

MASONIC CODE AND DIGEST  
OF THE  
**GRAND LODGE**  
ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED  
MASONS OF IDAHO

REVISED EDITION OF 2012  
With Amendments to September 2014

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*Monte B. Balducci*

Grand Secretary

MASONIC CODE AND DIGEST

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## INTRODUCTION

The laws that govern Freemasonry may be divided in several ways; but the divisions most important to our present purposes are two: First, that into the Unwritten Law and the Written Law; second, that into the Changeable Law and the Unchangeable Law.

The term "unwritten" does not imply that a law has not been reduced to writing, or that it may not be so reduced; it only implies that it does not owe its authority to the fact of its enactment in writing. The term is applied to all those time-honored customs and usages known to have existed among Masons prior to the organization of the Grand Lodge of England in 1717. Laws which can be shown to have originated, whether by express enactment or through a new usage, subsequent to 1717 are called "written laws." They are all local in their origin, although some of them have been almost universally adopted.

Of the second division of Masonic laws, into the Unchangeable and the Changeable, it may suffice to say that there are certain laws of the Masonic institution which it is not in the power of any man or body of men to change. These are called Landmarks, and they all existed prior to 1717. They owe their unchangeableness largely to the fact that without them Masonry would lose its identity, become something different and cease to exist as Masonry.

All Masonic laws except the Landmarks, whether unwritten or written, may be changed, either by evolution or by express legislation by proper Masonic authority.

## **THE WRITTEN LAWS**

### **CONSTITUTION**

The Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Idaho is the fundamental law. It is intended to be permanent, and supplies the standards to which all details of organization and administration must conform.

It may be changed only in accordance with Article VI of the Constitution.

### **BY-LAWS**

The By-Laws differ from the Constitution only in that they relate more to the details of organization and administration, and are intended to be less permanent and more easily changed.

They may be changed only in accordance with Article XXXIV of the By-Laws.

### **REGULATIONS**

The regulations are of less fundamental importance than the Constitution and By-Laws. They relate mostly to details of organization and administration, and are of less permanence and more readily changed.

They may be changed only in accordance with ARTICLE XXXIII, Section 3308 of the By-Laws. (1962)

## **GRAND MASTER'S DECISIONS**

Grand Master's Decisions do not have the effect of written law. The Grand Master is an executive officer. He also has certain judicial authority; but he has no legislative power. His decisions are made in the discharge of executive or judicial duties, and they are his interpretation of existing laws. They are binding in particular cases, and when approved by the Grand Lodge they are final as to those cases. They are precedents entitled to weight in determining future cases, but they are not legal enactments, and may be disregarded by a future Grand Master if in his judgment it should be done.



***CONSTITUTION***  
**OF THE**  
**MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF**  
**ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED**  
**MASONS OF IDAHO**

**ARTICLE I**  
**TITLE**

Section 1. The style and title of this Grand Lodge shall be, "The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Idaho."

**ARTICLE II**  
**REPRESENTATION & MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. A Lodge of Research shall confer no degrees, and shall have no representation in this Grand Lodge.

Any Master Mason in good standing in a Lodge which is chartered to confer degrees in this jurisdiction, may be elected or appointed to an office in this Grand Lodge as provided for in Article III, Section 1; and when prescribed by law, may be elected or appointed to any committee of this Grand Lodge. (Revised Sept. 1997)

The installed Junior Wardens, Senior Wardens, and Worshipful Masters of the Constituent Lodges shall be voting members of this Grand Lodge during their incumbency in office. Only Masons who are or have been proficient in the Idaho Ritual, having any Worshipful Master's Certificate of Proficiency as evidence of such proficiency,

who have been elected and served as Worshipful Master of a Lodge which is or has been chartered to confer the degrees of Freemasonry under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and who retain good-standing in a recognized Idaho Lodge, shall be permanent and voting members of this Grand Lodge. (Revised August 2000 - See Section 2 for representation of Wardens or Masters in Grand Lodge).

The Officers of this Grand Lodge shall have the following rank and title:

A Most Worshipful Grand Master  
A Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master  
A Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden  
A Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden  
A Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer  
A Right Worshipful Grand Secretary  
A Right Worshipful Grand Lecturer  
Most Worshipful Past Grand Masters  
Right Worshipful Past Deputy Grand Masters  
Right Worshipful Past Grand Wardens  
Right Worshipful Past Grand Treasurers  
Right Worshipful Past Grand Secretaries  
Right Worshipful Past Grand Lecturers  
A Worshipful Senior Grand Deacon  
A Worshipful Junior Grand Deacon  
A Worshipful Grand Marshal  
A Worshipful Senior Grand Steward  
A Worshipful Junior Grand Steward  
A Worshipful Grand Sword Bearer  
A Worshipful Grand Pursuivant  
A Worshipful Grand Organist  
A Worshipful Grand Chaplain

A Worshipful Grand Orator  
A Worshipful Grand Historian  
A Worshipful Grand Tyler  
(Revised Feb. 1981)

Section 2. No officer or proxy shall represent more than one Lodge in the Grand Lodge. Whenever the Worshipful Master and Wardens of any Lodge (or either of them) shall be unable to attend the communications of the Grand Lodge, they, or either of them, who cannot so attend, may depute any member of their own Lodge, provided such member is not also serving as proxy for some other Lodge, as proxy to represent their Lodge in the Grand Lodge, and the proxy so deputed shall be entitled to the same privileges and perform the duties of him or them deputing him. Such deputation shall be in writing and signed by the officer deputing him. (Revised Sept. 1978)

Section 3. On every question which may come before the Grand Lodge for decision, each Lodge, by its representative or representatives present, shall be entitled to cast three votes, and each officer and member of the Grand Lodge present shall be entitled to cast one vote, but no one, in his own right, shall have more than one vote.

Section 4. No Grand Officer, Past Grand Officer, or Past Master shall be represented in this Grand Lodge by proxy.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **OFFICERS**

Section 1. Only Past Masters who have been issued a Worshipful Master's Certificate of Proficiency as evidence of their proficiency in the entire Idaho Ritual, Lectures, and Ceremonies of the three degrees, who have qualified

as permanent members of this Grand Lodge, and who are in good-standing in a recognized Lodge in this jurisdiction, are eligible for any elective office or line-office in this Grand Lodge. Any Mason in good-standing in an Idaho Lodge is eligible for appointment to the office of Worshipful Grand Organist, Worshipful Grand Chaplain, Worshipful Grand Orator, Worshipful Grand Historian, or Worshipful Grand Tyler. (Revised Sept. 1990)

Section 2. The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, and Right Worshipful Grand Lecturer shall be elected annually, by ballot, at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and shall hold office until their successors shall be duly elected and installed. The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master will be considered the Grand Master-elect, and will be installed as the Most Worshipful Grand Master at the succeeding Annual Communication. At the succeeding Grand Lodge Communication, should the Deputy Grand Master (Grand Master-elect) be unable, for any reason, to be installed to the office of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, there shall be elected by ballot from the Brethren who are constitutionally eligible, a Most Worshipful Grand Master, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, and Right Worshipful Grand Lecturer. A majority of all the votes present shall be necessary to a choice of the officers mentioned in this section. (Revised Sept. 1997)

Section 3. No one of the officers of this Grand Lodge enumerated in Article XVI of the "Old Regulations" (By-Laws) shall, while holding office in this Grand Lodge, be elected Master or Warden in his Lodge during his term of

office. (See By-Laws Section 1603)

Section 4. All Grand Officers whose election or appointment is not otherwise provided for shall be appointed by the Grand Master, and when duly installed, shall hold their offices until their successors shall be duly appointed and installed.

## **ARTICLE IV COMMUNICATIONS**

Section 1. The Grand Lodge shall assemble, as such, once at least in every year, at such time and place as may be directed by law. (See By-Laws Section 103)

Section 2. The Grand Master (and in his absence from the Jurisdiction, the Deputy Grand Master) may call special Communications of the Grand Lodge at such time and place as necessity may require.  
(See By-Laws Section 302)

## **ARTICLE V POWER & AUTHORITY**

Section 1. The Grand Lodge shall be the supreme Masonic authority within the State of Idaho, and by the ancient constitutions and usages of the fraternity is, and shall be, invested with all the original essential powers and privileges belonging to the Ancient Craft, and shall have power especially:

First - to enact and enforce all laws and regulations for the government of the fraternity, and to alter, amend and repeal the same at pleasure.

Second - To constitute new Lodges, by granting dispensations and charters, under seal; and for good cause, to suspend, revoke and annul the same at pleasure.

Third-To assess and collect from the several Lodges under its jurisdiction such sums of money as may be deemed necessary to be appropriated for the benefit of the Craft.

Fourth-To hear and determine all questions of dispute between two or more Lodges.

Fifth-To hear and decide all appeals from the decisions of constituent Lodges.

Sixth-To demand and receive such fees and charges for granting dispensations, charters, certificates, and diplomas as may be reasonable.

Seventh -To require and collect from all brother Masons residing within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge such sums of money annually, for charitable purposes, as may from time to time be provided for and required by law.

Eighth-To hear and decide all charges and complaints against any officer of the Grand Lodge, and to inflict such punishment on the guilty as may appear just and proper.

Ninth -To exercise all such powers and perform all such acts as by custom are exercised and performed by Grand Lodges within the ancient customs and landmarks of the fraternity.

## **ARTICLE VI AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended only in the following manner: The proposed amendment shall be presented in triplicate in the desired written form, signed by no less than three (3) members of this Grand Lodge or by the Worshipful Master and Secretary of a chartered Lodge attested under seal, and filed with the Grand Secretary on or before the close of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. It shall be printed in the Annual Proceedings, and referred to all chartered Lodges in the Jurisdiction by the Grand Secretary. When so referred it shall be read in each Lodge by the Worshipful Master at three several Stated Communications. Following the third reading the Worshipful Master shall put the question clearly, "Shall the entire amendment as read pass?" A "Yea" and "Nay" vote shall be taken. The Secretary shall carefully record an explicit account of all the proceedings relating to the proposed amendment, and as soon as possible thereafter transmit a certified copy thereof to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, signed by the Worshipful Master and attested by himself under seal of the Lodge. When two-thirds of all the chartered Lodges have concurred in the proposed amendment as referred to them, the Most Worshipful Grand Master shall immediately promulgate the same as a part of this Constitution.

***BY-LAWS PART ONE***  
***PERTAINING TO GRAND LODGE***  
**ARTICLE I**  
**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>SECTION</b>
101. Seals.	105. Quorum, Other Than for Business.
102. Permanent Home.	106. Votes in Grand Lodge.
103. Annual Communication.	107. Standards for Recognition.
104. Quorum for Business.	

Section 101. **Seals.**

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





2. The seal of the Grand Master shall be as follows:



Section 102. **Permanent Home.** The permanent home of the Grand Lodge, including its archives and library, and the Grand Secretary's office, shall be in the city of Boise.

Section 103. **Annual Communication.** An Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge shall be held each year, commencing at 9:00 a.m. on the Third Thursday in September. (Revised Sept. 1989)

The 139th Annual Communication shall be held in the area of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, or 5<sup>th</sup> Masonic Districts; the 140th Annual Communication shall be held in the area of the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, or 9<sup>th</sup> Masonic Districts; and the 141st Annual Communication shall be held in the area of than 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, or 13<sup>th</sup> Masonic Districts; and the same consecutive area rotation shall be maintained thereafter. (Revised, Sept. 2005)

For purposes of the Sesquicentennial Celebration and to be in close proximity to the first lodges in this Jurisdiction, Idaho #1, the annual communication to be held in 2017 will be held in Boise, Idaho. The 151st Annual Com-

munication shall be held in the area of the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, or 13<sup>th</sup> Masonic Districts; the 152<sup>nd</sup> Annual Communication shall be held in the area of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, or 5<sup>th</sup> Masonic Districts; and the 153<sup>rd</sup> Annual Communication shall be held in the area of the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, or 9<sup>th</sup> Masonic Districts; and the same consecutive area rotation shall be maintained thereafter. (Revised, September 2014)

Any one of the constituent Lodges of the Grand Lodge of Idaho which is not properly represented at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Idaho at least once in three consecutive years shall have their Charter automatically placed in arrest in accordance with Section 1302 of this Code and Digest.

At each Annual Communication under the order of Unfinished Business; the Grand Master shall announce each constituent Lodge whose charter is arrested and direct the Grand Secretary to make notification of such arrest to those Lodges. The arrested Charter shall be delivered to the Grand Secretary for safe keeping until the Annual Communication next succeeding the arrest.

For those Lodges whose Charter has been arrested under this Section; the Grand Master shall institute each as a Lodge under dispensation in accordance with Section 1007 of this Code and Digest. Each Lodge under dispensation as instituted in accordance with this Section shall continue to meet in accordance with Sections 1006, 1007, 1009 and 1104 of this Code and Digest.

At the Annual Communication next succeeding the arrest of a Charter under the provisions of this Section; the Lodge's three principal Officers shall present themselves before the committee on Appeals and Grievances. The Officers shall present satisfactory evidence of the Lodge's Masonic capability to the committee to secure a

recommendation for restoration of the arrested Charter. If the committee is satisfied with the evidence it shall recommend a favorable vote for restoration to the voting delegates of Grand Lodge. A simple majority of the voting delegates present shall constitute a favorable vote.

In the case of a Lodge not being able to secure a favorable vote for restoration of the arrested Charter from the voting delegates of Grand Lodge; the Charter shall be considered revoked and consolidation of said Lodge shall occur in accordance with the provisions of this Code and Digest.

The 2011 Annual Grand Lodge Communication shall count as the first missed year for those Lodges not properly represented at the Annual Communication.

(Revised Sept. 2011)

Section 104. **Quorum for Business.** The representatives of fifteen chartered Lodges shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Should such a quorum not be present at the time specified for the

Annual Communication, the presiding officer for the time being (who, in the absence of the first four Grand Officers, shall be the Master of the oldest Lodge represented) may order the Grand Secretary to summon the Masters and Wardens of all the Lodges to appear upon a day designated. As soon as the representatives of fifteen chartered Lodges shall appear, these representatives shall constitute a quorum to open the Grand Lodge and discharge all the duties and transact all the business of the Grand Lodge, as provided by law.

If conditions arise making it illegal, impossible or impracticable to hold the Annual Communication, the Grand Master, with the approval of the other three principal Grand Officers, may declare an emergency to exist. He may then order the Elective Grand Officers and the Committees on Jurisprudence and Accounts and Finances to convene at a time and place designated by him. They may transact the usual business of the Annual Communication, except that of election of officers. The officers shall hold over until the next Annual Communication.

**Section 105. Quorum-Other Than for Business.** The Grand Master or his Deputy, with a number of Master Masons sufficient to fill the stations and places, may open the Grand Lodge at Communications not held for the transaction of business. (See Section 302)

**Section 106. Votes in Grand Lodge.**

1. Vote of Members. Each member of the Grand Lodge shall as such have one (and only one) vote, and cannot be represented by proxy.
2. Vote of Lodges. Each chartered Lodge represented is entitled to three votes, but no one shall be allowed to represent more than one Lodge. (Revised Sept. 1978)

- a. When a Lodge is represented by two only of its three principal officers, and the one absent is not represented by proxy, the officer highest in rank is entitled to cast two of the three votes
  - b. When a Lodge is represented by one of its three principal officers, and only one of the absent officers is represented by proxy, the officer present is entitled to cast two of the Lodge's three votes:
  - c. When a Lodge is represented by one only of its three principal officers or his proxy, and the absent officers are not represented by proxy, the officer or proxy present may cast its three votes:
  - d. When a Lodge is not represented by any of its three principal officers, in person or by proxy, the Junior Past Master present may represent the Lodge and cast its three votes. (Revised Sept. 1978)
3. Tie Vote. In all cases of a tie, the Grand Master may cast the deciding vote even though he may have previously voted.

Section 107. **Standards for Recognition.** Fraternal recognition may be extended to a Grand Lodge when it appears wise to this Grand Lodge, a Committee having first considered and reported thereon:

1. That such Grand Body shall have been formed lawfully by at least three just and legally constituted Lodges:
2. That it is a responsible, independent, self-governing organization with sole, undisputed and exclusive authority over the constituent Lodges

- within its jurisdiction, and not in any sense whatever subject to, or dividing authority with, a Supreme Council or other Power claiming ritualistic or other supervision or control;
3. That its initiates shall be obligated on the Volume of the Sacred Law, by which is meant the revelation from above which is binding on the conscience of the particular individual who is being initiated;
  4. That its membership is composed of men exclusively, and that it entertains no Masonic relationship with mixed Lodges or Bodies admitting women into membership;
  5. That it adheres in principle to the Ancient Landmarks, customs and usages of the Craft, as set forth in the Constitutions adopted by the Grand Lodge of England in 1723.
  6. That it requires conformity to the following, which the Grand Lodge of Idaho regards as necessary in a Masonic Body:
    - a. Acknowledgement of a belief in a Supreme Being;
    - b. The presence of the Three Great Lights of Masonry while at labor, the chief of these being the Volume of the Sacred Law;
    - c. The Symbolism of Operative Masonry;
    - d. The division of Symbolic Masonry into three degrees: Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason.
    - e. The legend of the Third Degree;

- f. That its dominant purposes are charitable, benevolent, and educational; that it excludes controversial politics and sectarian religion from all activities under its auspices;
- 7. That it does not extend its authority into, or establish Lodges in, a territory occupied by a lawful Grand Lodge, without the expressed consent of said Grand Body.

## ARTICLE II

### ELECTION, APPOINTMENT AND INSTALLATION — GRAND OFFICERS

SECTION	SECTION
201. Election.	204. Installation.
202. Appointment.	205. Vacancy in Office.
203. Term of Office.	206. District Organizations.

Section 201. **Election.** A Grand Master in the event that the sitting Deputy Grand Master (Grand Master-elect) is unable, for any reason, to be installed to the office of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, a Deputy Grand Master, a Senior Grand Warden, a Junior Grand Warden, a Grand Treasurer, a Grand Secretary and a Grand Lecturer shall be elected by individual ballot on the second day of the Annual Communication, and a majority of all votes cast shall be necessary for a choice. (Revised Sept. 1999)

Section 202. **Appointment.** The Grand Master-elect shall appoint a Senior Grand Deacon, a Junior Grand Deacon, a Grand Marshal, a Senior Grand Steward, a Junior Grand Steward, a Grand Sword Bearer, a Grand Pursuivant, a Grand Organist, a Grand Chaplain, a Grand Orator, a Grand Historian, and a Grand Tyler. (Revised 1962) (Note: See Section 301. (9) for other appointments.)

Section 203. **Term of Office.**

1. Installed Grand Officers shall hold office until their successors are installed.
2. Elective Grand Officers for whom installation is not provided shall hold office until their successors are elected.
3. Appointive Grand Officers, unless otherwise provided, shall hold office at the pleasure of the Grand Master.

Section 204. **Installation.** The installation of Grand Officers shall take place any time following elections and before the close of the Annual Communication. The last order of business of the Annual Communication shall be the Installing Marshal's proclamation that the new Grand Officers are duly installed, at which time those Officers will assume their respective places in the Grand Lodge. No elective Grand Officer shall be installed by proxy. (Revised Sept. 2006)

Section 205. **Vacancy in Office.** When a vacancy occurs in any elective Grand Office, the Grand Master may appoint any member of the Grand Lodge to discharge the duties of that office until it is filled at the next Annual Communication. The Grand Master may fill a vacancy in any appointive Grand Office by a new appointment and having the appointee installed in any Lodge; or he may appoint any Master Mason from this Jurisdiction to discharge the duties of the office for the time being. (Revised Sept. 1999)

Section 206. **District Organization.** For administrative purposes the Jurisdiction shall be divided into Districts, and at the beginning of his term of office the Grand Master shall appoint a District Deputy Grand Master for each District. A District Deputy Grand Master must be a Master holding a Worshipful Master's Certificate of Proficiency or a Past Master of an Idaho Lodge, and a member of a Lodge in the District he is to serve. (Revised Sept. 1990) (Note: See Regulation 26 for Districts)



## ARTICLE III

### POWERS AND DUTIES OF GRAND OFFICERS

SECTION	SECTION
301. Grand Master.	305. Grand Treasurer.
302. Succession to Duties and Powers of Grand Master.	306. Grand Secretary.
303. Deputy Grand Master.	307. Grand Lecturer.
304. Grand Wardens.	308. Appointive Grand Officers.

Section 301. **Grand Master.** The Grand Master has power and authority:

1. To convene the Grand Lodge at his pleasure and preside therein;
2. To convene any Lodge in the Jurisdiction, preside therein, inspect its proceedings, and require its conformity with Masonic Law;
3. To suspend from office any officer of the Grand Lodge or of any Lodge, and to arrest the charter of any Lodge, for dereliction of duty or un-Masonic conduct, until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge;
4. To require the attendance of any Grand Officer and information from him respecting his office;
5. To grant a dispensation to a Lodge to elect and install its officers out of time, or to fill a vacancy in any elective office other than that of Master or Wardens by election and installation;
6. To grant a dispensation for a new Lodge;
7. To grant such other dispensations for the good of the Craft as are not contrary to the Constitution or Ancient Landmarks;

8. To appoint Grand Representatives and receive Grand Representatives in accordance with the usual custom and procedure;
9. To appoint all Officers and Committees of the Grand Lodge whose selection is not otherwise provided and to act as ex-officio chairman or a member of any Committee so appointed;
10. To have in his possession and to use the seal pertaining to his office;
11. To institute Lodges under dispensation, and to constitute chartered Lodges, in person, or by a duly authorized representative;
12. To exercise a general and careful supervision over the Craft and require that the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge be observed;
13. To discharge all necessary executive functions of the Grand Lodge when it is not in session;
14. He shall present at each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge a written message detailing an account of his official acts during his term, the general conditions of Masonry in this Jurisdiction, and recommend such measures as he may deem expedient and necessary.

**Section 302. Succession to Duties and Powers of Grand Master.** In the absence of the Grand Master from the jurisdiction or his inability to act, the Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, and Junior Grand Warden shall in succession assume the powers and duties of the Grand Master with the title of Acting Grand Master. In case of the absence or inability of all the first four Grand Officers, the Masters of the chartered Lodges, in the order of the seniority of the Lodges, shall in like manner assume the powers and duties of the Grand Master.

Section 303. **Deputy Grand Master.** The Deputy Grand Master shall discharge such executive functions of the Grand Lodge as may be delegated to him by the Grand Master.

Section 304. **Grand Wardens.** The Grand Wardens shall assist the Grand Master in conducting the affairs of the Grand Lodge.

Section 305. **Grand Treasurer.** The Grand Treasurer shall have charge of all funds, properties and securities of the Grand Lodge. He shall;

1. Attend all Communications of the Grand Lodge held for the transaction of business, and when required meet Grand Officers and Committees with his books and all necessary documents relating to his office;
2. Make a complete report at the Annual Communication of the financial condition of the Grand Lodge, and of the transactions of his office;
3. Keep such records as the Grand Lodge may require or that may be necessary for the proper conduct of his office;
4. Receive all monies belonging to the Grand Lodge from the Grand Secretary, keep an accurate account thereof, and pay the same out by authority of the Grand Lodge;
5. Transfer to his successor all property in his custody belonging to the Grand Lodge, together with all records pertaining thereto;
6. Give bond in a responsible surety company approved by the Grand Master, in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), for the faithful per-

formance of his duties, and deliver said bond to the Grand Master.

Section 306. **Grand Secretary.** The Grand Secretary shall:

1. Record the proceedings of the Grand Lodge;
2. Keep suitable books pertaining to his office;
3. Receive all monies belonging to the Grand Lodge and pay same to the Grand Treasurer, taking his receipt therefore;
4. Subject to the pleasure of the Grand Master, conduct the correspondence of the Grand Lodge; and during the recess of the Grand Lodge, receive all appeals, petitions, resolutions, etc., relating to the Craft, and lay them before the Grand Master or the next Annual Communication;
5. Have custody of the seal, jewels and paraphernalia of the Grand Lodge;
6. Engross, attest and affix the seal to all warrants, charters, commissions, certificates and other official documents when ordered by the Grand Master;
7. Prepare lists of the members of the several committees appointed by the Grand Master, and when required, attend upon the committees with the records, documents and papers of his office;
8. Have printed, unless otherwise ordered, the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, including a list of the Grand Officers, past installed elective Grand Officers, the name, number of members, time and place of stated communications of each Lodge, and distribute the same as the Grand Lodge may direct;

9. Keep a complete register of the membership of the Jurisdiction, which shall embrace names of members; names, numbers and location of Lodges; dates of reception of degrees, affiliations, demissions, dropping from the rolls, suspensions, expulsions, deaths, reinstatements, restorations, and other personal facts;
10. Issue Certificates of Proficiency on the recommendation of the District Deputy Grand Masters;
11. Furnish to the chairman of the Committee on Fraternal Relations the Proceedings of Sister Grand Lodges and all documents relating thereto received during the recess of the Grand Lodge. These shall be returned to him after the report is made out, if required, and be filed in the archives of his office;
12. Make a full report of his official acts, together with a true and correct statement of the financial condition of the Grand Lodge, and exhibit all his books and accounts to the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and at other times when required by the Grand Master;
13. Act as Librarian of the Grand Lodge;
14. Give bond in a responsible surety company approved by the Grand Master, in the amount of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00), for the faithful performance of his duties; and deliver said bond to the Grand Master.

Section 307. **Grand Lecturer.** Being the instructor of the Esoteric and Monitorial Work of the Fraternity, the Grand Lecturer shall perform the duties assigned to him in the Installation Ceremonies of this Grand Lodge, and such other duties as the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master may direct. (Revised Sept. 1978)

Section 308. **Appointive Grand Officers.** The Senior Grand Deacon, Junior Grand Deacon, Grand Marshal, Senior Grand Steward, Junior Grand Steward, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Pursuivant, Grand Organist, Grand Chaplain, Grand Orator, Grand Historian and Grand Tyler shall perform the duties that by usage pertain to their respective offices, and such other duties as the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master may order. (Revised 1962)

## ARTICLE IV COMMITTEES

SECTION	SECTION
401. Standing Committees.	404. Duties of Committees.
402. Session Committees.	405. Masonic Temple.
403. Special Committees.	Preservation.

Section 401. **Standing Committees.** The Grand Master shall appoint the following standing committees consisting of not less than three nor more than five members to serve during his term: (Revised Sept. 1999)

1. Jurisprudence.
2. Appeals and Grievances.
3. Accounts and Finances.
4. Fraternal Relations.
5. Masonic Research and Education.
6. Masonic Temple Preservation. (See Section 405)
7. Returns of Lodges.

Section 402. **Session Committees.** Prior to each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master shall appoint the following session committees, consisting of not less than three nor more than five members, to serve until the close of that Communication: (Revised Sept. 1999)

1. Credentials.
2. Distribution.
3. Unfinished Business.
4. Lodges under Dispensation.
5. Necrology.
6. Examination of Visitors.
7. Courtesy.
8. Time and Place.

Section 403. **Special Committees.** The Grand Master may appoint special committees whenever deemed necessary.

Section 404. **Duties of Committees.** The Committees shall consider and report on all matters that may be referred to them or that pertain to subjects appropriately under their observation.

Section 405. **Masonic Temple Preservation.** Each Masonic Temple shall be designated as a Masonic Memorial before any Grand Lodge finances can be expended for its preservation. A request to designate a Masonic structure as a Masonic Memorial shall be filed by the Lodge which owns the structure, or by not less than five members of the Grand Lodge, with the Committee on Masonic Temple Preservation, and said Committee shall:

1. Present the history and qualifications of each Masonic structure to the Grand Lodge, and request its designation as a Masonic Memorial.
2. When a Masonic structure has been designated by the Grand Lodge as a Masonic Memorial, this committee shall prepare and present a detailed plan and proposal of restoration to the Grand Lodge for adoption or rejection.
3. Recommend an appropriation of not to exceed fifty cents (\$.50) per member in any one year to the committee on Accounts and Finances; after which the Grand Lodge shall act on it in accordance with the provisions of Section 701 of the Grand Lodge By-Laws.
4. Authorize through the Lodge which owns the structure all restoration work to be accomplished, and authorize the disbursement of all funds which have been dedicated to the Masonic Temple Preservation Fund.
5. Report at each annual Grand Lodge Communication, and at other times when required by the Grand Master, the progress of all Masonic Temple Preservation projects, and the expenditure of all funds. (Revised Sept. 1973)



## ARTICLE V RELIEF

(Revised Sept. 1975)

SECTION	SECTION
501. Purpose.	507. Custody.
502. Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund.	508. Board of Relief.
503. Investments.	509. Secretary, Records and Reports.
504. Trustees.	510. Application for Masonic Relief.
505. Disbursements.	511. Payment of Relief.
506. Revenue.	

Section 501. **Purpose.** The funds set aside by the Grand Lodge for relief are for the purpose of assisting the Lodges in the support and care of indigent members and their dependents. It is not intended to relieve the Lodges of their responsibility in taking care of their own members if they are able to do so.

Section 502. **Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund.** All monies that have been collected or shall be collected from Lodges, or provided through voluntary contributions or other sources, and directed by such Lodges or Donors for Relief, shall be set apart as a permanent Fund to be invested and kept intact, and only the income derived from said Fund may be expended. The provisions of Article V do not apply to the Grand Lodge Charitable Trust except as provided in Article VI. (Revised Sept. 2007)

Section 503. **Investments.**

1) This section applies to all long-term investment funds maintained by the Grand Lodge of Idaho for any purpose, inclusive of, but not limited to, the Grand Lodge General Fund, Relief Fund, Grand Lodge Interest Relief Fund, Building Fund, Prepaid Life Membership Fund, and the Endowment Fund. This section does not apply to cash maintained for normal day-to-day operating expenses of this Grand Lodge. (Revised Sept. 2006)

- 2) All Funds shall be comprised of the following securities and investments:
  - a) Any Fund that contains less than \$250,000 in fair market value shall be invested in mutual funds managed by one or more nationally recognized brokerage houses and mutual fund companies.
  - b) Any Fund that contains more than \$250,000 in fair market value may be invested in individual securities.
  - c) No less than 40% nor more than 70% of funds shall be invested in equity securities, stocks, or other securities.
  - d) No more than 60% nor less than 30% of invested funds may be held in certificates of deposit, corporate bonds, US government bonds, US Treasury Notes, or any other cash equivalent securities.
  - e) Individual stocks received by this Grand Lodge from any source should be divested within one year of receipt and the funds derived there from shall be invested as described above.
- 3) The Board of Trustees as described in Section 504 shall have the discretion to employ professional investment manager(s) if the Trustees deem it appropriate.
- 4) The Board of Trustees as described in Section 504 shall report to the Grand Lodge Annual Communication each year on the progress, levels, value, and sources of all investments.

- 5) The Board of Trustees shall meet at least quarterly and review the status and progress of all such funds.
- 6) Transition process. All stocks, bonds, and securities or other funds currently held by this Grand Lodge shall be transitioned to meet the requirements above no later than one year after the passage of this resolution, or as soon as the applicable period of time or expiration date shall expire for each individual instrument. In no case shall this be longer than five years.

No other loans or investments shall be made except that loans may be made to Masonic Lodges and Temple Associations for the purpose of assisting with the financing of Temples and Halls for meeting places. Loans to Masonic Lodges or Temple Associations shall be made under such conditions of safety as are required by any responsible loan company, and then only after complete investigations and approval by a special committee appointed by the Grand Master which shall consider the plan and financing of such structure. (Revised Sept.2001)

Section 504 Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall assume responsibility for the administration and investment of the Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund, The Interest Relief Fund, the Grand Lodge Endowment Fund or any other investment fund in a manner as prescribed by Section 503 of these By-Laws. (Revised Sept. 2001)

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Any Master Mason who is in good standing in any Constituent Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction is eligible to serve as a Trustee of the Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund (Investment Committee).

A knowledge of investments is required for the administration of this Dedicated Fund, and the Grand Master shall appoint three Trustees for specified terms of one, two, and three years. Annually thereafter the Grand Master shall appoint one Trustee for a term of three years.

Should a vacancy occur in any un-expired term, by resignation or otherwise, the Grand Master shall appoint a replacement therefore.

The Grand Master, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary shall be ex-officio members, with equal vote, and the Trustees shall select a Chairman from among the appointed members to serve as the presiding officer. (See Sec. 509 for selection of Secretary.) (Revised Sept. 2001)

Section 505. **Disbursement.** The Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund is a permanent Fund from which only the income derived may be expended, and income derived there from shall be credited to the Interest Relief Fund which may be expended as follows:

The primary purpose of the Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund and the Interest Relief Fund is to provide Masonic Relief, and finances from the Interest Relief Fund may be expended for the support of worthy and indigent members, or for the support of widows and orphans of deceased members who may be deemed worthy of Masonic Assistance.

When earned revenues are available, and when specifically approved by the Grand Lodge, the costs of administering the Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund may be expended from the Interest Relief Fund.

Grants for educational and training programs sponsored by associated Orders may be made to institutions providing educational training for the benefit of individuals, and contributions to charitable and humanitarian programs supported by associated Orders may be made when specifically allocated and approved by the Grand Lodge, or when authorized by the Grand Master and approved by the Committee on Accounts and Finances between Annual Communications.

Whenever any funds remain in the Interest Relief Fund in excess of approved expenditures and probable current needs, the Grand Lodge may direct the transfer of such funds to the Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund or to any other Fund which the Grand Lodge may direct. (Revised Sept. 1999)

Section 506. **Revenue.** In addition to voluntary contributions received, there shall be paid annually to the Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund a sum of not less than fifty (50) cents for each member in this jurisdiction, except that no payment need be made for Fifty Year members. (Revised 2012.)

Section 507. **Custody.** The Grand Treasurer shall have custody of the monies and securities belonging to the Grand Lodge, and those being administered for the benefit of the Constituent Lodges.

Section 508. **Board of Relief.** Only members of the Grand Lodge (see Article II of Constitution) may serve on the Board of Relief, and the Grand Master shall appoint three members for specified terms of one, two, and three years. Annually thereafter, the Grand Master shall appoint

one Board member to serve for a term of three years.

Should a vacancy occur in any un-expired term, by resignation or otherwise, the Grand Master shall appoint a replacement therefore.

The Grand Master, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary shall be ex-officio members, without vote, on the Board of Relief; and the Board members shall select a Chairman from among the appointed members to serve as the presiding officer. (For duties, see Section 510.) (See Section 509 for selection of Secretary.)

Section 509. **Secretary, Records and Reports.** The Board of Trustees of the Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund (Investment Committee) and the members of the Board of Relief shall jointly select an appointed member of either Board to serve as Secretary for both. (Section 504 and 508)

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings, keep complete books and records as may be required by the Board of Trustees of the Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund and the Board of Relief (which shall clearly show at all times, the amount, and to whom, relief is given) and execute the required correspondence for either Board. The Board of Trustees of the Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund, and the Board of Relief, shall each prepare a written and signed Report of their transactions which the Secretary shall make available at each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

The Secretary shall receive compensation for his services as may be authorized by the Board of Relief, and confirmed by the Board of Trustees of the Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund. Such compensation shall be paid from the earnings of the Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund.

Section 510. **Application for Masonic Relief.** All applications for relief shall be made, with their recommendations, by the Master and Secretary of the Lodge of which the Master Mason is in good standing, or was in good standing at the time of his death, and shall be made on such forms as the Board of Relief may require.

The Board of Relief shall consider each application carefully, taking into account the financial condition of the Lodge, the number of applicants receiving or requesting relief, and the money available, and may grant such assistance as may be deemed just and proper.

Previously accumulated indebtedness of an applicant may be helpful in determining the amount of assistance to be provided, but finances shall not be approved for the purpose of eliminating any previously accumulated obligations of any applicant.

Section 511. **Payment of Relief.** Allocations approved by the Board of Relief shall be paid to the Master of the Lodge which applied for the assistance, and he shall have it delivered to, or used for the benefit of the applicant in such sums as may be required from time to time. (Revised Sept. 1975)

## ARTICLE VI FINANCE AND REVENUE

### SECTION

601. Sources.

602. Funds.

603. Power to Buy, Sell,  
And Convey Property.

### SECTION

604. Audit. And

Financial Review.

605 Charitable Trust.

Section 601. **Sources.** The revenue of the Grand Lodge shall be derived from the following sources:

1. Fees for dispensations, charters, diplomas and oth-



er documents issued under its authority;

2. Levies upon Lodges, which shall be equal and uniform in proportion to their membership and degrees conferred;
3. Funds, dues and proceeds of the property of dissolved Lodges within its Jurisdiction; subject to all legal and equitable rights of creditors of such dissolved Lodges in and to such property;
4. Proceeds of investments;
5. Gifts;
6. Sale of supplies;
7. Other miscellaneous receipts.

Section 602. **Funds.** All monies, securities and properties belonging to the Grand Lodge, and Funds held and administered for the benefit of the Constituent Lodges, shall be segregated and kept apart in such Funds as the Grand Lodge shall direct, and may include, but shall not be confined to the following;

1. **General Fund;** which shall include any assets not otherwise allocated, the proceeds of per capita levies for the operational expenses of the Grand Lodge, and contributions made to the 1079 Fund.
  - (a) 1079 Fund; which shall include contributions made thereto, and expended for use of the Idaho Masonic Child Identification Program.  
(Revised Sept. 2011)

2. **Investment Assets;** which shall not be commingled with the General Fund, but shall include all other assets. The following Funds, and such other Funds as the Grand Lodge may direct, shall participate therein as their annual interest may appear:
  - (a) **Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund;** is and shall remain a permanent Fund, and only the income derived there from may be expended. It shall derive its assets from the proceeds of assessments, contributions, items received for Masonic Relief, and allocations that may be directed by the Grand Lodge. The income derived from this Fund shall be annually credited to the Interest Relief Fund.
  - (b) **Interest Relief Fund;** which shall include the income derived from the investment of the Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund, and may be expended in accordance with Section 505 of these By-Laws.
  - (c) **Building Fund;** which shall include contributions made thereto, and such allocations as the Grand Lodge may direct, and may be expended in accordance with any directives that may be received with such contributions, and with the approval of the Grand Lodge. (Revised Sept. 1975)
3. **Grand Lodge Endowment Fund;** which shall include contributions made thereto for the operating expenses of the Grand Lodge.
  - (a) All gifts, unbudgeted accumulated interest within this fund from prior fiscal years and other subventions made to or by the Grand Lodge Endowment Fund shall be invested and

the income derived there from used for the following purposes.

- (1) First priority shall be for the use as General Fund operating expenses as requested for by Accounts and Finances Committee.
  - (2) Second Priority; should sufficient income be realized contributions may be made to any other Fund which Grand Lodge may direct.
- (b) No disbursements of income shall be made until the Fund shall exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) and then up to fifty percent (50%) of the derived income may be used as per paragraph a(1) above. When the Fund shall exceed two million dollars (\$2,000,000) one hundred percent (100%) of the derived income may be allocated.
- (c) If at any time monies remain in the Grand Lodge Endowment Fund when such Fund is abolished by action of Grand Lodge, such remaining monies may only be transferred to the Grand Lodge General Fund and/or the Grand Lodge Interest Relief Fund.
- (Revised Sept. 2000)

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**Section 603. Power to Buy, Sell, and Convey Property.**

1. The Grand Master and the Grand Secretary, with the approval of the Grand Lodge, shall have the power to buy, sell, and convey any real estate hereafter acquired by the Grand Lodge.
2. The Board of Trustees of the Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund shall have the power to buy, sell and assign corporate stocks, bonds or other securities, and when such stocks, bonds or other securities are issued and registered in the corporate name of this Grand Lodge, then upon such sale and assignment, the Grand Master or the Grand Secretary shall endorse the same in its corporate name attested by the seal. Investments under this Section shall be made according to the provisions of Section 504.

Section 604. **Audit and Financial Review.** The funds, securities and all business transactions of the Grand Lodge shall have a financial review annually and an audit, by a certified public accountant, every four (4) years or when a new Grand Secretary or Grand Treasurer is elected to serve the Grand Lodge. This review or audit shall be under the direction of the Grand Master, and the report of said financial review or audit shall be laid before the Annual Communications. (Revised 2009)

Section 605. **Grand Lodge Charitable Trust:** The Charitable Trust shall be managed by a separate Charitable Trust Management Board named: Grand Lodge AF & AM of Idaho Charitable Fund, Inc., and governed by the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. Incorporated as a 501© (3) Nonprofit Corporation pursuant to the Idaho Nonprofit Corporation Act, Chapter 3, Title 30, Idaho Code.

Purpose statement: “To support the education, safety and well being of children.” (Revised 2012)

## ARTICLE VII APPROPRIATIONS

SECTION	SECTION
701. Approval.	705. Expenses of Committees Not Otherwise Provided For.
702. Warrants.	706. General Fund.
703. Emergency Aid.	707. Non-Budgeted Expenditures Authorized by the Grand Master.
704. Expenses for Attendance. (Deleted)	

Section 701. **Approval.** No proposal or resolution for the appropriation or expenditure of money shall be put upon its final passage until it shall have been considered and reported upon by the Committee on Accounts and Finances.

Section 702. **Warrants.** No warrants in payment for labor or material shall be issued for anything that has been authorized by the Grand Lodge until the labor or the material is actually furnished.

Section 703. **Emergency Aid.** The Grand Master may for the relief of worthy applicants and in cases of extraordinary calamities causing extensive distress to large numbers of the Fraternity, draw upon the General Fund for amounts not to exceed a total of \$500.00.

Section 704. **Expenses for Attendance (Deleted 2010).**

Section 705. **Expenses of Committees Not Otherwise Provided For.** Expenses of Committees authorized by the Grand Lodge or appointed by the Grand Master, not otherwise provided for, may be paid out of the General Fund on order of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.

Section 706. **General Fund.** All appropriations, unless otherwise specified, shall be drawn on the General Fund. In the case of special Committees the Grand Master may authorize the payment of mileage, per diem and expenses out of the General Fund.

Section 707. **Non-Budgeted Expenditures Authorized by the Grand Master.** Any non-budgeted expenditures exceeding a total of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for the year must have prior approval of the Committee on Accounts and Finances. (Revised 1966)

## ARTICLE VIII WORK AND LECTURES

SECTION	SECTION
801. Idaho Work.	803. Dissemination of the Work.
802. Custodians.	

Section 801. **Idaho Work.** The ritual as set forth in the adopted work and the monitor is the standard work in this Jurisdiction and shall be known as the Idaho Work. Lodges shall practice only the Idaho Work, except by express authority from the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.

Section 802. **Custodians.** There shall be a Board of Custodians of the Work consisting of seven members, who shall be authority on the Idaho Work. The Grand Master shall each year appoint one member of the Board for a term of seven years, and he shall appoint members to fill vacancies for un-expired terms. At each Annual Communication he may appoint members to serve temporarily during that session in the stead of absent regular members of the Board. Four members of the Board shall constitute a quorum, but no decision shall be made without the concurrence of four members, which may be held by electronic means throughout the year. Decisions from any meeting prior to the Annual Communications may be published if deemed appropriate. The Board shall meet each year during the Annual Communication to hear and decide questions relating to the Idaho Work, not previously presented, and to submit their final report. (Revised 2009)



Section 803 **Dissemination of the Work.** The Grand Lodge may prescribe rules and methods for dissemination of the Idaho Work.

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***PART TWO - PERTAINING TO  
LODGES***  
**ARTICLE IX**  
**PROVISIONS COMMON TO ALL LODGES**

SECTION	SECTION
901. Under What Authority Held.	910. Regalia and Lodge Room.
902. Of Whom Composed.	911. Passes.
903. Officers.	912. Avouchment.
904. Property to Vest in Grand Lodge, When.	913. Joint Occupancy.
905. Powers and Duties of Lodges.	914. Masonic Temples, Plans and Financing.
906. By-Laws and Annual Audit.	915. Deleted (2009)
907. Business.	916. Objection to Visitor.
908. Presiding Officer Must Be Present.	917. Relief from Lodge Funds.
909. Widows' Certificates.	918. Relief to Sojourners.
	919. Removal of Lodges.
	920. Communications.

Section 901. **Under What Authority Held.** Every Lodge in this Jurisdiction shall be held by virtue of a charter or dispensation issued by authority of the Grand Lodge.

Section 902. **Of Whom Composed.** Lodges shall be composed of those named in their warrants of dispensation or charter, and such as they may admit by affiliation, or are raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, who retain membership therein.

Section 903. **Officers.** The officers of each Lodge shall be a Worshipful Master, a Senior Warden, a Junior Warden, a Treasurer, a Secretary, a Senior Deacon, a Junior Deacon, a Senior Steward, a Junior Steward, a Chaplain, a Marshal and a Tyler.

Section 904. **Property to Vest in Grand Lodge, When.** Upon the demise of any Lodge under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, the books, papers, jewels, funds, furniture, and all other property of such Lodge shall vest in and belong to the Grand Lodge subject to all legal and equitable rights of creditors of such demised Lodge in and to such properties. The officers of said Lodge shall surrender the same without delay to the Grand Lodge, and in case of real estate, they shall have the title conveyed to the Grand Lodge. (See Section 1304)

Section 905. **Powers and Duties of Lodges.** The powers and duties of a Lodge are those prescribed and determined by the immemorial laws and customs of the Fraternity and by the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge, and include the following:

1. To perform its proper work under control of its Master and in accordance with law;
2. To enact legislation relative to its own affairs, not in conflict with the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge, or the immemorial customs and usages of the Fraternity.

Section 906. **By-Laws and Annual Financial Review.** (Revised Sept. 1971, Sept 2011)

1. A Lodge has power and authority to enact By-Laws for its own government, not in conflict with the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge or with the established customs of Masonry; but such By-Laws shall not be in force until approved by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master. No Constituent Lodge may suspend any of its By-Laws.
2. The By-Laws of each Constituent Lodge shall make provision for an annual Financial Review of

the books and records of the Treasurer and Secretary, including all funds and securities owned or received by the Lodge, and shall specify the annual date on which the written Financial Review shall be presented to the Lodge.

Section 907. **Business.** All Business, except balloting, may be done at any stated meeting while open in any degree, at the discretion of the Worshipful Master of the Lodge. All work pertaining to specific degrees, inclusive of lectures, shall be done in that respective degree. All balloting shall be done in the third degree. Each Lodge shall be opened in due form on the highest degree in which it expects to labor, and shall be closed in due form on the same degree. If business is being conducted in the First or Second degree, pursuant to this section, only members of the Lodge as described in section 1401 may vote or participate in any Lodge actions or decisions. (Revised Sept. 1996)

Section 908. **Presiding Officer Must Be Present.** No Lodge shall be opened or remain open except in the presence of one of the following: its Master, one of its Wardens, a Past Master of that Lodge as Acting Master, or the Grand Master. (Note See Section 920 and 1703 .)

Section 909. **Widows' Certificates.** All Lodges shall give certificates to the widows of the deceased members who at time of death were in good standing. Certificates shall be signed by the Master and Wardens and attested by the Secretary.

Section 910. **Regalia and Lodge Room.** All Lodges shall provide the necessary jewels, aprons, furniture and regalia, and shall keep their Lodge rooms in good order at all times.

Section 911. **Passes.** No Lodge shall furnish letters or

passes for begging purposes on any pretense whatever, nor shall it recognize any such document.

Section 912. **Avouchment.** A Lodge may accept avouchment from a Mason under the following conditions:

1. If he has "sat in Lodge with him",
2. If, as a member of a committee appointed by the Master, he has carefully examined the brother and found him to be entitled to recognition,
3. If a man whom he knows to be a Mason vouches for the brother in his presence,
4. No certificate, receipt or other documentary evidence is sufficient to prove that a man is a Mason. It may be taken as corroborative evidence, but is neither conclusive nor prerequisite for avouchment.

Section 913. **Joint Occupancy.** A Lodge may occupy a hall used by other societies whose avowed purpose is the mental improvement and moral elevation of mankind, but care must be taken to keep its records and private property securely under lock and key when not in use. It shall not occupy a hall jointly with any other organization without the express approval of the Grand Master.

Section 914. **Masonic Temples, Plans and Financing.**

1. When a Lodge desires to purchase, erect, refinance or substantially remodel a temple, the plans, estimated cost, and method of financing shall be submitted to the Grand Master, who shall appoint a committee of three to examine such plans and method of financing and report their findings to

him. If approved, the Grand Master may authorize the Lodge to proceed but without any financial responsibility incumbent on the Grand Lodge.

2. No Lodge shall sell or otherwise dispose of any of its real property without first obtaining authorization from the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge.
3. Every Lodge shall retain full authority over all its real and other property, except as herein stated.
4. Every Lodge owning real property shall be incorporated under the short form provisions of the Idaho Code - Section 30-331 (See Miscellaneous Forms - Incorporation of Lodges)
5. No Lodge shall unite with a non-Masonic organization in the joint lease or ownership of a hall or building.
6. A Lodge may unite with another Masonic body in the joint lease or ownership of a hall or building upon approval of the Grand Master, which shall be granted only after investigations as provided in paragraph No. 1 of this section, and provided further that control of the property shall at all times be vested in the Lodge. (Note: See Section 503)

Section 915. **Deleted** (2009)

Section 916. **Objection to Visitor.** A member of a Lodge has the right of objection to a visitor sitting in Lodge with him, but the objection shall debar the brother objected to from attendance only while the objecting

member is present and at the communication when it is made.

Section 917. **Relief from Lodge Funds.** All members in good standing in a Lodge, their wives and minor children, and the widows and orphans of such deceased members, are proper subjects for relief from such Lodge when deemed worthy and presenting satisfactory evidence of their Masonic character and relationship, and that they are in circumstances requiring assistance or charitable relief. The Lodge, however, is in no sense an insurance society and it is under no obligation to extend relief beyond its reasonable ability.

Section 918. **Relief to Sojourners.** Before incurring any expense that it does not expect to assume for the relief of a sojourning brother, his widow or orphans, the Lodge should obtain the authorization of the Lodge of which the brother is or was a member.

Section 919. **Removal of Lodges.** A Lodge shall not change its place of meeting without consent of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master; and a permanent change of meeting place to another community shall require approval of the Grand Lodge.

Section 920. **Communications.**

1. The time of stated Communications shall be specified in its By-Laws.
2. The presence of at least seven (7) members of Constituent Lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction, at least three (3) members of which must be members of the Home Lodge shall be necessary for a quorum at any Communication, except on authority of the Grand Master. (Revised Sept. 1999)



3. Called Communications may be held at the pleasure and call of the Worshipful Master. The purpose of such communications must be distinctly stated, and no other business shall be transacted.  
(Note: See Section 2001)

## ARTICLE X

### LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION

SECTION	SECTION
1001. How Formed, Duration.	1007. Instituting.
1002. Certificate of Recommendation.	1008. Charter Members.
1003. Certificate of Standing.	1009. Powers of Lodge U.D.
1004. Certificate of Proficiency.	1010. Grand Lodge Dues.
1005. Lodge Room.	1011. Termination of Dispensation.
1006. Officers.	1012. Requirements for Charter.

Section 1001. **How Formed, Duration.** The Grand Master may upon petition of fifteen or more Master Masons, properly recommended, and accompanied by the fee of one hundred dollars, grant a dispensation to form a new Lodge in this Jurisdiction, or in foreign territory where no Grand Lodge exists. The dispensation shall be returnable at the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, when the Grand Lodge may annul the dispensation, continue it until the next Annual Communication, or grant a charter to the Lodge.

Section 1002. **Certificate of Recommendation.** Except when ordered by the Grand Lodge, no dispensation for the formation of a new Lodge shall be issued by the Grand Master without the recommendation of the nearest Lodge.

Section 1003. **Certificate of Standing.** Each of the petitioners for a new Lodge shall file with the petition for dispensation a certificate showing his good standing in, or a demit or its equivalent from a regular Lodge.

Section 1004. **Certificate of Proficiency.** No dispensation shall be issued to the petitioners unless it is accompanied by a Certificate of Proficiency that the brother proposed as Master is competent to confer the three degrees of Masonry in conformity with the Idaho Work. (Note: See Section 1603, paragraphs 5 and 6)

Section 1005. **Lodge Room.** No dispensation shall be issued unless a safe and suitable Lodge room has been provided.

Section 1006. **Officers.** The Grand Master shall appoint the officers of a Lodge under dispensation.

Section 1007. **Instituting.** A Lodge under dispensation shall be instituted by the Grand Master, or a Past Master deputized by him, before it may proceed to work. The instituting officer shall instruct the officers in their duties and give such advice and assistance as are needed. The officers of a Lodge under dispensation are not installed.

Section 1008. **Charter Members.** All members of a Lodge under dispensation at the time the charter is granted shall be charter members thereof.

Section 1009. **Powers of Lodge U.D.** A Lodge under dispensation has the general powers and privileges, and shall perform the duties, of a chartered Lodge, except that it cannot elect and install its officers, nor discipline its members or other Masons, nor vote in the Grand Lodge, and it does not have a seal.

Section 1010. **Grand Lodge Dues.** A Lodge under

dispensation pays no Grand Lodge dues, except to the Permanent Grand Lodge Relief, and Representative Funds.

Section 1011. **Termination of Dispensation.** A dispensation to form a new Lodge shall terminate upon the first day of the month in which the next succeeding Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge is held, and shall then be transmitted to the Grand Secretary together with the By-Laws, books of record and Returns of the Lodge to that date.

Section 1012. **Requirements for Charter.** No charter shall be issued to a new Lodge until it shall have worked a time under dispensation and shall have exhibited to the Grand Lodge satisfactory evidence of its Masonic capability. A fee of thirty dollars shall be paid before the charter is issued.

## ARTICLE XI CHARTERED LODGES

SECTION	SECTION
1101. Constituting.	1103. Seal.
1102. Name, Number and Precedence.	1104. Returns, Monthly and Annual.
	1105. Historic Lodges

Section 1101. **Constituting.** Upon the issuance of a Charter, the Grand Master, if unable to be present, may deputize a Past Master to convene the brethren and, after election of officers of the new Lodge, open a Communication of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of constituting the Lodge and installing its officers. No chartered Lodge shall proceed to work until its officers are elected and installed and the Lodge constituted.

Section 1102. **Name, Number and Precedence.** When a new Lodge is chartered, it shall be given such name as its members may select, and the number next succeeding the number of the last previously chartered Lodge. Lodges shall take precedence according to the numerical order in which they stand upon the roll of the Grand Lodge.

Section 1103. **Seal.** Each chartered Lodge shall provide a suitable seal, bearing the name and number of the Lodge, the date of its charter, the place of its location, and such devises as may be deemed proper. All documents and papers requiring attestation and emanating from the Lodge shall bear the impress of the seal.

Section 1104. **Returns, Monthly and Annual.**

1. Monthly Returns - Whether any Communications are held or not, each Chartered Lodge shall file monthly in the Office of the Grand Secretary on forms furnished by him, a report of its membership statistics for the previous month. The monthly report shall contain the information required on the form, and shall be filed or postmarked between the 1st and 10th day of the following month.
2. Annual Returns - Each Chartered Lodge shall file in the office of the Grand Secretary between the 1st and 15th day of January each year, on forms furnished by him, its returns for the preceding Grand Lodge fiscal year from January 1st through December 31st, both dates inclusive. Annual Returns shall contain a list of the officers of the Lodge, and such other information as required on the form, and shall be signed by the Master and attested by the Secretary.

It is the special duty of the Master to forward the return of his Lodge, or cause the same to be done, together

with the annual Grand Lodge Dues, to the Grand Secretary at the time herein specified.

Annual Returns not filed or post-marked on or before the 15th day of January are delinquent. Notice of delinquency shall not be required, and an assessment of \$2.50 per day shall be paid for each day said report remains delinquent, and shall be remitted with the Grand Lodge Dues. (Revised Sept. 2009)

Section 1105. **Historic Lodges** A special classification of constituent lodges is hereby established and may be chartered, to be known as historic lodges, with authority to preserve their buildings, paraphernalia, and historic connections to their communities, subject to all the provisions of this code, except:

A. Membership:

1. Shall consist of Master Masons in good standing in this jurisdiction or of any duly chartered lodge, which is not clandestine, and is subject to the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge recognized by the Grand Lodge of Idaho;
2. Shall cease if a member loses such status;
3. May be voluntarily severed at any time by resignation; and
4. Suspension for non-payment of dues shall not affect membership in any other lodge;

B. Only Master Masons in good standing in a lodge shall hold office and vote;

C. No officer or former officer shall, by reason of that position alone, be a member of Grand Lodge. Sections of this code dealing with the title of Past Master shall not be applicable to one who has served as Master of an historic lodge only, and the

- Master of an historic lodge shall not upon death or completing of his term of office, by reason of that fact alone, become or be known as a designate as a Past Master, and shall possess none of the rights, powers or privileges of a Past Master of a lodge;
- D. No demit or request for demit shall be received or issued by an historic lodge;
- E. The other provisions of this code relating to petitions for dispensation shall not apply provided a petition for charter is signed by 15 Master Masons in good standing, residing in Idaho. The charter shall be issued without charge after a favorable 2/3 vote granting the issuance of a charter at a Grand Lodge annual communication;
- F. A historic lodge, once chartered, shall adopt by-laws to provide for its officers, the time of their election and installation, their duties, and the conduct of its meetings. It shall submit annually to the Grand Master a current summary of its activities during the preceding year;
- G. Their charters may be revoked at any time by the Grand Lodge upon the recommendation of the Grand Master;
- H. Their stated meetings shall be held at least once annually and all its meetings may be held anywhere in the jurisdiction upon such notice as their by-laws may provide;
- I. The name of an historic lodge shall read:  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ historic lodge no. \_\_\_\_ The number shall not be the same as the number of any active lodge in this jurisdiction;

- J. They shall be exempt from:
  - 1. The contributions levied on lodges and the payment of any per capita assessment;
  - 2. The minimum annual dues and life membership charge imposed by this code;
  - 3. The jurisdiction restrictions imposed by this code;
  - 4. Those portions of the annual returns which relate to the conferring of degrees; and
  - 5. The need to pass a satisfactory examination for proficiency in the Master Mason degree to qualify as an officer;
- K. They shall have no penal jurisdiction or the right to conduct a Masonic trial;
- L. They shall not:
  - 1. Have power to confer degrees;
  - 2. Be liable for the relief of a member, his wife, widow, or orphan; or
  - 3. Be entitled to representation in the Grand Lodge or a vote therein; and
- M. In the case of the surrendering or revocation of the charter of an historic lodge, all property shall be handled as provided elsewhere in these By-Laws with all funds gained from any sale of that lodge's property being placed in the Grand Lodge Endowment Fund . (Section 1105 added Sept. 2007)  
(Amended Sept., 2009)

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## **ARTICLE XII**

### **MERGER or CONSOLIDATION**

<b>SECTION</b>	<b>SECTION</b>
1201. Vote Required.	1205. Members and Property, Offices Vacant.
1202. Lodges May Merge.	1206. Officers, Business, and Installation.
1203. Lodges May Consolidate.	1207. Name, Number, and Charter.
1204. Consolidating Commission, By-Laws, Master, and Written Notice.	

Section 1201. **Vote Required.** A two-thirds favorable vote of all members present in each Lodge, taken by written ballot, shall be required to adopt a merger or a consolidation.

Section 1202. **Lodges May Merge.** Providing a Lodge is willing to accept the Name, Number, Charter, By-Laws, and Officers of a nearby and conveniently located Lodge, it may terminate its own operations by merging with such a Lodge.

A motion to merge shall be presented at a Stated Com-

munication, written notice thereof shall be issued to all members within five days, and final action thereon shall be taken at the next Stated Communication. When the proposal to merge has been adopted, the Lodge shall issue a complete report of its membership, assets, property, obligations and liabilities, and a request that the proposed merger be adopted, to the Lodge with which it desires to merge.

A Lodge receiving a request for merger shall present it at its first Stated Communication thereafter, give written notice to its entire membership, and final action thereon shall be taken at the next Stated Communication.

When a merger is adopted by the Lodges involved, they shall each notify the Grand Master. The Grand Master may approve or reject the merger, but when he approves it the merger is final. All members, assets, property, obligations and liabilities shall be transferred and vested in the merged Lodge. The Charter of the merged Lodge shall be appropriately updated to record the date of merger, and the Charter of the terminated Lodge shall be delivered to the Grand Secretary who shall mark it void and return it to the merged Lodge.

Section 1203. **Lodges May Consolidate.** Two or more conveniently located Lodges may voluntarily consolidate. A motion to consolidate shall be presented at a Stated Communication in each of the Lodges, written notice thereof shall be given to all members in each Lodge involved, and final action thereon shall be taken at the next Stated Communication in each Lodge.

Section 1204. **Consolidating Commission, By-Laws, Master, and Written Notice.** Within five days after consolidation has been adopted in all Lodges involved, the Worshipful Master of the oldest consolidating Lodge shall

assemble the Worshipful Masters and Wardens of the consolidating Lodges who shall function as a Consolidating Commission.

The Consolidating Commission shall select By-Laws from one of the consolidating Lodges which shall govern the consolidated Lodge, direct each of the consolidating Lodges to give written and timely notice to its entire membership announcing the date, time, and place for the first Stated Communication of the consolidated Lodge, and designate a qualified Worshipful Master who shall assume the duties of that office until a successor is installed.

**Section 1205. Members and Property, Offices Vacant.** When notice of the first Stated Communication of the consolidated Lodge has been issued, all members, assets, property, obligations and liabilities of the consolidating Lodges shall be transferred and vested in the consolidated Lodge, and all offices in all Lodges involved shall be vacant except that of the designated Worshipful Master.

**Section 1206. Officers, Business, and Installation.** At the first Stated Communication of the consolidated Lodge the designated Worshipful Master shall fill the offices, open the Lodge, and preside therein. In case the designated Worshipful Master is not present, the members of the consolidating commission present shall promptly select another qualified Worshipful Master to proceed.

Business shall include the reading and approval of the Minutes from each of the consolidating Lodges which records the adoption of consolidation, such other business as the prescribed By-Laws require, the selection of a name and number for the consolidated Lodge, and election of officers.

Officers of the consolidated Lodge shall be installed at any time prior to the next Stated Communication.

Section 1207. **Name, Number, and Charter.** The name of the consolidated Lodge shall be such as the members present shall choose, and the number shall be selected from those previously assigned to any of the consolidating Lodges.

If it is practical the Grand Master may authorize the updating of a previously issued Charter, or he may direct the issuance of a new Charter. No fee shall be required.

Each retired Charter shall be delivered to the Grand Secretary who shall mark it void and return it to the consolidated Lodge. (Revised Sept. 1985)

## ARTICLE XIII DISSOLUTION OF LODGES

### SECTION

1301. Voluntary Surrender of Charter.

1302. Arrest of Charter.

### SECTION

1303. Restoration or Revocation of Charter.

1304. Surrender of Property.

Section 1301. **Voluntary Surrender of Charter.** A resolution to surrender its charter may be presented at any stated communication of a Lodge. At a subsequent stated communication of which all members have been given due notice, a vote may be taken. If two-thirds of the members present vote for the proposition and not more than seven vote against it, the act of surrender shall be considered final when, and not before approved by the Grand Lodge.

Section 1302. **Arrest of Charter.** The charter of a Lodge may be arrested by the Grand Master until the next Annual Communication, at which time he shall report his reasons therefore.

Section 1303. **Restoration or Revocation of Charter.** The Grand Lodge may restore, arrest, recall, revoke, annul or declare void the charter of any Lodge when considered for the best interests of the Fraternity. The arrest of a charter may be for a definite or indefinite period.

Section 1304. **Surrender of Property.** Upon the surrender, revocation, or annulment of the charter of a Lodge, the last Master, Treasurer, Secretary or any other person having charge or in possession of any of its property shall deliver to the Grand Secretary, the charter, books, papers, jewels, furniture, monies and other property belonging to said Lodge, which shall vest in the Grand Lodge, subject to all legal and equitable rights of creditors of such demised Lodge in and to such property. (See Section 904.)

## ARTICLE XIV MEMBERSHIP

SECTION	SECTION
1401. How Acquired.	1411. Plural Membership, Per Capita.
1402. Fifty Year Membership.	1412. Plural Membership, How Acquired.
1403. Change of Membership.	1413. Plural Membership, Reinstatement.
1404. Demission, Certificate of Withdrawal, Certificate of Standing.	1414. Termination of Plural Membership.
1405. Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts, Cannot Demit.	1415. Record of Plural Members.
1406. Non-affiliates.	1416. Voluntary Prepaid Life Membership.
1407. Contributing Member.	1417. Administration, Investments and Distribution of Earnings.
1408. Standing When Charter Arrested.	1418. Dues Cards for Prepaid Life Members.
1409. Plural Membership.	
1410. Plural Membership, Rights and Privileges, and Eligibility to Office.	

Section 1401. **How Acquired.** Membership in a Lodge may be acquired in one of the following methods:

1. By having been one of the brethren to whom was granted the dispensation or charter under which the Lodge was formed,
2. By having been elected to receive and having received the three degrees,
3. By affiliation.

Section 1402. **Fifty Year Membership.**

A.. How Attained

The Grand Secretary tracks years of service and once a member has attained and been certified to have fifty years of service in good standing the

Grand Lodge will award and issue a 50-year certificate, pin and membership card to his primary Lodge for presentation to the Master Mason. The Grand Secretary will also issue a letter along with a 50-year membership card to his other Idaho Lodges in which he has plural membership.  
(Revised Sept. 2014)

**B Dues Exemption**

Only after a Lodge receives the required certification and has received the current year dues may it elect, by majority vote, such Master Mason to Fifty Year Membership, and may take such action at any Stated Communication during, the calendar year representing the member's fiftieth year in good standing, making Fifty-Year Membership available at any time during the year, at the discretion of the Lodge. (Revised Sep. 2005) (Note: See Regulation 40.)

1. A Lodge electing a member to Fifty Year Membership shall be exempt from paying Grand Lodge Per Capita dues for such member.
2. An annual Dues Card shall be issued for Fifty Year members, by the Grand Secretary, in the same manner as for Prepaid Life members as outlined in Section 1418 of this Code with the following exception. The paragraph concerning membership transfer shall not apply. (Revised Sept. 1996)

Section 1403. **Change of Membership.** A brother desiring to change membership from one Lodge in this Jurisdiction to another, may petition such other Lodge for membership before he is demitted, as follows:

1. His petition shall be accompanied by a formal certificate from his Lodge that he is a Master Mason

in good standing at that time and free from indebtedness to the Lodge.

2. The petition shall take the same course before the Lodge as if he were a non-affiliate petitioner.
3. If he is elected to membership in the Lodge petitioned, the Secretary of such Lodge shall forthwith so certify to his former Lodge and apply for a demit to be sent to the Secretary of the Lodge in which he is elected.
4. Upon receipt of the demit, the same shall be made of record by the Secretary of the electing Lodge, and the brother shall be a member of that Lodge from the date of the demit.
5. His Masonic standing is not impaired by the rejection of his petition. He may at pleasure petition the same or any other Lodge for affiliation. He remains a member of his former Lodge until that Lodge receives notice of his election by another Lodge and issues a demit.
6. A similar procedure may be used in transferring membership from a Lodge under the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge, if permitted in that Jurisdiction.

**Section 1404. Demission, Certificate of Withdrawal, Certificate of Standing.**

1. **Demits** - Any members in good standing (except the Master or a Warden) whose dues are paid, may withdraw from the Lodge at any time, without Lodge action, by giving written notice of his desire to do so at a stated communication, provided, that a member under charges shall not demit or transfer until the charges have been adjudicated.
2. **Certificate of Withdrawal** - If a member holding



Plural Membership voluntarily withdraws from a Lodge, he shall be issued a Certificate of Withdrawal instead of a demit.

3. **Grand Secretary's Certificate or Demit** - If a Lodge has not held a stated communication for six months the Grand Secretary, on order of the Grand Master, shall issue a certificate of standing or a demit, or a certificate of withdrawal. (Revised Sept. 1995)

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Section 1405. **Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts, Cannot Demit.** Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts shall not receive demits, but a Lodge may grant certificates setting forth their status in the Lodge.

Section 1406. **Non-Affiliates.** Non-affiliates have the privilege of visiting Lodges for a period of six months from the date of becoming non-affiliates; but they shall petition some Lodge for membership within thirty days thereafter. In case of noncompliance with these requirements, all non-affiliates shall be debarred from all the rights and privileges of Masonry as follows:

1. They shall not be allowed to visit any Lodge, except to present a petition for affiliation,
2. They shall not be allowed to appear in any Masonic procession,
3. They shall not be entitled to Masonic charity,
4. They shall not be entitled to Masonic burial,
5. They shall be deemed drones in the hive of Masonry and unworthy of recognition as Masons.

The foregoing shall be printed on all demits issued in this Jurisdiction.

Section 1407. **Contributing Member.** A non-affiliate of this jurisdiction, whose petition for affiliation has been rejected in this jurisdiction during the twelve months next preceding, and who is not convicted or under charges of un-Masonic conduct, may become a contributing Member by paying fifteen dollars (\$15.00) and applying to the Grand Lodge.

The payment shall be made to the Grand Secretary, and the application shall show the name and address of the non-affiliate, the date of his Demit and by which Lodge

issued, or the date of his Certificate as a non-affiliate (Section 3205), and the date of his rejection and by which Lodge rejected.

The Grand Secretary shall issue a Contributing Member Receipt for one year from date of issue, and no Lodge shall honor such receipt after it has expired.

A Contributing Member has requirements, limitations, rights, and privileges as follows:

1. He shall annually petition a Lodge of his choice for affiliation, and if rejected he may apply for renewal of his status for another year,
2. Should he become delinquent he shall no longer be recognized as a Mason, but he may later petition an Idaho Lodge for affiliation, and if rejected, he may re-apply for Contributing Membership,
3. He shall not vote or hold any office in any Lodge,
4. If his receipt is current a Lodge may allow him to visit, or join a Masonic procession,
5. If deemed worthy he may be entitled to Masonic charity and burial.

(Revised Sept. 1973)

Section 1408. **Standing When Charter Arrested.** The Masonic standing of members of a Lodge whose charter is arrested shall be similar to that of non-affiliates without a demit, until the Grand Lodge adjudicates the matter. When a charter is revoked, the members in good standing shall be given certificates by the Grand Secretary, stating their Masonic standing, which are equivalent to demits. If any such member holds Plural Membership the other Lodges in which he retains membership shall be notified by certified mail. (Revised Sept. 1995)

Section 1409. **Plural Membership.** This Grand Lodge recognizes and authorizes membership in more than one Lodge under the following conditions:

1. A Master Mason of a Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction residing in the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge which allows Plural Membership, and is recognized by this Grand Lodge, may affiliate with one or more Lodges in that jurisdiction while retaining his membership in this jurisdiction.
2. A Master Mason of a Lodge of any other Grand Jurisdiction which allows Plural Membership, and is recognized by this Grand Lodge may affiliate with one or more Lodges under this Grand Jurisdiction while retaining his membership in such other jurisdiction. (Revised Sept. 2000)
3. A Master Mason of a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction may acquire membership in one or more Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction, regardless of residence. (Revised Sept. 1995)

Section 1410. **Plural Membership, Rights and Privileges Eligibility to Office.** A member holding Plural Membership in a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction shall have all the rights and privileges of other members, and may hold any office in any Lodge in which he holds membership, except that he may not hold the elective offices of Worshipful Master, Senior Warden or Junior Warden in more than one Lodge during the same year, and shall be allowed to represent only one Lodge at Grand Lodge. (Revised Sept. 1999) (Note: See Section 1603)

Section 1411. **Plural Membership, Per Capita.** Each Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction to which a Plural Member belongs, shall pay to the Grand Lodge such per capita dues, or contributions on such plural member as on

each other regular member of the Lodge. (Revised Sept, 1995)

Section 1412, **Plural Membership, How Acquired.** A Master Mason desiring to affiliate as a Plural Member with a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, shall first obtain Certificates (or letters) of Good Standing from the Lodges to which he already belongs, and shall file said Certificates or letters, and a petition for Plural Membership, with the Secretary of the Lodge to which he desires to affiliate. The petition shall show the Lodge names, numbers, and Grand Jurisdictions of which he is already a member, and that he holds no other membership than that listed.

If he previously held Plural Membership in any other Lodges, he shall state the name and number of such Lodges and the manner in which his membership was terminated therein.

If his memberships are held in Lodges outside this Grand Jurisdiction, the Master and Secretary of the Lodges petitioned shall verify whether or not the Grand Jurisdictions in which the petitioner already holds membership permits membership in two or more Lodges at the same time. If such verification is later found to be in error, the Plural Membership in the Lodge petitioned shall be immediately void.

If such Plural Membership is not permitted in the other Jurisdictions, the Lodge shall return the petition, and any fees collected, to the petitioner.

If the other Grand Jurisdiction permits membership in two or more Lodges at the same time, the Lodge petitioned may receive the petition. (Reg. 47)

If the petitioner is eligible, the petition received, and the petitioner later elected, the Secretary of the electing

Lodge shall immediately notify the other Lodges in which membership is held (as shown on the applicant's petition) by certified mail. A copy of such notification shall also be simultaneously forwarded to the Grand Secretary of this Grand Jurisdiction. (Revised, Sept. 1995)

Section 1413. **Plural Membership, Reinstatement.** Any member holding Plural Membership at the time of having his membership involuntarily severed, who later desires to reinstate himself to good standing, must reinstate through the Lodge which originally terminated his membership. The other Lodges shall be notified of his reinstatement by the Lodge secretary. Reinstatement in the Lodge that originally terminated his membership shall automatically reinstate him in the other Lodges so far as this Grand Jurisdiction is concerned. (Revised Sept. 1995)

Section 1414. **Termination of Plural Membership.**

1. **Involuntary Termination.** Involuntary loss of membership in any Lodge shall constitute the loss of membership in all Lodges, insofar as the authority of this Grand Jurisdiction is concerned; and no certificate of any kind shall be issued. Any Lodge imposing such a penalty shall at once notify the other Lodges in which membership is held and shall notify the Grand Secretary of this Grand Jurisdiction. If the member terminated belongs to Lodges in other Grand Jurisdictions, those Grand Jurisdictions shall be notified by certified mail by the Lodge Secretary and the reason for termination given.
2. **Voluntary Termination.** If a member holding Plural Membership voluntarily withdraws from membership in a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction,

he shall be issued a Certificate of Withdrawal instead of a Demit. A Certificate of Withdrawal is similar to a Demit except it bears upon its face in bold red type the statement he is still a member of another Lodge, the name, number and location of the Lodges shall be shown. His other Lodges shall be notified by certified mail by the Lodge Secretary. (Revised Sept. 1995)

Section 1415. **Record of Plural Members.** The Grand Secretary shall keep a record of all Brothers holding Plural Membership and shall provide secretaries of constituent Lodges with proper blanks to cover the reporting of such members. (Revised Sept. 1995)

Section 1416. **Voluntary Prepaid Life Membership.** (Optional) (See Section 1417 for transmittal of funds.) (Revised Sept. 1980)

A Master Mason may *voluntarily elect* to become *exempt* from paying annual Dues to his Lodge by purchasing a Prepaid Life Membership; and is *eligible* to make such purchase after he completes the third degree proficiency, is in good standing in his Lodge, and holds a *current* Dues Card. (*A Mason may visit with a Dues Card for the previous year, but a Current Dues Card is one for the year in which he purchases a Prepaid Life Membership.*)

A Lodge chartered to confer the Masonic Degrees may grant Prepaid Life Membership, or a Memorial, after receipt of a sufficient-single-payment, or after receipt and accrual of sufficient-installment-payments.

The purchase funds for Prepaid Life Membership are not refundable, and the purchase funds or the revenue derived from their investment are not transferable to any other Grand Jurisdiction under any circumstances.



1. **(Purchase)** An eligible Master Mason may purchase a Prepaid Life Membership by remitting a single-payment; or if he desires to purchase a Prepaid Life Membership by installment-payments he shall submit a written request or application to his Lodge, and the Lodge shall arrange a policy allowing for such installment-payments.

A Master Mason *making installment payments* shall also continue to pay his Dues annually (*thereby **maintaining** a current Dues Card*) until the cost of his Prepaid Life Membership is paid in full.

2. **(Price)** The single-payment-purchase-price for a Prepaid Life Membership shall be at least twenty-one years annual Dues that are in effect on the date of purchase, but not less than \$700.00. This amount shall be adjusted annually in March of each year based upon the preceding year's inflation. (Revised Sept. 2006)

Since a Lodge may amend its annual Dues during any period of installment-payments, the installment-payment purchase-price shall be at least twenty-one years annual Dues that are in effect on the date the final payment is paid, but never less than minimum described in the preceding paragraph. (Revised Sept. 2006)

The *voluntary addition* of funds to a Prepaid Life Membership, or to a Memorial, may be added at the time of purchase, or on one or more later dates.

3. **(Memorial)** Provided a deceased Brother was in good standing at the time of his death, a perpetual contributing membership (or Memorial) in his memory may be purchased by a Lodge, another Order, by one or more individuals or by any combination thereof. The purchase price, is subject to

the same requirements and provisions as those governing Prepaid Life Membership.(Rev. 9/2006)

4. **(Transfer)** A Prepaid Life Member may transfer by affiliating with any Lodge of his choice within this Grand Jurisdiction, but if such a transfer requires additional funds (*added to the original funds paid*) to equal twenty-one years annual Dues of the Lodge to which he desires to transfer, the required additional funds shall be remitted with his petition for affiliation; *provided however*, that if such transfer is *not by voluntary choice*, and is *required* because of the surrender, revocation, arrest, or annulment of the Charter of his previous Lodge, each Prepaid Life Member of an extinct Lodge must petition some other Lodge within six months. Since his previous Lodge is extinct such member is forced to petition some other Lodge, and therefore the Lodge he petitions may, by majority vote, elect to remit a part or all of any additional funds if such payment would create a hardship for such petitioner.

If elected, the Lodge shall transmit any funds received in accordance with Section 1417 of these By-Laws, and the original funds and any added funds paid shall be transferred and credited to the Lodge with which he affiliates.

If rejected, any funds received with the petition for affiliation shall be refunded to the petitioner.

In case of a consolidation or merger of Lodges, a transfer is not involved, and all Prepaid Life Members become members of the consolidated or merged Lodge without any added funds for Prepaid Life Members being required.

5. **(Perpetual Earnings)** All funds received under the provisions of this Section shall be invested by the Trustees of the Grand Lodge Relief Fund, as described in Section 503 Investments and Section 504 Trustees.

Should a Prepaid Life Member become suspended or expelled, allow an Involuntary Termination of his Plural Membership, attains the status of Fifty Year Mason, *or at his death*, investment returns from the funds remitted for his Prepaid Life Membership shall be accredited to the last Lodge in which his Prepaid Life Membership was held, in a manner as described in Section 1417 (5) Dues of Prepaid Life Members. (Revised Sept. 2006)

6. **(Reinstatement)** Should the rights and privileges of a Prepaid Life Member be lost by Demit, suspension or expulsion, or by Involuntary Termination of Plural Membership, such membership may be regained as follows:

A Prepaid Life Member who Demits from Freemasonry may at any time present a petition for affiliation to his former Lodge or to any other Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction; but if fees (funds) are required (*in addition to the original funds paid*) to equal twenty-one years current annual Dues of the Lodge he petitions, but no less than the amount described in Section 1416, paragraph 2 (Price) above, he shall remit such additional funds with his petition for affiliation. If elected, the total funds paid for Prepaid Life Membership shall be credited to the Lodge with which he reinstates or affiliates. (Revised Sept. 2006)

If rejected, the funds remitted with the petition for

affiliation shall be refunded to the petitioner.

If Prepaid Life Membership is lost by suspension or expulsion, it may be regained by conforming with the provisions of Article XXXII of the Grand Lodge By-Laws.

A Prepaid Life Member who holds or obtains Plural Membership in another Lodge, thereby subjects both memberships to the requirements and provisions of Section 1414 of the Grand Lodge By-Laws. Involuntary Termination of membership in either Lodge shall result in the loss of all rights and privileges in both Lodges, and this warning shall be printed on the back of the Dues Receipt (Card) for all Prepaid Life Members.

Prepaid Life Membership lost as the result of Involuntary Termination of Plural Membership may be regained by reinstatement in accordance with Section 1413 of the Grand Lodge By-Laws; after which, if Plural Membership is no longer desired, Voluntary Termination of such Plural Membership shall be accomplished in accordance with Section 1414, Paragraph 2, of the Grand Lodge By-Laws.

**Section 1417. Administration, Investments, and Distributions of Earnings.**

1. **(Executive Council on Investments and Distributions)** Funds received under the provisions of Section 1416 of these By-Laws shall be designated as the Masonic Prepaid Life Membership Account; and to maintain records, invest funds, adopt policy,

and distribute earnings thereof, in accordance with the provisions of these By-Laws, there shall be an Executive Council on Investments and Distributions consisting of five members, which shall hereinafter be referred to as the Executive Council.

Three Master Masons who hold a Prepaid Life Membership in a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction shall be nominated and elected by the delegates at each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. They shall serve without compensation for a term of one year or until their successors are elected, and if re-elected they may succeed themselves in office. The three so elected shall select from within their own number a Chairman and a Secretary who shall preside over and record the actions of the Executive Council.

The Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary shall be the other two members of the Executive Council.

Three members of the Executive Council shall constitute a quorum, and no decisions shall be made except at a meeting called by the Chairman; provided however, that when necessary and in the absence of the Chairman, the Grand Treasurer may call and preside over a meeting of the Executive Council. Should a vacancy occur on the Executive Council, the remaining members shall declare such vacancy, after which the Grand Master shall appoint an eligible Master Mason to serve the unexpired term.

2. **(Ownership of Funds)** Each perpetual contributing membership (Memorial) in memory of a deceased Brother shall remain the perpetual property of the Lodge in which it is initially purchased. All

other funds received under the provisions of Section 1416 of these By-Laws become the property of the Lodge in which such membership is initially purchased; but may later become the property of some other Lodge within this Grand Jurisdiction to which a Prepaid Life Member may transfer. (See Section 1416, Paragraph 4)

Masonic Prepaid Life Membership funds shall not be co-mingled with any Grand Lodge Funds, but shall be kept apart as a permanent fund to be invested and kept intact, solely for the benefit of the participating Constituent Lodges.

3. **(Transmittal of Funds)** A Lodge shall deposit all funds received under Section 1416 of these By-Laws in its own bank account; and for purposes of *permanent investment only* shall immediately transmit a Lodge check (*in the total amount received*) to the Grand Secretary. The approved transmittal form (Application for Prepaid Life Membership) shall accompany the funds.
4. **(Duties of Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer)** The Grand Secretary shall record the name of each purchasing Mason, the remitting Lodge, the amount of funds and the date received, issue the adopted Dues Card or the perpetual memorial, transmit the funds received to the *permanent custody* of the Grand Treasurer, and take his receipt therefore.

The Grand Treasurer shall maintain such books and records on the Masonic Prepaid Life Membership Account, and invest all funds as the Executive Council shall direct.

5. **(Dues of Prepaid Life Members)** The Annual

Dues of each member who purchases Masonic Prepaid Life Membership shall thereafter be the annual earnings derived from the investment of the (his) purchase funds, and his Lodge shall record such earnings as his annual Dues for the previous year.

Annual earnings received after the death of a Prepaid Life Member, or from perpetual contributing memberships (Memorials), are not Dues, and shall be recorded by the Lodge as other unrelated income.

6. **(Duties and Authority of Executive Council)** An eligible Master Mason may purchase a prepaid Life Membership at any time, and therefore the funds remitted are initially invested for a partial year and shall be designated as Partial Year Investments. Earnings on Partial Year Investments shall be calculated for that period (*from date of initial investment through the following December 31st*) at the interest rate at which they were initially invested.

After the initial partial year of investment, all funds credited to each Lodge shall be designated as Permanent Investments, and annual earnings thereon shall be calculated at the average net interest rate as earned by the total Permanent Investment Account.

In the selection of investments, the Executive Council may consult competent investment counsel, including the Board of Trustees of the Permanent Grand Lodge Relief Fund.

All Masonic Prepaid Life Membership Funds shall be invested in any form of securities that are in-

sured or guaranteed by the Government of the United States or any of its Agencies, and all investments shall be selected by majority decision of the Executive Council present.

Costs and expenses (*including necessary materials*) for the administration of the Masonic Prepaid Life Membership Account must be authorized by the Executive Council, and shall be paid from the earnings of the account before annual distribution of earnings are paid.

At the close of each calendar year the Executive Council shall audit the books and records of the Masonic Prepaid Life Membership Account; but if it appears necessary or prudent the Executive Council may direct an independent audit. Costs for an independent audit shall be paid from the earnings of the account before distributions of earnings are calculated and paid.

As promptly as possible after the first of January each year the Executive Council shall compute the total earnings received during the previous year from the Partial Year Investments, and the Permanent Investments (of the Masonic Prepaid Life Membership Account), authorize and deduct any administrative costs or expenses, calculate and verify the amount earned and due to each Constituent Lodge as its interest appears, require the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary to make payments to each Lodge, and provide the report on distribution and audit to each Lodge and to the Grand Lodge Committee on Accounts and Finances. Such payout shall be computed on the following schedule:

If net earnings are greater than 7%, the payout will be 5% of the total fund balance as of the end of each calendar year;

If net earnings are equal to or greater than 5% but equal to or less than 7%, the payout will be 4% of the total fund balance as of the end of each calendar year;



If net earnings are less than 5%, the payout will be 3% of the total fund balance as of the end of each calendar year.

("The total fund balance as of the end of each calendar year" is defined as the sum total of the return on the investments received for the year plus all principal funds of the Partial Year Investments and the Permanent Investments.)

("Net earnings" is defined as the return on the investments less any administrative costs or expenses as provided for in this paragraph.)

The Executive Council shall determine the amount, and require bond, for the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary for the faithful performance of their duties. Cost of bond shall be paid from the earnings of the Account.

Constituent Lodges and the Executive Council shall comply with all the applicable requirements and provisions of Sections 1416 and 1417 of these By-Laws. The Executive Council shall prescribe the books and records to be kept by the Grand Treasurer, and shall resolve any inequities or questions not otherwise prescribed by these By-Laws.

**Section 1418. Dues Cards for Prepaid Life Members.**

1. Dues Cards (Receipts) for Prepaid Life Members shall be issued annually by the Grand Secretary who shall transmit such Dues Card to the Constituent Lodge in which each Prepaid Life Membership is held. On receipt of such Dues Card the Lodge Secretary shall immediately transmit same to each Prepaid Life Member. The form of the Dues Card shall be as adopted.
2. Replacement of Dues Cards for Prepaid Life Members shall be as follows:  
A new Dues Card shall be issued annually by the Grand Secretary for each Prepaid Member.  
When the membership of a Prepaid Life Member

is transferred from one Lodge to another, the Dues Card shall be immediately returned to the Grand Secretary who shall re-issue same and indicate thereon the Lodge with which such member has affiliated.

Should the Dues Card of a Prepaid Life Member become lost or destroyed, the member shall declare such loss in a signed statement to the Grand Secretary which shall be countersigned by the Secretary of the Lodge to which the member belongs, after which the Grand Secretary shall immediately re-issue said Dues Card. (Adopted Sept. 1972)

## ARTICLE XV FAILURE TO PAY DUES

SECTION	SECTION
1501. Lodge Shall Not Expel or Suspend.	1505. Statement, Dropped From Roll, by Lodge.
1502. Dues, When Payable, When Delinquent.	1506. Dropping From Roll, Automatic.
1503. Remission of Dues.	1507. Reinstatement, Members Dropped from Roll.
1504. Reporting Delinquent Members.	

Section 1501. **Lodge Shall Not Expel or Suspend.** No Lodge shall expel or suspend a member for failure to pay dues; the penalty therefore shall be Dropping from the Roll.

Section 1502. **Dues, When Payable, When Delinquent.** Lodge dues shall be due and payable in advance, on or before the first day of January each year. Any member refusing or neglecting to pay his dues when due is

thereby immediately delinquent; but he is entitled to all the rights and privileges of membership until he is lawfully dropped from the roll. (Revised Sept. 1990)

Section 1503. **Remission of Dues.** A Lodge may remit a part or all of the dues of any member, whether or not in good standing.

Section 1504. **Reporting Delinquent Members.** The Secretary shall, at the first stated communication in January, and at other times when ordered to do so, report the names of all members in arrears for dues for one year or more. He shall similarly report those subject to being automatically dropped from the roll, at the stated communication next preceding the date when the law becomes operative in each case.

Section 1505. **Statement, Dropping from Roll, By Lodge.**

1. The Lodge shall issue a dues statement to each delinquent member within sixty days after his dues were due and payable. A delinquent member shall have thirty days thereafter to make payment, show cause for non-payment, or request that his dues be remitted. When a member takes no action to correct his delinquency, the Lodge shall make every practical effort to contact him to ascertain the cause for the non-payment.
2. Action to terminate or continue the membership of delinquent members shall be taken only at the first Stated Communication of each Lodge in each calendar year; and the Lodge shall by majority vote of the members present (1) drop each member who has remained in arrears for dues for one year, or (2) elect to continue such delinquent membership(s) during the second year.

3. When a Plural Member is dropped from the roll the other Lodge(s) shall be notified by certified mail. (Revised Sept. 1995)

**Section 1506. Dropping From Roll, Automatic.** Any member refusing or neglecting to pay dues for a period of two years and whose dues have not been paid or remitted shall automatically be dropped from the roll without further action of the Lodge. He shall be notified by the Secretary, by certified mail to his last known address of such action, and advised of the amount of his delinquent dues and the procedure for reinstatement. If holding Plural Membership the other Lodge(s) shall be notified by certified mail.

The standing of a member dropped from the roll shall be that of a non-affiliate without a demit. (Revised Sept. 1995) (Note: See Section 1404.)

**Section 1507. Reinstatement, Members Dropped From Roll.**

1. Within one year from the date when he was dropped from the roll, a Mason shall be reinstated by the payment or remission of all dues accrued, including those accrued since he was dropped.
2. After the lapse of more than one year since he was dropped, a Mason may be reinstated by payment, or remission, of all dues accrued at the time he was dropped, and petitioning for reinstatement. (Note: See Section 2012.)

## ARTICLE XVI

### OFFICERS, ELECTION, INSTALLATION

SECTION	SECTION
1601. Election.	1604. Voting in Lodge.
1602. Installation.	1605. Installing Officer.
1603. Eligibility of Officers.	

Section 1601. **Election.** The Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected annually by individual written ballot, and the election shall be held at the first Stated Communication in November. A majority of the votes of the brethren present shall be necessary for a choice. (Revised Sept. 1973)

Section 1602. **Installation.** The officers of a chartered Lodge shall be installed at any time after the regular order of business at the first Stated Communication in December, and shall be completed on or before the 27th day of December (St. John the Evangelist's Day), and unless removed by competent authority, shall hold office until their successors are installed. Elective officers must be installed in person. Appointive officers may be installed in person or by proxy. (Revised Sept. 1973)

The installation may be private or public.

1. Private installation is held in regularly opened and tyled Lodge.
2. At public installation non-Masons may be present. The Master shall call those present to order and state the purpose of the meeting. The Great Lights are not displayed. No private signs or private honors shall be given. The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings.

Section 1603. **Eligibility of Officers.** All members in good standing in a Lodge are eligible for any office therein, except as hereinafter provided in this Section:

1. All officers of a Lodge shall be members thereof, except the Chaplain and/or Tyler may be members of some other Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction.
2. If he is otherwise qualified, a Plural member may hold any office in any Lodge in which he holds membership, except that he may not hold the elective offices of Worshipful Master, Senior Warden or Junior Warden in more than one Lodge during the same Masonic year. (Revised Sept. 1998)
3. Elective Grand Lodge Officers are not eligible for election as Master or Warden in a Constituent Lodge. A Master or Warden of a Constituent Lodge, with the exception of the Lodge of Research, and Historic Lodges, who is installed as an Elective Grand Lodge Officer thereby vacates his office in the Constituent Lodge. (Revised 2012)
4. A Wardens Certificate of Proficiency requires a Brother to demonstrate his proficiency in opening and closing Lodge in all three degrees and pass the designated examination on Masonic Law. To be eligible for election as Warden of a Lodge, a Brother must possess a Wardens Certificate of Proficiency; or a Worshipful Masters Certificate of Proficiency; or a Secondary Worshipful Masters Certificate of Proficiency; or be a Master or Past Master of a Constituent Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction. Individual who are already in possession of a Wardens Certificate prior to October 1, 2009 must pass the designated examination prior to being installed as Worshipful Master. (Revised Sept. 2009)

5. A full Worshipful Masters Certificate of Proficiency (known as a "Worshipful Masters Certificate of Proficiency") requires a Brother to proficiently open and close the Lodge in all three degrees, confer all three degrees, deliver the Masters Geometry Lecture in the Second Degree, serve as Master in the Second Section of the Third Degree, conduct a Stated Communication, deliver the First Degree Lecture, the Senior Deacons Lecture in the Second Degree, the Third Degree Lecture in open Lodge or before the District Deputy Grand Master of his District and pass the designated examination on Masonic Law. After being installed and serving at least once as a Warden of a Chartered Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction, or after serving as Warden or Master of a Lodge under Dispensation in this Grand Jurisdiction, and after receiving this Certificate, such Brother is eligible for election as Worshipful Master. (Revised Sept. 1996)
6. An alternate Worshipful Masters Certificate of Proficiency (known as a "Secondary Worshipful Masters Certificate of Proficiency") may be attained by complying with Paragraph 5 above with the exception that only one of the following lectures must be delivered in open Lodge or before the District Deputy Grand Master of his District: the First Degree Lecture, the Senior Deacons Lecture in the Second Degree, or the Third Degree Lecture. After installation at least once as a Warden of a Chartered Lodge, or serving as Warden or Master of a Lodge Under Dispensation in this Grand Jurisdiction, and after receiving this Certificate, such Brother is eligible for election as Worshipful Master. A Brother serving in this capacity may be considered a Past Master but shall not at-

tain the status of a permanent voting member of Grand Lodge until having completed the qualifications as outlined in paragraph 5 above. (Revised Sept. 1996)

Section 1604. **Voting in Lodge.**

1. In balloting all members present who are entitled to vote must vote unless excused by unanimous consent.
2. On matters other than balloting, all members present who are entitled to vote may vote. In case of a tie, the Master shall have the right to cast the deciding vote even though he has previously voted, but such deciding vote shall be cast before he declares the proposition carried or lost.

Section 1605. **Installing Officer.** The installing officer must be an installed Master or Past Master.



## ARTICLE XVII

### POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION	SECTION
1701. Master.	1704. Wardens.
1702. Who May Open & Close, And Who May Preside.	1705. Treasurer.
1703. Succession in Office.	1706. Secretary.
	1707. Other Officers.

Section 1701. **Master.** The Master of a Lodge has power:

1. To convene his Lodge at his pleasure and to preside over all communications of the Lodge, unless superseded by the Grand Master;
2. To discharge all the executive functions of the Lodge;
3. To appoint all officers, boards and committees whose selection is not otherwise provided, and to remove them at his pleasure;
4. To exclude from any meeting of the Lodge any member whose presence would disrupt its harmony.

Section 1702. **Who May Open & Close, and Who May Preside.** The Grand Master has authority to convene, open, preside in, and close any Lodge in this Jurisdiction at his pleasure.

1. **Who May Open & Close.** When present, the Master shall open the Lodge; or he shall complete the opening ritual through the first sound of the gavel, after which he may exchange places with any Master Mason of this jurisdiction whom he has reason to believe is proficient and invite him to open, thus providing the

Minutes of the Lodge as evidence of his proficiency for a

Wardens Certificate. When the Master is absent, the ranking Warden present becomes the acting Master and assumes the duties and authority of the Master. The Lodge must be closed by the Master, a Warden, Or the member with whom the Master has exchanged places, or the Grand Master. In case the Master, both Wardens, and the Grand Master are absent, the Junior Past Master present becomes the acting Master. As acting Master he assumes the duties and authority of the Master, and he must open and close the Lodge. (Revised Sept. 2006)

2. **Who May Preside.** After the Lodge is declared open the Master may preside therein, or he may invite any qualified Master Mason to preside. If the Master is absent, paragraph one of this Section designates the acting Master. The acting Master may preside therein, or he may invite any qualified Master Mason to preside. Even though a qualified Master Mason may preside, the Master or acting Master present remains responsible for the proficient and proper government of the Lodge.

(Revised Sept. 1979)

Section 1703. **Succession in Office.** In case of the death of the Master, or his absence or inability to act, 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 installation of officers. In case of the inability of the three principal officers to act, the Junior Past Master available may take charge of the Lodge as Acting Master.

Section 1704. **Wardens.** The Senior Warden and Junior Warden shall assist the Master in the government

of the Lodge and perform the duties assigned to them by usual Masonic Custom.

Section 1705. **Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall:

1. Receive from the Secretary all monies paid into the Lodge;
2. Keep a just and accurate account thereof;
3. Pay it out by order of the Master with the consent of the Lodge;
4. Give bond to the Lodge for the faithful performance of his duties, if required.

Section 1706. **Secretary.** The Secretary shall:

1. Keep a complete record of all things proper to be written;
2. Receive all monies paid into the Lodge and pay the same to the Treasurer;
3. Attest the official signature of the Master when necessary;
4. Under the direction of the Master, make annual returns as of December 31 to the Grand Secretary of the names of all officers and members of the Lodge, suspensions, expulsions, dropping from the roll, reinstatements, restorations, rejections, deaths, petitions received and the action thereon, degrees conferred and the dates thereof, which shall be transmitted with the Grand Lodge dues as required by law; (Note: See Section 1104)
5. Transmit to the Grand Secretary, immediately after every installation, a certificate of the names and addresses of the officers;

6. Keep a membership Register containing the By-Laws, in which each member, in the order of his admission, shall sign his name;
7. Keep a Register, which may be left in the Tyler's room, in which all members and visitors in attendance at each communication shall record their names, and the numbers and locations of their respective Lodges, before entering the Lodge;
8. Keep such books as may be necessary to present clearly the account of each member of the Lodge, the receipts of the Secretary, and his payments to the Treasurer;
9. Observe the will and pleasure of the Master, and perform such other duties as the Lodge or custom may require;
10. If required, give bond to the Lodge for the faithful performance of his duties;
11. Enter in full, in the minutes, all dispensations issued to the Lodge. (Note: See Section 1504.)

Section 1707. **Other Officers.** All other officers of the Lodge shall perform the duties as by custom pertain to their respective offices, and as laws of the Grand Lodge and the By-Laws of the Lodge may require; and they shall, in all things relating to their official duties, be subject to the direction of the Master, and shall hold office at his pleasure.

## ARTICLE XVIII VACANCIES IN OFFICE

SECTION	SECTION
1801. Resignation.	1803. Vacancy, How Filled.
1802. Vacancy.	

Section 1801. **Resignation.** Any installed officer (with exception of Master and Wardens) may resign upon moving from the Jurisdiction of the Lodge or becoming unable to attend to his duties.

Section 1802. **Vacancy.** A vacancy in office in a Lodge may occur by:

1. Death.
2. Resignation of an officer other than the Master or a Warden;
3. Election or installation of a Warden to fill a higher office; and the election or installation of any officer below the rank of Warden to any other office in the Lodge;
4. The installation of a Master or Warden of a Constituent Lodge, other than the Lodge of Research, as an elective Grand Lodge Officer. (Revised Sept. 1972)
5. Expulsion, or suspension for a time extending beyond the next election, removal from office, or dropping from the roll.

Section 1803. **Vacancy, How Filled.**

1. Whenever the number of principal officers (Master and Wardens) of a Lodge shall by inability to act be reduced to less than three, the Grand Master

- may, upon the request of the remaining Master or Warden or the Lodge, appoint qualified brothers to fill such vacancy. (Revised Sept. 1990)
2. Vacancy in an elective office, except that of Master or Warden, may be filled by election and installation at any stated communication upon receiving a dispensation from the Grand Master and after due notice to all the members, or the Master may appoint any Master Mason, from time to time, to perform the duties of the office.
  3. A vacancy in an appointive office may be filled by the Master at any time and the appointee shall hold office at his pleasure.

## ARTICLE XIX

### CANDIDATES AND JURISDICTION

SECTION	SECTION
1901. Physical Qualifications.	1906. Jurisdiction, How Measured.
1902. Age.	1907. Concurrent Jurisdiction.
1903. Petition.	1908. Waiver of Jurisdiction.
1904. Residence.	1909. Failure to Appear for Entered Apprentice Degree.
1905. Meaning of Residence.	

Section 1901. **Physical Qualifications.** A candidate for the degrees of Masonry must have no maim or defect of body that will prevent him from complying with the forms and ceremonies required in passing through the several degrees, or in performing the work required of him, or that would likely make him a charge upon the Lodge

through inability to support himself and family. He must be a man and have the senses of a man, especially those of hearing, seeing and feeling. (Note: See Regulations 34 and 68)

Section 1902. **Age.** A candidate for the degrees of Masonry must be at least eighteen (18) years of age when his petition is received by the Lodge. (Revised Sept. 1972 )

Section 1903. **Petition.** No Lodge shall initiate a person except upon his petition, unless it be by proper request and for another Lodge.

Section 1904. **Residence.** No Lodge shall receive a petition for the degrees of Masonry unless the petitioner has actually resided within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge six (6) months next preceding the date of his petition, unless proper waiver has been obtained. (Revised Sept. 2004)

Section 1905. **Meaning of Residence.** Masonic residence is the permanent or continuous abiding place or home of the petitioner, and is not always synonymous with "legal residence," and is not affected by temporary absence.

1. Students in attendance at any institution of learning and not maintaining a home do not thereby change their Masonic residence.
2. A man in the Military or Naval Service of the United States, unless he has established a home elsewhere, may be considered temporarily absent from home and may petition the Lodge of his Masonic residence when he entered the service.

Section 1906 deleted Sept 2011

Section 1907. **Concurrent Jurisdiction.**

1. In matters concerning the eligibility of an individual for original membership in a Lodge, statewide concurrent jurisdiction is established among the constituent Lodge of the Grand Jurisdiction of Idaho. (Revised Sept. 2004)
2. The Lodge that first receives a petition for the degrees shall have exclusive jurisdiction over the petitioner. (Revised Sept. 2004)

Section 1908. **Waiver of Jurisdiction.** A Lodge may waive jurisdiction:

1. Over an original petitioner for the degrees, an Entered Apprentice, or a Fellowcraft, by a majority vote; (Note: See Regulation 44 and Section 2023 of Article XX. 1962.)
2. Over one who has been rejected for the degrees in that Lodge by a two-thirds vote.

Section 1909. **Failure to Appear for Entered Apprentice Degree.** When a candidate for the degrees of Freemasonry fails to present himself for the reception of the Entered Apprentice Degree within two years of the



date of his election, such election becomes null and void and he may then again petition for the degrees in accordance with the provisions of these By-Laws that pertain to original petitions.

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## ARTICLE XX

### PETITIONS, BALLOTING, CONFERRING DEGREES

SECTION	SECTION
2001. Petitions.	2014. Secrecy of Ballot.
2002. Petitioners for Degrees.	2015. Advancement after Two Years.
2003. Fees for Degrees.	2016. Cases Involving Masonic Standing.
2004. Petition for Degrees, Reception and Reference.	2017. No Discussion of Petition or Ballot.
2005. Petition for Degrees, Must Ballot, Exception.	2018. Degrees, Limits on Conferring.
2006. Petition for Degrees, Ballot.	2019. Degree Proficiency.
2007. Rejection for Degrees.	2020. Proficiency in Third Degree.
2008. Objection after Ballot.	2021. Degrees by Courtesy.
2009. Petitions of Entered Apprentices or Fellowcrafts.	2022. Degrees by Courtesy, Foreign Jurisdiction.
2010. Affiliation.	2023. Waiver of Jurisdiction Over Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts.
2011. Rejection for Affiliation.	2024. Candidates of Other Lodges.
2012. Reinstatement, N.P.D.	
2013. Balloting Not to Be Postponed.	

Section 2001. **Petitions.** Petitions for degrees or those affecting the Masonic standing of the petitioner shall be received only at stated communications and must be recommended by two members of the Lodge.

Section 2002. **Petitioners for Degrees.** All petitions for the degrees shall be in writing and signed by the petitioner with his full name. The petition shall contain the following questions, which shall be answered by the petitioner:

1. Where were you born?
2. What is your age?
3. What is the exact date of birth?
4. What is your occupation?
5. How long have you lived in Idaho?
6. How long in the village, town, city, or county in which you now reside?
7. Have you ever, to your knowledge, been proposed or rejected in a Masonic Lodge; and if so, when, and in what Lodge? (Revised Sept. 2000)
8. Do you believe in the existence of one ever-living and True God?
9. Do you believe in and will you support and defend the constitution and the government of the United States of America?
10. Do you know of any physical, legal, or moral reason which should prevent you from becoming a Freemason?
11. Release of Information, I understand that an investigation will be conducted to determine my qualifications to be a member of the Masonic Fraternity and this Lodge. My signature below authorizes the release of information regarding contacts with law enforcement relevant to this investigation. (Revised Sept. 2008)

Section 2003. **Fees for Degrees.** The fees for the three degrees shall be not less than fifty dollars, divided as the Lodge may direct. The fee for the first degree must accompany the petition for degrees, and shall be returned to the petitioner if he is rejected. The fee for each degree must be paid before the degree is conferred.

Section 2004. **Petition for Degrees, Reception and Reference.** No Lodge shall receive a petition for the degrees except by unanimous consent of the members present. When so received it shall be referred by the Master to an investigating committee consisting of three members, appointed in open Lodge, who shall file their report thereon with the Secretary within a month, unless further time be granted. The Secretary shall not present said report to the Lodge before one month has elapsed after the reception of the petition. If it appears that the committee is not doing its duty in investigating or reporting, the Master should appoint others in place of any or all members of the committee, but such appointees shall be given sufficient time to make their investigation. The investigating committee shall ascertain and report the following facts in regard to the applicant and no other special questionnaire is permissible. (Note: See Regulation 68.)

1. What is his age?
2. Is he married or single?
3. If married, is he living with his wife?
4. What is his occupation and where is he employed?
5. Is he physically qualified for admission?
6. What is the character of his company and associates?
7. Is he physiologically or psychologically addicted to the use of mind-altering drugs (e.g., alcohol, opiates, barbiturates, amphetamines, hallucinogens?) (Revised Sept. 1975)
8. Is he a compulsive gambler?
9. Does he habitually use profane or indecent language?

10. Has he licentious or immoral habits?
11. Is he a law-abiding citizen?
12. Does he have sufficient education and intelligence to understand and value the doctrines and tenets of Masonry?
13. Has he ever made previous application for the degrees, and if so, where and when?
14. State any other facts of value to the Lodge in arriving at a correct conclusion.

Section 2005. **Petition for Degrees, Must Ballot, Exception.** A petition for the degrees shall not be returned after it has been received and referred, but must go to ballot, unless it is found that the petitioner is ineligible. In that case it shall be returned to the petitioner, with the fee, without going to ballot, and such return shall not constitute a rejection. (Note: See Regulation 68.)

Section 2006. **Petition for Degrees, Ballot.** A month must have elapsed after the reception of a petition for the degrees before a ballot is taken thereon. A separate ballot shall be taken on each petition for the degrees and all members present who are entitled to vote must vote unless excused by unanimous consent. The ballot shall be strictly and inviolably secret, and must in all cases be unanimous in favor of the candidate, else he shall be declared rejected. On the first trial of the ballot, if one, and only one, negative vote appears, the Master shall immediately and before declaring the result, order a second trial of the ballot, which shall in all cases be final. The result of the ballot cannot be set aside after it has been declared by the Master, even though a mistake has been made in the declaration, unless corrected by him at the same communication. All balloting on petitions shall be done at stated communications.

Section 2007. **Rejection for Degrees.** One whose petition for the degrees has been rejected, may again petition the same Lodge after six months from the date of rejection, regardless of his residence. No other Lodge shall receive his petition for degrees, until five (5) years have elapsed since his last rejection, except on waiver from the rejecting Lodge.

Section 2008. **Objection After Ballot.** One ballot on a petition for the degrees, if clear, entitles the petitioner to receive the three degrees of Masonry, except:

1. At any time before the candidate is initiated any member of the Lodge who is entitled to vote may object to his initiation, in the Lodge or privately to the Master, and such objection shall have the same effect as if rejected at the time of ballot;
2. After a candidate has been initiated or passed, his advancement can be stopped only by sentence after trial. If a member of the Lodge objects to the advancement of a candidate after his initiation or passing, the objecting brother shall be given an opportunity to file charges against the candidate before he is advanced. If the Master, after consulting with the Wardens, sustains the sufficiency and regularity of the charges, the candidate shall not be advanced until after trial thereon and acquittal unless the charges are withdrawn.

Section 2009. **Petitions of Entered Apprentices or Fellowcrafts.** A Lodge may receive the petition of an Entered Apprentice or a Fellowcraft for the degrees that have not been conferred on him when accompanied by a waiver of jurisdiction, or its equivalent, from the Lodge that elected him. The petition shall be similar and subject to all the requirements of reception, reference, investigation, ballot

and objection that apply to original petitions for the degrees.

Section 2010. **Affiliation.** A petition for affiliation shall be in writing and signed by the petitioner with his full name. It shall state his age, occupation and place of residence and shall show whether or not he is applying for Plural Membership. It shall be accompanied by a Demit or its equivalent, or a satisfactory explanation in writing why it cannot be obtained. It may be received regardless of where the petitioner resides, but he must satisfy the usual requirements of reception, reference and balloting that apply to petitions for the degrees. (Revised Sept. 1995) (See Investigation Form.)

Section 2011. **Rejection for Affiliation.** A brother's Masonic standing is not affected by the rejection of his petition for affiliation. He may at pleasure again petition the same or any other Lodge.

Section 2012. **Reinstatement, N.P.D.** A petition for reinstatement of one who has been dropped from the roll for nonpayment of dues shall be in writing, signed by the petitioner, giving his occupation and place of residence and shall be accompanied by the sum owed when he was dropped unless it has been remitted. It may be received unless three (3) members of the Lodge object, and it shall be referred, investigation made, and the ballot spread as in the case of a petition for the degrees, except that three (3) black balls shall be necessary to reject the applicant. If rejected, he may petition again at any time.

Section 2013. **Balloting Not to be Postponed.** Balloting on petitions affecting Masonic standing shall not be postponed. The ballot shall be taken on each petition immediately after the report of the investigating committee is read, and when commenced must be completed and the result declared.

Section 2014. **Secrecy of Ballot.** The ballot shall be strictly and inviolably secret. To discuss or make known one's own ballot or what purports to be the ballot of another is a gross Masonic offense.

Section 2015. **Advancement After Two Years.** An Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft who fails to prepare and present himself for advancement within two years shall be dropped from the roll. If he desires to advance thereafter in the *same* Lodge, he shall make written petition to his Lodge for reinstatement to advance. His petition shall be received unless three (3) members of the Lodge object, and it shall be referred, investigated, and balloted on in the same manner as original petitions for the degrees, except that three (3) black-balls shall be necessary for rejection. If rejected, he may again petition for advancement at any time.

In case an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft desires to advance in *some other* Lodge, he may petition any Lodge of his choice for the remaining degree or degrees, but his fees for the remaining degree or degrees shall accompany his petition. Before declaring such a petition received (Regulation 47), the Lodge he petitions shall request and receive a Waiver of Jurisdiction from the previous Lodge which holds jurisdiction over the petitioner (Section 2023). When accompanied by the fees and a Waiver, a Lodge may receive a petition for the remaining degree or degrees, and such petition shall be referred, investigated, and balloted on in the same manner as original petitions for the degrees. If rejected, the petitioner may again petition for advancement at anytime. (Revised Sept. 1979). (Note: See Section 2004)

Section 2016. **Cases Involving Masonic Standing.** In all cases involving Masonic standing, the petition may be received, unless there are as many objections made as



are required for rejection in the case involved. In balloting in such cases, if only the least number of blackballs required for rejection appear, a second ballot shall be ordered which shall be final.

Section 2017. **No Discussion of Petition or Ballot.** No discussion upon the merits of a petition or the result of a ballot shall be allowed in the Lodge.

Section 2018. **Degrees, Limits on Conferring.** No Lodge shall confer more than one degree upon the same candidate at one communication; the first section of the first and second degrees, or the first and second sections of the third degree, on more than one candidate at the same time.

Section 2019. **Degree Proficiency.** No Lodge shall advance a candidate to the next degree until he has passed a satisfactory examination in the proficiency of the preceding degree.

Passing the examination may be accomplished in either of the following two methods:

**Method 1.** By doing all of the following:

- a. Passing an open book written examination on the appropriate section from the Idaho Candidate Education Manual with a score of not less than 80% as certified by either the candidate's coach or the Master of the Lodge. Questions answered incorrectly by the candidate should be reviewed and discussed with the Coach or the Master of the Lodge. Once the candidate understands the correct answer to such a question it can then be counted as a correct answer in computing his examination score. The purpose of the examination is to assure the candidate has a sound, fundamental knowledge of Freemasonry.

- b. Passing in a satisfactory manner, from memory, the following either in open Lodge or before a committee of not less than three (3) Master Masons appointed for that purpose:

#### ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE

1. Recite the Lambskin Apron lecture for the candidate as contained in the Idaho Monitor.
2. Recite the moralization of the Working Tools for the Entered Apprentice as contained in the Idaho Monitor.
3. Recite the Obligation for the Entered Apprentice as contained in the Idaho Key.
4. Recite and demonstrate the Step, Due Guard, Sign, Grip, and Word of an Entered Apprentice as contained in the Idaho Key.

#### FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE

1. Recite the moralization of the Working Tools of the Fellowcraft as contained in the Idaho Monitor.
2. Recite the Obligation of the Fellowcraft as contained in the Idaho Key.
3. Give the Step, Due Guard, and Sign of an Entered Apprentice Mason.
4. Recite and demonstrate the Step, Due Guard, Sign, Pass-Grip, Pass, Grip and Word of a Fellowcraft as contained in the Idaho Key.

#### MASTER MASON DEGREE

1. Recite the moralization of the Working Tools of the Master Mason as contained in the Idaho Monitor.

2. Recite the Obligation of the Master Mason as contained in the Idaho Key.
3. Give the Step, Due Guard, and Sign of an Entered Apprentice and a Fellowcraft Mason.
4. Recite and demonstrate the Step, Due Guard, Sign, Grand Hailing Sign, Pass-Grip, Pass, True Grip, Five Points of Fellowship, and Word of a Master Mason as contained in the Idaho Key.

**Method 2.** By passing an examination from memory, in accordance with the Sermon contained within the Idaho Key and the applicable portion of the Idaho Monitor for the appropriate degree, either in open Lodge or before a committee of not less than three (3) Master Masons appointed for that purpose, including the following:

#### ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE

Recite in its entirety the Sermon for the Entered Apprentice as contained in the Idaho Key and Monitor, including:

- a. The Obligation of an Entered Apprentice.
- b. The Lambskin Apron lecture for the candidate.
- c. The moralization of the Working Tools of an Entered Apprentice.
- d. The Step, Due Guard, Sign, Grip and Word of an Entered Apprentice.

#### FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE

Recite in its entirety the Sermon for the Fellowcraft as contained in the Idaho Key and Monitor, including:

- a. The Obligation of a Fellowcraft.
- b. The moralization of the Working Tools of a Fellowcraft.
- c. The Step, Due Guard, and Sign, of an Entered Apprentice.
- d. The Step, Due Guard, Sign, Pass-Grip, Pass, Grip, and Word of a Fellowcraft.

### MASTER MASON DEGREE

Recite in its entirety the Sermon for the Master Mason as contained in the Idaho Key and Monitor, including:

- a. The Obligation of a Master Mason.
- b. The moralization of the Working Tools of a Master Mason.
- c. The Step, Due Guard, and Sign, of an Entered Apprentice.
- d. The Step, Due Guard, and Sign, of a Fellowcraft.
- e. The Step, Due Guard, Sign, Grand Hailing Sign, Pass-Grip, Pass, True Grip, Five Points of Fellowship, and Word of a Master Mason.

If a brother moves to a foreign Grand Jurisdiction recognized by the Grand Lodge of Idaho before he has become proficient in a degree, he is subject to the degree proficiency requirements of the foreign Grand Jurisdiction. Once he has passed the degree proficiency requirements of the foreign Grand Jurisdiction, the Grand Lodge of Idaho will recognize him as proficient in the degree. (Revised Sept. 1998)

Section 2020. **Proficiency in Third Degree.** Within six months after the third degree shall have been conferred on a brother, he shall pass a satisfactory examination in the lecture of that degree as specified in Section 2019 of these By-Laws. When a Lodge or appointed committee accepts his proficiency as satisfactory, the brother is entitled to a Master Mason's Certificate.

If a brother fails to complete his proficiency as required, he shall be dropped from the roll of the Lodge and shall be restored to membership at any time within two years after the date of his third degree by completing his proficiency.

If he desires to be restored to membership after being dropped from the roll, a brother must request coaching to prepare for his proficiency, and the Master shall appoint a coach; or if the brother has moved from the jurisdiction of the Lodge, the Master shall authorize coaching by a more convenient Lodge. Having been dropped from the roll the brother is no longer eligible to deliver his proficiency in open Lodge, and the Master shall appoint a committee of not less than three (3) Master Masons to give the examination in compliance with Section 2019 of these By-Laws.

Should a brother fail to complete his proficiency within two (2) years after the date of his third degree, and he desires to be restored to membership; he shall be coached and examined as above provided, make written petition to the Lodge, and proceedings shall be as required in Section 2015 of these By-Laws.

On its Monthly Report each Lodge shall report every third degree proficiency to the Grand Secretary. (Revised Sept. 1998)

Section 2021. **Degrees by Courtesy.** A Lodge may confer the degrees upon a candidate elected in another Idaho Lodge at the request of such Lodge, and no petition, reference or ballot is required; provided that in the case of the Entered Apprentice degree, written authority is secured from the Grand Master. The Lodge should not consent to confer the degrees upon anyone known to be unworthy. The members of the Lodge doing the work shall have the same right of objection to conferring the degrees that they have in the case of their own candidate. He remains the material or becomes a member of the electing Lodge and the fees belong to that Lodge.

Section 2022. **Degrees by Courtesy, Foreign Jurisdiction.** Degrees may be conferred for Lodges in other Grand Jurisdictions on authority from the Grand Master.

Requests for the conferring of degrees in other Grand Jurisdictions shall be referred to the Grand Secretary for his verification of the regularity thereof.

Section 2023. **Waiver of Jurisdiction Over Entered Apprentices or Fellowcrafts.** (See Section 1908.) A Lodge may grant a Waiver of Jurisdiction over an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft who has petitioned another Lodge for the remaining degree or degrees. (See Section 2015.) The Lodge he petitions must request and receive a Waiver of Jurisdiction for him before declaring his petition received. (Regulation 47)

In case an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft has been dropped from the roll of his previous Lodge for failure to advance, and another Lodge requests a Waiver of Jurisdiction for him, such petitioner is not in good-standing in his previous Lodge but he does remain under the Jurisdiction of the Lodge which last elected him, and his last Lodge may grant a Waiver of Jurisdiction without requiring him

to petition for reinstatement to advance.

A Waiver of Jurisdiction over an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft shall include a statement of his complete Masonic record to the date Waiver is issued. (Revised Sept. 1979)

Section 2024. **Candidates of Other Lodges.** No Lodge shall pass or raise a candidate elected to receive the degrees in another Lodge without its permission. (Note: See Regulation 1.)

## ***PART THREE - PENAL CODE***

### **ARTICLE XXI GENERAL PENAL PROVISIONS**

#### **SECTION**

2101. Masonic offenses.

#### **SECTION**

2102. Scope.

Section 2101. **Masonic Offenses.** Every violation by a Mason of his Masonic obligation, or of the established laws, usages and customs of Masonry, and every action whatsoever involving moral turpitude is a Masonic offense.

Section 2102. **Scope.** All Masons are amenable to Masonic Law and are subject to such trial and punishment as the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge may prescribe.

### **ARTICLE XXII JURISDICTION**

#### **SECTION**

2201. Grand Lodge, Original Jurisdiction.  
2202. Grand Lodge, Appellate Jurisdiction.

#### **SECTION**

2203. Chartered Lodges, Jurisdiction.  
2204. Lodges under Dispensation.

Section 2201. **Grand Lodge, Original Jurisdiction.** The Grand Lodge shall have original jurisdiction in all matters relating to Grand Officers, and Past Grand Officers for acts committed in their official capacity when they



served as Grand Officers; Masters, and Past Masters, Wardens or Past Wardens for anything done in their official capacity when they acted as Masters; all controversies against Lodges; and matters arising in Lodges under dispensation.

Section 2202. **Grand Lodge, Appellate Jurisdiction.** The Grand Lodge shall have appellate jurisdiction in all things relating to trials.

Section 2203. **Chartered Lodges, Jurisdiction.** All chartered Lodges shall have full power and authority to exercise penal jurisdiction, as prescribed by law, over their members wheresoever dispersed, and over all Masons residing or sojourning within their respective jurisdictions, whether they be Entered Apprentices, Fellowcrafts, Master Masons or non-affiliates, except in cases where the Grand Lodge has original jurisdiction.

Section 2204. **Lodges Under Dispensation.** Lodges under dispensation do not have penal jurisdiction. Matters of Masonic discipline in such Lodges shall be referred to the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.

## ARTICLE XXIII TRIBUNAL

SECTION	SECTION
2301. Commission.	2304. Commission, Powers.
2302. Commission, Chairman and Meeting.	2305. Commission Actions, How Taken.
2303. Commission, Quorum.	2306. Expenses.

Section 2301. **Commission.** All Masonic trials shall be by a Commission of five (5) Masters or Past Masters

appointed by the Grand Master, none of whom shall be members of the same Lodge as the accused, nor of a Lodge within the same Masonic District with it, and not more than two (2) of whom shall be members of the same Lodge. (Revised Sept. 2004)

Section 2302. **Commission, Chairman and Meeting.** The Grand Master shall designate the chairman of the Commission, and shall fix the time and place when the Commission shall meet. The trial shall not be heard in a tiled Lodge, and no trial shall be set so late that it would preclude the filing of an appeal in accordance with Section 3104 of these By-Laws. (Revised Sept. 1969)

Section 2303. **Commission, Quorum.** Four (4) members of the commission shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of a trial. If the chairman fails to appear at the trial the remaining four (4) may choose one of their number for chairman.

Section 2304. **Commission, Powers.** The Commission shall have power to determine all things relating to the trial, including the right to summon witnesses, admit or exclude testimony, determine the sufficiency of charges and notices, permit or deny the amending or withdrawal of charges, postponing the trial, or changing the place of holding the trial, but the accuser and the accused or their counsel shall be given timely notice of any action taken. The Commission may admit or debar attendance of those not directly concerned with the trial.

Section 2305. **Commission, Actions, How Taken.** All actions of the Commission, except in determining the verdict and sentence, shall be by a majority vote. In case of a tie the chairman shall have a deciding vote.

Section 2306. **Expenses.** The actual mileage and per diem of the trial Commissioners shall be borne by the

Grand Lodge, to be paid from the General Fund. All other expenses shall be borne by the Lodge for which the trial is held. When the trial is one of original Grand Lodge jurisdiction, the Grand Lodge shall bear all expenses of the trial, to be paid from the General Fund. (Revised Sept. 2011)

## ARTICLE XXIV CHARGES

SECTION	SECTION
2401. Charges, Necessary.	2403. Charges, Withdrawal.
2402. Charges, Who May Prefer.	2404. Statute of Limitations.

Section 2401. **Charges, Necessary.** No Masonic penalties shall be inflicted without charges, specifications, notice and trial in due Masonic form. Charges shall be in writing, so far as proper to be written, signed by the accuser, and filed with the Master of the Lodge (or with the Grand Master or the Grand Secretary in cases of original Grand Lodge jurisdiction). The offense must be clearly specified with time, place and particulars. A general charge of un-Masonic conduct without specifications shall not be received.

Section 2402. **Charges, Who May Prefer.** Charges may be preferred only by a Master Mason in good standing, and a member of the Lodge in which the charges are preferred. (Note: See Section 1404.)

Section 2403. **Charges, Withdrawal.** After charges have been presented to the Master, they shall not be

amended or withdrawn without his consent, prior to the meeting of the trial Commission.

Section 2404. **Statute of Limitations.** There shall be no time limitations for any charge of murder or treason. Charges for any other offense than murder or treason must be filed within three (3) years after its alleged commission. (Revised Sept. 1969)

## ARTICLE XXV

### DUTIES OF LODGE OFFICERS

#### SECTION

2501. Master.

2501a. Felony Convictions

#### SECTION

2502. Junior Warden.

2503. Secretary.

Section 2501. **Master.** When charges have been filed with the Master, he shall consult with the Wardens, and if the regularity and sufficiency of the charges is approved, they shall be given to the Secretary. The Master shall notify the Grand Master of the charges after they have been properly received and read in Lodge. He shall direct all matters relating to the trial up to the time of the meeting of the Commission. He shall see that a true and correct copy of the charges be sent to the Chairman of the Commission prior to the trial. He shall provide counsel for the Lodge, provide a stenographer if one is necessary, provide for a suitable meeting place for the Commission, assemble the evidence, provide for the appearance of witnesses, see that proper notices are served, be prepared to offer proof to the Commission that charges and summons were duly served on the accused, and make all necessary provisions for the dispatch of business when the trial is called. After the Commission is called to order all authority for the conduct

of the trial passes to the Commission itself. (Revised Sept. 2000)

Section 2501a. **Felony Convictions.** Upon receiving notification of a Mason (defined in Section 2203) within the jurisdiction (defined in Section 1906) of his Lodge having been convicted of a felony and a certified judgment having been received from a competent court having such authority, the Master is required to and shall direct the Junior Warden, or any other member of the Lodge, to prefer charges against said Mason as outlined in Section 2502. (Adopted Sept. 2010)

Section 2502. **Junior Warden.** It shall be the duty of the Junior Warden, in the absence of other accusers, to prefer charges against offending brethren and bring the same to trial; but this shall not take away from the Master the right to direct any member of the Lodge to prefer charges for and on behalf of the Lodge.

Section 2503. **Secretary.** The Secretary, at the first stated communication of the Lodge after the reception of charges and their approval by the Master as to sufficiency and regularity, shall read the said charges in open Lodge. He shall keep a record of all matters relating to the trial from the time charges are filed until it is entirely disposed of. He shall serve all notices and summons, unless the Master designates some other member for that duty, act as Secretary for the Commission while taking testimony, and in all ways observe the will and pleasure of the Master, or the Commission; provided, however, that a stenographer may be employed to take the record of the trial and make the transcript of the same.

## ARTICLE XXVI NOTICES AND SUMMONS

### SECTION

2601. Accused Must be Notified.

Section 2601. **Accused Must Be Notified.** A true copy of all charges must be served upon the accused, together with a summons requiring him to appear and answer at the time and place set for the trial. The copy and summons must be served in person; provided, however, that if such personal service is not possible or practical and permission is obtained from the Grand Master, charges and summons may be sent by certified mail to the last known post office address of the accused. He shall be given a reasonable time to answer. If the address of the accused be unknown, the trial may be held *ex parte*. (Revised Sept. 1969)

## ARTICLE XXVII COUNSEL AND ANSWER

### SECTION

### SECTION

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| 2701. May Choose Counsel.               | 2703. Plea. |
| 2702. Appointment, Counsel for Accused. |             |

Section 2701. **May Choose Counsel.** The accuser and the accused may each choose counsel for his assistance, but none but Master Masons in good standing shall appear as such.

Section 2702. **Appointment, Counsel for Accused.** If the accused does not appear and does not choose counsel, the Master, or the chairman of the Commission, in case no appointment has been made before the Commission meets, shall appoint counsel for the defense, who shall protect the rights of the accused.

Section 2703. **Plea.** If the accused neglects or refuses to answer, either in person or by letter or through his counsel, a plea of "Not Guilty" shall be recorded, and the trial shall proceed in all things as though he had thus answered.

MASONIC CODE AND DIGEST

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## ARTICLE XXVIII

### EVIDENCE AND TESTIMONY

SECTION	SECTION
2801. Who May Testify.	2804. Testimony Before a Committee.
2802. Testimony of Master Masons.	2805. Other Testimony.
2803. Testimony of Other Than Master Masons.	

Section 2801. **Who May Testify.** Witnesses in all Masonic trials, whether Masons or not, shall be persons who have the use of their reason and such religious belief as to feel the obligations of an oath.

Section 2802. **Testimony of Master Masons.** The testimony of Master Masons in good standing shall be taken upon their Masonic honor and obligation.

Section 2803. **Testimony of Other Than Master Masons.** The testimony of other than Master Masons in good standing shall be taken under oath.

Section 2804. **Testimony Before a Committee.** The testimony of witnesses unable or unwilling to attend may be taken before a committee of not less than two (2) Master Masons appointed by the Master (or by the chairman of the Commission after the Commission has been called to order). The Committee so appointed shall give the accuser and the accused, or their counsel, proper and timely notice of the time and place of their meeting for the taking of testimony.

Section 2805. **Other Testimony.** Material testimony that cannot be produced before the Committee may be taken at any other reasonable time and place, and before such

other competent person or persons as the Master, or chairman of the Commission, may order, but proper notice shall be given the accuser and the accused.

## ARTICLE XXIX DELIBERATION, JUDGMENT, RIGHT OF APPEAL AND SENTENCE

SECTION	SECTION
2901. Argument.	2906. Suspension.
2902. Deliberation.	2907. Reprimand.
2903. Judgment.	2908. Announcement of
2904. Sentence.	Verdict, Sentence, and
2905. Expulsion.	Right of Appeal.

Section 2901. **Argument.** When the taking of testimony and other evidence is finished, the accuser and the accused, or their counsel, shall be given the privilege of presenting arguments. The Commission may also consent to hear arguments from others relative to the case.

Section 2902. **Deliberation.** When the arguments are concluded, all persons other than members of the Commission shall retire and the doors shall be closed for deliberation.

Section 2903. **Judgment.** When the deliberation is concluded, the Commission shall pass judgment upon the guilt of the accused. It may convict or acquit the accused of a part or all of the specifications.

1. A secret ballot shall be taken upon each specification, beginning with the first, and shall be upon the

question, "Is the accused guilty as charged in the first (second, etc.) specification?", and finally, "Is the accused guilty as charged in the general indictment?"

2. The result of the ballot on each specification, with the numbers severally cast for conviction, shall be recorded by a member of the Commission designated by the chairman.
3. If a less number than three (3) members of the Commission vote to convict, a verdict of acquittal shall be entered.

Section 2904. **Sentence.** If the accused is convicted, a secret ballot shall immediately be taken upon the sentence. The sentence shall be expulsion, suspension or reprimand.

Section 2905. **Expulsion.** If the accused is convicted, a ballot shall be taken on expulsion, and the concurrence of three (3) members of the Commission shall be required for expulsion.

Section 2906. **Suspension.** If the accused is convicted and less than three (3) members of the Commission vote for expulsion, the ballot shall next be taken on suspension, and the concurrence of three (3) members of the Commission shall be required for suspension. If the sentence is suspension, the Commission shall, by a majority vote, fix the duration of the term of suspension.

Section 2907. **Reprimand.** If the accused is convicted and less than three (3) members of the Commission vote for either expulsion or suspension, the sentence shall be reprimand. The Commission may, by a majority vote, recommend the nature of the reprimand.

Section 2908. **Announcement of Verdict, Sentence, and Right of Appeal.** When the Commission has reached

a verdict, and in case of conviction, determined the sentence, the accused and the accuser, with their counsel, the Master and Secretary, and the stenographer, shall be readmitted and the verdict and sentence pronounced at once. The Commission chairman shall then inform the accused of his right of appeal by presenting him with a copy of Article XXXI of these By-Laws. In the absence of the accused, the Lodge Secretary shall notify him by certified mail of the verdict and sentence, and shall provide him with a copy of Article XXXI of these By-Laws. (Revised Sept. 1969)

## ARTICLE XXX

### ACTION IN LODGE AFTER TRIAL

SECTION	SECTION
3001. Record and Review.	3003. Reprimand.
3002. When Concerning Another Lodge.	3004. Transcript.

Section 3001. **Record and Review.** At the next stated communication of the Lodge after the trial, the Secretary shall give a review of the case, giving especially the findings of the Commission and the sentence imposed. Such findings and sentence shall be entered on the Lodge records.

Section 3002. **When Concerning Another Lodge.** When the verdict and sentence concerns a person who is or was a member of another Lodge, that Lodge shall immediately be notified and informed thereof.

Section 3003. **Reprimand.** When the sentence is reprimand and the accused signifies that he will not appeal to

the Grand Lodge, the Master, at any time after the trial, may give the reprimand in open Lodge or in the presence of at least three (3) Lodge officers. Otherwise the reprimand shall not be given until the appeal has been adjudicated by the Grand Lodge, or the time for appeal has expired. If the Grand Lodge sustains the findings and sentence, the reprimand shall be given in open Lodge or in the presence of at least three (3) Lodge Officers within two (2) months after the close of that Annual Communication. The accused shall be notified of the time and place of the reprimand.

Section 3004. **Transcript.** Within one (1) month after the trial, the Secretary shall transmit to the Grand Secretary a complete transcript of the case, with a copy of all evidence taken, together with a statement of the action of the Commission. He shall also keep a copy in the records of the Lodge.

## ARTICLE XXXI APPEAL

SECTION	SECTION
3101. Who May Appeal.	3105. When Prosecuted.
3102. Time Limit.	3106. Disposition.
3103. Form of Appeal.	3107. Standing, Pending Appeal.
3104. Notice.	

Section 3101. **Who May Appeal.** The accused shall have the right of appeal from the action of the Commission to the Grand Lodge. Any Master Mason who is a member of the Lodge under whose auspices the trial was held, or a member of the same Lodge as the accused, shall have the same right of appeal. The Grand Master, feeling

that justice has not been done, may refer the matter to the Committee on Appeals and Grievances, together with such recommendation as he desires to make. The Grand Lodge may also, by a majority vote, direct said Committee to review the case.

Section 3102. **Time Limit.** If no appeal is filed prior to the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, (as prescribed in Section 3104) and the matter is not referred to the Committee on Appeals and Grievances by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master at said Communication, the action of the trial Commission shall be final.

Section 3103. **Form of Appeal.** Appeals shall be in writing and shall set forth the grounds upon which the appellant seeks redress, and shall be in substantially the following form:

I, \_\_\_\_\_, a Master Mason, and a member of \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge, Number \_\_\_\_, do declare upon my honor as a Master Mason, that I feel materially aggrieved by the decision of the trial Commission in the case of \_\_\_\_\_, and to the end that Justice may be done in the matter, do take my appeal to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge for the following reasons, Viz: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

Section 3104. **Notice.** Notice of appeal shall be prepared in triplicate and distributed simultaneously as follows: one copy to the Secretary of the Lodge, one copy to the Grand Secretary, and one copy to the Grand Master; and shall be so filed not later than ten (10) days prior to the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. (See Sec. 103.)

The Lodge Secretary and the Grand Secretary shall file such notice of appeal with their copies of the trial transcript, and each of them shall immediately inform the Master of the Lodge that an appeal has been received. The Lodge Secretary shall also notify the accused and the accuser of the appeal, and in case of original Grand Lodge jurisdiction the appeal may be filed with the Grand Secretary only, who shall notify the Lodge of which the defendant is or was a member.

Appeal having been filed in accordance with the provisions of this Section, the Master of the Lodge shall deliver at the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, or cause to be delivered by a Master Mason acting as a representative of the Lodge, the complete trial transcript, exhibits, and appeal to the Chairman of the Committee on Appeals and Grievances; and the Grand Secretary shall likewise deliver his similar copies. When the case is finalized by Grand Lodge action, the trial transcripts, exhibits, and appeal shall be returned. (Revised Sept. 1969)

Section 3105. **When Prosecuted.** The appeal shall be prosecuted at the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and any appeal not thus prosecuted shall be dismissed by the Grand Lodge unless good cause for the delay is shown.

Section 3106. **Disposition.** All appeals shall be referred to the Committee on Appeals and Grievances who shall report thereon. The Grand Lodge may, by a majority vote: confirm the action of the trial Commission, reverse or modify the action of the trial Commission, or order a retrial. All evidence presented at the trial may be considered by the Grand Lodge. Any evidence not presented at the trial may be considered only if the accuser, the accused, and the appellant have timely notice and are given

opportunity to answer the same. If no action concerning a trial is taken by the Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication after such trial, the Grand Lodge shall be considered as having approved the action of the Commission.

Section 3107. **Standing, Pending Appeal.** From the taking of an appeal until its final determination by the Grand Lodge, the standing of the accused, if he was expelled or suspended, shall be that of a Mason under charges. (Note: See Section 1404.)

## ARTICLE XXXII RESTORATION

SECTION	SECTION
3201. Suspension.	3204. Recommendation of
3202. Before Expiration of Term of Suspension.	Lodge Necessary, Exception.
3203. Expulsion.	3205. In Grand Lodge.

Section 3201. **Suspension.** A Mason under sentence of suspension is automatically restored to membership in his Lodge at the expiration of the period for which he was suspended, without any action of the Lodge or the Grand Lodge.

Section 3202. **Before Expiration of Term of Suspension.** A Mason under sentence of suspension, who desires to be restored to membership before the expiration of the term of suspension, may petition the Lodge of which he was a member for its recommendation to the Grand Lodge for his restoration. It shall be referred to an investigating committee who shall report thereon at a specified subsequent stated communication. After the report of the



investigating committee, a vote shall be taken by secret ballot and it shall require a favorable vote of two-thirds of the members Present who are entitled to vote to recommend the restoration of the applicant. The Secretary shall transmit to the Grand Secretary such recommendation and may accompany it with any other facts bearing on the case.

Section 3203. **Expulsion.** One under sentence of expulsion, who desires to be restored to Masonic standing, may petition the Lodge of which he was a member or the Lodge under whose auspices the trial was held, if either Lodge is still in existence, for recommendation to the Grand Lodge for restoration. It shall be referred to an investigating committee who shall report thereon at a specified subsequent stated communication. After the report of the investigating committee, a vote on the petition shall be taken by secret ballot, and it shall require a favorable vote of two-thirds of the members present who are entitled to vote to recommend the applicant. The Secretary shall transmit said recommendation to the Grand Secretary and may accompany it with any other facts bearing on the case.

Section 3204. **Recommendation of Lodge Necessary, Exception.** The Grand Lodge shall take no cognizance of a petition for restoration of one who was expelled or suspended unless it is recommended by the Lodge, except that when the Lodge is not in existence and in cases where the Grand Lodge had original jurisdiction, the petition may be made directly to the Grand Lodge and filed with the Grand Secretary.

Section 3205. **In Grand Lodge.** At the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge after the petition for restoration has been properly filed with the Grand Secretary, the petition shall be referred to the Committee on

Appeals and Grievances who shall report thereon. The Grand Lodge may, by a majority vote, restore the petitioner to Masonic standing. In case of one who was suspended, such restoration shall restore him to membership in his Lodge. In case of one who was expelled, such restoration shall restore him to the standing of nonaffiliate. The Grand Secretary shall issue to him a certificate showing his standing, and said certificate may be used in lieu of a demit. (See Sections 1406 and 1407.)

## ***PART FOUR - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS***

### **ARTICLE XXXIII GENERAL PROVISIONS**

SECTION	SECTION
3301. Belief in God.	3306. Constitution.
3302. Right of Appeal.	3307. By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.
3303. Masonic Law.	3308. Regulations.
3304. Rank in Authority of Masonic Law.	3309. Decisions and Rulings of Grand Masters.
3305. Landmarks.	3310. Burial.

Section 3301. **Belief in God.** A belief in the one ever living and true God, the immortality of the soul, and the Volume of the Sacred Law as the rule and guide of our faith and practice, is the groundwork of Masonry.

Section 3302. **Right of Appeal.** There shall be no appeal from the results of the ballot upon a petition affecting the petitioner's Masonic standing. No appeal can be taken to a Lodge from the decision of its Master. But the right of appeal in all other cases is fundamental and any Mason, group of Masons or Lodge may appeal from the actions or decisions of a Master, a Lodge, a committee, a commission or other authority to the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.

Section 3303. **Masonic Law.** The actions of Freemasons in the Grand Lodge and in their Lodges and as individuals are regulated by the Masonic Law, consisting of:

1. The moral law, our obligations, charges and ritual;

2. The common law of Masonry, which is the immemorial law and includes the Ancient Landmarks;
3. The written law of Masonry, which includes our Constitution and the general and special laws, rules, edicts, regulations and By-Laws enacted by competent authority;
4. Customs and Usages of Masonry, Customs and Usages are those practices and modes of behavior long observed in this Jurisdiction by voluntary assent, or are of such universality and antiquity as to have acquired the force and effect of law.

Section 3304. **Rank in Authority of Masonic Law.** When Masonic Laws conflict, they shall rank in point of authority as follows:

1. Landmarks.
2. Constitution of the Grand Lodge.
3. By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.
4. Esoteric Work.
5. Regulations of the Grand Lodge.
6. Lodge By-Laws.
7. Customs and Usages.
8. When laws belonging in the same class conflict, the one last enacted prevails.

Section 3305. **Landmarks.** A landmark is a law or custom of the Fraternity that has existed "from a time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary," and of such nature that it cannot be repealed or changed without making the Fraternity a fundamentally different institution.

Section 3306. **Constitution.** The Constitution is the basic written law in this Jurisdiction.

Section 3307. **By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.** The By-Laws are subordinate to the Constitution and set forth more definite and detailed directions of Masonic procedure.

Section 3308. **Regulations.** Regulations are administrative rules of less importance than the Constitution or By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, and with the exception of the vote required, they may be changed in the same manner as that prescribed for changing the By-Laws. (Revised Sept. 1969) (Note: See Article XXXIV.)

Section 3309. **Decisions and Rulings of Grand Masters.** Decisions and rulings made by the Grand Master shall be considered the correct interpretation of Masonic law and procedure on the particular question involved until the next Annual Communication of the, Grand Lodge. If approved by the Grand Lodge, they shall be deemed proper guidance and precedence in other similar cases. They shall not be construed as law or as alteration of laws, and they may be disregarded by a succeeding Grand Master. To become law, they must be adopted separate and apart from the adoption of a report approving the decision or ruling.

Section 3310. **Burial.** Masonic burial is a privilege, not an absolute right. It should be bestowed on Masons meeting the following qualifications at death, when requested by the family or close friends of the deceased, or when it is known that the Brother while living desired it. During the Masonic funeral services, the Lodge shall have exclusive control and only Master Masons shall take part.

To be considered for Masonic Burial, a Brother must have been:

1. A Master Mason in good standing at the time of his death, or
2. A Fellowcraft or Entered Apprentice Mason who was within two years of the date of his last degree at the time of his death, or (Revised Sept. 2000)
3. If dropped from the rolls of a Lodge for non-payment of dues or demit, a Brother may be considered for Masonic Burial, if in the opinion of the Worshipful Master of the Lodge, or those acting on behalf of the Worshipful Master in his absence, the Brother would otherwise have been deemed worthy of Masonic Burial and if the Brother was at least 65 years of age at the time of being dropped from the rolls and had previous to that time paid dues to a Masonic Lodge for a period of at least ten (10) years. (Revised Sept. 2012)

## ARTICLE XXXIV AMENDMENTS

### SECTION

3401.Procedure in Amending.

**Section 3401** Procedure in Amending. The By-Laws or Regulations of the Grand Lodge may be revised, amended, added to or repealed as *follows*. (Revised Sept. 2010)

1. **Preparation, Proofing and Filing.** The entire section or parts proposed for change shall be prepared using the authorized resolution format, signed by no less than three (3) members of the Grand Lodge or by the Worshipful Master and

Secretary of a chartered Lodge attested under seal, and filed with the Grand Secretary on or before the 1st day of April next preceding the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. Resolutions shall be reviewed by the Committee on Jurisprudence and returned to the authors for any conflicts with the Idaho Code and Digest prior to the first day of April of each year; resolutions submitted after April 1 will be considered as late. Resolutions may be submitted by mail or electronic means to the Grand Secretary; if submitted by Internet the resolution must include the names of the authors. Resolutions which have not been reviewed by the Committee on Jurisprudence or have not used the authorized resolution format, may be removed from consideration by the Grand Master. (Revised Sept. 2010)

2. **Notification to Lodges.** When filed as required, the Grand Secretary shall cause a copy of each legislative proposal to be sent to each Constituent Lodge on or before the first day of May next preceding the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.
3. **Late or Urgent Resolutions.** Legislative proposals filed late shall not be considered; provided, however, that the urgency of any late proposal shall be decided by the combined Committees on Accounts and Finances and Jurisprudence acting as a Committee on Legislative Urgency, Committee rejection of any late proposal is final, but should said Committee find some issue urgent and recommend immediate action, a favorable vote of two-thirds of the Grand Lodge shall then be required to allow consideration.
4. **Reading and Reference.** Proposed legislation which comes before the Grand Lodge in accordance with Paragraph 2 of this Section shall be read once and referred to the proper committee which shall report

thereon prior to action by the Grand Lodge.

Late or urgent legislation which comes before the Grand Lodge in accordance with Par. 3 of this Section shall be read before the Grand Lodge on three (3) separate occasions and referred to the proper committee which shall report thereon prior to action by the Grand Lodge. (Revised Sept. 1977)

a) Should the committee find the proposed legislation to be not in proper form or in conflict with other sections of our Code, they shall report their reasons to the delegates and such legislation shall be withdrawn from consideration at this Annual Communication. (Sept. 2001)

5. **Modification.** During consideration and debate proposed legislation may be modified for improvement or correction by a two-thirds vote if it affects the By-Laws, or by a majority vote if it affects the Regulations. (Revised Sept. 2007)
6. **Adoption.** Proposals affecting By-Laws or Regulations shall be rejected or adopted at the Communication at which they are presented, unless found not in proper form or in conflict with our Code and withdrawn. Legislation affecting By-Laws may be adopted by a two-thirds vote; affecting Regulations, by a majority vote. (Revised Sept. 2007)
7. **When Effective.** Legislation affecting the By-Laws or Regulations becomes effective at the close of the Communication at which it is adopted, except that by unanimous consent, it may be made effective immediately.



## REGULATIONS

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Advancement, Candidates of Extinct Lodges.</li> <li>2. Autobiographies of Grand Officers.</li> <li>3. Avouchment.</li> <li>4. Ballot, Preparation and Display.</li> <li>5. Balloting Method.</li> <li>6. Burial, Refusal.</li> <li>7. Burial Service, Where Given.</li> <li>8. Certificates, Grand Lodge.</li> <li>9. Concordant Bodies, Degrees In</li> <li>10. Concordant and Appendant Orders, Recognition and Regulations.</li> <li>11. Concurrent Jurisdiction, Notice.</li> <li>12. Conventions.</li> <li>13. Dedication of Halls.</li> <li>14. Degrees by Misrepresentation.</li> <li>15. Degrees, Conferring.</li> <li>16. Degrees for Foreign Jurisdictions.</li> <li>17. Degrees Recognized.</li> <li>18. Delinquent Members, Masonic Rights.</li> <li>19. Demit, Certificate of Withdrawal.</li> <li>20. Demit, Date of.</li> <li>21. Demit, Dues Refunded.</li> <li>22. Demit, Duplicate.</li> <li>23. Demit, Lodge Shall Retain.</li> <li>24. District Deputy Grand Master, Duties.</li> <li>25. District Deputy Grand Master, Expenses.</li> <li>26. Districts, Masonic.</li> <li>27. Electioneering.</li> <li>28. Flag Display.</li> <li>29. Funeral Expenses.</li> <li>30. Funeral Expenses and Other Bills.</li> <li>31. Historian, Grand.</li> <li>32. Honorary Grand Lodge Membership.</li> <li>33. Incorporation.</li> <li>34. Ineligible.</li> <li>35. Investigating Committee, Record, Objection.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>36. Jurisdiction, Burke. Deleted</li> <li>37. Jurisdiction, Silver City Lodge No. 13. - Deleted</li> <li>38. Sermons.</li> <li>39. Monitor.</li> <li>40. Life Membership.</li> <li>41. Liquor.</li> <li>42.</li> <li>43. Month, Defined.</li> <li>44. Nearest Lodge.</li> <li>45. Non-Affiliate.</li> <li>46. Notice, Service of.</li> <li>47. Petitions, When Filed and When Received.</li> <li>48. Photograph, Grand Master.</li> <li>49. Photographs and Cuts.</li> <li>50. Proceedings, Binding.</li> <li>51. Proceedings, Disposition.</li> <li>52. Proceedings, Distribution.</li> <li>53. Proceedings, Reading.</li> <li>54. Records, Safe Keeping.</li> <li>55. Relief Association.</li> <li>56. Rental of Property.</li> <li>57. Representative, Grand.</li> <li>58. Rules of Order.</li> <li>59. Signing By-Laws.</li> <li>60. Sponsoring.</li> <li>61. Washington, George, National Masonic Memorial Association</li> <li>62. Judgment, Civil Courts.</li> <li>63. Lodge Room, Social Use.</li> <li>64. Masters and Wardens, U.D.</li> <li>65. Officers, When Disqualified.</li> <li>66. Refusal to Answer Letters.</li> <li>67. Plural Membership.</li> <li>68. Physical Qualifications.</li> <li>69. Employee Retirement.</li> <li>70. Restrictions, Purposes, and Exemptions for a Lodge of Research.</li> <li>71. Membership Database.</li> <li>72. Printing of Annual Proceedings.</li> <li>73. Forms.</li> </ol> |
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1. **Advancement, Candidates of Extinct Lodges.** Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts of extinct Lodges may petition the Lodge within whose jurisdiction they reside, for the remaining degrees, without a waiver of jurisdiction. The petition shall take the same course as a petition of an Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft accompanied by a waiver. If elected and raised they become members of the Lodge petitioned.
2. **Autobiographies of Grand Officers.** All Grand Officers shall file brief autobiographies with the Grand Secretary for preservation in the archives of the Grand Lodge.
3. **Avouchment.** A Mason does not have the right to vouch for the Masonic standing of anyone for admission into a Lodge by reason of having met him in another organization, even though Masonic membership is a prerequisite to admission to that organization. Examination of a brother except by a committee appointed for that purpose by proper authority does not justify avouchment.
4. **Ballot, Preparation and Display.** In the preparation and in the display of the ballot, the Senior Deacon shall present the ballot box first to the Junior Warden, then to the Senior Warden, and then to the Master, at their stations.
5. **Balloting Method.** The Master shall cast his ballot first and at his station. The Senior Deacon shall then present the ballot box to the Senior Warden and the Junior Warden at their respective stations for their ballots. He should then place it on the altar and the brethren should approach it in an orderly manner from the West and cast their ballots. It is imperative that the Master destroy the ballot immediately after the result is announced.

6. **Burial, Refusal.** Masonic burial should be refused when it is known that the deceased was unworthy.
7. **Burial Service, Where Given.** A Lodge may attend the funeral service of a deceased brother in a church, chapel or home, and while the Masonic funeral services should generally be given at the grave, such parts as are appropriate may be given elsewhere when expedient.
8. **Certificates, Grand Lodge.** The Grand Secretary may issue Grand Lodge Certificates to any Master Mason in good standing in this Jurisdiction, upon proper application and payment of the fee of one dollar. The certificate shall certify, under seal, as to the standing of the applicant and the regularity of his Lodge, giving its name, number and location.
9. **Concordant Bodies, Degrees In.** No Mason, raised in Idaho after September 18, 1952, shall apply for or receive any Concordant Organization degree until he shall have passed a satisfactory examination in the lecture of the Master Mason Degree, in open Lodge or before a Committee. This Regulation shall not apply to Masons who are Master Masons in Good Standing in a Jurisdiction recognized by Idaho but not a member of an Idaho Constituent Lodge, or to Masons who have become a member of an Idaho Lodge by affiliation from another Grand Lodge Jurisdiction. This Regulation shall be printed on all forms of "Petition for Degrees. " (Revised Sept. 2005)
10. **Concordant and Appendant Orders. Recognition and Regulations.** The General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States (General Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International), the General Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of the United

States (General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International), the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States (Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America), the Supreme Councils of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the Southern and Northern Jurisdictions of the United States, The Order of the Sword of Bunker Hill, and the Imperial Council of Ancient and Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of North America, and their Constituent Bodies, are recognized as Concordant Masonic Organizations to which Masons, who are in good standing in a recognized Ancient Craft Lodge, may belong.

Like organizations with which recognized Concordant Orders are in fraternal correspondence, and which are Masonic in character, are Appendant Orders which may be recognized if such recognition would not be adverse to the best interests of Freemasonry in this Jurisdiction. Recognition of Appendant Orders shall be granted only after approval by the Grand Lodge. No Mason within this Jurisdiction may join, attend, or remain present at, any unrecognized Order, nor may he become involved in Masonic intercourse with any member thereof. (Revised Sept. 1986)

All Concordant and Appendant Orders which require any Masonic membership prerequisite shall also require each of its members to remain in good standing in a recognized Ancient Craft Lodge; and the membership of any Mason who fails to maintain good standing in a recognized Ancient Craft Lodge shall be immediately terminated in all other Concordant or Appendant Orders. A presiding Officer of any Concordant or Appendant Order who fails to enforce these provisions may have charges filed against him in his own Lodge. (Revised Sept. 1979, 2006)

11. **Masonic Standing, Notice.** By use of the monthly report, the Secretary of each Lodge shall notify the Grand Secretary of all actions affecting any individuals Masonic standing. The Grand Secretary shall notify all Lodges by written monthly summary, when any Brother's Masonic standing changes, thereby prohibiting him from enjoying Masonic communication with his Brethren. With the exception of those dropped from the rolls for nonpayment of dues, which shall be reported once annually prior to December of each year. (Revised Sept. 2004)
12. **Conventions.** Conventions and local or sectional combinations for the purpose of affecting the legislation of the Grand Lodge are prohibited.
13. **Dedication of Halls.** No Hall shall be dedicated unless it is owned by a Lodge or other strictly Masonic organization and used for Masonic purposes.
14. **Degrees by Misrepresentation.** Any person receiving the degrees of Masonry by misrepresentation or false statement in his petition or otherwise, is subject to discipline therefore.
15. **Degrees, Conferring.** Degrees shall be conferred in a dignified and impressive manner. Nothing shall be done to detract from the solemnity of the work. The object is to impress upon the candidate the great moral principles of Freemasonry.
16. **Degrees for Foreign Jurisdictions.** In conferring degrees for a Lodge in a foreign Jurisdiction, the practice of that Jurisdiction should be followed as far as practicable, if not in serious conflict with our usage.
17. **Degrees Recognized.** This Grand Lodge recognizes no degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry except the

degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason, conferred in regular Lodges. (Revised Sept. 1979)

18. **Delinquent Members, Masonic Rights.** Being delinquent for dues does not deprive a member of any of the rights and privileges of membership until he has been dropped from the roll.
19. **Demit, Certificate of Withdrawal.**
  - (1) **Demit.** A "demit" is a certificate showing withdrawal from a Lodge of a member holding "Single status."
  - (2) **Certificate of Withdrawal.** A "certificate of withdrawal" is a document showing that a member holding Plural Membership has voluntarily severed his membership in one Lodge while retaining in the others.
20. **Demit, Date of.** A demit dates from the time it was granted by the Lodge, and membership in the Lodge ceases with that date. It may be used for affiliation regardless of its age.
21. **Demit, Dues Refunded.** When a demit is issued for a Brother whose dues are paid in advance, the unused portion of such dues shall be refunded to him. See Section 1404 (Revised Sept. 1975)
22. **Demit, Duplicate.** The Secretary may issue a duplicate demit for one that is lost; or he may issue an attested statement that a demit has been issued on a given date. Such a duplicate or statement may be used in lieu of the original demit.
23. **Demit, Lodge Shall Retain.** When a brother becomes a member of a Lodge by affiliation, the Lodge shall

retain the demit or other documentary evidence filed in lieu thereof with his petition for affiliation, as a part of the Lodge records.

24. **District Deputy Grand Master, Duties.** The District Deputy Grand Master shall visit each Lodge in his District as often as practical or necessary, assure that its Code and Digest and the Lodge By-Laws are posted and current, and examine all books, records, and financial conditions therein. Each Lodge shall fully cooperate with the District Deputy Grand Master and assist him in the performance of his duties.

He (the District Deputy) shall acquaint himself with the management and general conditions in each Lodge, give instructions and make corrections on ritualistic Work and Masonic Law, perform such other duties, and make such reports, as may be required of him by the Grand Master.

When considering the issuance of Certificates of Proficiency he shall acquire definite knowledge that the required proficiency has been attained, and he is the sole authority in his District to recommend the issuance of all Certificates of Proficiency for eligibility for election to office. He shall require each Lodge to elect and install officers who are lawfully qualified for their respective office in accordance with Sections 1601, 1602, and 1603 of these By-Laws.

When answering questions on Masonic Law he shall refer his replies to the Grand Master for confirmation. (Revised Sept. 1980)

25. **District Deputy Grand Master, Expenses.** All necessary expenses incurred by the District Deputy Grand Master in performance of his duties shall be paid, when approved by the Grand Master, from the

appropriation set aside for that purpose, but no per diem shall be allowed.

26. **Districts, Masonic.** The Jurisdiction shall be divided into 13 districts, as follows:

**First District:** Lemhi No. 11, Arco No. 48, Mt. McCaleb No. 64, Challis No. 92; Four Lodges.

**Second District:** Eagle Rock No. 19, Grove City No. 33, St. Johns No. 52; Three Lodges. (Revised Sept. 2003)

**Third District:** Portneuf No. 18, Malad No. 51, American Falls No. 58, Keystone No. 81, Caribou No. 84, Mount Kinport No. 95; Six Lodges. (Revised Sept. 2003)

**Fourth District:** Twin Falls No. 45, Burley No. 68, Paul No. 77; Three Lodges. (Revised Sept. 2003)

**Fifth District:** Hailey No. 16, Richfield No. 21, Lincoln No. 59, Jerome No. 61; Four Lodges. (Revised Sept. 2003)

**Sixth District:** Elmore No. 30, Buhl No. 53, Hagerman No. 78, Fidelity No. 80; Four Lodges. (Revised Sept. 2003)

**Seventh District:** Idaho No. 1, Boise No. 2, Placer No. 3, Oriental No. 60, Ionic No. 82 Capital City No. 93, Six Lodges (Lodge of Research No. 1965 is not assigned as a District Lodge)(Revised Sept 2009)

**Eighth District:** Silver City No. 13, Ashlar No. 29, Mt. Moriah No. 39, Meridian No. 47; Four Lodges (Revised Sept 2009)



**Ninth District:** Weiser No. 23, Washoe No. 28, Salubria No. 31, Butte No. 37, Four Lodges. (Revised Sept. 2009)

**Tenth District:** Mt. Idaho No. 9, Kamiah No. 56, Prairie No. 62, Kooskia No. 87; Four Lodges (Revised Sept 2003)

**Eleventh District:** Nez Perce No. 10, Paradise No. 17, Unity No. 32, Three Lodges. (Revised Sept. 2003)

**Twelfth District:** Coeur d'Alene No. 20, Kootenai No. 24, Shoshone No. 25, Cataldo No. 34, St. Maries No. 63: Five Lodges (Revised Sept 2003)

**Thirteenth District:** Rathdrum No. 41, Lakeside No. 42, Bonners Ferry No. 43, Spirit Lake No. 57, Kaniksu No. 97; Five Lodges. (Revised Sept. 2003)

27. **Electioneering.** Canvassing or electioneering for Masonic office is a Masonic offense.
28. **Flag Display.** Each Lodge should have a flag of the United States of appropriate dimensions properly displayed in the Lodge room at all communications of the Lodge.
29. **Funeral Expenses.** There is no obligation upon a Lodge to pay the funeral expenses of a deceased brother unless it voluntarily assumes them.

30. **Funeral Expenses and Other Bills.** The Trustees of the Grand Lodge Relief Fund shall not pay funeral expenses or general bills contracted without their authority.
31. **Historian, Grand.** The Grand Master shall annually appoint a Grand Historian, who shall prepare papers pertaining to Masonic history, particularly such as related to this Jurisdiction.
32. **Honorary Grand Lodge Membership.** The practice of conferring and receiving Honorary Grand Lodge Membership is recognized by this Grand Lodge as conducive to furthering cordial fraternal relations between Sister Grand Jurisdictions.
33. **Incorporation.** Lodges are urged to incorporate under the laws enacted for that purpose by the State of Idaho.
34. **Ineligible.** The word "ineligible" as used in relation to petitioners for the degrees refers to those candidates barred from election by some legal requirement, such as, a man under lawful age, a man in his dotage, one mentally incompetent, physically unable to comply with requirements, non-resident without proper waiver, etc. (See Sections 1901, 1902 and 1904.)
35. **Investigating Committee, Record, Objection.** The record in the Lodge minutes should show the fact that the investigating committees on petitions affecting Masonic standing reported, but should not show the nature of the reports. In case of an objection, the record should show that an objection was made, but not the name of the brother making it.
36. **Jurisdiction, Burke.** Deleted (September 2010).

37. **Jurisdiction, Silver City Lodge No. 13.** Deleted  
(September 2010)
38. **Written Esoteric Work.** A written copy of the Esoteric Work shall be in the possession of the R.W. Grand Lecturer and a copy shall be kept in the vault of the Grand Lodge office. Additional copies of the written work shall be issued to the M.W. Grand Master, R.W. Deputy Grand Master, R.W. Senior Grand Warden, R.W. Junior Grand Warden, every District Deputy Grand Master and any Past Grand Master requesting a copy. The written work shall be used for educational purposes only and shall be in the possession of these brethren only and not loaned out for any reason. Violation of this provision may be deemed sufficient cause for removal from office by the Grand Master. The current Grand Lecturer will inventory all written esoteric work at the Grand Lodge communication at the beginning of his term. If a District Deputy is unable to attend Grand Lodge the necessary documentation will be signed during the Fall District Communications. (Revised Sept 2011)
39. **Monitor.** The Idaho Monitor shall be a combination of the Idaho Monitor, the abbreviated esoteric work (The Ohadi including the sermons) as available in 2002. These will be consolidated in the order in which they are used.

1. The Grand Secretary, under the direction of the Grand Master, shall be the custodian of the Monitors and all Monitors not in use shall be under his control, and safely kept in the vault of the Grand Secretary's office.
2. The Worshipful Master shall never use an Idaho Monitor during the performance of the adopted Idaho Work or permit anyone else to do so except when it is used for prayers, charges, the perambulation, funerals, installation or educational programs, while the Lodge is at labor.
3. At the completion of his Master Mason degree the Lodge will present the newly raised Master Mason with a complete copy of the Idaho Monitor and esoteric work. The Grand Lodge shall furnish Monitors to the Lodges or Master Masons at approximate cost.
4. The Grand Master is authorized to recall any or all Monitors upon satisfactory evidence furnished him of the wisdom or necessity for so doing.
5. Upon written statement from a Worshipful Master that a Monitor is lost or destroyed, the Grand Secretary may issue a duplicate upon payment of a fee representing actual cost of printing, plus mailing costs at the time of issue.
6. The adopted Idaho Work is specified in Sec 801 of these By-Laws and is contained in the official Idaho Monitor authorized in Regulation 39. It is unlawful for any Mason

belonging to an Idaho Lodge to use, allow or cause to be used (during coaching or learning the work). Any unauthorized Sermon or Key, and the use of any illegal Sermon or Key shall be deemed unmasonic conduct and may subject the offender to Masonic charges and trial. (Revised Sept 2003)

When a newly raised Brother has signed the By-Laws at the conclusion of the Master Mason Degree, the Master shall cause the foregoing paragraph to be read in open Lodge (Revised Sept. 1975)

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40. **Life Membership.** No Lodge shall elect any brother to Life Membership except as provided for Fifty-year Members. (See Section 1402.)

41. **Liquor.** To introduce or permit intoxicating liquors or beverages of any kind within the Lodge room, except for ritual ceremony purposes, is hereby prohibited. (Revised Sept. 2002)
  
42. (Regulation 42 eliminated Sept. 2003)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
43. **Month Defined.** A "month" as used in this code is defined to be the time between one stated communication and the corresponding stated communication of the next calendar month. It is not always the same as a calendar month. (Revised Sept 2003)
44. **Nearest Lodge.** When the consent, waiver, or recommendation of the "nearest" Lodge is required and that Lodge is in a concurrent jurisdiction, the Lodge that first receives the request shall be construed to be the nearest Lodge. (Revised Sept. 2003)
45. **Non-Affiliate.** A non-affiliate is a Master Mason who is not a member of any Lodge.  
(Revised Sept. 2003)
46. **Notice, Service of.** The sending of a notice by certified mail to a brother at his last known address shall be deemed sufficient service. (See Section 2601.) (Revised Sept. 2003)

47. **Petitions - When Filed and When Received.** No Lodge shall act on any petition until it is declared "received."

**When Filed** - A petition is "filed" when it is given to the Lodge Secretary.

**When Received** - A petition is "received" only after it is read at a Stated Communication and declared "received" by the Worshipful Master or Acting Master. (See Sections 2001, 2004, 2007, 2009, 2015, 2016, and 2023.) (Revised Sept. 1980)

48. **Photograph, Grand Master.** The Grand Master is requested to furnish to the Grand Secretary a photograph suitable for enlargement.
49. **Photographs and Cuts.** The Grand Secretary shall procure an enlarged portrait of the Grand Master for permanent preservation at a cost as annually adopted in the Grand Lodge budget. He shall insert a picture of the Grand Master in the Annual Proceedings, and he may also include cuts of other distinguished members and guests of the Grand Lodge. (Revised Sept. 1970)
50. **Proceedings, Binding.** The Grand Secretary shall have bound two copies of the Proceedings of each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and shall keep one copy in the library and the other in the fireproof vault. He shall also have bound the Proceedings of other Grand Lodges from time to time.
51. **Proceedings, Disposition.** The printed Proceedings of the Grand Lodge furnished the Masters and Wardens are not their personal property, but shall be transmitted to their successors in office. Each Lodge should preserve one copy in the hall, and should have



the volumes bound from time to time for the use of the Lodge.

52. **Proceedings, Distribution.** The Grand Secretary shall distribute the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge no later than February 1st of the following year as follows:
1. One copy to each Grand Lodge in correspondence with this Grand Lodge.
  2. One printed copy to each Lodge in this Jurisdiction.
  3. One copy to each Grand Officer, including District Deputy Grand Masters and Chairman of Fraternal Relations.
  4. One copy to each Past Grand Elective Officer.
  5. Ten copies may be retained for exchange and donation.
  6. One electronic copy will be kept on permanent file in the fireproof vault.

He may sell copies at approximate cost where there is an adequate supply. (Revised Sept 2003)

53. **Proceedings, Reading.** Following each Annual Grand Lodge Communication, the Grand Secretary shall prepare an Abstract of Proceedings, which shall be a summary of the session, and shall distribute same to each Constituent Lodge. The Master shall cause same to be read in open Lodge at the first Stated Communication after it is received, and shall cause such reading to be immediately reported to the Grand Secretary on forms provided by him. The Master should later select, and cause to be read in open Lodge, those portions of the printed Proceedings which he deems of interest and benefit to the

members, and he shall cause one copy of the printed Proceedings to be filed for future reference. (Revised Sept. 2003)

54. **Records, Safe Keeping.** Important Lodge records should be preserved in a fireproof place.
55. **Relief Association.** The Grand Lodge approves of the Masonic Relief Association of the United States and Canada. The Grand Secretary shall cooperate with said association and furnish it with a list of the Lodges in this Jurisdiction and other information needed for its work. The Grand Lodge may annually provide such funds as are necessary to maintain its membership in the Association.
56. **Rental of Property.** Extreme caution shall be exercised by Lodges in the renting of Lodge property and no lease or rental may be made to tenants whose business might reflect to the discredit of the fraternity.
57. **Representative, Grand.** The Grand Master should arrange for the exchange of Grand Representatives with Sister Grand Jurisdictions with whom we are in fraternal correspondence. He shall not recommend for appointment as Grand Representative of a Sister Grand Jurisdiction near this Grand Lodge other than a Master or a Past Master. When a Grand Representative of a Sister Grand Jurisdiction near this Grand Lodge fails to attend three consecutive Annual Communications, without good cause, the Grand Master should recommend the appointment of another.
58. **Rules of Order.** When consistent with our established Masonic usages, common parliamentary procedure shall be followed.

59. **Signing By-Laws.** Every member of a Lodge should sign its By-Laws. If it is impossible for a member to sign personally, he should authorize the Secretary to sign for him. Failure to sign the By-Laws, however, is not a bar to membership.
60. **Sponsoring.** No Lodge shall stand sponsor for, or assume control of, or responsibility for, any other organization, except as follows: A Lodge may sponsor a Chapter of the Order of DeMolay, provided, however, that in so doing it assumes no financial debts.
61. **Washington, George, National Masonic Memorial Association.** The Grand Treasurer shall pay annually to the George Washington National Masonic Memorial Association, the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) for each dues paying member of this jurisdiction. The funding shall come from the Interest Relief Fund. (Revised Sept. 2012)
62. **Judgment, Civil Courts.** The Judgment of a civil court shall be taken as prima facie evidence in a Masonic trial, but it is not necessarily conclusive evidence.
63. **Lodge Room, Social Use.** When sanctioned by the Lodge a Masonic hall may be used for social gatherings of the members, their families and friends.
64. **Masters and Wardens U.D.** The Masters and Wardens of Lodges under dispensation do not by virtue of such service become actual Past Masters or Past Wardens.
65. **Officers, When Disqualified.** When the Master is disqualified by reason of prejudice or other inability to act as required in Masonic trials, the Wardens shall in the order of their rank act in his stead. If the Master and both Wardens are disqualified, the Grand Master

may appoint another qualified member to act.

66. **Refusal to Answer Letters.** A member who refuses or neglects to answer letters written by order of the lodge or the Grand Lodge commits an offense and is subject to discipline.
67. **Plural Membership.** This Grand lodge does permit plural membership. (Revised Sept. 1995)
68. **Physical Qualifications.** When a petition is declared received (Regulation 47), a Lodge must then make thorough investigation, and may safely decide on the physical fitness of any applicant when his maiming defect is of such minor character that he could acquire and communicate the knowledge of Masonry in a Masonic manner.

There must always be reasonable assurance that the petitioner will not later become a charge against the Lodge, and if investigation shows a more serious physical defect which would require *any variation* from the Masonic forms and ceremonies required of a candidate during the conferral of the degrees, the committee shall *report directly to the Master*.

To assure the eligibility of the petitioner, the Master shall:

- (1) grant the committee further time to report to the Lodge (Section 2004),
- (2) direct a copy of the report and a complete and clear description of the defect (or defects) to the Grand Master, and
- (3) request a dispensation to receive the report and ballot on the petition.

When he is adequately informed the Grand Master

may grant, or deny, the dispensation; and at the first Stated Communication after his reply is returned the Lodge shall proceed with action on the petition.

If dispensation is granted, the Master shall (1) read it in open Lodge, (2) present the report of the investigating committee, and (3) spread the ballot. *The dispensation merely allows action on the petition, and the Lodge assumes complete responsibility for the election or rejection of the petitioner.*

If dispensation is denied, the Master shall read the denial, declare the petitioner ineligible to receive the degrees, and direct the return of the petition and fee. Such return shall not constitute a rejection, and the petitioner shall be informed that he is merely ineligible. (Regulation 34) (Revised Sept. 1979)

69.

(Regulation 69 Deleted Sept. 2009)

70. **Restrictions, Purposes, and Exemptions for a Lodge of Research.** A Research Lodge in this Juris-

diction shall confer no degrees, grant no financial relief to the distressed, exercise no judicial powers, conduct no Masonic funerals, pay no Grand Lodge Dues and have no representation therein.

Such a Lodge shall study, accumulate and distribute materials on Masonic history (including Idaho Masonic History), symbolism and philosophy, the personal responsibilities and duties of Master Masons, assume such projects as may be assigned to it by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master, attempt to provide competent speakers when requested, assist the Grand Lecturer, and function for the general benefit of Freemasonry.

The programs and activities of a Research Lodge are subject to the approval of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master, but shall be exempt from compliance with Section 903 as it relates to appointive officers; Paragraph 1, Section 1104; Article XV as it relates to Dues; Sections 1601 and 1602 as it relates to election and installation; and Article XX of the Grand Lodge By-Laws. A Research Lodge shall conform to its own By-Laws in all matters relating to these exemptions. (Adopted Sept. 1978)

71. **Membership Database.** The names, addresses and other personal information of our members on file is restricted to internal Grand Lodge of Idaho use only, except for the normal inquiries about Masonic standing, unless such external use is specifically approved by a majority of the delegates to this Grand Lodge. Also, the Brethren making data entry, maintaining or using this resource will execute a non-disclosure statement with the Grand Lodge of Idaho A.F.& A.M. (Adopted Sept. 1996)
72. **Printing of Annual Proceedings.** The Annual Proceedings, as required by Section 306 Par. 8, shall be printed for distribution. An appropriate number of bound printed copies as well as an electronic copy shall be made available in the Grand Lodge Office as per Regulation 52. (Adopted Sept. 2002)

73. **Forms.** Only approved forms and formats shall be used. Approved forms and formats are distributed by the office of the Grand Secretary in their most current format as published on the Grand Lodge website. (Adopted Sept. 2010)

## GRAND LODGE OF IDAHO,

### A.F. & A.M. FORM OF BALLOTING

The order, "Balloting," having been reached in the regular course of business the W.M. says, "Brother Senior Deacon., you will prepare the ballot." The S.D. places all white balls and black cubes in the proper compartment of the ballot box, being certain there is a sufficient supply of each to meet demands. (Note: it is better to use black cubes instead of black balls, to avoid possible error by members whose eyesight is not keen.)

The S.D. presents the ballot box to the J.W. (goes via north side of the altar), the S.W. and the W.M. in regular order, each of whom makes the proper inspection to satisfy himself the ballot is properly prepared. After inspection the W.M. makes the following announcement: "Brethren, we are now about to ballot on the petition of \_\_\_\_\_ for the Degrees of Masonry. (Or, "We are now about to ballot on the petition of Brother \_\_\_\_\_ for membership in the Lodge by affiliation.") The report of the committee is favorable. (Or, "unfavorable," as the case may be.) Remember that white balls elect, and the black cubes reject. Be careful of your ballot and vote for the good of Freemasonry." He then casts his ballot. The W.M. and Wardens shall salute on voting.

The S.D. then presents the ballot box to the S.W. and then the J.W. at their respective stations for their ballot. He should then place it on the left side of the altar and resume his place. As soon as the S.D. returns to his place, the brethren, starting with the Secretary in the southeast corner of the Lodge, shall proceed to vote, regardless of rank, approaching the altar from the west. All members shall salute on voting. As soon as all members on the



south side of the Lodge have voted, then the Treasurer if present, otherwise the S.D., shall proceed to vote, followed by all members on the north side, regardless of rank. The Tyler is called to the altar by order of the W.M. (provided of course that he is a member of the Lodge) informed of the name of the candidate and nature of the report of the committee. He then casts his ballot and retires. In balloting all members present who are entitled to vote must vote unless excused by unanimous consent.

The W.M. then inquires: "Have all members voted who are entitled to vote?" and pauses for a moment for reply. There being no response, the W.M. says: "All having voted, I declare the ballot closed." (Sounds gavel.) "Brother Senior Deacon, you will take charge of the ballot." The S.D. presents the ballot box to the J.W. and S.W. for inspection and proceeds to the station of the W.M.

On his arrival the W.M. says: "Brother Junior Warden, how is the ballot in the south?" The J.W. (salutes) replies: "Fair (or cloudy) in the south, Worshipful Master." The W.M. then says: "Brother Senior Warden, how is the ballot in the west?" The S.W. (salutes) replies: "Clear (or dark) in the west, Worshipful Master." The W.M. then inspects the ballot and if no black cubes appear says: "And bright, my brethren, in the east. I therefore declare \_\_\_\_\_ duly elected to receive the Degrees of Masonry in this Lodge." In announcing the result of the ballot, the reports of the three principal officers shall in all cases be "fair," "clear," and "bright," or "cloudy", "dark", and "black," as the case may be, except in the case of one black cube. Then the report from each officer shall be "doubtful." A second ballot shall then be called, and if one black cube still appears, the results shall then be reported as though more than one black cube had been cast. The second trial of the ballot shall in all cases

be final, and if one black cube again appears the Master shall say: "And black, my brethren, in the east. I therefore declare the petition of for the Degrees of Masonry in this Lodge to be duly rejected." The W.M. shall make this same announcement if more than one black cube appears on the first ballot, and no other ballot may be taken.

In case the petition is for affiliation the W.M. says: "And bright, my brethren in the east. I therefore declare Brother \_\_\_\_\_ to be duly elected to membership in this Lodge by affiliation." or, "And black, my brethren, in the east. I therefore declare the petition of Brother \_\_\_\_\_ for membership in this Lodge by affiliation to be duly rejected."

In case of balloting on a petition for reinstatement the same method shall be used as for Petition for Degrees, except that three black cubes shall be necessary for rejection. (If less than three black cubes appear in the ballot box the J.W. and S.W. shall report "Fair" and "Clear" respectively, and if three appear they shall report "Doubtful," and a second ballot shall be taken.)

The result of the ballot cannot be set aside after it has been declared by the Master, even though a mistake has been made in the declaration, unless corrected by him at the same communication. All balloting on petitions shall be done at stated communications. (See By-Laws Article XX)

Adopted by Grand Lodge, September 22, 1948.

## RECEPTION OF GRAND MASTER AND OTHER DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

Introductions should be standard, but are not an exact Ritual. Lodges should comply with this form as closely as possible.

Introductions -- and Reception of Grand Master.

Any Bn (*Presiding Masters, Past Masters, Fifty-year Mason, Grand Officers of Concordant Orders, etc.*) the Master may wish to honor, are introduced first -- either on the sidelines, or at the Altar.

*(Time can be saved by introducing these Bn on the sidelines.)*

### Basic Rules for Introductions:

1. When introducing "first-time" visitors -- use *CORRECT* name, the name and number of his Lodge and correct (state) jurisdiction.

2. G.L. officers (*including Past Elective Grand Lodge officers*) are introduced in groups (*by rank*). Any from other (state) jurisdictions are appropriately grouped (*according to rank*) along with our own G.L. officers.

3. Bn invited to the East (*after introduction*) are given Honors in East immediately after arrival there. If a Br is not being invited to the East, he is introduced at the Altar, given Honors there, and reseated among the Bn.

4. If a Br has more than one title, he is introduced in the group which accords him the highest Honors. (*Ex: a Past Grand Master who is also a Grand Lecturer, or a Grand Historian, would be introduced with the Past Grand Masters.*)

5. The Lodge is always *called up* for the introduction of G.L. officers. The three raps \*\*\* are given while the Sd is escorting a Br (or Bn) to the Altar.

6. As a Br is (or Bn are) being returned to side-lines (after introduction), the Master should seat the Lodge.

7. (*Time can be saved*) Between introductions, the Sd returns to his station only when it is convenient.

Sd makes introductions unless Master directs otherwise.

*(The route of escort is on the square. As he approaches a Br to be escorted, Sd moves rod to left hand and places the Br on his right. When he has reseated a Br (or Bn) Sd returns rod to right hand.)*

G.L. officers are received in the following order:

*If there are any G.L. officers present from other (state) Jurisdictions, they must be included in the proper group -- and the Sd must use similar wording for their introduction - correct name, proper title, and (state) jurisdiction.*

1. Dist. Dep. Grand Master(s) from other District(s) (*Hearty Welcome*) W.M. directs: "Visiting District Deputy Grand Masters will please rise. " *If any rise --* Master continues: "Brother Senior Deacon, you will escort (our Brother -- or -- these Brethren) to the Altar for introduction."

After escort to Altar, Sd states:

"Worshipful Master -- I have the honor of introducing Brother(s) (*use full name, title and number of Dist.*), A.F. & A.M. of Idaho."

W.M. extends a cordial welcome - then continues:

"Brethren, join me in according (our Brother - or these

Brethren) a Hearty Welcome." W.M. then continues: "Brother Senior Deacon, you will reseal our visiting (Brother - or - Brethren)."

2. Dist. Dep. Grand Master of your own District. (*Public Grand Honors*)

*(A Dist. Dep. is entitled to the courtesies due a representative of the G.M. However, he CANNOT open or close the Lodge except in accordance with Section 1702 of the Grand Lodge By-Laws. After the Lodge is open, he may preside therein on the invitation of the Master.)*

W.M. directs. "The District Deputy Grand Master of the (*use number of own Dist.*) will please rise."

*When Dist. Dep. rises* - Master continues: "Brother Senior Deacon, you will escort our District Deputy Grand Master to the Altar for introduction."

Sd escorts Dist. Dep. to Altar - then states:

"Worshipful Master-I have the honor of introducing Brother (*use full name*), District Deputy Grand Master of the (*use number of Dist.*) Masonic District, A.F. & A.M. of Idaho."

*(If the Grand Master is present, the Senior Deacon should escort the District Deputy to the East but to the left of the Worshipful Master. The place on the right of the Master is thereby reserved for the Grand Master who will be introduced later.)*

W.M. extends a cordial welcome then directs: "Brother Senior Deacon, you will escort (*use full name or title*) to the East (on my right-or-on my left)."

*Sd escorts Dist. Dep. to East (north or south of Altar as directed) and remains in place near East during Honors. After Honors, when gavel is sounded to seat the*

*Lodge, Sd returns to his station or remains in place to await further instructions.*

W.M. receives Dist. Dep. with a hand clasp - then continues:

"Brethren, join me in according the Public Grand Honors." *If Dist. Dep. is not to be invited to East-Master welcomes him at the Altar, gives Public Grand Honors there - then continues:*

"Brother Senior Deacon, you will reseat our District Deputy Grand Master."

3. Appointive Grand Lodge Officer(s) (*Hearty Welcome*) W.M. directs: "All Appointive Grand Lodge officers will please rise." *If any rise-Master continues:* "Brother Senior Deacon, you will escort (our Brother - or - these Brethren) to the Altar for introduction."

Sd escorts the Br (or Bn) to the Alter - all sign - and the Sd continues:

"Worshipful Master - I have the honor of introducing (*use full name and title of each officer*) of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Idaho."

W.M. extends a cordial welcome -then continues:

"Brethren, join me in according our Appointive Grand Lodge Officer(s) a Hearty Welcome." After Hearty Welcome is completed - Master continues:

"Brother Senior Deacon, you will re-seat (our Brother - or - these Brethren)."

4. Most Worshipful Past Grand Master(s) (*Private Grand Honors*) W.M. directs: "All Past Grand Masters will please rise." *If any rise - Master continues:* "Brother Senior Deacon, you will escort our Past Grand Master(s) to the Altar for introduction."

Sd escorts Br (or Bn) to the Altar - all sign - and Sd continues: "Worshipful Master- I have the honor of introducing (*use full name of each*) Most Worshipful Past Grand Master(s) of Masons in Idaho."

. (*If any of the Past Grand Masters hold some other office - add*) "and presently (*use full & proper title*) of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Idaho."

W.M. welcomes the Br (or Bn) - then continues:

"Brethren, join me in according the Private Grand Honors." When Honors are completed - Master continues: "Brother Senior Deacon, you will re-seat our Past Grand Master(s)."

5. R.W. Elective Grand Lodge Officer(s) (*Public Grand Honors*) W.M. directs: "All Elective (*and if any Past Elective Grand Lodge Officers are present - add "and past Elective"*) Grand Lodge Officers will please rise."

*If any rise* - Master continues: "Brother Senior Deacon, you will escort (our Brother-or-these Brethren) to the Altar for introduction."

Sd escorts Br (or Bn) to Altar-all sign-and Sd continues:

"Worshipful Master - I have the honor of introducing (*use full name & title of each officer*) of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Idaho."

Master Welcomes Br (or Bn) then directs: " Brethren, join me in according our Elective Grand Lodge Officer(s) the Public Grand Honors."

When Honors are completed-Master continues - "Brother Senior Deacon, you will re-seat (our Brother – or - these Brethren)."

6. Visiting (*presiding*) Most Worshipful Grand Master(s) (*Private Grand Honors*)

*Visiting Grand Master will retire with our own G.M. - or, they will remain outside the Lodge-room until time for their reception. They are received in the same manner as our own G.M ... and if there are several of them, they are received in one group, and after their introduction they are seated among the Bn.*

7. Most Worshipful Grand Master (*Private Grand Honors.*)

To receive the Grand Master (*consult with him*), and unless he directs otherwise, the following procedure is in order:

*(Seldom - usually does not apply)* In case the Lodge is being opened, or is already at labor, and the Grand Master arrives late, *or without any previous notice*, the Tyler gives alarm at door. Jd answers alarm (*without any instructions from the Master*) Tyler informs Jd "The Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Idaho is present and desires admission."

After receiving message, Jd closes door, (*and at opportune time*) signs, and reports:

"Worshipful Master - The Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Idaho is present, and desires admission."

*(This is an unusual circumstance, but the Master directs an escort to retire and escort the M. W. Grand Master to the Altar for introduction.)*

*(Normal Sequence)* The presence of the Grand Master is already known. (*Do NOT direct the Jd to ascertain whether or not the G.M. is present.*)



If the Grand Master remains outside the Lodge-room during the opening, he is entertained by some member(s) until time for his reception.

Usually the G.M. enters the Lodge-room to observe the opening - and having done so, he will (*at a convenient time during the other introductions*) approach the Altar, sign, and retire to await his escort and reception.

*As G.M. retires - Jd opens door for him to depart.*

When receiving the Grand Master, the master selects a distinguished Mason of his own choice (*usually the Dist. Dep.*) to serve as escort - and directs:

"Brother (*use name or title*), (*designated escort rises*) you will retire with the Marshal (*Mar. rises*), and the Senior Deacon (*Sd rises*), and escort the Most Worshipful Grand Master to the Altar for introduction."

These three approach the Altar, sign, and retire (*proceeding abreast*).

*Jd opens door for them to depart, closes door after their departure, and returns to his station.*

When G.M. is ready to enter, Tyler gives alarm at door. Jd answers alarm (*without any instruction from Master*) and Tyler reports to Jd:

"Brother Junior Deacon, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Idaho desires admission."

Jd closes door, signs, and reports: "Worshipful Master - the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Idaho desires admission."

W.M. responds: "Admit him."

Jd opens door, *and Master calls Lodge up (three raps* \*\*\* *Escort has G.M. on his right, and Sd follows with Marshal on his right. These four enter Lodge-room and*

advance on square to Altar. (*When they have cleared the doorway, the Jd closes door and returns to his station.*)

At the Altar these four form a line facing East (*their order from north to south being the Sd, escort, Grand Master, and Marshal*). They all sign together, Sd & Marshal take one step back, and the escort makes the introduction:

"Worshipful Master - I have the honor of introducing Brother (*use full name*), The Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Idaho."

(*When escort completes the introduction, he takes one step back.*)

W.M. extends a cordial welcome-then continues:

"Brother (*use full name or title of escort*), you will escort our Most Worshipful Grand Master to the East."

Escort takes G.M. north of Altar to East, and Sd & Marshal remain in place. (*Escort then remains in place near East until gavel is sounded to seat the Lodge.*)

W.M. receives G.M. with a handclasp, and with the G.M. on his right (*both facing West*) - the Master continues:

"Brethren, join me in according the Private Grand Honors."

Following Honors, the Master presents gavel - *he may use his own words - or, recite the following:*

"Most Worshipful Grand Master, I have the honor of presenting to you this gavel. We shall be pleased to have you preside over the deliberations of this Lodge. Your skill in drawing designs upon the Masonic Trestle Board is well known, and no doubt we shall receive both pleasure and profit from your instructions."

The G.M. may keep the gavel, preside, and return it at his pleasure - but he will probably express his gratitude for this honor, seat the Bn, and return the gavel to the Master.

*(In event the G.M. merely returns the gavel, the Master should seat the Lodge.)*

As the Lodge is seated (*either by the G.M. or the Master*) the escort returns to his seat. *If the escort is the Dist. Dep. he proceeds west, turns S on a line immediately W of A, and after passing A he turns East and advances to seat left of Master. When Dist. Dep. turns E, the Sd (north of A) and Marshal (south of A) advance with him as they proceed to their stations.*

*In case the escort is not the Dist. Dep. and he takes a seat somewhere on the north or south of the Lodge Room, the Sd (north of A) and Marshal (south of A) advance together as they proceed to their stations.*

When the business of the Communication is completed, the Master should again offer the gavel to the G.M. and request him to close the Lodge.

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# IDAHO MASONIC CODE and DIGEST

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