
- E. Provide evidence of having secured and prepared a suitable and safe place for meeting as a Lodge.

Sec. 16.13 B.L.

Application for Charter. A Lodge U.D. applying for a Charter shall deliver its dispensation, By-Laws, books of record and returns of the Lodge to the Grand Secretary on or before the 31st of May preceding the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge response to the application may be to annul the dispensation, continue the dispensation until the next Annual Communication, or order a perpetual Charter.

Sec. 16.14 B.L.

Meetings After Charter Granted. Brethren to whom a Charter shall have been granted may continue to meet and work as a Lodge Under Dispensation, until the Lodge shall have been constituted, unless otherwise ordered by Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.

Sec. 16.15 B.L.

Constituting a Lodge. Upon issuance of a Charter, the Grand Master, or his Special Deputy, who shall be an officer of the Grand Lodge or a Past Master belonging to a Lodge in this Jurisdiction, shall convene the Brethren of the new Lodge to be formed, constitute the Lodge, and install its officers.

Sec. 16.16 B.L.

Charter Members. All members of a Lodge Under Dispensation at the time the Charter is granted shall be Charter members thereof.

Sec. 16.17 B.L.

Precedence on Grand Lodge Roll. Each Lodge shall take precedence according to the order in which it stands upon the roll of the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 16.18 B.L.

Historic Lodges. Historic Lodges may be formed with the authority to preserve their buildings, paraphernalia, and/or historic connections to their communities. They shall be subject to the same provisions as a regularly Chartered Lodge with the following exceptions:

- A. Membership shall consist of Master Masons only who are in good standing in a Chartered Lodge of this Jurisdiction or of a Grand Lodge recognized by the Grand Lodge of Washington. Membership may be voluntarily terminated at any time and shall automatically cease should a member lose good standing in any Lodge of which he is a member.
- B. The Lodge is not required to submit monthly or annual reports to the Grand Secretary. Membership records shall only be maintained by the Lodge. The Lodge shall submit annually to the Grand Master a summary of its activities during the preceding year.
- C. Only Master Masons of another Lodge in this Jurisdiction shall be eligible to hold office and vote. The installation of Officers shall be by proclamation.
- D. An officer or former officer shall not, by reason of that position alone, be a member of Grand Lodge. A Past Master of a Historic Lodge, who has only served as Worshipful Master of a Historic Lodge, shall not be entitled to the title, rights, powers or privileges of a Past Master of a Lodge.

[Rev. 2008]

- E. A dimit or request for dimit shall not be received or issued by a Historic Lodge.
- F. A petition for dispensation to form a Lodge U.D. shall not be required providing an application is submitted to the Grand Master to Charter a Historic Lodge which is signed by fifteen or more Master Masons in good standing and who are members of a Washington Lodge. A Charter shall be issued without charge following a two-thirds (2/3) favorable vote at a Grand Lodge Annual Communication granting the issuance of a Charter. A Charter may not be granted for a Historical Lodge until one-hundred years has elapsed from the date its original Charter was surrendered.
- G. A Historic Lodge, once Chartered, shall adopt By-Laws for its own government. The By-Laws, once adopted or amended by a unanimous vote of the Officers of the Lodge and approved by the Committee on By-Laws and the Grand Master shall be immediately effective.
- H. A Charter may be revoked at any time by the Grand Lodge upon the recommendation of the Grand Master.
- I. Stated meetings shall be held once annually and its meetings may be held anywhere in the Jurisdiction upon such notice as their By-Laws may provide.
- J. The name of a Historic Lodge shall read: (name) Historical Lodge, No. (#) The number shall not be the same as the number of any active Lodge in this Jurisdiction,
- K. Historic Lodges shall be exempt from payment of all Grand Lodge revenue and assessments.
- L. A Historic Lodge shall not have the power to:
 - 1. Confer any of the Degrees; or
 - 2. Exercise discipline over its members.
- M. In the case of the surrendering or revocation of the Charter of a Historic Lodge, all assets of the Lodge shall become the property of the Grand Lodge.
- N. A regularly Chartered Lodge, or any other Historic Lodge, shall not consolidate with a Historic Lodge.
- O. The Worshipful Master and Wardens of an Historic Lodge may also be installed into either of those positions in a regular Constituted Lodge. **New 2010**

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- Sec. 17.10 B.L. – Plural Membership Rev. 2013
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- Sec. 17.22 B.L. – Waiver of Dues

Part III - Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 17 - LODGE MEMBERSHIP

Sec. 17.01 B.L.

How Acquired. Membership in a Lodge shall be acquired only in the following manner:

- A. By being a Charter member,
- B. By being elected, raised and enrolled; and
- C. By affiliation.

Sec. 17.02 B.L.

Affiliation. Membership by affiliation may be acquired as follows:

- A. Change of Membership. A member in good standing of one Lodge may terminate his membership in that Lodge and affiliate with another,
- B. Reinstatement. A member dropped for non-payment of dues for a period in excess of twenty-four months may petition for reinstatement with his Lodge,
- C. Restoration. A member deprived of membership under the penal provision of the Code may apply, on an approved form, for restoration of membership with his Lodge; or
- D. Plural Membership. (as provided in Sec. 17.10 B.L.)

Sec. 17.03 B.L.

Affiliation Requires Good Standing. An unaffiliated former member of a Lodge in this Jurisdiction, who has been dropped for any cause, may not petition another Lodge for membership by affiliation until he shall have been reinstated or restored to good standing in the Lodge of which he was last a member.

Sec. 17.04 B.L.

Affiliation Procedure. A change of membership from one Lodge to another may be accomplished by affiliation in the following manner:

- A. A petition for affiliation must be accompanied by either the Brother's dimit from the Lodge(s) in which he last held membership or a certificate of good standing from all Lodges of which he is a member,
- B. A petitioner may be considered for membership without regard to his place of residence,
- C. A petition for affiliation must take the same course as a petition for Degrees, including referral to a Committee of Investigation,
- D. A petitioner may be considered for membership only after strict examination into the character and standing he maintained before the Lodge of which he is or was last a member. He must be free of indebtedness for dues or assessments and there must be no charges pending against him for un-Masonic conduct,
- E. A Brother whose petition for affiliation was accompanied by a dimit shall upon election sign the By-Laws, pay his dues and become a member of record,
- F. A Brother whose petition for affiliation was accompanied by a certificate of good standing shall upon election sign the By-Laws, pay his dues, and become a member of record. The Secretary of the Lodge shall then notify the Brother's former Lodge of his election to membership upon forms provided for that purpose,
- G. A petition for affiliation may be withdrawn at any time; and

[Rev. 2003]

H. A Brother's Masonic standing is not impaired by rejection of his petition for affiliation and he may at pleasure again petition the same or any other Lodge in this Jurisdiction.

Sec. 17.05 B.L.

Certificate of Good Standing May Precede Dimit. A Brother who desires to change his membership may transmit, instead of a dimit, a certificate from his Lodge that he is a Master Mason in good standing and free from indebtedness to the Lodge.

Upon the petitioner being elected to membership, the Secretary of the Lodge petitioned shall immediately request a dimit from the former Lodge, using the tear-off portion of the petition for affiliation, which must be signed by the petitioner.

Sec. 17.06 B.L.

Dimitting. Any member who is in good standing, and who is not the Master, is not charged with any Masonic offense and is not indebted to the Lodge, is entitled as a matter of right to withdraw from membership therein at pleasure. A member wishing to withdraw shall make written application to the Lodge and the request shall be read at a Stated Communication after which the Master shall order a dimit to be issued to him. The dimit will terminate his membership and shall bear the date and take effect from that time.

Sec. 17.07 B.L.

Duplicate Dimit. A Brother who has lost his certificate of demission may obtain from the Secretary of the Lodge, upon request and satisfactory proof of such loss, another certificate, with the original date, and the fact of re-issuance, which shall be entered upon the record.

Sec. 17.08 B.L.

Dimit After Assessment. A member applying for a dimit at the same Communication an assessment is levied - the assessment coming first in the order of business - is liable for the assessment which must be paid before the dimit is granted.

Sec. 17.09 B.L.

Certificate to E.A. and F.C. Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts shall not receive dimits but a Lodge may grant Certificates setting forth their status in the Lodge. The effect of dimits granted in other Jurisdictions to Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts is determined by the respective laws of these Jurisdictions.

Sec. 17.10 B.L.

Plural Membership.

A. A Master Mason may become a member of as many Lodges of this Jurisdiction at the same time as he deems prudent, but he shall not hold the office of Worshipful Master in more than one Lodge concurrently, nor shall he exercise the powers of Acting Master of any Lodge during his incumbency as Master or while holding the position of Acting Master of another Lodge,

[Rev. 2014]

- B. An application for Plural Membership shall follow the same manner as determined in Sec. 17.04 B.L. for affiliation with a Certificate of Good Standing from each Lodge the petitioner is a member of except that no dimit shall be required of such petitioner either before or after his election to membership in the Lodge in which he is affiliating as a Plural Member,
- C. Involuntary loss of membership by expulsion or suspension, or by being dropped N.P.D. in any of said Lodges shall constitute loss by expulsion or suspension, or being dropped N.P.D., as the case may be, of membership in all said Lodges, except that a member shall not be dropped N.P.D. from a Lodge in which he has Grand Lodge Endowed Life Membership or in an approved Life Membership Program of a Constituent Lodge, providing the member pays the assessment(s) or his Lodge pays it (them) for him, **Rev. 2013**
- D. A Master Mason may become a member of a Lodge or Lodges of a Foreign Jurisdiction,
- E. Application for affiliation as a plural member shall be on a form which Lodges may obtain from the Grand Secretary,
- F. Immediately on the election of a Brother to a plural membership, the Secretary of the Lodge electing the Brother to a plural membership, shall notify the Grand Secretary, on forms provided, who shall in turn notify the Secretaries of the other Lodges in which a Brother holds membership, of such fact. Those Secretaries will then record this information upon the membership register,
- G. A dimit from plural membership shall be issued on a special dimit form, which may be obtained from the Grand Secretary,
- H. Immediately on the granting of a dimit from a plural membership, the Secretary of the Lodge granting such a dimit shall notify the Grand Secretary, on forms provided, who shall in turn notify the Secretaries of the other Lodges in which the Brother holds membership, of such fact. Those Secretaries will then record this information upon the membership register,
- I. In the event a Brother who holds plural membership is expelled, suspended, or dropped N.P.D. by a Lodge, the Secretary of such Lodge shall notify the Grand Secretary, on forms provided, who shall in turn notify the Secretaries of the other Lodges in which the Brother holds membership, of such fact. Those Secretaries will then record this information upon the membership register; and
- J. This section shall not apply to Honorary membership.

Sec. 17.11 B.L.

Life Membership Plans.

- A. No Lodge shall adopt any Life Membership Plan except the plan sponsored and adopted by Grand Lodge, **Rev. 2012**
- B. Life Membership Plans existing in the Lodges prior to June, 1979, may continue to operate as before and may be amended, with the amendment becoming effective upon approval of the Grand Lodge Committee on Finance. No amendment shall deprive the holder of any life membership of vested legal rights thereunder,
- C. Any member in good standing of this Grand Jurisdiction may purchase an Endowed Life Membership through the Grand Lodge Sponsored Plan and be hereby relieved from further payment of dues, but not assessments. Provisions of the Grand Lodge Sponsored Plan are as follows:

[Rev. 2014]

1. The purchase price for Endowed Life Memberships shall not be less than:

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| - Age 18 to 35, inclusive | \$650 |
| - Age 36 to 45, inclusive | \$600 |
| - Age 46 to 55, inclusive | \$500 |
| - Age 56 to 65, inclusive | \$450 |
| - Age 66 and over | \$400 Rev. 2012 |
2. A Lodge shall adopt a scale of prices which, at its option, may be larger than the minimum specified above,
3. An applicant may at his option, in order to enlarge the account of his Lodge,
 - a. contribute a larger sum than is required,
4. All checks for Endowed Life Memberships should be made payable to the Grand Lodge F&AM of Washington, to avoid distorting a Lodge's financial account,
5. A Lodge may collect and retain from each applicant for Endowed Life Membership, in addition to the price thereof, his regular dues for the first year of enrollment in the Grand Lodge Plan,
6. All sums received by Lodges for Endowed Life Memberships under the Grand Lodge Plan shall be immediately transmitted to the Grand Secretary, who shall issue each Lodge a certificate declaring that each Endowed Life Membership is held by the Grand Lodge in trust for the Lodge,
7. The Lodge member paying the required fees shall receive an Endowed Life Membership Certificate under seal of the Grand Lodge,
8. The holder of an Endowed Life Membership Certificate, except such that has been purchased by the Lodge which shall remain with the Lodge, may voluntarily transfer to another Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction, whereupon the Grand Secretary, upon notice thereof, shall transfer on the books of the Endowed Life Membership Fund, to the credit of the new Lodge of membership,
9. The holder of an Endowed Life Membership Certificate in a Lodge which becomes dissolved shall, upon affiliation with another Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, have his Endowed Life Membership transferred in the same manner as for a voluntary transfer,
10. All money in the Endowed Life Membership Fund to the credit of two or more Lodges which consolidate shall be combined to the credit of the Consolidated Lodge,
11. A holder's Endowed Life Membership rights shall not be transferred if he dimits to any other Grand Jurisdiction. The fees paid for his Endowed Life Membership shall remain in the endowed Life Membership Fund to the credit of his former Lodge,
12. The holder of a Life or Endowed Life Membership Certificate is subject to all the laws, rules and regulations as provided in the Washington Masonic Code, and loss of membership by suspension or expulsion shall automatically nullify his life or endowed life membership and any claim to any portion of any fees paid for such Life or Endowed Life Membership. The Lodge of which he was last a member shall continue to receive the income from such funds except such Endowed Life Memberships that have been purchased by the Lodge shall remain with the Lodge that purchased them,

[Rev. 2014]

13. Memorial Life Membership Donations for any Mason, in good standing at the time of his death, may be made by any Mason, Lodge, or relative in any amount. Certificates will be issued for donations in the amount of the minimum fee of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) or more; and
14. A Memorial donation in the name of any person of a member's choice may be made to the Endowed Life Membership Fund and credited to the member's Lodge. An appropriate Certificate will be issued for donations in the amount of the minimum fee of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) or more. This list of Memorial Donations will be kept separate from the Lodge Members Memorial when posted in the Lodge.

Sec. 17.12 B.L.

Honorary Membership. A Lodge may, in its discretion, elect to Honorary Membership any Master Mason in good standing who has rendered exceptional service to Masonry. Such election shall be by secret ballot at a Stated Communication at least one month after notice of the proposed election is given in open Lodge. Approval must be by a two-thirds (2/3) vote. The Brother's continuance as an Honorary Member shall be contingent upon his remaining in good standing.

Honorary Membership, when conferred upon a Master Mason not a member of the Lodge, shall confer all rights of membership in the Lodge except that of voting and holding office other than Chaplain, Musician or Tyler.

Sec. 17.13 B.L.

Non-Payment of Dues (N.P.D.). The annual dues of members of Lodges shall be payable in advance of the first day of January of each year. Any member who has not paid his dues for the current year on or before December 31st thereof, and who has not been granted a remission of his dues or an extension for a definite period in which to pay his dues, shall cease to be a member of the Lodge and his name must be dropped from the roll.

Sec. 17.14 B.L.

Notice to Delinquents. It shall be a duty of the Secretary of each Lodge on or about September 1st of each year to notify in writing each member of said Lodge who has not paid his current dues. The notice shall inform the member that his dues are delinquent and that he will be dropped from the roll of membership if his dues are not paid on or before December 31st of that year.

Sec. 17.15 B.L.

Committee to Interview Delinquents. The Secretary shall report to the Master, at the first Stated Communication in November, the names of all members who have not paid their current dues. The Master shall appoint a committee to personally or otherwise interview each delinquent member to ascertain the cause of the delinquency and to report to the Lodge at the Stated Communication next preceding December 31st of that year.

Sec. 17.16 B.L.

Fee Due if Delinquency Not Reported. A Lodge must pay the annual Grand Lodge fees on any member who, although delinquent through December 31st, was not so reported on the Lodge's December report. Further, the Lodge shall continue to pay the Grand Lodge dues on such member until the Lodge's annual report shall properly include the member's name in the tabulation of delinquents.

Sec. 17.17 B.L.

Assessments and Loans. The indebtedness for which a member's name may be dropped from the roll may be, in whole or in part, for assessment lawfully levied by the Lodge but shall not be for non-payment of money lent to him by the Lodge.

Sec. 17.18 B.L.

Status After Membership Lapse. A Mason whose membership lapses for non-payment of dues or assessments ceases to be a member of the Lodge. His status is that of an unaffiliated Mason without a dimit. He shall be reinstated at his request if, within twenty-four months after becoming unaffiliated, he shall:

- A. Notify the Lodge of his desire to resume membership,
- B. Pay or obtain the remission of the amount owed at the time his name was dropped; and
- C. Pay the dues for the year in which he is reinstated.

A Mason unaffiliated for more than twenty-four months because of non-payment of dues or assessments, can obtain membership only through a petition for reinstatement which shall be processed in the same manner as a petition for affiliation.

Sec. 17.19 B.L.

Certificate of N.P.D. A Mason whose name has been dropped from the roll of a Lodge for non-payment of dues or assessments shall be entitled to receive from the Secretary a Certificate showing:

- A. His name was dropped for non-payment of dues or assessments,
- B. The date his name was dropped,
- C. State of his account at the time his name was dropped; and
- D. State of his account at the date of the Certificate.

Sec. 17.20 B.L.

Non-Payment Not Penal Offense. A member shall not be suspended or expelled for non-payment of dues or assessments.

Sec. 17.21 B.L.

Length of Membership Recognition.

- A. Length of membership in the Masonic Fraternity may be recognized for ten and twenty-five years and for each five-year increment after twenty-five years. Each Mason who shall have been affiliated with a Lodge in this Jurisdiction, or one or more Lodges of Jurisdictions recognized by the Grand Lodge of Washington, for an eligible period of time from the date he was enrolled as a Master Mason, may be presented with the appropriate card and lapel emblem of uniform design as approved by the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary. The card and lapel emblem shall be supplied to the Lodges of this Jurisdiction at cost, **Rev. 2010**
- B. Eligibility of members must be verified by Grand Lodge office records. Time in excess of six months between dimit and affiliation, time lost as a result of action by a Trial Committee, and time dropped for N.P.D. shall be deducted in calculating membership time,

[Rev. 2014]

- C. No loss of time shall be chargeable against a Brother who was a signer on a Petition for Dispensation to form a new Lodge and whose membership record indicates there was a loss of time between the date of his dimit and the date the Dispensation was granted for the new Lodge. Should the Dispensation to form a new Lodge be subsequently disapproved, there shall be no loss of time charged to the signer if, within one year from the date the Dispensation was denied, the signer of the Petition shall affiliate with a regular Lodge of this Jurisdiction,
- D. No loss of time shall be chargeable against a Brother who was dropped for N.P.D. prior to 1945 due to the Great Depression of the 1930s nor the period of World War II, provided it is recommended by his Lodge and approved by the Grand Master,
- E. No loss of time shall be charged for time restored as a result of appeal from action of a Lodge or Grand Lodge Trial Committee which has reversed, annulled or modified the penalty imposed; and
- F. The presentation may be made at the will and pleasure of the Lodge during the month of eligibility or any time thereafter. A Mason of fifty years, or longer membership, shall be eligible for recognition any time after January 1 of the year in which he becomes eligible.

Sec. 17.22 B.L.

Waiver of Dues.

- A. Permanent. By a vote of its members at a Stated Communication, a Lodge may waive an enrolled Master Mason's dues if it is determined that his financial condition or personal circumstances make it unlikely that he will ever be able to pay his dues or assessments to the Lodge. Such Masons shall be exempt from paying Grand Lodge per capita fees and dues as per Sec. 7.03 B.L., Sec. 7.04 B.L. and Sec. 7.05 B.L.; and
- B. Temporary. By a vote of its members at a Stated Communication, a Lodge may exempt a member from paying his dues should it be determined that temporarily he is unable to meet his financial obligations to the Lodge. Such temporary waiver from dues does not exempt the Lodge from paying Grand Lodge per capita fees, dues and assessments.

[Rev. 2014]

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 18 – PETITIONERS FOR DEGREES

- Sec. 18.01 B.L. – Prerequisite to Initiation**
- Sec. 18.02 B.L. – Qualifications**
- Sec. 18.03 B.L. – Sole Test**
- Sec. 18.04 B.L. – Statewide (Concurrent) Jurisdiction**
- Sec. 18.05 B.L. – Residence Requirement**
- Sec. 18.06 B.L. – Lodge May Require Longer Residence**
- Sec. 18.07 B.L. – Settled Abode Necessary**
- Sec. 18.08 B.L. – Exception to Half-Year Residence**
- Sec. 18.09 B.L. – Petition**
- Sec. 18.10 B.L. – Misrepresentation**
- Sec. 18.11 B.L. – Fees**
- Sec. 18.12 B.L. – Date of Petition**
- Sec. 18.13 B.L. – When Jurisdiction Acquired**
- Sec. 18.14 B.L. – Waiver to Another Grand Jurisdiction**
- Sec. 18.15 B.L. – Waiver to Complete the Degrees**
- Sec. 18.16 B.L. – Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft of Extinct Chartered Lodge**
- Sec. 18.17 B.L. – Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft of Extinct Lodge Under Dispensation**

Part III Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 18 - PETITIONERS FOR DEGREES

Sec. 18.01 B.L.

Prerequisite to Initiation. A Lodge shall not initiate any man unless it shall have received a petition from him.

Sec. 18.02 B.L.

Qualifications. Every petitioner in order to be eligible for the degrees of Masonry must:

- A. Be at least eighteen years of age,
- B. Have the senses of a man, especially those of Hearing, Seeing and Feeling,
- C. Be a believer in a Supreme Being,
- D. Be capable of Reading and Writing; and
- E. Possess no disability in his body that would render him incapable of conforming reasonably what the Degrees respectively require of him.

No provision of this Section shall be set aside, dispensed with or suspended by the Grand Master or by the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 18.03 B.L.

Sole Test. The Lodge shall itself determine a petitioner's physical qualifications by the sole test of whether any disability in his body renders him incapable of conforming reasonably to what the several degrees require of him.

Sec. 18.04 B.L.

Statewide (Concurrent) Jurisdiction. A qualified petitioner residing anywhere within this Grand Jurisdiction may petition any Lodge within the Jurisdiction.

Sec. 18.05 B.L.

Residence Requirement. A Lodge shall not knowingly receive a petition unless the petitioner shall have been an actual resident within this Jurisdiction for at least six months preceding the date of his petition. Such Masonic residence shall mean the permanent or continuous abiding place or home of the petitioner. Legal or voting residence is not the test. The Grand Master shall not by his dispensation authorize a Lodge to disregard the residence requirement of a petitioner.

Sec. 18.06 B.L.

Lodge May Require Longer Residence. A Lodge may, by its By-Laws, require residence longer than six months.

Sec. 18.07 B. L.

Settled Abode Necessary. A person without a settled abode, but moving from one place to another in the pursuit of his business, is not eligible as a petitioner for the Degrees.

[Rev. 2003]

Sec. 18.08 B.L.

Exception to Half-Year Residence. The requirement of a half-year's residence before petitioning a Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction shall not apply to:

- A. A seafaring man whose home is on board ship. Such a person must petition a Lodge situated in a regular port of call for his ship,
- B. A person who is, and for six months next preceding the date of petition has been, in the United States military,
- C. A person otherwise eligible, entering the Armed Services of the United States, he being considered temporarily absent from home,
- D. A person who for six months next preceding the date of his petition has been in the Armed Services and has maintained his continuous abiding place and home within the Grand Jurisdiction; and
- E. An actual resident of this Grand Jurisdiction who is in attendance as a student at any College, School or University.

Sec. 18.09. B.L.

Petition. Every petitioner for the Degrees or for affiliation shall complete in its entirety an appropriate form which the Lodge shall obtain from the Grand Lodge.

Each petition shall be signed by three Master Masons who are members of the Lodge or if the petitioner is recent to the area, but well known in another area of the state, then the petition may be signed by members of a Lodge in that area. The petition shall be accompanied by the required fees. A petition can be presented only at a Stated Communication and the acceptance shall be noted in the minutes.

Sec. 18.10 B.L.

Misrepresentation. It shall be a Masonic offense if a Mason shall be found to have made any misrepresentation to the Lodge in which he shall have been initiated or to a Committee of Investigation appointed by such Lodge.

Sec. 18.11 B.L.

Fees.

A. Fees for the **Degrees** shall include:

1. The amount fixed by the By-Laws of the Lodge but in no case less than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00),
2. A contribution of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) to the Grand Lodge General Fund,
3. A contribution of Five Dollars (\$5.00) to the Endowment Fund of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association,
4. A contribution of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) to the Charity Fund; and
5. A contribution of Five Dollars (\$5.00) to the Masonic Scholarship Endowment Fund.

B. Fees for **Affiliation** shall include:

1. The amount fixed by the By-Laws of the Lodge; and
2. A contribution of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) to the Grand Lodge General Fund when the affiliation is from a foreign Jurisdiction, unless the petitioner has, through previous membership, already contributed to the Masonic Home Fund, the Masonic Home Endowment Fund or the General Fund of the Grand Lodge of Washington.

[Rev. 2009]

Sec. 18.12 B.L.

Date of Petition. The date a petition shall be considered received and presented shall be the first time it is read at a Stated Communication of the Lodge regardless of the date which may appear upon its face.

Sec. 18.13 B.L.

When Jurisdiction Acquired. Jurisdiction over a petitioner is acquired at the time the petition is presented and accepted.

Sec. 18.14 B.L.

Waiver to Another Grand Jurisdiction. A Lodge receiving an application for a waiver to allow a resident to petition a Lodge of another Grand Jurisdiction shall process the application for waiver exactly as a petition for the Degrees.

Sec. 18.15 B.L.

Waiver to Complete the Degrees. A Mason who has received the First Degree, or the First and Second Degrees, in a Lodge in this or any other Jurisdiction, and has obtained from such Lodge a waiver of Jurisdiction may petition any Lodge of this Jurisdiction, pay the required fee and be considered a petitioner for the Degrees. His election and subsequent raising shall entitle him to become an enrolled member of that Lodge.

Sec. 18.16 B.L.

Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft of Extinct Chartered Lodge. An Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft who received his Degree or Degrees in a Lodge which later ceased to exist in this Jurisdiction, or in any Jurisdiction in Fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge, shall be entitled to petition a Lodge in this Jurisdiction for the remaining Degree or Degrees.

The petition shall be accompanied by:

- A. A certificate from the Grand Secretary of the Jurisdiction in which the candidate was initiated or passed, confirming that the Lodge no longer exists; and
- B. The fees required for the remaining Degree or Degrees by the Lodge receiving the petition.

Sec. 18.17 B.L.

Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft of Extinct Lodge Under Dispensation. An Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft made by a Lodge Under Dispensation which shall have ceased to exist, may petition any Lodge within this Jurisdiction for the remaining Degree or Degrees; and, if elected therein, he becomes a member of such Lodge on receiving the Third Degree and becoming enrolled.

[Rev. 2003]

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 19 – COURSE OF PETITIONS

- Sec. 19.01 B.L. – Action Upon a Petition**
- Sec. 19.02 B.L. – Receiving Petition by Mistake**
- Sec. 19.03 B.L. – Petition Withdrawal**
- Sec. 19.04 B.L. – Return of Fees**
- Sec. 19.05 B.L. – Residence Change Before Election**
- Sec. 19.06 B.L. – Residence Change After Election**
- Sec. 19.07 B.L. – Balloting**
- Sec. 19.08 B.L. – No Discussion on Petition**
- Sec. 19.09 B.L. – Every Member Must Vote**
- Sec. 19.10 B.L. – Balloting Not to be Postponed**
- Sec. 19.11 B.L. – One Ballot for Degrees**
- Sec. 19.12 B.L. – Correcting Error in Ballot**
- Sec. 19.13 B.L. – Re-ballot When First Degree Delayed**
- Sec. 19.14 B.L. – Secrecy of Ballot and Penalty for Violation**
- Sec. 19.15 B.L. – Petition After Rejection**

Part III - Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 19 - COURSE OF PETITIONS

Sec. 19.01 B.L.

Action Upon a Petition. Action upon a petition for the Degrees or for affiliation shall be in the following manner:

- A. A petition shall be presented and accepted only at a Stated Communication. No vote of acceptance shall be taken,
- B. Upon acceptance, the petition shall be referred to an Investigating Committee of three Lodge members,
- C. The Investigating Committee shall deposit its report with the Lodge Secretary at a subsequent Stated Communication after referral of the petition. The Lodge Secretary will present the investigating committee's report. In case of a vacancy in the committee, the Master may fill the vacancy and receive the report at that Communication,
- D. The investigation report shall be signed by at least two members of the committee; and
- E. Regardless of whether the committee report is favorable or unfavorable, a ballot is still necessary. The rejection of a petition can be effected only by a ballot.

Sec. 19.02 B.L.

Receiving Petition by Mistake. A petition which has been received by mistake and has not been balloted upon shall be returned and this shall not constitute a rejection.

The petitioner may at any time present a proper petition to any Lodge in this Jurisdiction without reference to the former petition.

Sec. 19.03 B.L.

Petition Withdrawal. A petition for the Degrees cannot be withdrawn after having been presented and accepted by the Lodge.

A petition for affiliation may be withdrawn and the Lodge, upon receiving a written request, shall return the petition and any fees accompanying it.

Sec. 19.04 B.L.

Return of Fees. All fees accompanying a petition for the Degrees shall be returned when:

- A. A petition is balloted upon and rejected,
- B. The Lodge is directed by the Grand Master to return the fees for cause shown after the petitioner has been elected to receive the Degrees but has not been initiated; or
- C. The members present at a Stated Communication decide by majority vote to return the fees in response to a written request from a petitioner whose petition previously received a favorable ballot but who has not received the Preparatory Lecture of the First Degree.

Sec. 19.05 B.L.

Residence Change Before Election. A petitioner for the Degrees who changes his residence before being elected to receive the Degrees shall continue to be under the Jurisdiction of that Lodge for a period of six months from the date of acceptance of the petition. If thereafter he petitions for the Degrees in a Lodge at his acquired place of residence, the time limit of his necessary residence there shall date from the time of his arrival.

[Rev. 2003]

Sec. 19.06 B.L.

Residence Change After Election. A candidate remains under the Jurisdiction of the Lodge electing him even though he may change his residence without receiving any of the Degrees. He can at any time within six months receive the Degrees in the Lodge which elected him although his residence has been changed. If he has not received the First Degree within six months, he remains under the Jurisdiction of the Lodge electing him and his petition must be re-balloted unless delay is due to the Lodge, in which case the Grand Master may grant an extension not exceeding six months.

Sec. 19.07 B.L.

Balloting. A ballot on a petition for the Degrees or for Affiliation shall be taken only at a Stated Communication; and unless the ballot be unanimous in its favor, the petition shall be declared rejected.

Sec. 19.08 B.L.

No Discussion on Petition. No discussion upon the merits of a petition shall be allowed in Lodge.

Sec. 19.09 B.L.

Every Member Must Vote. Every member present at any balloting for the Degrees or for affiliation must vote unless excused by unanimous consent.

Sec. 19.10 B.L.

Balloting Not to be Postponed. The balloting on a petition shall not be postponed except for a brief period to allow the Tyler to vote. When once commenced the ballot must be completed and result thereof declared.

When the door is tiled by a Brother who is entitled to vote, the ballot may be suspended for a brief period as follows: After the last vote has been cast the ballot is suspended, the Tyler is then relieved and enters immediately. The ballot is then resumed for the Tyler's vote, after which the ballot is declared closed.

Sec. 19.11 B.L.

One Ballot for Degrees. A Lodge shall not spread a ballot more than once upon a petition for the Degrees except:

- A. In the case where an elected petitioner fails for any reason to receive the First Degree within six months from the date of his election; or
- B. To correct an announced error.

Sec. 19.12 B.L.

Correcting Error in Ballot. When the petition of a candidate for the Degrees has been rejected by a Lodge through mistake or misapprehension, the Lodge may correct the error at the same Stated Communication in the following manner:

- A. The member or members who have balloted in the negative by mistake or misapprehension shall announce the same in open Lodge,
- B. If the number so announcing, whether one or more, shall correspond with the number of negative ballots, the ballot may be spread again; and

- C. When a ballot has resulted unfavorably and has been spread a second time to determine whether a mistake has occurred, it shall not be spread a third time for that purpose.

Sec. 19.13 B.L.

Re-ballot When First Degree Delayed. A candidate who has been elected to receive the Degrees shall present himself to receive the First Degree within six months. If he shall fail to do so, a new ballot shall be held at a Stated Communication and a favorable ballot must result before the First Degree can be conferred.

If the failure to confer the First Degree within six months shall be the fault of the Lodge, the Grand Master, on request, may issue a dispensation extending the time for a period not exceeding six months.

Sec. 19.14 B.L.

Secrecy of Ballot and Penalty for Violation. Except to announce in open Lodge that he has cast a negative ballot by mistake or misapprehension, any Brother who shall make known in any way the type of ballot cast by himself or by another, or shall make any comment whatsoever regarding the type or number of ballots cast on a petition for the Degrees or for Affiliation, shall be deemed guilty of a Masonic offense and on conviction shall be suspended or expelled.

Sec. 19.15 B.L.

Petition After Rejection. A Lodge which has rejected a petitioner for the degrees shall not accept another petition from him until the expiration of one year after such rejection; nor shall any other Lodge in this Jurisdiction accept a petition from a rejected petitioner until:

- A. One year has expired following the rejection; and
- B. The petition has been reported to the rejecting Lodge and full information requested regarding the character of the petitioner and his qualifications to receive the Degrees. If a diligent effort to obtain the information has produced no answer within ninety days, the Lodge may proceed to act upon the petition.

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 20 – CONFERRING OF DEGREES

- Sec. 20.01 B.L. – Rules on Conferring Rev. 2010**
- Sec. 20.02 B.L. – Right to Object**
- Sec. 20.03 B.L. – Objection to Initiation Rev. 2011**
- Sec. 20.04 B.L. – Objection to Advancement**
- Sec. 20.05 B.L. – Defect After Initiation**
- Sec. 20.06 B.L. – Degrees by Courtesy**
- Sec. 20.07 B.L. – Degrees by Courtesy for Foreign Lodge**
- Sec. 20.08 B.L. – Material of Foreign Lodge**
- Sec. 20.09 B.L. – Objection to Degrees by Courtesy**
- Sec. 20.10 B.L. – Proficiency in the Degrees**
- Sec. 20.11 B.L. – Failure to Advance New 2018**

[Rev. 2018]

Part III - Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 20 - CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Sec. 20.01 B.L.

Rules on Conferring. A Lodge shall observe the following rules when conferring Degrees:

- A. Each Degree or portion of a Degree may be conferred upon not more than three candidates at a time,
- B. Constituent Lodges shall not confer Degrees upon more than fifteen candidates on one calendar day,
- C. All Sections and Portions thereof and Lecture of each Degree must be conferred at the same Communication or Communications of the Lodge on the same calendar day,
- D. The Lectures, including the Middle Chamber Lecture, and the Charges may be delivered to more than one candidate at a time; and
- E. Notwithstanding any provision or requirement to the contrary, a Constituent Lodge or Lodges may complete unfinished Degree work on any number of candidates in a single day at a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge opened by the Grand Master or his delegated representative for such purpose provided such candidates are Entered Apprentice Masons and have proven their proficiency. **Rev. 2010**

Sec. 20.02 B.L.

Right to Object. Any member of a Lodge has a right to object to the initiation or advancement of a candidate. The right to object shall not be denied a Brother who:

- A. Reported favorably as a member of the petitioner's investigating committee,
- B. Participated in a favorable ballot at the petitioner's election; or
- C. Was in attendance at the Communication but absent from the Lodge-Room when the ballot was spread.

Sec. 20.03 B.L.

Objection to Initiation. A candidate's initiation shall be deferred if following his election to receive the Degrees and before initiation, the Master receives an objection from a member of the Lodge.

If the objection is afterwards withdrawn, the initiation may proceed, but if the objection is not withdrawn within sixty days, it shall have the effect of a rejection by ballot and shall be so recorded by the Secretary. The Master shall not at any time divulge the name of the objector.

Sec. 20.04 B.L.

Objection to Advancement. An objection to the advancement of an Entered Apprentice or a Fellowcraft may be made by any member of the Lodge or by any Lodge in whose Jurisdiction the candidate formerly resided.

The objection shall be assigned to a committee with power to inquire into the cause thereof. The committee's report shall be given at the next Stated Communication, unless further time be given.

The Lodge, after receiving the committee's report, shall resolve the objection in the following manner:

- A. If the report assigns no cause for the objection, the Lodge may confer the Degree or Degrees, as if no objection had been made; or

[Rev. 2010]

- B. If the report assigns a cause for the objection, the Brother objected to shall be informed thereof and shall be given an opportunity to be heard before the committee and before the Lodge. The Lodge will then vote on a motion to declare the objection not based on a Masonic principle or not sufficient to warrant the objection to advancement,
1. If two-thirds (2/3) of the members present vote in favor of the motion, the Lodge may proceed to confer the Degree or Degrees; or
 2. If less than two-thirds (2/3) of the members vote in favor of the motion, the objection will be sustained and charges of un-Masonic conduct deemed accepted. The Secretary of the Lodge shall thereupon request the appointment of a Grand Lodge Trial Committee. If the Brother is acquitted the Lodge may confer the Degree or Degrees without further petition. **Rev. 2011**

Sec. 20.05 B.L.

Defect After Initiation. A candidate physically qualified when initiated, and thereafter suffering a physical disability shall not thereby become disqualified to receive the remaining Degree or Degrees.

Sec. 20.06 B.L.

Degrees by Courtesy. A Lodge having elected a petitioner to receive the Degrees, may request another Lodge to confer one or more of the Degrees. No petition, investigation or ballot shall be necessary in the conferring Lodge. The candidate shall become a member of the Lodge which elected him.

Sec. 20.07 B.L.

Degrees by Courtesy for Foreign Lodge. A request for courtesy conferral of Degrees from a Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction shall be forwarded to the Grand Secretary for verification of the regularity of the Lodge making the request. If the regularity of the Lodge is confirmed, the courtesy work may proceed without any further investigation.

Sec. 20.08 B.L.

Material of Foreign Lodge. No Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft of any Lodge outside of this Jurisdiction shall be passed or raised in a Lodge of this Jurisdiction, unless permission of the Lodge in which he was initiated or passed shall have been obtained if that Lodge is in existence.

Sec. 20.09 B.L.

Objection to Degrees by Courtesy. A Lodge consenting to confer the Degrees by courtesy shall not proceed after objection is made by a member of the Lodge unless the objection be withdrawn, but shall withdraw the consent and so notify the requesting Lodge.

Sec. 20.10 B.L.

Proficiency in the Degrees. No candidate shall be passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft nor raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason without proof of proficiency in the preceding Degree. As a minimum, a candidate must be able to demonstrate knowledge of the obligation, signs, words, and grips and all modes of recognition of each Degree.

The Lodge shall be the sole judge of the proficiency of the candidate in the preceding Degree, which shall be ascertained by examination, either in open Lodge or by a committee appointed by the Master of the Lodge and recorded by the Secretary.

[Rev. 2011]

The candidate may be offered the New Candidate Education Program approved by the Grand Lodge in place of the Standard Posting Lecture as proof of proficiency at the option of the Lodge.

Regardless of which method of determining proficiency is selected, every candidate progressing through the Degrees will be furnished a copy of the New Candidate Education Program by his Lodge.

After being raised as a Master Mason the Brother shall pay his dues for the current year as established in the Lodge By-Laws and sign the By-Laws, whereupon he becomes an enrolled member of the Lodge.

Sec. 20.11 B.L.

Failure to advance. An Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft must show proficiency on that Degree and present himself for advancement to the next Degree within one (1) calendar year of receiving said Degree. That time may be extended by a simple majority vote at a Stated Communication of the Lodge. A candidate who does not meet the requirements to advance within the one (1) calendar year time limit may be dropped from the rolls of the Lodge by a simple majority vote at a Stated Communication of the Lodge, and notified of such action.

Candidates dropped for failure to advance may be reinstated within two (2) calendar years by a simple majority vote at a Stated Communication of the Lodge. After that time period, he must re-petition for the Degrees. **New 2018**

[Rev. 2018]

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 21 – PROPERTY AND FINANCE

- Sec. 21.01 Const. – Property of Demised Lodge**
- Sec. 21.02 B.L. – May Levy Assessment**
- Sec. 21.03 B.L. – Incurring Debt for Another Lodge**
- Sec. 21.04 B.L. – Funds not to be Distributed**
- Sec. 21.05 B.L. – Real Property Rev. 2013**
- Sec. 21.06 B.L. – Borrowing for Building Purposes**
- Sec. 21.07 B.L. – Approval of Lodge Hall Plans Rev. 2013**
- Sec. 21.08 B.L. – Incorporation of Bodies for Masonic Purposes Rev. 2011**
- Sec. 21.09 B.L. – Title Holding Corporations**
- Sec. 21.10 B.L. – Borrowing Money**
- Sec. 21.11 B.L. – Reports of Corporations**

[Rev. 2013]

Part III - Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 21 - PROPERTY AND FINANCE

Sec. 21.01 Const.

Property of Demised Lodge. The books, papers, jewels, funds, furniture and all other property of any Lodge under this Jurisdiction shall, upon demise of the Lodge, vest in and belong to this Grand Lodge subject to the legal and equitable rights of creditors of such demised Lodge in and to such properties.

It shall be the duty of the last Presiding Officer, the Secretary and the Treasurer to surrender the same without delay to the Grand Secretary. In case of real property the proper officers shall have the title conveyed to the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 21.02 B.L.

May Levy Assessment. A Lodge may levy upon its members, in addition to its regular dues, a tax or assessment for strictly Masonic purposes or to pay off its floating indebtedness. Vote on such levy must be at a Stated Communication after ten days' notice. An adopted tax or assessment assumes the nature of dues and the failure of a member to pay the levy is the same as non-payment of dues.

Sec. 21.03 B.L.

Incurring Debt for Another Lodge. No Lodge shall incur indebtedness for another Lodge without authority from the latter to do so.

Sec. 21.04 B.L.

Funds Not to be Distributed. No Lodge shall distribute its funds among its members.

Sec. 21.05 B.L.

Real Property. A Lodge may acquire and hold real property for its use and benefit, but only when title to the real property is placed in the name of a Title Holding Corporation.

No Masonic corporation shall acquire any real property by means of purchase, donation, and inheritance or by any other means until it has obtained a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) that satisfied the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Phase 1 standard, in use and approved at the time it is performed. In obtaining the Phase 1 ESA, the Masonic corporation shall use, and hire, at its sole cost and discretion, one of the environmental consulting firms approved by the Grand Lodge. Upon completion of such Phase 1 ESA and any additional investigation recommended in the Phase 1 ESA, all related reports shall be forwarded to the Committee on Finance for approval.

Rev. 2013

Lodges that hold title to real property in the Lodge's name as of June 15, 2007 shall transfer title to such real property to a Title Holding Corporation formed in a manner consistent with Sec. 21.08 B.L. Such transfer shall be completed no later than June 1, 2008, unless the Grand Master waives the requirement.

No Lodge or Title Holding Corporation shall sell, transfer, or dispose of any real property unless approved as follows:

- A. Real property that is owned by a Title Holding Corporation requires the approval of at least three-fourths (3/4) of the Trustees present at a meeting of the Trustees at which a quorum is present and two-thirds (2/3) approval of the members of each Lodge that is a member of the Title Holding Corporation. The Lodge shall provide its members at least twenty days advance notice of the stated meeting of such vote.

[Rev. 2013]

- B. Real property that is owned by a Lodge requires the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Lodge present at a stated meeting of the Lodge. The Lodge shall provide its members at least twenty days advance notice of such vote. The requirement of twenty days advance notice shall be waived if the transfer of title is to a Title Holding Corporation.

Sec. 21.06 B.L.

Borrowing for Building Purposes. No Lodge, either in its name or in the name of an association or corporation, shall undertake to borrow money or assume any debt for the purposes of construction of any Lodge building or site thereof without the written approval of the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge Committee on Finance.

Sec. 21.07 B.L.

Approval of Lodge Hall Plans. All planning for new Masonic Lodge Halls/Buildings and /or any major remodeling of existing Masonic Halls/Buildings requiring an expenditure greater than the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) shall be submitted to the Grand Master and the Committee on Finance, together with the financing plan, for approval. Lodges/Building Associations will additionally submit all forms required by the Grand Secretary that demonstrate a current and ongoing ability to financially support the project for approval prior to commencement of any such building program. **Rev. 2013**

Sec. 21.08 B.L.

Incorporation of Bodies for Masonic Purposes.

- A. A Lodge, Mason, or group of Masons may organize or sponsor an incorporated body for a declared Masonic purpose (including, but not limited to, holding title to Masonic buildings, administering scholarships, and charitable activities), only after receipt of permission of the Grand Master and the Committee on Jurisprudence. This subsection does not expand the number of Lodges that are authorized to incorporate themselves pursuant to Sec. 12.05 B.L.
- B. The Trustees of a Title Holding Corporation representing a Lodge shall be elected by the members of the Lodge at a Stated Communication to serve for a specific term. Removal of any Trustee must be in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, Corporation By-Laws, or by a majority vote of the Lodge members at a Stated Communication after due notice. **Rev. 2011**
- C. In the event of the resignation, removal, disqualification, or death of a Trustee representing a Lodge, the Worshipful Master shall appoint a successor Trustee to serve the remainder of the term of the Trustee being replaced. The appointment of the successor Trustee shall be subject to confirmation by the Lodge at the next Stated Communication of the Lodge.

Sec. 21.09 B.L.

Title Holding Corporations.

- A. A Mason, or a group of Masons, may organize or support an incorporated body for the purpose of holding title to Lodge property under the following conditions:
 - 1. Adopt Articles of Incorporation and Corporation By-Laws on forms specified by the Grand Lodge,

2. Submit the forms, in duplicate to the Grand Secretary. The Grand Secretary shall transmit a copy to the Committee on Jurisprudence who, after approval, shall forward their recommendations to the Grand Master. If disapproved by the Committee the forms will be returned to the incorporators for changes; and
 3. Corporation By-Laws, approved by the Grand Master, shall be effective immediately but subject to confirmation by the Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication. A copy of the Articles of Incorporation and Corporation By-Laws shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary so as to become a matter of record. The original Articles of Incorporation and Corporation By-Laws, and one copy, shall be returned to the Corporation.
- B. The Articles of Incorporation and Corporation By-Laws may provide for sharing of ownership, management and control of real and personal property by and for the benefit of both Masons and non-Masons, or by and for the benefit of a Constituent Lodge or of Masons only, regardless of profit motive or tax-exempt status, provided, however, that no Lodge shall transfer its right, title or interest in any real or personal property to any such title-holding corporation whose Articles of Incorporation do not specifically provide that the net assets of such corporation shall be distributed to the transferring Lodge, or to the Grand Lodge, according to the Lodge's "Contribution Percentages" upon dissolution of such corporation,
- C. Amendments to Articles of Incorporation and Corporation By-Laws must be submitted in duplicate for the approval of the Grand Master and the Committee on Jurisprudence on forms specified by the Grand Lodge; and
- D. All accumulated annual corporate income, in excess of cash reserve necessary to pay:
1. Annual expenses of operation,
 2. Maintenance and repairs,
 3. Taxes and insurance,
 4. Other current expenses,
 5. Shall be distributed to the Lodge(s) based upon its share of ownership of the corporation; and
 - a. To maintain the separate identity of the Lodge and Title-Holding Corporation, the incumbent Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden shall be ineligible to serve as officers of the Corporation except as members of the Board of Trustees.

Sec. 21.10 B.L.

Borrowing Money. A title holding corporation shall not borrow money without first securing the written approval of the Grand Master and the Committee on Finance.

Sec. 21.11 B.L.

Reports of Corporations. The Grand Master shall have the power to require any corporation formed under the provisions of this Chapter, either heretofore or hereafter, to render such reports concerning its activities, receipts, expenditures and plans of procedure as will enable him to make report and recommendation to the Grand Lodge.

[Rev. 2007]

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 22 – MASONIC RELIEF

Sec. 22.01 B.L. – Lodge Charity

Sec. 22.02 B.L. – Immediate Relief

Sec. 22.03 B.L. – Charity and Relief Fund

Sec. 22.04 B.L. – Voluntary Relief Organizations

Sec. 22.05 B.L. – Relief

Sec. 22.06 B.L. – Relief to Sojourner

Sec. 22.07 B.L. – Relief Reimbursement Not Due

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 22 – MASONIC RELIEF

Sec. 22.01 B.L.

Lodge Charity. A Lodge shall be the sole judge of Masonic charity. The Grand Lodge shall not invade the rights of a Lodge to appropriate funds for relief work.

Sec. 22.02 B.L.

Immediate Relief. A Master may draw upon the funds of the Lodge in response to an application for assistance or relief when the Lodge is not in session. The Lodge By-Laws shall specify the maximum amount permissible for such relief.

Sec. 22.03 B.L.

Charity and Relief Fund. A Lodge may, by a provision in its By-Laws, create a special fund for charitable and relief purposes. The By-Laws shall specify the conditions and restrictions for receiving, holding and administering trust funds for such purposes.

Sec. 22.04 B.L.

Voluntary Relief Organizations. A board of relief may be established by a Lodge, or by individual Brethren. A Masonic Relief Association may be established by agreement between two or more Lodges. Such Boards and Associations shall be guided by just and equitable principles of benevolence for dispensing charitable relief.

Boards and Associations shall publish and issue no later than April 30th of each year to each member Lodge an annual financial statement summarizing the following data for the previous calendar year:

...cash receipts,

...cash disbursements,

...profit and/or loss,

...assets on hand; and

...earning report and their distribution for the preceding calendar year. In addition this report will include a budget plan for the year.

Sec. 22.05 B.L.

Relief.

- A. A Lodge is under no obligation to pay the debts of a deceased member,
- B. A Mason's former wife has no claim on Masonry after she is legally separated from her husband,
- C. The wife and minor children of a Mason who has been suspended or expelled are not entitled to Masonic relief while he is under the sentence, nor after his death, should he die without being reinstated; and
- D. A Lodge is under no obligation to extend Masonic aid or privileges to Non-Affiliated Masons who shall have resided within the Jurisdiction of the Lodge for one year without affiliating with the Lodge and contributing to its dues.

[Rev. 2006]

Sec. 22.06 B.L.

Relief to Sojourner. Any person claiming to be a Mason from a Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction and applying for visitation to a Lodge in this Jurisdiction or seeking monetary or other assistance from the Lodge shall be required, in the absence of personal avouchment, to exhibit a properly attested diploma, certificate, or other documentary evidence of his Masonic standing, if demanded by any member of the Lodge.

Sec. 22.07 B.L.

Relief Reimbursement Not Due. A Lodge or Brother Mason has no right to claim reimbursement for charity bestowed or relief given to the sick, needy or distressed or for expenses voluntarily incurred in the burial of the Fraternal Dead.

[Rev. 2006]

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Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 23 – FUNERAL SERVICES

Sec. 23.01 B.L. – General Provisions

Sec. 23.02 B.L. – Lodge of Sorrow

Sec. 23.03 B.L. – Funeral Procession

Sec. 23.04 B.L. – Service at the Grave

Sec. 23.05 B.L. – Funeral Service Without Opening Lodge

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 23 – FUNERAL SERVICES

Sec. 23.01 B.L.

General Provisions.

- A. A Masonic burial service may be requested by a Brother in his lifetime or by a near relative after his death. It is a privilege, not an absolute right. It is for the Lodge or the Master to determine,
- B. The service may be extended to Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft and Master Masons who have not taken their proficiency on the Third Degree; as well as to non-affiliated Masons in good standing and to members of the Lodge at the discretion of the Worshipful Master,
- C. The Brethren shall be properly clothed, and none but Masons in good standing shall assume our funeral habiliments,
- D. A Lodge shall not attend a funeral in Masonic clothing unless properly requested. If it is desired and so requested by near relatives, the Lodge may attend a funeral service in a Body and clothed as Masons, without having any part in the service whatsoever,
- E. The Master shall officiate in a Masonic funeral ceremony or, in his absence, a Warden or a competent Brother called by him to preside, during all of which the Lodge shall remain open on the Third Degree or as a Lodge of Sorrow; and
- F. The Master may, for the purpose of holding a Masonic funeral service, open his Lodge in the Lodge room of another Constituent Lodge in this Jurisdiction, or in any convenient, safe place.

Sec. 23.02 B.L.

Lodge of Sorrow. The Master, on vote of a Lodge, may open a Lodge of Sorrow, which will remain open only during his term of office, for the purpose of conducting Masonic funeral rites.

Sec. 23.03 B.L.

Funeral Procession. A Lodge which has been invited to officiate at the burial of a Brother shall have entire charge of the funeral procession. Lodges in attendance shall form an escort with the members of the Lodge-in-charge immediately in front of the hearse and the other Lodges preceding.

If societies composed solely of Masons are invited to take part in the procession, they shall serve as an escort to the Lodge-in-charge, and shall follow the musicians. Societies not so composed shall follow the mourners.

The pall-bearers should be Master Masons, but in the event of extenuating circumstances, as many as three non-Masons may act in that capacity.

The order of procession shall be as follows:

Marshal

The Tyler, with drawn sword,
Musicians,
Stewards, with white rods,
Master Masons,
Treasurer and Secretary,
Senior and Junior Wardens,
Past Masters,
The Bible Bearer,

(The Bible, Square and Compasses on a cushion, covered with black cloth, carried, when practicable, by the oldest member of the Lodge, and supported by the Deacons with crossed rods);

The Chaplain, and the attending clergyman, if a Mason

The Master;

* C *

* O *

* F *

* F *

* I *

* N *

* * *

Pall Bearers,

Pall Bearers;

(Upon the coffin, a Masonic apron)

The Mourners.

Sec. 23.04 B.L.

Service at the Grave. The Officer officiating at the grave and delivering the funeral ritual shall be a Master Mason.

No rule of Masonic propriety requires the uncovering of the head during funeral services in the open air, except when the blessing of Deity is invoked.

After the Masonic service has ended, there shall be no further service at the grave, except that there will be no objection to the pronouncement of a benediction by an ordained minister selected by the bereaved or the rendition of military honors, or both.

Sec. 23.05 B.L.

Funeral Service Without Opening Lodge. A funeral may be conducted in accordance with our ritual service without opening a Lodge of Masons when the death of a Mason sojourning in this Grand Jurisdiction occurs, providing his home Lodge has authorized a Masonic funeral for him and a Grand Master has given general authorization to a Masonic Relief Association to perform such a service.

[Rev. 2003]

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Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 24 – CONSOLIDATION

Sec. 24.01 B.L. – How Effected

Sec. 24.02 B.L. – Charter After Consolidation

Sec. 24.03 B.L. – Property

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 24 – CONSOLIDATION

Sec. 24.01 B.L.

How Effected. Any two or more Lodges may consolidate their memberships into one Lodge. The proposition for such consolidation shall be presented at a Stated Communication of each interested Lodge and shall be acted upon only at a subsequent Stated Communication of each Lodge after due notice shall have been given to the members.

A consolidation shall be effected only by a three-fourths (3/4) affirmative vote of the members present in each Lodge when the proposition is acted upon. The vote may be by show of hands or by secret ballot.

Sec. 24.02 B.L.

Charter After Consolidation. The Grand Lodge or the Grand Master shall be officially informed of any consolidation and provided with the name and number of the consolidated Lodge and the names of the officers.

Consolidating Lodges must adopt the number of one of the Lodges and may retain both the number and name of such Lodge, in which case no new Charter need be issued and such Lodge need not be reconstituted, but an endorsement of the consolidation shall be entered on the Charter so retained.

A new special Charter shall be issued without fee when consolidating Lodges retain the number of one of the Lodges but not the corresponding name and such new Lodge shall be constituted as provided for in Sec. 16.15 B.L.

The new Charter shall show:

- A. The number of one of the consolidating Lodges,
- B. Such name as shall have been selected,
- C. The names of the new officers; and
- D. An endorsement bearing the seal of the Grand Lodge and countersigned by the Grand Secretary shall be affixed to the new Charter showing the original date of issue of the Lodge number selected by the Consolidating Lodges. This date will then be fixed as the date when the Consolidated Lodges lineage and history shall have commenced. Where a Lodge consolidation has already occurred, the Grand Lodge shall issue, without fee, the endorsement and affix it to the Lodge Charter as requested by the Lodge involved.

All original Charters not endorsed for continued use shall be returned to the Grand Secretary.

Sec. 24.03 B.L.

Property. The title to all property and effects of Lodges that unite shall be vested in the Consolidated Lodge.

Part III – Constituent Lodges

**CHAPTER 25 – DISSOLUTION OF LODGES –
SUSPENSION OF CHARTER**

- Sec. 25.01 B.L. – How Dissolved Rev. 2014**
- Sec. 25.02 B.L. – Surrender of Charter**
- Sec. 25.03 B.L. – Forfeiture of Charter**
- Sec. 25.04 B.L. – Basis of Forfeiture Rev. 2014**
- Sec. 25.05 B.L. – Surrender of Property**
- Sec. 25.06 B.L. – Suspension of Charter**
- Sec. 25.07 B.L. – Right of Appeal New 2014**
- Sec. 25.08 B.L. – Status of a Lodge During Appeal New 2014**

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 25 – DISSOLUTION OF LODGES – SUSPENSION OF CHARTER

Sec. 25.01 B.L.

How Dissolved. A Lodge may be dissolved by:

- A. Voluntary surrender of its Charter, when such surrender shall have been accepted by the Grand Lodge,
- B. Ceasing to meet for six months and being declared dormant by the Grand Lodge,
- C. Forfeiture of its Charter by order of the Grand Lodge; and
- D. Arrest of the Charter by order of the Grand Master. **Rev. 2014**

Sec. 25.02 B.L.

Surrender of Charter. A Lodge may adopt a resolution to surrender its Charter, but the Resolution will be defeated if seven or more duly qualified members vote in opposition to the surrender. Such Resolution shall be considered only after due notice shall have been given at a Stated Communication that the Resolution will be presented at the next succeeding Stated Communication.

A properly adopted act of surrender shall become final when accepted and approved by the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 25.03 B.L.

Forfeiture of Charter. The Charter of a Lodge can be declared forfeited by the Grand Lodge upon charges regularly made at an Annual Communication. Due notice of the charges shall be given to the Lodge and an opportunity afforded for the Lodge to be heard in its defense.

Sec. 25.04 B.L.

Basis of Forfeiture or Arrest. The charges for which a Lodge may be ordered to forfeit its Charter or the Grand Master may order the arrest of a Charter are:

- A. Insolent defiance to the authority of the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge,
- B. Departure from the Original Plan of Masonry and the Ancient Landmarks,
- C. Disobedience to the Constitution or the By-Laws,
- D. Neglecting for two years to make returns and pay dues; and
- E. Willful and inexcusable neglect to be represented in the Grand Lodge. **Rev. 2014**

Sec. 25.05 B.L.

Surrender of Property. A Lodge which has become dormant or whose Charter has been surrendered or forfeited shall deliver forthwith to the Grand Master or to his Special Deputy its Charter, books, papers, jewels, furniture, monies and other property, which shall then vest in the Grand Lodge, subject to all legal and equitable rights of creditors of such demised Lodge in and to such properties.

The last Master, Secretary and Treasurer of the Lodge shall be responsible for the surrender of the properties. Any member of a Lodge who shall refuse to make such surrender shall be liable to Masonic discipline for violating the By-Laws and Regulations of the Grand Lodge.

All money accruing from the property of the Lodge shall be paid into the Treasury of the Grand Lodge.

[Rev. 2014]

Sec. 25.06 B.L.

Suspension of Charter. The Charter of a Lodge may be suspended by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master, at any time, upon proper cause shown. Suspension, when ordered by the Grand Master, shall not extend beyond the next Annual Communication.

Sec. 25.07 B.L.

Right of Appeal. When a Lodge Charter is forfeited or arrested by the Grand Master, any member of the Lodge may, within thirty days of the action, appeal to the Grand Lodge by filing a Notice of Appeal of the action with the Grand Secretary, who shall provide written notice of such appeal to the last known address of all of the members of the Lodge. If no timely appeal is filed with the Grand Secretary, the forfeiture or arrest of a Charter shall be deemed final.

Upon a timely appeal of a suspension, forfeiture or arrest of a Charter, the matter shall be referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, who shall report the facts with their recommendation(s) to the Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication for its action.

The hearing before the Committee on Grievances and Appeals shall be heard at the location of Stated Communications of the Lodge or, if requested by the appealing member(s), at the place of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge for the current year.

The hearing designated herein shall be scheduled at least ninety days after service of the Notice of Appeal, unless the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge for the current year occurs within those ninety days. In that instance, the appealing member(s) may opt to have its hearing held the day immediately preceding the opening of the Annual Communication.

At hearing, the Committee on Grievances and Appeals may only receive evidence to dispute the basis of the action leading to the suspension, forfeiture or arrest. **New 2014**

Sec. 25.08 B.L.

Status of a Lodge During Appeal. In the case of an Appeal from the suspension, forfeiture or arrest of a Lodge's Charter, the Lodge shall conduct no business, confer no degrees, nor take any action except the right to appeal; provided that the Grand Master may, in his discretion, permit the Lodge to conduct such business as is necessary to protect the assets of the Lodge pending the appeal. Any such permission shall be communicated in writing by the Grand Master to the Secretary of the Lodge, and such permission shall be entered into the minutes of the Lodge as authorized by the Grand Master. **New 2014**

[Rev. 2014]

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Part IV – Disciplinary Code

CHAPTER 26 – PREFERRAL OF CHARGES

- Sec. 26.01 Const. – Masonic Conduct**
- Sec. 26.02 Const. – Classes of Masonic Offenses**
- Sec. 26.03 B.L. – Misrepresentation by Petitioner or Candidate**
- Sec. 26.04 B.L. – Verdict in Criminal Proceeding**
- Sec. 26.05 B.L. – Preferring Charges Rev. 2014**
- Sec. 26.06 B.L. – Flagrant Offense**
- Sec. 26.07 B.L. – Further Charges Against Suspended Mason**
- Sec. 26.08 B.L. – E.A. and F.C. Must Stand Trial**
- Sec. 26.09 B.L. – Disposition of Charges Rev. 2014**
- Sec. 26.10 B.L. – Lodge to Relinquish Jurisdiction Rev. 2014**
- Sec. 26.11 B.L. – Invoking Grand Lodge Jurisdiction Rev. 2014**

Part IV – Disciplinary Code

Chapter 26 – PREFERRAL OF CHARGES

Sec. 26.01 Const.

Masonic Conduct. A Mason's conduct is subject to discipline as provided in the Washington Masonic Code.

Sec. 26.02 Const.

Classes of Masonic Offenses. Masonic offenses are of two classes:

- A. Those acts which are morally wrong in themselves; and
- B. Those acts which are wrongful only because they are expressly prohibited or enjoined.

Sec. 26.03 B.L. Renumbered 2015

Misrepresentation by Petitioner or Candidate. If a Mason shall be charged at any time with having made any misrepresentation to the Lodge in which he was initiated or to a Committee of Investigation appointed by such Lodge, or that he used any concealment or deceit in relation to his initiation, the charge shall be filed with the Grand Secretary for trial.

Sec. 26.04 B.L. Renumbered 2015

Verdict in Criminal Proceeding. A guilty verdict in a criminal proceeding is, on the face of it, evidence of fact that a crime has been committed. Nothing herein shall prevent or restrain the Grand Master from determining that certain convictions, if proved, inherently give rise to a finding of un-Masonic conduct and authorize the Grand Master to order a Masonic Trial. Proof of a conviction in a criminal proceeding which is specified as a portion of the charges of un-Masonic conduct on the part of the accused may be entered as evidence in a Grand Lodge Trial Committee hearing. All evidence must be subject to the determination of relevance and significance by members of the Committee.

Sec. 26.05 B.L. Renumbered 2015

Preferring Charges.

- A. Charges of un-Masonic conduct may be preferred against a Mason, including any unaffiliated Mason who is residing or sojourning within the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, by:
 1. Any member of a Chartered Lodge,
 2. Any Chartered Lodge,
 3. The Junior Warden when directed by the Worshipful Master,
 4. The Junior Warden when no other Brother has preferred charges of un-Masonic Conduct; or
 5. In those cases where charges are preferred by the Grand Master or discipline is imposed by the Grand Master, the provisions of Sec. 26.03 B.L. C below shall not govern. **New 2014**

In the event that the Junior Warden is unable or unwilling to prefer charges, that duty shall devolve to the Senior Warden; however, the Worshipful Master may direct any member of the Lodge to prefer charges of un-Masonic conduct for and on behalf of the Lodge.

- B. Charges of un-Masonic conduct may not be preferred:
 1. By an unaffiliated Mason and shall not be received nor shall any action be taken on such charges,

[Rev. 2015]

2. Against a Brother involving private wrongs or private legal rights, monetary or otherwise, unless the allegation clearly shows fraud,
 3. Against a Brother involving matters of political or sectarian character,
 4. Against a sitting Grand Master or Worshipful Master for official acts as Grand Master or Worshipful Master; or
 5. Against a Past Grand Master or Past Worshipful Master for official acts performed while serving as Grand Master or Worshipful Master.
- C. Charges of un-Masonic conduct shall be first submitted to the Worshipful Master, except when the Worshipful Master has directed a Brother to prefer charges of un-Masonic conduct.
- D. Charges of un-Masonic conduct shall be in writing and signed by the Brother(s) preferring them using the approved form maintained by the Grand Secretary or in a writing substantially similar to said form. Charges of un-Masonic conduct shall specify with reasonable certainty the character of the alleged offense and the time and place where the offense occurred.

Sec. 26.06 B.L. Renumbered 2015

Flagrant Offense. The Master of a Lodge, when a Mason present has committed a flagrant offense while the Lodge is in session, may dispense with the provisions of Masonic law requiring formal charges, and may order the offending Brother to show cause instantly why he should not be charged with un-Masonic conduct.

Sec. 26.07 B.L. Renumbered 2015

Further Charges Against Suspended a Mason. A suspended Mason may be charged with un-Masonic conduct not included within the charge or charges for which he was suspended. If such conduct is proved and would justify a further punishment or a punishment greater than that which he is undergoing, then he may be arraigned for trial and, if found guilty, may suffer additional penalty.

Sec. 26.08 B.L. Renumbered 2015

E.A. and F.C. Must Stand Trial. The names of Entered Apprentices or Fellowcrafts shall not be dropped from the roll, nor shall they be suspended or expelled without charges, notice, trial and judgment.

Sec. 26.09 B.L. Renumbered 2015

Disposition of Charges.

- A. All charges shall be filed with the Secretary of the Lodge,
- B. The Secretary shall present and read the charges to the Lodge at the first Stated Communication following the filing of the charges with him,
- C. The Lodge shall, at the Stated Communication when the charges are presented and read, vote upon the question of whether or not the charges, if proved, constitute a Masonic offense. If a majority of the members present vote that the charges, if proved, constitute a Masonic offense, the charges shall be deemed accepted by the Lodge. In the event that the charges are not accepted, any Mason feeling aggrieved thereby, may appeal from the decision of the Lodge to the Grand Master, solely upon the question of whether or not the charges as drawn, if proved, constitutes a Masonic offense,

[Rev. 2015]

The Grand Master having received an appeal from an aggrieved Mason under the provisions of this section and having determined that the charges, if proved, constitute a Masonic offense, shall forward the appeal to the Grand Lodge Trial Committee to try the accused upon the charges. If the charges are not found to constitute a Masonic offense the Grand Lodge Trial Committee will inform the Grand Master, who will then notify the Lodge and the aggrieved Mason of his decision; and **Rev. 2014**

- D. When the Lodge accepts charges they shall not be withdrawn except for cause shown and by a favorable vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at a Stated Communication.

Sec. 26.10 B.L. Renumbered 2015

Lodge to Relinquish Jurisdiction. Upon the Lodge accepting the charges the Lodge shall be without Jurisdiction to proceed further in the matter. The Secretary of the Lodge shall thereupon transmit to the Grand Secretary for delivery to the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge Trial Committee: **Rev. 2014**

- A. A certified copy of the charges; and
- B. The minutes of the Stated Communication at which the charges were accepted.

Nothing in this Section shall deprive the Lodge, up to the time of submission to Grand Lodge, of its power to withdraw the charges.

Sec. 26.11 B.L. Renumbered 2015

Invoking Grand Lodge Jurisdiction. Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge may be directly invoked by the filing of charges with the Grand Secretary, who shall notify the Grand Master. The Grand Master, upon determining the charges, if proved, against a Brother constitute a Masonic offense, shall order the accused to appear and answer the same before a Grand Lodge Trial Committee. If the Grand Master finds that the charges, if proved, would not constitute a Masonic offense, the Grand Master shall notify the accuser and the accused of his decision. **Rev. 2014**

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CHAPTER 27 – GRAND LODGE TRIAL COMMITTEE

Sec. 27.01 B.L. – Organization of the Grand Lodge Trial Committee Rev. 2014

Sec. 27.02 B.L. – Jurisdiction of Grand Lodge Trial Committee

Sec. 27.03 B.L. – Convening of Grand Lodge Trial Committee Rev. 2018

Sec. 27.04 B.L. – Summons Rev. 2015

Sec. 27.05 B.L. – Service

Sec. 27.06 B.L. – Return of Service

[Rev. 2018]

Part IV – Disciplinary Code

Chapter 27 – GRAND LODGE TRIAL COMMITTEE

Sec. 27.01 B.L.

Organization of the Grand Lodge Trial Committee. The Grand Master, upon receiving the files of a case from the Grand Secretary, shall direct that the case files be forwarded to the Grand Lodge Trial Committee. The Committee shall be composed of members of Lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction. At Trial, no less than five and always an odd number of the members of the Committee shall attend, no committee member in attendance being a member of the Lodge of which the accused is a member.

Rev. 2014

Sec. 27.02 B.L.

Jurisdiction of Grand Lodge Trial Committee. A Grand Lodge Trial Committee shall have the judicial powers of, and be charged with all the duties prescribed by Masonic law for a trial of the charges filed.

Sec. 27.03 B.L.

Convening of Grand Lodge Trial Committee. The Grand Lodge Trial Committee shall select a committee member other than the Chairman to be Secretary, and it shall be his duty to keep a true and complete record of all the depositions, exhibits and all audio and video recordings of all testimony.

The Chairman of the Committee shall designate the time and place of the trial and instruct the Secretary to cite the accused to appear and answer the charges. **Rev. 2018**

Sec. 27.04 B.L.

Summons. The summons served by the Committee Secretary shall include:

- A. A copy of the charges,
- B. The date, time and place assigned for the trial; and
- C. A notice to appear for the accused to answer the charges. **Rev. 2015**

Sec. 27.05 B.L.

Service. Due service of the summons shall be deemed complete when made by either of the following procedures:

A. Personal Service.

1. Delivering a copy of the summons directly to the accused; or
2. Leaving a sealed envelope addressed to the accused, containing a copy of the summons, at the accused's usual place of abode with a person of suitable age and discretion residing therein.

- ##### B. Postal Service.
- Depositing the summons in a postage pre-paid envelope in a U. S. Post Office within the Grand Jurisdiction, addressed to the accused at his last known post office address. Service of the summons by Postal Service shall be deemed complete five business days after deposit in a U. S. Post Office. Mail shall be by certified mail, return receipt requested.

Service of the summons shall be a minimum of twenty calendar days before the trial shall commence.

Rev. 2015

[Rev. 2018]

Sec. 27.06 B.L.

Return of Service. Service of the summons shall be certified in writing by the Secretary of the Grand Lodge Trial Committee. The record shall show how the summons was served and the date on which it was served. **Rev. 2015**

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Part IV – Disciplinary Code

CHAPTER 28 – TRIAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 28.01 B.L. – Appearance of Accused**
- Sec. 28.02 B.L. – Failure of the Accused to Appear**
- Sec. 28.03 B.L. – Plea of the Accused**
- Sec. 28.04 B.L. – Timely Notice of Hearings Rev. 2015**
- Sec. 28.05 B.L. – Testimony to be Recorded Rev. 2018**
- Sec. 28.06 B.L. – Testimony by Honor or by Oath**
- Sec. 28.07 B.L. – Witnesses**
- Sec. 28.08 B.L. – Visitors**
- Sec. 28.09 B.L. – Withdrawal of Accuser and Accused**
- Sec. 28.10 B.L. – Judgment Rev. 2017**
- Sec. 28.11 B.L. – Penalties Rev. 2017**
- Sec. 28.12 B.L. – Effect of Judgment**
- Sec. 28.13 B.L. – Expense of Trial**
- Sec. 28.14 B.L. – New Trial Rev. 2017**
- Sec. 28.15 B.L. – Judgment of Expulsion Rev. 2018**
- Sec. 28.16 B.L. – Procedure After Judgment Rev. 2017**

[Rev. 2018]

Part IV – Disciplinary Code

CHAPTER 28 – TRIAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 28.01 B.L.

Appearance of Accused. The appearance of the accused at proceedings upon charges of un-Masonic conduct shall be in one of the following manners:

- A. By his personal appearance at the time and place fixed for trial of which he shall be notified,
- B. By the authorized appearance for him of any Master Mason in good standing, as counsel, at such time and place; or
- C. By his written communication, or that of his counsel on his behalf, filed with the Secretary of the Grand Lodge Trial Committee. The filing must be at or before the designated time and in it he may state his objections to the charges, plead guilty or not guilty, or set forth any matter in extenuation of the offense charged.

Sec. 28.02 B.L.

Failure of the Accused to Appear. The accused may by his own voluntary absence waive his right to attend.

A trial shall proceed, in the absence of the accused, upon proof of the due service upon him of citation together with a copy of the charges and notice of the time and place of the trial.

Sec. 28.03 B.L.

Plea of the Accused. At the time fixed by the Grand Lodge Trial Committee for the trial, the charges shall be read and the accused or his counsel, if present, shall enter his plea, or answer thereto. Both the charges and plea, or answer, shall be entered upon the records of the proceedings.

If the accused pleads guilty to the charges or any part thereof, a verdict ballot shall not be spread on such charges or part thereof and the Grand Lodge Trial Committee shall determine only the punishment to be imposed.

If the accused pleads innocent to part or all of the charges, the trial must proceed and evidence shall be taken upon all charges to which the plea of not guilty applies.

Sec. 28.04 B.L.

Timely Notice of Hearings. The accuser and the accused shall have twenty calendar days written notice and opportunity to attend in person or by counsel, and examine and cross-examine all witnesses at all hearings including the taking of all depositions under commission. **Rev. 2015**

Sec. 28.05 B.L.

Testimony to be Recorded. An audio and video recording shall be made of all testimony given before a Grand Lodge Trial Committee. **Rev. 2018**

Sec. 28.06 B.L.

Testimony by Honor or by Oath. Testimony given by a Mason shall be given upon his honor as a Mason. Testimony by a non-Mason shall be upon an oath administered by:

- A. A member of the Grand Lodge Trial Committee who is authorized by civil law to administer oaths; or

[Rev. 2018]

B. The Chairman of the Grand Lodge Trial Committee.

Sec. 28.07 B.L.

Witnesses. The Secretary of the Grand Lodge Trial Committee shall, at the request of any of the parties to the charges, issue summons for the attendance of witnesses and he may cause the summons to be served through the Master of the Lodge nearest the residence of each witness.

Commissions shall be issued for the taking of depositions of witnesses who are non-Masons or are unable to attend the trial. A Commission for the taking of a deposition should be issued to a member of the Fraternity, if practicable, or to a discreet person authorized by civil law to administer oaths.

Sec. 28.08 B.L.

Visitors. There shall be no visitors permitted at a Trial. Only the accuser, the accused, their respective counsel and witnesses while testifying, shall be present during Trial.

Sec. 28.09 B.L. Renumbered 2015

Withdrawal of Accuser and Accused. The accuser and the accused with their respective counsel, at the closing of taking testimony and when argument of counsel is concluded, shall withdraw from the Grand Lodge Trial Committee during the determination of verdict and judgment.

Sec. 28.10 B.L. Moved from Chapter 27.07 2015

Judgment. At the close of the testimony and the reading of depositions taken by a commission, and following argument of counsel for the respective parties, the members of the Grand Lodge Trial Committee, designated to conduct the trial, shall decide as to the guilt or innocence of the accused by secret written ballot. Each designated member of the Trial Committee shall vote and indicate either guilty or not guilty as charged.

If the accused is found guilty, the designated members of the Trial Committee shall decide the penalty to be recommended to the Grand Master for his action.

A majority of the members of the Grand Lodge Trial Committee, designated to conduct the trial, shall constitute a quorum necessary for the conduct of the trial. The verdict of the Trial Committee as to the guilt or innocence of the accused and its judgment as to the penalty to be recommended shall require a majority of the members of the Grand Lodge Trial Committee designated to conduct the trial in favor of such verdict and recommendation. **Rev. 2017**

Sec. 28.11 B.L.

Penalties. The penalties that may be imposed for violation of Masonic Law shall be:

- A. Expulsion,
- B. Suspension from all rights and privileges of Masonry which shall be for:
 - 1. A time definite or indefinite; and/or
 - 2. Subject to specified conditions relevant to the violation, or
- C. Reprimand or censure.

All penalties shall become effective upon the earlier of mailing to the last known address of the Brother or personal delivery to the Brother; or such other date as specified in the notice of the disciplinary action. **Rev. 2017**

[Rev. 2017]

Sec. 28.12 B.L. Renumbered 2015

Effect of Judgment. While under judgment of suspension, definite, or indefinite, the offending Brother shall be deprived of all Lodge and Grand Lodge privileges. He shall have no rights except the right of appeal.

Sec. 28.13 B.L. Renumbered 2015

Expense of Trial. The expense incurred in conducting a Masonic Trial shall be paid in the first instance by Grand Lodge, but may be assessed as costs against one or both parties to the controversy, as determined by the Grand Lodge Trial Committee. Such costs shall not be assessed against an acquitted Brother.

Sec. 28.14 B.L. Renumbered 2015

New Trial. A Grand Lodge Trial Committee may set aside its recommendation to the Grand Master and grant a new trial when the accused has been convicted of the charges if:

- A. Within thirty days of the date of mailing of the Grand Master's action to the last known address of both the accused and the accuser, the accused applies for a new trial; or
- B. the Grand Lodge Trial Committee finds an error at the trial prejudicial to the accused or for other good cause. **Rev. 2017**

Sec. 28.15 B.L. Renumbered 2015

Judgment of Expulsion. Any judgment of expulsion, if appealed, shall be referred, along with the audio and video recordings, depositions and exhibits to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals for its report and recommendation to the Grand Lodge, in session, for its final action. **Rev. 2018**

Sec. 28.16 B.L. Moved from Chapter 27.08 2015

Procedure After Judgment. The Grand Lodge Trial Committee, as soon as practicable, shall transmit:

- A. A copy of its judgment, certified by its Chairman and the Secretary, to the Grand Master and Grand Secretary, the Secretary of the Lodge in which the charges originated, the Secretary of the Lodge(s) of which the accused is a member, and all parties to the charges; and **Rev. 2011**
- B. A statement of the right to appeal to all parties of the charges.

Upon receipt of a copy of judgment from a Grand Lodge Trial Committee, the Secretary of a Lodge shall enter the judgment upon the minutes of the Lodge at its next Stated Communication. The Secretary of the Lodge, having entered the judgment upon the records of the Lodge, shall communicate the date of such entry in writing to the Chairman of the Grand Lodge Trial Committee and the Grand Secretary.

Within thirty (30) days after the date of entry of judgment upon the records of the Lodge, the Grand Lodge Trial Committee shall transmit to the Grand Secretary the original record of its proceedings together with all depositions offered and/or received in evidence and the audio and video recordings of all testimony. **Rev. 2017**

[Rev. 2018]

Part IV – Disciplinary Code

CHAPTER 29 – APPEALS

- Sec. 29.01 B.L. – Right of Appeal Rev. 2017**
- Sec. 29.02 B.L. – Jurisdiction**
- Sec. 29.03 B.L. – Referral After an Appeal Rev. 2017**
- Sec. 29.04 B.L. – Hearings**
- Sec. 29.05 B.L. – No New Evidence on Appeal**
- Sec. 29.06 B.L. – Judgment**
- Sec. 29.07 B.L. – Failure to Affirm Original Judgment Rev. 2015**
- Sec. 29.08 B.L. – Final Record**
- Sec. 29.09 B.L. – Status During Appeal**

[Rev. 2017]

Part IV – Disciplinary Code

CHAPTER 29 – APPEALS

Sec. 29.01 B.L.

Right of Appeal. The accused and the accuser may within thirty days after the date of mailing of the Grand Master’s action to the last known address of both the accused and the accuser, appeal to the Grand Lodge by filing a Notice of Appeal of the Grand Master’s action with the Grand Secretary, who shall notify all parties of such appeal.

Within sixty days after the filing of a Notice of Appeal, the appellant shall file a written memorandum with the Grand Secretary stating briefly and informally the reasons for the appeal and the points upon which appellant relies.

If no appeal is filed with the Grand Secretary within thirty days of the mailing of the Grand Master’s action, neither the accused nor the accuser shall have standing for further appeal to Grand Lodge and the Grand Master’s action shall be deemed final. **Rev. 2017**

Sec. 29.02 B.L.

Jurisdiction. Whenever an appeal shall be taken from a judgment of a Grand Lodge Trial Committee, or suspension by the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge may upon investigation:

- A. Dismiss the appeal, approve the findings or affirm the action appealed from,
- B. Modify or change the action or impose a penalty; or
- C. Set aside the action for error or informality and remand the case for further proceedings by a Grand Lodge Trial Committee or the Grand Master.

Sec. 29.03 B.L.

Referral After an Appeal. In case of an appeal of the Grand Lodge Trial Committee’s judgement or of suspension by the Grand Master, all records, including audio and video recordings, of the proceedings shall be referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals who shall report the facts with their recommendation to the Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication for its action.

All recorded testimony shall be transcribed and certified by the Chairman and Secretary of the Grand Lodge Trial Committee. **Rev. 2017**

Sec. 29.04 B.L.

Hearings. Hearings by the Committee on Grievances and Appeals shall be held at such day, time, and location as determined by the Chairman of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals provided that:

- A. The accused, the accuser, and all witnesses at the trial shall each receive written notice of the date, time, and place at least thirty days in advance of the hearing,
- B. The Grand Lodge shall post a notice of the hearing, including the date, time, and place, on its website at least thirty days prior to the hearing,

- C. The place of the hearing shall be either within one-hundred miles of the place the Grand Lodge Trial Committee held its proceedings or, if the hearing is held on the day immediately preceding the opening of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge at the place of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge for the current year; and
- D. No hearing will be scheduled prior to ninety days after service of the notice of appeals.

Sec. 29.05 B.L.

No New Evidence on Appeal. The Committee on Grievances and Appeals shall not receive or consider any evidence other than is in the proceedings filed by the Grand Lodge Trial Committee or that which is contained in the order of suspension by the Grand Master.

Sec. 29.06 B.L.

Judgment. Whenever the Grand Lodge shall affirm, modify or change the judgment appealed from, such action by the Grand Lodge shall be final, and upon receipt of notice thereof the Lodge(s) shall cause the same to be entered into its minutes at its (their) next Stated Communication.

Sec. 29.07 B.L.

Failure to Affirm Original Judgment. When the Grand Lodge, on review of a judgment of expulsion or suspension, reverses or annuls the judgment, or fails to approve a judgment of expulsion, or modifies the same, the accused shall be thereby restored to membership in the Lodge(s) in which he was a member.

When a case is remanded for a new trial, no amendment to the original charges and specifications shall be made without giving the accused twenty calendar days notice thereof. **Rev. 2015**

Sec. 29.08 B.L.

Final Record. The Proceedings of the Annual Communication are the official announcements of Grand Lodge judgments, of which the parties in interest have constructive notice. These Proceedings shall constitute the final record except in case of remanding for a new Grand Lodge Trial Committee.

Sec. 29.09 B.L.

Status During Appeal. In case of appeal from a judgment of suspension or expulsion, the accused shall not be permitted to exercise any Masonic Rights (except the right of appeal from such judgment); provided, that the Grand Master may, in his discretion, permit the exercise of such Masonic Rights by the accused as the Grand Master may determine. Any such permission shall be communicated in writing by the Grand Master to the Secretary of the Lodge(s) in which judgment was entered, and such permission shall be entered into the minutes of such Lodge(s) at the next Stated Communication.

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Part IV – Disciplinary Code

CHAPTER 30 – RESTORATION

- Sec. 30.01 B.L. – Restoration from Definite Suspension**
- Sec. 30.02 B.L. – Restoration from Indefinite Suspension**
- Sec. 30.03 B.L. – Restoration from Expulsion**
- Sec. 30.04 B.L. – Restoration from Expulsion by Grand Lodge**
- Sec. 30.05 B.L. – Referral to Committee**
- Sec. 30.06 B.L. – Interval Between Petitions for Restoration**

[Rev. 2009]

Part IV – Disciplinary Code

CHAPTER 30 – RESTORATION

Sec. 30.01 B.L.

Restoration from Definite Suspension. Definite suspension shall expire by limitation. A Mason who was suspended for a definite period shall become restored to membership in the Lodge or Lodges from which he was suspended at the expiration of the time defined in the judgment of suspension, without vote or other action on the part of the Lodge or Lodges.

- A. A Mason who was suspended subject to a condition(s) shall become restored to membership in the Lodges from which he was suspended upon the Grand Master certifying that the conditions have been satisfied.
- B. A Mason who was suspended for both a period of time and subject to a condition(s) shall become restored to membership in the Lodge(s) from which he was suspended upon the latter of:
 1. The expiration of the time defined in the judgment of suspension, without vote or other action on the part of the Lodges; or
 2. The Grand Master's certification that the condition(s) has been satisfied.

If the Lodges from which he was suspended have, in the meantime, ceased to exist, he may, at the expiration of the period of suspension and/or certification from the Grand Master that the conditions have been met, petition for Fraternal restoration in any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction which may restore him to membership, or to the Grand Lodge, either of which may reinstate him to good standing in the Fraternity.

A Mason under definite suspension and seeking restoration prior to the termination of his suspension shall petition in writing to all Lodges of which he is a member or, if those Lodges have ceased to exist, he may apply for restoration to any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction or to the Grand Lodge. He shall be restored to membership in the Lodges upon favorable votes of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at a Stated Communication of each Lodge, following the giving of notice at the preceding Stated Communications, and approval of the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge by a two-thirds (2/3) favorable vote at the next Annual Communication. If application is made to the Grand Lodge, said application shall be referred to the Grand Secretary at least ten days prior to an Annual Communication. The Brother shall be restored to the status of a Non-Affiliated Mason, upon a favorable vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at the Annual Communication.

Sec. 30.02 B.L.

Restoration from Indefinite Suspension. A Mason, whose suspension was for an indefinite time and who seeks restoration, shall petition in writing to all the Lodges of which he was a member at the time of his suspension. He shall be restored to membership in the Lodges upon favorable votes of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at a Stated Communication of each Lodge, following the giving of due notice in each Lodge at the Lodge's preceding Stated Communication. He must receive approval for restoration in each Lodge and if any Lodge of which he was a member at the time of his suspension fails to vote for restoration by a two-thirds (2/3) majority, he may not be restored in any of his former Lodges. His restoration is not complete until it receives the approval of the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge by a two-thirds (2/3) favorable vote at the next Annual Communication.

[Rev. 2009]

If the Lodges from which the Brother was suspended have ceased to exist, the petition for restoration may be made to any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, which may restore him to its membership, or to the Grand Lodge, which may restore him to a status of a Non-Affiliated Mason, by a two-thirds (2/3) favorable vote.

Sec. 30.03 B.L.

Restoration from Expulsion. A Mason expelled, who seeks restoration to the rights of Masonry without Lodge membership, shall petition the Lodge from which he was expelled, and to all other Lodges of which he is a member, for restoration. Upon notice of his petition having been given at a Stated Communication, each Lodge, at a Stated Communication, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present, and approval of the Grand Master, or the Grand Lodge by two-thirds (2/3) favorable vote at the next Annual Communication, may restore him to such rights. A Brother so restored shall be entitled to a certificate of that fact from the Secretary that shall serve in lieu of a regular dimit in case of a petition for membership.

In case the Lodges shall become extinct, the petition may be made directly to the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 30.04 B.L.

Restoration from Expulsion by Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge may consider a direct petition for restoration of an expelled Mason without any petition to the Lodges which expelled him. The Grand Lodge, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, may restore the Brother to good standing as a Non-Affiliate but not to membership in the Lodges. A Brother so restored shall be entitled to a certificate of that fact from the Grand Secretary, which shall serve in lieu of a regular dimit.

Sec. 30.05 B.L.

Referral to Committee. All petitions for restoration coming before the Grand Lodge shall be referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals for its report and recommendation to the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 30.06 B.L.

Interval Between Petitions for Restoration. After petitions asking a Brother's Lodges for restoration have once been read in the Lodges, any other such petition(s) cannot be accepted by the Lodges from the same party until expiration of one year from the date of such reading, regardless of whether the petitions were rejected or withdrawn.

[Rev. 2009]

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GLOSSARY

Due Notice: Information that must be given or made available to members of the Lodge within a mandated period of time so that Masons will have the opportunity to respond to a situation or to allegations that affect the Mason or the Lodge. If the time is not specified in the Washington Masonic Code a minimum of twenty (20) business days will constitute Due Notice.

Special Communication: Also referred to as Special Meeting, is called for a specific purpose, which may include a Masonic Funeral, the Installation of Officers or the completion of Degree Work. The only Special Meeting that can be held on a Sunday is for a Masonic Funeral. No business is transacted at a Special Communication/Meeting.

Stated Communication: Also referred to as a Stated Meeting, is the meeting of the Lodge occurring on the dates specified in the Lodge By-Laws. Lodge business may only be conducted at a Stated Meeting.

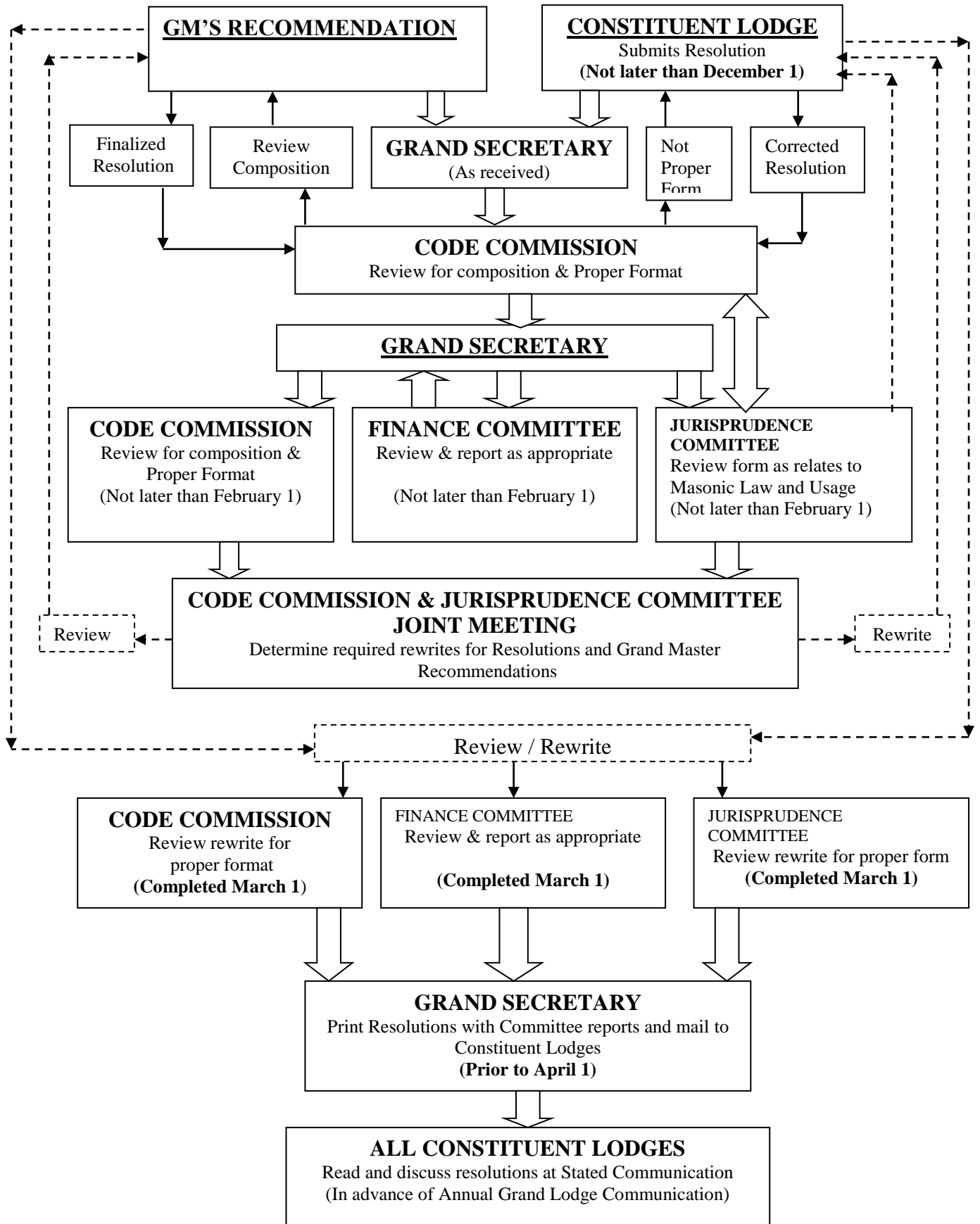
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**APPENDIX A
CROSS REFERENCE**

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APPENDIX B
FLOW CHART FOR RESOLUTION & GM RECOMMENDATION

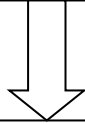


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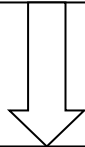
APPENDIX C

Flow Chart-Legislation Passed

Grand Secretary
Submit Legislation
Passed at
Grand Lodge to
Code Commission
(Not later than August 1)



Code Commission
Review Composition of
Legislation passed at Grand
Lodge for placement into
Code and Proceedings
(Not later than September 1)



Grand Secretary
Print Legislation
mail to Constituent Lodges,
place in Code and Proceedings

Outline of a Proper Format of a Proposed Resolution shall be as follows:

Resolution [year] -- ____

To Amend Sec. _____ and _____

Statement of Purpose: Describe what this Resolution will provide or accomplish.

Resolution: Give statement as to the existing law, the problem or your concern and how this resolution would enhance and or make it more desirable with the proposed change.

Whereas: give example justification for the proposed Resolution, and (Should be fact, not opinion)

Whereas: give example justification for the proposed Resolution, and (Should be fact, not opinion)

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved, that (give Section __#__, Subsection _#_.) be amended to read as follows:

[Instruction: ensure all sections to be amended in the code are covered in Resolution.]

~~(All wording to be changed shall be in Brackets and lined through.)~~

All wording to be inserted or added shall be underlined.

[Example:]

Sec. 15.04 B.L.

Holding Two Offices.

1. No Brother shall hold two offices in a Lodge at the same time except that (in) a Lodge may at its discretion elect one Brother to ~~(of less than 100 members)~~ the combined offices of Secretary and Treasurer. ~~(may be held by one Brother.)~~

2. (No Change)

Respectfully Submitted,

_____ **Lodge No.** _____

_____, **Worshipful Master**

_____, **Secretary**

_____, **Author***

_____, **Phone Number**

_____ **Code Commission**

* Note: The name and phone number of the author of the Resolution, if not the Worshipful Master, is needed by the Code Commission to resolve any questions concerning intent and Code accuracy. The name will not be published in the Grand Lodge Resolution Booklet.

APPENDIX D

OLD CHARGES AND REGULATIONS

WITH NOTES BY
WILLIAM HENRY UPTON, P.G.M.

I. THE MANUSCRIPT OLD CHARGES From the Thomas W. Tew MS, circa 1680^{1*}

THE CHARGES

Every Man that is a Mason take heed right well & wisely to this Charge, if that you find Your Self Guilty of any of these that You Amend them if you be Against God & Principality's for they that he Charged must take heed that may keep these Charges: for it is Great Peril to foreswear Himself upon the book.²

1stly The first charge is that you shall be true men to God and to the holy Church, that you use no heresie or Error to Your understanding or discreet Men Teaching³

2dly You shall be true Liegeman to the King without treason or Falsehood & you shall know no treason or falsehood but you shall Amend it or Warn the King or his Councill or his Officers' thereof

¹ From an unknown date prior to the 15th century to an unknown date in the 18th, when a man was made a brother of our Fraternity, a long legendary history of Masonry was read to him from a manuscript called the Book of Constitutions (Latin *constituito*, a founding originating), after which one of the elders held the Bible, and the candidate placed his hand upon it and received "his charge." This charge, though probably originally a distinct document, and older than the legendary history, was, during the period mentioned, annexed to the narrative and read from the same book, Of the MSS, used on these occasions, which are our most important source of knowledge in regard to the laws and usages of our ancient brethren, nearly seventy are now known to be in existence, and we possess printed copies of a few others which have been lost. Of the former, one (exclusive of Regius or Halliwell poem) was copied from an earlier MS, early in the 15th century, one late in the 16th (1583), thirty-nine in the 17th, twenty-one in the 18th, and a few in the 19th century. They differ among themselves in many important as well as unimportant particulars; and a full account of each MS will be found in the 1895 edition of HUGHAN'S "Old Charges." For the sake of convenience they have been named, and classified into families and branches. The version of the Charges given in the "Tew MS." Has been selected for printing in this Code for several reasons: It is one not particularly accessible to American students: it bears a very close resemblance to one used by DR. ANDERSON in preparing the version printed in Appendix C; it fairly presents the law as it existed just prior to the Grand Lodge era; and it is considered by Brothers HUGHAN and BEGEMANN (then whom none stand higher in this branch of study) one of the most important of all versions. The former says ("Old Charges" 2d ed., 105):

"Unquestionably, the Roll is one of the valuable of the versions, other than the 'Regius,' 'Cooke' and the 'Plot Family of MSS, it being closely related to the last mentioned and a connecting line between the 'William Watson' and the later Families."

Dr. BEGEMANN (in the "Zirkel-Correspondenz," as translated by Bro. G.W. SPETH in "Art Quatuor Coronatorum," ix, 20) says:

"First of all the author of the Cooke MS. Compiled with the help of 'Old Bookys of the Charges' and the current histories of his time, about 1410, a History of Masonry: this was revised and expanded about 1480 into a version which served as a model for the William Watson MS.: about 1520 or 1530 this was again revised and condensed into a version of which the Tew MS. May be considered an example: this was further revised and portions omitted to give us the version to which the Atcheson-Haven, Buchanan and Beaumont MSS. Belong: then came a last revision which produced the parent form of the majority of the manuscripts known to us, and which belong partly to the Sloane and partly to the Grand Lodge Families: from the first sprang later the Roterts family, and from the second the youngest group of all, the Spencer family."

With the remark that these revisions affected the historical narrative more than the Charges proper, we will add that the Tew MS. Is a scroll, composed of three strips of parchment, over six inches in breadth and six and one-half feet in length, contains 280 lines of writing and was copied about the year 1680 by a scribe who appears to have taken considerable pains with his work. It does not contain the "new Articles" or the "Apprentice Charge;" and the "Charges Singuler" after the "121y" are not numbered.

"—yt he amend himself towards God & principally you yt. be charged take good heed," etc. — *Hugban MS.*, circa 1680.

² # This whole introduction is wanting in many MSS., and it was probably originally not in writing. Yet, for the picture it gives of the old manner of working, a longer version may be worth printing, viz:

"It as likewise ordained yt when any mason should be made yt the saide book should be read to him, & his Charge given him, which he was to keep inviolably with an oath then to be administered to him.

"These Charges which we now rehearse to you & all other ye secrets & misterys belonging to free masons you shall faithfully & truly keep, together with ye Councill of ye Assembly or lodge, or any other lodge, or brother, or fellow. You shall not for any gift, or bribe, or reward, favour, or affection, directly or indirectly, for any Cause whatsoever, devolve ye same to father or mother, brother or sister, son or daughter, wife, kindred, or relation, or any other person whatsoever, so help me God, ye hold lord & the sentence of this book. •

Then after ye oath taken & thje book kissed, ye following precepts & charges, which he or they are to keep, are to be read." — Dumfries Kilwinning MS. No. 3, circa 1690.

³ We know of no version of this last clause that is smooth English; but the idea is evident: that they are not to rely upon their own understanding of religious matters, but are to be governed by the teachings of wise and discreet men — a favorite doctrine of the medieval Church.

3dly And also You shall be true Each one to Other, that is to say to Every Master and ffellow of the Craft of Masonry that be Masons Allowed,⁴ And doe you to them as you would they should do to you.

4ly Also that Every Mason keep Councill both of Lodge & Chamber, and of the Craft and all other councells that ought to be kept by way of Masonry.

5thly Also that no Mason shall be a thief of Accessory to the thief as far forth as You doe know.

6ly Also that you be true men to the Lords & Mastrs that You serve and truly look so to his Profitt and Advantage.

7thly And also you shall Call Masons your Brethren or ffellows and by no other Foule names nor take your ffellow's wife Unlawfully or Desire his Daughter Unlawfully or his Servt in Villany.

8thly And also that you pay truly for your table & for your Meat & Drink where you are Tabled.

9thly Also you shall Play no Villany in the House where you are board whereby the Craft may be slandered.

These be the Generall charges that Every Mason should hold both Mastrs and Fellows.⁵

And these be the Charges Singuler for Master's and Fellows.

1st That no Master shall take⁶

With the know himself Able in Cunning to Perform it, So that the Craft have no Slandr or disworship but that the Lord⁷ may be well & truly served.

2ly Also that no Master take any work but that he take it reasonably so that the Lord may be truly served with his owne Good and that the Master may Live Honestly and Pay his ffellows truly as the Mannrs of the Craft Asketh.

3dly Also that no man that is a Master Mason or ffellow shall Supplant any other Man of his work (that is to say) if he have taken a Work of a Lord or Master that you put him not out Unless he be not able in Cunning to Finish the Work.

4ly Also that no Master or ffellow take any Apprentice to be Allowed his Apprentice any longer than Seven Years⁸ & that Apprentice to be of Able birth & kindred as he ought to be.⁹

⁴ "Mason Allowed" was a technical expression equivalent to our "Free and Accepted Mason," distinguishing members of the Fraternity from mere stone-masons.

⁵ There is much variety in the form of this sentence in the various versions. There has been much conjecture, but no certainty, as to the reason or theiry of the division of the Charges into two parts. One is, that one set of charges was for Masters of the Work only, and the other for both Masters and Fellows. A more probably one is that there was a theory that the "General Charges" had been prescribed – or, more probably, examined and approved – by the civil authority; while the "Charges Singuler" were made "at divers congregations by the good advice of Masters and Fellows," under the favorite Masonic claim of the right of self-government. See *Ars O.C.*, vii, 127, note 4, 131.

⁶ "that noe Master or ffellow take," etc. – William Watson MS., 1687.

⁷ "Lord" means employer – the person for whom the work is done.

⁸ The Tew MS. is one of the very few versions which exactly reverse the real rule, which was that the apprenticeship must not be for *less* than seven years, as will appear in the next note.

⁹ As in charges "4ly" and "5thly" our ancient brethren see down their idea of the Masonic law of physical qualification; and as modern writers are not agreed as to what that law is, the Code Commission has endeavored to ascertain what the original form of these two charges, by a very careful examination of all the versions of the MS. Charges with his reach – 63 in number, including all the more important versions and all the versions except those known to scholars as C 3, D 10, D 23, D 26, D 28, D 35, D 39, E 12, E 14, F 4, G 3, H 3 and H 4, some of which are of little value and others are copies of versions included in the examination. From this examination he is satisfied that the 4th charge originally read – spelling modernized – substantially as follows – the punctuation being important:

"That no Master nor Fellow take no Apprentice but for seven years; and ye Apprentice to be able, of birth freeborn, and of limbs whole as a man ought to be."

Also, that through the errors of copyists, three classes of changes crept into some versions: First – not chronologically – the words "to be learned" were inserted after the word "Apprentice" where it first occurs; as in the Cooke MS., circa 1430. These words were then corrupted (*a*) without changing their meaning, as in the Regius MS., circa 1390; and (*b*) with change of meaning, as into the words "to be allowed" in the Tew MS. Second, the idea of the words "but for seven years" (Sm. Watson MS., 1687) was more clearly expressed in some versions; as by, "for lasse terme than VII yer at the lest," in the Cooke MS.; and was lost in a very few others, as in the Buchanan (circa 1670) and the Tew. Third, the last clause was read as if punctuated thus: "And ye Apprentice to be able of birth, freeborn, and of limbs whole," etc.; and the scribe wrote "able of birth, viz.: freeborn" and other expressions, in trying to make sense of the passage, notwithstanding the error due to erroneous punctuation. "Able" probably meant the same as "able in Cunning" in charge 3. See second note under Charge 5.

5thly Also that no Master of ffellow take no Allowance to make Masons¹⁰ Without of six or five at the least of ffellows to give their Assent And that they that shall be Masons be free born & of Good kindred and not a Bondman and have his right Limbs as he should have.¹¹

6ly Also that no Masters of Fellows put no Lords Work to task that was Wont to go in Journey

7ly And also that no Mastr shall give to his ffellows above what they may Deserve so that the Lord of the Work be not Deceived by false Workmen.

8ly And also that no man slandr Another behind his back whereby he may lose his Good Name & his Worldly Goods

9ly That no ffellow within the Lodge or Without the Lodge do Minister Evill Answr to Another

10ly And also that Every one should Reverence his ffellow Eldr¹² and Putt him to Worship.

11ly And also that noe Mason should Play at Cards or Dice or any other Unlawful gains¹³ of Hazard Whereby the Craft should be Slandered.

12ly Also that no Mason shall be a Common ribald in Leachery to make the Craft Slandered. And that no ffellow shall go into the towne in the Night there as is a Lodge of ffellows without some ffellow that may bear him Witness that he was in an Honest place.

[13] And also that Every Master should come to the Assembly if it be within Seven Miles about him, gif he have warning & to stand there at Award of Masters & ffellows.¹⁴

[14] And that Every Master if they have trespassed shall stand at Award of Masters & ffellows to make them Accord if they may, and if they may not Accord then to go to the Common Laws.¹⁵

[15] And also that noe Mason make Moulde nor Square nor other Rule to lend within the Lodge nor Without, how to Mould Stones Without or Mould of his owne making.¹⁶

[16] And also that Every Mason shall Receive & Cherish Strange Masons when they come to their owne Country¹⁷ & Sett them to Work as the Mannr is (that is to say) if they have Mould or Stones in place

¹⁰ We have met with no modern explanation of this curious expression, which – with the whole of Charge 5 – is missing in the Cooke MS. and some other versions. The law, whatever it was, was understood in at least four different ways by the scribe, viz.: As forbidding one to take permission [from whom?] (*a.*) to *make* Masons (Tew MS.); (*b.*) *to be made* a Mason (Watson MS.); and (*c.*) *to be made* a *Master* (Waistell MS., 1693); (*d.*) the Haddon MS. reads,

“And also that no Master, nor no Fellow take nor allow any to be made Masons without.” etc. merely an attempt to “make crooked things straight.” The recently discovered McNab MS. (dated 1722) has,

“You shall not take upon you to make aney one Mason without ye privity & consent of 5 or 6 of your fellowes.”

The Haddon M.S. instead of the consent of fiver or six – or six or seven – Fellows, demands the consent of Fellows “that hath served Six or Seven years at the least.” A few other versions practically agree with this.

¹¹ By the comparison of versions mentioned in the second note on charge “4ly” above, we reach these conclusions:

First, that his charge is probably later than some others. Second, that the original form of the latter, part of it was approximately as follows:

“And that he that shall be made Mason be able, of degree freeborn and no bondsman, and that he have his right limbs as a man ought to have.”

After this came to be read as though punctuated, “able of degree, freeborn,” etc., a variety of forms – “able in all manner of degrees” (Phillipps No. 1, circa 1680), “abell in all mainer of dewties” (Aberdeen MS., 1670), “able over all Sciences” (Alnwick MS., 1701), etc., - usually followed by the words (that is to day, freeborn,” etc., were developed to account for or explain the expression “able of degree.”

¹² “His elder,” or “his elder fellow,” in most versions.

¹³ “Games.” There is considerably variety in the different versions of this charge. Some say, “except at Christmas.”

¹⁴ There are many variations of this charge. Seven Mss. say five miles; three say seven; four, ten; one says thirty; two say forty; and most of the others say fifty. Bro. HUGHAN considers the latter the true length of the cabletow, but we think the rule differed in districts of different size. Most versions say “Every Master and Fellow” should come. “Gif (if) he has warning” is probably a gloss. “To stand there at Award” means, “to submit to the award,” and is probably out of place in this charge, having crept in from the 14th. The Assembly was the annual meeting of all the Masters and Fellows of the Neighborhood or district. It seems to have become obsolete in England before the Grand Lodge era.

¹⁵ As to “Master” see preceding note. Something has apparently dropped out of this charge; but the idea was, that if controversy had arisen, or if one had trespassed against the Craft, the brethren were to try to settle the matter at the Assembly; but if they failed, the manner was to be left to be settled by the laws of the land. See charge 20.

¹⁶ The wretched success which the transcribers of nearly every version of the MS. Charges had in attempting to copy his charge would alone demonstrate that they were speculative Masons who did not know the meaning of the technical terms of the stone-masons’ trade which they transcribed. Perhaps the Carson MS>, 1677, states the rule as accurately as any:

“Also that no Master nor fellow, make Nor Rule nor Square, nor Mould to no Llayer, nor to sett no Llayer on worke, within the Lodge or without to any Moulded Stones.”

The word “Llayer” – seen in the term “brick-layer” – referred to a workman who had not learned the trade and been admitted free of the craft – a profane. “Cowan” is sometimes used in the same connection.

¹⁷ Nearly every version has “when they come over the country,” or equivalent words.

Every Grand Lodge regulation which refuses recognition to unaffiliated Masons, or brothers of “unrecognized” jurisdictions, or Masons made according to the law of the place of their making but contrary to the regulations of the place they visit, is a direct violation of this very ancient charge.

he shall sett him a Fortnights Work at the least and give him his Pay & if he have no Stones, you shall Refresh him with money¹⁸ to the next Lodge.

[17] And also that every Mason shall serve truly his Lord for his pay & truly finish his work be it task or Journey work if he may have his pay as he Ought to have.

[18] And also that every Mason shall work truly upon the workday that he may truly Deserve his pay & receive it so that he may live honestly on the holyday.

[19] And also that you and Every Mason shall receive weekly and Godly pay of your Paymaster & that you shall have due time of travelling in the work & of rest as is Ordained by the Masts Councill.¹⁹

[20] And also that if any ffellows shall be at Discord you shall truly treat them to be Agreed shewing Favour to neither Party but Wisely & truly for both Parties and that it be in such a time that the Lords work be not hindered.²⁰

[21] And also that if you stand Warder²¹ or have any Power under the Mastr whom you serve You shall be true to the Mastr whom you serve & be a true Mediatr betwixt the Mr. and your ffellows to the Uttermost of your Power whilst you be in Care.

[22] Also if you stand Steward either of the Lord's Chamber or Common house you shall Give true Accts of your ffellows how it is at what time they have Accots.²²

[23] And also if you have more Cunning than your Fellows that stand by you & see him in Danger to levell²³ his Stones and he Asketh Councill of you, you shall inform him and teach him honestly so that your Lord's Work be not Damaged.²⁴

THESE Charges that we have Reckoned,²⁵ And all other that Doe belong to Masonry you shall keep SO HELP YOU GOD Above & by this book to your Power.²⁶

¹⁸ Every version of this charge which we have seen, except one – in a MS. of no authority – is very particular to state that the refreshment must be “with money.”

¹⁹ “Weekly” is an effor for “meekly.” Travelling” – travailing – of course means laboring. Few versions mention a “Paymaster” or “Master’s Councill.” The words “Masts Councill” are printed “Mastr Councill” in HUGHAN’S “Old charges,” but by a typographical error, as Bro. HUGHAN authorizes me to say. The expression doubtless means “order of the Master.” The Cooke MS. reads:

“when he schalle take his pay that he take hit mekely as the tyme ys ordeynyd by the master to be done and that he fulylle the accepicious of trauayle and of his rest y ordeyned and sett by the maister.”

²⁰ The Cooke MS. indicates more clearly that if “discorde” arose the parties were to “be styll” at the bidding of the Master until the “holy day folowyng,” when they were bound to “acorde” “at the dispocion of his felaus;” and that such Lodges of Conciliation were to be held on Sundays or other holidays, not on work days.

²¹ “Warden.” – *Wm. Watson MS.*, 1687.

²² “Alsoe if ye Stand Stewarde either of Lodge Chamber or of common house needs, ye Shall giue true account of ye ffellowes good how yt is dispensed, at what time they will take account.” – *Wm. Watson MS.*

The last clause means “when they wish an accounting.” “Fellowes good” means “fellows’ goods.” “Lodge (or Lord’s) Chamber or of common house” should doubtless read, “Lodge, chamber or common house.” The term “Steward” occurs in few versions.

²³ “lese.” – *Cooke MS.*; “Spoile.” – *Wm. Watson MS.*

²⁴ The Cooke MS. adds another reason: “that the more loue may encrease amonge hem.”

²⁵ “Rehearsd.” – *Hughan MS.*

²⁶ There is considerable variety, among the versions, in this concluding clause. The Cooke MS. ends abruptly, - “AMEN SO MOTE HIT BE.”

The Buchanan MS., circa 1680, has:

“These Charges that you haue Received you shall well and truly keepe, not disclosing the Secresy of our Lodge to man, woman, nor child: Sticke nor stone; thing moueable nor immoueable, soe god you helpe and hiss holy Doome, Amen. *ffinis.*”

II. THE NEW ARTICLES²⁷

From GRAND LODGE MS, No. 2, *circa* 1650

27. Noe pson of what degree Soever be accepted a Ffree Mason vnlesse he shall have a Lodge of five free Masons att ye least, whereof one to be Master or Warden of that Limitt, or division, wherein Such Lodge shall be kept and another of the Trade of ffreemasonry.²⁸

28. that noe p'son shall be accepted a ffree Mason but Such as are of able body, honest parentage, good Reputacon, & observers of ye Lawes of the Land.

29. That noe pson hereafter which shall be accepted ffree Mason, shall be admitted into any Lodge or assembly, vntill he have brought a Certificate of ye tyme of his acception from ye Lodge yt accepted him vnto ye Master of Yt Limitt and Division, where such Lodge was kept, which said master shall Inroll ye same in pchment, in a Roll to be kept for yt purpose, and give accompt of all Such accepttions att every general assembly.

30. That every pson who is now a ffree Mason shall bringe to ye Master a note of ye tyme of his acception, to ye end ye Same may be Inrolled in such priority of place as ye pson deservs, and to the end ye whole company and fellows may the better know each other.

31. That for ye future ye Said Society, Company and ffraternity of ffree masons shall be regulated and governed by one Master²⁹ and assembly and Wardens as the said Company shall think fitt to chuse att every yearly general assembly.³⁰

32. that noe pson shall be accepted a free mason except he be one and twenty yeares old or more.

33. That noe pson hereafter be accepted a ffree mason or know ye Secretts of ye Said Society vntill he shall first have taken ye oath of Secresie hereafter followeing.

These Articles and Charges wch I have rehearsed to yw yow shall well and truly observe & keep to yor power. Soe help yw God, & the hold Contents of this booke.³¹

III. "THE APPRENTICES CHARGE"

From the WAISTELL MS., 1693

²⁷ In 1722, when it was known that DR. ANDERSON was about to issue his Book of Constitutions (see first foot-note in appendix C), an enterprising publisher issued a book entitled –

"The Old constitutions Belonging to the Ancient and Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons. Taken from an Manuscript wrote about Five Hundred Years since. London: Printed and Sold by J. Roberts, in Warwick Lane. MDCCXXII."

This book contains the "Apprentice charges," and the "New Articles" – therein styled "Additional Orders" – which were unknown to the early MS. and were probably drawn up *early* in the 17th century. Speaking of ROBERTS' book, Bro. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN says:

"The 'Additional Orders and Constitutions' are declared to have been 'made and agreed upon at a General Assembly held at *** on the Eighth Day of December, 1663' but evidently this guess was not explicit enough for Dr. Anderson, as he states in 'Constitutions' 1738, that the Earl of St. Albans 'held a General Assembly and Feast on St. John's Day, 27th Dec., 1663' (page101), when these regulations were made. One romance is as good or worthless as the other; and like the claim of Roberts, that the MS. he copied from was then about 500 years old, is only quoted now to show how Masonic 'History' was written at that period." – Old Charges (Ed., 1895), 122.

"The 'additional' or 'new' articles appear to have been agreed to by some Company or body of Freemasons, having jurisdiction in one form or other over a number of Lodges, about which at the present time we are absolutely without information, and which seems to have been in part of a speculative character. *** Dr. Anderson does not refer to these 'Articles' in 1723, but in the second edition of 1738 he gives them, in his own way, as the Regulations made on St. John's Day, 27th Dec., 1663. I think that the *Roberts'* text was selected (and altered) by him accordingly." – Id., 124.

The MS. from which we quote in the text is considered the oldest in which these Articles are found. We have retained the numbers which the articles bear in that MS. The reader will see from Bro. HUGHAN's observations that these Articles, unlike most of the Charges proper, were not general laws for the government of the whole Fraternity, but were local regulations.

²⁸ ANDERSON, in his version, altered the words "unless he shall have a Lodge of five free Masons att ye least," "unless in a regular Lodge."

²⁹ ANDERSON changed this to "One Grand Master."

³⁰ Bro. E. CONDER, JR., has pointed out (*Hole Crafte and Fellowship of Masons*, 11; and *Ars. Q.C.*, ix. 39) the remarkable similarity of this article to a rule of the Masonic Company of London, that the Company is to be ruled by Master, Wardens and Assistants, but we think he has not shown that the rule of the Company of which he is Master is older than Grand Lodge MS. No. 2

³¹ The oath is given in Harleian MS. No. 1942, *circa* 1650, as follows:

"I: A: B: Doe in the presence of Almighty god & my fellows & Brethren here present, promise and declare, that I will not at any time, hereafter, by any Act or Circumstance whatsoever, Directly or Indirectly, publish, discover, reveale, or make knowne any of the secrets, priviledges, or Counsellis of the ffraternity or fellowship of free masonry, which at this time, or any time hereafter, shall bee made known vnto me, soe helpe mee god & the holy contents of this booke."

Imprms That he shall be true to God and his Holy church & the King and his mr whom he shall truly serve.

2dly That he shall not pick away his Mr. and Mrs. goods nor absent himself from their Srvice not goe from ym about his own pleasure by day or by night without licence.

3dly He shall keep Counsell in all things spoken in Lodge or chamber by any Mastr fellow or free Mason he shall not keep any disobedient argumt against any; nor disclose any secrett whereby any Difference shall arise amongst masons or fell; or apprntices but reverently to behave himself to all free masons being sworn brethren to his sd Mr.

4thly That he doe not comit Adultery nor fornication in his Mrs house wh his Mrs. Daughter or Srvant.³²

5thly Hee shall not use any Carding or diceing or other unlawful games³³ nor haunt any Tavrns or Ailehouses there wasting his mastrs goods without License.

6thly Hee shall not Comit adultery in any mans house where he shall have worked or be Table.

7thly He shall not purloin nor stal the Goods of any prson or Consent thereto; nor willingly suffer harm or shame During his sd apprentishipp but to withstand the same to ye utmost of his power & Thereof to inform his sd maistr or some other free Mason with all possible & convenient speed.³⁴

³² "With his wife, daughter, or mayd." – *Harleian MS.*, No. 1942.

³³ ("Christmas Excepted)." – *Harleian MS.*, No. 1942.

³⁴ "You shall not marry or contract yourselfe to any woeman during youre Apprenticeship." – *Harleian MS.*, No. 1942.

APPENDIX E

THE CHARGES OF A FREE MASON

Extracted from the ancient RECORDS of LODGES beyond Sea, and of those in ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, and IRELAND, for the Use of the Lodges in London: To be read at the making of NEW BRETHREN, or when the Master shall order it.³⁵

THE GENERAL HEADS, VIZ

- I. OF GOD and RELIGION.
- II. Of the CIVIL MAGISTRATE E supreme and subordinate.
- III. Of LODGES.
- IV. Of MASTERS, WARDENS, FELLOWS, and APPRENTICES.
- V. Of the Management of the CRAFT in working.
- VI. Of BEHAVIOUR, viz:
 1. In the Lodge while CONSTITUTED.
 2. After the Lodge is over and the BRETHREN not gone.
 3. When Brethren meet without STRANGERS, but not in a LODGE.
 4. In presence of STRANGERS NOT MASONS.
 5. At HOME and in the NEIGHBOURHOOD.
 6. Towards a STRANGE BROTHER.

³⁵ We owe this famous version of the Old Charges to the fact that His Grace The DUKE OF MONTAGU, Grand Master 1721-2, found fault with the manuscript versions of the Constitutions (*i.e.*, *Legendary History of the Fraternity*) previously in use, and ordered REV. JAMES ANDERSON “to peruse, correct, and digest, into a new and metter method, the HISTORY, CHARGES and REGULATIONS of the ANCIENT FRATERNITY.” The progress of the revision is shown by the following extracts from the second (1738) edition of ANDERSON’S book?

29 Sep. 1721. – “His Grace’s *Worship* and the *Lodge* (Grand Lodge) finding Fault with all the copies of the *old Gothic Constitutions*, order’d Brother *James Anderson*, A. M. to digest the same in a new and better Method.”

27 Dec. 1721. – “MONTAGUE *Grand Master*, at the Desire of the *Lodge*, appointed 14 learned Brothers to examine Brother *Anderson*’s Manuscript, and to make Report.”

25 March 1722. – “The said *Committee* of 14 reported that they had perused Brother *Anderson*’s *Manuscript*, viz., the *History, Charges, Regulations and Master’s Song*, and after some Amendments had approv’d of it; Upon which the *Lodge* desir’d the *Grand Master* to order it to be printed.”

17 January 1722-3. – “G. Warden *Anderson* produced the *new Book of Constitutions* now in Print, which was again approv’d, with the Addition of the antient Manner of Constituting a Lodge.”

From the samples printed in Appendix B, the justness will, in part, be seen of the criticism contained in the “Approbation” mentioned below, that the manuscript versions had been –

“much interpolated, mangled, and miserably corrupted, not only with false Spelling, but even with many false Facts and gross Errors in HISTORY and CHRONOLOGY, through Length of Time, and the Ignorance of TRANSCRIBERS, in the dark illiterate Ages, before the revival of GEOMETRY and ancient ARCHITECTURE, to the great Offence of all the learned and judicious BRETHREN, whereby also the IGNORANT have been deceiv’d.”

In the historical part of his work, ANDERSON rather added to than diminished the number of “false Facts and gross Errors.” How much, if any, better he succeeded in digesting the Charges – how closely he adhered to his originals and to what extent he made alterations, and incorporated ideas of his own, - the reader can judge by comparing the Charges here printed with those given in Appendix B.

Sometime between 24 June 1722 and 17 Jan. 1722-3, an “Approbation” of Bro. ANDERSON’S work was signed by the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Wardens, and by the Masters and Wardens of twenty “particular Lodges,” and the work was then issued, bearing date 1723.

I. Concerning GOD and RELIGION³⁶

A Mason is oblig'd, by his Tenure, to obey the moral Law; and if he rightly understands the Art, he will never be a stupid ATHEIST, nor an irreligious LIBERTINE. But though in ancient Times Masons were charg'd in every Country to be of the Religion of that Country or Nation, whatsoever it was, yet 'tis now thought more expedient only to oblige themselves to that Religion in which all Men agree, leaving their particular Opinions to themselves; that is, to be GOOD MEN AND TRUE or Men of Honour and Honesty, by whatever Denominations or Persuasions they may be distinguish'd; whereby Masonry becomes the CENTER of UNION, and the Means of conciliating true Friendship among Persons that must else have remain'd at a perpetual Distance.³⁷

II. Of the Civil Magistrate Supreme and Subordinate

A Mason is a peaceable Subject to the Civil Powers, wherever he resides or works, and is never to be concern'd in Plots and Conspiracies against the Peace and Welfare of the Nation, nor to behave himself undutiful to inferior Magistrates; for as Masonry hath been always injured by War, Bloodshed, and Confusion, so ancient Kings and Princes have been much dispos'd to encourage the craftsmen, because of their Peaceableness and LOYALTY, whereby they practically answer'd the Cavils of their Adversaries, and promoted the Honour of the Fraternity, who ever flourish'd in times of Peace. So that if a Brother should be a Rebel against the State, he is not be countenanc'd in his Rebellion, however he may be pitied as an unhappy Man, and if convicted of no other Crime, though the loyal Brotherhood must and out to disown his Rebellion, and give no Umbrage or Ground of political Jealousy to the Government for the time being; they cannot expel him from the Lodge and his Relation to it remains indefeasible.

III. OF LODGES

A LODGE is a Place where MASONS assemble and work; Hence that Assembly, or duly organiz'd Society of Masons, is call'd a Lodge, and every Brother ought to belong to one, and to be subject to its BY-LAWS and the GENERAL REGULATIONS.³⁸ It is either PARTICULAR or GENERAL, and will be best understood by attending it, and by the Regulations of the GENERAL or GRAND

Owing to its cheapness, legibility and convenient form, as well as to the sanction given it by Grand Lodge, this version quite generally – though not universally – superseded the manuscript versions in English Lodges; and it served as a shibboleth and palladium to the brethren on the Continent who upheld the cause of pure ancient Masonry against the fanciful systems which over-ran Europe in the latter half of the eighteenth century. It is equally valuable in combatting in America numerous errors which gained a footing during a century in which nearly all the history of Masonry was a sealed book even to our most earnest students. Indeed the greatness of our debt to ANDERSON'S version has created a school of writers, which is even yet exceedingly influential, which would make this version the touch-stone even where it differs from the originals which it professed to digest – in other words, who place the authority of the printed Charges of 1723 above that of the MS. Old Charges them selves. But, it seems to us, to state this claim is to show its untenableness.

In his second (1738) edition, Anderson made many changes in the Charges, thus showing that he attached no peculiar sacredness to his work, but considered it simply *one version* of the Old Charges of the Fraternity. Most of these changes we have deemed it unnecessary to note, as the Fraternity has never considered them improvements, and few if any of them appear to have been based upon any authority other than ANDERSON'S taste.

³⁶ Upon the fact that the name of God does not appear in this Charge – although it does in the corresponding charge of the MS. versions, - the Grand Orient of France, and some other bodies base their claim of a right to omit all reference to Him from their constitutions and ritual.

³⁷ This charge seems to have met with some disapproval; and Bro. JOHN PENNELL, in preparing the Book of Constitutions printed by the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 1730, omitted all of it from the words "But though" to the words "to themselves," inclusive. In ANDERSON'S 1738 edition it was changed to read as follows:

"A Mason is obliged by his Tenure to observe the Moral Law, as a true *Noachida*; and if he rightly understands the *Craft*, he will never be a Stupid Atheist, nor an Irreligious Libertin, nor act against Conscience.

"In Antient Times the *Christian Masons* were charged to comply with the Christian Usages of each Country where they travell'd or work'd; But *Masonry* being found in all Nations, even of divers Religions, they are now only charged to adhere to that Religion in which all Men agree (leaving each Brother to his own particular Opinions) that is, to be Good Men and True, Men of Honour and Honesty, by whatever Names, Religions or Persuasions they may be distinguish'd: For they all agree in the 3 great *Articles* of NOAH, enough to preserve the Cement of the Lodge. Thus *Masonry* is the Center of their Union and the happy Means of conditioning Persons that otherwise must have remain'd at a perpetual Distance."

The latter form was in force when LAURENCE DERMOTT published the first edition of his famous "Ahiman Rezon," and was adopted by him, and thus became the law of the "Ancients" or "Athol" Masons.

³⁸ Concerning this clause, which has been invoked as a justification for much coercive and unfraternal legislation, in recent times, against our unaffiliated brethren, see the Washington Correspondence Report of 1895, page 103, where it is pointed out that the clause "and every Brother ought to belong to one," etc., although consistent with the spirit of Freemasonry, when regarded merely as a general rule, was not based upon anything in the MS. Old Charges, but was one of ANDERSON'S additions; also, that it has never been regarded, in the Grand Lodge which approved it, as a mandate – to be enforced by penalties, - but as advisory only.

LODGE hereunto annex'd.³⁹ In ancient Times, no MASTER or FELLOW could be absent from it, especially when warn'd to appear at it, without incurring a severe Censure, until it appear to the MASTER and WARDENS, that pure Necessity hinder'd him.

The Persons admitted Members of a LODGE must be good and true Men, freeborn, and of mature and discreet Age, no Bondmen, no Women, nor immoral or scandalous Men, but of good Report.

IV. Of MASTERS WARDENS FELLOWS and Apprentices

All preferment among MASONS is grounded upon real Worth and personal Merit only; that so the LORDS may be well served, the Brethren not put to Shame, nor the ROYAL CRAFT despis'd: Therefore no MASTER or WARDEN is chosen by Seniority, but for his Merit. It is impossible to describe these things in writing, and every Brother must attend in his Place, and learn them in a way peculiar to THIS FRATERNITY: Only CANDIDATES may know, that no MASTER should take an Apprentice, unless he has sufficient Employment for him, and unless he be a perfect Youth, having no Maim or Defect in his Body, that may render him incapable of learning the Art, of serving his MASTER'S LORD, and of being made a BROTHER,⁴⁰ and then a FELLOW-CRAFT in due time, even after he has served such a Term of Years as the Custom of the Country directs; and that he should be descended of honest Parents; that so, when otherwise qualify'd, he may arrive to the Honour of being the WARDEN, and then the MASTER of the LODGE, the GRAND WARDEN, and at length the GRAND-MASTER of all LODGES, according to his Merit.

³⁹ *No footnote is printed, though one is indicated.*

⁴⁰ It will be noticed that at this time, 1723, - or even in 1738 - the apprentice of a Mason was not necessarily a "Brother" or "Entered Apprentice." Among the numerous changes in this Charge made by ANDERSON in 1738, was a clause reading,

"and that, when of Age and Expert, he (the 'Prentice') may become an *Enter'd Prentice*, or a *Free-Mason* of the lowest Degree, and upon his due improvements a *Fellow-Craft* and a *Master-Mason*, capable to undertake a *Lord's Work*."

Another change makes the Charge declare that, "The WARDENS are chosen from among the *Master-Masons*;" and that, in extraordinary cases, one who has not been a Warden may be Master of a Lodge. Another declares,

"But no Number without 3 *Master-Masons* can form a *Lodge*."

Another declares that the Grand Master must have been Master of a Lodge.

No Brother can be a Warden until he has pass'd the part of the FELLOW-CRAFT; nor a MASTER until he has acted as a WARDEN, nor GRAND WARDEN until he has been MASTER of a LODGE, nor GRAND MASTER unless he has been a FELLOW-CRAFT before his Election, who is also to be nobly born, or a GENTLEMEN of the best Fashion, or some eminent SCHOLAR, or some curious ARCHITECT, or other ARTIST, descended of honest Parents, and who is of singular great Merit in the Opinion of the LODGES. And for the better and easier, and more honourable Discharge of his Office, the GRAND MASTER has a Power to chuse his own DEPUTY GRAND MASTER, who must be then, or must have been formerly, the MASTER of a particular LODGE, and has the Privilege of acting whatever the GRAND MASTER, his PRINCIPAL, should act, unless the said PRINCIPAL be present, or interpose his Authority by a Letter.

These Rulers and Governors, SUPREME and SUBORDINATE, of the Ancient LODGE, are to be obey'd in their respective Stations by all the Brethren, according to the OLD CHARGES and REGULATIONS, with all Humility, Reverence, Love and Alacrity.

V. Of the Management of the CRAFT in working

All MASONS shall work honestly on working Days, that they may live creditably on HOLY DAYS; and the time appointed by the Law of the Land, or confirm'd by Custom, shall be observ'd.

The most expert of the FELLOW-CRAFTSMEN shall be chosen or appointed the MASTER, or Overseer of the LORD'S Work; who is to be call'd MASTER by those that work under him. the CRAFTSMEN are to avoid all ill Language, and to call each other by no disoblising Name, but BROTHER or FELLOW; and to behave themselves courteously within and without the LODGE.

VI. Of BEHAVIOR, VIZ.

1. In the LODGE while CONSTITUTED

You are not to hold private Committees, or separate Conversation, without Leave from the MASTER, nor to talk of anything impertinent or unseemingly, nor interrupt the MASTER or WARDENS, or any Brother speaking to the MASTER; Nor behave yourself ludicrously or jestingly while the LODGE is engaged in what is serious and solemn; not use any unbecoming Language upon any Pretence whatsoever; but to pay due Reverence to your MASTER, WARDENS, and FELLOWS, and put them to worship.

If any complaint be brought, the Brother found guilty shall stand to the Award and Determination of the LODGE, who are the proper and competent Judges of all such Controversies, (unless you carry it by APPEAL to the GRAND LODGE) and to whom they ought to be referr'd, unless a LORD'S WORK be hinder'd the mean while, in which Case a particular Reference may be made; but you must never go to Law about what concerneth MASONRY, without an absolute Necessity apparent to the LODGE.

2. BEHAVIOR after the Lodge is over and the BRETHREN not gone.

You may enjoy yourselves with innocent Mirth, treating one another according to Ability, but avoiding all Excess or forcing any Brother to eat or drink beyond his Inclination, or hindering him from going when his Occasions call him, or doing or saying anything offensive, or that may forbid an EASY and FREE Conversation; for that would blast our Harmony, and defeat our laudable Purposes. Therefore no private Piques or Quarrels must be brought within the Door of the Lodge, far less any Quarrels about RELIGION, or NATIONS, or STATE POLICY, we being only, as MASONS of the CATHOLICK RELIGION above mention'd; we are also of all NATIONS, TONGUES, KINDREDS, and LANGUAGES,⁴¹ and are resolv'd against ALL POLITICKS, as what never yet conduc'd to the Welfare of the Lodge, nor ever will. this CHARGE has been always strictly enjoin'd and observ'd; but especially

⁴¹ In the 1738 edition, this reads:

“of all Nations upon the Square, Level and Plumb; and like our Predecessors in all Ages, we are resolv'd against political Disputes, as contrary to the Peace and Welfare of the Lodge.”

ever since the REFORMATION in BRITAIN, or the Dissent and Secession of these Nations from the COMMUNION of ROME.

3. BEHAVIOR when BRETHREN meet without STRANGERS, but not in a LODGE FORM'D

You are to salute one another in a courteous manner, as you will be instructed, calling each other BROTHER, freely giving mutual Instruction as shall be thought expedient, without being overseen or overheard, and without encroaching upon each other, or derogating from that Respect which is due to any Brother, were he not a Mason: For though all MASONS are as BRETHREN upon the same LEVEL, yet MASONRY takes no Honor from a Man that he had before; nay rather it adds to his Honour, especially if he has deserv'd well of the Brotherhood, who must give Honour to whom it is due, and avoid ILL MANNERS.

4. BEHAVIOR in Presence of Strangers not Masons

You shall be cautious in your Words and Carriage, that the most penetrating Stranger shall not be able to discover or find out what is not proper to be intimated; and sometimes you shall deliver a discourse, and manage it prudently for the Honour of the WORSHIPFUL FRATERNITY.

5. BEHAVIOR at HOME and in your NEIGHBORHOOD.

You are to act as becomes a moral and wise Man; particularly, not to let your Family, Friends and Neighbors know the CONCERNS of the LODGE, &c. but wisely to consult your own Honour, and that of the ANCIENT BROTHERHOOD, for Reasons not to be mention'd here. You must also consult your HEALTH, by not continuing together too late, or too long from home, after Lodge Hours are past; and by avoiding of Gluttony or Drunkenness, that your Families be not neglected or injured, nor you disabled from working.

6. BEHAVIOUR towards a STRANGE Brother

You are cautiously examine him, in such a Method as Prudence shall direct you, that you may not be impos'd upon by an ignorant false PRETENDER, whom you are to reject with Contempt and Derision, and beware of giving him any Hints of Knowledge.

But if you discover him to be a true and genuine BROTHER, you are to respect him accordingly; and if he is in want, you must employ him some Days, or else recommend him to be employ'd. But you are not charged to do beyond your Ability, only to prefer a poor BROTHER, that is a GOOD MAN and TRUE, before any other poor People in the same Circumstances.

FINALLY, All these CHARGES you are to observe, and also those that shall be communicated to you in ANOTHER WAY; cultivating BROTHERLY-LOVE, the Foundation and Cape-stone, the CEMENT and GLORY of this ancient FRATERNITY, avoiding all Wrangling and Quarrelling, all Slander and Backbiting, nor permitting others to slander any honest Brother, but defending his Character, and doing him all good Offices, as far as is consistent with your HONOUR and SAFETY, and no farther. And if any of them do you Injury, you must apply to your own or his LODGE; and from thence you may appeal to the GRAND LODGE at the QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION, and from thence to the ANNUAL GRAND LODGE, as has been the ancient laudable Conduct of our Forefathers in every Nation; never taking a LEGAL COURSE but when the Case cannot be otherwise decided,⁴² and patiently listening to the honest and friendly Advice of MASTER and FELLOWS, when they would prevent your going to Law with STRANGERS, or would excite you to put a speedy Period to all LAW-SUITS, that so you may mind the AFFAIR of MASONRY with the more Alacrity and Success; but with respect to BROTHERS or FELLOWS at LAW, the MASTER and Brethren should kindly offer their Meditation, which ought to be thankfully submitted to by the contending Brethren; and if that Submission is impracticable, they

⁴² There are many changes in this Charge in the 1738 edition, and at this point the following appears:

“For if the Affair is only between Masons and about Masonry, Law-Suits ought to be prevented by the good Advice of prudent Brethren, who are the best Referees of such Differences.”

must however carry on their PROCESS or LAW-SUIT without Wrath or Rancor (not in the common way) saying or doing nothing which may hinder BROTHERLY LOVE, and good Offices to be renew'd and continu'd; that all may see the BENIGN INFLUENCE of Masonry, as all true MASONS have done from the Beginning of the WORLD, and will do to the End of TIME.

AMEN SO MOTE IT BE.

APPENDIX F

OLD REGULATIONS OF 1721

GENERAL REGULATIONS⁴³

Compiled first by Mr. GEORGE PAYNE, ANNO 1720, when he was GRAND-MASTER, and approv'd by the GRAND-LODGE on ST. JOHN BAPTIST'S DAY, ANNO 1721, at STATIONER'S-HALL, LONDON; when the MOST NOBLE PRINCE JOHN DUKE of MONTAGU was unanimously chosen our GRAND MASTER for the Year ensuing; who chose

JOHN BEAL M.D. his DEPUTY GRAND MASTER;

| | | | | |
|----|---|--------------|---|--------------------|
| | | Mr. Josia | | were chosen by the |
| an | { | Villeneau | } | Lodge |
| d | | Mr. Thos. | | GRAND- |
| | | Morris, Jun. | | WARDENS |

And now, by the Command of our said RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND-MASTER MONTAGU, the AUTHOR of this BOOK has compar'd them with, and reduc'd them to the ancient RECORDS and immemorial USAGES of the Fraternity, and digested them into this new Method, with several proper Explications, for the Use of the Lodges in and about LONDON and WESTMINSTER.

I. THE GRAND-MASTER, or his DEPUTY, hath Authority and right, not only to be present in any true LODGE, but also to preside wherever he is, with the MASTER of the LODGE on his Left-hand, and to order his GRAND-WARDENS to attend Him, who are not to act in particular LODGES as WARDENS, but in his Presence, and at his Command; because there the GRAND-MASTER may command the WARDENS of that LODGE, or any other Brethren he pleaseth, to attend and act as his WARDENS PRO. TEMPORE.⁴⁴

II. The MASTER of a particular LODGE has the Right and Authority of Congregating the Members of his LODGE into a CHAPTER at pleasure, upon any Emergency or Occurrence, as well as to appoint the time and place of their usual forming: And in case of Sickness, Death, or necessary absence of the MASTER, the Senior WARDEN shall act as MASTER PRO TEMPORE, if no Brother is present who has been MASTER of that LODGE before, for in that Case the ABSENT MASTER'S Authority reverts to the last MASTER then present; though he cannot act until the said SENIOR WARDEN has once congregated the LODGE, or in his Absence the JUNIOR WARDEN.⁴⁵

⁴³ About all that is known of the origin of these Regulations is stated in their title. They were printed in ANDERSON'S "Constitutions." 1723. Originally styled "General Regulations," they are usually cited as "the Old Regulations," for the reason that ANDERSON in his second (1738) edition, after making various changes to them, printed in parallel columns with them what he denominated, "The NEW REGULATIONS, or the Alterations, Improvements, and Explications of the OLD, made by several *Grand Lodges*, since the first *Edition*."

The more important of these New Regulations – some of them merely comments by ANDERSON – are printed as foot-notes in the following pages, and marked "*New Reg.*, 1738." See note on Regulation XXXIX.

⁴⁴ "THAT is, only when the G. WARDENS are absent: For the *G. Master* cannot deprive 'em of their Office without shewing Cause fairly appearing to the *G. Lodge* according to the *Old Regulation* XVIII, so that if they are present in a *particular Lodge* with the *Grand Master*, they must act as WARDENS there." – *New Reg.*, 1738

⁴⁵ "On 25 Nov. 1723. It was agreed, (But was neglected to be recorded.) that if a *Master* of a particular *Lodge* is deposed or demits, the *Senior Warden* shall forthwith fill the *Master's* Chair till the next Time of chusing; and ever since, in the *Master's* absence, he fills the Chair, even tho' a *former Master* be present." – *New Reg.*, 1738.

III. The MASTER of each particular LODGE, or one of the WARDENS, or some other Brother by his Order, shall keep a Book containing their BY-LAWS, the Names of their Members, with List of all the LODGES in Town, and the usual Times and Places of their forming,⁴⁶ and all their Transactions that are proper to be written.

IV. No LODGE shall make more than FIVE NEW BRETHREN at one time, nor any Man under the Age of TWENTY-FIVE, who must be also his own Master; unless by a Dispensation from the GRAND MASTER or his DEPUTY.⁴⁷

V. No Man can be made or admitted a Member of a particular Lodge, without previous notice ONE MONTH BEFORE given to the said LODGE, in order to make due Enquiry into the Reputation and Capacity of the CANDIDATE; unless by the Dispensation aforesaid.⁴⁸

VI. But no Man can be enter'd a Brother in any particular Lodge, or admitted to be a Member thereof, without the UNANIMOUS CONSENT OF ALL THE MEMBERS OF THAT LODGE then present when the CANDIDATE is propose'd, and their Consent is formally ask'd by the MASTER;⁴⁹ and they are to signify their CONSENT or DISSENT in their own prudent way, either virtually or in form, but with Unanimity; Nor is this inherent Privilege subject to a Dispensation; because the MEMBERS of a particular LODGE are the best Judges of it; and if a fractious Member should be impos'd on them, it might spoil their Harmony, or hinder their Freedom; or even break and disperse the LODGE, which ought to be avoided by all good and true Brethren.

VII. Every NEW BROTHER at his making is decently to cloath the LODGE, that is, all the Brethren present, and to deposit something for the Relief of indigent and decay'd Brethren, as the CANDIDATE shall think fit to bestow, over and above the small Allowance stated by the BY-LAWS of that particular LODGE; which CHARITY shall be lodg'd with the MASTER or WARDENS, or the CASHIER, if the members think fit to chuse one.⁵⁰

And the CANDIDATE shall also solemnly promise to submit to the CONSTITUTIONS, the CHARGES, and REGULATIONS, and to such other good USAGES as shall be intimated to them in time and Place convenient.

VIII. No Set or Number of Brethren shall withdraw or separate themselves from the LODGE in which they were made BRETHREN, or were afterwards admitted MEMBERS, unless the LODGE becomes too numerous; not even then, without a Dispensation from the GRAND-MASTER or his DEPUTY: And when they are thus separated they must either immediately join themselves to such OTHER LODGE as they shall like best, with the unanimous Consent of that other LODGE to which they go (AS ABOVE REGULATED) or else they must obtain the GRAND-MASTER'S Warrant, to join in forming a NEW LODGE.⁵¹

⁴⁶ "On 21 Nov. 1724. If a *particular* Lodge remove to a *New Place* for their Stated Meeting, the *Officers* shall immediately signify the same to the *Secretary*." – *New Reg*, 1738. See note under Regulation IX.

⁴⁷ "On 27 Dec., 1727. The *Precedency of Lodges* is grounded on the Seniority of their *Constitution*." – *New Reg.*, 1738.

⁴⁸ "On 19 Feb. 1724. No Brother shall belong to more than one Lodge within the Bills of Morality (tho' he may visit them all) except the Members of a *foreign* Lodge.

But this *Regulation* is neglected for several Reasons, and now obsolete." – *New Reg*. 1738.

LAWRENCE DERMOTT, in a note on a "Short Charge" appended to the Old Charges in the Masonic Code of the "Ancients," bases the objection to dual membership on the ground that a Mason is "not to neglect his own necessary Avocations for the sake of Masonry," saying:

"Here you are to understand that a Mason ought not to belong to a number of lodges at one time, nor run from lodge to lodge, or otherwise, after Masons or Masonry, whereby his business or family may be neglected; but yet every Mason is subject to all the bye-laws of his lodge, which he is strictly and constantly to obey; - for the attendance and dues of one lodge, can never prejudice neither him nor his family. – *Ahiman Rezon*, 1764, p. 36.

⁴⁹ But if they know the Candidate, they don't require a Dispensation." – *New Reg.*, 1738.

⁵⁰ "On 19 Feb. 1724. No *Visitor*, however skill'd in Masonry, shall be admitted into a *Lodge*. unless he is personally known or well vouched and recommended by one of that Lodge present.

"But it was found inconvenient to insist upon *Unanimity* in several Cases: And therefore the *Grand Masters* have allow'd the *Lodges* to admit a member, if not above 3 *Ballots* are against him; though some *Lodges* desire no such *Allowance*." – *New Reg.*, 1738.

– The earliest record or a Grand Master's "allowing" what the law should not be allowed. See the remainder of Regulation VI.

⁵¹ After a reference to the Grand Lodge's "General Charity," first proposed in 1724, ANDERSON adds:

"Only *particular* Lodges are not limited, but may take their own Method for *Charity*." – *New Reg.*, 1739.

⁵¹ In other words, they must not, without authority, set up a new Lodge. That this Regulation is not aimed at individual withdrawals, but at the formation of unauthorized Lodges by "sets or numbers of brethren," sufficiently appears in the remainder of the Regulation, as well as the following notes thereon:

If any Set or Number of Masons shall take upon themselves to form a LODGE without the GRAND-MASTER'S Warrant, the REGULAR LODGES are not to countenance them, nor own them as FAIR BRETHREN and duly form'd, nor approve of their Acts and Deeds; but must treat them as REBELS, until they humble themselves, as the GRAND MASTER shall in his Prudence direct, and until he approve of them by his WARRANT, which must be signify'd to the OTHER LODGES, as the Custom is when a NEW LODGE is to be register'd in the LIST OF LODGES.

IX. But if any Brother so far misbehave himself as to render his Lodge uneasy, he shall be twice duly admonish'd by the MASTER or WARDENS in a FORM'D LODGE; and if he will not refrain his Impudence, and obediently submit to the Advice of the Brethren, and reform what gives them Offense, he shall be dealt with according to the BY-LAWS of that particular LODGE, or else in such a manner as the QUARTERLY COMMUNICATIONS shall in their great Prudence think fit; for which a NEW REGULATION may afterwards be made.⁵²

“On 25 April 1723. Every Brother concern'd in making Masons clandestinely, shall not be allow'd to visit *any Lodge* till he has made due Submission, even tho' the Brothers so made may be allow'd.

“On 19 Feb. 1724. None who form a *Stated Lodge* without the *G. Master's* Leave shall be admitted into *regular* Lodges, till they make Submission and obtain Grace.

“On 21 Nov. 1724. If any Brethren *form a Lodge* without Leave, and shall irregularly make *New Brothers*, they shall not be admitted into any *regular* Lodge, nor not as *visitors*, till they render a good Reason or make due Submission • • • •

“On 31 March 1735. Seeing that some *extraneous* Brothers have been made lately in a Clandestine Manner, that is in no *regular* Lodge nor by any Authority or Dispensation from the *G. Master*, and upon small unworthy Considerations, to the Dishonour of the *Craft*:

“The *Grand Lodge* decreed, that no Person so made, nor any concern'd in making him, shall be a *Grand Officer*, nor an *Officer* of a particular *Lodge*, nor shall any such partake of the General *Charity*, if they should come to want it.” – *New Reg.*, 1738.

⁵² “On 25 Jan. 1738, the *Grand Lodge* made the following REGULATION:

“Whereas Disputes have arisen about the *Removal of Lodges* from One House to Another, and it has been question'd in whom that Power is vested; it is hereby declar'd,

“That *no Lodge* shall be removed without the *Master's* Knowledge; that no Motion be made for removing in the *Master's* Absence; and that if the Motion be *seconded* or *thirded*, the *Master* shall order Summons to every individual Member, specifying the Business, and appointing a Day for Hearing and Determining the Affair, at least Ten Days before; and that the Determination shall be made by the *Majority*, provided the *Master* be one of *that* Majority; but if he be of the *Minority* against Removing, the *Lodge* shall not be removed unless the *Majority* consists of full *Two Thirds* of the Members present.

“But if the *Master* shall refuse to direct such Summons, either of the *Wardens*, may do it; and if the *Master* neglects to attend on the Day fix'd, the *Warden* may preside in determining the Affair in the Manner prescribed; but they shall not in the *Master's* Absence, enter upon any other Cause but what is particularly mention'd in the *Summons*; and if the *Lodge* is thus regularly order'd to be removed, the *Master* or *Wardens* shall send Notice thereof to the *Secretary* of the *G. Lodge* for publishing the same at the next *Quarterly* Communications.” – *New Reg.* 1738. See note under Regulation III.

X. The MAJORITY of every particular LODGE, when congregated, shall have the Privilege of giving INSTRUCTIONS to their MASTER and WARDENS, before the assembling of the GRAND CHAPTER, or LODGE, at the three QUARTERLY COMMUNICATIONS hereafter mention'd, and of the ANNUAL GRAND LODGE too; because their MASTER and WARDENS are their Representatives, and are supposed to speak their Mind.

XI. All PARTICULAR LODGES are to observe the same USAGES as much as possible: in order to which, and for cultivating a good Understanding among FREE-MASONS, some Members out of EVERY LODGE shall be deputed to visit the OTHER LODGES as often as shall be thought convenient.

XII. The GRAND-LODGE consists of, and is form'd by the MASTERS and WARDENS of all the regular particular LODGES upon Record,⁵³ with the GRAND-MASTER at their Head, and his DEPUTY on his Left-hand, and the GRAND WARDENS in their proper Places;⁵⁴ and must have a QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION about MICHAELMAS, CHRISTMAS, and LADY-DAY, in some convenient Place, as the GRAND MASTER shall appoint, where no Brother shall be present, who is not at that time a Member thereof, without a Dispensation; and while he stays, he shall not be allow'd to vote, nor even give his Opinion, without Leave of the GRAND-LODGE ask'd and given, or unless it be duly ask'd by the said Lodge.

All Matters are to be determin'd in the GRAND-LODGE by a Majority of Votes, each Member having one Vote, and the GRAND-MASTER having two Votes, unless the said LODGE leave any particular thing to the Determination of the GRAND MASTER for the sake of Expedition.

XIII. At the said QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION, all Matters that concern the FRATERNITY in general, or particular LODGES, or single Brethren, are quietly, sedately, and maturely to be discours'd of and transacted: APPRENTICES must be admitted MASTERS and FELLOW-CRAFT only here, unless by a Dispensation.⁵⁵ Here also all the Differences, that cannot be made up and accommodated privately, nor by a particular LODGE, are to be seriously considered and decided: And if any BROTHER thinks himself aggrieved by the Decision of this Board, he may appeal to the ANNUAL GRAND-LODGE next ensuing, and leave his Appeal in Writing, with the GRAND MASTER, or his DEPUTY, or the GRAND-WARDENS.

Here also the MASTER or the WARDENS of each particular Lodge shall bring and produce a List of such Members as have been made, or even admitted in their particular LODGES since the last COMMUNICATION of the GRAND-LODGE; And there shall be a Book kept by the GRAND- MASTER, or his DEPUTY, or rather by some Brother whom the GRAND-LODGE shall appoint for SECRETARY, wherein shall be recorded all the LODGES, with their usual Times and Places of forming, and the

⁵³ That is, upon the "Record" or roll of the Grand Lodge. There were other "regular particular Lodges" in existence in England at this time "On 25 Nov. 1723. No *New Lodge* is own'd, nor their *officers* admitted into the *G. Lodge*, unless it be regularly constituted and register'd. – *New Reg.*, 1738.

⁵⁴ the "New Regulations" state that Past Grand Masters were made members of the Grand Lodge. 21 Nov. 1724; Past Deputy Grand Masters, 28 Feb. 1725-6; and Past Grand Wardens, 10 May 1727.

"On 25 June 1728, *Masters* and *Wardens* of Lodges shall never attend the *G. Lodge* without their Jewels and Clothing.

"On 26 Nov. 1728. • • • If any Officer cannot attend, he may send a *Brother* of that *Lodge* (but not a mere *Enter'd Prentice*) with his *Jewel*, to supply his Room and support the Honour of his *Lodge*." – *New Reg.*, 1738.

⁵⁵ It is not known when this rule was made, if prior to 1721, for the minutes of the Grand Lodge do not begin until 24 June 1723; ;nor how accurately ANDERSON gave it in the Old Regulation, for the term "Fellow-Craft" is a Scottish one and was unknown to English Masonry until introduced by Anderson. The term "admitted Masters" had reference, in operative Masonry, to the occasion when the apprentice, having served seven years in learning his trade, and given proof of his proficiency, as released from his indenture, and recognized as a master of his trade. Much has been written concerning the inferences to be drawn from this Regulation and the three expressions quoted below, upon the subject of Masonic "degrees" in 1723, 1725 and 1738. See Washington Correspondence Report, 1895, pp.21, 131, 168. The minutes of the Grand Lodge of 27 (*sic*) Nov. 1725 are quoted as follows in GOULD'S *History*, Chap. XVII:

"A motion being made that such part of the 13th Article of the Genll. Regulations relating to the making of Masts only at a Quarterly Court may be repealed, and that the Mast. of Each Lodge, with the consent of his Wardens and the Majority of the Brethren, being Masts., may make Masts at their discretion. Agreed, *Nem. Con.*"

ANDERSON'S version of this is as follows:

"On 22 [sic] Nov. 1725, the *Master* of a Lodge with his *Wardens* and a competent *Number* of the Lodge assembled in due Form, can make *Masters* and *Fellows* at Discretion." – *New Reg.*, 1738.

In the 1738 edition he changed the Old Regulation and made it read as follows:

"*Apprentices* must be admitted *Fellow Crafts* and *Masters* only here, unless by a *Dispensation* from the *Grand Master*."

Names of all the Members of each LODGE,⁵⁶ and all the Affairs of the GRAND-LODGE that are proper to be written.

They shall also consider of the most proudest and effectual Methods of collecting and disposing of what Money shall be given to, or lodged with them in CHARITY, towards the Relief only of any true Brother fallen into Poverty or Decay, but of none else: But every particular LODGE shall dispose of their own CHARITY for poor Brethren, according to their own BY-LAWS, until it be agreed by all the LODGES (IN A NEW REGULATION) to carry in the CHARITY collected by them to the GRAND LODGE, at the QUARTERLY or ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, in order to make a common Stock of it, for the more handsome Relief of Poor BRETHERN.

They shall also appoint a TREASURER, a Brother of good worldly substance, who shall be a Member of the GRAND-LODGE by virtue of his Office, and shall be always present, and have Power to move to the GRAND-LODGE any thing, especially what concerns his Office. To him shall be committed all Money, rais'd for CHARITY, or for any other Use of the GRAND-LODGE, which he shall write down in a Book, with the respective Ends and Uses for which the several Sums are intended; and shall expend or disburse the same by such a CERTAIN ORDER sign'd, as the GRAND LODGE shall afterward agree to in a NEW REGULATION: But he shall not vote in chusing a Grand MASTER or WARDENS, though in every other Transaction. As in like manner the SECRETARY shall be a Member of the GRAND-LODGE by virtue of his Office, and vote in every thing except in chusing a GRAND-MASTER or WARDEN.

The TREASURER and SECRETARY shall have each a CLERK, who must be a Brother and FELLOW-CRAFT, but never must be a Member of the GRAND-LODGE, nor speak without being allow'd or desir'd.

The GRAND-MASTER, or his DEPUTY, shall always command the TREASURER and SECRETARY, with their CLERKS and BOOKS, in order to see how Matters go on, and to know what is expedient to be done up any emergent Occasion.

Another Brother (who must be a FELLOW-CRAFT⁵⁷) should be appointed to look after the Door of the GRAND-LODGE; but shall be no Member of it.

But these Offices may be farther explain'd by a NEW REGULATION, when the Necessity and Expediency of them may more appear than at present to the FRATERNITY.

XIV. If at any Grand-Lodge, stated or occasional, quarterly or annual, the GRAND-MASTER and his DEPUTY should be both absent, then the present MASTER of a LODGE, that has been the longest a Free-Mason, shall take the Chair, and preside as Grand Master Pro Tempore;⁵⁸ and shall be vested with all his Power and Honour for the time; provided there is no Brother present that has been Grand-Master formerly, or Deputy Grand-Master; for the last Grand-Master present, or else the last Deputy Present, should always of right take place in the Absence of the present Grand-Master and his Deputy.

XV. In the GRAND-LODGE none can act as WARDENS but the GRAND-WARDENS themselves, if present; and if absent, the GRAND-MASTER, or the Person who presides in his Place, shall order PRIVATE WARDENS to act as GRAND-WARDENS PRO TEMPORE,⁵⁹ whose

⁵⁶ On 19 Feb. 1724, The *Officers* of particular *Lodges* shall bring to the *G. Lodge* the *Lists* of all the Members of their respective *Lodges* to be in the *G. Lodge Book*." – *New Reg.*, 1738.

⁵⁷ Among the changes which ANDERSON quietly made in the text of the *Old Regulations*, in the 1738 edition, was the substitution of "*Master-Mason*" for "*Fellow-Craft*" in the accounts of Clerks and Tyler. The reason was that in earlier times "Master" always meant Master of a Lodge, except when a Fellow was referred to as master of his trade; but before 1738 our present nomenclature had become established.

⁵⁸ "In the *first Edition*, the Right of the *G. WARDENS* was omitted in this *Regulation*; and it has been since found that the *Old Lodges* never put into the Chair the *Master* of a particular *Lodge*, but when there was no *Grand Warden* in company, *present* nor *former*, and that in such a Case a *Grand Officer* always took place of any *Master* of a *Lodge* that has not been a *G. Officer*.

"Therefore in Case of the Absence of all *G. Masters* and *Deputies*; the present *Sen. G. WARDEN* fills the Chair; and in his Absence the present *Jun. G. WARDEN*, and in his Absence the *oldest former G. WARDEN* in Company; and if no *Former G. Officer* be found, then the *oldest Free-Mason* who is now the *Master* of a *Lodge*.

"But to avoid Dispute, the *G. Master* usually gives a particular Commission under his Hand and Seal of Office, countersigned by the *Secretary*, to the *Senior G. Warden*, or in his Absence, to the *Junior*, to act as *D. G. Master* when the *Deputy* is not in Town." – *New Reg.*, 1738.

⁵⁹ "Soon after the *first Edition* of the *Book of Constitutions*, the GRAND LODGE finding it was always the ancient Usage that oldest *former G. WARDENS* supplied the Places of those of the Year when absent, the *G. Master* ever since has order'd them to take place immediately and act as *G.*

Places are to be supply'd by two FELLOW-CRAFT of the same LODGE, call'd forth to act, or sent thither by the particular MASTER thereof; or if by him omitted, then they shall be call'd by the GRAND-MASTER, that so the GRAND-LODGE may be always compleat.

XVI. The GRAND-WARDENS, or any others are first to advise with the DEPUTY about the Affairs of the LODGE or of the Brethren, and not to apply to the GRAND-MASTER without the Knowledge of the DEPUTY, unless he refuses his Concurrence in any certain necessary Affair; in which Case, or in case of any Difference between the DEPUTY and the GRAND-WARDENS, or other Brethren, both Parties are to go by Concert to the GRAND MASTER, who can easily decide the controversy and make up the difference by virtue of his great Authority.

The GRAND-MASTER should receive no Intimation of Business concerning MASONRY, but from his DEPUTY first, except in such certain Cases as his Worship can well judge of; for if the Application to the GRAND MASTER be irregular, he can easily order the GRAND-WARDENS, or any other Brethren thus applying, to wait upon his DEPUTY, who is to prepare the Business speedily, and to lay it orderly before his WORSHIP.

XVII. No GRAND-MASTER, DEPUTY Grand-Master, GRAND-WARDENS, TREASURER, SECRETARY, or whoever acts for them, or in their stead PRO TEMPORE, can at the same time be the MASTER or WARDEN of a particular LODGE, but as soon as any of them has honourably discharg'd his GRAND OFFICE, he returns to that Post or Station in his particular LODGE, from which he was call'd to officiate above.

XVIII. If the DEPUTY GRAND-MASTER be sick, or necessarily absent, the GRAND-MASTER may chuse any FELLOW-CRAFT he pleases to be his DEPUTY PRO TEMPORE.⁶⁰ But he that is chosen DEPUTY at the GRAND-LODGE, and the GRAND-WARDENS too, cannot be discharg'd without the Cause fairly appear to the MAJORITY of the GRAND-LODGE; and the GRAND-MASTER, if he is uneasy, may call a GRAND-LODGE on purpose to lay the Cause before them, and to have their Advice and Concurrence; In which case the MAJORITY of the GRAND-LODGE, if they cannot reconcile the MASTER and his DEPUTY or his WARDENS, are to concur in allowing the MASTER to discharge his said DEPUTY or his said WARDENS, and to chuse another DEPUTY immediately; and the said GRAND-LODGE shall chuse other WARDENS in that case, that Harmony and Peace may be preserv'd.

XIX. If the GRAND-MASTER should abuse his Power, and render himself un-worthy of the Obedience and Subjection of the LODGES, he shall be treated in a way and manner to be agreed upon in a NEW REGULATION; because hitherto the ancient FRATERNITY have had no occasion for it, their former GRAND-MASTERS having all behaved themselves worthy of that honourable Office.

XX. The GRAND-MASTER, with his DEPUTY and WARDENS, shall (at least once) go round and visit all the LODGES about Town during his MASTERSHIP.

XXI. If the GRAND-MASTER should die during his MASTERSHIP, or by Sickness, or by being beyond Sea,⁶¹ or any other way should be render'd incapable of discharging his Office, the DEPUTY, or in his Absence, the SENIOR GRAND-WARDEN, or in his Absence the JUNIOR, or in his Absence any three Present MASTERS of LODGES, shall join to congregate the GRAND-LODGE immediately, to advise together upon that Emergency, and to send two of their Number to invite the LAST GRAND-MASTER to resume his Office, which now in course reverts to him; or if he can refuse, then the NEXT LAST, and so backward; But if no former GRAND-MASTER can be

Wardens pro tempore; which they have always done in the Absence of the *G. Wardens* for the Year, except when they have waived their Privileges for that time, to honour some Brother whom they thought more fit for the present Service.

"But if no *former Grand Wardens* are in Company, the GRAND MASTER, or *He* that *presides*, calls forth whom he pleases to act as *Grand Warden pro tempore*." – *New Reg.*, 1738.

⁶⁰ "The *Senior G. WARDEN* how ever supplies the DEPUTY'S Place, the Junior acts as the SENIOR, the *oldest former G. Warden* as the JUNIOR, also the *oldest Mason* as above." – *New Reg.*, 1738.

⁶¹ A law term, meaning, outside the jurisdiction.

found, then the DEPUTY shall act as PRINCIPAL, until another is chosen; or if there is no DEPUTY, then the oldest MASTER.

XXII. The BRETHREN of all the LODGES in and about LONDON and WESTMINSTER,⁶² shall meet at an ANNUAL COMMUNICATION and FEAST, in some convenient Place, on ST. JOHN BAPTIST'S DAY, or else on ST. JOHN EVANGELIST'S DAY as the GRAND- LODGE shall think fit by a NEW REGULATION, having of late Years met on ST. JOHN BAPTIST'S DAY:⁶³ Provided,

The MAJORITY of the MASTERS and WARDENS, with the GRAND-MASTER, his DEPUTY and WARDENS, agree at their QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION, three Months before, that there shall be a FEAST, and a GENERAL COMMUNICATION of all the Brethren: For if either the GRAND-MASTER, or the MAJORITY of the particular MASTERS, are against it, it must be dropt for that Time.

But whether there shall be a FEAST for all the BRETHREN, or not, yet the GRAND-LODGE must meet in some convenient Place ANNUALLY on St. JOHN'S DAY; or if it be SUNDAY, then on the next Day, in order to chuse every Year a New GRAND MASTER, DEPUTY, and WARDENS.

XXIII. If it be thought expedient, and the GRAND-MASTER, with the MAJORITY of the MASTERS and WARDENS, agree to hold a GRAND FEAST, according to the ancient laudable Custom of MASONS, then the GRAND-WARDENS shall have the care of preparing the TICKETS, seal'd with the GRAND MASTER'S Seal, of disposing of the tickets, of receiving the Money for the Tickets, of buying the Materials of the FEAST, of finding out a proper and convenient Place to feast in; and of every other thing that concerns the Entertainment.⁶⁴

But that the Work may not be too burthensome to the two GRAND-WARDENS, and that all Matters may be expediently and safely managed, the GRAND-MASTER, or his DEPUTY, shall have the power to nominate and appoint a certain Number of Stewards, as his WORSHIP shall think fit, to act in concert with the two GRAND-WARDENS; all things relating to the Feast being decided amongst them by a Majority of Voices; except the GRAND-MASTER or his DEPUTY interpose by a particular Direction or Appointment.

XXIV. The WARDENS and STEWARDS shall, in due time, wait upon the GRAND-MASTER, or his DEPUTY, for Directions and Orders about the Premises; but if his WORSHIP and his DEPUTY are sick, or necessarily absent, they shall call together the MASTERS and WARDENS of LODGES to meet on purpose for their Advice and Orders; or else they may take the Matter wholly upon themselves, and do the best they can.

The GRAND-WARDENS and the STEWARDS are to account for the Money they receive, or expend, to the GRAND-LODGE, after Dinner, or when the GRAND-LODGE shall think fit to receive their Accounts.

If the Grand-MASTER pleases, he may in due time summon all the MASTERS and WARDENS of LODGES to consult with them about ordering the GRAND-FEAST, and about any Emergency or accidental Thing relating thereunto, that may require Advice; or else to take it upon himself altogether.

XXV. The MASTERS of LODGES shall each appoint one experienc'd and discreet FELLOW-CRAFT of his LODGE, to compose a COMMITTEE, consisting of one from every LODGE, who shall meet to receive, in a convenient Apartment, every Person that brings a Ticket, and shall have Power to discourse him, if they think fit; in order to admit him, or debar him, as they shall see cause: PROVIDED they send no Man away before they have acquainted all the Brethren within Doors with the Reasons thereof, to avoid Mistakes; that so no true Brother may be debarr'd, nor a

⁶² "Or any Brethren round the Globe, who are True and Faithful, at the Place appointed, til they have built a Place of their own." - *New Reg.*, 1739.

⁶³ "On 29 January 1730-1. It was ordain'd that no particular Lodge shall have a separate Feast on the Day of the General Feast." - *New Reg.*, 1738.

⁶⁴ "On 28 April 1724. The G. Lodge ordain'd that at the Feast, the Stewards shall open no wine till Dinner be laid on the Tables; that the Members of each Lodge shall sit together as much as possible; That after Eight a Clock at Night, the Stewards shall not be oblig'd to furnish any Wine or other Liquors; and that either the Money or Tickets shall be return'd to the Stewards." *New Reg.*, - 1738.

false Brother or meer Pretender, admitted. This COMMITTEE must meet very early on ST. JOHN'S DAY at the Place, even before any Persons come with Tickets.

XXVI. The GRAND-MASTER shall appoint two or more TRUSTY BRETHERN to be Porters, or Door-keepers, who are also to be early at the Place for some good Reasons; and who are to be at the Command of the COMMITTEE.

XXVII. The GRAND-WARDENS, or the STEWARDS, shall appoint beforehand such a Number of Brethren to serve at Table as they think fit and proper for that Work; and they may advise with the MASTERS and WARDENS of LODGES about the most proper Persons, if they please, or they may take in such by their Recommendation; for none are to serve that Day, but FREE *and* ACCEPTED MASONS, that the Communication may be free and harmonious.⁶⁵

XXVIII. All the Members of the GRAND-LODGE must be at the Place long before Dinner, with the Grand MASTER, or his DEPUTY, at their Head, who shall retire, and form themselves.⁶⁶ And this is done in order,

1. To receive any APPEALS duly lodg'd, as above regulated, that the APPELLANT may be heard, and the Affair may be amicably decided before Dinner, if possible; but if it cannot, it must be delay'd till after the NEW GRAND-MASTER is elected; and if it cannot be decided after Dinner, it may be delay'd, and referr'd to a PARTICULAR COMMITTEE, that shall quietly adjust it, and make Report to the next QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION, that Brotherly-Love may be preserv'd.

2. To prevent any Difference or Disgust which may be fear'd to arise that Day; that no Interruption may be given to the Harmony and Pleasure of the GRAND FEAST.

3. To consult about whatever concerns the Decency and Decorum of the GRAND-ASSEMBLY, and to prevent all Indecency and ill Manners, the Assembly being promiscuous.

4. To receive and consider of any good Motion, or any momentous and important Affair, that shall be brought from the particular LODGES, by their Representatives, the several MASTERS and WARDENS.

XXIX. After these things are discuss'd, the GRAND-MASTER and his DEPUTY, the GRAND-WARDENS, or the STEWARDS, the SECRETARY, the TREASURER, the CLERKS, and every other Person, shall withdraw, and leave the MASTERS and WARDENS of the Particular LODGES alone, in order to consult amicably about electing a NEW GRAND-MASTER, or continuing the PRESENT, if they have not done it the Day before; and if they are unanimous for continuing the PRESENT Grand-Master, his WORSHIP shall be call'd in, and humbly desired to do the FRATERNITY the Honour of ruling them for the Year ensuing: And after Dinner it will be known whether he accepts of it or not; For it should not be discover'd but by the Election it self.⁶⁷

XXX. Then the MASTER and WARDENS, and all the Brethren, may converse promiscuously, or as they please to sort together, until the Dinner coming in, when every Brother takes his Seat at Table.

⁶⁵ As early as 1735 this Grand Lodge, taking a step which has been generally regarded as a very wide departure from ancient usages, erected certain favored individuals into a body called the "Stewards Lodge," which, in consideration of its furnishing the annual feast as its own expense, was accorded extraordinary privileges. The feast was then put in charge of the "Stewards Lodge," and much of Regulations XXII-XXVII became obsolete.

⁶⁶ "In ancient Times the *Master, Wardens, and Fellows* on St. John's Day met either in a *Monastery*, or on the *Top* of the highest *Hill* near them, by Peep of Day; And having there chosen their *New G. Officers*, they descended walking in due Form to the *Place* of the *Feast*, either a *Monastery*, or the House of an *Eminent Mason*, or some large House of Entertainment as they thought best tyled.

"But of late they go in *Coaches*. • • • ." – *New Reg.*, 1738.

Possibly it is well to caution the young reader that BRO. ANDERSON is supposed to have possessed many of the qualities of a successful romancer.

⁶⁷ "This old Regulation was found inconvenient; Therefore at the *Assembly* on 27 *Dec.* 1720, it was agreed that the *New G. Master* should by the *Present* be propos'd to the *G. Lodge* at their Communication, some time before the Day of the *Annual Feast*; and that if he was approv'd then, or no Objection made, he was to be forthwith saluted *G. MASTER Elect*, if there; or if absent, his Health was to be toasted as such; and that as such he was to march to the *Feast* on the *present G. MASTER'S Left Hand*. • • • Therefore

"Now, before Dinner, there is no *Election*, but on a *Recognizing* of the former Approbation of the *New G. Master*, which is soon done." – *New Reg.*, 1738.

XXXI. Some time after Dinner, the GRAND-LODGE is form'd, not in Retirement, but in the Presence of all the Brethren, who yet are not Members of it, and must not therefore speak until they are desir'd and allow'd.⁶⁸

XXXII. If the GRAND MASTER of last Year has consented with the MASTERS and WARDENS in private, before Dinner, to continue for the Year ensuing; then ONE of the GRAND-LODGE, deputed for that purpose, shall represent to ALL THE BRETHREN HIS WORSHIP'S GOOD GOVERNMENT, &c. And turning to him, shall in the Name of the GRAND-LODGE, humbly request him to do the FRATERNITY THE GREAT HONOUR (if nobly born, if not THE GREAT KINDNESS) of continuing to be their GRAND-MASTER for the year ensuing. And his WORSHIP declaring his consent by a Bow or a Speech, as he pleases, the said deputed Member of the GRAND-LODGE shall salute him in due Form. And all the Brethren shall for a few Minutes have leave to declare their Satisfaction, Pleasure and Congratulations.

XXXIII. But if either the MASTER, and WARDENS have not in private, this Day before Dinner, nor the Day before, desir'd the LAST GRAND-MASTER to continue in the MASTERSHIP another Year; or if he, when desir'd, has not consented: Then

The LAST GRAND-MASTER shall nominate his Successor for the Year ensuing, who, if unanimously approv'd by the GRAND-LODGE, and if there present, shall be proclaim'd, saluted, and congratulated the NEW GRAND-MASTER as above hinted, and immediately install'd by the LAST GRAND-MASTER, according to Usage.⁶⁹

XXXIV. But if that Nomination is not unanimously approv'd, the NEW GRAND-MASTER shall be chosen immediately by BALLOT, every MASTER and WARDEN writing his Man's Name, and the LAST GRAND-MASTER writing his Man's Name too; and the Man, whose Name the LAST GRAND-MASTER shall first take out, casually or by chance, shall be GRAND-MASTER for the Year ensuing, and if present he shall be proclaim'd, saluted, and congratulated, as above hinted, and forthwith install'd by the LAST GRAND-MASTER, according to Usage.

XXXV. The LAST GRAND-MASTER thus continued, or the NEW GRAND-MASTER thus install'd, shall next nominate and appoint his DEPUTY Grand-Master, either the last or a new one, who shall be also declar'd, saluted and congratulated as above hinted.

The GRAND-MASTER shall also nominate the New GRAND-WARDENS, and if unanimously approv'd by the GRAND-LODGE, shall be declar'd, saluted, and congratulated, as above hinted; but if not, they shall be chosen by BALLOT, in the same way as the GRAND-MASTER; as the WARDENS of private LODGES are also to be chosen by BALLOT in each Lodge, if the Members thereof do not agree to their MASTER'S Nomination.

XXXVI. But if the BROTHER, whom the present GRAND-MASTER shall nominate for his SUCCESSOR, or whom the Majority of the GRAND-LODGE shall happen to chuse by Ballot, is, by Sickness or other necessary Occasion, absent from the GRAND-FEAST, he cannot be proclaim'd the New GRAND-MASTER, unless the OLD GRAND-MASTER, or some of the MASTERS and WARDENS of the GRAND-LODGE, can vouch, upon the Honour of a BROTHER, that the said Person, so nominated or chosen, will readily accept of the said Office, in which case the Old Grand-Master shall act as Proxy, and shall nominate the Deputy and Wardens in his Name, and in his Name also receive the usual Honours, Homage, and Congratulation.

XXXVII. Then the GRAND-MASTER shall allow any Brother, FELLOW-CRAFT, or APPRENTICE to speak, directing his Discourse to his WORSHIP; or to make any Motion for the good of the Fraternity, which shall be either immediately consider'd and finish'd, or else refer'd to the Consideration of the GRAND-LODGE at their next COMMUNICATION, stated or occasional, When that is over,

⁶⁸ "This *old Method* was found inconvenient: Therefore as the whole *Assembly* sit together at Dinner in the Form of a *Grand Lodge*, there is no Alteration, but the *Members* of the *G. Lodge* continue promiscuous in their Seats." – *New Reg.*, 1738.

⁶⁹ DERMOTT changed this to, "according to ancient usage," and added the following foot-note: "This is a most noble and grand Ceremony, but cannot be described in Writing, nor ever known to any but Master-Masons." – *Ahiman Rezon*, 1764, p. 81.

XXXVIII. The GRAND-MASTER or his DEPUTY, or some Brother appointed by him, shall harangue all the Brethren, and give them good Advice. And lastly, after some other Transactions, that cannot be written in any Language, the Brethren may go away or stay longer, as they please.⁷⁰

XXXIX. Every ANNUAL GRAND-LODGE has an inherent Power and Authority to make NEW REGULATIONS, or to alter these, for the real Benefit of this ANCIENT FRATERNITY: Provided always that the OLD LAND-MARKS BE CAREFULLY PRESERV'D, and that such Alterations and NEW REGULATIONS be proposed and agreed to at the third QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION preceding the ANNUAL GRAND FEAST; and that they be offered also to the Perusal of all the Brethren before Dinner, in writing, even of the youngest APPRENTICE: the Approbation and Consent of the MAJORITY of all the Brethren present being absolutely necessary to make the same binding and obligatory; which must, after Dinner, and after the NEW GRAND-MASTER is install'd, be solemnly desir'd; as it was desir'd and obtained for these REGULATIONS when propos'd by the GRAND LODGE, to about 150 Brethren, on ST. JOHN BAPTIST'S DAY, 1721.⁷¹

POSTSCRIPT

Here follows the manner of constituting a NEW LODGE, as practis'd by his GRACE the DUKE of WHARTON, the present RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER, according to the ancient Usages of MASONS.

A NEW LODGE, for avoiding many Irregularities, should be solemnly constituted by the GRAND-MASTER, with is DEPUTY and WARDENS; or in the GRAND-MASTER'S Absence, the DEPUTY shall act for his WORSHIP, and shall chuse some MASTER of a LODGE to assist him; or in case the deputy is absent, the GRAND-MASTER shall call forth some MASTER of a LODGE to act as DEPUTY PRO TEMPORE.

The Candidates, or the new Master and Wardens, yet among the FELLOW-CRAFT,⁷² the GRAND-MASTER shall ask his DEPUTY if he has examin'd them, and finds the Candidate MASTER well skill'd in the NOBLE SCIENCE and the ROYAL ART, and duly instructed in our MYSTERIES, &c.

And the DEPUTY answering in the affirmative, he shall (by the GRAND-MASTER'S Order) take the CANDIDATE from among his Fellows, and present him to the GRAND-MASTER; saying, RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND-MASTER, the BRETHREN HERE DESIRE TO BE FORM'D INTO A NEW Lodge, AND I PRESENT THIS MY WORTHY Brother TO BE THEIR Master, WHOM I KNOW TO BE OF GOOD MORALS AND GREAT SKILL, TRUE AND TRUSTY, AND A LOVER OF THE WHOLE Fraternity, WHERESOEVER DISPERS'D OVER THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

Then the GRAND-MASTER, placing the CANDIDATE on his left Hand, having ask'd and obtain'd the unanimous Consent of all the Brethren, shall say, I CONSTITUTE AND FORM THESE GOOD BRETHREN INTO A NEW Lodge, AND APPOINT YOU THE Master OF IT, NOT DOUBTING OF YOUR CAPACITY AND CARE TO PRESERVE THE Cement OF THE LODGE, &c. with some other Expressions that are proper and usual on that Occasion, but not proper to be written.

⁷⁰ "After the *Oration*, the 5 publick *Healths* may be toasted; and before or after each, a *Masons Song* with the best Instruments of Musick.

"Other Things relating to the *Chartes &c.*, of the G. MASTER, are best known to the *Fraternity*." – *New Reg.*, 1738.

⁷¹ "On 24 June 1723, at the Feast, the G. LODGE before Dinner made this RESOLUTION *that it is not in the Power of any Man or Body of Man to make any Alteration or Innovation in the Body of Masonry, without the Consent first obtain'd of the G. LODGE.* And on 25 Nov. 1723, the G. LODGE in Ample Form resolved, *that any G. Lodge duly met has a Power to amend or explain any of the printed Regulations in the Book of Constitutions, while they break not in upon the antient Rules of the Fraternity.*

But that no Alterations shall be made in this Printed Book of Constitutions without Leave of the G. Lodge.

Accordingly,

"All of the *Alterations* or New REGULATIONS above written are only for amending or explaining the OLD REGULATIONS for the Good of *Masonry*, without breaking in upon the ancient *Rules of the Fraternity*, still preserving the *Old Land Marks*; and were made at several Times as Occasion offer'd by the GRAND LODGE; who have an inherent Power of amending what may be thought inconvenient, and ample Authority of making NEW REGULATIONS for the Good of *Masonry*, without the Consent of *All the Brethren* at the *Grand Annual Feast*; which has not been disputed since the said 24 June 1721, for the *Members* of the G. LODGE are truly the Representatives of *All the Fraternity*, according to OLD REGULATION X." – *New Reg.*, 1738.

It should be borne in mind that the above – especially all after the word "Accordingly" – is the statement of BRO. ANDERSON, not of the Grand Lodge.

⁷² See last note on Regulation XIII, *supra*.

Upon this the DEPUTY shall rehearse the CHARGES of a MASTER, and the GRAND-MASTER shall ask the CANDIDATE, saying, DO YOU SUBMIT TO THESE Charges, as Masters HAVE DONE IN ALL AGES? And the CANDIDATE signifying his cordial Submission thereunto, the GRAND-MASTER shall, by certain significant Ceremonies and ancient Usages, install him, and present him with the CONSTITUTIONS, the LODGE-BOOK, and the INSTRUMENTS of his Office, not all together, but one after another; and after each of them, the GRAND-MASTER or his DEPUTY, shall rehearse the short and pithy CHARGE that is suitable to the thing presented.

After this, the members of this NEW LODGE, bowing all together to the GRAND-MASTER, shall return his WORSHIP thanks, and immediately do their HOMAGE to their NEW MASTER, and signify their Promise of Subjection and Obedience to him by the usual CONGRATULATION.

The DEPUTY and the GRAND-WARDENS, and any other Brethren present, that are not Members of this NEW LODGE, shall next congratulate the NEW MASTER; and he shall return his becoming Acknowledgements to the GRAND-MASTER first, and to the rest in their Order.

THEN the GRAND-MASTER desires the NEW MASTER to enter immediately upon the Exercise of his Office, in chusing his Wardens: And the NEW MASTER calling forth two FELLOW-CRAFT, presents them to the GRAND-MASTER for his Approbation, and to the NEW Lodge for their Consent. And that being granted,

The SENIOR or JUNIOR GRAND-WARDEN, or some other Brother for him, shall rehearse the CHARGES of WARDENS; and the CANDIDATES being solemnly ask'd by the NEW MASTER, shall signify their Submission thereunto.

Upon which the NEW MASTER, presenting them with the INSTRUMENTS of their OFFICE, shall, in due Form, install them in their proper Places; and the Brethren of that NEW LODGE shall signify their Obedience to the New WARDENS by the usual CONGRATULATION.

And this Lodge being thus compleatly constituted, shall be register'd in the GRAND-MASTER'S Book, and by his Order notify'd to the OTHER LODGES.

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APPENDIX G

ORDERS OF ALNWICK LODGE 1701⁷³

Orders to be observed by the company and fellowship of Free Masons at A Lodge held at Alnwick Sepr 29 1701 being the Genll head meeting day

- | | | | | |
|----|--|---|---|---|
| 1 | First it is ordered by the said ffellowship that there shall be yearly Two | | | |
| st | Wardens Chosen upon the said Twenty Ninth of Sepr being the feast of St. Michaell the Archangell, which Wardens shall be Elected and Appoynted by the most consent of the fellowship. | | | |
| 2 | Itm thatt the said Wardens Receive, commence and Sue all such penaltyes and fforfeitures and fines, as shall in any wise be amongst the Said ffellowship, and shall render and yield up a Just Account att the Years End of all Such fines and forfeitures as shall come to their hands, or oftener if need require, or if theMaster | | | |
| d | and ffellows List to call for them, | ≤ | s | d |
| | ffor every such offense to pay | 0 | 6 | 8 |
| 3 | Itm Thatt noe Mason shall take any worke by task or by day, other then the | | | |
| rd | Kionsgs work butt thatt att the Least he shall make Thre or ffour of his ffellows acquainted therewith, for to take | ≤ | s | d |
| | this part; paying for every such Offence | 3 | 6 | 8 |
| 4 | Itm Thatt noe Mason shall take any work that any of his ffellows is in hand | | | |
| th | with all to pay for Every such Offence | ≤ | s | d |
| | the Sume of | 1 | 6 | 8 |
| 5 | Itm Thatt noe Mason shall take any Apprentice, butt he must Enter him and give him his Charge within one whole Year after. Not soe doing the Master | | | |
| th | shall pay for | ≤ | s | d |
| | Every such Offence | 0 | 3 | 4 |
| 6 | Itm That every Master ffor Entring his | ≤ | s | d |
| | Apprentice shall pay | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| 7 | Itm Thatt Every Mason when he is warned by the Wardens, or other of the Company and shall not come to the place Appoynted, Except he have a Reasonable | | | |
| | cause to shew the Master and | ≤ | s | d |
| | Wardens to the contrary: Nott soe doing | 0 | 6 | 8 |
| | shall pay | | | |

⁷³ From the *fac simile* reproduction issued by the Newcastle College of Rosicrucians in 1895.

Alnwick Lodge was remarkable in three respects: First, in that the beginning of the eighteenth century it was one of the few Lodges composed wholly of operative masons. It retained its operative character to the last, although speculative Masons were received as visitors. Second, it did not unite with either of the three English Grand Lodges, or with its nearer neighbor, the Grand Lodge of Scotland, but was still independent at the date when its minute book ends, - 1757. Third, -

“These Lodge Regulations [the ‘Orders’ in the text], in connection with Minutes, are the oldest preserved in this country [England], though nothing like so old as those possessed by several existing Scottish Lodges. Their value and importance are not likely to be over estimated, even by the most appreciative student.” – *Introduction to fac-simile reproduction*, by WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

- 8 Itm Thatt noe Mason shall Thou⁷⁴ his ffellow or give him the Lye or any ways contend with him, or give him any other name in the place of meeting then Brother or ffellow or hold any disobedient Argument against any of the company reproachfully
ffor every such Offence shall pay ≤ s d
0 0 6
- 9 Itm There shall noe Apprentice after he has Served Seven years be Admitted or Accepted butt upon the ffeast of St. Michael the Archangell paying to the Mastr and Wardens
≤ s d
0 6 8
- 10th Itm If any Mason either in the place of meeting or att work among his ffellows, Swear or take Gods name in vain, that he or they soe offending shall pay for every time
≤ s d
0 0 9
- 11 Itm Thatt if any Fellow or Fellows shall att any time or times discover his Mastrs secretts or his owne be it nott onely spoken in the Lodge or without or the Secretts or counsell of his ffellows, thatt may Extend to the damage of any of his Fellows, or to any of their good names; whereby the Science may be ill spoken off,
ffor Every such offence shall pay ≤ s d
1 6 8
- 12 Itm Thatt noe Fellow of Fellows within this Lodge shall att any time or times call or hold Assemblys to make any Mason or Masons free: Nott Acquainting the Mastr or Wardens therewith For Every time soe offending shall pay
≤ s d
3 6 8
- 13 Itm Thatt noe Rough Layers or any other thatt has nott served their time, or Admitted Masons shall work within the Lodge any work of Masonry whatsoever (Except under a Mastr)
ffor Every such Offence shall pay ≤ s d
3 13 4
- 14 Itm Thatt all ffellows being younger shall give his Elder ffellows the honor due to their degree and Standing, Alsoe thatt the Mastr Wardons and all the Fellows of this Lodge doe promish severally and respectively to performe all and every the Orders above named, and to stand by Each other, (butt more Particularly to the Wardons and their Successors) in Sueing for all and Every the forfeitures of our said Brethren, contrary to any of the Said Orders demand thereof being the first made.

[Signed by the Master, two Wardens, and many others.]

⁷⁴ That is, by addressing him as “thee” or “thou,” treat him like a menial or a child.

APPENDIX H

OLD RULES OF THE GRAND LODGE AT YORK 1725, NO. 8⁷⁵

Articles agreed to be kept and observed by the Antient Society of Freemasons in the City of York, and to be subscribed by every Member thereof at their Admittance into the said Society.

Imprimis. – That every first Wednesday in the month a Lodge shall be held at the house of a Brother according as their turn shall fall out.

2. - All Subscribers to these Articles not appearing at the monthly Lodge, shall forfeit Sixpence each time.

3. - If any Brother appear at a Lodge that is not a Subscriber to these Articles, he shall pay over and above his club the sum of one shilling.

4. - The bowl shall be filled at the monthly Lodges with Punch once, Ale, Bread, Cheese, and Tobacco in common, but if anything more shall be called for by any Brother, either for eating or drinking, that Brother so calling shall pay for it himself besides his club.

5. - The Master or Deputy shall be obliged to call for a Bill exactly at ten o'clock, if they meet in the evening, and discharge it.

6. - None to be admitted to the making of a Brother but such as have subscribed to these articles.

7. - Timely notice shall be given to all the Subscribers when a Brother or Brothers are to be made.

8. - Any Brother or Brothers presuming to call a Lodge with a design to make a Mason or Masons, without the Master or Deputy, or one of the deputed, for every such offence shall forfeit the sum of Five Pounds.

9. - Any Brother that shall interrupt the Examination of a Brother shall forfeit one shilling.

10. - Clerk's Salary for keeping the Books and Accounts shall be one Shilling to be paid him by each Brother at his admittance, and at each of the two Grand days he shall receive such gratuity as the Company shall think proper.

11. - A Steward to be chose for keeping the Stock at the Grand Lodge, at Christmas, and the Accounts to be passed three days after each Lodge.

12. - If any dispute arise, the Master shall silence them by a knock of the Mallet; any Brother that shall presume to disobey shall immediately be obliged to leave the Company, or forfeit five Shillings.

13. - An Hour shall be set apart to talk Masonry.

14. - No person shall be admitted into the Lodge but after having been strictly examined.

15. - No more persons shall be admitted as Brothers of this Society that shall keep a Public-House.

16. - That these Articles, shall at Lodges be laid upon the Table, to be perused by the Members, and also when any new Brothers are made, the Clerk shall publickly read them.

17. - Every new Brother at his admittance shall pay to the Waits as their Salary, the sum of two Shillings, the money to be lodged in the Steward's hands, and paid to them at each of the Grand days.

18. - The Bidder of the Society shall receive of each new Brother at his admittance the sum of one Shilling as his Salary.

⁷⁵ Reprinted from Hughan's "History of Freemasonry in York." The title is the endorsement on the sheet of parchment on which the rules are written. "No. 8" probably means that the document was the eighth item on a certain inventory of the Lodge's property. The body referred to was the old Lodge at York which, after the establishment of a Grand Lodge in London in 1717, affected the title of Grand Lodge of All England. While the rules were probably revised and compiled in 1725, probably most of them were what we would call by-laws of the Lodge long prior to that date.

19. - No money shall be expended out of the Stock after the hour of ten, as in the fifth Article.

[Signed by "Ed. Bell, Master," and 87 Members.]

APPENDIX I

THE ANCIENT LANDMARKS

The rituals and literature of Freemasonry contain many allusions to “THE ANCIENT LANDMARKS”, the immemorial usages and customs, the foundation stones upon which modern Freemasonry has been erected. A noted American Masonic scholar, Dr. Albert G. Mackey, formulated a list of twenty-five landmarks. Opinion as to the falidity of his list is not unanimous. Some Grand Lodges adopted his twenty-five, some as many as fifty, others fewer in number. Bro. Roscoe Pound, a Past Deputy Grand Master of Massachusetts, and for many years Dean of the School of Law at Harvard, promulgated a list of seven.

The Grand Lodge of Washington never officially adopted a list of Ancient Landmarks. The following lists are included here as educational material only, in order that the origins and traditions, the usages and customs, the heritage of our Fraternity may be preserved.

THE ANCIENT LANDMARKS as formulated by Dr. Albert G. Mackey:

1. The modes or recognition.
2. The division of symbolic Masonry into three degrees.
3. The legend of the Third Degree.
4. The government of the Fraternity by a Grand Master elected from the body of the Craft
5. The prerogative of the Grand Master to preside over any assembly of the Craft.
6. The prerogative of the Grand Master to grant dispensation for conferring degrees irregular times.
7. The prerogative of the Grand Master to grant dispensations for the opening and holding of Lodges.
8. The prerogative of the Grand Master to make Masons at sight. **[Rev. 2007]**
9. The necessity for Masons to congregate in Lodges.
10. The government of every Lodge by a Master and two Wardens.
11. The necessity of every Lodge when congregated being duly tyled.
12. The right of every Mason to be represented in all general meetings of the Craft and to instruct his representatives.
13. The right of every Mason to appeal from the decision of his Brethren, in Lodge convened, to the Grand Lodge or General Assembly of Masons.
14. The right of every Mason to visit and sit in every regular Lodge. (SEE NOTE BELOW).
15. No visitor unknown to some Brother present as a Mason can enter a Lodge without undergoing an examination.
16. No Lodge can interfere in the business of another Lodge.
17. Every Freemason is amenable to the Laws and Regulations of the Masonic Jurisdiction which he resides.
18. Every candidate must be a man, freeborn and of lawful age.
19. Every Mason must believe in the existence of God as the Grand Architect of the Universe.
20. Every Mason must believe in a resurrection to a future life.

21. The “Book of the Law” is an indispensable part of the furniture of every Masonic Lodge.
22. That all men in the sight of God are equal and meet in the Lodge on one common level.
23. The secrecy of the Institution.
24. That Freemasonry consists of a Speculative Science founded on an Operative art.
25. The Landmarks of Masonry can never be changed. **[Rev. 2007]**

NOTE: 14. An objection may be made to visitors. Washington Masonic Code, Sec. 13.10 B.L.

THE ANCIENT LANDMARKS as enunciated by Dr. Roscoe Pound in an address to the Conference of Grand Masters in North America, Washington, D.C., February 20, 1952:

1. Belief in God.
2. Belief in the persistence of personality, i.e., the immortality of the soul.
3. A “Book of the Law” as an indispensable part of the furniture of the Lodge.
4. The Legend of the Third Degree.
5. Secrecy.
6. The symbolism of the operative art.
7. A Mason must be a man, freeborn, and of age.

APPENDIX J

GENEALOGY OF THE GRAND LODGE

OF WASHINGTON

Prepared by W. Bro. Howard A. Hanson (87, 281)

The accompanying chart is a graphic outline of the genealogy of the Grand Lodge of Washington, extending back to five foreign Grand Jurisdictions—the Grand Lodge of England (Moderns), the Grand Lodge of Ireland, the Grand Lodge of Scotland, Mother Kilwinning Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of England According to old Institutions, also known as the Ancients, the Schismatics, the Atholls and as the Ancient York Masons.

The modern Grand Lodge system dates from the organization of the Grand Lodge of England (Moderns), in 1717. The earlier period had been one of Operative Masonry, later admitting Speculative Masons. By 1717 there existed, under the Old Customs, Lodges of Operative Masons, of both Operative and Speculative Masons and of purely Speculative Masons.

The new system spread rapidly, but the old Customs continued for a long time, especially in the British Colonies. Instances of the Old Customs appear in the genealogy of the Grand Lodge of Washington. The development of American Masonic jurisprudence has been a process of slow growth. The history of the formation of the American Lodges and Grand Lodges in our chain of Masonic genealogy must be read in the light of the customs and jurisprudence of the time.

The Grand Lodge of Washington was organized at Olympia, December 8, 1858, by representatives of four Lodges holding Charters from the Grand Lodge of Oregon:

Olympia Lodge, No. 5 (now No. 1), at Olympia, Chartered June 14, 1853;
Steilacoom Lodge, No. 8 (now No. 2), at Steilacoom, Chartered June 13, 1854;
Grand Mound Lodge, No. 21 (later No. 3), at Grand Mound, Chartered July 13, 1858 (Charter surrendered September 19, 1868), and
Washington Lodge No. 22 (now No. 4), at Vancouver, Chartered July 13, 1858.

The Grand Lodge of Oregon was organized at Oregon City, August 16, 1851, by representatives of three Lodges, one Chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri and two by the Grand Lodge of California. The Grand Lodge of California was organized at Sacramento, April 19, 1850, by representatives of three Lodges Chartered by the Grand Lodges of Missouri, District of Columbia and Connecticut; the representatives of two more Lodges holding Dispensations from the Grand Lodge of New Jersey and the Grand Lodge of Louisiana (A.Y.M.) being seated as Masons in the Convention, holding offices and participating in the formation of the Grand Lodge.

The genealogy of the Grand Lodge of Washington extends through the Grand Lodges of Oregon, California, Missouri, Tennessee, North Carolina (State), North Carolina (Provincial), Connecticut, Massachusetts (English Constitution), Massachusetts (Scottish Constitution), New York (English Constitution), New Jersey, District of Columbia, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Louisiana (A.Y.M.), Mississippi and Kentucky and to the five foreign Grand Lodges above mentioned.

[Rev. 2003]

Our earliest Masonic connections with these foreign Grand Lodges extend to:

The Grand Lodge of England (Moderns), in the Deputation, dated April 13, 1733, appointing Henry Price, of Boston, as Provincial Grand Master of New England;

The Grand Lodge of Scotland, in the Warrant, dated December 1, 1755, for Kilwinning Crosse Lodge, at Port Royal, Virginia;

The Grand Lodge of England (Ancients), in the Warrant, dated June 7, 1758, for Lodge No. 69, at Philadelphia;

The Grand Lodge of Ireland, in the Warrant, dated May 3, 1759, for Lodge No. 322, in the 29th Regt., which, at the time of the organization of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts (Scottish Constitution), was stationed at Boston and participated in the formation of that Grand Lodge; and

Mother Kilwinning Grand Lodge, in the Warrant, dated about 1767, for Tappahannock Lodge, at Tappahannock, Virginia.

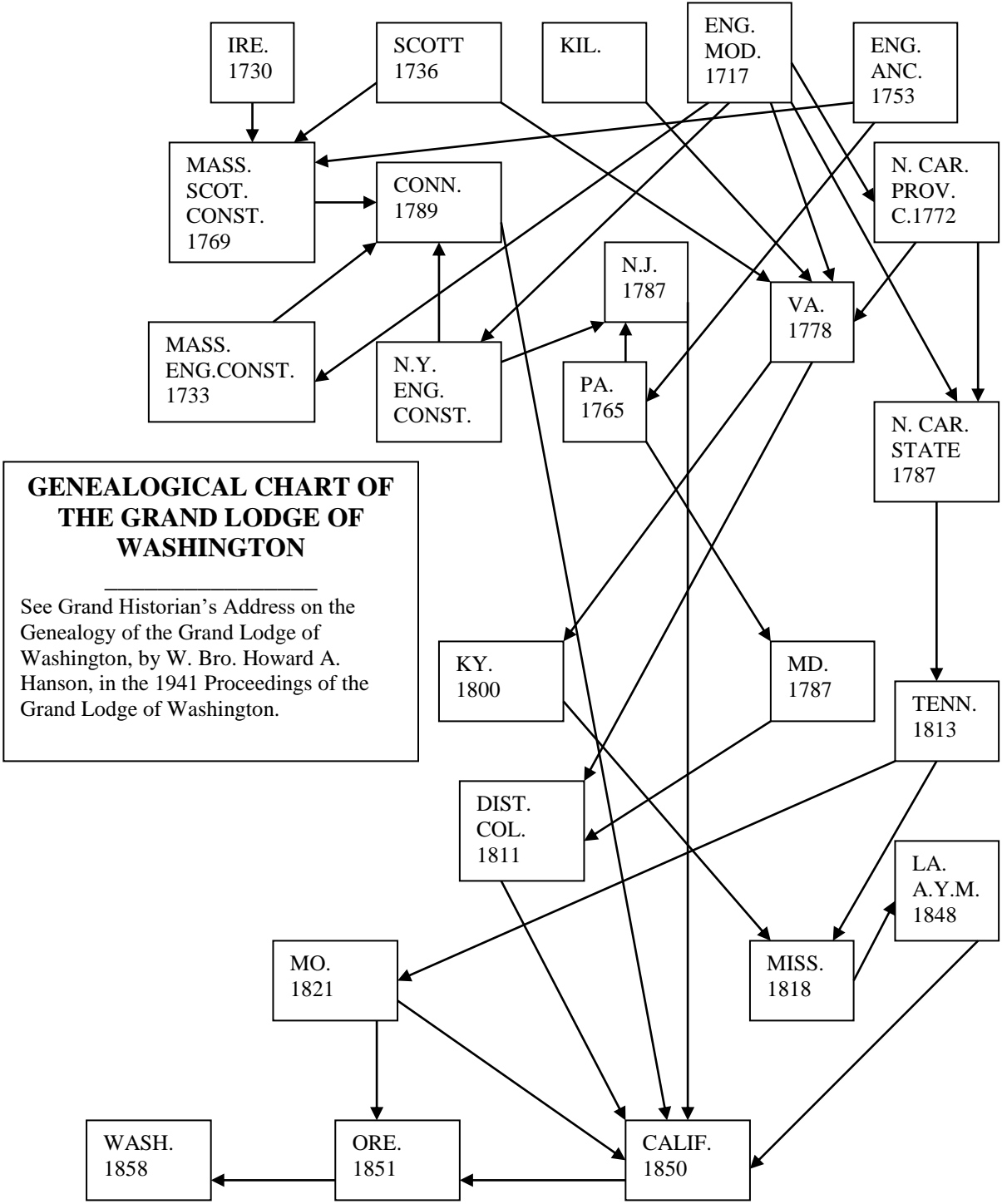
The genealogy of the Grand Lodge of Washington covers a period of nearly three hundred and fifty years, extending back to the formation of the modern Grand Lodge system, in 1717, and on through the Old Customs to the Lodge at Kilwinning, whose records date from before 1598, the oldest known records of Operative Masonry. Within this span of time the known history of Masonry is found. Back of it lie the Legends of the Craft.

Genealogy of the Washington Grand Lodge Seal.

1. At its first Communication, on December 8, 1858, the Grand Lodge authorized the appointment of a committee “to procure a suitable seal for use of the Grand Lodge and at as early a day as practicable” (Proceed. Const. Conv. 15). The first facsimile of the Grand Lodge seal appears in the certificate of the Grand Lodge Secretary to the transcript of the Grand Lodge Proceedings of its second Annual Communication (1859, I, 2) following appropriation of \$50.00 for its purchase (1859, I, 58). The Grand Secretary reported at the third Annual Communication an expenditure for the Seal of \$46.00 and \$4.75 for expressage (1860, I, 116). It was not until the adoption of the Code of 1913 (Sec. 41) that the design of the Seal as originally shown, 1859, I, 2, except elimination of the abbreviation “Tery.” upon Washington becoming a state (1890, VIII, 170) was formally adopted by Grand Lodge. How the motto “Exitus acta probat” came to be selected as the motto of Grand Lodge is not disclosed by any of the Proceedings. Possibly it was taken from the maxim “exitus acta probat; finis, non pugna, coronat” – “The result justifies the acts; the termination, not the trial, crowns the victory.” (Adams Gloss.)

2. On the suggestion of R.:W.:Brother Baldrey, the Code Commission made research for the source of the motto on our Grand Lodge Seal; correspondence between the Code Commission and Sol Bloom, Associate Director, and Prof. Albert Bushnell Hart, Historian of the United States Commission for the Celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the Birth of George Washington, disclosed the fact that the motto was used by George Washington and his ancestors in England in connection with the Coat of Arms and Crest confirmed to Lawrence Washington of Sulgrave and his descendants by the Garter King of Arms in 1593.

[Rev. 2003]



[Rev. 2003]

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APPENDIX K

GRAND LODGE FORMS

Certificate for Dropping NPD
Certificate of EA or FC (release/waiver)
Certificate of Good Standing
Certificate of Renunciation
Charges for Un-Masonic Conduct
Dimit
Dimit from Plural Membership
Dues Statement/Dues Cards Order Form
Election Form
End of Year
Grand Lodge Expense Reimbursement
Grand Mound Petition
Investigation Form (Committee Reports)
Lewis Jewel
Life Membership
Lodge By-Laws
Lodge Standing Resolutions/Rules & Wills/Bequests
Monthly Return - Full Report
Monthly Return - Nothing to Report
Petition for Affiliation
Petition for Plural Membership
Petition for Reinstatement
Petition for the Degrees
Request for Another Lodge to Confer Degrees
Request for Masonic Relief
Temple Board - Certificate to Amend-Restate
Temple Board - Property Tax Exemption Application
Temple Board Articles of Incorporation (Multi)
Temple Board Articles of Incorporation (Single)
Temple Corporation By- Laws - (Multi)
Temple Corporation By- Laws - (Single)
Waiver of Jurisdiction - No Degrees

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**RECORD OF MASONIC CHANGES
OF THE
WASHINGTON MASONIC CODE**

Year Made Year Made Year Made

| | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
| 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
| 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
| 2027 | 2028 | 2029 |
| 2030 | 2031 | 2032 |
| 2033 | 2034 | 2035 |
| 2036 | 2037 | 2038 |
| 2039 | 2040 | 2041 |
| 2042 | 2043 | 2044 |
| 2045 | 2046 | 2047 |
| 2048 | 2049 | 2050 |
| 2051 | 2052 | 2053 |
| 2054 | 2055 | 2056 |
| 2057 | 2058 | 2059 |
| 2060 | 2061 | 2062 |
| 2063 | 2064 | 2065 |
| 2066 | 2067 | 2068 |
| 2069 | 2070 | 2071 |
| 2072 | 2073 | 2074 |
| 2075 | 2076 | 2077 |
| 2078 | 2079 | 2080 |