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**PROPOSED  
RESOLUTIONS, AND  
STATEMENTS OF  
AVAILABILITY  
TO BE CONSIDERED  
AT OUR  
GRAND ANNUAL  
COMMUNICATION  
TO BE HELD  
January 16, 17 & 18, 2025**



**PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED  
AT OUR GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION TO  
BE HELD**

**January 16, 17, & 18, 2025**

SUCH CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS ARE  
HEREBY SUBMITTED AND ARE INDICATED BY ADDING AND  
DELETING CERTAIN LANGUAGE, WITH NEW LANGUAGE  
ITALICIZED AND DELETED LANGUAGE BRACKETED.

**Committee on Civil Law**

Allan Ross Lazor, Chairman  
302 Brook Forrest Trail  
Sugar Land, TX 77478

**Committee on Finance**

Ronald C. Wise, Chairman  
8304 San Cristobal Dr  
Dallas, TX 75218

**Committee on Fraternal  
Relations**

Pierre G. Normand, Jr., Chairman  
PO Box 10434  
College Station, TX 77842

**Committee on Masonic  
Jurisprudence**

Charles M Kinsey, Chairman  
3105 Nantucket Ct  
Pearland, TX 77584

**Committee on Purposes  
and Policies**

Thomas F. Griffin, Chairman  
907 Copperas Dr  
Caldwell, TX 77836

**Committee on Bylaws**

Dennis Reader, Chairman  
1402 Surecrop Ln  
Pasadena, TX 77504

**Committee on Work**

Charles R Forsyth, Chairman  
1601 Idlewood Ln  
Odessa, TX 79761

**Committee on Investments**

John D. Ashley, Chairman  
2707 Drywood Creek Dr  
League City, TX 77537

## **HOLD OVER RESOLUTION NO 4.**

**This resolution concerns an amendment to the Constitution. It was approved at the Grand Communication in January, 2024. No changes were made to the Holdover Resolution No. 4, and it remains in proper and legal form for consideration at the Grand Communication in 2025.**

### **RESOLUTION NO 4 (Held Over)**

Referred to Purposes and Policies

**WHEREAS**, there is no provision for a special session of the Grand Lodge of Texas other than being called by the Grand Master.

**WHEREAS**, our laws require fifty (50) constituent lodges to be present to constitute a quorum to transact any business of the Grand Lodge of Texas when in session, and the Trustees transact the business of Grand Lodge when not in session.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Article VI Division II Constitution of The Grand Lodge of Texas be amended as follows;  
Section 1. – Quorum No Change  
Section 2. – Presiding Officers No Change  
Section 3 Communication No Change

Special Communications of the Grand Lodge may shall be convened within ninety (90) days whenever the Grand Master, or presiding officer for the time, majority vote of the trustees, or upon the written request of 50 constituent lodges to the Grand Secretary, shall deem that the interest of the Craft require, but in such case at least one month's notice shall be given to each Lodge by the Grand Secretary, specifying in such notice the time, place and the purpose or purposes of such special Communication; and at such Communication no business shall be transacted other than that mentioned in such notice.

Submitted by: Bradley W. Corley, PM Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 872

## **PROPOSED 2025 RESOLUTION NO. 1**

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, Article 276a of the laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas requires a Brother, before being installed as a Warden or Master, to attend a course approved by the Grand Lodge in the administration of his duties, formerly known as the Wardens Retreat and currently known as the Officer Leadership Training (O.L.T.) or complete the L.I.F.E. program; and

**WHEREAS**, some Lodges struggle with finding willing, able, and qualified Brethren to serve as Lodge Counselor to administer the L.I.F.E. program, leaving the Lodge with no recourse but to send their officers to Officer Leadership Training to meet the required qualifications; and

**WHEREAS**, the Grand Lodge of Texas should set fees for such required courses as accessible as possible to assist Lodges in preparing the Masons of Texas to serve as officers of their respective Lodges;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Article 276a of the laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas be amended as follows:

### **Art. 276a. Additional Qualifications.**

Prior to his installation as Worshipful Master or Warden, a Brother shall in all circumstances first be qualified as follows:

1. To the satisfaction of the members of his Lodge, he shall be proficient to properly open and close an Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, Master Mason's Lodge, and a Master Mason's Lodge of Sorrow in the manner prescribed by the Committee on Work and approved by this Grand Lodge, and
2. To the satisfaction of the members of his Lodge, he shall have completed the Lodge Instruction for Effectiveness program (L.I.F.E.) under the supervision of the Masonic Education Committee. The L.I.F.E. Program is to be administered by a Lodge Counselor appointed by the Worshipful Master, whose term expires

upon the appointment of his successor in office or a Grand Lodge approved course in the administration of his duties. *The fee for required courses shall be set so that net profit does not exceed ten percent (10%) of the total per person cost, after any necessary and related educational and program expenses. Any excess profits above ten percent (10%), determined after a full accounting, shall be allocated to incentives like the Vanguard Lodge Program or donated to the Texas Masonic Charity Foundation. The annual Committee on Masonic Education report, per Article 113, must include a detailed accounting of these course expenses and returns, specifying the programs and amounts where excess profits have been allocated.*" Any person who has previously served as Worshipful Master of a Lodge under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas is exempt from the requirements of this article.  
(Revised 2012)

3. In all cases, unless otherwise exempt as hereafter provided, by attending at least one forum conducted under the auspices of the Committee on Work during the twelve months prior to his installation as Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, or Junior Warden. Brothers who hold a Class A, B or C certificate, or are certified as proficient by the District Instructor for the Masonic District in which the lodge is located, a District Instructor at Large, or a member of the Committee on Work, are exempt from the requirement imposed by this paragraph. If an officer is being installed as a Worshipful Master or a Warden in multiple lodges located in different districts, the officer is only required to be certified as proficient by only one District Instructor, District Instructor at Large, or a member of the Committee on Work for exemption.

Submitted by: Rhit Moore, PM Fort Worth Lodge 148

## RESOLUTION NO. 2

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, when the charter of a constituent lodge was arrested on August 10, 2023 no reasons were provided to the lodge or its members; and

**WHEREAS**, no such reasons were provided until the announcement by the Grand Master at the following Grand Annual Communications; and

**WHEREAS**, the suspension or arrest of a charter is a matter of the utmost importance to both the affected lodge and the Grand West; and

**WHEREAS**, principles of fair notice and due process mandate that the affected lodge should be given an explanation of the reasons for the suspension or arrest sufficient to enable a response to the charges prior to the matter being called for consideration at Grand Annual Communication;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Article 649 be amended as follows:

### **Art. 649. Grand Master May Arrest or Suspend Charter of Lodge.**

The Grand Master may immediately suspend or arrest the charter of any Lodge when, after careful investigation or upon receipt of satisfactory proof, it is shown that such Lodge has willfully violated the territorial jurisdiction of another Lodge, or the laws, edicts or resolutions of the Grand Lodge, or has been guilty of un-Masonic conduct. At the time that any subordinate Lodge has its charter suspended or arrested, the Worshipful Master and Secretary of the Lodge will be provided with a written copy of the following: (1) an enumeration of each Grand Lodge law, edict, or resolution that the lodge is alleged to have willfully violated; and (2) a description of how the lodge is alleged to have willfully violated the law, edict or resolution, including but not limited to the dates, location, and involved members, if known.

Submitted by: Marc Siemes, WM Austin Lodge No. 12  
R. Carlton Newberry, Jr., PM San Felipe Lodge No. 23

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3**

Referred to Purposes and Policies, Finance, and Investments

**WHEREAS**, Lodge Endowments are a vehicle to help Brothers invest in the future of their Lodge; and

**WHEREAS**, Many endowments were purchased at the \$500 level, which is now the minimum per Grand Lodge law; and

**WHEREAS**, Those who purchase an endowment at \$500 and make no other contributions may end up costing their Lodge a small amount of money each year; and

**WHEREAS**, Adding increments to an endowment was subsequently adopted by this Grand Lodge as a mechanism for Brothers to further cement their legacy for their Lodge.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Art. 14 be amended as follows:

**Art. 14. Masonic Service Awards.**

**Art. 14, 14 a-f** no change

**Art.14g. – (New) *Legacy Builder Award***

*The Grand Lodge shall establish the **Legacy Builder Award** to recognize any Mason that adds an additional \$500 (five units) on top of his initial endowment purchase. The award shall be presented each year at our annual Grand Communication. Grand Lodge shall bear the costs associated with producing the jewel or lapel pin and corresponding certificate of recognition. This award shall not be available retroactively to those who have previously made this purchase.*

Submitted by: Brad Billings PM Trinity Valley Lodge No. 1048

## **RESOLUTION NO. 4**

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, the Grand West adopted 2023 Resolution No. 5 which facilitated the issuing of durable plastic dues cards to members and,

**WHEREAS**, the Grand Secretary's office issued durable plastic dues cards to each Master Mason in 2023 and,

**WHEREAS**, the Grand Lodge of Texas and the constituent Lodges of Texas can save \$30,000 annually by removing the requirement to print the expiration date on dues cards and,

**WHEREAS**, the Grandview Database can instantaneously verify a Masons status by scanning his dues card or calling or texting the telephone number printed on the back of the card.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Article 60 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas be amended as follows:  
Art. 60. Uniform Dues Receipt: Certificates to E.A.s and F.C.s.

The Grand Secretary is authorized to prepare a standard uniform receipt for Lodge dues, which Lodges must use. There shall be printed on the back of such receipt a certificate of the standing of the Lodge to which it is issued with the imprint of the seal of this Grand Lodge and of the signature of the Grand Secretary.

~~Expiration date to which dues are paid by dues paying Master Masons shall be filled in by the Grand Secretary when the dues cards are prepared.~~ Local Lodges are authorized to issue certificates to Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts as such, which certificates shall be upon standard uniform cards prepared by the Grand Secretary, and the expiration date to which dues are paid shall be filled in by the Lodge Secretary. The Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Texas may by majority vote authorize the use of an electronic virtual dues card in addition to the standard uniform dues receipt.

Submitted by: Justin B. Duty, PM M. Denton Stanford No. 594  
Brad Billings, PM Trinity Valley No. 104



## RESOLUTION NO. 5

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, Article 23 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas does not define “incapacitated” and,

**WHEREAS**, this lack of clarity has caused confusion in the past and,

**WHEREAS**, the orderly and efficient operation of the Grand Lodge of Texas is essential.

**THEREFORE, BE IT REOLVED** that Article 23 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas be amended as follows:

**Article 23. When the Grand Treasurer or Secretary Incapacitated.** In the event of any vacancies in the office of Grand Treasurer or Grand Secretary, the Grand Master shall appoint an Acting Grand Treasurer or Acting Grand Secretary to fill the unexpired term. In the event the Grand Treasurer or Grand Secretary shall become Incapacitated to perform the duties of his office *such officer may be suspended from office during the period of his incapacity by unanimous vote of the remaining Trustees.* The Grand Master shall appoint an Acting Grand Treasurer or Acting Grand Secretary to fill such office during the period of such incapacity.

Submitted by: Justin B. Duty, PM M. Denton Stanford No. 594

## **RESOLUTION NO. 6**

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, The Secretary of State filed the Articles of Incorporation for the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation on December 16, 2004, per Filing Number 800427334. The purpose of the Corporation was to form a 501 (c) (3) to receive and maintain a fund or funds of real, personal or other property, and to use the whole or any part of the net income therefrom and the principal thereof exclusively for charitable purposes.

**WHEREAS**, Per Article 163 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas, each Lodge shall be required to remit \$3.75 per non-service exempt Master Mason and \$25 per Master Mason Degree to the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation. Since 2009 the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation has applied a portion of this value to participating Lodge's High School Scholarship and Community Grant Matching Programs totaling \$9,543,800 and \$622,664, respectively.

**WHEREAS**, In 2024, the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation expanded its charitable matching program to include the Teacher Honorarium to recognize the teachers in Texas who continue to serve our communities and the future leaders of our society.

**WHEREAS**, The Board of Directors of the Texas Masonic Charities Foundations believes that accurate and timely reporting of the financial management of the Foundation on a fiscal year basis be transparent and made available to the Master Masons of Texas during each Grand Annual Communication.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Articles 50 and 165 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas be amended as follows:

Art. 50. Printing. The Grand Secretary shall be responsible for publishing and distributing on the morning of the first day of the annual communication, the address of the Grand Master, the report of the Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Board of Directors and Executive Director of the Masonic Home and School of Texas, *Board of Directors and President of the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation*, and reports of committees as appropriate. (~~Revised 2008~~).

**Art.165. Order of Business:** First Day. On the first day of each Annual Communication, after this Grand Lodge is opened, the order shall be:

1. The roll of officers, Past Grand Officers, and members shall be called by the Grand Secretary, and if a quorum of the representatives of Lodges be present, then
2. Distinguished Visitors and the Grand Representative of other Grand Jurisdictions shall be received.
3. The Grand Master shall report his official acts done during recess.
4. The Grand Master shall appoint the committees.
5. Reports of other Grand Officers shall be received.
6. *Report of the Board of Directors and President of the Texas Masonic Charities Foundation shall be received.*
- ~~6.~~ 7. Reports of Committees may be received.
- ~~7.~~ 8. The Address of the Grand Orator may be heard.
- ~~8.~~ 9. Unfinished business.

Submitted By:

Cody Cockroft, PM Morton No. 72 Craig Enderli, PM Cedar Bayou No. 321  
Sam Gibbins, PM Harmony No. 592 Ronald Wise, PM Roy Stanley No. 1367

## **RESOLUTION NO. 7**

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, Title I, Chapter 10, Article 45. Duties expresses the duties of the Grand Treasurer as follows:  
The Grand Treasurer shall receive from the Grand Secretary all monies, notes, bonds, and other securities belonging to the Grand Lodge, give his receipt therefore and immediately upon receipt of said monies, notes, bonds and other securities shall deposit the same to the credit of the Grand Lodge in a bank or other financial institution in the State of Texas as approved by the Grand Lodge Trustees. The depository account or accounts in said bank or financial institution shall be maintained by him on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and payment there from shall require receipt of satisfactory proof of obligation and shall be executed by those authorized by the Grand Lodge Trustees.

He shall attend each Annual Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge and shall report the financial condition of the Grand Lodge of Texas with a detailed statement of all funds and any other assets of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The Grand Treasurer and all others authorized to handle or disburse funds shall be each bonded in amount, not less than Fifty Thousand dollars, as determined from time to time by the Grand Lodge Trustees; and

**WHEREAS**, The Grand Lodge of Texas is a Texas Non-profit, benevolent corporation pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 23, Subchapter C. Grand Lodges, Sections 23.101 through 23.110 of the Texas Business Organizations Code and at times under the provisions of Chapter 22 regarding Non-profit Corporations in the Texas Business Organizations Code to the extent that same is not inconsistent with Chapter 23, Subchapter C. See Section 23.102 of Subchapter C of the Texas Business Corporations Code; and

**WHEREAS**, to enhance accountability and transparency of resources (revenues) and expenditures (expenses) of this Grand Lodge including its Grand Elective Officers (Trustees), Finance Committee, Audit Committee, and any and all

Freemasons contributing to the support of this Grand Lodge, its internal Audit Committee, internal Bookkeepers and Accountants, as the case may be, and its external Certified Public Accountants.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Art. 45 be amended as follows:

**Art. 45. Duties. No Change**

***Art. 45.a (new) Line-Item Budget***

*The Grand Treasurer shall provide a line-item budget for the ensuing Grand Lodge Masonic year. It shall be published, in writing and electronically by means of the digital platform in use by this Grand Lodge to any and all Freemasons contributing to the support of this Grand Lodge no later than the Thursday preceding the official opening of this Grand Lodge on the Friday next. He shall also provide a line-item budget assumptions document paired with the line-item budget. The line-item budget assumptions document shall identify every planned financial resource (revenues) and expenditure (expense).*

***Art. 45.b (New) Statement of Activities and Financial Condition Reports***

*The Grand Treasurer shall provide to any and all Freemasons contributing to the support of this Grand Lodge a quarterly Statement of Activities Report (budget versus actual variance analysis) and Financial Condition Report and publish the same in writing and electronically on a digital platform utilized by this Grand Lodge. The Grand Treasurer shall publish, and present said Statement of Activities Report and Statement of Financial Condition Report at each Trustees meeting, analyzing and comparing actual expenditures against planned expenditures since*

*the previous Trustees' meeting. In particular, the Grand Treasurer shall identify to the Trustees of this Grand Lodge the expenditures for any line item in the budget where the budget amount has been exceeded, the amount of said excess, and provide an explanation for the said excess. Actions and adjustments taken regarding such expenditures for line items that exceed the budgeted amount shall be published in writing and electronically on a digital platform utilized by this Grand Lodge to any and all Freemasons contributing to the support of this Grand Lodge.*

***Art.45.c (New) Expense Reimbursement***

*All requests for authorized reimbursements from this Grand Lodge shall only be paid by the Grand Treasurer if the request is supported by a customer or consumer copy of an itemized invoice and/or receipt of the actual expenditure (expense) within 30-days of said expense.*

***Art. 45.d. (New) Monthly Report to Finance and Audit Committees***

*The Grand Treasurer shall publish a quarterly report, in writing to the Finance and Audit Committees of this Grand Lodge, detailing all of the matters, actions and adjustments taken regarding the requirements referenced in Art. 45.a-c above.*

Submitted By:

Cody Cockroft, PM  
Morton Lodge No. 72

William Teague, PM  
Bertram No. 583

Carter Sharbrough, PM  
Katy Lodge No. 1439

David Berndt, PM  
Sugar Land Lodge No. 1141

Bruce Babb, PM  
Plano Lodge No. 768

Gary Alexander, PM  
Richland Hills Lodge No. 1348

Robert Coleman, PM  
Billy W. Tinsley Lodge No. 1458

Rhit Moore, PM  
Fort Worth Lodge No. 148

Samuel Gibbins, PM  
Harmony Lodge No. 592

Richard Daniel, PM  
Allen Lodge No. 1435

Stacey Nobles, PM  
Llano Lodge No. 242

John Hubbard, PM  
Portland Lodge No. 1411

Bill Baty, PM  
Blazing Star Lodge No. 413

Stanley Cox, PM  
Henry Thomas Lodge No. 278

William Weaver, PM  
Valley Lodge No. 175

Jimmy Barho, PM  
Valley Lodge No. 175

Derek Shell, PM  
Valley Lodge No. 175

Don Angell, PM  
Victoria Lodge No. 40

Albert Davis, PM  
Matagorda Lodge No. 7

Kenny Meyer, PM  
Rosenberg Lodge No. 881

Michael Steelman, PM  
Llano Lodge No. 242

Everett Williams, PM  
Albert Pike Lodge No. 1169

Guy Niles, PM  
Saratoga Lodge No. 546

Carl Braker, PM  
Llano Lodge No. 242

Thomas Oughton, PM  
Valley Lodge No. 175

Paul Weller, PM  
Llano Lodge No. 242

Michael Hazel, PM  
Llano Lodge No. 242

Thomas Ferguson, PM  
Chico Lodge No. 508

David Allen, PM  
Stanfield Lodge No. 217

Michael Range, PM  
Decatur Lodge No. 447

Tommy Roberts, PM  
Bridgeport Lodge No. 587

Julian Gaston, PM  
Eureka Lodge No. 371

Harold Moreland, PM  
Chico Lodge No. 508

Gary Green, PM  
Bridgeport Lodge No. 587

Joseph Gilliland, PM  
Bridgeport Lodge No. 587

Winford Cash, PM  
Boyd Lodge No. 479

Edward Caraway, PM  
Boyd Lodge No. 479

Roy Marley, PM  
Boyd Lodge No. 479

JW. Irick, PM  
Bridgeport Lodge No. 587

Chadwick Lindt, PM  
Decatur Lodge No. 447

John Bloodgood, PM  
Decatur Lodge No. 447

Jerry Enoch, PM  
Krum Lodge No. 1453

Gayland Fleming, PM  
Krum Lodge No. 1453

Marshall Fortenberry, PM  
Greenwood Lodge No. 779

Billy Enoch, PM  
Greenwood Lodge No. 779

## **RESOLUTION NO. 8**

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, Lodges hold their annual elections at their last stated meeting prior to midnight of June 23 of each year as governed by Articles 292(a),

**WHEREAS**, Article 22, Notes on Decisions (n) prohibits the Grand Master from ordering a new election out of time,

**WHEREAS**, current Grand Lodge Law makes no allowances for postponement of elections if local, state, national or world crisis exists, whether declared or undeclared by local officials, which prevents lodge members from meeting at the duly authorized time to conduct the election of officers,

**WHEREAS**, Article 293 compels elective and appointed officers to continue their service should the lodge fail to elect officers at the annual stated meeting as prescribed in Articles 290 and 292,

**WHEREAS**, prospective officers progressing through the line spend large amounts of time with good intent preparing for and in anticipation of election or appointment to an office at the annual elections,

**WHEREAS**, Grand Master's Decision 2020 – Number 4 further acknowledges that a local, state, national or world crisis may necessitate the Grand Master declaring duly elected and appointed officers of a Lodge duly installed, as an exception to Art. 298,



The following changes to Grand Lodge Law are proposed:

## **Art. 22. General Powers**

Notes on Decisions:

(n) To elect an officer at any other time than as provided in Art. 292 *(a) and (b)*; nor to order a new election out of time; nor hold a special meeting for the election of officers; nor install an officer after July 31, *except in the event of crisis, when Art. 292 (c) shall apply.*

## **Art. 292. Time of Election**

Sections a. and b. remain unchanged.

*c. Notwithstanding the provisions set above, the Grand Master shall have discretion to postpone the annual election of officers only in the event of a local, state, national or world crisis when lodge members may be exposed to unsafe conditions. An election so postponed must be conducted within 15 calendar days of the end of said crisis. If said crisis ends after July 31, the installation of officers will proceed immediately after the election of officers at the same stated or called meeting.*

Submitted by:

Robin Winslett, PM Tucker Lodge No. 297

Marty Haley, PM Serenity Lodge No. 1436

Robert Ballard, PM Cade-Rothwell Lodge No. 1151

## **RESOLUTION NO. 9**

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, Title V of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas governs Masonic Disciplinary Violations; and

**WHEREAS**, said Title V is complex and detailed with respect to how Masonic Disciplinary Violations are handled but there is room for doubt or argument in certain cases;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Title V, Chapter 1 be amended as follows:

### **TITLE V DISCIPLINE**

#### **CHAPTER 1 – TITLE V JURISDICTION OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**

##### **Purpose**

The procedures set forth in this Title are to be called Masonic Disciplinary Procedures, and they establish the procedures to be used by the Grand Lodge of Texas for Masonic Discipline. These procedures are to be broadly construed to ensure that a fair, just and legal hearing system is afforded to any Mason involved in Masonic Discipline. *In cases where any vagueness, doubt, or obvious disagreement arises in any provision, or between various provisions, the procedures set forth herein are to be governed by the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code and/or the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, as applicable.*

Submitted by:

Gregory R. Jacobs, PM Tannehill Lodge No. 52

Earl N. Jackson, PM Tannehill Lodge No. 52

## **RESOLUTION NO. 10**

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, Title V of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas governs Masonic Disciplinary Violations; and

**WHEREAS**, while Title V is complex and detailed in many respects it is too broad and possibly unfair concerning the place of trials for Masonic Disciplinary Violations;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Article 497 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas be amended as follows

### **Article 497. Jurisdiction.**

Any Mason accused of a Masonic Disciplinary Violation *shall* be tried in a Lodge wherein he holds membership *regardless of where the alleged Masonic Disciplinary Violation occurred.*

*The foregoing shall apply to Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts in the sole Lodge having jurisdiction over them.*

Submitted by:

Gregory R. Jacobs, PM Tannehill Lodge No. 52

Earl N. Jackson, PM Tannehill Lodge No. 52

## **RESOLUTION NO. 11**

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, Title V of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas governs Masonic Disciplinary Violations; and

**WHEREAS**, said Title V is complex and detailed with respect to how Masonic Disciplinary Violations are handled with certain exceptions, one being the required burden of proof, which is presently unstated and, therefore, unclear;

**WHEREAS**, the burden of proof is a critical factor requiring the prosecution to produce evidence to establish the truth of facts needed to convince the trier of fact, such as a jury or judge, that the prosecution's position is correct;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Article 557 be amended as follows:

### **Art. 557. Burden on Prosecution.**

The accused is presumed to be innocent, and the burden of establishing his guilt devolves upon the prosecution, *and such guilt must be proved beyond a reasonable doubt.*

Submitted by:

Gregory R. Jacobs, PM Tannehill Lodge No. 52

Earl N. Jackson, PM Tannehill Lodge No. 52

## **RESOLUTION NO. 12**

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

The proposer of this resolution has withdrawn it from consideration at the Grand Communication in 2025 because it is not in proper and legal form.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 13**

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, Article 557 states in regard to Masonic Disciplinary Violations, “The accused is presumed to be innocent, and the burden of establishing his guilt devolves on the prosecution.”

**WHEREAS**, personal or pecuniary differences between members shall not be a basis for masonic disciplinary violations, yet charges filed on such a basis just before elections may disrupt the officer line in constituent lodges, and waste the time of Grand Lodge officials.

Whereas, the rights of the accused should be zealously protected,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the language prohibiting masons laboring under masonic charges in Article 512 be amended to remove the prohibition on being elected or appointed to office or installed in office,

“When allegations of Masonic disciplinary violation have been referred to, accepted by the Grand Master, and referred to a Masonic Disciplinary Commission, his standing will be a “Mason laboring under Masonic disciplinary action” and, until such Masonic Disciplinary violations have been fully disposed of, he shall not be entitled to a Demit, a certificate of withdrawal, a certificate of good standing, ~~or be elected or appointed to office, installed in office,~~ or in the case of death, prior to final conclusion of the disciplinary action, a Masonic burial; otherwise, his rights and privileges shall be unaffected thereby until Masonic disciplinary violations have been found and his penalty assessed by the Grand Master, mediation, or Masonic Disciplinary Commission.”

Michael Giboney, PM Liberty Hill Lodge No. 432

## **RESOLUTION NO. 14**

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, The Grand Lodge of Texas has authorized permanent dues cards to reduce yearly cost of issuing new cards annually.

**WHEREAS**, one of the intents of moving to permanent dues cards is to reduce The Grand Lodge of Texas cost and subordinate lodges future expenses such as mailings.

**WHEREAS**, these saving could be better utilized for the maintenance and operations of The Grand Lodge of Texas and subordinate lodges.

**WHEREAS**, The removal of the Grand Secretary's name from dues cards and use the seal of The Grand Lodge of Texas as the only authorization needed. This will decrease the cost incurred by the issuance of new cards now and in the future as the Grand Secretary's office is an elective office and subject to change.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Art. 60 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas be amended as follows:

**Art. 60 Uniform Dues Receipt:** Certificates to E.A.s and F.C.s.

The Grand Secretary is authorized to prepare a standard uniform receipt for Lodge dues, which Lodges must use. There shall be printed on the back of such receipt a certificate of the standing of the Lodge to which it is issued with the imprint of the seal of this Grand Lodge ~~and the signature of the Grand Secretary.~~

Expiration date to which dues are paid by Master Masons shall be filled in by the Grand Secretary when the dues cards are prepared. Local Lodges are authorized to issue certificates to Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts as such, which certificates shall be upon standard uniform cards prepared by the Grand Secretary, and the expiration date to which due are paid shall be filled in by the Lodge Secretary. The Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Texas may by majority vote Authorize the use of an

electronic virtual dues card in addition to the standard uniform dues receipt, (Revised 2024)

Submitted by:

Jack G. Mooney, PM C.F. Spencer No.1384

Thomas Merchant, PM Clear Lake No. 1417

Charlie Craig, PM Pasadena No. 1155



## RESOLUTION NO. 15

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 11 Title II Article 273 sets forth the definition of Officers Regalia and Article 274 sets forth the definition of Members Aprons; and

**WHEREAS**, in certain Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction, historical reenactments occur and other lodges look to honor our past Brethren by creating aprons similar to those worn at or near the time of the Chartering of that lodge. More period correct style aprons (rounded bottom, embroidered and or hand painted) may be desired to be worn to more accurately portray the style of dress of our Founding Brethren. The current regulation prevents the use of those types of aprons.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** Articles 273 and 274 be amended as follows:

### **Art. 273. (312). Officers: Regalia.**

A Lodge may provide special collars and aprons to be worn by its officers, for the purpose of preserving their symbolic features; as a mark of distinction, and to enhance the dignity of the Lodge. Such regalia shall consist of a collar of blue velvet from which shall be suspended the jewel appropriate to the station of the officer. Said collar may have embroidered thereon any of the symbols of Freemasonry appropriate to be so displayed.

The regulation apron shall be of white lambskin, *synthetic lambskin, silk, satin or cotton* of the following dimensions: the apron shall be 16 inches ~~square~~ *in length and width with square or rounded corners with a drop in the bib of 6 inches to the ~~triangular~~ point.* It will be permissible to have embroidered upon the bib *or body* of the apron the appropriate jewel of the office below the bib, the square and compasses circumscribing the letter "G" *or the "All Seeing Eye (aka Eye of Providence)" or any of the symbols of Freemasonry appropriate to be displayed.* The outside edge of the apron shall be bordered with blue *or white* silk velvet or braid, one inch in width, and the bib with the same material one-half inch in width. The apron may be lined on the reverse side with blue satin or other material.

In addition to using the Past Master's aprons now being worn, it shall be permissible for Past Masters to wear aprons with the same design and insignia as provided for the Worshipful Master, but the addition of the Arc (or Quadrant) under the points of the Compasses would be optional.

In conferring degrees, officers may wear appropriate robes or costumes; and appropriate scenery

may be used. The insignia or regalia of other orders or organizations may not be worn.

**Art. 274. (313). Members: Apron.**

The regulation apron for members of the Lodge shall be of the same dimensions provided for the aprons of officers of the Lodge and shall be made of white lambskin *synthetic lambskin, silk, satin or cotton* without border or decoration; provided, it shall not be mandatory upon any Lodge to provide regulation regalia and aprons until such time as it may be able to do so, and such aprons may be made of white cloth.

Submitted by: Jim Muller, PM Olive Branch No. 2

## RESOLUTION NO. 16

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, Texas Masonry enjoys the privilege of being intimately related to the men and events that shaped the Republic of Texas, and

**WHEREAS**, we should celebrate this connection with the history of our great state, and

**WHEREAS**, the minutes of our historical lodge highlight our association with and fraternity's support by Sam Houston, Anson Jones, Mirabeau Lamar, and many other men of standing in Texas history, and

**WHEREAS**, our current Laws & Constitution prevent the open publication of lodge minutes according to Art. 338,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Article 338 be amended as follows:

**Art. 338. Inspection of Minutes: By Whom.** The minutes of the Lodge are the private records of the Lodge and no copy of the same or any part thereof, shall be made or used for other than Masonic *or historical research* purposes. They shall be securely kept and preserved by the Secretary, and shall be open for inspection at reasonable times by the officers and other members of the Lodge, or by such other Masons as may have an appropriate reason therefor, but not under any circumstances by those who are not Masons *unless for historical research purposes, and then only for Lodge minutes over 100 years in age. Minutes older than 100 years may be published for public distribution, but only by permission of the Lodge. Any proceeds from such publication after printing costs and preparation expenses must be distributed to the Lodge or Grand Lodge of Texas, or to a charity designated by the Lodge. In the case of publication of demised Lodges or military Lodges under dispensation, all permissions and decisions of the distribution of proceeds will be determined by the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Texas.*

Submitted by: Billy J. Hamilton, Jr., PM Fort Worth Lodge No. 148

## RESOLUTION NO. 17

Referred to Purposes and Policies, Committee on Work and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, It is evident that Music has been an integral part of Freemasonry since the inception of the Grand Lodge of England in 1717, as demonstrated by the fact that there are numerous publications including Anderson's Constitutions of 1723, which includes within it songs for the Master, Wardens, and various Degrees of Masonry; and,

**WHEREAS**, our Constitution and Laws provides for the office of Musician, both at the Grand Lodge and Lodge level; and,

**WHEREAS**, the various Monitors and Manuals adopted and in use by this Grand Lodge prior to 1934 all contained music related to the degrees and ceremonies of Masonry in Texas.

### Texas Monitors/Manuals

Year Adopted	Author	Title	Comments
1844	Jeremy L. Cross	True Masonic Chart	Over sixty pages of Music in the Back
1852	Charles W. Moore	New Masonic Trestle-Board	Music added to Circumambulation in all degrees
1854	George H. Gray	The Mystic Circle	Numerous references to the use of music, with fourteen pages of music included
1859	William Taylor	Manual of Freemasonry	Music for the various Degrees and Ceremonies
1907	Sam R. Hamilton	Taylor Hamilton Monitor of the Lodge	Music for the various Degrees and Ceremonies
1912	C. P. Boon*	Vest Pocket Trestle-Board	Music for the various Degrees and Ceremonies
1921	The Grand Lodge of Texas	Official Monitor	Music for the various Degrees and Ceremonies

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Constituent Lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction, who desire to do so, be granted the option to incorporate music into the various degrees and ceremonies of Masonry. Said music shall be that which was traditionally used by constituent lodges under the jurisdictions of prominent Grand Lodges such as England, Scotland, Ireland, Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, and Texas, provided that all vocals be sung by Masons with only the instrumental music having the option to be pre-recorded, that the music not interfere with the adopted Texas ritual (played or sung during speaking parts), and that music not be required for a graded degree other than the Funeral Dirge in the Master Mason Degree.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that to assist in uniformity, the Grand Lodge of Texas Monitor of the Lodge be amended to include an appendix with the music resources provided with this resolution.

\*Not officially adopted, but widely used in this Grand Jurisdiction as Brother Boon was Chairman of the Committee on Work and his monitor was convenient due to its size, and inexpensive compared to the Taylor-Hamilton.

Submitted by:

Larry M. FitzPatrick PM, Lewisville No. 201

Lance C. Candler PM, Krum No. 1453

*Music for Masonry*



# First Degree

## On Admission

Adagio ♩ = 60

Seek, and ye shall find; Ask, and ye shall have; Knock, and I shall be O - pen-ed.

Musical score for 'On Admission' in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of a piano accompaniment and a vocal line. The piano part features a steady bass line with chords in the right hand. The vocal line is simple and follows the lyrics.

## Circumambulation

Be - hold! how pleas - ant and how good, For bre - thren such as we, Of  
For there the Lord of light and love. A bles - sing sent with pow'r; Oh!

Musical score for 'Circumambulation' in 2/4 time, key of B-flat major. The piano accompaniment has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the bass and chords in the treble. The vocal line is simple and follows the lyrics.

the Ac - cept - ed broth - er - hood To dwell in u - ni - ty!  
may we all this bles - sing prove. E'en life for e - ver - more;

Musical score for 'Circumambulation' in 2/4 time, key of B-flat major. The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern. The vocal line continues with the lyrics.

'Tis like the oil on tar Aa ron's head Which to his feet dis - tills; Like  
On friend - ship's al - tar ris - ing here, Our hands now plight - ed be, To

Musical score for 'Circumambulation' in 2/4 time, key of B-flat major. The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern. The vocal line continues with the lyrics.

Herm - on's dew so rich ly shed On Zi on's sac - red hills!  
live in love with hearts sin - cere, In peace and u - ni - ty.

Musical score for 'Circumambulation' in 2/4 time, key of B-flat major. The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern. The vocal line concludes with the lyrics.

## Obligation

Recitative

Let the words of my of my heart. Be acceptable in Thy strength and my re deemer.  
mouth and the meditation sight, O Lord, my

## After Obligation

Moderato  $\text{♩} = 90$

Keep thy tongue from e - vil, and thy lips that they speak no guile.

## Before Light

Allegretto  $\text{♩} = 100$

And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

## Light

Recitative

God be merciful unto us and bless us And cause His face to shine up on us.



## After Test

Recitative

Blessed is he that considereth the poor and needy, the Lord shall deliver him in the time of trouble.

The musical score is for a recitative piece in 4/4 time, featuring a treble and bass clef. The melody is simple and rhythmic, with lyrics written below the notes. The bass line consists of sustained chords and single notes.

## After Tools

Recitative

Happy is the man that find - eth wisdom; and the man that get - teth un - der - standing.

The musical score is for a recitative piece in 4/4 time, featuring a treble and bass clef. The melody is simple and rhythmic, with lyrics written below the notes. The bass line consists of sustained chords and single notes.

## Retiring

Recitative

Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, good - will to - war - ds men.

The musical score is for a recitative piece in 4/4 time, featuring a treble and bass clef. The melody is simple and rhythmic, with lyrics written below the notes. The bass line consists of sustained chords and single notes.

## Readmission

Recitative

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel For He hath visited and re - deemd His people.

The musical score is for a recitative piece in common time (C), featuring a treble and bass clef. The melody is simple and rhythmic, with lyrics written below the notes. The bass line consists of sustained chords and single notes.

# Second Degree

## On Admission

Recitative

Behold, how good and joyful a thing it is brethren to dwell together in unity

## Circumambulation

Come Crafts-men, Assembled, our pleasure to share, Who work by the  
We'll seek in our labors, the Spirit Divine, Our temple to

7

Plumb, and remember the Square; While traveling in love, on the Level of  
bless and our hearts to refine; And thus to our altars a tribute we'll

14

time, Sweet hope shall light on to a far better clime.  
bring, While joined in true friendship our anthem we sing.

## Obligation

Recitative

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart, Be acceptable in Thy strength and my re-deemer.

## After Obligation

Moderato  $\text{♩} = 90$

Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips that they speak no guile.

## Before Light

Allegretto  $\text{♩} = 100$

And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

## Light

Recitative

God be merciful unto us and bless us And cause His face to shine up on us.

## After Investment

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth His hand i work.

This musical score is for the section 'After Investment'. It is written in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: 'The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth His hand i work.' The music consists of several measures of music, including a double bar line.

## After Tools

Recitative

Happy is the man that find - eth wisdom, and the man that get - teth un - der - standing.

This musical score is for the section 'After Tools'. It is marked as 'Recitative' and is written in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: 'Happy is the man that find - eth wisdom, and the man that get - teth un - der - standing.' The music consists of several measures of music, including a double bar line.

## Retiring

Recitative

Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, good will to war ds men

This musical score is for the section 'Retiring'. It is marked as 'Recitative' and is written in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: 'Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, good will to war ds men'. The music consists of several measures of music, including a double bar line.

# Third Degree

## Circumambulation

1. Let us re - mem - ber in our youth Be - fore the e - vil days draw nigh, Our  
2. Let us in youth re - mem - ber Him! Who formed our frame and spi - rits gave, Ere  
3. In Youth, to God let me - m'ry cling, Be - fore de - sire shall fail or wane, Ere Or

6  
great cre - a - tor and His Truth! Ere mem - ry fail and plea - sures fly, Or sun, or moon or  
win - dows or the mind grow dim. Or door of spe - ech ob - stru - cted wave, When voice of bird fresh  
e're be loos - ed life's sil - ver string, or at fou - ntain rent in twain, For man to his long

12  
plan - et's light grow dark on clouds re - turn in gloom; Ere vi - tal spa - rk no  
ter - rors wake: And mas - sic's daugh - ters charm no more, Or fear to ri - se with  
home doth go, And mour - ners group a - round his urn; Our dust to dust a -

17  
more in - cite When strength shall bow and years con - sume,  
tre - mbling shake A long the path we tra - vel o'er  
gain must flow And spi - rits u - into God's re - turn.

## Obligation

Recitative



Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart. Be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

## After Obligation

Moderato  $\text{♩} = 90$



Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips that they speak no guile.

## Before Light

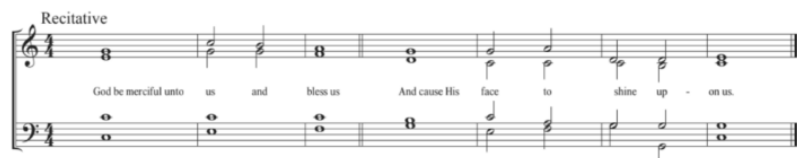
Allegretto  $\text{♩} = 100$



And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

## Light

Recitative



God be merciful unto us and bless us And cause His face to shine up - on us.

## After Investment

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth His hand - i - work.

This musical score is for the section 'After Investment'. It features a vocal line and a bass line in 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The vocal line begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a half note A4, and a whole note B4. The lyrics are: 'The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth His hand - i - work.' The bass line provides harmonic support with chords and single notes.

## After Tools

Recitative

Happy is the man that find - eth wisdom; and the man that get - teth un - der - standing.

This musical score is for the section 'After Tools', marked as 'Recitative'. It is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The vocal line starts with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a half note A4, and a whole note B4. The lyrics are: 'Happy is the man that find - eth wisdom; and the man that get - teth un - der - standing.' The bass line consists of chords and single notes.

## Retiring

Recitative

Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, good - will to - war - ds men.

This musical score is for the section 'Retiring', marked as 'Recitative'. It is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The vocal line begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a half note A4, and a whole note B4. The lyrics are: 'Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, good - will to - war - ds men.' The bass line provides harmonic support with chords and single notes.

# Funeral Dirge

Hymn, C.M.

1. Hark! from the toms a dole - ful sound, Mine  
2. Princ - es, this clay must be your bed, In  
3. Great God, is this our cer - tain doom? And  
4. Grant us the pow'r of quick' - ning grace, To

6  
ears at - tend the cry; Ye liv - ing men, come  
spite of all your towers; The tall, the wise, the  
are we still se - cure? Still wal - king down - ward  
fit our souls to fly, That when we drop this

12  
view the ground Where you must short - ly lie.  
rev' - rend the head, Must lie as low as ours,  
to - the tomb, And yet pre - pare no more?  
dy - ing flesh, We'll rise a - bove the sky.



# Funeral Dirge

## Pleyel's Hymn

woe - emn strikes the fun - 'ral chime, notes of our de -  
 Mort - als, now in - dulge - tear, For Mor - tal i -  
 Here a - noth - er - guest we bring; Se - raphs - i -  
 There, en - larged, thy soul shall see, What was our veiled hearts in  
 Lord of all! be - low a - bove

part - ing time; As we jour - ney here be - low, Thro' a  
 ty is time; here! See how wide her tro - phies wave, O'er the  
 les - tal wing, To our fun - 'ral al - tar - come, place, Show our  
 my - ster - y; love; Heav'n - ly glo - ries of the earth - ly, tic, his  
 truth and; When dis - solves our earth - ly, tic, Take us

14  
 pil - grim - mage of woe,  
 lum - bers and of the grave!  
 friend - er face - ther home,  
 Mak - er face, face, face,  
 to - Thy Lodge to on high.

# Funeral Dirge

## Pleyel's Hymn

woe - emn strikes the fun - 'ral chime, notes of our de -  
 Mort - als, now in - dulge - tear, Mor - tal - de -  
 Here a - now er - guest a we bring: Se - raphs of - i -  
 There en - noth - thy be - soul we shall a - see bove What was our veiled ce -  
 Lord of - laged, all; thy be - low shall a - bove What was our veiled hearts in with

part - ing time; As we jour - ney here be - low, Thro' a  
 ly is here! See how wide her tro - phies wave come, O'er the  
 les - tial wing, To our fun - 'ral al - tar the place, Waft our  
 my - ster - y; love; When dis - solves our earth - ly tie, Show his  
 truth and love; When dis - solves our earth - ly tie, Show his

pil - grim mage of woe.  
 slum - bers and of the grave!  
 friend - er Thy face ther home.  
 Mak - er Thy face to face.  
 to Lodge on on high.

## Additional Sources

TITLE AUTHOR/COMPILER DATE

### Monitors

True Masonic Chart Jeremy L. Cross 1844

New Masonic Trestle-Board Charles W. Moore 1852

The Mystic Circle George H. Gray 1854

Manual of Freemasonry William Taylor 1859

Taylor Hamilton Monitor of the Lodge Sam R. Hamilton 1907

Vest Pocket Trestle-Board C. P. Boon 1912

Official Monitor The Grand Lodge of Texas 1921

### Masonic Song Books

Masonic Melodies Thomas Power 1844

Masonic Music Manum Lodge No. 97 1920

Masonic Musical Ritual Arthur L. E. Davies 1905

Masonic Orpheus Howard M. Dow 1869

Masonic Songs B. Creake & B. Cole 1731

Masonic Songs Old and New W. S. Barlow 1885

Masonick Melodies Luke Eastman 1818

The Freemason's Hymnal Waldemar Malmene 1875

The Freemasons Liber Musicus William Spark 1874

The Masonic Choir John W. Dadmun 1864

The Masonic Harp George W. Chase 1858

The Masonick Minstrel David Vinton 1816

The Masonic Vocal Manual Robert Macoy 1859

The Mystic Chord, Masonic Odes and Melodies Chester W.  
Mabie 1897

The New Masonic Music Manual William H. Janes 1898

The Oriental Masonic Muse Joseph Cooper 1791

The Vocal Companion and Masonic Register John M. Dunham  
1802

## **RESOLUTION NO. 18**

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS,** The current trend of the court systems leans towards charging citizens with a higher crime than the one that was committed. There by elevating charges to the level of a felony to be able to artificially inflate the numbers of felony arrests to gain more federal funding.

**WHEREAS,** Current laws have watered down the use of a felony charge, and often the same charges would not have been considered more than a misdemeanor in the past.

**WHEREAS,** The current pattern of District Attorneys of delaying closure or trial of a case for excessive amounts of time often months or years. Creating a financial burden on the defendants including lost wages, court and attorney fees for each appearance only to be delayed. Then offering the defendant a Deferred Adjudication under the guise of a deal "Probationary State and at the completion of the time the charges are removed" often not explain to the defendant they are accepting a guilty charge in the case.

**WHEREAS,** The Grand Lodge of Texas views a Deferred Adjudication as a felony conviction even though it is a Probationary State and at the completion of the time the charges are removed.

**WHEREAS,** Any Mason convicted of a felony is automatically expelled by the Grand Lodge of Texas. There is no explanation or exception to this to include a Deferred Adjudication.

**WHEREAS,** A Deferred Adjudication is a temporary monitoring or probationary period and is removed from the defendant's record at the completion of the terms.

**WHEREAS,** Each lodge should have sole control of who is and is not permitted to be a part of their membership. The Lodge members know the brother and will have a much better understanding of the details of the event than the members of Grand Lodge.

**WHEREAS,** It is the responsibility of each brother to help another in his time of need and raise him up to be a better man not cast him aside as if he has become unworthy to be taken by the hand as a Brother. Each of us are our Brothers keepers.

**WHEREAS,** Art. 494 Powers, Jurisdiction and duty of Lodges of the grand lodge of Texas Law book clearly states that "Each lodge has to power, jurisdiction and duty to try and punish by reprimand, suspension or expulsion"

**WHEREAS,** Grand Masters decision 1954 - NO. 73 clearly states "Any chartered lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction can try one of its own members regardless of where he is, regardless of whether he is present and **regardless of where the Masonic offense was committed.**"

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Article 509 (4) of the laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas be amended as follows:

**Art. 509. Automatic Suspension or Expulsion.** (no change down to subparagraph 4)

4. In any instance where a Mason is alleged to have committed of a felony and there is a finding of guilty by a court or jury or if a Mason enters a plea of guilty or a plea of nolo contendere to such offense of felony, and the court, after receiving evidence, finds that the defendant is guilty and places the defendant on probation or otherwise suspends the imposition of the sentence, ~~or in the event a defendant is charged with the offense of a felony and enters a plea of guilty or enters a plea of nolo contendere and the court, after hearing evidence, finds that such evidence substantiates the defendant's guilt and defers further proceedings without entering an adjudication of guilt and places~~

~~the defendant on probation~~, such proceedings shall be deemed a conviction of a felony for all purposes relative to this article, and said Mason shall be expelled to be effective as of the date defendant is placed on probation.

*In the event a Mason is charged with the offense of a felony and enters a plea of guilty or enters a plea of nolo contendere and the court, after hearing evidence, finds that such evidence substantiates the defendant's guilt and defers further proceedings without entering an adjudication of guilt and places the defendant on probation, his local lodge shall decide whether to expel or suspend the Brother. If the Brother is a member of more than one lodge, his parent lodge shall have the jurisdiction to decide the issue.*

*If the lodge decides to suspend, rather than expel, then the Brother shall be suspended for the period of time until his probation has expired, or earlier if such probation is discharged by the court. During the period of his suspension the Brother shall not pay dues. After successful completion of the period of probation, then the Brother shall be reinstated to full membership after his suspension in the same manner as a Brother who was suspended for non-payment of dues.*

*If the Brother fails to successfully complete his probation and the court enters a final adjudication, then the Brother shall be expelled by the lodge.*

*It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Lodge to record all the above actions in the minutes of their stated meeting(s) and to thereafter notify the Grand Secretary of same, as well as any other lodge or appendant body of which the Brother may be a member.*

(no change to the remainder of Art. 509, commencing with subparagraph 5, and thereafter to the end of same.)

Submitted by: Michael Garrett, PM Northwest No. 1434  
Terry L Heck, PM Billy W. Tinsley Daylight No. 1458  
Maynard Fernando, PM Albert J DeLange No.1403  
Max Charleswell, PM Alamo No. 44

## **RESOLUTION 19**

Referred to Purposes and Policies, Investments and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS** the Endowed Membership Fund (EMF) is owned by the subordinate lodges by whom contributions have been made, and

**WHEREAS**, the Grand Lodge of Texas has authorized and directed the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Texas to create one or more trusts that resulted in the formation of the EMF Trust, and

**WHEREAS**, the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Texas will retain, on behalf of the subordinate lodges, all investment power over EMF assets, and

**WHEREAS** the subordinate lodges will for whom EMF contributions have been made will be the sole beneficiaries of the EMF Trust, and no other person or entity may benefit from the EMF Trust at any time, and

**WHEREAS** the EMF distribution is a major source of income for many subordinate lodges, and

**WHEREAS**, the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Texas have more investment control than investment firms, the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Texas responsibility to inform the subordinate lodges regarding the EMF Trust should exceed the responsibility investment firms have to the firms' clients, and

**WHEREAS**, acquiring information about the EMF Trust is discouraged and the unanswered questions create doubt and rumors regarding the management of the EMF Trust, and

**WHEREAS** total transparency regarding any issue that involves the financial well-being of the subordinate lodges should be the goal of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Article 163f be added as follows:

**Article 163f. (NEW). Duties of the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Texas to Subordinate Lodges**



All subordinate lodges that have contributed to the Endowed Membership Fund (EMF) or any Grand Lodge of Texas subordinate lodge endowment trusts shall receive prior to August 1<sup>st</sup> a comprehensive report of the endowment program. The report is not limited to but shall include the following information:

An historical chart (since the inception of the endowment program) that indicates for each Masonic year:

1. The annual amount per unit that was dispersed to the subordinate lodges,
2. The annual yield of the endowment's investments,
3. The value per unit prior to the annual dispensation,
4. The value per unit immediately after the annual dispensation.
5. The value and destination of any fees or disbursements to any source other than the subordinate lodges for each Masonic year.
6. The equation to calculate the dispensation of the endowment.

All information requests made by a participating subordinate lodge regarding any Grand Lodge of Texas endowment program that the subordinate lodge has participated in must be addressed to the Grand Secretary's office. The Grand Secretary's office will acquire the requested information and return the information to the subordinate lodge that made the request.

Submitted by: Michael J. Lansford WM Alvin No.762

## RESOLUTION 20

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of Title V of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas A.F. & A.M. is to ensure that a "fair, just, and legal hearing system is afforded to any mason involved in Masonic discipline"; and

**WHEREAS**, the right to a speedy trial is an essential element of a fair, just and legal hearing system; and

**WHEREAS**, Title V currently fails to set any time limitation for the setting of a disciplinary procedure which has resulted in many Brethren waiting years for their "day in court"; and

**WHEREAS**, this extreme delay is unconscionable and unjust as Brethren laboring under Masonic disciplinary action have no rights to a Demit, a certificate of withdrawal, a certificate of good standing, or to be elected or appointed to office, installed in office, or a Masonic burial until their Masonic disciplinary violations have been fully disposed of; and

**WHEREAS**, the failure of Title V to set any time limitation for the setting of a disciplinary procedure also puts our disciplinary laws at risk of being used to disenfranchise Brethren of their Masonic rights without the opportunity for trial or a defense.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Articles 530, 551 and 552 be amended as follows:

### **Art. 530. Time and Place of Disciplinary Procedure.**

**1. ~~1~~** The disciplinary procedure for any Mason laboring under Masonic disciplinary action must be held within (i) one (1) year of the allegations against such Mason being filed with the Secretary of the Lodge pursuant to Art. 511; or (ii) such date as mutually agreed by the accused and the accuser. If the disciplinary procedure is not held on or before the date specified herein, the allegations against the accused will automatically be dismissed and the status of the accused shall be as if he was

acquitted pursuant to Arts. 590 and 598.

A. The only exception that can be made to this timeframe is (1) if criminal charges are pending related to the Masonic charges or (2) if the accused requests the timeframe to be extended past the 1 year period. If (1) is invoked, then the timeframe will be extended to 1 year after the criminal proceedings have concluded.

2. The Disciplinary Procedure Commission shall conduct Masonic disciplinary procedures in a Lodge room or adjoining anteroom, or other room connected therewith, and may, when circumstances warrant, have one or more adjourned meetings during the progress of the disciplinary procedure.

### **Art. 551. Grounds for Continuance.**

Application to continue a Lodge disciplinary procedure for failure to secure service within the time, or as required by Masonic law; for absence of accused, of counsel, or of an important witness; on account of sickness; or for any other just and equitable reason; may be granted by the Trial Master, in his discretion. Provided that such continuance shall not be granted for a longer period than one month and shall not violate Art. 530(1). Applications to continue such disciplinary procedures for a longer time than one month, or to await the action of the courts of the country on allegations against the accused, shall be decided by a majority vote of the Disciplinary Commission in compliance with Art. 530(1).

### **Art. 552. Continuance Shall Be for Definite Time.**

The Disciplinary Procedure Commission, in granting a continuance to an accused, shall fix a specific time for the disciplinary procedure which must be before the time specified in Art. 530(1). No postponement for an indefinite period shall be granted. An indefinite postponement of a disciplinary procedure shall be construed as a failure to hold the disciplinary procedure within the time limits specified in Art. 530(1). ~~dismissal of the allegations, and they cannot again be considered, but new allegations may be filed:~~

## **Art. 553. Postponements Limited.**

On the first application of postponement of a disciplinary procedure, the purpose of which shall be to await the action of the courts of the country shall be granted for a period of time ~~no longer than six months or the time limits specified in Art. 530(1) whichever is shorter. If the courts shall not have acted within that time, the Disciplinary Procedure Commission shall proceed to a disciplinary procedure of the allegations, unless in its sound discretion, upon application therefor, further postponement shall be granted and such postponement would not violate the time limits specified in Art 530(1).~~ Before a second postponement of more than one month shall be granted, the testimony of all important witnesses of the prosecution shall be taken before the Disciplinary Procedure Commission, or a subcommittee consisting of not less than three members thereof, and reduced to writing and signed by each of said witnesses. Said testimony shall be carefully preserved and shall be admissible on the subsequent disciplinary procedure of said accused if any such witness is not present thereat. When the important testimony of any case has been so reduced to writing and signed by the witness or witnesses, the Disciplinary Procedure Commission may grant additional continuances of the case, for reasonable periods, if there appears to be any just or valid reason therefor and such postponements would not violate the time limits specified in Art. 530(1). Such postponements should not be granted in any case of gross immorality, or of reprehensible conduct, of an accused, a postponement of whose Lodge disciplinary procedure would appear to condone such a crime or tend to reflect upon the institution of Masonry. In taking the testimony of witnesses as provided herein, they may be cross-examined by the accused or his counsel.

Submitted by: Christopher Ryland, PM Brookshire No. 106

## **RESOLUTION 21**

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, Article IV, Section 6 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Texas provides for the requirements for Eligibility to Office of the officers of The Grand Lodge of Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, making oneself available to occupy an elected officer position in The Grand Lodge of Texas is a solemn and serious endeavor; and

**WHEREAS**, our officer election process in the past has been drawn out each year due to repeat candidates seeking election of office; and

**WHEREAS**, to avoid said event, a candidate for election of office should not be permitted to run two or more years in a row;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Article IV, Section 6 be amended as follows:

### **Art. IV, Section 6 - Eligibility to Office.**

Subsection 1 - No Changes.

Subsection 1 (a) - No Changes.

*(b) Upon an unsuccessful attempt at election to any office for The Grand Lodge of Texas, said nominee shall be ineligible for nomination or election to any elected office at the next regular session of The Grand Lodge of Texas following the unsuccessful attempt. Eligibility for nomination or election to an office of The Grand Lodge of Texas shall automatically be restored at the completion of the first subsequent regular Grand Lodge session following said nominee's unsuccessful attempt at election.*

Submitted by: Christopher Ryland, PM Brookshire No. 1066

## **RESOLUTION 22**

Referred to Purposes and Policies, Bylaws, and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, Pierce Lodge No. 144, AF & AM desires to adopt a new name to commemorate its relocation to Bremond, Texas after the sale of its old lodge building and prior to the consolidation with Bremond Lodge No. 350 AF & AM and is consistent with the desires of the membership of both Pierce Lodge No. 144 and Bremond Lodge No. 350; and,

**WHEREAS**, A preliminary vote and first reading to consolidate was held at Bremond Lodge No. 350 on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 and at Pierce Lodge No. 144 on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at which time it was agreed by both Lodges to maintain Pierce Lodge's Number of 144 while commemorating our shared quintessential 60-year Master Mason, Howard Lee Vann with Bremond Lodge No. 350 prior to our planned consolidation of June 1, 2025; and,

**WHEREAS**, this name change is approved in order to properly preserve the more than one-hundred-year history of each of these two consolidating Lodges; and

**WHEREAS**, this name change prior to the planned and unanimously approved at three readings at both Lodges will make this planned consolidation almost seamless with the documentation, printing, Bylaws and Charter already revised with the appropriate Lodge Name and Lodge Number; and

**WHEREAS**, a motion to change the name of Pierce Lodge was offered at a Stated Meeting of the Lodge on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, said motion renewing the prior, similar motions that were unanimously approved on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and again on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, thereby unanimously approving to amend the By-Laws of the Lodge in order to change the name; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the name of Pierce Lodge No. 144, AF & AM be changed to Howard Lee Vann No. 144, AF & AM, and, further, that the revised and amended By-Laws of Pierce Lodge be approved therewith.

Submitted by:

Edward Murry Hamilton, Jr., WM Pierce No. 144

Randy Lee Willard, WM Bremond Lodge No. 350

Damon Kyle Gregory, PM Pierce No. 144

David Owens, PM Bremond No. 350

Walter Lee Qualls, PM Pierce Lodge No. 144

Stephen Flint Jones, PM Marlin No. 152

Steve Odom, PM Centerville No. 1291

## **RESOLUTION NO. 23**

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, Title II, Chapter 11, Article 264. Officers Listed expresses the required elected, appointed, and optional Officers of the Lodge as follows:

*The officers of the Lodge and their titles shall be as follows: Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior Steward, Junior Steward, and Tiler.*

*The Lodge may at its option provide in its Bylaws for either a Marshal, Master of Ceremonies or Musician or any or all, of the same. In line of seniority, the Marshal shall follow the Junior Steward, then the Master of Ceremonies, then the Musician, and finally the Tiler. (Revised 1996)*

*Such amendment to the Bylaws shall not require the approval of Grand Lodge. The Committee on Work shall establish the place on the Lodge floor for such officers, prescribe the ritual of installation and define the jewel of such officers.*

**WHEREAS**, Division IV, Chapter II, No. 23. By-Laws (Arts. 218–221) Revised 2006, Article III, Officers of the Lodge expresses the required elected, appointed, and optional Officers of this Lodge as follows:

*The officers of this Lodge shall be a Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, Chaplain, Senior and Junior Deacons, Senior and Junior Stewards, (Marshal and/or Master of Ceremonies and/or Musician optional), and Tiler.*

**WHEREAS**, The Proceedings of the One Hundred Sixty-First Grand Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas A. F. & A. M. held on December 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 1996 (the year in which Article 264 was last revised) reflect 144,884 as the Total Membership as of June 24, 1996, and reflect 907 as Active Working Lodges as of October 31, 1996, and further reflect 4557 as the Net Decrease of Membership for Masonic Year 1995-1996. This data reflects that the average membership of each Lodge was 159.74 Master



Masons and that the average net decrease per Lodge was 5.02 Master Masons.

**WHEREAS**, Grand View for the Grand Lodge of Texas A. F. & A. M. on August 8, 2024 reflects 748 as Chartered Lodges, and reflects a current total of 54,794 Master Masons, and reflects that from June 24, 2023 to June 23, 2024 a total of 658 were Raised, 1798 Deceased, 1356 were Suspended Non-Payment of Dues, and 551 were Reinstated, resulting in 1945 as the Net Decrease of Membership for Masonic Year 2023-2024. This data reflects that the average membership for each Lodge is 73.25 Master Masons and that the average net decrease per Lodge is 2.60 Master Masons.

**WHEREAS**, the constituent Lodges are significantly impacted by the continued decrease in membership and by the resulting decrease in members attending Stated and Called meetings. Lodges cope with this issue in different manners, including requesting a different Member each month to volunteer to be responsible for the meal at a Stated or Called meeting, thus performing the implied duties of the Stewards.

**WHEREAS**, simply stated, many of the constituent Lodges find it increasingly difficult within their active Membership to continue to fulfill the currently required number of appointed Officers to serve during a Masonic Year.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** to amend Article 264 as follows:

*The officers of the Lodge and their titles shall be as follows: Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, ~~Senior Steward, Junior Steward~~, and Tiler.*

*The Lodge may at its option provide in its Bylaws for either **the Senior and Junior Stewards**, a Marshal, Master of Ceremonies or Musician or any or all, of the same. In line of seniority, the **Senior Steward shall follow the Junior Deacon, then the Junior Steward, then the Marshal shall follow the Junior Steward**, then the Master of Ceremonies, then the Musician, and finally the Tiler. (Revised ~~1996~~ **2025**)*

*Such amendment to the Bylaws shall not require the approval of Grand Lodge. The Committee on Work shall establish the place on the Lodge floor for such officers, prescribe the ritual of installation and define the jewel of such officers.*

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** to amend Form 23, Article III as follows:

*The officers of this Lodge shall be a Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, Chaplain, Senior and Junior Deacons, ~~Senior and Junior Stewards~~, (Senior and Junior Stewards, and/or Marshal and/or Master of Ceremonies and/or Musician optional), and Tiler.*

Submitted By: Robert C. Coleman, PM Billy W. Tinsley  
Daylight No. 1458

Stephen E. Orlando, PM Waller Lodge No. 808

R. Carlton Newberry, Jr. PM San Felipe Lodge #239

Albert A. Pinto, PM George N. Denton No. 24

David R. Vest, PM Cypress No. 1423

William C. Craigmyle, PM Humble No. 979

Cody M. Cockroft, PM Morton No. 72

## RESOLUTION NO. 24

Referred to Purposes and Policies and Jurisprudence

**WHEREAS**, the *Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas* provide that a Grand Master may be suspended from office by the Grand Lodge for sufficient cause; and

**WHEREAS**, the laws are ambiguous as to the method, manner, or procedure to execute the suspension of a Grand Master; and

**WHEREAS**, there may arise circumstances where it is advisable for the Grand Trustees (other than the Grand Master), upon unanimous decision, to suspend a Grand Master because of exigent and emergency conditions which, if not addressed immediately, may negatively affect the Craft; and

**WHEREAS**, any such suspension should be promptly submitted to the Grand West for review in order to both afford the suspended Grand Master a full hearing on the reasons for the suspension and for the Grand West to consider removal or reinstatement of the suspended Grand Master; and

**WHEREAS**, an amendment of Article 36 to set forth these procedures is in the best interest of the Grand Lodge of Texas;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Division III, Title I, Chapter 7, Article 36 of the *Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas* be amended as follows:

### **Article 36. Suspension from Office**

- (a) The Grand Master may be suspended from office for sufficient cause as determined by the unanimous vote of the remaining Trustees of the Grand Lodge after due notice and hearing.
- (b) In the event the Grand Master is suspended by unanimous vote of the Trustees, the Deputy Grand Master shall call a special communication of the Grand Lodge to be held within 60 days of the Trustees' vote, unless the vote is taken within 60 days ahead of the annual communication.
  1. At the special session, the suspension shall be taken up by resolution and evidence presented by the Trustees (or their representative) and, if applicable, by the Grand Master

- (or his representative). A two-thirds majority vote by the lodges and members present at the special session shall remove the Grand Master from office. If the two-thirds majority is not achieved, the Grand Master shall be immediately reinstated.
2. Should the vote of the Trustees fall within 60 days ahead of the annual communication, the suspension of the Grand Master shall be taken up in the manner prescribed in paragraph (b)(1) of this section as the first order of business held on the first day after a quorum shall have been established, unless otherwise provided by resolution.
- (c) While a suspension of the Grand Master is effective, the suspended Grand Master shall not be counted for purposes of determining quorum or majority vote related to any provisions of Grand Lodge law.
- (d) Should the Grand Master be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the lodges and members present, he shall not be afforded the title or prerogatives of Past Grand Master, but shall retain the title of Past Deputy Grand Master or Past Grand Warden as the case may be.
- (e) The provisions of this article shall be independent of any of the provisions of Title V of the *Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas* addressing Masonic discipline.

Submitted by: Jim Rumsey, PM Pine Tree No. 1396

## **RESOLUTION NO. 25**

**WHEREAS**, the order of business, as provided for in Article 165 of The Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas, for the Grand Annual Communication does not allow for any resolutions or new business to be addressed on the first day of the Communication; and

**WHEREAS**, many of the formalities provided for in Article 165 as specified to be addressed on the first day of the Annual Communication have historically been addressed in the pre-opening ceremonies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Presiding Officer is afforded parliamentary authority over all matters relating to Order;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Division III, Title I, Chapter 20, Article 165 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas be amended as follows:

Article 165. Order of Business: First Day

On the first day of each Annual Communication, after this Grand Lodge is opened, the order shall be:

1. The roll of Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, and members ~~shall~~ may be called by the Grand Secretary if not called during the pre-opening ceremonies.
2. A and if a quorum of the representatives of Lodges be present shall be attested by the Grand Secretary then,
3. Distinguished Visitors and the Grand Representative of other Grand Jurisdictions ~~shall~~ may be received if not received during the pre-opening ceremonies.
4. The Grand Master shall report his official acts done during recess.
5. The Grand Master ~~shall~~ may appoint the committees not appointed during recess.
6. Reports of other Grand Officers ~~shall~~ may be received.
7. Reports of Committees may be received.
8. The address of the Grand Orator may be heard.
9. Unfinished business
10. New business.

Submitted by Jim Rumsey, PM Pine Tree No. 1396  
Justin Duty, PM M. Denton Stanford No. 594

**STATEMENTS OF  
AVAILABILITY**



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## Statements of Availability For Grand Junior Warden



**H.N. "Chip" Green, Jr.**

Tarkington Prairie Lodge No. 498

Raised April 21, 2008 Endowed Member 2008 Junior Warden  
2010-2011 Senior Warden 2011-2012 Worshipful Master 2012-  
2013 Treasurer 2017-Present Golden Trowel 2018

Bedias Lodge No. 651

Endowed 2019

Tranquility Lodge No. 2000

Endowed Member 2018 Junior Warden, 2023 – 2024

Humble Lodge No.979

Endowed 2020 Texas Lodge of Research Endowed 2022

Washington Lodge No. 18

Endowed 2023

Masters Wardens & Secretaries Association

27<sup>th</sup> Masonic District, President 2015 30<sup>th</sup> Masonic District 2020

Grand Lodge of Texas

District Deputy Grand Master 2015 – District 27 District

Education Officer, 2018 District Deputy Grand Master 2020 – At

Large Grand Pursuivant 2021 Dime-A-Day 2008-Present Sam

Houston Hall of Fame, 2015 Patron Grand Lodge Library and

Museum, 2018: Gold Seal 2020 Public Education Committee  
2020 Present—Chairman Grand Master Conference Regional  
Coordinator -2021 Texas Masonic Charities Foundation 2021-  
Present- Board Member Assistant State Coordinator 2023 Special  
Assignments Committee 2023-2024

Education

Tarkington High School Graduate 1979

Personal / Professional / Civic

Worked at Union Tank Car Co. Area Manager – 1980 – 2010

Retired Roundhouse 2010-Present – Part Time Cleveland

Livestock Show – 1991 President 1997

Trinity Valley Exposition – 1991-2015: Vice President of

Grounds and Logistics 2008-2015 Cleveland FFA Alumni –

Charter Member Texas FFA Alumni Council – Area IX

Representative 1997-2000 Liberty County Appraisal Review

Board 2016-2022: Chairman 2017-2021 Houston Livestock Show

Life Member Ducks Unlimited – Major Sponsor

Family Wife – Sonda Children Brandon, Tiffany



**Robert M. Park**

**Alamo Lodge No. 44 Merit No. 727**

Worshipful Master 2018-2019

Secretary 2023-2024

**Centennial No. 500**

Reconstituting charter member

Secretary 2023-2024

**Cibolo No. 151**

**Highland Hills No 1373**

**Grand Lodge of Texas**

District Deputy Grand Master – Masonic District 39C –  
2020

Civil Law Committee 2022 Chairman 2022-2023 Vice

Chairman 2023-Present

**Education**

Texas State University, BA Art History 2007

St. Mary's University School of Law, JD 2011, Summa  
Cum Laude

**Personal / Professional / Civic**

Partner at Uhl Fitzsimons PLLC, 2011-Present

Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation

Board Certified in Oil, Gas and Mineral Law 2016-Present

Christ Episcopal Church, San Antonio – Member  
Board Member Acorn School for Young Children  
Board Member San Antonio Scottish Rite Learning Center  
Chairman of San Antonio Scottish Rite Library & Museum  
Corporation

**Family**

Wife – Carly

Daughters – Claire, Cora, Cate



**Keith Reynolds**

**Davy Crockett Lodge NO. 1225**

Raised – August 26, 1986

Endowed Member

Secretary – 1995-1998 and 2005-2010

Worshipful Master – 1994 and 2017

Golden Trowel Award – 2004 and 2024

Life Member – 2010

**Plural and Endowed Memberships**

Rising Star Ranger Lodge No. 429 (Endowed)

Secretary, 2022 – present

Point Isabel Lodge No. 33 – member

Tranquility Lodge No. 2000 – member

**Grand Lodge of Texas**

District 39 Funeral Master

Class “A” Certificate – 1991-Present

Lifetime Esoteric Certificate Holder

District Instructor – 2010-2017

District Deputy Grand Master 2015-2017

District Deputy Grand Master 2019-2020

Sam Houston Hall of Fame (full member)

Committee on Work 2017-2024 (Chairman 2020 & 2022)

**Education**

Thomas Edison High School  
Angelo State University, San Angelo  
San Antonio College, San Antonio

**Business / Professional**

Washington National Insurance, Life and Disability  
Insurance – 1982-1988  
Reynolds Insurance Agency, Property and Casualty – 1988-  
1992 – Sold  
Texas Dept. of Licensing, AC License  
Gillit's Duct Cleaning – General Manager – 1992-2008  
Gillit's Duct Cleaning – Owner – 2009-2023 – Sold &  
Retired

**Family**

Wife, Terri Gwen since – 1979  
2 Children – (W. Burt, Wife Ana) & (Michael L., Wife  
Jessica) 5 Grand Children

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## Statements of Availability for Grand Secretary



**Brad S. Billings**

**Trinity Valley Lodge No. 1048**

Raised: February 21, 2007

Worshipful Master, 2012

Endowed Member

**Texas Lodge of Research**

Worshipful Master, 2015

Full Member

Endowed Member

**Grapevine Lodge No. 288**

Treasurer, 2023

Endowed Member

**J.F. Brumit–Sunshine Lodge No. 341**

Endowed Member

Life Member

**Crawford Lodge No. 585**

Endowed Member



**Sweet Home Lodge No. 576**

Endowed Member

**Tranquility Lodge No. 2000**

Endowed Member

**Northern Star Lodge No. 377**

Reconstituting Charter Member

Endowed Member

**Claud L. Austin Lodge No. 1450**

Endowed Member

**Tyrian Lodge No. 187**

Reconstituting Charter Member

Endowed Member

**Huffman Lodge No. 1428**

Endowed Member

**Blanco Lodge No. 216**

Endowed Member

**Freedom Lodge No. 100**

Endowed Member

**Grand Lodge of Texas**

Grand Secretary 2023 – Present

Grand Master 2022

Deputy Grand Master 2021

Grand Senior Warden 2020

Grand Junior Warden 2019

Grand Junior Steward 2015 District Deputy Grand Master, District 64-B 2017

District Education Officer District 14-E – 2018

Purposes &amp; Policies Committee 2013-2018

Vice-Chairman 2018

Special Assignments Committee 2018

Grand Master's Planning Team 2018

Grand Master's DDGM Training Team 2018

Esoteric B Certificate 2008 – 2013

Esoteric A Certificate 2013 – Present Sam Houston Hall of Fame Member 2018

Briscoe Workshop Coordinator Districts 14 &amp; 64, 2017, 2018

**Masters', Wardens', & Secretaries' Associations**14<sup>th</sup> Masonic District of Texas

President, 2013

Vice President, 2012

Secretary / Treasurer, 2011

**Dallas Masonic Service Bureau**

President – 2019

Vice-President – 2018

**Conference of Grand Masters of North America**

Masonic Renewal Committee – Core Member (Grand Lodge of Texas)

**Personal Profile/ Professional Profile/ Civic Involvement**

Grand Secretary – Grand Lodge of Texas 2023-Present

Compass Christian Church – member Stephen F. Austin Chapter 6,

Sons of the Republic of Texas Honorary Member

Texas Navy – Admiral

Alcalde de San Antonio

Hidalgo de Bexar

Keys to the cities of Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico and Seagraves, Texas

John B. Jones Masonic Ranging Company – Major

**Education**

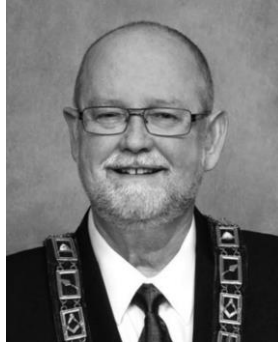
Bachelor of Business Administration: Finance, Economics and International Business, Rawls College of Business, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas: 2006

Seagraves High School, Seagraves, Texas

**Family**

Brittany Billings – Wife

Grayson Bexar Billings – Son



**Paul D. Underwood**

**Mesquite Lodge No. 928**

Raised July 9, 1973

**Johnson City Lodge No. 561**

Affiliated May 21, 1996

Master 2000-2001

Secretary 2003-2005

Endowed 2000

Golden Trowel 2018

50 Year Service Award

**Union Lodge No. 82**

Charter Member 2020

**Blanco Lodge No. 216**

Endowed 2018

**Ocean Lodge No. 230**

Charter Member 2020

**Phoenix Lodge No. 275**

**Live Oak Lodge No 304**

Endowed 2014

**San Marcos Lodge No. 342**

Endowed 2011

**Eureka Lodge No. 371**

**Rambo Lodge No. 426**

Golden Trowel 2014  
Endowed 2014

**Sweet Home Lodge No. 576**

**Azle Lodge No. 601**

**Whitt Lodge No. 624**

**Buda Lodge No. 800**

**Mesquite Lodge No. 928**

**Emma Lodge No. 931**

**Park Place Lodge No. 1172**

Endowed 2019

**Oso Naval Lodge No. 1282**

Endowed 2016

Secretary 2014

**Richland Hills No. 1348**

Endowed 2022

**Sunset Lodge No. 1388**

Endowed 2016

**Wimberley Lodge No. 1445**

Endowed 2019

**Claud L. Austin Lodge No. 1450**

Endowed 2020

**Fort Worth Stock Show No. 1460**

**Texas Lodge of Research**

**Tranquility Lodge No. 2000**

**Grand Lodge of Texas**

Grand Master 2020

Grand Lodge Library & Museum – Board of Directors, Treasurer  
2023-2024

Masonic Home & School of Texas – Board of Directors 2011-  
2015, Vice President 2011-2013, Treasurer 2012-2015

District Deputy Grand Master, District 52 2008-2009

Masonic Home Graduates Advisory Committee – Member 2007-  
2014,

2015-2016, Chairman 2013-2014

Take Time to Read Committee – Member 2011-2014, Chairman  
2013-2014

Grand Representative, Grand Lodge of Connecticut 2018 – Present

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Sam Houston Hall of Fame - \$5,000 Patron

**Education**

Masonic Home & School Graduate 1970

University of North Texas Graduate – BBA, Accounting – 1974

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor – Kambach Management Center 1982

Center for Creative Leadership, Greensboro, NC – 1983

**Personal / Professional/ Civic**

Masonic Home & School of Texas – Ward of Hillsboro Lodge No. 196

Resident Student 1962-1970

Masonic Home & School Graduate 1970

Masonic Home Ex-Students Association, President 2009, Vice-President 2008, Treasurer 2007

McCaulay Memorial Masonic Scholarship Fund

President – 2009, Vice-President 2008, Treasurer 2007

Shriners Hospital for Children/Houston – Board of Governors, 2011-2020, Emeritus Status

Bob Bullock – Comptroller of Public Accounts – Auditor/Director 1974-2005

Multistate Tax Commission – Director of Audit and Administration 1988-1991

Underwood Consulting/Auditing – Owner – 2005-2018

Project Management Professional (PMP) Certification – 2005

**Family**

Widowed – married to Rebecca Cumbie Underwood 50 years

Three adult children, ten grandchildren

## Statements of Availability for Committee on Work



**Douglas A. Brown**

**Reagan Lodge No.1037**

Raised September 20, 2005

Worshipful Master 2010 – 2011

Secretary 2012 – 2015

Endowed Membership 2012

**Tranquility Lodge No. 2000**

Endowed Membership 2013

Gunsight Lodge No. 838

Charter Membership 2022

**Grand Lodge of Texas**

Class A Certificate 2009 – Present

District Deputy Grand Master District 30E 2016

District Instructor District 30E 2017 – Present

Retired in 2022

Chemical Plant and Refinery Piping Design Bechtel Corp, KBR,  
Dow Chemical and Jacobs Engineering

**Family**

Wife – Leonidas

Children – James, Alexandra

2 Grandsons



**Cody M. Cockroft**

**Morton Lodge No. 72**

Raised October 22, 2014

Worshipful Master 2017 – 2018

Secretary 2018 – Present

Endowed 2021

Golden Trowel 2022

**Valley Lodge No. 175**

Plural Member: May 11, 2019

**Rosenberg Lodge No. 881**

Plural Member July 19, 2016

Worshipful Master 2019-2020

Chaplain 2018-2019; 2021-Present

Endowed 2019

**Sugar Land Lodge No. 1141**

Plural Member: July 18, 2022

Senior Deacon: 2024 – Present

**Texas Lodge of Research**

Member

Editor of Occasional Bulletin 2023 – Present

**Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas**

Class A Certificate in the Work: 2015 – Present

District Education Officer 2018



District Deputy Grand Master 2019  
District Instructor 2020 – Present  
District Deputy Grand Master at Large 2023  
District Communications Officer 2024  
Masonic Education & Service (Volunteer) 2019 – 2020 (Member)  
2021 (Chairman) 2022, 2023  
Special Assignments Committee 2022, 2023  
Grand Master's Planning Team 2023  
DDGM Training Team 2023  
Grand Master Planning Team 2024  
Virtual Treasurer's School (2022 – Present)  
William M. Beck Award 2024

### **Master Wardens and Secretaries Association**

District No. 108 Vice President 2018, President 2019

### **Education**

High School Diploma: Burnet High School, Burnet, Texas 1994  
Bachelor of Science Degree, Civil Engineering: Texas A&M  
University 2000  
Master of Engineering, Engineering Management: University of  
Texas at Austin 2006

### **Personal / Professional / Civic**

Texas Masonic Charities Foundation Director 2021, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice  
President 2022, President: 2023 – Present  
DeMolay International Imperial Chapter DAD – 2021 – Present  
(charter advisor)  
Principal and Vice President of Freese & Nichols, Inc. – Houston,  
Texas 2007 to Present  
Professional Engineer licensed in Texas and Louisiana.  
Morton Hall Preservation Society Charter Member 2017, Secretary  
2017 – 2023, President 2023 – Present  
City of Burnet Historical Commission 2005 – 2007  
Kingsland Baptist Church Sunday School Teacher for 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>  
grade children 2009 – Present Life Group Leader/mentor for 10<sup>th</sup> –  
12<sup>th</sup> grade young men 2021 – Present  
Youth Mission Leader (domestic and international)

### **Family**

Wife – Kina  
Children – Brendan, Quinlan, Kullen, Tristan, Ethan



**David W. Matzas**

**C.F. Spencer Lodge No. 1384**

Raised May 23, 2005

Worshipful Master 2009 – 2010

Treasurer 2011 – Present

Golden Trowel 2015

**Anson Jones Lodge No. 1416**

Plural Member – 2010

**Lone Star Lodge No. 660**

Plural Member – 2014

**Grand Lodge of Texas**

A Certificate 2007 – Present

District Deputy Grand Master 2021

District Instructor 2013 – Present

**Education**

Texas Tech University, Veterinary Medicine 1976 – 1979

Aviation Flight & Mechanical School 1979 – 1981

Private Pilots License 1979 – 1991

**Personal / Professional / Civic**

General Motors Fixed Advisory Board

General Motors Warehouse Council

Beck & Masten Buick GMC

Parts director 2004 – Present

Bill Heard Chevrolet 1999 – 2004

West Point Parts Center 1990 – 1999

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Lions Club of Pearland

Rainbow Assembly Pearland Board Member

**Family**

Wife – LuAnn

Children – Sam, Curt, Amy, Steve

Grand Children – Andi, Jesse, Nikko, Kali, Ally

Son-in Law – Jesse

Daughter-in-Law – Traci

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## Statements of Availability for Masonic Home and School Board



**John R. Clements**

**Greenville Lodge No. 335**

Raised August 8, 1993

Secretary 2005 - 2006

Worshipful Master 1998 - 1999

Endowment Member 1998 -1999

**Masters Wardens and Secretary's Association**

District 8 President 2004 - 2005

**Grand Lodge of Texas**

District Deputy Grand Master 1999 - 2000

District Education Officer 1999

Grand Junior Stewart 2000 - 2001

2001 Planning Team

2002 Planning Team

2002 DDGM Training Team

2006 Planning Team

Masonic Membership Chairman 2001

**Masonic Education and Service: 2004**

Masonic Home and School Board of Trustees 2007 – Present

President of Masonic Home and School 2016 – Present

**Personal/Professional / Civic**

Bachelor's Degree Texas A&M Commerce 1988

Master of Education Texas A&M Commerce 2002

Public Education Teacher of Mathematics, and Administrator

Retired from Public Education

City of Diboll Zoning and Planning Commission Member

Diboll United Methodist Church, Diboll, Texas



**Gregory M. Wright**

**Fort Worth Lodge No 148**

Raised August 2014

Worshipful Master 2017

Endowed Member 2016

**Masters', Wardens' & Secretaries' Association - Masonic  
District 64**

President 2020

Vice President 2019

Secretary/treasurer 2017-18

**Grand Lodge of Texas**

District Deputy Grand Master

2020 Masonic District No 64A

Grand Photographer 2022

Texas Masonic History Committee 2022-present

Memorials Committee 2021

Grand Ambassador Gand Lodge of Baja California, MX- 2022 to  
present

**Education**

Bachelor of Business Administration

Finance / Accounting

University of North Texas - 2004

**Personal / Professional /Civic**

Engle Martin Insurance Adjusters -Executive General Adjuster

Board of Directors New Horizons Home for Children 2022-present

Board of Directors Education Without Borders 2006-2016

University of North Texas Real Estate Alumni Board of Directors  
2010-2014

**Family**

Wife - Angela Wright

Children - Madelyn, Amelia, Ana, Austin



## Statements of Availability for Library and Museum Board



**Corey M. Harris**

**Arlington Lodge No. 438**

Raised 5/31/2012.

Worshipful Master 2017-2018

**Sweet Home Lodge No. 576**

Member 2015

**Tranquility Lodge No. 2000**

Member 2017

Texas Lodge of Research

Full Member 2020

**Hillcrest Lodge No. 1318**

Member 2020

**Grand Lodge of Texas**

District Deputy Grand Master 64-D -2021

Grand Tiler – 2022

Grand Master Planning Team 2021

Grand Master Planning Team 2022

Grand Representative MW GL of Prince Hall Masons 2022

District Communications Officer 64-D – 2018

Sam Houston Hall of Fame Full Member – 2018

Esoteric “Class A” Certificate 2019 - Present

Texas History Committee – Vice Chair – 2021

Real Estate Committee – Chairman – 2022

**Education**

University of Texas at Arlington

Bachelor of Science – Philosophy – 2011

**Personal / Professional/ Civic**

Dream City Realty - Realtor, Associate Broker

Arlington Board of Realtors -Secretary Treasurer 2023

Arlington Board of Realtors – President Elect 2024

Arlington Board of Realtors - Realtor of the Year -2022

Texas Association Realtors - Texas Real Estate Political Action  
Committee - State Regional Trustee for (Region 3 – Johnson and  
Tarrant Counties)

Greater Arlington Lions Club

Member 2011-Present, President 2016, Treasurer 2015-Present.

Citizens Environmental committee City of Arlington (Council  
appointment) - 2021- Present

Arlington Mayor Jim Ross’s Real Estate Advisory Council (Mayor  
appointed) - 2021 - Present.

Greater Arlington Chamber of Commerce

**Family**

Wife- Christina Harris

Children- Luke, Lizzy, Zander

## Notes

## Notes