



Constitution and Statutes
of the
GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
of Virginia

Adopted by the Grand Commandery at the Stated Conclave,
May 10, 1963

Codified and Revised with legislation enacted at the Stated
Conclaves of 1992, 1993, 1996, 2002, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009,
2010, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016

Constitution and Statutes Table of Contents

<u>Section</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page Number(s)</u>
1	Name	3
2	Of Whom Composed	3 – 4
3	Election and Appointment of Grand Officers	4
4	Titles	4
5	Grand Commandery Conclaves	5
6	Powers and Duties	5 – 6
7	Permanent Life Membership	6 – 10
8	Grand Officers – Their Powers and Duties	10 – 14
9	Vow of Office	15
10	Tenure of Office	15 – 16
11	Eligibility to Office	16
12	Permanent Fund	16 – 17
13	Standing Committees	17 – 21
14	Internet Usage	21
15	Majority to Govern	21
16	Appeal	22
17	Revenue - How Derived	22
18	The Templar Year	23
19	Proxies	23
20	Seals, Forms and Publications	23
21	Digest	23
22	Grand Commandery Districts	24 – 25
23	District Officers and Other Appointed Grand Officers	25 – 27
24	Constituent Commanderies	27 – 35
25	Petitions and Balloting on Applicants	35 – 37
26	The Orders of Christian Knighthood	37 – 39
27	Dues and Assessments	39 – 40
28	By-Laws	40
29	Membership	40 – 44
30	Statutes and Regulations	44
31	Knight Templar Eye Foundation	44 – 45
32	The Templar Uniform for Virginia	45 – 54
	INDEX	55 – 61

Constitution and Statutes
of the
GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
of
Virginia

Section 1. NAME

This body shall be known and designated as the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Virginia, exercising exclusive jurisdiction over all the territory in the Commonwealth of Virginia, subject only to the Grand Encampment Knights Templar, United States of America.

Section 2. OF WHOM COMPOSED

The Grand Commandery consists of the following members:

- (A) The Grand Commander,
The Deputy Grand Commander,
The Grand Generalissimo,
The Grand Captain General,
The Grand Senior Warden,
The Grand Junior Warden,
The Grand Prelate,
The Grand Treasurer,
The Grand Recorder,
The Grand Standard Bearer,
The Grand Sword Bearer,
The Grand Warder,
and The Grand Sentinel,
all of whom shall be elected by ballot except the Grand Prelate, and the Grand Sentinel, who shall be appointed by the Grand Commander.
- (B) All Past Grand Commanders
All Past Deputy Grand Commanders.
All Past Grand Generalissimos and,
All Past Grand Captains General
of this Grand Commandery so long as they remain members thereof.
- (C) The Commander, the Generalissimo, and the Captain General of each Commandery under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery.

- (D) All Past Commanders of the Commanderies under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, and such Past Commanders as may have demitted from another jurisdiction and who shall have been elected to membership in this Grand Commandery, so long as they remain members of the Commanderies in this jurisdiction.
- (E) Any distinguished Knight Templar of another Grand Commandery under jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment, by a vote of two thirds of the members present at the Stated Conclave, may be elected an honorary member, which will not confer upon him the right to vote.
- (F) A quorum consists of nine members entitled to vote in the Grand Commandery, including an Officer authorized to convene the Grand Commandery, provided also that three or more Constituent Commanderies are represented.

Section 3. ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF GRAND OFFICERS

- (A) The election and installation of Officers of the Grand Commandery shall be held at each stated conclave after the transaction of routine business; any member of the Grand Commandery in good standing is eligible for election to any office.
- (B) Nominations shall be made for all elective officers, and if more than one Sir Knight is nominated for any office the election shall be by written ballot and a majority of all votes cast is necessary to an election; if only one name is placed in nomination for any office, the election shall be by acclamation. The Grand Prelate and Grand Sentinel shall be appointed by the incoming Grand Commander, but shall not be considered as being in the advancing line of succession.
- (C) The Grand Commandery may, by its Laws, provide for the appointment by the Grand Commander of administrative officers for the Performance of such administrative duties as may be prescribed in such Laws. Such administrative officers may be installed, may have rank and may after serving for a period of three years or more retire from office being entitled only to the honors of the office. The Grand Commandery shall not have any constitutional officers other than those elected officers pursuant to this section.

Section 4. TITLES

The honorary title of the Grand Commander is Right Eminent, and the official title is Grand Commander. The honorary title of The Deputy Grand Commander is Very Eminent and the official title is Deputy Grand Commander, the honorary title of all other officers of a Grand Commandery is Eminent.

Section 5. GRAND COMMANDERY CONCLAVES

- (A) The Grand Commandery shall meet annually on the Friday preceding the first Sunday in May and upon call of the Grand Commander issued through the Grand Recorder. The place of such meeting shall be designated by the Grand Commander at any location within the Commonwealth of Virginia where centrally located living accommodations may be had for the members and guests of the Grand Commandery convenient to the place of assembly.
- (B) The adequacy and convenience of such accommodations shall be determined by a standing committee known as the Committee on Arrangements for the Stated Conclave of the Grand Commandery. It shall be composed of the Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Generalissimo, and a Chairman, and such other members as the Deputy Grand Commander may choose to appoint, who will make arrangements for the place of meeting for the Stated Conclave pursuant to Section 13 (P).
- (C) If a Special Conclave be called, at least fifteen days' notice thereof, setting forth the time and place of holding the same, and the business to be transacted, shall be sent by the Grand Recorder to each member of the Grand Commandery and to the Recorder of each Constituent Commandery.
- (D) No business shall be transacted at a Special Conclave except that specified in the original notice.
- (E) It is the duty of each of the Grand Officers to attend all of the Conclaves of the Grand Commandery.

Section 6. POWERS AND DUTIES

The Grand Commandery, at its Stated Conclave, shall be convened to review and consider all official reports of its officers, and transact such business as the welfare of the Order may require.

- (A) It shall have power to adopt a constitution and such laws and regulations, not inconsistent with the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Encampment, as may be necessary for the good of the Order.
- (B) No proposition for the amendment or repeal of an existing law or the enactment of any new law shall be entertained unless such proposition shall have been presented to the Grand Recorder, by January 1. He shall refer it to the Constitution and Statutes Committee for codification, and they shall return it to the Grand Recorder by February 1, for inclusion in the Official Call to the Grand Commandery which shall be sent to the Constituent Commanderies sixty days prior to the convening of the Stated Conclave for their information and study.

- (C) It shall have exclusive power to form new Commanderies within its jurisdiction, and that without the recommendation or consent of any Commandery, and to fix the fee therefore; and it shall have power to ordain and prescribe regulations for their government, and it may revoke any existing Charter or Dispensation.
- (D) It shall possess authority to require from the several Commanderies within its jurisdiction such proportion of the sums received by them for conferring the Orders, and also such sums in the form of annual dues from the respective members as may be necessary for the support of the Grand Commandery.
- (E) It shall examine the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, and adopt such measures in relation thereto as may be necessary to increase, secure and preserve the same, and also to insure the utmost punctuality on the part of every accounting officer in the safekeeping and paying over of the funds and property of the Grand Commandery.
- (F) It shall have power to assign the limits of jurisdiction of Commanderies within its own jurisdiction, and settle all controversies that may arise between them.
- (G) It shall consider and do all matters and things appertaining to the good, well-being and perpetuation of Templar Masonry, but always subordinate to the Grand Encampment of the United States of America.
- (H) It shall annually pay to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, for each Knight Templar a member of its Commanderies at the Stated Conclave of the Grand Commandery preceding July 1st of each year, which fund, with the returns of the Grand Commandery, shall be forwarded to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment on or before the first day of July in each year.

Section 7. PERMANENT LIFE MEMBERSHIP

- (A) NAME. The name of this Plan shall be: "PERMANENT LIFE MEMBERSHIP PLAN OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA", hereinafter referred to as the "PLAN".
- (B) ELIGIBILITY. A Life Membership may be purchased by or on behalf of any member in good standing of a Constituent Commandery or for a deceased member of a Constituent Commandery, provided he was in good standing at the time of his death, subject to the rules of the Plan.
- (C) AMOUNT. The Life Membership fee shall be equal to twenty (20) times the amount of the annual Dues and Assessments (Grand Commandery & Grand Encampment) at the time of purchase for a living member, and dues paid for the current year. The Life Membership fee for a deceased member shall be equal to twenty (20) times the amount of the annual Dues and Grand Commandery

Assessment. In accordance with IRS Regulations, Commandery funds shall not be used to purchase PLM memberships for individual Sir Knights. Purchasers of a PLM membership must have a Life Membership in the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. (Amended 04/30/2016)

- (D) METHOD OF PAYMENT. The Life Membership fee from a participant shall be paid to the Recorder of the Commandery, who will make a record thereof and promptly forward the fee to the Grand Recorder. A Life Membership application will be accepted only during the period of 1 April through 31 December of each year. A completed application, in duplicate, on the prescribed form, and a photocopy of the current dues card must accompany the fee. (Amended 04/30/2016)
- (E) ADMINISTRATION OF THE PLAN. The Plan shall be administered by the Trustees of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the Commonwealth of Virginia, hereinafter referred to as the "TRUSTEES", as a separate Fund. The original amounts paid for Life Membership shall be forever kept and maintained as and for a PERMANENT LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND. Only the interest and dividends paid or realized gains on bank deposits or authorized investments shall be available for use.
- (F) INVESTMENT OF FEES. The acquisition, investment, re-investment, exchange, retention, sale and management of fees shall be approved by a majority of the Trustees, provided that such Committee shall exercise the judgment of care under the circumstances then prevailing which men of prudence and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not in regard to speculation, but in regard to the permanent disposition of their funds, considering the probable income as well as the probable safety of their capital, as more fully provided for in section 26-45.1 of the Code of Virginia (annotated 1950 as amended).
- (G) PAYMENTS BY COMMITTEE. During the month of January each year after the year in which a Life Membership was purchased, and after the funds shall have been deposited for a minimum of twelve months, the Trustees shall pay from the Plan Funds the following amounts for each Named Member in the Plan:
- (1) To the Recorder of each Constituent Commandery: the amount of the pro rata share of the net income of the PLM Fund based on the amount of the Dues of the Named Member when their membership was purchased. (pro rata share based on Dues = total annual dues paid to the Fund by the Named Member minus assessments divided by total Fund contributions minus total Grand Encampment assessments multiplied times net income) (Net income = total income minus Grand Encampment Assessment for all non-suspended or non-demitted living members of the PLM Program).
 - (2) To the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Virginia: the amount of the Grand Encampment per-capita assessment for

all non-suspended or non-demitted living members of the PLM Program. The Constituent Commanderies shall have no liability for Grand Encampment assessment for PLM members. To the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Virginia: the amount of the pro rata share of the net income of the PLM Fund based on the amount of the Grand Commandery Assessment of the Named Member when their membership was purchased. The Constituent Commanderies shall have no liability for Grand Commandery assessment for PLM members. (pro rata share based on Grand Commandery Assessment = total annual dues paid to the Fund by the Named Member minus Grand Encampment Assessment minus Constituent Commandery Dues divided by total Fund contributions minus total Grand Encampment assessments multiplied times net income) (Net income = total income minus Grand Encampment Assessment for all non-suspended or non-demitted living members of the PLM Program).

- (H) DUES INCREASES AND DECREASES. Future increases or decreases in the Named Member's Commandery Dues and Assessments shall have no effect upon the payments made or to be made by a Named Member or the Trustees.
- (I) DEATH OF NAMED MEMBER. Upon the death of a Named Member, the Trustees shall continue to make the payments aforesaid.
- (J) REFUNDS AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION. No refund shall be made from the Plan to any Named Member, to any Commandery, or to any other person for any reason whatsoever. No Named Member shall be exempt from any disciplinary action. In the event a Named Member is suspended or expelled, the Trustees shall continue to make payments as aforesaid as if said suspension or expulsion had not occurred. A Named Member who is Suspended and/or Expelled and subsequently restored to membership is also restored to all the rights and privileges pertaining to his Life Membership.
- (K) DUES CARDS. On or before January 1 of each year, the Recorder of a Named Member's Commandery shall issue a regular Dues Card to each Named Member in good standing. The Dues Card shall bear the inscription "LIFE MEMBER (LM) thereon.
- (L) DUAL MEMBERSHIP. A Sir Knight may purchase a Life Membership in any or all Commanderies within this Grand Jurisdiction in which he holds membership. A Life Membership in one (1) Commandery, however, shall not excuse the Sir Knight from Dues and Assessments in Commanderies in which he holds dual or plural membership.
- (M) TRANSFER. Life Membership shall accompany a Named Member who transfers his membership to any other Commandery within the

Commonwealth of Virginia. If a Commandery consolidates or surrenders its Charter, the funds credited to that Commandery in the Permanent Life Membership Fund shall follow the Named Member. Annual Dues of deceased Named Members whose Commandery subsequently surrenders its Charter, for whatever reason, and does not consolidate with another Commandery, shall remain in the Fund.

- (N) MEMBERSHIP IN A NON-VIRGINIA COMMANDERY. If a Named Member transfers his membership to a Commandery in another Grand Jurisdiction, no payments shall be paid by the Plan to such non-Virginia Commandery. The Plan will, however, continue to make such payments to his Virginia Commandery as provided in Paragraph (G) above.
- (O) TRUSTEES TO ACCOUNT. The Trustees shall hold, administer and cause the distribution of the assets of the Plan as one (1) Life Membership Fund, and further shall cause to be maintained adequate records of the payments for each Named member in the Plan. The Trustees shall cause the payment of reasonable costs for the administration of the Fund from the income thereof, and shall observe generally accepted accounting principles in the maintenance of the records of the Plan. At the Stated Conclave of the Grand Commandery the Trustees shall submit a written report of its recommendations for the continued proper administration of the Plan.
- (P) DISTRIBUTION OF EXCESS REVENUE. In the event the Trustees determine that the Plan has produced revenue in excess of amounts reasonably necessary to meet its projected obligations, the Trustees may recommend to the Grand Commandery that such amounts be distributed from the Fund to Commanderies which have Named Members therein and to the Grand Commandery in proportional amounts. Such distributions shall be based on the proportionate amounts paid into the Plan attributable to all Named Members, living or deceased, but any distribution shall only be made upon approval of the Grand Commandery at its Stated Conclave.
- (Q) TRUSTEES. The Plan shall be administered by a Board of Trustees consisting of three (3) members elected by the Grand Commandery, who shall be initially elected for one (1), two (2) and three (3) year terms, respectively. Thereafter, the Grand Commandery shall elect one (1) Trustee each year for a three (3) year term. The Trustee serving in the final year of his term shall be designated as Chairman. The Grand Commandery may replace any Trustee for good cause, with the term of appointment being the balance of the term of the member being replaced.
- (R) MODIFICATION OF RULES. These Rules may be modified or amended at any time by the Trustees, subject to ratification by the Grand Commandery and provided that no changes may affect any Permanent Life Membership in effect at the time of such change.

- (S) EFFECTIVE DATE. This legislation is effective at the close of the 1993 Stated Conclave of the Grand Commandery.

Section 8. GRAND OFFICERS: THEIR POWERS AND DUTIES

(A) GRAND COMMANDER

- (1) The Grand Commander shall attend and preside over all Conclaves of the Grand Commandery and have a watchful supervision over all the Commanderies under his jurisdiction, and see that the Constitution, Laws and Rituals of the Grand Encampment, and the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery are duly and properly observed.
- (2) He shall appoint all committees and all officers not elective, and fill all vacancies, such appointees to serve during his pleasure or until their successors have been elected and installed.
- (3) He shall have power and authority, during the recess of the Grand Commandery, to arrest the Charter or Dispensation of a Commandery, or to place a Commandery under probation under such conditions as he shall determine until the next Stated Conclave of the Grand Commandery, to grant letters of dispensation to nine or more petitioners residing within its jurisdiction, and possessing the constitutional qualifications, empowering them to form and open a Commandery. Such dispensation shall be in force no longer than the next Stated Conclave of the Grand Commandery.
- (4) He may at his discretion issue letters of dispensation for the formation of a new Commandery. He may consider, but is not bound by, recommendations made by nearby Commanderies. Any recommendation made by a Commandery shall be presented in writing at a Stated Conclave, the members notified by the Recorder and the request acted upon at the stated Conclave immediately following that at which presented.
- (5) He may in his discretion grant letters of dispensation for the holding of a Commandery only when the petitioners give satisfactory evidence of good standing, of suitable place of meeting, of possessing or having the ability to procure proper furniture and dress for the use of the Commandery, and of being competent to conduct intelligently the ceremonies, work and government thereof. Before any Charter or Dispensation is granted, each Knight Templar petitioning the same must have filed with the Grand Recorder a certificate of good standing in proper form under seal of the Commandery of which he is a member; if he is not a member of a Commandery he shall file his Demit with the Grand Recorder.

(6) Suspension of Grand or Constituent Commandery Officer

- (a) During any recess of the Grand Commandery he may suspend from the functions of his office any officer of the Grand Commandery or a Constituent Commandery, but in no case shall such suspension affect the standing in the Order of such Officer or his membership in the Commandery.
- (b) The Grand Commander shall report his action in full to the next Stated Conclave of the Grand Commandery for its final action.

(7) Visitation

- (a) He may visit and preside in any Commandery within the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery, and give such instructions and directions as the good of the order may require, always adhering to the Constitution, Laws and Rituals of the Grand Encampment, and the Constitution, Statutes and Regulations the Grand Commandery.
- (b) The Grand Commander may appoint a representative of the Grand Commandery of Virginia near each Grand Commandery within the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment, to act as such until the next Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment.
- (c) Any Sir Knight appointed as Grand Representative of a Sister Grand Commandery near the Grand Commandery of Virginia and who thereafter absents himself from the Stated Conclaves of the Grand Commandery of Virginia for three years shall there by forfeit his right to hold his commission of appointment as Grand Representative and the Grand Commander shall thereafter recommend a successor to the Grand Commandery which he represents.
- (d) The Grand Commander shall submit at least thirty days before the date of the Stated Conclave, to the Chairman of the Committee appointed by the Grand Commander, a copy of his report covering his decisions, recommendations, dispensations, and his other actions during the year. The Committee will render their opinion and recommendations as they may deem appropriate.

(8) Dispensations

The Grand Commander may issue dispensations for the purpose of changing the date, time, or location, as otherwise provided in the By-Laws of a Constituent Commandery, to accommodate holidays and special situations which he may deem appropriate upon the written request of the constituent Commandery, based upon an affirmative vote at a previous Stated Conclave,

processed through the District Deputy Grand commander, with his recommendation for approval or disapproval, and provided only that due and timely notice be provided the membership of the change.

(B) DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER

- (1) The Deputy Grand Commander, in the event of the absence of the Grand Commander or his inability to perform the duties of his office, shall act as Grand Commander.
- (2) In the event of the death, permanent removal from the Jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery, or permanent disability of the Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander shall succeed to the office and be regularly installed.
- (3) At all other times, he shall perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander.

(C) GRAND GENERALISSIMO AND GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL

- (1) In case of the temporary absence or disability of their respective superiors, the Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General shall perform the duties of such superiors.
- (2) In case of the advancement, death, permanent removal from the Jurisdiction, or permanent disability of their respective superiors, the Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General shall severally succeed to the office of such superiors and be installed therein.

(D) GRAND TREASURER

- (1) The Grand Treasurer shall perform such duties as prescribed by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment; he shall receive all monies, checks and drafts from the Grand Recorder, carefully accounting therefore, and deposit the same in an incorporated federally insured bank or trust company to the credit of the Grand Commandery.
- (2) He shall pay the orders passed by the Grand Commandery and attested by the Grand Commander and Grand Recorder; also those drawn by the Grand Commander and attested by the Grand Recorder for the payment of the annual dues to the Grand Encampment; also orders drawn by the Grand Commander to cover expenses incurred in the discharge of his official duties, such expense to be paid from the contingent fund.
- (3) He shall have the books and papers of his office at the Stated Conclaves of the Grand Commandery, and wherever and whenever required, present an

accurate written report of the state of the treasury and all receipts and disbursements, and the assets and liabilities of the Grand Commandery.

- (4) He shall, when requested by the chairman of the finance committee, present his books and vouchers to that committee for examination.
- (5) At the expiration of his term of office he shall deliver to his successor, upon the certificate of the Grand Commander that the latter is duly qualified to receive the same, all monies, accounts, papers, books and other property pertaining to said office, or otherwise belonging to the Grand Commandery, and being under his control.
- (6) For his services as Grand Treasurer, he shall receive such amount as shall be determined by the Grand Commandery and included in the annual budget.
- (7) The Grand Treasurer may appoint an assistant subject to the approval of the Grand Commander and without expense to the Grand Commandery.

(E) GRAND RECORDER

- (1) The Grand Recorder shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by the laws of the Grand Commandery or Grand Encampment.
- (2) He shall keep a true record of the proceedings of the Grand Commandery, of the returns of Commanderies, and of all transactions of his office; prepare a roll of the members of the Grand Commandery, which shall be used to determine and designate the votes therein.
- (3) He shall collect, receive and account for, specifying the date and source of payment, all checks, drafts, and monies due the Grand Commandery, and deliver or pay the same to the Grand Treasurer forthwith, taking his receipt therefore.
- (4) He shall, at least two (2) weeks prior to the Stated Conclave, report the returns of the Commanderies, showing their elected officers, increase and decrease in numbers, and the amount paid by or due from them, also such other matters as may conduce to the good of the Order. He shall furnish a tabulated statement of the matters of account in the foregoing, and submit his books, accounts vouchers and papers to the Committee on Finance for audit at least two (2) weeks prior to the Stated Conclave, when desired by said Committee, and shall have said books, papers and accounts present at the opening of each Stated Conclave.
- (5) He shall keep a register of each Commandery, showing the officers and past officers and members of each; also of the Orders conferred, restorations to Good Templar standing; admissions to membership, rejections, deaths,

resignations, suspensions and expulsions; and if returns are not received by him from any Commandery within ten days after the close of the Templar year, he shall report the fact to the Grand Commander.

- (6) He shall transmit to the Recorder of each Commandery under this jurisdiction, copies of the Annual Proceedings; the names of all Knights Templar expelled from Commanderies; the necessary blanks for records of the Grand Commandery and reply to inquiries respecting applicants for the Orders and membership as promptly as possible.
- (7) He shall immediately after the Stated Conclave transmit to a qualified publisher the manuscript or copy of the Proceedings and shall have produced copies of Proceedings mailed to those for whom they are intended as soon as possible after the adjournment of the Stated Conclave.
- (8) At the expiration of his term of office he shall deliver to his successor, upon the certificate of the Grand Commander that the latter is duly qualified to receive the same, all accounts, papers, books and other property pertaining to said office or otherwise belonging to the Grand Commandery and being in his hands or under his control.
- (9) He may appoint an assistant or assistants, subject to the approval of the Grand Commander and without expense to the Grand Commandery.
- (10) For his services the Grand Recorder shall receive such amounts as shall be determined by the Grand Commandery and included in the annual budget, payable monthly.
- (11) He shall have charge of the Seal of the Grand Commandery, and shall, under such seal, attest all papers requiring the same.

(F) THE REMAINING OFFICERS

The duties of the remaining officers shall be such as are traditionally appropriate to their respective stations, or assigned to them by the Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery, and conforming as near as may be to those of the corresponding officers of the Grand Encampment.

(G) SUCCESSION

In the event of the absence, death or disability of the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General, the Junior Past Grand Commander according to service if not incapacitated, and if incapacitated, the next ranking Past Grand Commander, shall assume the office and discharge the duties of the Grand Commander.

Section 9. VOW OF OFFICE

- (A) Each Officer of a Grand Commandery, before entering upon the exercise of the duties of his office, shall take the following vow, via:

I, (A. B.), do promise and vow that I will support and maintain the Constitution, Statutes, Rules Regulations and Rituals of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, and the Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Commandery, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office to which I have been chosen to the best of my ability, and until my successor has been chosen and installed.

- (B) It is not necessary for a re-elected Officer to be installed, as he holds over by virtue of his former election and installation until his successor is installed. An Officer of the Grand Commandery cannot be installed by proxy, but if not present at the regular installation he may be installed by taking the oath of office in any Commandery, or in cases of emergency by taking such oath before a Past Commander.

Section 10. TENURE OF OFFICE

- (A) The several Grand Officers shall hold their respective offices until their successors are duly elected or appointed and installed, provided they shall not become disqualified by reason of permanent removal of residence from the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery, or permanent physical disability.
- (B) Any Officer of the Grand Commandery who shall remove his residence from the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery for a period of sixty days or more shall be deemed to have disqualified himself as an office bearer. Any officer who shall suffer a permanent physical disability which prevents the discharge of the duties of the office to which he has been elected or appointed shall be deemed disabled for purposes of this section.
- (C) If such permanent removal or physical disability shall occur in the case of an officer below the rank of Grand Commander, the Grand Commander shall declare the office vacated. If the Grand Commander shall absent himself or become physically disabled, the Senior Past Grand Commander shall call for a vote of all Past Grand Commanders, either by mail or in person, as to whether the Grand Commander has, in fact, vacated his office.
- (D) Any vacancies caused by vacation of office by reason of removal or disability shall be filled as specified in the foregoing sections of the Constitutions and Statutes, except that the office of Grand Warder shall be filled pro tempore by the Grand Commander until the next Stated Conclave.

- (E) Nothing in the foregoing will preclude a Sir Knight who technically resides in a bordering State, but is in close proximity to the Virginia State line, and who maintains active participation in a Virginia Commandery, from holding a Grand Commandery office, either elective or appointive.

Section 11. ELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE

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

Section 12. PERMANENT FUND

There is established a Permanent Fund, consisting initially of the funds and securities held presently by the Trustees, and which may be added to from time to time as Grand Commandery may think fit; the purpose of this fund being to provide a source of annual income to supplement Per Capita taxes together with any other income available to the Grand Commandery, and to handle such emergencies as may arise. This fund shall include the General Fund, the Permanent Life Membership Fund, the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund, the Baldwin Brown Fund, the Museum Fund, and such other funds as the Trustees may deem necessary to establish. Each of these funds shall be established as separate accounts.

- (A) The officers of the Permanent Fund shall be the Grand Commander (ex officio), the Grand Treasurer (ex officio), and the three Trustees elected respectively for three years, two years and one year; the one year member acting as Chairman; thereafter, one trustee to be elected each year for three years.
- (B) Investments shall be made in the name of the Permanent Fund of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Virginia.
- (C) The Trustees shall make a written report to the Grand Commandery at each Stated Conclave in such detail as is necessary to explain their actions and to provide information required for accurate reporting to State and Federal agencies.
- (D) The Trustees shall be bonded with a Fidelity Company in an amount not less than that equal to the total amount of the securities and other assets held in their custody.
- (E) The Trustees shall cause no distributions to be made from the Permanent Fund other than payments to Commanderies for Permanent Life Memberships, annual payments from the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund to send Ministers to the Holy Land, annual income from the Baldwin Brown Fund to the General Fund, payments from the Museum Fund for maintenance and upgrades to the York Rite

Museum, or for purposes included in the Annual Budget, or, between Stated Conclaves as two (2) Trustees together with the Grand Commander may determine as necessary. No changes will be made in the investments without the authority of the Grand Commandery, or in the interim, with the concurrence of two (2) Trustees and the Grand Commander for good and sufficient reason as these officers may think fit. Such changes will be reported at the next Stated Conclave and submitted to a confirmation vote.

Section 13. STANDING COMMITTEES

The following Standing Committees consisting of at least three members each, shall be appointed at each Stated Conclave by the Grand Commander, viz.:

(A) JURISPRUDENCE

To which shall be referred all questions concerning interpretation of existing Constitutions and Statutes. It shall consider all decisions upon questions of Templar laws and usage reported by the Grand Commander, and its conclusions shall be reported to the Grand Commandery. The Committee, when called upon, shall give opinions on the legislative, judicial, and executive functions of the Grand Commandery. The Committee also may render opinions on the prerogatives, powers, and duties of the officers and members thereof.

(B) AWARDS

To which shall be referred copies of all Annual Reports on Constituent Commanderies from the District Deputy Grand Commanders by April 1 of each year, and all recommendations for any award, and who shall determine the winners of all awards by the Grand Commandery, and shall explain its selections, privately, to the Grand Commander prior to announcement at the Stated Conclave.

(C) CONSTITUTION AND STATUTES

Which shall review the Constitution and Statutes annually and recommend any necessary legislation, and to whom shall be referred only all resolutions properly submitted to the Grand Recorder by January 1 to change the Constitution and Statutes for the purpose of codification including other paragraphs which may be affected by the proposed change. Such resolutions shall be rewritten as may be necessary and returned to the Grand Recorder by 1 February for inclusion in the official call for Grand Commandery.

(D) FINANCE

(1) Which shall prepare a budget of the anticipated revenues and expenditures of

the Grand Commandery for the next ensuing Templar year; and immediately preceding each Stated Conclave shall examine the books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, report the actual condition of the finances of the Grand Commandery and present the budget at each Stated Conclave.

- (2) The Committee shall examine any securities or any Fund, Trust or otherwise, held by the Trustees or any committee, under the tax identification number of the Grand Commandery of Virginia and report the same to the Grand Commandery.
- (3) The expense of such audit, if any, shall be paid by the Grand Treasurer when approved by the Grand Commander.
- (4) The Grand Treasurer shall be an ex-officio member of the Finance Committee and may not serve as the Chair of the Finance Committee.

(E) CHARTERS

To which shall be referred all petitions for Charters; this Committee shall examine the work and records of Commanderies under Dispensation, also all proposed By-Laws and amendments to By-Laws, and report the action deemed proper in the premises.

(F) FRATERNAL RELATIONS

Which shall review the proceedings of other Grand Commanderies and make report in writing, which report shall be printed in the Proceedings of the Stated Conclave.

(G) MASONIC HOME

Which shall report in writing at each Stated Conclave as to the expenditure of funds contributed for the Home by the Grand Commandery or Constituent Commanderies.

(H) NECROLOGY, RELIGIOUS and PUBLIC OBSERVANCES

Which shall report at each Stated Conclave concerning Fraters who have died during the preceding Templar Year; also prepare in recess suitable memorials of deceased Fraters as the Grand Commander may direct, and advertise and assist in the promotion of all religious and public observances of the Constituent Commanderies.

(I) EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

- (1) Who shall have in charge the administration and practical operation of the Educational Trust Fund of the Grand Commandery and shall be charged with granting Scholarships and Educational Loans in accordance with the Regulations and Standard Practice for Knights Templar Educational Foundation of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A. The Committee shall keep the Grand Commander advised as to its work and make written report to the Grand Commandery at each Stated Conclave, which report when approved by the Grand Commandery shall be printed in the proceedings; reports made by this Committee to the Grand Encampment shall be transmitted to the next succeeding Stated Conclave of the Grand Commandery and printed in the proceedings.
- (2) Disbursement of funds shall be upon authority of the Committee which shall meet at such times and places as may be necessary for the transaction of business.
- (3) Upon approval of the Grand Commander, the Committee may name one of its members to serve as Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be the custodian of the funds and investments of the Committee in addition to his normal duties; or the Committee may name the Grand Recorder as Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be a non-voting member of the Committee and who shall be the custodian for the funds and investments on the committee. The Committee may name such other officers and employees as needed, not members of the Committee, for the successful administration of the funds.
- (4) The Secretary-Treasurer shall receive such compensation as may be determined by the committee.
- (5) The Custodian of the funds shall be bonded with a Fidelity Company in an amount not less than the maximum amount in his custody, the cost of the bond and all other expense incident to the operation of the Foundation to be paid from the Educational Fund.
- (6) The books and accounts of the Secretary-Treasurer shall be audited annually by the Finance Committee and the report presented to the Grand Commandery.

(J) WORK

- (1) To which shall be referred all questions relating to Ritual and Tactics. It shall be composed of no less than three (3) members, together with the Grand Instructor General, and a Deputy if appointed. Each of the three members shall be responsible for one of the Orders and shall have memorized and be capable of teaching each and every part of the Order for which he is responsible.

(2) This Committee will be responsible for keeping the Manual of Tactics up to date.

(K) EYE FOUNDATION

Which shall make report at each Stated Conclave as to number of cases processed during the year; any bequests to the foundation and number of Eye Sponsor Certificates purchased by Virginia Fraters.

(L) ARCHIVES and HISTORY

Which shall make report at each Stated Conclave of any matters pertaining to the History and additions to the Archives of Grand Commandery.

(M) LEADERSHIP and EDUCATION

Which shall conduct workshops in the various sections of the Commonwealth for the purpose of providing leadership training at the Constituent Commandery level, and education on the general subject of Chivalric Masonry. Members may be compensated for expenses if funds are available.

(N) HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

Which shall advertise the program, distribute nomination forms, collect donations, furnish a statement of account to the Finance Committee and at the Stated Conclave, receive nominations from Constituent Commanderies, select recipients subject to the approval of the Grand Commander, conduct all correspondence with selectees, and take such other action as may be necessary to insure the proper functioning of the program.

(O) KNIGHT TEMPLAR CROSS of HONOR

Which shall receive all nominations for this award, advertise it properly to the Constituent Commanderies, maintain records of nominees, and propose one or more selectee(s) annually to the Grand Commander who shall make final determination of the recipients.

(P) ARRANGEMENTS for the STATED CONCLAVE

Pursuant to Section 5 (B) which shall receive from the Deputy Grand Commander in January of each year his proposed meeting place for the Stated Conclave for his year, and shall insure that the facilities are adequate to the express or implied desires of the Grand Commandery, and shall propose annually the location for the succeeding Stated Conclave.

(Q) BALDWIN – BROWN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

- (1) The Committee shall consist of a Chairman, appointed by the Grand Commander, Subordinate Commandery Chairmen; and Grand Recorder, and Grand Treasurer, both of whom are ex officio.
- (2) The Chairman of the Fellowship shall be bonded by being named to the Fidelity Company bond of the Grand Commandery in an amount not less than the maximum amount in his custody.
- (3) The Chairman shall have in charge of administration and practical operation of the Baldwin – Brown Fellowship Program and shall be charged with the collection of donations, maintaining records of such, and forwarding them to the Grand Treasurer.
- (4) Only expenses approved by the Grand Commander shall be disbursed from the fund. Distributions from the Baldwin Brown Fund to the Grand Commandery General Fund shall be in accordance with Section 12(E) of the Constitution and Statutes.
- (5) The maintenance of the Baldwin – Brown recognition pins and additions there to are the responsibility of the Chairman.
- (6) The Chairman will assist the Grand Commander as requested in a presentation ceremony presenting the recognition pins to the donors.

Section 14. INTERNET USAGE

The Committee on Internet shall have the authority to set policies related to information on the Internet pertaining to the Grand Commandery of Virginia or any Constituent Commandery, however, the Committee shall ensure compliance with the policies and procedures established by the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M., Commonwealth of Virginia.

Section 15. MAJORITY TO GOVERN

At every Stated Conclave, each member of the Grand Commandery present in person or by proxy shall be entitled to one vote, except that the presiding officer shall vote only in case of a tie, when he shall decide the issue. Unless otherwise provided by Grand Encampment Law, all questions shall be decided by a majority vote of those present, and this shall apply to all Constituent Commanderies. All questions and/or changes to the Constitutions and Statutes of the Grand Commandery of Virginia or the finances of the same shall be decided by secret ballot, by those only eligible to vote. All other questions and/or changes may be decided by voice vote of the majority present, at the discretion of the Grand Commander, or presiding officer.

Section 16. APPEAL

- (A) No appeal shall lie to the Grand Commandery from any decision of the Grand Commander, except during a Stated Conclave, or on questions arising as to the construction or effect of the Constitution, Laws or Rituals of the Grand Encampment, or of the Constitution or Laws of the Grand Commandery.
- (B) An appeal may be taken to the Grand Encampment from any decision or action of the Grand Commander, or of the Grand Commandery, on questions arising as to the Constitution, Laws or Rituals of the Grand Encampment.

Section 17. REVENUE -- HOW DERIVED

The revenue of the Grand Commandery shall be derived from the following sources:

- (A) For every dispensation or charter for a new Commandery, to be paid before the same is issued and no charge to be paid for charter when preceded by dispensation: one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
- (B) For every Sir Knight elected by a Commandery in this jurisdiction and receiving all the Orders of Knighthood: one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
- (C) The per capita dues for every member of all Constituent Commanderies holding allegiance to the Grand Commandery Knights Templar in the Commonwealth of Virginia shall be as follows:

Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) except for those members having previously purchased Life Membership in perpetuity and the same having been deposited for a period of twelve months, beginning March 01, 2011.

The per capita dues stated above, effective in the respective years for the Grand Commandery of Virginia does not include any per capita levies by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

- (D) All the earnings on the current funds held for use of the York Rite Knight Templar Museum shall be directed annually to the operating budget of the Grand Commandery and the operating budget shall have annually an expense item of at least \$300.00 for the expenses of the Museum.
- (E) The interest upon deposits and investments of the operating accounts and investments of the Grand Commandery.
- (F) The fees and dues, or either, of a Constituent Commandery may be reduced or waived for any Templar year by the Grand Commandery in Stated Conclave.

Section 18. THE TEMPLAR YEAR

The Templar year as relating to the Grand Commandery shall begin on the first day of April of each year. The Templar year, so far as Constituent Commanderies are concerned, shall terminate at the close of the first Stated Conclave in March of each year.

Section 19. PROXIES

The Commander, the Generalissimo and Captain General of Commanderies under the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery may be represented there by proxy, such proxy being at the time of service a member of the same Commandery as his principal, and producing a properly authenticated certificate of his appointment by the Commandery.

Section 20. SEAL, FORMS and PUBLICATIONS

- (A) The Seal of the Grand Commandery shall be affixed to all Charters and Dispensations, Certificates given by the Grand Recorder, and on such other papers as Templar law requires or the Grand Commandery or Grand Commander directs.
- (B) The forms are as printed and must be used for the purposes intended.
- (C) The Grand Recorder will furnish forms on request from the Commander or Recorder of Constituent Commanderies.

Section 21. DIGEST

The Grand Commander shall establish and promulgate a Digest, which may consist of one or more volumes, and shall include the following:

- Part I Constitution and Statutes
- Part II Manual of Tactics

and such other parts of a generally timeless nature as the Grand Commander may, from time to time, deem appropriate.

Section 22. GRAND COMMANDERY DISTRICTS

(A) The Constituent Commanderies in this Grand Jurisdiction are hereby divided into permanent districts, the number of which shall be set by the Grand Commandery based upon the division of the Constituent Commanderies, and are as follows:

DISTRICT No. 1

Richmond, No. 2 Richmond
Appomattox, No. 6 Petersburg
Penn-Neck, No. 33 Urbana

DISTRICT No. 2

Portsmouth, No. 5 Portsmouth
Grice, No. 16 Norfolk
Hampton, No. 17 Poquoson
Malta, No. 24 Chincoteague Island

DISTRICT No. 3

Old Dominion, No.11 Alexandria
Piedmont, No. 26 Ashburn
Arlington, No. 29 Arlington

DISTRICT No. 4

Harrisonburg, No. 10 Harrisonburg
Winchester, No. 12 Winchester
Luray, No. 19 Luray

DISTRICT No. 5

Stevenson, No. 8 Waynesboro
Alleghany, No. 23 Clifton Forge
Moomaw, No. 27 Lexington

DISTRICT No. 6

DeMolay, No. 4 Altavista
Bayard, No. 15 Roanoke

DISTRICT No. 7

Clinch Valley, No. 20 Tazewell
Graham, No. 22 Bluefield
New River Valley, No. 32 Christiansburg

DISTRICT No. 8

Lynn No 9 Marion
Johnson, No. 14 Abingdon
Cyrene, No. 21 Norton

DISTRICT No. 9

Fredericksburg, No. 1 Fredericksburg
Charlottesville, No. 3 Charlottesville
Fairfax, No. 25 Culpeper

(B) Should a Charter be granted for a new Commandery, the Grand Commandery shall assign the Commandery permanently to the District most convenient to its location.

Section 23. DISTRICT OFFICERS and OTHER APPOINTED GRAND OFFICERS

(A) DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDERS

- (1) At or immediately after the adjournment of a Stated Conclave of the Grand Commandery, it shall be the duty of the Grand Commander to appoint a District Deputy Grand Commander for each of the Districts, such appointees to be Past Commanders and as far as practicable residents of the respective Districts for which appointed.
- (2) Under the direction of the Grand Commander, it shall be the duty of the District Deputy Grand Commander to keep in touch with the Commanderies in their respective districts, assist, advise and cooperate with the Commanders and perform such other duties as may be assigned them by the Grand Commander.
 - (a) Each District Deputy Grand Commander shall be furnished with a Warrant of his appointment, appropriately signed and with the Seal of the Grand Commandery affixed.
 - (b) The District Deputy Grand Commander shall make an official visit to each Commandery within his District as soon as possible after his appointment, but no later than 90 days after the Stated Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Virginia, unless he receives a dispensation from the Grand Commander. (Amended 04/30/2016)
 - (c) The District Deputy Grand Commander shall notify the Commandery a reasonable time beforehand, so that notice may be given to the Sir Knights.

- (d) At every official visit of the District Deputy Grand Commander to a Commandery, he shall preside in the Commandery after it is opened and he is introduced.
- (e) Expenses incurred by the District Deputy Grand Commander, in the discharge of his duties, shall when approved by the Grand Commander, be paid by the Grand Treasurer.
- (f) The District Deputy Grand Commander at the time of his appointment shall receive from the Grand Commander a letter outlining the specific instructions and duties to be followed in the performance of his respective station.

(B) GRAND AND DISTRICT INSTRUCTORS

- (1) The Grand Instructor General shall serve as the personal representative of the Grand Commander in matters pertaining to tactics and ritual, shall make recommendations to the Grand Commander as to the appointments of the several District Instructors, and coordinates the work and activities of the several District Instructors.
- (2) At or immediately after the adjournment of a Stated Conclave of the Grand Commandery, it shall be the duty of the Grand Commander to appoint a District Instructor for each of the Districts. Such appointments to be Past Commanders and as far as practicable, residents of the respective Districts for which appointed.
- (3) Under the direction of the Grand Instructor General it shall be the duty of the District Instructors to keep in touch with the Commanderies in their respective Districts, assist, advise, and perform such other duties as may be assigned to them by the Grand Instructor General.
- (4) The expense incurred by the District Instructors in the discharge of their duties shall, when approved by the Grand Commander, be paid by the Grand Treasurer.
- (5) Area Schools may be established by the Grand Commander under the recommendation of the Grand Instructor General for instruction in the work and may continue from year to year.
 - (a) The officers of the school shall be elected from the members of the Commanderies for which the School covers. The elected officers shall include, but not limited to a president, treasurer and recorder.
 - (b) The treasurer must submit a full and complete accounting of all income

and expenditures for the calendar year ending December 31 to the Grand Commander by February 1 of the following year for his approval.

- (c) The school shall be under the supervision of the Grand Instructor General who may delegate such supervision, provided the supervisor submits a full and complete report to the Grand Instructor General and the Grand Commander within 30 days of any meeting.

Section 24. CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES

(A) HOW FORMED

- (1) Before a Commandery can be formed or opened, at least nine Sir Knights residing in the proposed Territorial Jurisdiction must sign a petition which may be presented to the Grand Commander in recess or to the Grand Commandery at a Stated Conclave.
- (2) A Dispensation may be issued by the Grand Commander, or a Dispensation or Charter by the Grand Commandery. All Templar communication is interdicted between any Commandery or member thereof in this Grand Jurisdiction, and any other Commandery or member thereof without such Dispensation or Charter.

(B) CONSOLIDATION OF COMMANDERIES

- (1) Two or more Commanderies having concurrent Jurisdiction or stationed in adjoining Jurisdictions may be consolidated into one Commandery provided that the proposition for such consolidation shall be presented at a Stated Conclave of each Commandery, which proposition shall be acted upon at a subsequent Stated Conclave.
- (2) Notice thereof shall be mailed to all members at least ten days prior to such Conclave.
- (3) Such consolidation cannot be effected if nine or more members of either Commandery vote against the proposition. Two or more Commanderies having thus decided to consolidate may unite under the Charter of one of said Commanderies, retaining the Officers thereof, or may elect new Officers by a proper Dispensation.
- (4) The Charter or Charters surrendered must be deposited with the Grand Recorder.
- (5) The title to all property and effects of the consolidated Commanderies shall

upon consolidation vest in the new Commandery, and the new Commandery shall be liable for all indebtedness of the several Commanderies consolidated. All members of the Commanderies consolidating shall immediately upon consolidation, become members of the new Commandery without application or ballot.

(C) CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES

(1) OFFICERS: A Commandery consists of the following:

- The Commander
- The Generalissimo
- The Captain General
- The Senior Warden
- The Junior Warden
- The Prelate
- The Treasurer
- The Recorder
- The Standard Bearer
- The Sword Bearer
- The Warder
- The Sentinel and
- Three Guards

and such Knights Templar as may be members thereof.

(2) QUORUM

A quorum consists of nine members of the Commandery entitled to vote, including an Officer qualified to preside.

(3) HOW ELECTED

The Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, Treasurer, Recorder, Senior Warden and Junior Warden shall be elected by ballot at the first Stated Conclave in March of each year, and the remaining officers shall be appointed by the Commander after his installation; officers shall be installed as soon as practicable after their election, and not later than the next Stated Conclave.

(4) ELIGIBILITY (Amended 04/30/2016)

Requirements for office are set by Grand Encampment. It is not within the authority of a Grand, Constituent or Subordinate Commandery to modify them. The relevant Grand Encampment Law on Eligibility for Office and Requirements for Installation include:

Section 45. No Knight Templar shall be eligible to any office in a Grand Commandery, except that of Grand Prelate, unless he shall be at the time a member thereof. 1928

Section 62 (c). Each and every officer of any Constituent or Subordinate Commandery shall be required to possess a dress uniform prior to his installation, and retain possession during his incumbency in office.

Section 139. Any member in good standing is eligible to election to any office in the Commandery.

Vaught Decision 8 - Additional Requirements for Templar Office, March 15, 2016

The requirements of eligibility for office in Grand Commanderies and in Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies are provided in Grand Encampment law. Grand, Constituent or Subordinate Commanderies have no authority to add or remove eligibility requirements. They may however operate according to a custom or goal in officer selection so long as such practice does not deprive a member of a right or office.

(5) NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF CONSTITUENT COMMANDERY OFFICERS

Nominations may be made for all elective officers and, if more than one Sir Knight is nominated for an office, the election shall be by written ballot and a majority of all votes cast is necessary to an election; if only one name is placed in nomination for any office, the election shall be by acclamation. A Commandery may, in its By-Laws, specify the election of the Standard Bearer, Sword Bearer and Warder.

(6) USE OF HOLY BIBLE

"The Holy Bible" shall be displayed at all Templar Conclaves, including the Grand Commandery and Constituent Commanderies. This shall be under the direction of the Prelate. The Holy Bible shall be displayed on a stand, pedestal, or small altar in front of the Prelate's station on the floor of the Asylum, to the right and in front of the Generalissimo. It shall be placed with the top to the East, opened to the Gospel of St. Matthew Chapter XXVIII, with a small wooden passion cross displayed on the right and the Square and Compasses displayed on the left thereon. Two crossed swords may also be displayed thereon.

(7) DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER RECOMMENDATION

Each Constituent Commandery will, no later than December 1 of each year,

recommend to the Deputy Grand Commander a Past Commander to serve as District Deputy Grand Commander during the ensuing Chivalric year. The recommendation will be by letter and will include the name of the nominee, the year he served as Commander, and of which Commandery, and such other information as may be of use in determining the selection.

(D) CONSTITUENT OFFICER VACANCIES

- (1) In case of the temporary absence, disability, removal, or mental or physical incapacity of the Commander, the Generalissimo shall act as Commander.
- (2) In case of like disability of both Commander and Generalissimo, the Captain General shall act.
- (3) In case of the death, permanent removal from the Jurisdiction, or permanent mental or physical disability of the Commander, the Generalissimo or his advancement as above noted, the Captain General shall succeed to the office and be installed.
- (4) In case of the like disability of the Captain General or his advance as above, the office shall be vacant and the Grand Commander shall issue a Dispensation for an election to fill the vacancy, and any others that may occur in consequence of such election.
- (5) In case of like disability of all three Constituent officers, a Dispensation may be issued for a special election to fill the vacancies and any others that may result there from, pending which the ranking Past Commander able to serve shall act as Commander.
- (6) The Grand Commander may vary this procedure for reasons he may deem sufficient, and may issue a Dispensation to fill any vacancy.

(E) TENURE OF OFFICE

The several officers of a Commandery shall hold and discharge the duties of their respective offices until their successors are duly installed.

(F) THE COMMANDER

(1) TITLE

The honorary title of the Commander of a Commandery is "Eminent," and the official title is "Commander."

(2) DUTIES

The Commander has special charge to see the By-Laws and Regulations of the Commandery are duly observed, as well as the Constitution, Laws, Ritual and Rules of the Grand Encampment, and the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery; that accurate records are kept, including the membership database in the York Rite Information System (YRIS) or successor membership database, and just accounts rendered, and that regular returns are made to the Grand Commandery annually, and that the dues are promptly paid.

(3) ATTENDANCE

It is his duty, together with the Generalissimo and the Captain General, to attend all Conclaves of the Grand Commandery.

(4) TRANSFER OF DOCUMENTS TO SUCCESSOR

Before the Installing Officer administers the Vow of Office in a constituent Commandery, the Commander shall see that the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery, and the Rituals are in the possession of the Commander-elect or properly accounted for.

(G) THE TREASURER

The Treasurer shall perform such duties as are prescribed by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Commandery, and the By-Laws of the Commandery.

(H) THE RECORDER

- (1) The Recorder shall issue notices of Stated and Special Conclaves; and in the notices for Special Conclaves he shall, under the direction of the Commander, state the particular business to be transacted.
- (2) He shall also issue summonses and notices when directed by the Commander or Commandery.
- (3) He shall keep correct minutes or records of all the transactions of the Commandery.
- (4) He shall collect and receive all dues, assessments and revenues of the Commandery, and shall promptly pay the same over to the Treasurer.

- (5) He shall have charge of the seal of the Commandery, and shall affix it to all papers requiring the same.
- (6) He shall submit his books to examination whenever required to do so by the Commandery or by the Grand Commandery.
- (7) He shall report annually to the Grand Recorder on or before the first day of April the roll of officers and members of the Commandery and accompany the same with the amount of dues and fees due to the Grand Commandery, as provided in Section 17 of this Constitution.
- (8) He shall maintain the York Rite Information System (YRIS) database or successor membership database of the roll of Sir Knights in his Commandery and ensure that by December 31 of each year the database accurately reflects the roll at that date. If he is unable to maintain the database, he shall appoint an assistant Recorder whose primary function shall be the accurate maintenance of the York Rite Information System (YRIS) database or successor membership database.

(I) TREASURER AND SECRETARY BOND

The Treasurer and Recorder shall give bond for faithful performance of their duties in such amount as shall be fixed by the Grand Commandery.

(J) CONCLAVES

(1) MINIMUM NUMBER TO BE HELD

The Stated Conclaves of a Commandery shall be held at least Quarterly at such place as may be specified in the Dispensation or Charter or otherwise provided by Law, and at such time as is stated in the By-Laws, provided that a Constituent Commandery shall not hold a Stated Conclave during any Stated Conclave of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Virginia.

(2) SPECIAL CONCLAVES

- (a) Special Conclaves may be called by the Commander or set by action of the Commandery for conferring of Orders or for other business.
- (b) The notice or summons for all Special Conclaves shall specify the business to be transacted, and none other shall be considered at such Conclave. Notices shall be provided to all members at least ten (10) days in advance.

(3) RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE

- (a) Each Commandery should annually assemble on or about Christmas, Good Friday, Easter and Ascension Day in its asylum or some place of public worship and observe the day in proper manner.
- (b) Every Commandery is required to assemble annually in some church or its Asylum and have delivered an address by its Prelate or some other person. This assembly may be held on any of the days mentioned in the preceding section.

(4) DISPLAY OF FLAGS

Commanderies shall display a silk regulation Flag of the United States in their respective Asylums to be placed on the dais at the extreme right.

(5) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF CONCLAVE(S)

The minutes of a Conclave must be read and approved before the Commandery closes, and shall be promptly entered in a book of permanent record, and signed by the Commander and Recorder.

(K) RETURNS

(1) ANNUAL RETURNS

Every Commandery shall, on or before the first day of April in each year, transmit to the Grand Recorder, on blanks furnished by him, its annual returns, accompanied by check or draft to the order of the Grand Commandery for fees and dues to the Grand Commandery.

(2) OMISSION OF RETURNS

Any Commandery which shall omit to make its annual returns and payments before or at the convening of the Grand Commandery in Stated Conclave shall be deprived of its representation therein.

(3) SUSPENSION OF COMMANDERY

Any Commandery neglecting or refusing to make its annual returns for two years in succession shall be suspended until the delinquent dues are paid or remitted by the Grand Commandery. No member of such Commandery shall be admitted into any other Commandery, nor be entitled to the benefits of Templar Masonry until the suspended Commandery shall have paid to the Grand Recorder all the arrears or indebtedness of such Commandery or until

he shall have received of a certificate of good standing issued by the Grand Recorder.

(L) DISBANDMENT OR DISSOLUTION OF A COMMANDERY

- (1) A Commandery that fails to hold a Conclave within twelve consecutive months, or to knight a single candidate within such period, shall be placed on probation for the period of one year, and if thereafter it fails to hold a Conclave for the next twelve consecutive months or to knight a single candidate within such period, its Charter may be arrested.
- (2) When a Commandery is disbanded or dissolved for neglecting to make returns, or to pay its dues, or for unknighly conduct, or by reason of the death or resignation, or both of its members, it shall be the duty of the last Commander, Treasurer and Recorder, within three months after its dissolution, to surrender to the Grand Recorder, the Warrant, or Charter, books, papers, jewels, furniture and funds of the Commandery, together with an inventory thereof. No member of such Commandery shall be admitted into any other Commandery, nor be entitled to the benefits of Templar Masonry until the Commandery shall have paid to the Grand Recorder all the arrears or indebtedness of such Commandery, or the members have been issued a certificate of good standing by the Grand Recorder.

(M) NAME AND SEAL OF A COMMANDERY

(1) NAME

A Commandery not distinguished by a name or title, being desirous of taking one, or a Commandery desiring to change its name must submit for the approval of the Grand Commandery the name it desires to assume, provided no Commandery shall be named after any living person.

(2) SEAL

Each Commandery shall have a seal showing its name, number and location, an impression of which shall be deposited with the Grand Recorder.

(N) APPEALS

(1) APPEAL OF COMMANDER'S DECISION

No appeal shall be made to the Commandery from a decision of the Commander.

(2) APPEAL OF LAW

When a decision involves the Constitution or effect of the Constitution, Statutes or Rituals of the Grand Encampment, or the Laws of the Grand Commandery, or By-Laws of the Commandery, an appeal may be taken, and if so, it shall be taken thru the District Deputy Grand Commander to the Grand Commandery by a Constituent Commandery or any member thereof, but pending the decision of the appeal, such ruling of the Commander shall be in full force and effect.

Section 25. PETITIONS AND BALLOTING ON APPLICANTS

(A) WHEN READ AND BALLOTTED UPON

Petitions for the Orders of Knighthood and/or Membership may be received and balloted on at the Stated Conclave or Special Conclave at which such petition or petitions are read to the Commandery without Dispensation from the Grand Commander.

(B) PETITIONER QUALIFICATIONS

A petitioner for the Order must be physically able to conform to the Ritual, and must have resided within the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery for at least one year and within the jurisdiction of the Constituent Commandery for at least six months prior to the date the petition is presented to the Commandery. A member of the active Armed Forces of the United States who has resided for at least six months within the jurisdiction of a Commandery may petition such Commandery. Every petition for the Orders must be upon the form required by the Grand Encampment, shall be signed by the Petitioner and endorsed by two members of the Commandery who shall vouch for the good character and Masonic standing of the Petitioner and recommend favorable action.

(C) FORM OF PETITION

Every petition for the Orders shall show the Lodge and Chapter in which the petitioner received the Degrees, and also the Lodge and Chapter of which he is then a member or the Chapter which he has petitioned, provided, no Order shall be conferred until he has received the Royal Arch Degree, and shall give his full name, date of birth, residence and occupation, and shall state whether he has or has not been previously rejected by any Commandery.

(D) PETITIONER DECLARATIONS

The petitioner shall declare that he is a firm believer in the Christian religion, that he has read the petition and that he has personally signed the same.

(E) DISPOSITION OF PETITION

- (1) A petition, whether for the orders or for membership, shall be referred to a committee of three (3) members of the Commandery only when requested by a member in good standing in the Commandery acting upon the Petition. If a Committee is empowered to investigate the petitioner, it shall consist of members who shall know and personally interview the petitioner. The fact of the report being made and not its character shall be entered on the minutes of the Commandery.
- (2) A Petition may be withdrawn by the Petitioner at any time before the ballot.
- (3) An unfavorable report from the Committee does not dispense with the necessity for a ballot.
- (4) Every member of the Commandery present when a ballot on a petition for the Orders or Membership is taken is required to vote unless excused by the Commander or Commandery before the balloting has commenced.
- (5) The ballot upon a Petition for the Orders or for Membership must be secret and unanimous in favor of the Petitioner in order to elect him.
- (6) The reason for casting a black ball cannot be disclosed or inquired into.
- (7) The Commander may order a collective ballot taken on all Petitions for the Orders or for Membership which are presented for action at a given Stated Conclave. Should the ballot thus taken prove unfavorable, he will immediately ballot on each petition individually. Should any ballot prove unfavorable, the Commander may then order one re-ballot before the result of the ballot has been announced and before any member present has left the Asylum.
- (8) A rejected Petitioner for the Orders, if still residing within the Jurisdiction of the Commandery petitioned, may again petition after the expiration of six months, but shall not petition any other Commandery until the expiration of three years after such rejection unless the consent of the Commandery by which he was rejected is given by unanimous secret ballot.

(F) OBJECTION BY MEMBER

- (1) A member of a Commandery in good standing, may object to the conferral of the orders by cast of ballot, or if not present at time of ballot, by notice to the Commander prior to the ballot and cannot be required to disclose his reason therefore. If a member in good standing objects to the conferring of the Order of the Red Cross upon a previously elected candidate, he must privately disclose his reason to the Commander for failure to appear at the time of

ballot or giving prior notice to the Commander, and it shall be the Commander's decision as to the validity of the objection for cause other than petty pique or quarrel.

- (2) The objection shall be made to the Commander in private and is equivalent to rejection by ballot, and the Orders shall not be conferred if made prior to the ballot, or rendered valid by the Commander.
- (3) The fact that objection has been made, and not the name of the objector, shall be entered in the minutes, but such objection may be withdrawn before it has been so entered.

(G) FAILURE OF CANDIDATE TO APPEAR

- (1) Failure of a candidate to present himself for the Orders within twelve months after receiving notice of his election voids the election, and the disposition of any fees paid or deposits made shall be as may be determined by the Commandery.
- (2) A Companion of the Order of the Red Cross who fails to appear to receive the remaining Orders within one year after having received the Order of the Red Cross shall not be entitled to receive such remaining Orders unless by a favorable, secret and unanimous ballot of the Commandery at a Stated Conclave.

(H) CONFERRAL OF ORDERS PROHIBITED

No Orders shall be conferred on Sunday.

Section 26. THE ORDERS OF CHRISTIAN KNIGHTHOOD

(A) PETITIONER'S MASONIC QUALIFICATIONS

The Orders of Christian Knighthood shall be conferred only upon one who has received the Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason, Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason, and who is a member in good standing in a regular Craft Lodge and a Royal Arch Chapter.

(B) ORDER OF DEGREE CONFERRAL

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

(C) MINIMUM FEE FOR ORDERS

No Commandery shall confer the Orders for less than one hundred twenty five dollars (\$125.00).

(D) PAYMENT OF FEES

All fees must be paid to the Commandery before the Order of the Red Cross is conferred; the fees may not be remitted directly or indirectly. Notes in payment for fees for the Orders are prohibited.

(E) DRESS FOR CONFERRAL OF ORDERS

- (1) Each Commandery shall maintain a unit, or units equipped with full Templar Uniforms as prescribed in the Bill of Dress of the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Virginia, to be worn at the conferring of the Order of the Temple.
- (2) In lieu of the Templar Dress Uniform, a Constituent Commandery may provide and use ceremonial robes conforming to and consistent with the historical traditions and practices of Templary. These ceremonial robes are to be used only in the Asylum for the conferring of the Order of the Temple.

(F) STATUS OF PETITIONER

- (1) Until the three Orders of Knighthood have been conferred upon an applicant, he is not possessed of the necessary qualifications for membership and is therefore not subject to the payment of dues, but after the Order of the Red Cross is conferred he is subject to discipline by the Commandery if guilty of unlawful conduct.
- (2) Those to whom a Charter is issued and those who receive the Order in a Commandery are ipso facto Members thereof, except where the Orders have been conferred for and at the request of another Commandery in which event the Sir Knight when created becomes a member of the Commandery making the request.

(G) CONFERRAL OF ORDERS BY ANOTHER COMMANDERY

A Commandery may confer the Orders, or any of them upon a Candidate elected by another Commandery, at the request of such other Commandery.

(H) CONFERRAL OF ORDERS AT TEMPLAR FESTIVAL

(1) MONETARY ASSISTANCE OF GRAND COMMANDERY

In order to hold more and better Templar "Festivals" the Grand Commandery should provide monetary assistance to Constituent Commanderies to help defray the expenses involved, and the sum to be paid by the Grand Commandery should be based on the number of Sir Knights created at such Templar festivals.

(2) COMPUTATION OF FEE

Every such Templar Festival supported by the Grand Commandery financially shall be participated in by two or more Commanderies, and the sum to be paid to the host Commandery shall be based on the number of Sir Knights created thereat, as follows:

Classes of 10 to 14 \$ 25.00

Classes of 15 to 24 \$ 50.00

Classes of 25 or more \$100.00

(3) After each Templar festival, the Grand Instructor General shall certify the number of Sir Knights created thereat, and his certification shall be forwarded to the Grand Commander. When approved by him, the Grand Treasurer shall be by it authorized to make payment to the host Commandery in accordance with the foregoing schedule, which payment shall constitute the total financial participation of the Grand Commandery in such Templar Festival.

Section 27. DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

(A) RIGHT TO LEVY AND COLLECT DUES

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

(B) APPLICATION AND EXEMPTION

The amount of dues per annum shall be stated in the By-Laws and shall apply to every member of the Commandery except those specifically exempted by the By-Laws and/or Constitutions and Statutes of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Virginia.

(C) RIGHT TO LEVY AND COLLECT ASSESSMENTS

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

(D) PRESENTATION AND NOTIFICATION OF ASSESSMENT

A proposal for the levy of an assessment must be presented at a Stated Conclave, read in open Commandery by the Recorder and lie over until the next Stated Conclave; the Recorder shall notify all members of the Commandery that the proposal will be considered, such notice to be given ten days in advance of the date of the Stated Conclave at which the proposal is to be considered.

Section 28. BY-LAWS

(A) PRESENTATION AND NOTIFICATION OF AMENDMENT

By-Laws and amendments thereto of Constituent Commanderies must be presented at a Stated Conclave, read, and laid over until the next Stated Conclave, and the members notified of the proposed action; at the second reading the By-Laws or amendments may be adopted as presented, amended and adopted, or rejected, by a majority vote of the members present. Recorders of Constituent Commanderies shall transmit, within thirty (30) days after their adoption through the District Deputy Grand Commander, to the Grand Commander and the Grand Recorder, copies of all By-Laws and/or amendments thereto adopted by the Commandery.

(B) APPROVAL BY GRAND COMMANDERY

By-Laws of Constituent Commanderies must be approved by the Grand Commandery provided, however, that the Grand Commander may approve By-Laws or amendments thereof adopted during recess of the Grand Commandery, which action shall be subject to review at the next succeeding Stated Conclave of the Grand Commandery.

Section 29. MEMBERSHIP

(A) ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP

A Knight Templar may be admitted to membership in any Commandery without regard to his place of residence and subject to his election to such membership. No Sir Knight can be a dais officer (Commander, Generalissimo, or Captain General) in more than one Commandery at the same time.

(B) AFFILIATION

- (1) A Knight Templar desiring to affiliate with a Commandery shall file a petition for membership on forms provided by the Grand Recorder. If he is presently unaffiliated he shall file with the petition a Demit from the Commandery in which he last held membership. If he desires to hold dual membership, he shall file with his petition a certificate of good standing issued over the seal of every Commandery of which he is then a member.
- (2) Any Constituent Commandery holden under the Grand Commandery of Virginia may, in its By-Laws, provide for the acceptance of dual members of other Virginia Commanderies or of Commanderies holden under sister Grand Commanderies, provided such other Grand Commanderies permit dual membership.

(C) REQUIRED MEMBERSHIP

Membership in a Lodge and Chapter is essential to obtain or retain membership in a Commandery.

(D) LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

(1) DEPRIVATION

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

(2) SUSPENSION FROM LODGE OR CHAPTER

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

(3) RESTORATION AFTER SUSPENSION

When a Knight Templar has been suspended or expelled from his Commandery solely because of his suspension or expulsion from his Lodge or Chapter, restoration in such Lodge or Chapter shall entitle him to restoration in his Commandery on his written application therefore and a majority favorable vote by secret ballot at a Stated Conclave. When a Knight Templar has been suspended from his Commandery solely because of nonpayment of dues to the Commandery, he may be restored to membership on his written application therefore and a majority favorable vote in a secret ballot at a Stated Conclave; provided that the full amount of dues owed at the

time of his suspension is paid, or remitted by the Commandery, prior to the ballot upon his restoration to membership.

(E) SUSPENSION FOR ARREARMENT

Every member in arrears to a Commandery for one year's dues shall be notified by the Recorder to attend at the next Stated Conclave of the Commandery to show cause why he should not be suspended for non-payment of dues; if he does not attend or respond to the notice and the amount charged against him equal to one year's dues or more, remain unpaid, the Commandery may by a majority vote declare him suspended. Provided, however, that if the Frater does not reside in the Jurisdiction of the Commandery, the notice shall be mailed to his last known address, by registered or certified mail, and if return receipt for the notice is not received, no action as to his suspension shall be taken by the Commandery until three months after the date on which the notice is mailed him.

(F) HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

(1) ELIGIBILITY

A Commandery by unanimous ballot, after due reference to a committee and ballot had at a subsequent Stated Conclave, may elect as an Honorary Member a member of another Commandery, but such election does not confer the right to vote, nor does it create any liability for dues. (Amended 04/30/2016)

(2) PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION

The resolution shall be presented at a Stated Conclave, referred to a Committee and at a subsequent Stated Conclave a secret ballot shall be taken; a unanimous favorable vote shall be necessary to elect.

(3) RIGHTS OF HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Such election does not confer, on the member of another Commandery, the right to vote or create any liability for dues or assessments on the member so elected. Such elected Honorary Member cannot hold office in a Commandery in which he is elected Honorary membership. (Amended 04/30/2016)

(G) EXEMPLARY KNIGHT

(1) ELIGIBILITY

A Commandery may elect as an Exemplary Knight any member of that Commandery provided he shall have an aggregate membership in the Knights Templar of no less than 25 years or a Past Commander, during the

last five years of which he shall have been a member of the Commandery electing him an Exemplary Knight.

(2) PAYMENT OF DUES

An Exemplary Knight will not be liable to any dues or assessments but the Commandery of which he is a member will pay his annual dues to the Grand Commandery.

(3) RIGHTS

He is eligible to vote and to hold office in the Commandery.

(4) HOW BALLOTTED UPON

The ballot for an Exemplary Knight must be taken as for ordinary membership, a unanimous favorable ballot being necessary to elect.

(5) MAXIMUM NUMBER OF EXEMPLARY KNIGHTS

No Commandery may have more than five Exemplary Knights on its roll at any one time.

(H) FIFTY YEAR MEMBERSHIP

Every member of a Commandery holden under the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Virginia who shall have an aggregate of fifty years' membership in good standing therein, or membership in a Commandery holden under another Grand Commandery under the jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States of America, or in fraternal relations with the Grand Encampment, shall be eligible to receive the Fifty Year Emblem, provided that the last year of his membership shall have been in a Virginia Commandery. The said Fifty Year Emblem shall be furnished to the Commandery and the recipient without cost, upon receipt of a proper certificate of the Sir Knight's membership qualifications submitted over the signature of the Recorder of the Constituent Commandery and which shall carry the seal of the Commandery. The nomination form will be supplied by the Grand Recorder, and only certificates on this form shall be honored. The nomination is to be recorded in the minutes as a part of the permanent records of the Commandery.

(I) DEMITS

(1) FORM AND PURPOSE

A Demit is a certificate signed by the Commander and Recorder, with the Seal of Commandery attached, stating that the Frater has been a member of

the Commandery and that he has voluntarily withdrawn his membership, and that at the time of his withdrawal he was in good standing.

(2) REQUEST AND ENTITLEMENT

A member of a Commandery, upon his written request presented in open Commandery at a Stated Conclave, is entitled to a Demit without a vote of the Commandery provided he is not indebted to the Commandery and no charges are pending against him.

(3) TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

The granting of the Demit terminates the membership of the Frater immediately.

(J) CONDUCT AND VIOLATION

Conduct unbecoming a Knight Templar, or the violation of these Statutes, or the By-Laws of the Commandery, shall subject the offender to trial and punishment as provided in the Statutes of the Grand Encampment.

Section 30. STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

(A) AMENDMENT

So much of these Statutes and regulations as are not dependent on the Statutes of the Grand Encampment may be altered or amended at any Stated Conclave of this Grand Commandery in the following manner: The proposed amendment shall be reduced to writing and referred to the Committee on Templar Constitutions and Statutes, which shall refer it to the Committee on Templar Jurisprudence, which committee shall make report to the Grand Commandery, when the proposed amendment may be modified, accepted or rejected by the Grand Commandery by a majority vote of the members present. (Reference - Section 13)

(B) REPEAL

All Laws heretofore enacted, adopted or approved, which are at variance with the provisions of this code or any section thereof, are hereby repealed.

Section 31. KNIGHT TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION

(A) ASSESSMENT BY GRAND ENCAMPMENT

The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America has

levied an assessment upon the several Grand Commanderies of the U.S., equal to one dollar (\$1.00) per capita for each of the Sir Knights on the roster of the Constituent Commanderies thereof, the purpose thereof being to create and maintain the Grand Encampment Eye Foundation Fund.

(B) ASSESSMENT BY GRAND COMMANDERY

The Grand Commandery has by annual resolution required the constituent Commanderies holden under it to collect and remit the assessment from the individual Sir Knights who are members thereof. An annual assessment equal to one dollar (\$1.00) per member is hereby levied upon each Constituent Commandery of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Virginia, as the said membership may appear on the first day of March 1957, and on the first day of March in each succeeding year thereafter. The aforesaid assessment to be collected by the Constituent Commanderies from its members and remitted with the Annual Returns of each Commandery to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Virginia.

(C) PAYMENT TO GRAND ENCAMPMENT

The proceeds of the aforesaid assessment shall be paid to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment of Knight Templar of the United States of America, as provided in the rules governing the Knights Templar Eye Foundation as they now exist or may hereafter be legally modified by the Grand Encampment.

(D) LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN KNIGHT TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION

Upon the payment of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) in a lump sum to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., the Knight Templar making such payment will be issued, by the Foundation, a certificate as a Life Member of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., and thereafter, the Knight Templar shall be exempt from paying the annual assessment of One Dollar to his respective Commandery.

Section 32. THE TEMPLAR UNIFORM FOR VIRGINIA

(A) REQUIREMENT FOR UNIFORM

- (1) All members of Constituent Commanderies are entitled to wear the uniform of a Knight Templar, but the purchase of such uniform shall be optional unless a constituent Commandery shall, in its by-laws, require each member to be provided with a uniform.
- (2) The Grand or Constituent Commanderies, in publishing orders for Conclaves, may specify the type of uniform to be worn.

(B) DRESS UNIFORM SPECIFICATIONS

The Templar Dress Uniform of all Virginia Templars shall be as follows:

(1) COAT

The Navy Officer's Blue Service Coat, from dark blue suitable material. It shall be a double-breasted sack coat with peaked lapels, seam back, no vent, semi fitting conventional length; three outside pockets, one on each hip and one on left breast to be made with welts and no flaps; sword slit with zipper behind welt or left hip pocket; three 35-line black Templar buttons down each forepart; all buttons on the right forepart to button.

(2) SHOULDER STRAPS

When authorized, as prescribed in Sections 243 and 244, Grand Encampment Statutes, as amended. They are worn centered front and rear 5/8-inch from the shoulder seam.

(3) SHOULDER PATCH

That a shoulder patch, in the form of a shield with the State Bird -- Cardinal, in red. The size shall be 2 inches by 2-3/4 inches long with the upper edge in line with the shoulder seam. Color, green background, with VIRGINIA in red letters 5/16 inches high at the top, in the center an outline of the State of Virginia in white and three white dogwood blossoms at the bottom. The Virginia patch shall be worn on the left coat sleeve centered one (1) inch below the shoulder seam.

(4) BUTTONS

Uniforms for Officers of the Grand Commandery and Past Grand Commanders may have gilt buttons in lieu of black buttons.

(5) LAPEL CROSSES

As prescribed in Section 241(c), (d) and (e), Grand Encampment Statutes. They are worn centered on the lapels of the service coat parallel to the inside edge of the lapel with the top edge of the Cross 5/8 inch below the notch of the lapel.

(6) TROUSERS

Navy uniform trousers of same material and color as the coat, of standard military cut, without ornamentation.

(7) CHAPEAUX

- (a) GRAND and PAST GRAND OFFICERS – Chapeau to be the regulation silk-plush body, bound with black silk-velvet, satin lined. On inside a cork ventilator, with brown turned-leather sweatband with perforated holes for ventilation. Trimmed with four (4) slashings of two vellum gold wire lace one and one-quarter (1-1/4) inches wide, a half-round gold bullion front tassel. A rosette on left side, oval shaped, with double borders of black satin ribbon. The outer border forming triangular points, the inner border finely quilled pattern. In center of rosette an oval filled with black silk-velvet, edged with gilt jaceron, upon which shall appear the Templar Cross as hereinafter provided. Two (2) black ostrich side plumes, surmounted by a white ostrich top plume. The top plume not to extend to exceed three and one-half (3-1/2) inches beyond the rear peak. On front of Chapeaux a black silk velvet bow, forming the plume socket. Chapeaux to be provided with a transparent stormproof cover.
- (b) COMMANDERS and PAST COMMANDERS – Chapeaux to be same as for Grand Officers, but to have passion Cross and rays, as hereinafter provided, and to have a flat pattern, twisted gold bullion front tassel.
- (c) SIR KNIGHTS BELOW RANK of COMMANDER – Chapeaux to be the regulation silk-plush body, bound with silk-velvet, satin lined. On inside a cork ventilator, with a brown turned-leather sweat band, with perforated holes for ventilation. Trimmed with a rosette on the left side, oval-shaped, with double borders of black satin ribbon. The outer border forming triangular points, the inner border finely quilled pattern. In center of rosette an oval, filled with black silk-velvet edged with silver jaceron (or fine silver cord), upon which shall appear the Passion Cross, as hereinafter provided. Two (2) black ostrich side plumes, surmounted by a white ostrich top plume, which shall not extend to exceed three and one-half (3-1/2) inches beyond the rear peak. On front of Chapeaux a black silk-velvet bow. Chapeaux to be provided with a transparent stormproof cover.

(8) SWORDS AND SCABBARDS

- (a) GRAND and PAST GRAND OFFICERS -- The length of the sword to be regulated by the height of the wearer, to be determined by its position at "parade rest." The scabbard is to be of metal throughout and to be gold-plated and properly burnished. All mountings shall be of appropriate Templar designs. The scabbard shall be provided with three rings. The hilt, or guard, shall be equipped with guard chain. The hilt shall be of genuine ivory, with the owner's monogram in black on the front of the grip and the Templar Cross on the reverse of the grip, which shall be in red for Grand Officers and purple for Past Grand Commanders. The owner's

name may appear on the upper part of the scabbard if desired. No other etching shall be placed upon the scabbard except in the case of a presentation sword for distinguished Sir Knights. The blade shall be of imported Solingen steel, unornamented except for the owner's name which shall be etched thereon.

- (b) COMMANDERS and PAST COMMANDERS -- These officers shall wear the same sword specified for Grand and Past Grand Officers except that on the reverse of the grip the Passion Cross with refulgent rays shall appear instead of the Templar Cross.
- (c) SIR KNIGHTS -- The sword worn by all Sir Knights below the rank of Commander shall be of the proper length as hereinbefore specified. The scabbard shall be of polished steel throughout and nickel-plated with appropriate Templar mountings of hard metal. No soft metal mountings are permissible. It shall be equipped with three (3) rings. All mountings shall be silver-plated and properly burnished. Wherever enamel appears, it shall be hard enamel. The hilt, or guard, shall be equipped with guard chain. The grip shall be black, known as the ebony grip. On the front side shall be a silver-plated Passion Cross without rays. No other ornamentation shall appear. The blade shall be of imported Solingen steel, unornamented except for the name of the owner etched thereon. No etching shall appear on the scabbard.
- (d) All Sir Knights of every rank shall be equipped with a sword as an integral part of the full dress uniform of a Knight Templar.

(9) SWORD SLING

To be used in lieu of Belt, attached to trousers belt or other belt worn under the coat with black strap passing through the opening provided on the left side of coat. Sling straps are snapped to top rings on the scabbard.

(10) SHIRT

Plain white with turn-down collar.

(11) NECKTIE

Black four-in-hand, without ornamentation.

(12) GLOVES

Buff-colored, of lisle thread or chamoisette.

(13) HOSE

Black, without ornamentation.

(14) SHOES

Black leather.

(C) FATIGUE UNIFORM

- (1) The Dress Uniform, less chapeau, sword, sling and gloves, plus the Navy Officer's Combination Cap with black visor, underlined with green, rigid standing front, flaring circular rim. It shall have a black cap band of ribbed mohair or rayon with insigne holder. The chin strap, 1/2 inch wide, faced with gold lace, is to be secured at each side of the cap by a 22-1/2 line gold Templar button. The cap may be worn with detachable blue or white cap cover.
- (2) The metal Templar Cross in royal purple for Past Grand Commanders, and in bright red for Grand Commandery Officers, the metal Passion Cross in bright red, bordered by gold for Commanders and Past Commanders, and by silver for all other Officers and Members, shall be worn on the insigne holder.
- (3) Caps shall be provided with transparent plastic storm covers.
- (4) Grand Officers and Past Grand Commanders may wear the Navy Officer's cap described above with the visor decorated as that of a Navy Officer in the grade of Captain.

(D) SUMMER UNIFORM

In effort to achieve uniformity throughout the Grand Encampment, the Summer Uniform is approved. Each Grand Commandery may at their discretion adopt the Summer Uniform herein described making use of the optional sections as they may choose. Further, this Summer Uniform may only be used for the period beginning with Memorial Day, and continuing through Labor Day. A Commandery will either make use of this Summer Uniform, the Cap and Mantle or the Regulation Uniform when appearing in public, but may not appear attired as a group using a combination (no mixing of uniforms).

- (1) PANTS. Plain black trousers as prescribed for dress uniform.
- (2) SHIRT. White shirt, short sleeve, of military style with shoulder epaulets and two flap pockets, one on each breast.
- (3) TIE. Black tie optional at the discretion of the Senior Officer present.

- (4) SWORD BELT & SWORD: As prescribed. No slings are to be used.
- (5) NAME BADGE. The name badge shall be of metal, gold color, $\frac{1}{2}$ - inch wide by $2\frac{1}{2}$ - inch long, with the full name of the wearer in black letters to be worn centered above the wearer's right pocket.
- (6) MALTA JEWEL. A Malta Pin of current design, available from the Grand Encampment Office, shall be worn centered over the wearer's left pocket. (Option instead of pin: A metal ribbon bar, representing Commandery jewels, to be worn centered over the wearer's left pocket. The metal bar shall contain three black panels, each surrounded with a silver line, each panel to $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch high by one-inch wide. On the left panel shall be centered a miniature Red Cross Jewel, on the center panel shall be centered a miniature Malta jewel, and on the right panel, shall be a Templar Cross with a Cross and Crown in the center.)
- (7) SHOULDER INSIGNIA
- (a) Grand Commandery Officers: A Red Templar Cross surrounded by a gold line, one-inch square, to be worn in the center of each epaulet.
- (b) Past Grand Commanders: The same except the color shall be purple.
- (c) Past Commanders, Commanders, Generalissimos and Captain Generals: A metal bar, $\frac{3}{4}$ - inch by $1\frac{1}{2}$ - inch of green or red color surrounded by a gold or silver line, as appropriate to the office, with appropriate emblems of their rank as currently prescribed, to be worn centered on each epaulet. Essentially, these are miniatures of currently prescribed shoulder straps in metal, and of similar configuration.
- (8) COLLAR INSIGNIA (OPTIONAL)
- (a) Grand or Past Grand Commandery Officers: A $\frac{1}{2}$ - inch gold cut out letters with the abbreviation of the State as prescribed for the U.S. Postal Service (no periods), to be worn on the wearer's left collar and a $\frac{1}{2}$ - inch cut out gold Commandery Number on the right side.
- (b) Commanders and past Commanders: The same as for Grand or Past Grand Commandery Officers.
- (c) Sir Knights below the rank of Commander: The same as for Commanders and Past Commanders except the color shall be silver.
- (d) These insignia are to be worn centered on the collar and parallel with the top edge and set back $\frac{3}{4}$ - inch from the leading edge of the collar.

(9) CAP

- (a) For Past Grand Commanders: Military style Naval Garrison Cap with white top, black band and black visor with one row of gold oak leaves and acorns, metal purple Templar Cross, 2 ¼ - inch square, fixed to the front of the black band and a gold chin strap attached with gold 22 ½ line Templar buttons.
- (b) Grand Commander: Same as above except with red Templar Cross.
- (c) Grand Commandery Officers: Same as Grand Commander except with plain black visor.
- (d) Commanders and Past Commanders: Same as Grand Commandery Officers except with 1 3/8 - inch by 2 inch red metal Passion Cross trimmed in gold with rays.
- (e) Sir Knights below the rank of Commander: Military style Naval Garrison Cap with white top, black band and plain black visor with 1 3/8 – inch by 2 inch red metal Passion Cross trimmed in silver and a silver chin strap attached with silver 22½ line Templar buttons.

(E) CAPE

- (1) May be worn with either Dress or Fatigue Uniform. The cape shall be made of black beaver or cape cloth, extending to the bend of the knee, lined with colored silk. To have fly front closed with four 30 line block grosgrain covered buttons. Collar to have a one-inch stand and a 3-1/2 inch to four-inch fall. To be made of black velvet, closed with two hooks and eyes. To have at lower corner a one-inch Templar Cross of metal or gilt bullion. On the left breast there shall be a four-inch velvet Templar Cross, placed four inches from the front, and the top arm of the cross on a line with the armpit. There shall be a black agraffe to extend across the front from shoulder to shoulder point.
- (2) The lining, crosses on collar and cross on breast to be purple for Past Grand Commander; red for all active Officers of the Grand Commandery.
- (3) For Commanders and Past Commanders - The same as for Grand Officers except the Passion Cross instead of Templar Cross. The lining to be red.
- (4) For Sir Knights - Same as for Commanders and Past Commanders except the Passion Crosses to be in Silver color metal or bullion without rays and the lining to be white.

(F) CAP and MANTLE UNIFORM

In lieu of the regulation Templar uniform, a Constituent Commandery may, if their Grand Commandery approves, adopt the use of the Cap and Mantle as their official uniform. These can be worn for all Templar occasions, provided that when appearing in public, the entire Commandery MUST be dressed in like manner - either in Uniform or all in Cap and Mantle. The Cap and Mantle is prescribed as follows:

- (1) **TEMPLAR MANTLE:** In general, the mantle shall be of the style worn by medieval Templars and by members of the Sovereign Great Priories. It shall consist of white material, with hood, reaching to approximately twelve inches from the floor and ornamented as follows:
 - (a) For members of the Order below the rank of Commander: The mantle shall be of white; the hood to be lined with silky white material; the Passion Cross in bright red, nine inches in height, on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with white cords with white tassels.
 - (b) For Commanders and Past Commanders: The mantle shall have a single red ribbon one inch wide, stitched one-half inch from the outer edge; the hood to be lined with a similar red material; the Passion Cross in red with gold rays, nine inches in height, on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with red cords with red tassels.
 - (c) For Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers entitled to permanent rank: The mantle shall have the ribbon of a Past Commander and an additional red ribbon one-half inch wide, stitched one-half inch from said ribbon; the Templar Cross in red, nine inches in height, on the breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with cords and tassels.
 - (d) For the Grand Commander: The mantle shall have a single red ribbon, two inches wide, stitched one inch from the outer edge; the hood lined in red with a similar material; the Templar Cross in red, nine inches in height on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely and the neck with red cords and red tassels.
 - (e) For Past Grand Commanders: The mantle shall have a single purple ribbon 1 ½ inches wide, stitched ¾ - inch from the outer edge; the hood lined in purple with similar material; and the Templar Cross in purple material on the left breast, nine inches in height; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with purple cords and red tassels.
- (2) **TEMPLAR CAP:** The Templar cap shall follow the design and specifications of the style worn by the Sovereign Great Priories, three inches in depth and very slightly flared at the top.

- (a) For all members of the Order below the rank of Past Grand Commander: The cap shall be of bright velvet (or silk) and the cross displayed on front of the cap shall be appropriate to rank - red Passion Cross for members below the rank of Commander; red Passion Cross with rays for Commanders and Past Commanders; and red Templar Cross for all Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers entitled to permanent rank.
- (b) For Past Grand Commanders: The cap shall be of purple velvet (or silk) with purple Templar Cross.
- (c) For all Ranks: The Cross shall be two inches high.
- (3) COMMANDERY BADGE: The distinctive badge of a constituent Commandery shall be worn on the right breast of the mantle. The badge will be no less than five inches or more than eight inches high. The badge of the Commandery shall be superimposed upon the Malta Cross, or the Malta Cross shall be incorporated within the Commandery badge. The design shall be approved by the Grand Commandery Committee on Jewels and Uniforms. No other ornamentation or Templar jewels or recognition shall be worn on the mantle.
- (4) SWORD AND SCABBARD: The sword and scabbard shall conform to the regulations of the Grand Encampment.
- (5) SWORD SLING: The sword shall be suspended, when required to be worn, on a sling to be worn over the right shoulder, of black leather 1 ½ - inches wide, of tailored or adjustable length according to the height of the Sir Knight, to terminate in two straps with snaps to fasten to the two upper rings of the scabbard.

(G) THE VIRGINIA MALTA JEWEL OR CROSS

- (1) The Malta Cross shall be suspended from a bar on black gross- grain ribbon. The bar shall be one and one-half (1-1/2) inches long by five-sixteenth (5/16) inch wide, of baked black enamel, with the word VIRGINIA in five thirty-seconds (5/32) inch letters of gold thereon and the bar shall have a border of gold one sixteenth (1/16) inch around it. The number of the Commandery to be in gold numerals one half (1/2) inch high affixed with shanks to the center of the ribbon.
- (2) The Malta Jewel shall be worn on both the full dress and fatigue coats.

(H) JEWELS

Only Templar Jewels are to be worn on the Templar uniform. Meritorious Jewels, Badges of Commanderies, Baldric Insignia of the Order, Malta and Red

Cross Jewels may be worn on the left breast, placed in the order named, from and on a line with the heart.

(I) REGULATION PRELATES ROBES

As prescribed in Sections 253-254 in Grand Encampment Statutes.

(J) REGULATION CROSSES

- (1) All lapel crosses shall be made of metal, whether gold or silver.
- (2) Past Grand Commander's Chapeau Cross shall be the Templar Cross, approximately two and one-half (2-1/2) inches square in dull and bright gold bullion with royal purple silk-velvet center. The fatigue cap of a Past Grand Commander shall be ornamented with a Templar Cross of metal, approximately two inches (2") square with a royal purple enamel center.
- (3) All lapel crosses on coats for Officers and Sir Knights shall be approximately 1" square and correspond with the crosses specified for the fatigue caps.
- (4) Clause of Intent - Nothing in the Amended "Bill of Dress" adopted by the Grand Commandery shall be construed to prohibit the use of any Templar uniform prescribed by the Grand Commandery prior to May 14, 1977.

(K) DISTINCTIONS

- (1) All Grand and Past Grand Officers, Commanders and Past Commanders shall wear gold wherever metal appears in the foregoing specifications.
- (2) All Sir Knights below the rank of Commander shall wear silver or white metal wherever metal appears in the foregoing specifications.

INDEX

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Section</u>
Absence Officers Constituent Commandery, who presides	24 (D)
Affiliation in Lodge and Chapter essential to membership in Commandery	29 (C)
American flag to be displayed	24 (J)
Amendment, statutes how presented	30
Annual returns, Constituent Commandery	24 (K)
Annual returns if not made not entitled to representation	24 (K)
Annual returns if neglected for two years Commandery suspended	24 (K)
Appeal, when may be taken for decision of Grand Commander	16
Appeal, cannot be taken to Commandery from decision of Commander	24 (N)
Appeal, from decision of Commander, how taken	24 (N)
Armed Forces Men may petition Constituent Commanderies	25 (B)
Ascension Day may be observed	24 (J)
Assessments, by Constituent Commanderies	27
Ballot, Committee on petition must report before	25 (E)
Ballot on petition must be secret	25 (E)
Ballot on petition must be unanimous to elect	25 (E)
By- Laws, Constituent Commanderies, how adopted	28
By-Laws, Approved by Grand Commandery or Grand Commander in recess	28
Captain General, when acts as Commander	24 (D)
Charter Constituent Commandery	6
Charter, cost of	17 (A)
Christmas observance	24 (J)
Commandery, Grand, see Grand Commandery	1 – 6
Commander, Grand, see Grand Commander	8 (A)
Commander, Constituent Commandery	24 (F)
Commander, Constituent Commander, custody of Rituals	24 (F)
Commander, Constituent Commandery, duty to attend Grand Commandery	24 (F)
Commander, in absence of, who presides	24 (D)
Commander, responsible for Rituals	24 (F)
Commander, responsible for accuracy of database and records	24 (F)
Commander, order summons issued	24 (H)
Commander, sign minutes of Conclaves	24 (J)
Commander, when appeal may be taken from decision of	24 (N)
Commanders, District Deputy, District Committees, Grand Commandery	23
Committee, Jurisprudence	13 (A)
Committee, Awards	13 (B)
Committee, Constitution and Statutes	13 (C)

Committee, Finance	13 (D)
Committee, Charters	13 (E)
Committee, Fraternal Relations	13 (F)
Committee, Masonic Home	13 (G)
Committee, Necrology, Religious and Public Observances	13 (H)
Committee, Education Foundation	13 (I)
Committee, Work	13 (J)
Committee, Eye Foundation	13 (K)
Committee, Archives and History	13 (L)
Committee, Leadership and Education	13 (M)
Committee, Holy Land Pilgrimage	13 (N)
Committee, Knight Templar Cross of Honor	13 (O)
Committee, Arrangements for the Stated Conclave	13 (P)
Committee, Baldwin-Brown Fellowship Program	13 (Q)
Committee, must report on all petitions before ballot	24 (E)
Conclaves, Grand Commandery	5
Conclaves, Constituent Commandery Conclaves, minutes must be approved	24 (J)
Conduct, improper, subjects offender to trial	29 (J)
Consolidation, Commanderies	24 (B)
Constituent Commanderies, assigned to Districts	22
Constituent Commanderies, By-Laws approved by Grand Commandery	28 (B)
Constituent Commanderies, cannot collect dues until all Orders conferred	26 (F)
Constituent Commanderies, consolidation of	24 (B)
Constituent Commanderies, Disbanded or Dissolution, disposition of property	24 (L)
Constituent Commanderies, dues and fees to Grand Commandery	27
Constituent Commanderies, elections to fill vacancies	24 (D)
Constituent Commanderies, formation of	24 (A)
Constituent Commanderies, how assessment determined	27
Constituent Commanders, may confer orders on candidate of another Commandery	26 (G)
Constituent Commanderies, may levy dues and assessments	27
Constituent Commanderies, may specify uniforms of Conclaves	32 (A) (2)
Constituent Commanderies, may suspend members for nonpayment of dues	29 (E)
Constituent Commanderies, may try members for improper conduct	29 (J)
Constituent Commanderies, member of may object to conferring Order of Red Cross	25 (F)
Constituent Commanderies, Minutes of Conclave must be read and approved	24 (J)
Constituent Commanderies, must assemble annually for Address	24 (J)
Constituent Commanderies, name selected	24 (M)
Constituent Commanderies, not entitled to representation unless returns made	24 (K)

Constituent Commanderies, officers	24 (C) (1)
Constituent Commanderies, officers, eligibility and qualification of	24 (C) (4)
Constituent Commanderies, officers, how elected or Appointed	24 (C) (3)
Constituent Commanderies, officers retain offices until successors installed	24 (E)
Constituent Commanderies, Officers' titles	24 (C)
Constituent Commanderies, payment for Dispensation and Charter	17 (A)
Constituent Commanderies, proxies for first three Officers	19
Constituent Commanderies, quorum consists of nine	24 (C) (2)
Constituent Commanderies, Recommendation of District Deputy Grand Commander	24 (C) (7)
Constituent Commanderies, Seal	24 (M)
Constituent Commanderies, shall display United States flag	24 (J) (4)
Constituent Commanderies, shall suspend or expel if suspended or expelled in Lodge or Chapter	29 (D)
Constituent Commanderies, shall transmit Annual Returns	24 (K)
Constituent Commanderies, should observe Christmas Day, Ascension Day; etc.	24 (J)
Constituent Commanderies, suspended if no returns for two Years	24 (K)
Constituent Commanderies, Templar year	18
Demit	29 (I)
Deputy Grand Commander, when acts as Grand Commander	8 (B) (1)
Dispensation for new Commandery	6
Dispensation for new Commandery, who may sign	8 (A) (4)
Dispensation for new Commandery, cost of	17 (A)
Districts, Commanderies assigned to	22
Dues, members of suspended Commanderies	24 (L)
Dues, Commandery may collect	27 (A)
Dues, suspension for non-payment of	29 (D)
Duties of Deputy Grand Commander	8 (B)
Election of Officers, Grand Commandery	3
Election of Officers, Constituent Commanderies	24 (C)
Election, majority shall determine	24 (C)
Fees and dues payable by Commanderies	17 (C)
Fees for Orders	26
Forms supplied by Grand Recorder must be used	20
Generalissimo, when acts as Commander	24 (D)
Grand Commandery, Jurisdiction of	1
Grand Commandery, composed of	2 (A)
Grand Commandery, honorary members	2 (E)
Grand Commandery, officers, Installation of	3 (A)

Grand Commandery, officers titles	4
Grand Commandery, officers should attend Conclaves	5 (E)
Grand Commandery, officers take vow before installation	9 (A)
Grand Commandery, officers cannot be installed by proxy	9 (B)
Grand Commandery, officers re-elected may omit installation	9 (B)
Grand Commandery, officers hold office until successor installed	9 (B), 10
Grand Commandery office, who is eligible to	3, 11
Grand Commandery Conclave, stated and special	5
Grand Commandery Conclaves, convened	5
Grand Commandery, powers and duties	6
Grand Commandery, returns and payment to Grand Encampment	6 (H)
Grand Commandery Committees	13
Grand Commandery, majority vote decides all Questions	15
Grand Commandery, when appeal may be taken from	16
Grand Commandery revenue, how derived	17
Grand Commandery may rebate Commandery dues	17 (F)
Grand Commandery Templar year	18
Grand Commandery Seal, when affixed	20 (A)
Grand Commandery may specify uniform for Conclaves	32 (A)
Grand Commandery Statutes, how amended	6
Grand Commander, Title	4
Grand Commander, shall preside over all Conclaves of Grand Commandery	8 (A) (1)
Grand Commander, appoints committees	8 (A) (2)
Grand Commander, appoints officers to fill vacancies	8 (A)
Grand Commander, may grant dispensation for new Commandery	6, 8 (A) (5)
Grand Commander, may suspend officers of Grand Commandery	8 (A) (6)
Grand Commander, may preside in any Commandery	8 (A) (7)
Grand Recorder, shall attest papers	8 (E)
Grand Recorder, shall have record of Commandery Seals	8 (E) (11)
Grand Recorder, shall supply forms to Commanderies	20
Grand Treasurer, accounts examined	8 (D) (4)
Grand Treasurer, salary of	8 (D) (6)
Grand Treasurer, shall deliver money, books and property to successor	8 (D) (5)
Grand Treasurer, shall deposit funds in bank	8 (D)
Grand Treasurer, shall have books at Stated Conclaves	8 (D) (3)
Grand Treasurer, shall make written report of receipts and disbursements	8 (D) (3)
Grand Treasurer, shall pay dues to Grand Encampment	8 (D) (2)
Grand Treasurer, shall pay expense of Grand Commander	8 (D) (2)
Grand Treasurer, shall receive all monies from Grand Recorder	8 (D)
Grand Treasurer, shall submit books and vouchers to Finance Committee	8 (D) (4)
Honorary Member, Constituent Commandery	29 (F)
Honorary Member, Grand Commandery	2 (E)

Installation Officers, Constituent Commandery	24 (C)
Installation Officers, Grand Commandery	3 (A)
Jurisdiction, Grand Commandery	1
Jurisdiction, Commanderies, fixed by Grand Commandery	1, 6, 25 (B)
Jurisdiction, over Armed Forces Men	25 (B)
Masonic Home, Committee Grand Commandery	13 (G)
Members, Grand Commandery	2
Members, Grand Commandery, Honorary	2 (E)
Member, Constituent Commandery, may object to conferring Red Cross	25 (F)
Member, Honorary, Constituent Commandery	29 (F)
Member, Constituent Commandery, status when nonaffiliated, Lodge or Chapter	29 (D) (1)
Members, Constituent Commandery, suspended or expelled in Lodge or Chapter	29 (D) (2)
Member Constituent Commandery, suspension non-payment of dues	29 (E)
Member of suspended Commandery	24 (K) (3), 24 (L)
Membership, application for	25, 29
Membership, application ballot upon	25 (A)
Membership, application, if rejected	25 (E)
Membership, active not permitted in two Commanderies	29 (A)
Membership, affiliation in Lodge and Chapter prerequisite to	29 (C)
Membership, if suspended in Lodge or Chapter	29 (D)
Membership, life	7
Officers, Grand Commandery, should attend Conclaves	5 (E)
Officers, Grand Commandery, may be suspended by Grand Commander	8 (A)
Officers, Grand Commandery, duties	8
Officers, Grand Commander, absence first four, who to preside	8 (G)
Officers, Grand Commandery, take vow before installation	9 (A)
Officers, Grand Commandery, re-elected need not be Installed	9 (B)
Officers, Grand Commandery, retain office until successor Installed	9 (A)
Officers, Grand Commandery, who eligible	11
Officers, Grand Commandery, elected and appointed	3
Officers, Grand Commandery, elected at Stated Conclave	3 (A)
Officers, Constituent Commandery how elected or appointed	24 (C)
Orders of Knighthood, who may receive	26 (A)
Orders of Knighthood, succession in conferring	26 (B)
Orders of Knighthood, fee for	26 (C)
Orders of Knighthood, fee for cannot be remitted	26 (D)
Orders of Knighthood, notes in payment for prohibited	26 (D)
Orders of Knighthood, all fees paid before Red Cross conferred	26 (D)

Orders, all three necessary for membership	26 (F)
Petitions for Orders, received and balloted on at Conclaves	25 (A)
Petitions for Orders, must show Lodge and Chapter membership	25 (C)
Petitions for orders, endorsed by two members	25 (B)
Petitions for Orders, referred to committee	25 (E)
Petitions for Orders, when may be withdrawn	25 (E)
Petitions for orders, if rejected cannot be renewed for six months	25 (E)
Petitions for Orders, if rejected, how presented	25 (E)
Petitions to another Commandery	25
Petitioner, when fee is forfeited	25 (G)
Petitioner for Orders, must be physically able to comply with ritual	25 (B)
Petitioner for orders, must state whether previously rejected	25 (C)
Petitioner for Orders, must be firm believer in Christian Religion	25 (D)
Petitioner for Orders, must have resided in Jurisdiction for six months	25 (B)
Power to make laws	6 (A)
Proposition for amendments	6 (B)
Proxies, first three officers Constituent Commandery	19
Qualification, for Orders	26 (A)
Quorum, Grand Commandery	2 (F)
Quorum, Constituent Commandery	24 (C)
Recorder, Constituent Commandery, duties	24 (H)
Recorder, Constituent Commandery, custodian of seal	24 (H) (5)
Recorder, Constituent Commandery, must sign minutes of Conclave	24 (J) (5)
Recorder, Constituent Commandery, shall maintain YRIS database	24 (H) (8)
Repeal, laws heretofore adopted	30 (B)
Rituals, must be delivered to Commander	24 (F)
Seal, Constituent Commandery	24 (M)
Shoulder Patch	32 (B) (3)
Succession, Grand Commandery Officers	8 (G)
Summer Uniform	32 (D)
Suspension, non-payment of dues	29 (D)
Templar Uniform in Virginia	32
Templar Veterans Emblem	29 (H)
Templar Year	18
Titles, Grand Commandery Officers	4
Treasurer, Constituent Commandery, duties	24 (G)
Trustees, Grand Commandery	12
Uniform, as in Bill of Dress	26 (E)
Uniform, fatigue	32 (C)
Unknightly conduct	29 (J)

Vacancies, Grand Commandery offices filled by Grand Commander	10 (D)
Vacancies, Constituent Commandery offices, how filled	24 (D)
Violation of Statutes, discipline for	29
Voluntary non-affiliation in Lodge or Chapter effect of	29 (D) (1)
Vow of Office, Grand Commandery Officers	9
YRIS or successor membership database	24 (F) (2), 24 (H) (8)