

# PETITION FOR DISPENSATION

## To Form Captain Jimmie Hobaugh No. 407 Lodge of Research and Information

**To the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Michigan:**

We, the undersigned Master Masons in good standing in Lodges working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, respectfully petition for a Dispensation to form a new Lodge of Research and Information, to be known as:

CAPTAIN JIMMIE HOBAUGH NO. 407 LODGE OF RESEARCH AND INFORMATION

This petition is submitted in accordance with Section 4.17 of the Blue Book of the Grand Lodge of Michigan.

## PURPOSE AND MISSION

The exclusive purpose of Captain Jimmie Hobaugh No. 407 Lodge of Research and Information shall be researching and publishing Masonic information and educational material, with particular focus on:

1. **Preserving Veteran Mason Histories:** Collecting, documenting, and archiving oral histories of Michigan Masons who have served in the Armed Forces, capturing their unique perspectives on how military service has influenced their Masonic journey.
2. **Developing Leadership Education:** Creating practical leadership development resources based on proven military organizational principles, adapted for use by Michigan lodges to strengthen officer training and lodge governance.
3. **Publishing Research:** Producing quarterly bulletins and annual transactions documenting the contributions of veteran Masons to Michigan Freemasonry and providing educational materials for the Craft.
4. **Fostering Veteran Support:** Researching and developing best practices for lodges to better support veteran members and their families, including connections to appropriate services and benefits.

## PROPOSED NAME AND NUMBER

**Name:** Captain Jimmie Hobaugh No. 407 Lodge of Research and Information

**Justification:** Captain Jimmie Harris Hobaugh (1936-2014) exemplified the highest ideals of both military service and Freemasonry. During his 37-year Coast Guard career, he commanded USCGC

Woodrush (WLB-407) during the Edmund Fitzgerald search and rescue operations. As a 33° Scottish Rite Mason, Past Potentate of Ahmed Temple, and longtime Treasurer of Bethel Lodge #358, he embodied the values of service, leadership, and brotherhood this research lodge seeks to preserve and promote. The number 407, currently available on the Michigan lodge roster, honors his vessel's hull number.

## MEETING LOCATION AND SCHEDULE

In accordance with Section 4.17.2, this Lodge of Research and Information:

- Shall meet within dedicated Masonic Temples throughout the Grand Jurisdiction
- Proposes to meet quarterly, with meetings rotating among different regions of Michigan
- Initial meeting location: Masonic Temple, 3443 S. Seymour Rd, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

## PROPOSED OFFICERS

The following Master Masons are nominated for the principal offices:

**Worshipful Master:** [Name, Member #, Current Lodge]

**Senior Warden:** [Name, Member #, Current Lodge]

**Junior Warden:** [Name, Member #, Current Lodge]

**Secretary:** [Name, Member #, Current Lodge]

**Treasurer:** [Name, Member #, Current Lodge]

*(To be filled with actual nominees)*

## CHARTER MEMBERS

The following Master Masons, all in good standing in their respective lodges, petition to become charter members:

1. [Name], Member #[Number], [Current Lodge #]
2. [Name], Member #[Number], [Current Lodge #]
3. [Name], Member #[Number], [Current Lodge #]
4. [Name], Member #[Number], [Current Lodge #]
5. [Name], Member #[Number], [Current Lodge #]
6. [Name], Member #[Number], [Current Lodge #]
7. [Name], Member #[Number], [Current Lodge #]
8. [Name], Member #[Number], [Current Lodge #]
9. [Name], Member #[Number], [Current Lodge #]
10. [Name], Member #[Number], [Current Lodge #]
11. [Name], Member #[Number], [Current Lodge #]
12. [Name], Member #[Number], [Current Lodge #]

13. [Name], Member #[Number], [Current Lodge #]
14. [Name], Member #[Number], [Current Lodge #]
15. [Name], Member #[Number], [Current Lodge #]

*(Minimum 15 required; list continues as needed)*

## CERTIFICATION OF STANDING

We hereby certify that:

1. All petitioners are Master Masons in good standing
2. Documentary evidence of regular standing is attached for each petitioner
3. At least ten petitioners are members of Michigan lodges and domiciled within the Grand Jurisdiction
4. All petitioners understand membership is by plural membership only

## PROPOSED BYLAWS SUMMARY

- Annual dues: \$30 per member
- Meetings: Quarterly (4 times per year)
- Quorum: 7 members
- Committees: Oral History, Publications, Leadership Development, Technology
- Publications: Quarterly bulletin (digital), Annual transactions (print/digital)

*(Full bylaws draft attached)*

## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

The following documents are attached to this petition:

1. Certificates of good standing for all petitioners
2. Draft bylaws
3. Letters of support from Michigan lodges
4. Biography of Captain Jimmie Hobaugh
5. Detailed mission and objectives statement

## PRAYER OF THE PETITIONERS

We respectfully request that the Most Worshipful Grand Master grant a Dispensation for the formation of Captain Jimmie Hobaugh No. 407 Lodge of Research and Information. We pledge to:

- Conduct ourselves in strict accordance with the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge
- Focus exclusively on research and education as prescribed in Section 4.17

- Maintain the required minimum membership of Michigan Masons
- Submit quarterly reports of our activities
- Work to preserve the legacy of veteran Masons and strengthen the Craft through education

We understand that as a Lodge of Research and Information:

- We shall not confer any of the Degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry
- We are exempt from monthly communication requirements
- We are exempt from per capita and assessment obligations
- We are not entitled to representation at Grand Lodge
- Our officers do not carry the same privileges as those in degree-conferring lodges

Respectfully submitted this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

## SIGNATURES OF PETITIONERS

[Signature lines for all petitioners with printed name and member number below each]

## ENDORSEMENTS

[Space for Grand Lodge official endorsements and actions]