

INVITATION TO PETITION FOR THE DEGREES OF SYMBOLIC MASONRY

(Please type or print)

Date: _____

To the officers and members of _____ Lodge No. _____,

Free, and Accepted Masons, at _____, Indiana.

1. We, the undersigned, hereafter known as "Recommenders," respectfully propose:

Mr. _____ who resides at: _____
(Full Name) (Address)

to receive the Masonic Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason upon completion of a Petition for Membership and paying the initiation fee.

2. He is eighteen (18) years of age or older and has resided in Indiana continuously for more than six months immediately prior to the date of this proposal.
3. We have known the proposed candidate two years or longer.
4. We believe him to be of good moral character.
5. We believe him to have faith in a Supreme Being.
6. We believe he will be an asset to the Fraternity.

THE TOP-LINE SIGNER BELOW MUST PRESENT THIS PROPOSAL IN PERSON AT A STATED MEETING INCLUDING WRITTEN AND SIGNED RECOMMENDATIONS ATTACHED TO THIS FORM

REPORT AND AFFIDAVIT OF RECOMMENDERS

We, the undersigned, confirm the authenticity and accuracy of the above information to the best of our knowledge.

Date

Sign Name (Top Line Signer)

Print Name

Sign Name

Print Name

Sign Name

Print Name

PROCEDURE

1. The Invitation to Petition for the degrees of Masonry shall be for the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason. A favorable ballot shall elect to the three degrees.
2. The Invitation to Petition shall be on this Official Form only.
3. The Invitation to Petition shall be signed by three recommenders.
4. The potential candidate does not sign this form.
5. The Top Line Signer shall present the Invitation to Petition at a Stated Meeting or a called meeting 21 days preceding the next Stated Meeting without the prospective candidate's knowledge.
6. The Invitation to Petition shall be held over until the next Stated Meeting with a legal quorum present when a ballot is taken. A unanimous ballot is required for election.
7. The balloting procedure shall be the same as for a regular petition.
8. Should only one negative ballot appear, the Master shall not declare the result, but order a re-ballot, and the vote on the re-ballot shall be declared and be final.
9. A negative ballot or an objection prior to the ballot stops the Invitation to Petition. It does not prohibit the proposed candidate from petitioning the Lodge in the regular manner.
10. After election, the Top Line Signer or another recommender shall visit with each potential candidate individually about joining Freemasonry.
11. The invited candidate must completely fill out and sign the official petition for membership as prescribed.
12. The petition, accompanied by all fees, must be received and recorded by the Lodge secretary before the degrees can be conferred.
13. If the potential candidate does not profess faith in a Supreme Being by not signing the petition or other indications, the petition is rejected.
14. If the potential candidate gives a positive answer to either of the questions "have you ever been denied membership in, or withdrawn your petition to, or suspended or expelled from any fraternal organization?" or "Have you ever been convicted for a criminal offense (minor traffic violations excepted) in a court of competent jurisdiction?" the Invitation to Petition shall become void. The petitioner shall be notified of the situation and at the petitioner's request, be eligible to take the course of a regular petition.
15. If the candidate declines to accept the petition or fails to present himself for initiation within six months after the petition is received and recorded by the Lodge, the petition is considered to have been withdrawn. Either action shall be made a part of the Lodge records. This does not prohibit the proposed candidate from petitioning a Lodge in the regular manner at a future date.
16. All discussions on the Invitation to Petition are to be considered confidential outside the Lodge Hall.

INVITATION TO PETITION -OF-	Received at Stated Meeting: Date: _____	Action Taken at Stated Meeting: Date: _____ Result: _____	Recommended By: _____ _____ _____
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