
2026 PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED

INCLUDING RECOMMENDATIONS AND
STATEMENTS OF AVAILABILITY



TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE
190TH GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION
TO BE HELD
JANUARY 15, 16, & 17, 2026

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 STRUCK THROUGH

Civil Law

Wesson H. Tribble, Chairman

Finance

Ronald C. Wise, Chairman

Fraternal Relations

Christian D. Moore, Chairman

Masonic Education

Christophor J. Galloway, Chairman

Masonic Jurisprudence

Russell C. Brown, Chairman

Membership

Charles E. Ivy, Chairman

Purposes and Policies

Lawrence E. Tucker, Chairman

Photography

Charles E. Broussard, Chairman

Work

Steven R. Pepper, Chairman

HOLDOVER RESOLUTION NO. 24
Referred to Purposes and Policies, 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 Lodge No. 1396

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 1
Referred to Committee on Civil Law

WHEREAS, at the 2014 Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas, Grand Master's Recommendation No. 2 regarding background checks for petitioners was adopted by this Body; and

WHEREAS, Grand Master's Decision 2015 - No. 2 specifically permits individuals from obtaining a background check from public records or public data sources, such as the Texas Department of Public Safety, for private use; and

WHEREAS, technology since those determinations has advanced to the point that such background checks of petitioners can be easily ordered through Grandview via a third-party vendor; and

WHEREAS, Texas Masonry has a need to check the backgrounds of petitioners and suspended members who seek reinstatement after three or more years' suspension beyond the abilities of our current system of candidate investigation, as set forth in Art. 407;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Article 401 be added as follows:

Art. 401. Background Checks on Petitioners and Suspended Masons.

For all petitioners for the degrees in Freemasonry, and for all petitions for reinstatement for any Masons who have been suspended for any reason for three years or more, a check of the petitioner's background shall be ordered. This background check shall be provided via the Grandview membership management portal by a third-party vendor, with expenses to be borne by the petitioner and not by the lodge requesting the background check.

Submitted by:

Justin B. Duty PM – M. Denton Stanford Lodge No. 594

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 2
Referred to Committee on Finance

WHEREAS, Grand Lodge Law provides for the creation and operation of the Grand Lodge Assistance Fund; and

WHEREAS, Art. 163(8) provides that \$0.25 of the per capita paid by Texas lodges is used to fund the Grand Lodge Assistance Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Lodge Assistance Fund has grown to over \$2,000,000.00 in value which sum is held largely in income producing investments managed by the Grand Lodge Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the annual income to the Grand Lodge Assistance Fund from its investments and the income which such fund is anticipated to receive in the future substantially exceed the requests of the Brethren for relief from such fund; and

WHEREAS, the conditions and limitations on the use of the Grand Lodge Assistance Fund to aid distressed Brothers as provided in Art. 125 of Grand Lodge Law, the resources available from other Masonic and non-Masonic sources, and the decline in Masonic membership make it increasingly unlikely that the Grand Lodge Assistance Fund will require additional funding; and

WHEREAS, redirecting a portion of the per capita which currently funds the Grand Lodge Assistance Fund to the general operations of the Grand Lodge of Texas will prevent or delay an increase in the per capita at a time when lodges across Texas are already struggling; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; that Art. 163(8) be repealed.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; that Art. 163(10) be amended to read as follows: 10. For the Grand Lodge General Fund to be remitted by the Lodge with its Annual Returns, for each member on the rolls of the Lodge, the sum of \$.50 required by Section 2 of Article IX plus ~~\$19.75~~ *\$19.90*, the total sum of ~~(Revised 2020) \$20.25~~ *\$20.40*

Submitted by:
Richard C. Townsend
Grand Treasurer

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 3
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS, conducting a single, annual review of more than one hundred forms is impractical while the same business could be addressed in smaller increments throughout the year thereby making the process more efficient for the staff, committees, and Trustees;

WHEREAS, a review conducted as needed would allow those involved to focus on the forms of greatest importance to the Masons of Texas and ensure their timely revision or reform; and

WHEREAS, in the coming years, nearly all of the more than one hundred forms will require amendment, deletion, or digitization to better serve the membership, improve file storage, and facilitate the efficient analysis of data;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Art. 74b be revised to the following:

Art. 74b. Review of Grand Lodge Forms. The Grand Secretary, with approval of a majority of the Grand Lodge Trustees and the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, shall ~~annually~~ *periodically* review, revise, add or delete all Masonic Forms ~~for compliance~~ *as may be necessary or appropriate*. All forms must comply with the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas or serve for the efficient conduct of the business of the fraternity. (Adopted 2021)

Submitted by:

Bradley S. Billings PM – Trinity Valley Lodge No. 1048

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 4
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS for years this Grand Lodge has been using a Minimum Audit Form 71 which in itself has not been updated and currently does not reflect the detailed line items which many Lodges may need in order to reflect their fund raisers, raffles, property rentals, royalties and other items which are detailed in the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) series of forms 990 which must be completed by all Lodges as required in Art. 284a; and

WHEREAS, additions regarding the charitable reporting details found after the Total Assets lines of the existing Minimum Audit Form 71 are in some ways erroneous and or not quite correct, and

WHEREAS, Lodges have been approved as primarily charitable by the Comptroller of Public Accounts as allowed by the Laws of the State of Texas, and all Lodges have been instructed to keep records as to their charitable activities and report same to themselves and to the Grand Lodge via Minimum Audit Form 71, and

WHEREAS, in many parts of the Grand Lodge Charter and Constitution, significant points are made regarding “Our Charitable and Benevolent” purposes and such charitable reporting including the valuing of hours, mileage and computations may not have been clearly communicated and such details stand for annual adjustments such as value of hourly volunteer time as available and compiled by the Independent Sector Research and Reporting of volunteer time whose values has been accepted by the State of Texas and by the IRS it is important that all Lodges be using the same value for all instances of reporting charitable activities, and

WHEREAS, it is believed to be important to additionally clarify and codify spirit of Grand Master decisions of 1993 No. 6 and 2014 No. 3 and include the significance of their decisions in this Article, and

WHEREAS we believe it is important to illustrate proposals of forms recommended in this resolution, illustrations of the revised Minimum Audit Form (Form 71) and the substitute Minimum Audit Form are included as a part of this resolution both for the consideration of this resolution and for guidance to the Grand Secretary should the resolution pass (The Minimum Audit Form exemplar explains where to find the correct valuation for charitable hours and mileage and the Substitute Minimum Audit Form exemplar additionally explains the Gross Receipts and Assets levels that are required for detailed IRS series 990 returns).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Article 284 be revised (revisions in *bold italics* and deletions noted by strike-thru):

Art. 284. ~~Duty to Require Audits~~ Financial Responsibility and Duty to File Required Audits.

It shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master as soon after the 24th of June each year as ~~convenient~~ *reasonably possible* to appoint a committee of three qualified members (*not to include the sitting Worshipful Master, Senior or Junior Warden, Treasurer or Secretary, or the Treasurer or Secretary from the immediate past masonic year*), a certified or a public accountant, whose duty it shall be to audit books and accounts of the Treasurer and Secretary and make prompt report thereof in writing to the Lodge, said report shall be read to the Lodge in open stated communication and be recorded in full in the minutes. The auditors’ report shall fully show

the total amounts of receipts and disbursements during the past year and any balance remaining on hand. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer and Secretary to make all their books and records available to the Committee or accountant appointed to audit same. A properly completed and signed copy of the Minimum Audit Form No. 71, *which may be used by Lodges who do not meet the requirements to file a detailed report to the IRS (see Art. 284a) or a Minimum Audit Form Substitute to facilitate the transmission of financial records of Lodges required to file detailed IRS 990 or 990-EZ* shall be delivered to the Grand Secretary no later than September 15th each year. *Lodges must maintain a Lodge Annual Charitable Report backed up by reports of individuals whose tallies are to be included in the respective Minimum Audit Form and shall be inspected by the District Deputy Grand Master.* If the Lodge by resolution or by its bylaws requires a bond for any officer of the Lodge authorized to handle the funds of the Lodge, it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master to have all officers of the Lodge authorized to handle the Lodge funds covered by such bond. (Revised 2011 **2026**)

Submitted by:

Guy W. Anderson PM – Blanco Lodge No. 216

Curtis A. Gilgan PM – Onion Creek No. 220

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 5
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS, the Grand Lodge of Texas recognizes the increasing importance of high-quality audio and visual capabilities in supporting its communications, ceremonies, educational programs, and public outreach;

AND WHEREAS, the consistent and professional management of audio/visual resources is essential to ensure the success of Grand Lodge events and to preserve the dignity and clarity of Masonic proceedings;

AND WHEREAS, the Grand Lodge has relied on ad hoc arrangements and temporary volunteers to manage audio/visual needs, which has led to inconsistent outcomes and operational inefficiencies;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that article 105 be amended to add as follows:
Art. 105. Enumeration and Tenure.

The following Committees of the Grand Lodge, each consisting of seven members, except the Committee on Civil Law and the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence which shall consist of 14 members each, shall be Permanent:

1 through 22: No Change

23. *On Audio Visual*

Remainder of article, no change.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that article 126 be amended to add as follows:

Art. 126n. Committee on Audio Visual

The Committee on Audio Visual shall be a Permanent Committee which shall meet the criteria of Art. 105 hereof except that the Committee shall be composed of Master Masons who are each a member and Past Master, if available, in good standing of a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction; the Chairman shall at all times be a member of this Grand Lodge. The Committee shall be responsible for planning, coordinating, and executing all audio and visual requirements for Grand Lodge events, including but not limited to Annual Communications, special sessions, educational broadcasts, and archival of any and all produced media through proper and secure Masonic channels. The Committee shall consist of no fewer than seven members, each appointed by the Grand Master. Members shall have experience or demonstrated interest in audio/visual technology, event production, and/or communications. Additionally, the Committee shall be responsible for, or provide consultation for:

- 1. Assessing and maintaining audio/visual equipment owned by the Grand Lodge;*
- 2. Developing standards and best practices for audio/visual operations;*
- 3. Coordinating with other committees and officers to support event needs;*
- 4. Training volunteers and lodge members in basic A/V operations; and*
- 5. Recommending budgetary needs and improvements to the Grand Trustees and the Governing Board of the Grand Lodge Library and Museum.*

The Committee shall report annually to the Grand Lodge, providing a summary of activities, challenges, and recommendations.

Submitted by:

Christopher Michael Holder PM – Jacques Demolay No. 1390

D. Lee Kinser PM – Hill City No. 456

Jeffrey R. Holder PM – Jacques Demolay No. 1390

Charles E. Ivy PM – Jacques Demolay No. 1390

A. Craig Enderli PM – Cedar Bayou No. 321

James Fisher PM – Reagan No. 1037

Dustin Tunello PM – League City No. 1053

Cyrus “Mike” Mistry PM – League City No. 1053

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 6
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS, in the year 2000, Right Worshipful Past Grand Master David Dibrell recommended to the Grand Lodge of Texas the creation of a committee responsible for promoting internet activities and assisting the Grand Lodge and its constituent Lodges through education and implementation of technology and the internet; and

AND WHEREAS, the consistent and professional management of technical resources is essential to the successful operation of the Grand Lodge of Texas; and

AND WHEREAS, the current Internet Committee is charged with managing, on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Texas, its official websites, its social media accounts, the “TX Mason” mobile application, the “Brotherhood of Light” online learning management system, and serving as a technology consultant to the Grand Lodge Trustees—specifically the Grand Secretary’s Office—on matters regarding the member management system (Grand View), as well as hardware and software; and

AND WHEREAS, the title “Internet Committee” no longer accurately reflects the scope and responsibilities of this Permanent Committee;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that article 105 be amended as follows:

Art. 105. Enumeration and Tenure.

The following Committees of the Grand Lodge, each consisting of seven members, except the Committee on Civil Law and the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence which shall consist of 14 members each, shall be Permanent:

1 – 18 NO CHANGE

19. On ~~the Internet~~ *Technology*.

20 – 22 NO CHANGE

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that article 126i be amended as follows:

Art. 126i. Committee on ~~Internet~~ *Technology*.

The Committee on ~~Internet~~ *Technology* shall be a Permanent Committee which shall meet the criteria of Art. 105 hereof except that the Committee shall be composed of Master Masons who are each a member and a Past Master, if available, in good standing of a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction; the Chairman shall at all times be a member of this Grand Lodge. In matters pertaining to the formulation, promulgation and dissemination of Masonic information, said Committee shall be guided by a strict observance of the Landmarks, Ancient Customs and Usages of Freemasonry and such rules and regulations as may be adopted by the Grand Trustees or prescribed by this Grand Lodge. The activities of the Committee shall be under the general supervision of the Grand Master and no new material or literature shall be promulgated until it has been approved by the Grand Trustees.

Submitted by:

A. Craig Enderli PM – Cedar Bayou Lodge No. 321

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 7
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS, Chapter 13, Article 91b of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas establishes the office and duties of the Grand Photographer, who is charged with the photographic documentation of the proceedings of the Grand Annual Communication and other official events of the Grand Lodge; and

WHEREAS, the increasing number of official Grand Lodge events across the State of Texas requires the coordinated assistance of qualified Brethren to ensure complete photographic documentation of official functions; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a standing Committee on Photography serving concurrently with the Grand Photographer will enhance the Grand Lodge's ability to preserve accurate visual records of its communications, activities, and ceremonies, as well as support the timely preparation of materials for publication in official Grand Lodge media; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to provide continuing, statewide support to the Grand Photographer throughout his term by establishing a committee structure to ensure comprehensive coverage and coordination with regional representatives;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Article 100 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas be amended by adding the following section:

Art. 100 Committee on Photography.

1. Purpose and Duties.

The Committee on Photography shall assist the Grand Photographer in performing his duties as they pertain to the photographic documentation of the proceedings of the Grand Annual Communication, official events of the Grand Lodge of Texas or its Grand Officers, or at other times when requested by the Grand Master.

2. Composition and Term.

The Committee on Photography shall serve concurrently with the term of the Grand Photographer and shall assist him throughout the Masonic year in fulfilling his duties under Chapter 13, Article 91b, including but not limited to photographic documentation of all official events of the Grand Lodge and its officers, preparation of photographs for publication, and coordination of regional committee members to provide coverage across the State of Texas.

3. Authority and Coordination.

The Committee shall operate under the direction of the Grand Photographer and the supervision of the Grand Master or his designee, and shall submit such reports and recommendations as may be required for the benefit of the Craft.

Submitted by:

Jeffrey Kaye Haven PM – Knox Corinthian Lodge No. 851

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 8
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS, *Chapter 14 – Grand Lodge Temporary Committees* has been continually eroded since 1967; and

WHEREAS, there has not been a lodge operating under dispensation in this jurisdiction in the past 14 years; and

WHEREAS, Article 93 mandates that the Grand Master shall appoint a temporary committee on Petitions and Returns of Lodges Under Dispensation; and

WHEREAS, multiple lodges in this jurisdiction have restored and reconstituted charters of lodges long demised; and

WHEREAS, the Master Masons who petitioned to reconstitute lodges long demised have not been held to the same standard of those Master Masons who petition for dispensation to form a lodge.

WHEREAS, the Committee on By-Laws was moved from a temporary committee in Chapter 14 to a permanent committee in Chapter 16 more than fifty years ago; and

WHEREAS, Article 40 gives the Grand Master the authority to appoint Special Committees; and

WHEREAS, Article 99 gives the Grand Lodge the authority to direct the Grand Master to appoint other committees; and

WHEREAS, Article 99 references Article 40; and

WHEREAS, the duties of all temporary committees can be functionally administered by the provisions of Chapters 5, 7, 15, and 16; and

WHEREAS, there are no Grand Master's Decisions appended to Chapter 14.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Chapter 14 be deleted in its entirety.

**~~CHAPTER 14—GRAND LODGE TEMPORARY
COMMITTEES RESERVED~~**

~~For “Certain Resolutions Must First Be Referred To:” see Constitution Art. XII, Sec. 2; For
“Amendments to Constitution Must Be Referred To” see Constitution, Art. XIII, Sec. 1.~~

~~Art. 93. Enumeration.~~

~~On or before the first day of each Annual Communication, the Grand Master shall appoint the following committee, consisting of five members to serve during that Communication; provided, that the Grand Master may increase the number of members of such committee so as not to exceed seven members in any year:~~

1. (Deleted 2002).
2. On Petitions and Returns of Lodges Under Dispensation.
3. (Deleted 2001).
4. (Deleted 1975).

5. (Deleted 1967).

Art. 94. (Repealed 2002).

Art. 95. Petitions and Returns of Lodges Under Dispensation.

The Committee on Petitions and Returns of Lodges Under Dispensation shall examine, consider, and report on all petitions for charters. It shall examine the records, work and returns of Lodges under dispensation and report to this Grand Lodge the character and merits of each Lodge, with such recommendations as the Committee may deem best. It shall examine such other matters as may be referred to them by this Grand Lodge or the Grand Master. (Revised 2001)

Art. 96. (Deleted 2001).

Art. 97. By-Laws.

See Article 126d. Art. 98. See Article 126b.

Art. 99. Other Temporary Committees.

Such other committees as may be necessary may be appointed by direction of this Grand Lodge. (See also Art. 40).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that *Chapter 15 – Grand Lodge Committees Serving One Year* be amended to create an annual committee on Petitions and Returns of Lodges by amending Articles 100 and 104.

Art. 100. Enumeration.

During each Annual Communication the Grand Master shall appoint the following Committees to serve one year, consisting of five members each, unless otherwise indicated, or increased by the Grand Master, provided, no such Committee shall exceed in number more than seven members:

1. On Memorials.
2. On Special Assignments.
3. *On Petitions and Returns of Lodges*

Art. 104. Petitions and Returns of Lodges.

(a) The Committee on Petitions and Returns of Lodges shall examine, consider, and report on all petitions for charters, including but not limited to, petitions for restored charters, reconstituted charters, and new charters. It shall examine the records, work and returns of petitioning lodges and report to the Grand Master the character and merits of each Lodge, with such recommendations as the committee may deem best. (b) Those portions of the Grand Master's report describing the actions taken by the Grand Master in response to the petitions identified in paragraph (a) shall be referred (either singularly or jointly) to the committee on Petitions and Returns of Lodges, and said committee shall report on the same to this Grand Lodge. (b) The committee shall contact all lodges that are delinquent in filing their respective annual returns after August 15th each year, and work with them to make the required filings in accordance with Article 488. (c) It shall examine such other matters as may be referred to them by this Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 40 be amended as follows:

Art. 40. Appoint Special Committees.

During the recess of this Grand Lodge, the Grand Master may appoint Special Committees to deal with emergencies which may arise, or on any important matter which he is advised may come before this Grand Lodge for consideration, *or at the direction of this Grand Lodge.*

Submitted by:

Jim Rumsey PM – Pine Tree Lodge No. 1396

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 9
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS, the Committee on Communication was charged to develop suitable guidelines and qualifications for establishing a Community Builder Award and to develop a uniform presentation to be used by constituent lodges in this jurisdiction to present the award in; and

WHEREAS, that mission has been accomplished. The guidelines and qualifications for the award are detailed in Article 14d, and a uniform presentation for the Community Builder Award is published in the Monitor of the Lodge.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Article 126g be amended by deleting the third paragraph as follows:

Art. 126g. Committee on Communication.

It shall be the duty of the Committee on Communication to formulate and promulgate policies, programs and projects regarding internal and external communications to increase member and public awareness and understanding of Masonry using various communications tools and techniques; to make recommendations pertaining to such matters to the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge and to employ such professional assistance to accomplish its purposes as is authorized by the Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Texas. (Revised 2003)

In addition, the Committee shall be responsible to assist the Grand Master in the selection and instruction of well-qualified Brethren to represent him and this Grand Lodge as District Communications Officers. These members shall be members of the Grand Lodge of Texas, if such a one is available and willing to serve, otherwise a qualified Brother who is a member in good standing of a Lodge in the district may serve as such. (Revised 2003)

~~In matters pertaining to the Community Builder Award, the Committee shall be responsible to develop, promote and assist the Lodges with suitable Grand Lodge programs and materials for uniform presentation of the Community Builder Award; to establish suitable guidelines for qualifications as to properly recognize outstanding community achievement while honoring the commitment of this Grand Lodge to a more effective relationship between the Lodges and the communities they seek to serve. This Committee shall be required to meet as necessary during the recess of Grand Lodge. (Revised 1991)~~

In matters pertaining to the W. B. and Brandon Carrell Humanitarian Award, the Committee shall be responsible to evaluate all nominations for the Award, and to make its recommendations as provided in Article 14b of these Laws.

Submitted by:

Jim Rumsey PM – Pine Tree Lodge No. 1396

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 10
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS, Articles 123-126 stipulate that the Grand Lodge Assistance Fund is administered by the Finance Committee; and

WHEREAS, Article 105 identifies a permanent committee on Grand Lodge Assistance Fund; and

WHEREAS, there is no Grand Lodge Assistance Fund Committee.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Article 105 be amended by removing the Committee on Grand Lodge Assistance Fund and renumbering the committees 9-22 as follows:

Art. 105. Enumeration and Tenure.

The following Committees of the Grand Lodge, each consisting of seven members, except the Committee on Civil Law and the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence which shall consist of 14 members each, shall be Permanent

1. On Fraternal Relations.
2. On Masonic Jurisprudence.
3. On Grievances and Appeals.
4. On Masonic Education.
5. On Purposes and Policies.
6. On Credentials.
7. Masonic Widows and Orphans Committee.
8. On Finance.
- ~~9. On Grand Lodge Assistance Fund.~~
- 10 9. On Public Education.
- ~~11 10.~~ 10. On Civil Law.
- ~~12 11.~~ 11. On Youth Activities.
- ~~13 12.~~ 12. On By-Laws.
- ~~14 13.~~ 13. On Membership Maintenance.
- ~~15 14.~~ 14. On Communication.
- ~~16 15.~~ 15. On Investments.
- ~~17 16.~~ 16. On Mediation No. 1 (West Zone).
- ~~18 17.~~ 17. On Mediation No. 2 (East Zone).
- ~~19 18.~~ 18. On the Internet.
- ~~20 19.~~ 19. On Texas Masonic History.
- ~~21 20.~~ 20. On Gift of Life.
- ~~22 21.~~ 21. On Real Estate
22. On Masonic Service

Submitted by:

Jim Rumsey PM – Pine Tree Lodge No. 1396

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 11
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS, Chapter 3 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas outline the requirements for a Charter for a New Lodge; and

WHEREAS, Article 207 specifically mentions a petition for a Charter for a new lodge must be submitted to the other lodge or lodges pursuant to Articles 183 and 185; and

WHEREAS, Article 183 outlines the number of lodges with concurrent jurisdiction required for approval of a petition for dispensation for a new lodge; and

WHEREAS, since 2002, the Grand Lodge of Texas has granted numerous requests to reconstitute lodges since demised; and

WHEREAS, the only reference to reconstituted lodges is in Article 32 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that Article 32 be amended as follows:

Art. 32(b). Restored Charter: Process

In the case of restoration of a Lodge demised, if the restored lodge shall be located in a jurisdiction with three or more lodges, then the petition for restoration shall first be approved by the majority of lodges holding concurrent jurisdiction pursuant to Article 183.

Submitted by:
Dennis Ross PM – Onion Creek Lodge No. 220

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 12
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS Art. 178 currently states:

Art. 178 Laying of Cornerstones, Monuments, Plaques, and Markers.

The Grand Lodge will not officiate in the Consecration, Dedication, or laying the cornerstones, monuments, plaques, or markers of any building unless it is of undoubted Masonic, public or sacred character. The laying of such cornerstones, monuments, plaques, or markers may be either attached to the building in a manner that it is in public view, or in case of monuments, plaques, or markers, be prominently displayed in an area clearly visible to the public. If it is an actual cornerstone, it should be an actual stone, cubical in form, if practicable, upon the face of which should be carved the words "Leveled (or Laid) by The Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M.," with the emblem and the year carved thereon. If desired, and the building is devoted to Masonic purposes, the name of the Grand Master may be carved thereon.

The Grand Master's name shall not be carved on the cornerstone of non-Masonic buildings. The other face of the stone may bear such inscription as may be necessary to describe the name of the institution erecting the building, its board of trustees, or other offices, but, under no circumstances shall the name of the architect, engineer, contractor, or builder, as such, be shown on the stone. Provided that in case such cornerstone shall be for a building devoted to other than Masonic purposes, the Grand Master shall have full power and discretion to determine whether said cornerstone shall be laid with Masonic ceremonies. Inscriptions on cornerstones of Government buildings, required by its regulations, are permissible.

Cornerstones shall not be laid after the building is entirely completed. Similar rules and conditions shall apply in the case of Monuments, Plaques, and Markers, with the exception that they may be constructed of other appropriate material and either permanently affixed to the structure or be mounted in a public area, in a manner befitting the dignity of Masonry. (Revised 2014)

WHEREAS GRAND MASTER'S DECISION- 1986 - NO. 2. states:

QUESTION: Is it permissible to place the name of a Lodge on a cornerstone which is to be leveled by Grand Lodge?

ANSWER: It is not permissible.

WHEREAS the cornerstone ceremony is a time-honored tradition within Freemasonry, symbolizing the commitment of Masons to the building of strong communities and the enduring legacy of our Fraternity within communities; and

WHEREAS in most cases each sponsoring Masonic Lodge pays for all expenses including the cornerstone itself.

WHEREAS it would be beneficial to Masonry in general for the sponsoring Masonic Lodge to be recognized for all to see who may pass by the Cornerstone and that such recognition may help others to seek out the local lodge.

WHEREAS this longstanding tradition of recognizing the local lodge on cornerstones helps to preserve the history and legacy of Freemasonry in the community, strengthens the relationship between the lodge and local government, and serves as a visible reminder to the public of the contributions of Freemasons to the welfare of society; and

WHEREAS the inclusion of the local lodge's name on the cornerstone, along with the traditional Masonic symbols and the Grand Lodge of Texas, serves as a lasting symbol of the Lodge's ongoing commitment to the community and enhances the visibility of Freemasonry as an active and engaged institution; and

WHEREAS the continued success and relevance of Freemasonry in the modern era depend, in part, on the ability of local lodges to demonstrate their involvement in and contributions to their communities, fostering relationships with local officials and the general public; and

WHEREAS historical records show that the tradition of including the name of the local lodge on the cornerstones of public buildings has been an important practice for Masonic lodges in Texas,

Be it Resolved: That Art. 175 be amended as follows: The Grand Lodge will not officiate in the Consecration, Dedication, or laying the cornerstones, monuments, plaques, or markers of any building unless it is of undoubted Masonic, public or sacred character. The laying of such cornerstones, monuments, plaques, or markers may be either attached to the building in a manner that it is in public view, or in case of monuments, plaques, or markers, be prominently displayed in an area clearly visible to the public. If it is an actual cornerstone, it should be an actual stone, cubical in form, if practicable, upon the face of which should be carved the words "Leveled (or Laid) by The Grand Lodge of Texas, A.F. & A.M.," with the emblem and the year carved thereon. *It is also permissible for the name of the sponsoring masonic lodge to be added after the Grand Lodge inscription in the form; 'Assisted by "name and number of sponsoring lodge" i.e. 'Assisted by Arlington Heights Masonic Lodge #1184'. If desired,* and the building is devoted to Masonic purposes, the name of the Grand Master may be carved thereon.

The Grand Master's name shall not be carved on the cornerstone of non-Masonic buildings. The other face of the stone may bear such inscription as may be necessary to describe the name of the institution erecting the building, its board of trustees, or other offices, but, under no circumstances shall the name of the architect, engineer, contractor, or builder, as such, be shown on the stone. Provided that in case such cornerstone shall be for a building devoted to other than Masonic purposes, the Grand Master shall have full power and discretion to determine whether said cornerstone shall be laid with Masonic ceremonies. Inscriptions on cornerstones of Government buildings, required by its regulations, are permissible.

Cornerstones shall not be laid after the building is entirely completed. Similar rules and conditions shall apply in the case of Monuments, Plaques, and Markers, with the exception that they may be constructed of other appropriate material and either permanently affixed to the structure or be mounted in a public area, in a manner befitting the dignity of Masonry. (Revised 2014)

Submitted by:

Jason Parker PM – Arlington Heights Lodge No. 1184

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 13
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS, Masonic history is being lost.

WHEREAS, Older records start to deteriorate after some time.

WHEREAS, Storage for Lodges has been a problem in the past.

WHEREAS, Research can be difficult in finding old information.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that article 337 be amended as follows; **Art. 337. Minutes of Lodge.** The minutes of the Lodge shall be transcribed for permanent record in a well bound book or in loose leaf form included in a substantial binder with secure locking devices. They shall conform as far as practicable to the official forms prescribed; and shall contain all the data set forth herein, and an accurate, concise statement of all business transacted and all other matters transpiring at the meeting and shall be approved at a stated meeting and signed by the Worshipful Master and Secretary in person at that meeting. Names of the officers filling the several offices as in said forms provided shall be given, and the number of members and visitors present, the names of whom shall appear in the register as provided in Art. 378. The Worshipful Master may order the Secretary to distribute printed copies of all minutes of called and stated meetings requiring approval. If ordered by the Worshipful Master, the Secretary shall print at least one hour prior to the start of the stated meeting enough copies of all minutes requiring approval for each member present and during the regular order of business shall request that any minutes requiring approval be approved as distributed prior to the meeting. *That all records of Consolidated and Demised Lodges may be electronically digitized.*

Submitted by:

Brad W. Corley PM – Groves Lodge No. 1315

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 14
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS it is possible for Masonic charges to be pending against a Brother for years without him being informed of the specifics surrounding the accusations; and

WHEREAS it is currently not required for anyone to inform the accused whenever charges have been filed against him; and

WHEREAS we are tasked by our own words in the closing charge to remember “that you have promised to befriend and relieve every brother who many need your assistance” and “that you have promised to remind him, in the most tender manner, of his errors, and aid in his reformation.”; and

WHEREAS to withhold the details of charges from a Brother who stands accused is inconsistent with the precepts of Justice; and

WHEREAS this legal oversight has been used to prevent the accused from organizing information and witnesses to stand in defense of their good name;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Article 518 be amended as follows:

Art. 518. Procedure When Allegations Approved by Worshipful Master.

When the Worshipful Master finds that the allegations and specifications distinctly define a Masonic disciplinary violation, the procedure shall be as follows:

1. Within ten (10) days of receiving the allegations, the Worshipful Master shall refer them, through the District Deputy Grand Master of the District where the allegations are pending, to the Grand Secretary. The Grand Secretary shall file each pending allegation in his office, and forward a copy of the pending allegation to the Grand Master, *and the accused*, within two (2) business days upon receipt. The Grand Master may refer the pending allegations to the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Mediation having jurisdiction over the same as defined in Article 126f (2). The appropriate Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Mediation shall then proceed to attempt to resolve the pending allegations within thirty (30) days of receiving the referral, and report the result to the Grand Master and Worshipful Master of the Lodge in which the allegations were filed. Should that Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Mediation determine that the allegations referred involve exclusively a private wrong, as between accused and accuser, and do not amount to a gross Masonic disciplinary violation, the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Mediation shall report this finding to the Grand Master and Worshipful Master of the Lodge in which the allegations were filed and the Worshipful Master shall act as provided in subparagraph 2 below. The Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Mediation shall act in the manner described in Article 126f (2). Mediation is binding when signed by the parties thereto.

Submitted by:

John D Sisemore PM – San Marcos Lodge No. 342

Lance Kennedy PM – Centennial Lodge No. 500

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 15
Referred to Committee on Civil Law, Jurisprudence

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

WHEREAS, at the Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge in January 2025, Resolution No. 11 was adopted that required the burden of establishing the accused's guilt to "be proved beyond a reasonable doubt"; and

WHEREAS, one such reason given during discussion of said Resolution was that prosecuting a Masonic Disciplinary Violation was akin to "a Masonic death penalty"; and

WHEREAS, in common criminal law, it is recognized that the right to liberty is guaranteed by the United States Constitution, and that if such a right is to be taken from an accused, the highest reasonable standard for prosecuting a proving an accused's guilt should be applied; but –

WHEREAS the right to liberty is constitutionally-protected, the right of a man to be and remain a Mason is not, but is more appropriately categorized as a "property" right that would ordinarily be subject to the burden of prosecutorial proof in civil trials, being that of "a preponderance of the evidence"; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding certain egregious misuses of Title V of our Laws for inappropriate purposes, nevertheless all Texas Masons have a vested interest in seeing our Laws faithfully executed and adhered to in all circumstances, and in censuring and removing brethren from our Fraternity who fail and refuse to adhere to our Laws, thereby casting disrepute upon Masonry; and

WHEREAS, while a "preponderance of the evidence" may indeed be too low a threshold to be appropriate in trials of Masonic Disciplinary Violations, nevertheless the standard for proving guilt should not be the one applied in trying allegations of heinous criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, "clear and convincing evidence" is a third burden of prosecutorial proof that means evidence that is highly probable and convincing, requiring a firm belief or conviction in its truth, but is less of a threshold than what is required by "beyond a reasonable doubt";

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~~ *by clear and convincing evidence. This standard of proof shall apply to all Masonic charges brought under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas on or after January 18, 2025.*

Submitted by:

Gary A. Wiener PM – Gray Lodge No. 329

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 16
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS: Article 292 requires Elections be held in an Entered Apprentice Degree unless no Entered Apprentices or Fellowcrafts Masons are present. And,

WHEREAS: Article 292 allows the Worshipful Master to hold Elections in an Entered Apprentice, or Fellowcraft, or Master Mason's Degree if Only Master Masons are present. And,

WHEREAS: Article 292 requires Elections are to be held during a Degree.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 292 be amended as follows:

a All elective officers of the Lodge which include the Worshipful Master, Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, and such other officers as the by-laws may prescribe, must be elected at the last stated meeting of the Lodge prior to midnight of June 23. Such election may be held in *an Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, or Master Masons Lodge at the Worshipful Master's option* ~~the Lodge opened in the Entered Apprentice Degree, provided that if no Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft Mason is present, it shall be the option of the Worshipful Master to open said meeting on either the Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, or Master's Degree, at or after the usual hour for opening provided by,~~ *at or after the hour provided in the by-laws of the Lodge.* Election must be concluded at this meeting, and may not be postponed, and must be concluded by midnight if the stated meeting is on Saturday or June 23. All other officers shall be appointed as soon thereafter as convenient. (Note: Appointments by the Worshipful Master.) (Revised 2007) b Notwithstanding the provisions set forth above, if an officer, elected or appointed who has not been installed is found to be disqualified, dies, or becomes unable to perform his duties by reason of sickness, relocation to another city, state, or country, or other legitimate extenuating circumstances, the Worshipful Master shall have the option to hold a called meeting, upon reasonable notice to the Lodge membership, for the specific purpose of electing a qualified Lodge member to fill the open position. The election and installation of such officer must take place before July 31, as provided in Art. 298. (Revised 2020)

Submitted by:

CD Siems PM – Bellaire Lodge No. 1336

Gary Krzywicki PM – Bellaire Lodge No. 1336

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 17
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS, Article 276a, Section 2 currently defines the term of the L.I.F.E. Counselor, which is administrative in nature and not directly relevant to the qualifications required of a Worshipful Master or Warden; and

WHEREAS, it remains essential that Past Masters and prospective officers alike be able to properly open and close all four Lodges—Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, Master Mason, and Master Mason’s Lodge of Sorrow—in full accordance with the standards prescribed by the Committee on Work; and

WHEREAS, all officers must also be competent to administer their Lodge in compliance with current laws and practices of the Grand Lodge of Texas; and

WHEREAS, mere completion of Form 101-A or obtaining a signature thereon does not, by itself, demonstrate proficiency in the ritual or administration of a Lodge; and

WHEREAS, confusion presently exists between different versions of Form 101, Section 2—one version printed in the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas referencing attendance at a Wardens Retreat, and another version available through Grand View referencing attendance at a Ritual Forum—both bearing the same revision dates and leading to inconsistent interpretation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Article 276a – Additional Qualifications be amended to read 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:

Section 1 – Ritual Proficiency.

To the satisfaction of the members of his Lodge, he shall be proficient to properly open and close an Entered Apprentice Lodge, a Fellowcraft Lodge, a 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.

Section 2 – Administrative Competence.

To the satisfaction of the members of his Lodge, he shall have completed a Grand Lodge-approved course in the administration of his duties or the Lodge Instruction for Effectiveness (L.I.F.E.) Program under the supervision of the Masonic Education Committee. The L.I.F.E. Program shall be administered by a Lodge Counselor appointed by the Worshipful Master, ~~whose term expires upon the appointment of his successor in office.~~ 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)

Section 3 – Exemptions and Certifications.

~~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.~~

Form 101 revised to delete Item 1.E.: ~~Attend a Ritual Forum hosted by the Committee on Work.~~

(Form 101 Attached)

And,

Item 3: ~~Exempt—Previously served as Worshipful Master of a Lodge under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas.~~

Submitted by:

CD Siems PM – Bellaire Lodge No. 1336

Gary Krzywicki PM – Bellaire Lodge No. 1336

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 18
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS, Title V, Chapter 2, Article 508, Number 28 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas states that it is a Masonic disciplinary offense for any Lodge, a committee or any combination of Masons, or an individual Mason “to directly or indirectly solicit or procure the vote of a Mason or campaign for the election of a Mason or to otherwise electioneer for any Mason, in any location where Masons assemble, including, without limitation, in a Lodge, a Lodgeroom, Grand Lodge building, or any other such location or facility,”; and

WHEREAS, the term “electioneering” can be broadly interpreted or even manipulated to threaten charges against Brethren and otherwise stifle the discussion and debate of matters of utmost importance to the Craft in our state including its elected Grand Lodge officers; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, Brethren, including former Grand Lodge Trustees, have made speeches endorsing candidates in tiled and untiled meetings of constituent Lodges and Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Associations under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas; and

WHEREAS, both the application and implementation of Grand Lodge Law should be uniform and unbiased; and

WHEREAS, the language of Title V, Chapter 2, Article 508, Number 28 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas is overly broad and does little to dissuade the behavior it was meant to prevent while making it difficult if not impossible for any Constituent Lodge to discuss Brothers who are available for Offices and Positions that Lodge will vote for during the next Annual Grand Communication;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Title V, Chapter 2, Article 508, Number 28 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas be amended as follows:

Article 508, Number 28: “To directly or indirectly solicit or procure the vote of a Mason or campaign for the election of a Mason ~~or to otherwise electioneer for any Mason, in any location where Masons assemble, including, without limitation, in a Lodge, a Lodgeroom, Grand Lodge building, or any other such location or facility.”~~ *during any tiled or open meeting of a Constituent Lodge, Masters, Wardens, and Secretaries Association meeting, meeting or event organized by the Grand Lodge of Texas and /or a meeting or event of a body recognized by the Grand Lodge of Texas, the exceptions being:*

1) a designated candidate forum held by bodies recognized by, and under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas, and

2) during a Stated Meeting where a Constituent Lodge is deciding how the Lodge will cast its votes on the resolutions and offices of the Annual Grand Communication.

a) The following shall be an electioneering violation:

1. To offer or promise any enticement for a person or lodge to vote for or against a particular candidate available for any election of the Grand Lodge of Texas or its constituent Lodges.

2. To threaten any Mason, group of Masons, or Lodge with charges, disciplinary action, or other harm if they do or do not vote for a particular candidate available or any election of the Grand Lodge of Texas or its constituent Lodges.

b) The following shall NOT be an electioneering violation:

1. For any Mason to announce in person or by phone, text, or social media, that he has submitted a Statement of Availability for any position.

2. For any Mason to state which candidate he supports in person or by phone, text, or social media, except as otherwise expressly forbidden by Article 508, Number 28.

Submitted by:

R. Carlton Newberry, Jr. PM – Cypress Lodge No. 1423

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 19
Referred to Committee on Civil Law, Jurisprudence

WHEREAS, the first sentence of Article 509 states: “Any Mason under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas shall be expelled or suspended, as hereafter provided, upon his conviction of a felony in any court . . .”

WHEREAS, Deferred adjudication is a type of judge-ordered community supervision that allows a person to accept responsibility for a crime without a conviction being placed on their record.

WHEREAS, A person may not receive deferred adjudication for certain human trafficking offenses, enhanced intoxication offenses, drug offenses with certain extenuating circumstances, murder, or if the person has previously been on community supervision for one of a series of serious criminal matters.

WHEREAS, On determining that the defendant has complied with the requirements imposed by the judge when granting deferred adjudication, the judge shall dismiss the complaint, and it shall be clearly noted in the docket that the complaint is dismissed and that there is not a final conviction.

WHEREAS, Grand Masters Decisions 2012 No.2 and 2014 No.1 both clearly state that a Deferred Adjudication does not constitute a final conviction of a felony offence. Therefore, a Deferred Adjudication does not meet the requirements set in Art. 393 of a felony conviction and does not disqualify a candidate from petitioning a lodge.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Article 509; paragraph 4 be amended as follows: Add an “a.” after the number 4. Add a paragraph “4. b.” to state:

i. If a Mason who is charged with a felony and is granted Deferred Adjudication by the Court, he shall be immediately suspended from every lodge which he holds membership for the term of the Deferred Adjudication, and thereafter and until such time as he may be granted reinstatement by his Lodge.

ii. If a Mason successfully completes the term of his Deferred Adjudication and a court has entered an order of nondisclosure sealing or expunging his criminal record he may apply to each Lodge in which he has a suspended member for reinstatement using form 44 for this process.

iii. Each Lodge in which the mason is a member must vote to grant or not grant the application for reinstatement. Reinstatement requires a two-thirds favorable ballot to pass.

iv. The Lodge Secretary shall notify the Grand Secretary of all action taken under this Article.

Submitted by:

Michael Garrett PM – Northwest Lodge No. 1434

Jason Macik PM – Garden Oaks Lodge No. 1306

Maynard Banaag Fernando PM – Albert J DeLange Lodge No. 1403

Teepee Ledesma PM – St. Johns No. 53

Jeff Holder PM – Jacque DeMolay Lodge No. 1390

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 20
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS a Masonic Funeral service is one of the most significant, and more importantly, the final Masonic ritual that can be bestowed upon a Mason; and

WHEREAS this nation has anchored in its laws the tradition of people being considered innocent until proven guilty; and

WHEREAS to bring this article into conformity with Art. 360, which provides discretion to a Worshipful Master of a Lodge to refuse a Masonic Funeral under certain circumstances;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Article 512 be amended as follows:

Art. 512. Status of Mason Under Allegations of a Masonic Disciplinary Violation
“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, or a certificate of good standing, ~~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.”

Submitted by:

E. Brian Gray PM – University Lodge Lodge No. 594

Chris A. Moyseos PM – Texana Lodge No. 123

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 21
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS, confusion about the importance of the skull as a symbol continues to remain in and about the Temple, and

WHEREAS, the current Grand Master issued Decision No. 5 which seeks to include the skull as an emblem and symbol associated with Freemasonry, and

WHEREAS, the current Grand Master failed to include any changes in appropriate law to codify such an interpretation; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that paragraph 2 of Article 273 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas be amended as follows to reflect the importance of the skull as a symbol and emblem of Freemasonry:

The regulation apron shall be of white lambskin, synthetic lambskin, silk, satin or cotton of the following dimensions: the apron shall be 16 inches in length and width with square or rounded corners with a drop in the bib of 6 inches to the point. It will be permissible to have embroidered upon the bib or body of the apron the appropriate jewel of the office and upon the body of the apron below the bib, the square and compasses circumscribing the letter “G”, ~~or~~ the “All Seeing Eye (aka Eye of Providence),” *the skull*, 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 with some other appropriate design or emblem significant to Masonry upon the bib while the addition of the Arc (or Quadrant) under the points of the Compasses would be optional.

Submitted by:

Charles E. Maddox PM – Hill City Lodge No. 456

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 22
Referred to Committee on Civil Law

WHEREAS, Title II, Ch. 19, Article 340 of the Laws of the Grand Lodge of Texas provides for the requirements for a Lodge to acquire, sell, or mortgage Lodge real estate; and

WHEREAS, leases affecting Lodge real estate can have a highly negative impact on a Lodge's ability to sell or otherwise control its property; and

WHEREAS, there has been a noticeable rise in recent years in the amount of leases whose language has become problematic for both Lodges and this Grand Lodge; and

WHEREAS, to avoid such issues, Grand Lodge should;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Article 340 be amended as follows:

Art. 340 – Permission to Acquire, Sell, Lease, or Mortgage Lodge Personal Property or Real Estate.

Art. 340, 340 A & B remain unchanged.

Art. 340 C. The Committee on Civil Law may, from time to time, prepare and forward to the regular Lodges and other entities under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Texas, such guidance, suggested forms, and other documentation and information as may be useful in the preparation of an application to *lease*, acquire or dispose of real or personal property or any interest therein by purchase, gift, bequest, devise or otherwise, as considered by this Article. (Revised 2026)

Art. 340 D – (*New*)

D. No Lodge shall enter into a lease, rental agreement, license, or similar arrangement for the use or occupancy of Lodge-owned real property or facilities without first obtaining the written consent of the Grand Master; provided, in granting such consent to the lease, that neither the Grand Lodge nor the Grand Master shall incur or assume any liability by reason of such consent. The provisions of this article shall apply to all Lodges on equal terms, whether acting directly or indirectly. Every lease, rental agreement, license, or similar arrangement entered into by a Lodge shall be required to have clear language which provides a mechanism for Lodges to terminate the lease, rental agreement, license, or similar arrangement.

Submitted by:

Chase C. Parsons PM – Alamo Lodge No. 44

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 23
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS, the Knights of Pythias are Fraternal Order similar in nature to Freemasonry and the beliefs and teachings of the Pythian lodges are closely in keeping with Masonic traditions, and

WHEREAS, many Texas Masons historically have been, and are today also Knights of Pythias, men such as Past Grand Master of Masons in Texas Pat Morris Neff, and

WHEREAS, the setup of a Pythian Castle is very similar in structure to the setup of a Masonic Lodge room, it would, therefore, be very convenient for a Pythian Lodge to use a Masonic Lodge room for their meetings, and

WHEREAS, all Lodges benefit from the rental fees they receive on their ante-rooms, a Masonic Lodge would also benefit from Pythian rental fees received for the use of their Lodge room, and

WHEREAS, some Lodges in Texas currently rent their lodge rooms, to great advantage and in great friendship and camaraderie, to Odd Fellows Lodges, after the Grand West saw fit to grant this possibility in 2020,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Article 225(a), be amended to include “***Knights of Pythias Lodges***”, as an organization approved to use the Lodge room of a Masonic Lodge in Texas.

Submitted by:

Daniel P. McGettrick PM – Albert J. De Lange Lodge No. 1403

Brian R. Dodson PM – Temple Lodge No. 4

Charles R. Stephenson PM – Washington Lodge No. 1117

John F. Wollsey, Jr. PM – Bay City Lodge No. 865

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 24
Referred to Committee on Purposes and Policies

WHEREAS, the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows are a Fraternal Order similar in nature to Freemasonry and the beliefs and teachings of the Odd Fellow lodges are closely in keeping with Masonic traditions, and

WHEREAS, many Texas Masons historically have been, and are today also Odd Fellows, men such as Past Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons in Texas Norris Wright Cuney, and

WHEREAS, the setup of an Odd Fellow Lodge is very similar in structure to the setup of a Masonic Lodge room, it would, therefore, be very convenient for an Odd Fellow Lodge to use a Masonic Lodge room for their meetings, and

WHEREAS, all Lodges benefit from the rental fees they receive on their ante-rooms, a Masonic Lodge would also benefit from Odd Fellow rental fees received for the use of their Lodge room, and **WHEREAS**, some Lodges in Texas currently rent their lodge rooms, to great advantage and in great friendship and camaraderie, to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodges, after the Grand West saw fit to grant this possibility in 2020,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Article 225(a), be amended to include “*Grand United Order of Odd Fellows*”, as an organization approved to use the Lodge room of a Masonic Lodge in Texas.

Submitted by:

Byron Charles Upton PM – Walter M. Pierson Lodge No. 1339

Daniel McGettrick PM – Albert J. DeLange Lodge No. 1403

Heriberto Godina PM – Tomball Lodge No. 1096

STATEMENTS OF AVAILABILITY

**STATEMENTS OF AVAILABILITY
FOR GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN**



George Duke Moxley

T. Neal Porter No. 1354

Raised September 18, 1974
Endowed 2011
Worshipful Master 1978, 2018
Secretary 2009 - 2018, 2019 - Present
40 Year Service Award 1999
50 Year Service Award 2024

Sweet Home No. 576

Plural Member
Endowed 2013

Texas Lodge of Research

Plural Member
Endowed 2022

Gunsight No. 838

Plural Member
Endowed 2023

Freedom No. 100

Plural Member
Endowed 2023
Senior Deacon 2024
Junior Warden 2025

Tranquility No. 2000

Plural Member
Endowed 2020

Holland No. 1

Plural Member
Endowed 2025

Grand Lodge of Texas

Esoteric "A" Certificate, 1976 – 1985, 2011 – Present
Golden Trowel, 2012
25 Year Service Award, 1999
40 Year Service Award, 2014
50 Year Service Award, 2024
District Deputy Grand Master, 2013
District Instructor District 50, 2014 – Present
Full Member Sam Houston Hall of Fame, 2019
Special Assignments Committee, 2015 – 2018
Texas History Committee, 2018 – 2024, Chairman 2023-2024
Grand Lodge Security Committee, 2020 -Present, Chairman 2025
Member Mediation Committee No. 1, West, 2025
Grand Master's Regional Coordinator, 2020
Grand Master's Planning Team, 2022

Grand Master's Conference Coordinator, 2023

Education

Graduated Sidney Lanier High School, 1968

Attended University of Texas at Austin, 1968 – 1972

Personal / Professional / Civic

Austin Police Department – Police Officer – Retired	1972 - 1998
State Certified Accident Reconstructionist	1981 - Present
Austin Independent School District – Police Officer	1999 - 2005
Austin Police Department – Civilian Background Investigator	2005 - 2017
Austin Police Department – Security Officer APD Headquarters	2017 - Present
Founder and operator of American Karate of Austin	1999 – present
Member University of Texas Longhorn Band	1968 - 1972
Member Longhorn Alumni Band	1972 - Present
Austin Area Representative – Longhorn Alumni Band	1985 - Present
Longhorn Alumni Band Board of Directors (President 2004)	2000 - 2004
President Longhorn Alumni Band	2005 - 2006
Longhorn Alumni Band Board of Trustees	2006 - 2010
Life Member University of Texas Alumni Association	1985
Member Austin Police Association	1972 - Present
Member Austin Police Retired Officers Association	1998 – Present

Family

Married to Linda Seigny Moxley – May 23, 1981

3 Children, Garrett Moxley, Ashley Moxley Bruno and Brandon Moxley

7 Grandchildren. Ethan, Yalena, Gwenyth, Colin, Braydon, Blake, Charlotte

**STATEMENTS OF AVAILABILITY
FOR GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN**



Robert M. Park

Alamo Lodge No. 44

Raised March 9, 2013
Worshipful Master – 2018-2019
Golden Trowel Award 2024

Merit No. 727

Secretary – 2023-2024, 2024-2025

Centennial No. 500

Reconstituting Charter Member
Secretary – 2023-2024, 2024-2025

Cibolo No. 51

Plural Member

Highland Hills No. 1373

Plural Member

Grand Lodge of Texas

District Deputy Grand Master – Masonic District 39C – 2020
William M. Beck Award – 2022
Sam Houston Hall of Fame Member
Civil Law Committee 2020-Present, Chairman 2022-2023, Vice Chairman 2023-2024
Grand Master's Planning Team – 2022, 2026

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
Board Member - Alamo Masonic Cemetery

Family

Wife – Carly
Daughters – Claire, Cora, and Cate

STATEMENTS OF AVAILABILITY FOR GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN



John M. Wilkerson

Allen Lodge No. 1435 (Home Lodge)

Raised; June 29, 1982
Worshipful Master; 1989 – 1990
Treasurer; 1983, 1990 – 1994, 2001 - 2004
Endowed Member; 1989
Life Member; 1990
Golden Trowel; 1994

Claude L. Austin No. 1450

Plural Membership; 2022
Endowed Member; 2022

Humble Masonic Lodge No. 979

Plural Membership; 2025

Melissa Lodge No. 569

Plural Membership; 2019

St. Johns No. 51

Plural Membership; 2025

MASTERS', WARDENS' & SECRETARIES' ASSOICIATIONS

9th Masonic District
14th Masonic District

Grand Lodge of Texas

District Communications Officer; 1990 – 1992, 1993
District Deputy; 1995 - (District 9A)
District Deputy at Large; 2014
District Deputy at Large; 2025
Committee on Grievances and Appeals; 2001
Committee on Petitions and Returns of Lodges UD; 2008 – 2010
Grand Masters Planning Team; 1995, 1998, 2025
Public Education Committee – 2023 - 2031
Masonic Charities Foundation; Board Member – 2025

Education

Tyler Junior College with a Degree in Drafting (1976)

Personal / Professional / Civic

Creative Lighting - Owner since 1982-present

Members of First United Methodist of McKinney(1991-Present) involved with
Facilities lighting maintenance and parking security
We will be moving over to Global Methodist Church in Frisco
RNC – Collin County

Family

Married to Maureen Wilkerson
3 sons Ryan Cross, Sean and Kevin Persons

**STATEMENTS OF AVAILABILITY
FOR COMMITTEE ON WORK**



Kevin Dean Moss

Sunrise Daylight No. 1433

Raised February 27, 1989
Worshipful Master 2020-2021
Senior Warden 2019-2020, 1994-1995
Junior Warden 1993-1994
Treasurer 1992-1993
Senior Deacon 2018-2019
Junior Deacon 2017-2018, 1989-1990

Meridian No. 268

Hillcrest No. 1318

Iredell No. 405

Endowed 2024
Worshipful Master 2019-2020
Senior Warden 2018-2019, 2021-2022
Secretary 2022-2025
Chaplain 2020-2021

Webb No. 1454

Worshipful Master 2021-2022
Senior Warden 2020-2021
Secretary 2022-2025
Senior Deacon 2019-2020
Junior Deacon 2018-2019

Grand Lodge of Texas

District Deputy Grand Master District 68 – 2022
District Instructor District 110

Personal / Professional / Civic

Owner Operator Avante Graphics Printing Company 1986-1999
Printing Sales 1999-2004
Owner Operator Kevin Moss Financial Management 2004-Present
Orientation/Retention Ministry Leader Woodland West Church of Christ

Family

Married Joyce Ann Moss – January 22, 2011
Sons Trey, Dean, and Andrew
Grandchildren Calley, Cassidy, and Linkin

**STATEMENTS OF AVAILABILITY
FOR LIBRARY AND MUSEUM BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



Walter "Dave" McHam

Waco Lodge No. 92

Raised 2014

Endowed 2014

Worshipful Master 2018, 2020

Gunsight No. 838

Plural Member 2022

West Lodge No. 475

Plural Member 2022

James H. Lockwood No. 1343

Plural Member 2022

Worshipful Master 2024

Grand Lodge of Texas

Regional Conference Planning Team 2020

District Deputy Grand Master 2022

District Communications Officer 2023

Gift of Life Committee Member 2022 – 2024

Grand Master Special Appointment Masonic Service Committee Chairman 2022

Grand Representative Grand Logia Del Estado de Nuevo León, México 2022 – Present

Internet Committee 2024 – Present

Master, Wardens, and Secretaries Association

President 2019-2020, and 2023 – Present

Education

Tarleton State University Bachelor Social Work — 2013

Certified Energy Professional – 2016

Personal / Professional / Civic

Owner and President of Big Wave Energy

Office Lead for the Office of the Grand Secretary 2024 – Present

Waco Chamber of Commerce Ambassador/Community Business Liaison

Family

Daughters – Chloe, and Eva

**STATEMENTS OF AVAILABILITY
MASONIC CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES OF TEXAS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



Bradley E. Kohanke

Davy Crockett Lodge No. 1225

Raised 1992
Worshipful Master 2013-2014 & 2015-2016
Golden Trowel Recipient – 2014

Brady No. 753

Plural Member 2022
Little Rock, Arkansas

Merit Lodge No. 727

Plural Member
Worshipful Master 2021-2022 & 2022-2023

South Pass Historical Lodge No. 1869

Charter Life Member
South Pass City, Wyoming

Tranquility Lodge No. 2000

Plural Member

Grand Lodge of Texas

Grand Orator - 2019
Board of Directors Masonic Children & Family Services of Texas 2021-Present
Secretary 2021-2024
Vice President 2025-Present
District Deputy Grand Master District 39B – 2017
Masonic Education & Service Committee – 2014-2019
Grand Master's Planning Team – 2019 & 2020
Grand Master's Regional Coordinator – 2021 & 2022
District Education Officer District 39B – 2018

Scottish Rite

Personal Representative to the SGIG for the Valley of San Antonio – 2020-2023
Chairman of the Orient of Arkansas Education Committee – 2023 - Present
Venerable Master San Antonio Lodge of Perfection – 2018
Chief of San Antonio Knights of St. Andrew – 2014

Education

Texas A&M University – Bachelor of Business Administration 1985

All Paths Divinity School – Graduate Studies in Comparative Religion

Personal / Professional / Civic

Author – “Light Reflections: Philosophical Thoughts and Observations of a Texas Freemason”

Owner – Balanced HR Solutions, 2009-2019

Head Human Resource Officer – The Gambrinus Company, 1999-2009

Director of Human Resources – Miller Curtain Company, Inc., 1992-1999

Board of Directors San Antonio Dyslexic Learning Center – 2017-2023

Board of Directors San Antonio Scottish Rite Library & Museum – 2019-2023

Family

Wife – Crystal Houser Kohanke

Sons – Shawn & Ian