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**CONSTITUTION AND STANDING REGULATIONS
OF**

THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS INTERNATIONAL

REVISED 1993

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CONSTITUTION of
THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER of
ROYAL ARCH MASONS INTERNATIONAL

ARTICLE I
GOVERNMENT

100.00 NAME:

This Body shall be known and designated as "The General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International".

101.00 MEMBERSHIP:

The membership of The General Grand Chapter shall consist of the following:

101.01 OFFICERS:

A Most Excellent General Grand High Priest;
A Right Excellent General Grand King;
A Right Excellent General Grand Scribe;
A Right Excellent General Grand Treasurer;
A Right Excellent General Grand Chaplain;
An Excellent General Grand Captain of the Host;
An Excellent General Grand Principal Sojourner;
An Excellent General Grand Royal Arch Captain;
Three Excellent General Grand Masters of the Veils;
A General Grand Sentinel; and
A General Grand Custodian of the Work.

101.02 Past General Grand High Priests, Past General Grand Kings, and Past General Grand Scribes.

101.03 Past Grand First Principals, and Past Grand High Priests of The Grand Chapters Affiliated with this General Grand Chapter.

101.04 Any three of the Following:

Grand High Priest or Grand First Principal, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King or Grand Second Principal, Grand Scribe, or Grand Third Principal, or their duly appointed proxy, of the Grand Chapters affiliated with this General Grand Chapter. Grand Chapters having Deputy Grand High Priests shall designate which three Grand Officers will hold membership.

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- 101.05 The High Priest or First Principals, Kings or Second Principals, or Scribes or Third Principals, and their duly appointed proxies of The Subordinate Chapters of The General Grand Chapter. Proxies of a Grand Officer must be a member of The Chapter in The Grand Officers Jurisdiction.
- 102.00 ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP:
- 102.01 To be an officer or member of The General Grand Chapter, a Companion must be a member of a Grand Chapter affiliated with and in good standing with The General Grand Chapter.
- 102.02 A Companion, to hold office in The General Grand Chapter must be a member in good standing of his own Grand Chapter.
- 102.03 To hold the office of General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, General Grand Scribe, or General Grand Captain of the Host, a Companion must be, present or past presiding officer of his Grand Chapter.
- 102.04 Honorary Memberships: - The General Grand Chapter may elect to Honorary Membership any Royal Arch Mason it may desire to honor.
- 102.05 If the Honorary Member shall have served as the presiding officer of a Grand Chapter, he shall be entitled to the title of "Honorary Past General Grand High Priest".
- 102.06 If the Honorary member shall not have been the presiding officer of a Grand Chapter, he shall be entitled to the title of "Honorary Past General Grand Scribe".
- 103.00 FEES AND DUES: The General Grand Chapter shall from time to time set the amount of money to be remitted to The General Grand Chapter for dues and assessments from the Subordinate Chapters and Grand Chapters.
- 104.00 CONVOCATIONS;
- 104.01 Stated: The stated Convocations shall be held triennially, at such times and place designated for that purpose by The Elective Grand Officers (except trustees) unless other wise designated by the General Grand Chapter.

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- 104.02 Special: Special Convocations may be called by The General Grand High Priest under the following circumstances:
- 104.021 For emergency purposes with the consent of The Elected Officers;
- 104.022 Upon the request of the elected officers of three affiliated Grand Chapters:
- 104.023 Upon the request of The Grand High Priest or Grand First Principals of ten affiliated Grand Chapters (collectively). Timely notice shall be given by the General Grand Secretary to all officers and members of The General Grand Chapter.
- 104.03 QUORUM: A quorum of The General Grand Chapter shall consist of nine (9) Affiliated Grand Chapters. No business shall be transacted unless a quorum is present.
- 104.04 VOTING: In order to cast a vote a companion must be in good standing in The General Grand Chapter, as well as his own Grand Chapter.
- 104.05 If at any time and date of a Convocation, it shall appear to The General Grand High Priest that there exists a danger to life or health, from sickness or other local causes, he may change the time and place of that particular Convocation. The General Grand Secretary shall immediately give notice to all officers and members of The General Grand Chapter in such manner as may be appropriate to the occasion.
- 105.00 POWERS OF THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER:
- 105.01 GENERAL JURISDICTION: The General Grand Chapter possesses only those powers necessary for it to function in its relationship with The Affiliated Grand Chapters and Subordinate Chapters. It can exercise no doubtful or implied powers. Masonic Powers not granted to The General Grand Chapter are reserved to The Grand and Subordinate Chapters of the several affiliated jurisdictions. The General Grand Chapter shall have and maintain jurisdiction over all Chapters established by itself in those States, Districts, Republics and Territories which recognize its jurisdiction, and where no Grand Chapter is established. The Grand Chapters affiliated with The General Grand Chapter are sovereign bodies unto themselves, and are the supreme and final authority in all matters of Capitular Masonry within their respective jurisdictions.

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- 105.02 General Grand Royal Arch Council:
- 105.021 The General Grand Royal Arch Council shall include the elective officers of The General Grand Chapter (excluding trustees).
- 105.022 The General Grand Council shall convene at least once each Royal Arch year at the call of The General Grand High Priest.
- 105.023 The General Grand Council shall assist The General Grand High Priest in planning and executing such service programs as The General Grand Chapter and General Grand Royal Arch Council shall adopt, consistent with the funds available.
- 105.024 The General Grand Royal Arch Council shall keep minutes of their official acts.
- 106.00 JURISPRUDENCE: The General Grand Chapter shall have power to decide all questions of Capitular Masonic Law, Usage and Customs, which may arise in any subordinate Chapter under its jurisdiction: or any question referred to it by a Grand Chapter, after a formal vote by said Grand Chapter. The decisions of The General Grand Chapter shall be deemed final in all respects.
- 106.01 The General Grand Chapter shall not entertain any complaint against a Grand Chapter preferred by any Subordinate Chapter or individual Mason of the jurisdiction.
- 106.02 If there exist a controversy between two or more Grand Chapters, even where the question of Masonic Law, Custom or Usage is not involved and the Grand Chapters consent, The General Grand Chapter may act as final arbiter and settle the controversy.
- 106.03 The General Grand Chapter shall judge the qualifications of its own members. It shall see that the ancient work of The Order is preserved in the several degrees. It shall establish uniform formulas for installation of its own officers and those of Grand and Subordinate Chapters, and for the consecration and constitution of Chapters and the opening of Grand Chapters. It may suspend the proceedings of any Chapter under its own immediate jurisdiction, in any State, District, Republic or Territory where there is no Grand Chapter, for any willful violation of any of the provisions of this Constitution or for Gross Unmasonic proceedings or conduct.

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106.04 The General Grand Chapter has the power to hear appeals from the decisions of the General Grand High Priest. However the decisions of the General Grand High Priest shall stand as the judgment of the General Grand Chapter unless otherwise determined by the General Grand Chapter by a majority vote of the Members present.

107.00 ELECTION OF GENERAL GRAND OFFICERS;

107.01 The General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, General Grand Scribe, General Grand Treasurer, General Grand Secretary, and Trustees shall be elected at each Triennial convocation by ballot, by a majority of the votes cast: and such elected officers shall hold their respective offices until their successors are installed.

107.02 The General Grand Captain of the Host, The General Grand Principal Sojourner, General Grand Royal Arch Captain, three General Grand Masters of the Veils, General Grand Sentinel General Grand Chaplain, and General Grand Custodian of The Work shall be appointed by The General Grand High Priest and shall serve for the Triennial period of The General Grand High Priest making the appointment.

108.00 WHO MAY VOTE:

108.01 Each member in good standing of the General Grand Chapter.

108.02 Any Past Grand High Priest or Past Grand First Principal who has presided over his Grand Chapter for more than one year, shall have a vote for each year of service as presiding officer, not to exceed three (3) votes.

108.03 When an officer of a Grand Chapter is not present in person or by proxy, when a vote is taken, the senior officer present shall have the power to cast the vote for those officers not present.

108.04 Officers and Proxies of Subordinate Chapters shall collectively have a single vote.

108.05 Each affiliated Grand Chapter with a membership of 5,000 or less will be entitled one vote. For those Grand Chapters with a membership of 5,001 or more they will be entitled an additional vote for each 5,000 members based on their rolls. Said vote may be cast by the Senior Grand Officer present.

GENERAL GRAND OFFICERS - DUTIES

109.00 General Grand High Priest - It shall be the duties of The General Grand High Priest to:

109.01

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- 109.011 Preside in The General Grand Chapter:
- 109.012 Exercise and discharge the executive functions of The General Grand Chapter when it is not in session; which shall include the approval of membership of Grand Chapters upon application and the recognition of the sovereignty of each Grand Chapter.
- 109.013 Convene any Chapter under the immediate jurisdiction of The General Grand Chapter, preside therein, inspect its proceedings and conformity to capitular Masonic Law, Usage and Custom:
- 109.014 Require the attendance of, and information from any General Grand Officer respecting his office. If in the opinion of the General Grand High Priest, the best interest of the General Grand Chapter would be served, and with the concurrence of the General Grand Council, he may suspend such officer and appoint a suitable qualified Companion to act in his stead until the next General Grand Chapter Convocation. At said convocation the General Grand High Priest shall report on such action;
- 109.015 Appoint such General Grand Officers as may be necessary, and to fill any vacancies as may be appropriate:
- 109.016 Issue duplicate charters to affiliated Grand Chapters constituted by The General Grand Chapter and to Subordinate Chapters in lieu of charters lost by fire or otherwise, when in his judgment it is deemed advisable to do;
- 109.017 Perform such other duties and exercise such other powers and prerogatives as properly pertain to the position not inconsistent with the provisions of this Constitution:
- 109.018 Within 90 days after The Triennial at which The General Grand High Priest is elected, he shall appoint the following standing committees, which shall consist of no less than five (5) members to serve during the succeeding Triennium:
- a. On Jurisprudence
 - b. On Finance
 - c. On Ritual
 - d. On Necrology - The Committee on Necrology shall prepare a brief report relating to the deaths of the members of the General Grand Chapter since the last stated Triennial Convocation. They shall present a suitable memorial during the Triennial Convocation.
 - f. On Royal Arch Advancement
 - g. On Grievances
 - h. On Charters and Dispensations

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- 109.019 Immediately following installation The General Grand High Priest shall appoint members to fill all vacancies of the following Boards:
- a. Board of International Masonic Affairs
 - b. Board of Publication
 - c. Board of General Purposes
- 109.020 The General Grand High Priest may appoint any other Special Committees he deems necessary, and designate their duties:
- 109.021 At the earliest appropriate time The General Grand High Priest shall appoint the following Convocation Committees as may be necessary or appropriate for the planning and conduct of The Triennial Convocation:
- a. General Convocation Committee
 - b. Credentials
 - c. Resolutions
 - d. With concurrence of The Chairman of The General Grand Convocation Committee, The General Grand High Priest may appoint such other special committees as may be necessary for the planning and conduct of The Triennial Convocation.
- 109.20 General Grand King - In the case of disability of The General Grand High Priest The General Grand King shall assume the duties of The General Grand High Priest and act in his stead until such disability ceases, or until the next Triennial Session. If there shall be a vacancy in the office of General Grand King, The General Grand Scribe shall succeed to said office as is specified elsewhere in this Constitution.
- 109.30 General Grand Scribe - In case of disability of The General Grand King, the General Grand Scribe shall assume the duties of The General Grand King, until the disability ceases, or until the next Triennial Session. If there shall be a vacancy in the office of General Grand King, the General Grand High Priest shall appoint a General Grand Scribe as provided for elsewhere in this Constitution.
- 109.40 General Grand Treasurer - It shall be the duty of The General Grand Treasurer:
- 109.41 To take charge of all funds and property of The General Grand Chapter, except the funds held and invested by The Board of Trustees of The Permanent Fund, and except the funds and property of The Board of Publication and the corporation formed and managed by said Board:
- 109.42 To payout moneys ordered by the General Grand Chapter which have been certified by the General Grand Secretary:

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- 109.43 To payout moneys for claims not ordered by The General Grand Chapter, but audited and approved by the General Grand High Priest;
- 109.44 To report at each Triennial Convocation, or more often if required by The General Grand Chapter or General Grand High Priest, an itemized account of receipts and disbursements, as well as the amount of funds and property in his hands;
- 109.45 To execute and deposit with the General Grand High Priest a surety bond within thirty (30) days of his election. The premium for said surety bond shall be paid by The General Grand Chapter. Said bond will be payable to The General Grand Chapter in the penal amount of \$50,000.00 or such other sum as may be fixed by the General Grand Chapter. Said bond shall be approved by The General Grand High Priest, General Grand King and General Grand Scribe. Said bond shall be conditioned, that The General Grand Treasurer shall pay or deliver on demand, to the General Grand Chapter or to a successor of the General Grand Treasurer, all funds and property which shall have come into his hands by virtue of said office .. He shall likewise make an accounting of said funds. If The General Grand Treasurer shall fail or refuse to execute such surety bond, he shall not succeed to said office and shall be replaced by The General Grand High Priest by one who will execute such a bond;
- 109.46 If at any time, because of a shortage of funds or any other emergency, it shall - be necessary to convert any securities belonging to The General Fund into cash, the General Grand Treasurer shall have such authority to make such conversion. He shall, however, have a written order of the General Grand High Priest, concurred in by the Chairman of The Finance Committee. Said officers are hereby authorized to execute and sign any and all instruments to effect said sale;
- 109.47 If in the judgment of the Board of Trustees of the Permanent Fund and The General Grand High Priest, it shall be necessary or advisable to sell or convert any securities belonging to the Permanent Fund, The General Grand Treasurer is hereby authorized to make such sale or conversion. Only, however, after he has received a written order to do so signed by The General Grand High Priest and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Permanent Fund. The aforementioned officers of The General Grand Chapter are hereby authorized to execute and sign any and all instruments necessary to effect such sale.

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- 109.48 All monies belonging to The General Fund shall be deposited by The General Grand Treasurer in a bank or trust company of his selection. The depository shall have the written approval of three or more of the following: General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, General Grand Scribe, chairman of The Finance Committee;
- 109.50 General Grand Secretary: It shall be the duty of The General Grand Secretary;
- 109.51 To record all transactions of The General Grand Chapter;
- 109.52 To receive, duly file, and safely keep all papers and documents of The General Grand Chapter;
- 109.53 To prepare, sign and certify all charters and dispensations and other instruments emanating from The General Grand Chapter, and when necessary affix its seal thereto;
- 109.54 To receive and keep a proper account of all monies of The General Grand Chapter, and pay over the same to The General Grand Treasurer;
- 109.55 To report to each Triennial Convocation, or more often if required by The General Grand Chapter or General Grand High Priest, an itemized account of receipts and disbursements of all monies received and disbursed by him. He shall further report as to The Chapters, Grand and Subordinate, that have failed to render proper returns and are in arrears, and any other information as to the state and condition of said Chapters. This report shall be presented to The General Grand Chapter for any action deemed necessary;
- 109.56 To conduct the correspondence of The General Grand Chapter;
- 109.57 To attend, with all necessary books and records under his control, on all Convocations of The General Grand Chapter;
- 109.58 To execute and deposit with The General Grand High Priest a surety bond within thirty (30) days of his election, the premium to be paid by The General Grand Chapter. Said bond will be payable to The General Grand Chapter and be approved by The General Grand High Priest, General Grand King and General Grand Scribe in the penal amount of \$50,000.00, or such other sum as may be set by The General Grand Chapter. Said bond shall be conditioned that

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- 109.59 The General Grand Secretary will promptly deposit all General Grand Chapter Funds in the approved depository, or pay on demand to The General Grand Treasurer all funds that shall come into his hands. He shall also account for all funds and all other property that comes into his hands to The General Grand Chapter. If the General Grand Secretary shall fail or refuse to execute such bond, he shall not succeed to said office, and shall be replaced by The General Grand High Priest, by one who will execute said surety bond.
- 109.60 Deputy General Grand High Priest: When in the judgment of The General Grand High Priest it would benefit Capitular Masonry, he shall have the authority to appoint one or more Deputy General Grand High Priests for any country, state or province in which there are one or more Chapters directly subordinate to this General Grand Chapter. The General Grand High Priest shall also have the authority to appoint one or more Deputy General Grand High Priest for regions into which the constituent Grand Chapters are divided.
- 109.61 Duties: It shall be the duty of the Deputy General Grand High Priest to be the personal representative of The General Grand High Priest in the supervision of the said Subordinate Chapters, or Grand Chapters. He shall also carry any authority that The General Grand High Priest may assign him. He shall be entitled to bear the title of Right Excellent Deputy General Grand High Priest.
- 109.62 Tenure: A Deputy General Grand High Priest shall remain in office at the will and pleasure of The General Grand High Priest, but said term of office shall not exceed the Triennial in which he serves. He shall be considered a member of The General Grand Chapter during his tenure in office.
- 109.63 Ballot: Each Deputy General Grand High Priest shall be entitled to one vote for the Triennial in which he serves, if he does not have a vote as a permanent member of The General Grand Chapter.
- 109.64 Reports: Each Deputy General Grand High Priest shall file a written report of his actions during the Triennium with the General Grand Secretary.
109. 65 Copies of all correspondence initiated by Member Grand Chapters or Subordinate Chapters shall be furnished to The Deputy General Grand High Priest of the appropriate jurisdiction or region .

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- 109.66 Remaining General Grand Chapter Officers: The remaining General Grand Chapter Officers shall perform such duties as pertain to their respective stations, according to custom and usages of the craft. They shall perform such duties as may be required by The General Grand Chapter or The General Grand High Priest.
- 110.00 **BOARDS OF ADMINISTRATION:**
- 110.01 In order to secure the governance and function of the General Grand Chapter, the following Boards are created:
- 110.011 Board of International Masonic Affairs
- 110.012 Board of Publications
- 110.013 Board of General Purposes
- 110.014 Board of Trustees
- 110.02 Board of International Masonic Affairs:
- 110.021 Structure - membership of the board shall consist of not less than three nor more than seven members. One member shall be designated Chairman. The General Grand High Priest, General Grand Secretary, and either General Grand King or General Grand Scribe, as may be designated by the General Grand High Priest, shall become members of this Board,
- 110.022 Duties - the board shall serve as the advisory board to the General Grand High Priest in the Area of International Masonic Relations and such other areas as the General Grand High Priest may direct.
- 110.03 Board of Publication:
- 110.031 Structure - the board shall consist of three members to serve three year, staggered terms, one to expire at the end of each year. They shall designate their own Chairman. The General Grand High Priest and General Grand Secretary shall be ex-officio members. The Board shall elect its own officers, which shall be the officers of the York Rite Publication Company, a Missouri Corp., wholly owned by the General Grand Chapter.
- 110.032 Duties - the board will administer the affairs of this corporation; which publishes the Royal Arch Mason Magazine, the official organ of the General Grand Chapter.

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110.04 Board of General Purposes:

110.041 Structure - the board shall consist of a Chairman to serve a term of three years and six members who shall have terms of six years. Three of the six members terms shall expire at the end of each Triennium. No member of the Board is eligible to succeed himself, nor shall he be an officer of the General Grand Chapter, or a member of any of its Boards or Committees.

110.042 Duties - the board shall:

- a. Study and review the service programs performed by The General Grand Chapter.
- b. Formulate and present for action, certain recommendations on behalf of the affiliated Grand Chapters as to the service programs alternatives, or additional programs.
- c. Give notice of the recommendation to all members including estimated cost involved, well in advance of the Triennial Convocation so that the voting delegates may be well informed, in order to vote for the good of Royal Arch Masonry.

110.043 Funds for the board shall be appropriated from the Permanent Fund Income.

111.00 Board of Trustees:

111.01 Structure - this board shall consist of three trustees elected for terms of nine years. They shall not be eligible to succeed themselves. The term of one trustee will expire at the end of each Triennial. They shall designate their own chairman. The General Grand High Priest, General Grand Treasurer, General Grand Secretary and either General Grand King or General Grand Scribe, as designated by the General Grand High Priest, will be ex -officio members. The General Grand Secretary shall be secretary of the Board of Trustees.

111.02 Duties:

111.021 The board will administer the Permanent Fund of the General Grand Chapter, including the power to make investments and to prepare periodical financial statements as may be required.

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- 111.022 The board shall disburse income from the Permanent Fund for such purposes, as may be budgeted by the General Grand Chapter.
- 111.023 The board shall maintain a savings account, not to exceed \$5000.00 to be used with the unanimous consent of The General Grand Chapter's elected officers, excluding Trustees, to meet deficiencies in the General Fund between Triennial Convocations.
- 111.024 The Board of Trustees shall give an accurate accounting of its receipts and disbursements, and a descriptive inventor)' of its investments and funds. Said accounting shall be presented to the General Grand Chapter at each Triennial Convocation, or more often if required by the General Grand Chapter or General Grand High Priest.
- 111.025 The Board of Trustees shall submit their books and records at least triennially to the Committee on Finance for audit and examination.
- 111.026 Expenses - the expenses of the board incurred in investment and management of the Permanent Fund, shall be paid from said fund upon a voucher being duly signed by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and the General Grand High Priest. The Trustees of the Board in attendance at the Convocation of the General Grand Chapter shall receive the same mileage and per diem as other members of The General Grand Chapter, unless paid in some other capacity. Such mileage and per diem for the trustees shall be paid from the Permanent Fund.
- PERMANENT FUND:
- 112.00 The General Grand Chapter shall establish a Permanent Fund of \$20,000.00. Said
- 112.01 fund, with interest, and any additional sums added thereto shall be held and invested by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall have custody of the Permanent Funds of the General Grand Chapter, its loans and investments.
- 112.02 Any loan made from the Permanent Fund by the Board of Trustees shall be secured by bonds of the United States or bonds of any state of the United States of America.
- 112.03 The Board of Trustees may invest any part of the funds in such bonds and securities as are lawful investments for savings banks in the United States.

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112.04 All moneys belonging to the Permanent Fund shall be deposited by the General Grand Treasurer in a bank or trust company of his selection. He shall, however, have written approval of the depository of the General Grand High Priest and the majority of the Trustees.

NEW CHAPTERS UNDER DISPENSATION:

113.00 The General Grand High Priest shall have the power and authority to grant dispensations for a limited time for the formation of Subordinate Chapters under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter. Such dispensation shall be conditioned on:

113.01 The petition of nine (9) or more regular Royal Arch Masons.

113.011 General Grand Chapter has authority to establish chapters in such jurisdiction.

113.012 The dispensation shall not extend beyond the close of the next Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, unless extended by the succeeding General Grand High Priest.

113.013 An existing chapter must give its approval before a new chapter can be created within a reasonable distance of the existing chapter. The General Grand High Priest shall be the judge of what is a reasonable distance.

113.02 Chapters under dispensation have the same powers as chartered Chapters, except for the election and installation of officers, and the rights growing out of such election and installations.

113.03 The General Grand High Priest or General Grand Chapter shall name the Companions to serve as High Priest, King and Scribe of the Chapter granted dispensation, however the Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected by the Chapter. The other officers shall be appointed by The High Priest. The officers shall be regularly installed when the Chapter is set to work. The Chapter must show its capabilities before being granted a Charter.

113.04 Fees for the dispensation of a new Chapter shall be set by The General Grand Chapter by resolution.

113.05 Chapters under dispensation must send their records, account books, by-laws and dispensation to the General Grand Secretary at least 60 days preceding the next Triennial of The General Grand Chapter after receiving their dispensation, unless otherwise directed.

113.06

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114.00 CHARTERED CHAPTERS:

114.01 A Chapter which shall have worked under dispensation may be granted a Charter by the General Grand Chapter. Said Chapter must have been regularly instituted, and its officers duly installed before it shall proceed to work as a Chartered Chapter.

114.02 A fee for said Charter may be set by The General Grand Chapter by resolution.

114.03 Every Chartered Chapter shall have a seal. It shall be used only in certifying official reports, documents and communications. An impression of said seal shall be sent to the General Grand Secretary. If said seal is lost or a change is made, notice shall be given to the General Grand Secretary immediately. If changed a new impression shall be forwarded with such notice.

DEGREES RECOGNIZED AND CONFERRED

115.00

The degrees recognized by the General Grand Chapter to be conferred by Chapters under its jurisdiction are Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason.

115.01

115.02

A Royal Arch Mason producing satisfactory evidence of having received the degree of Royal Arch Mason in a Chapter subordinate to a Grand Chapter in fraternal relations with the General Grand Chapter, may visit a Chapter working in the Royal Arch Degree, and may be given the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master to the end that he may be healed. But such healing does not confer membership in a dependent lodge, nor does it affiliate him with the Chapter.

115.03

Whenever it may appear that there is an insufficient number of Royal Arch Masons for the purpose of organizing a Chapter subordinate to the General Grand Chapter, the General Grand High Priest, or some Companion specially deputed by him, may communicate the Capitular Degrees and obligate a sufficient number of Companions to establish a Chapter. Such communication and obligation may be done only for the purpose of enabling said Companions to petition the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. In no instance may the territory of a recognized jurisdiction be invaded.

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ARTICLE II GRAND CHAPTERS

200.00 HOW ESTABLISHED:

200.01 Whenever there shall be three Subordinate Chapters regularly chartered and constituted in any State, District, Republic, Territory or Region by virtue of the authority derived from this Constitution, a Grand Chapter may be established as soon as convenience and propriety may dictate. Any Grand Chapter thus established shall have and possess all the rights, privileges and prerogatives conferred upon Grand Chapters by this Constitution.

201.00 COMPOSITION POWERS AND DUTIES:

201.01 Subordinate Chapters of The General Grand Chapter may not join in forming a Grand Chapter without the approval of The General Grand High Priest or The General Grand Chapter. When Subordinate Grand Chapters do form a Grand Chapter within their territory, all such territory is immediately under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter so formed.

ARTICLE III SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS

300.00 **DISPENSATION OR CHARTERS:** Every Subordinate Chapter, in order to legally exist, shall have a dispensation or charter issued under the authority of the General Grand Chapter. Masonic Communications, both public and private, shall be forbidden between any chapter or person and an illegally formed chapter or assembly; or any member of such illegally formed chapter, or any person exalted or advanced therein.

301.00 **INDEPENDENT LODGES UNDER ROYAL ARCH CHARTERS:** Charters for instituting Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, shall also contain the power to open and hold Lodges of Most Excellent, Past, and Mark Master Masons. The High Priest, King and Scribe, shall be the Master and Wardens of said Lodges.

301.01 No dispensation or charter shall be granted for instituting Lodges of Most Excellent, Past or Mark Master Mason independently of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons without the approval of The General Grand Chapter.

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- 302.00 DUTIES AND POWERS OF A HIGH PRIEST OF A SUBORDINATE CHAPTER:
- 302.01 It is the duty of the High Priest of every Subordinate Chapter, as appertaining to his office, to see that the By-laws of his Chapter as well as The Constitution of The General Grand Chapter are duly observed.
- 302.02 That all the subordinate officers of his Chapter perform the duties of their respective stations faithfully, and are examples of diligence and industry to their companions.
- 302.03 That true and exact records of all transactions of The Chapter be kept by the Secretary.
- 302.04 That the Treasurer keep and render exact accounts of all moneys belonging to the Chapter.
- 302.05 The regular returns be made by the secretary to the General Grand Chapter and the annual dues thereto be regularly and punctually be paid.
- 302.06 The charter of his Chapter is committed to his special care and charge.
- 302.07 He has the right and authority of calling his Chapter together at pleasure, upon any emergency or occurrence which in his judgment may require a meeting.
- 302.08 It is also his duty, together with the King and Scribe of his Chapter to attend the Convocations of The General Grand Chapter; either in person or by proxy.
- 302.09 The High Priest of a Chapter immediately subordinate to The General Grand Chapter shall have authority to call special convocations for degree work only in the lodge room of any Masonic Lodge within the jurisdiction of the Chapter, by and with the consent of such lodge.
- 303.00 INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS BY PROXY: Whenever it shall be inconvenient for The General Grand High Priest to attend in person, to constitute a new Subordinate Chapter and install the officers, he shall have the power and authority to appoint some worthy High Priest or Past High Priest to perform the necessary ceremonies.
- 304.00 CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING AND DEMIT: No person having been a member of a Chapter shall be admitted as a member in any other chapter until he shall have produced a certificate in good standing from the

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Chapter to which he last belonged. If the Chapter to which the member belonged no longer exists, a certificate from the General Grand Secretary, or Grand Secretary of the Chapters jurisdiction will be sufficient. Said certificate shall state the Companion was in regular standing and said certificate was issued by the members request and that he is recommended.

305.00 HEALING: Chapters in this jurisdiction are authorized to confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master, on any worth) Companion from without this jurisdiction, who may present himself as a Royal Arch Mason. He must produce satisfactory evidence of having received that degree to the end that he may be healed and thereby become a regular Royal Arch Mason free of charge.

306.00 JURISDICTION:

306.01 No Chapter shall confer the degrees of a Chapter upon any person whose fixed place of abode is within any other Country, District, or Territory in which there is a Grand Chapter regularly established. They may do so, however, with the consent of The Subordinate Chapter nearest the place of residence of the applicant or when the Grand Chapter has ceded the territory in which the applicant resides.

306.02 All original communications from Subordinate Chapters to Chapters of other Jurisdictions, including requests for waivers of jurisdiction, or to confer the degrees, shall be in writing and under the seal of the Chapter. It shall be addressed to the Chapter of such other jurisdiction, and shall be forwarded by the Chapter making the request to the General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons International. If such is approved the same shall then be forwarded by the General Grand Secretary under the seal of The General Grand Chapter to the proper officers of such other Grand Jurisdiction. After the original communication has been received by the Chapter in such other Grand Jurisdiction through the proper channels, further communications pertaining to the matter may be carried on directly between the Chapters concerned.

307.00 WHO MAY PRESIDE: When the High Priest of a Chapter is absent, or in the case of his inability to act, his powers and prerogatives shall vest in the King and Scribe, in succession. In the absence of all these officers from a stated Convocation" or a special Convocation legally called, the Junior Past High Priest present may open the Chapter and preside.

308.00 REJECTED CANDIDATES: No Chapter under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons International shall confer the

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degrees on any candidate previously rejected by any other Chapter, without the consent of such rejecting Chapter, provided said Chapter be in existence.

- 309.00 QUORUM: For all purposes except opening and closing a Chapter and conferring degrees, nine members of the Chapter are necessary to constitute a quorum. The General Grand High Priest may in case of emergency grant a special dispensation to any subordinate Chapter reducing the required quorum to not less than five. Such dispensation shall not be effective for a period of more than ninety days.
- 310.00 DUAL MEMBERSHIP: Any Royal Arch Mason who is a member of a Subordinate Chapter, under a Jurisdiction of The General Grand Chapter which permits dual membership, may be admitted to membership in any Chapter subordinate to the General Grand Chapter. Any member of a Chapter subordinate to The General Grand Chapter may likewise apply for membership in a jurisdiction permitting dual membership and retain his membership in such Subordinate Chapter.
- 311.00 FEES AND DUES:
- 311.01 Fees for instituting a new Chapter shall be set by The General Grand Chapter by resolution.
- 311.02 Fees for the exaltation of Royal Arch Masons in a Subordinate Chapter, and for annual dues may be set by the General Grand Chapter by resolution.
- 312.00 COMMUNICATION OF DEGREES: Whenever it may appear that there is an insufficient number of Royal Arch Masons for the purpose of organizing a Chapter subordinate to the General Grand Chapter., The General Grand High Priest, or some Companion specially deputized by him, may communicate the Capitular Degrees and obligate a sufficient number of Companions to establish a Chapter. Such communication and obligation may be done only for the purpose of enabling said Companions to petition for a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. In no instance may the territory of a recognized jurisdiction be invaded.

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Chapters, except the charter and seal of the Chapter whose name and number they have been consolidated into. Said charter shall become the charter of the new Chapter and the names of the other consolidated Chapters shall be endorsed thereon.

400.07 The property of all Chapters in interest, except their old charters and seals, shall at once become the property of the consolidated Chapter. Any charters and seals not in use shall at once be turned over to the General Grand Secretary.

ARTICLE V DEFUNCT CHAPTERS

500.00 **DEFINITION:** A defunct Chapter is one whose charter or dispensation has been forfeited, surrendered, lost, or destroyed; or one whose membership has been reduced to less than nine Royal Arch Masons, and which has not been authorized by the General Grand High Priest or General Grand Chapter to continue working.

501.00 **RESTORATION OF A CHARTER:** A charter surrendered, arrested, lost or forfeited may within one year thereafter be restored by the General Grand High Priest or the General Grand Chapter. After the lapse of one year from the time the Chapter became defunct, the old charter or number may be restored only by action of the General Grand Chapter.

502.00 **WRONGFUL DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY:** Defunct Chapter property of every kind shall at once become the property of the General Grand Chapter and subject to its absolute disposal. The disposal of property or remitting of dues in view of surrendering a charter is unlawful and void. A member who gives his consent to such unlawful acts may be tried by order of the General Grand High Priest or General Grand Chapter for unmasonic conduct.

503.00 **DUTY OF LAST CHAPTER OFFICERS:** When a Chapter shall become defunct, its last High Priest (King or Scribe if the High Priest is unable), the Treasurer and Secretary shall immediately make an inventory and statement of all property of every description then owned or held by the Chapter. Said listing shall include real estate, hall, money, furniture, records, and account books, Grand Chapter Proceedings and other books. They shall state what money is owing to the chapter in dues or otherwise, and by whom it is owed. They shall also state what debts are outstanding against the Chapter and to whom they are owed. Said inventory and statement of account, duly certified, shall be transmitted promptly to the General Grand Secretary.

504.00 **PENALTY FOR NEGLECT OF DUTY:** If these provisions be not

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complied with, the derelict officers of the defunct Chapter shall be cited by the General Grand High Priest to answer charges for violation of this constitution before the General Grand High Priest. The General Grand High Priest may appoint a Companion to represent the General Grand Chapter at the trial of such delinquent officers.

505.00 AGENT TO SETTLE DEFUNCT CHAPTER AFFAIRS: The General Grand Secretary is the financial agent of the General Grand Chapter to settle the affairs of defunct chapters. As such he is authorized to take immediate possession of all property of a defunct Chapter and shall make full report of his acts to the General Grand Chapter.

505.01 PROPERTY - TO SELL OR PRESERVE: The General Grand Secretary is authorized to sell the personal property belonging to a defunct Chapter. The charters and records of said Chapters shall be preserved, however, the seals, after being held for one year, may be destroyed.

505.02 REAL ESTATE AND HALLS: The General Grand Secretary may sell real estate and halls of defunct chapters on the best practical terms, giving a quit claim deed therefor. Said deed shall be conditioned on the terms that the sale shall be subject to the approval, or conformation, of the General Grand Chapter.

505.03 COLLECTORS AND CUSTODIANS: The General Grand Secretary may employ some person to collect the dues of defunct Chapter members and hold any property of the chapter, subject to his order, but he shall not be liable for any negligence on the part of such person. Collections and sales shall be by commission, and not salary, which with the expenses, shall in no case exceed the amount collected or received.

505.04 EMPLOYS COUNSEL AND VISITS LOCALITY: The General Grand Secretary, by consent of the General Grand High Priest, may employ legal counsel in winding up the affairs of defunct Chapters. If The General Grand Secretary deems it necessary to visit the locality of the defunct Chapter he may do so - with the consent of the General Grand High Priest. In such cases his actual expenses shall be paid by warrant on the General Grand Treasurer.

506.00 EXTENT OF LIABILITY: The General Grand Chapter shall in no case be liable for any indebtedness of a defunct Chapter beyond the net amount received from the sale of its property and dues collected, after paying all expenses.

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ARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS

- 600.00 AMENDMENTS: Amendments to the Constitution and Standing Regulations may be made at any Triennial or Special Convocation as provided for as follows:
- 600.01 The amendment shall be proposed in writing by a member of the General Grand Chapter to the General Grand Secretary six (6) months prior to the Triennial Convocation date with reasons therefor.
- 600.02 The General Grand Secretary shall forward copies of such amendments to each member of the General Grand Chapter not later than five (5) months prior to the Triennial Convocation date.
- 601.00 RECOMMENDATIONS: A recommendation made in the address or report of a General Grand Officer or in a Committee report shall not be accepted as an amendment except by the regular proceeding specified above.
- 602.00 REFERENCE: All proposed amendments shall be referred to the Jurisprudence Committee and any other Committee having jurisdiction over the subject matter for report and recommendation.
- 603.00 VOTE: When presented on the floor of the General Grand Chapter, the proposed amendment must receive a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the voting members present and voting to be adopted. This shall include proxies. Unless specified in the amendment, it shall, if adopted, become effective at the close of the Convocation in which it is adopted.
- 604.00 EMERGENCY LEGISLATION: At a special Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, or in a regular Triennial Session, emergency legislation, by unanimous consent, may be proposed, considered, and acted upon.

CHAPTER OFFICERS' JEWELS



High Priest



King



Scribe



Treasurer



Secretary



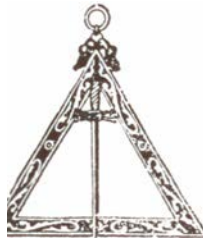
Captain of Host



Principal Sojourner



Royal Arch Captain



Master of the 3rd Veil



Master of the 2nd Veil



Master of the 1st Veil



Sentinel

STANDING REGULATIONS

Amended 2014

Charter Fee, New Chapter

1. For instituting a new Chapter, there shall be paid into the treasury of the General Grand Chapter one hundred dollars (\$100.00), unless such fee is waived by the General Grand Chapter. (Amended Aug 29, 2008)
2. Subordinate Chapters of the General Grand Chapter (those chapters who are not part of a Grand Chapter) shall pay into the Treasury \$5.00 annually for each Royal Arch Mason on its rolls at the date of their preceding Annual Report. Exaltation fees will be discontinued. (Adopted September 29,2014)
3. Grand Chapters whose jurisdiction falls on the North American Continent shall pay annually, and within ninety (90) days after their Annual Convocation, into the treasury of the General Grand Chapter, the sum of two dollars (\$2.00) for each Royal Arch Mason borne upon the rolls of their subordinate Chapters at the date of their preceding annual reports. All other Grand Chapters whose jurisdiction shall fall outside of North America shall pay annually and within ninety (90) days after their Grand Convocation, into the treasury of the General Grand Chapter the sum of eight dollars US (\$8.00) for each Royal Arch Mason borne upon the rolls of their subordinate chapters at the date of their preceding annual report. (\$1.00 for North American Grand Chapters and \$4.00 increase for other Grand Chapters will take effect on January 1, 2016. Additionally, \$1.00 for North American Grand Chapters and \$2.00 for other Grand Chapters will take effect on January 1, 2018.) (Adopted September 29, 2014)

General Grand Officers Compensation

4. The salaries of the General Grand Treasurer and the General Grand Secretary shall be in such amounts as the General Grand Chapter may authorize at its Triennial Convocation.

Mileage and Per Diem

5. The General Grand Officers, Past General Grand High Priests; the Custodian of the Work; the Chairmen of the Committees on Finance and on Jurisprudence (provided such Chairmen do not receive mileage and per diem from other sources) shall be allowed mileage at the rate of Twenty-Five Cents per mile one way, computed by the shortest distance from the domicile of such officer to the place of the Triennial Convocation and the sum of One Hundred Dollars. (Amended 1966.)

General Grand Chaplain and Sentinel Compensation

6. A reasonable compensation shall be paid to the General Grand Chaplain and General Grand Sentinel to be fixed by the Committee on Finance.

By-laws Must Be Approved

7. The By-laws of all Chapters within the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, and all amendments to the same, shall be inoperative until approved by the General Grand Chapter or the General Grand High Priest. (*Adopted August 24, 1894.*)

Royal Arch Educational Bureau

8. *Resolved*, that a bureau of information, to be known as "Royal Arch Educational Bureau," be established, the same to be managed and directed by a committee of three, to be appointed by the General Grand High Priest.

That the General Grand Chapter committee of three shall have printed such Royal Arch material as they determine is best and desired by the Royal Craft. That the first publication shall be from the writings of Dr. William Frederick Kuhn relating to Royal Arch Masonry.

That said committee are to prepare and formulate an educational plan, and ask the Grand High Priest of each Grand Chapter to co-operate with the, either by appointing a committee of three in their Grand Jurisdiction, or through such agencies as each Grand Jurisdiction may determine; to see that each Chapter is supplied with the necessary literature, and attend to the carrying out of this Educational Bureau's work, (*Adopted 1924, p. 190.*)

9. *Be it Resolved* by the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons that the publication known as the *Royal Arch Mason* be and the same is hereby recognized as the official organ of the General Grand Chapter;

Resolved, The General Grand Chapter shall be the sole contributor by transfer of the assets of the *Royal Arch Mason* magazine and in the event of dissolution of the corporation all of its assets remaining after payment of just debts shall revert to and be the property of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International.

Resolved, The management of the corporation shall be vested in five directors, members of the Board of Publications; two of whom shall be the General Grand High Priest and the General Grand Secretary, and three members, each to serve for three years and who shall be appointed by the first General Grand High Priest after the formation of the corporation, one for one year, one for two years, one for three years and thereafter the General Grand High Priest shall fill vacancies as they occur.

Resolved, The Board of Publications at each Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter shall report the annual statements of the operations of the corporation.

Resolved, That the Board of Publications when incorporated shall be charged with the selection of an editor and an assistant editor and fix the compensation for their services.

Resolved, That the Board of Publications when incorporated shall pay from its own funds the necessary expenses of its members and its editors while in attendance at conferences called by the General Grand High Priest.

(a) *The Advance*. *Be it further resolved*, That the General Grand High Priest shall appoint a committee which shall be charged with the responsibility of editing, publishing and distributing a bona fide house organ to be known as *The Advance*, said publication to be distributed during the month of February, May, August, and November to all recognized members of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International and the High Priest and Secretary of the Subordinate Chapters under the control of the General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, International. (*Amended Sept. 27, 1984.*)

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Registration Fees

10. At all future Triennial Convocations of this body, a registration fee for each representative or permanent member, and his lady, shall be fixed by the General Grand High Priest, and shall be paid upon registration by each such representative and permanent member in attendance, and for each additional lady or guest accompanying such representative or permanent member, a reasonable fee."