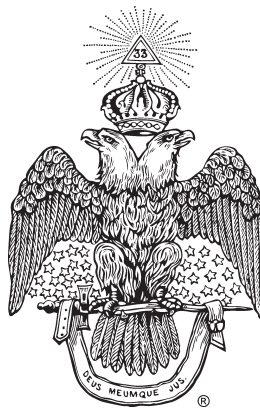


# Statutes of The Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree

*Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite  
of Freemasonry, S.J., U.S.A.*



Revised and Approved  
August 21, 2021



## CONTENTS

ARTICLE I. The Supreme Council .....	7
ARTICLE II. Its Jurisdiction .....	7
ARTICLE III. Degrees .....	9
ARTICLE IV. Members .....	11
ARTICLE V. Sessions—Quorum .....	21
ARTICLE VI. Officers and Employees .....	23
ARTICLE VII. Committees.....	39
ARTICLE VIII. Council of Administration .....	41
ARTICLE IX. Procedure.....	43
ARTICLE X. Deputies of the Supreme Council.....	45
ARTICLE XI. Revenues, Fees, and Assessments .....	47
ARTICLE XII. Rituals, Programs, Books, and Libraries .....	53
ARTICLE XIII. Clothing and Uniforms, Grand Decorations, Jewels, Rings, Caps.....	57
ARTICLE XIV. Court of Honour.....	67
ARTICLE XV. Regulations Governing Subordinate Bodies .....	73
ARTICLE XVI. Formation of New Bodies .....	83
ARTICLE XVII. Regulations Affecting Candidates and Members.....	87
ARTICLE XVIII. Trials and Penal Statutes.....	101
ARTICLE XIX. Official Locations.....	109
ARTICLE XX. Amendments .....	111
ARTICLE XXI. Declaratory Disposition .....	113
ADDENDA .....	115
INDEX.....	125



IN DEO FIDUCIA NOSTRA

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HOUSE OF THE TEMPLE OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF THE  
THIRTY-THIRD DEGREE OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED  
SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY OF THE SOUTHERN  
JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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Office of the Grand Commander  
Washington, D.C., August 2021

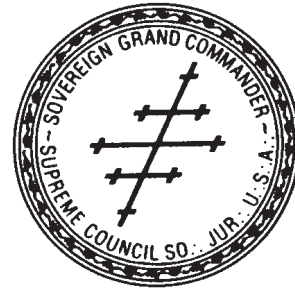
I, James D. Cole, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, certify that the following is a true copy of the Statutes and Regulations of said Supreme Council, as amended through the Biennial Session of the Supreme Council in Washington, DC, in August 2021.



*James D. Cole*



SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER



*Barbara Suse*



GRAND SECRETARY GENERAL





## ARTICLE I

### The Supreme Council

#### Its Name

SEC. 1. The name of this Supreme Council is “The Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspectors General Knights Commanders of the House of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty-third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Free Masonry of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America.” (See *Acts of Incorporation* in Addendum.)

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Official Name

## ARTICLE II

#### Its Jurisdiction

SEC. 1. The jurisdiction of this Supreme Council includes all the territory over which the United States of America exercises domain of powers of government, except the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin, which were apportioned by this Supreme Council to the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States. The jurisdiction of this Supreme Council also includes those countries where it has established, or may hereafter establish, Bodies of the Rite, and over which countries no regular Supreme Council has acquired jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. Each state and territory within the general jurisdiction of this Supreme Council, unless otherwise ordered by the Supreme Council, is hereby declared to be a separate Orient within itself. Other like Orients may be created and defined by the Sovereign Grand Commander from time to time at and over territory or countries over which this Supreme Council has acquired or may acquire jurisdiction, who shall prescribe the boundaries of each such like Orient.

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Jurisdiction  
Comprised of  
Orient

Army Jurisdictions	[2] Army Lodge of Perfection, Army Chapter of Rose Croix, Army Council of Kadosh, and Army Consistory constitute a separate jurisdiction attached to the Orient of Kansas and under the control of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in Kansas, while said Bodies are located on the Military Reservation at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.
Changes to Orient Jurisdictions	SEC. 3. The Sovereign Grand Commander or the Supreme Council is authorized to attach or detach any state or territory within the general jurisdiction of this Supreme Council in which there is not a resident Sovereign Grand Inspector General to or from the Orient of any Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council.
Recognition of Foreign Supreme Councils	SEC. 4. The policy is as follows: The Supreme Council of the 33° for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States shall only recognize other Supreme Councils whose members belong to regular Grand Lodges. Should any Active Member of a recognized Supreme Council be suspended, expelled, or if he should withdraw from or allow his regular Blue Lodge membership to lapse and yet retain his Active Membership in his Supreme Council, the Supreme Council of the 33° for the Southern Jurisdiction shall withdraw recognition from said Supreme Council.



## ARTICLE III

### Degrees

SEC. 1. By authority of this Supreme Council, within its jurisdiction are established the following Subordinate Bodies, to wit:

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**Subordinate  
Bodies**

A. Lodges of Perfection, by which are conferred the Degrees from the Fourth to the Fourteenth, inclusive; namely, Secret Master, Perfect Master, Intimate Secretary, Provost and Judge, Intendant of the Building, Elu of the Nine, Elu of the Fifteen, Elu of the Twelve, Master Architect, Royal Arch of Solomon, Perfect Elu.

B. Chapters of Rose Croix, by which are conferred the Degrees from the Fifteenth to the Eighteenth, inclusive; namely, Knight of the East, Prince of Jerusalem, Knight of the East and West, Knight of Rose Croix.

C. Councils of Kadosh, by which are conferred the Degrees from the Nineteenth to the Thirtieth, inclusive; namely, Pontiff, Master of the Symbolic Lodge, Noachite or Prussian Knight, Knight of the Royal Axe or Prince of Libanus, Chief of the Tabernacle, Prince of the Tabernacle, Knight of the Brazen Serpent, Prince of Mercy, Knight Commander of the Temple, Knight of the Sun or Prince Adept, Scottish Knight of St. Andrew, Knight Kadosh.

D. Consistories, by which are conferred the Thirty-first and Thirty-second Degrees; namely, Inspector Inquisitor, Master of the Royal Secret.

SEC. 2. The mandatory Degrees are the Fourth, Fourteenth, Eighteenth, Thirtieth, and Thirty-second and they shall never be communicated except by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council, and then only in unusual circumstance.

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**Mandatory  
Degrees**

[2] None of the Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite may be conferred within the jurisdiction of this Supreme Council except by Subordinate Bodies established by its authority, nor be communicat-

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**Communicating/  
Conferring  
Degrees & Fees**

ed except by Sovereign Grand Inspectors General in their discretion and within their Orients, or by Deputies of the Supreme Council, as authorized in Article X, Section 3 of these Statutes, or by a Subordinate Body having a special dispensation for that purpose from a Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council. All fees received for Degrees communicated as herein authorized shall be immediately paid to the Supreme Council, unless the Degrees were communicated for the purpose of establishing, or as the agent for, an organized Body, in which event they shall be immediately paid to such Body.

**Supreme Council  
Degree Conferral**

SEC. 3. The Supreme Council reserves to itself the power of conferring any of the Degrees of the Rite upon any Brother whom it may deem worthy to receive them.

## ARTICLE IV

### Members

SEC. 1. This Supreme Council consists of not more than thirty-three Active Members (Sovereign Grand Inspectors General) and such Emeriti and Honorary Members as the Supreme Council may elect. The Active Members shall be so distributed that no Orient within its general jurisdiction shall have more than one Member.

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**S.G.I.G. Numbers  
& Distribution**

SEC. 2. Whenever a vacancy exists in an Orient, the Supreme Council may, at any regular session thereafter held, elect from the Inspectors General Honorary resident and affiliated within that Orient, one person to the office of Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Orient, who becomes *ex officio* an Active Member of the Supreme Council. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General shall become automatically retired at the close of the calendar year of his 80th birthday.

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**S.G.I.G. Elections  
& Mandatory  
Retirement Age**

[2] Such elections shall be after nomination in executive session as a special order of business at each regular session, and the vote must be unanimous, all present voting.

SEC. 3. Upon retirement a Sovereign Grand Inspector General who has served for a period of at least six years or upon his resignation within two years of his mandatory retirement age shall, upon request of the Sovereign Grand Commander or by recommendation of an Active Member of the Supreme Council, be elected in Executive Session or electronic vote in recess, by majority vote, an Emeritus Member, with the rank and dignity possessed by him at the time of his retirement, together with the right to use the title of the highest office attained by him, with the prefix "Past." An Emeritus Member shall have the privilege of attending all regular meetings of the Supreme Council except executive sessions, serving on committees at the request of the Sovereign Grand Commander, and he shall be given an Emeritus Membership Card and shall be exempt from the payment of dues. An Emeritus Member will retain the privilege of wearing the cap and chain of an S.G.I.G. and will be provided with a double-headed eagle drop with the words "Emeritus Member" thereon on his chain.

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**Emeriti Member  
Elections**

SEC. 4. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General who has resigned may be elected, by unanimous vote, an Emeritus Member, with the rank and dignity possessed by him at the time of his resignation, together with the right to use the title of the highest office attained by him, with the prefix “Past.” Upon election he shall have the privilege of attending all regular meetings of the Supreme Council except executive sessions, serving on committees at the request of the Sovereign Grand Commander, and he shall be given an Emeritus Membership Card and shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

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**Removal of  
Elective Officers  
& S.G.I.G.s**

SEC. 5. Whenever any elective officer of the Supreme Council or a Sovereign Grand Inspector General shall have become unable or unwilling to discharge his duties, the Supreme Council may, for the good of the Order, upon motion and by a two-thirds vote of the Members then present at any regular or special session of the Supreme Council, remove said officer or Sovereign Grand Inspector General from office. Upon motion and by a unanimous vote of the Supreme Council Members then voting, such officer or Sovereign Grand Inspector General may be elected an Emeritus Member, and he shall then be given an Emeritus Membership Card and shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

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**Office Vacancies**

SEC. 6. Upon resignation or retirement under any of the foregoing sections, the office of Sovereign Grand Inspector General, and any office in the Supreme Council held by the Member so resigned or retired, shall immediately become vacant and may be filled at that or any future regular session of the Supreme Council.

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**Emeriti Members  
of Honour  
Elections**

SEC. 7. The Supreme Council may, at any regular session, elect from among the members of the Thirty-third Degree of any other jurisdiction such Brethren as may be nominated by the Sovereign Grand Commander, to be enrolled upon its Tableau as Emeriti Members of Honour, whose names shall be continued perpetually upon its rolls.

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**Honorary  
Member  
Elections**

SEC. 8. The Supreme Council may, at any regular session, or earlier, elect to receive the Thirty-third Degree and to be Honorary Members of the Supreme Council with the rank and dignity of Inspectors General Honorary, such Masters of the Royal Secret possessing the qualifi-

cations and regularly nominated as herein provided, as it may select by unanimous vote taken on a voice or electronic vote. The Thirty-third Degree shall never be asked for, directly or indirectly, and if asked for, shall be refused. Nominations shall be referred to the Committee on Nominations and report had therefrom before ballot is taken. Members of any Body whose dues are in arrears in any Valley where he holds membership in the Southern Jurisdiction are not eligible for nomination.

**SEC. 9.** Not less than ninety days before each regular session of the Supreme Council each Sovereign Grand Inspector General and each Deputy of the Supreme Council may file in the office of the Grand Executive Director, in the number below specified, the electronically submitted nominations for Inspectors General Honorary, Masters of the Royal Secret who are bona fide residents and members in good standing of Subordinate Bodies of this jurisdiction, who have attained the age of thirty-five years and who have been elected by the Supreme Council to receive the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour at least forty-four months before being voted on to receive the Thirty-third Degree and to be Honorary Members of the Supreme Council with the rank and dignity of Inspector General Honorary.

[2] The number of earned nominations for Inspectors General Honorary for each Orient in the United States, Southern Jurisdiction, shall be six for its first 2,500 (or fewer) Masters of the Royal Secret as of the prior December 31, and two for each additional 2,500. Fractions left over are to be carried forward as credits. The smaller territorial and foreign Orients may each have four nominations for Inspectors General Honorary, except when in the judgment of the Sovereign Grand Commander a larger number is needed in a particular jurisdiction. The nominations set forth in this numbered paragraph may be a lesser number at the option of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of each Orient. Any unused nominations will be carried forward to the next Session.

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**Honorary  
Member  
Qualifications**

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**Earned Honorary  
Member  
Nominations  
Based on Existing  
Memberships**

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**Honorary  
Member  
Nomination  
Procedure**

[3] Nominations filed less than ninety days before any such session shall not be considered at that session, except by unanimous consent. Nominations shall be entered into the Supreme Council Sentinel Database Management System, and must state the name in full of each nominee, his identification number, the date of his birth, his occupation, his residence, his Blue Lodge name, number, and location, the conferral dates when he received the rank of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, the names and location of the Bodies of the Rite with which he is affiliated, and a brief statement of his specific services rendered in behalf of this Rite. Provided, that when the nominee is a member of Bodies in another Orient under this general jurisdiction, the approval of such nomination by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in such other Orient shall be obtained, and such nomination shall be charged to the Orient of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council making the same.

[4] This section and the resulting effect will be reviewed at each Supreme Session.

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**Earned Honorary  
Member  
Nominations  
Based on New  
Memberships**

**SEC. 10.** In addition to the earned nominations provided for in the preceding section, and in addition to the number standing to his credit, and in the same form and manner, and complying with the same conditions, each Sovereign Grand Inspector General and each Deputy of the Supreme Council may nominate to receive the Thirty-third Degree with the rank and dignity of Inspector General Honorary and Honorary Member of the Supreme Council, two Knights Commander of the Court of Honour for the first one hundred, and two for each additional two hundred Masters of the Royal Secret who have received the Thirty-second Degree in his Orient since the preceding regular session. Whatever fractions are left over from one such session will be counted in the quota for the next Session. The nominations set forth in this numbered paragraph may be a lesser number at the option of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of each Orient.

[2] Nominations under this and the preceding section shall be referred to the Committee on Nominations for review not less than 60 days before each regular session of the Supreme Council. A Supreme



Council electronic vote in recess shall follow not less than 45 days prior to such session with names submitted to Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Deputies following ratification of vote.

**SEC. 11.** The Sovereign Grand Commander may nominate ten Knights Commander of the Court of Honour for election as Inspectors General Honorary of the Supreme Council whenever, in his judgment, the interest of the Rite will be thereby promoted. Said nominations shall be in accord with the procedures established by the Supreme Council for the election of all other Inspectors General Honorary and shall not be credited against the quota assigned to any given Orient.

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**Honorary  
Member  
Nominations  
by Sov. Grand  
Commander**

**SEC. 12.** The Supreme Council reserves to itself the right to elect Inspectors General Honorary from the Masters of the Royal Secret of the jurisdiction at large, whenever in its judgment the interests of the Rite will be thereby promoted, and without reference to the rank of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour.

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**Honorary  
Member at-Large  
Nominations**

**SEC. 13.** The Thirty-third Degree must, when practicable, be conferred by the Supreme Council, but when not practicable it may be conferred by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in the Orient in which the designate resides, or in which his membership is held, or by courtesy.

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**Honorary  
Member  
Conferral  
Location**

**SEC. 14.** If a Brother elected to receive the Thirty-third Degree does not present himself to receive it at or prior to the regular session of the Supreme Council next succeeding his election, such election shall be void, but the time may be extended by unanimous vote of the Supreme Council.

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**Honorary  
Membership  
Forfeiture**

**SEC. 15.** The Thirty-third Degree shall not be given gratuitously except by unanimous vote of the Supreme Council.

**SEC. 16.** Honorary Members have the right to be present at all sessions of the Supreme Council except executive sessions, and to have a voice therein but without a vote.

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**Honorary  
Member Rights**

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**Loss of Honorary  
Membership**

SEC. 17. Honorary Membership in the Supreme Council is *ipso facto* terminated by voluntary resignation duly accepted; by expulsion or suspension from the Supreme Council or any of its Subordinate Bodies; by voluntary non-affiliation for a period of one year in either a Blue Lodge or the Scottish Rite; by expulsion or suspension from the privileges of Masonry by the Lodge or Grand Lodge of Symbolic Masonry having jurisdiction over the member. Permanent removal from the general jurisdiction of this Supreme Council by a member does not terminate the membership, provided the member remains affiliated and in good standing with the Subordinate Bodies of the Rite in this general jurisdiction.

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**S.G.I.G. & Deputy  
Member Powers**

SEC. 18. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council possesses, and may exercise within his Orient, all the prerogatives of Grand Master of Masons, so far as relates to this Rite, and may do and perform all such acts as he may deem for its interest which are not prohibited by the Constitutions or by these Statutes. When rendering a decision involving the interpretation of these Statutes or concerning the practice of the Rite, he shall immediately make a full report thereof to the Sovereign Grand Commander.

[2] A Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council has the power to disapprove the selection of, or to remove, any officer of a Subordinate Body in his Orient, or of a related corporation. (See 1947 *Trans.*, p. 303; 1963 *Trans.*, p. 234.)

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**S.G.I.G. &  
Deputy Personal  
Representative  
Appointments**

SEC. 19. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council may appoint a Personal Representative of the Advisory Conference or Executive Committee in each Valley of his Orient to act for him, and the acts of these representatives are valid when approved by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy, who is responsible for these acts. In addition, he may appoint an Orient Personal Representative for the Orient.

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**Personal  
Representative  
Duties**

[2] The duties and responsibilities of such Valley and Orient Personal Representatives are as follows:



A. To serve as the eyes and ears of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council to the end that peace and harmony may be promoted and brotherly love prevail;

B. To see that customs, usages, and laws of the Supreme Council are properly observed;

C. To carry out the instructions of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council; and

D. To exercise such powers as may be delegated to him by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in writing.

SEC. 20. If a Sovereign Grand Inspector General removes permanently from his Orient, except that of the District of Columbia, he *ipso facto* loses his Active Membership. (See Article X, Section 2 of these *Statutes*.)

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**Loss of S.G.I.G.  
Membership**

SEC. 21. Any Sovereign Grand Inspector General absent from two successive regular sessions of the Supreme Council without excuse adjudged sufficient may, at the close of the second session, be deemed to have resigned his membership in the Supreme Council.

SEC. 22. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General cannot be an officer of a Subordinate Body of the Rite. He shall be a member of all Subordinate Bodies within his Orient, with all rights and privileges of such membership, but shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

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**S.G.I.G.  
Membership  
in Subordinate  
Bodies**

SEC. 23. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General is authorized to communicate any of the Degrees of this Rite, except the Thirty-third, in any foreign country where no Supreme Council exists.

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**Other S.G.I.G.  
Powers**

SEC. 24. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General may issue Letters Temporary for the establishment within his Orient of Subordinate Bodies, which Letters shall continue in force until the next regular session of the Supreme Council. (See Article XVI, Section 7.)

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**S.G.I.G. & Deputy  
Dispensation  
Powers**

SEC. 25. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council may grant dispensations waiving the provisions of the Statutes of the Supreme Council or the bylaws of Subordinate Bodies within his Orient governing the time of presenting petitions of candidates, reference and reports of committees thereon, and balloting therefor, and delays in the time for conferring Degrees upon qualified and elected candidates, and all other statutes and bylaws governing the time and place of meeting and the transaction of routine business by such Subordinate Bodies. He may give his consent to Subordinate Bodies suspending the provisions of their bylaws in particular instances when in his opinion such action is for the best interest of the Rite, and there is no statute of the Supreme Council prohibiting it.

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**S.G.I.G.  
Communicating  
Degrees without  
Charge**

SEC. 26. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General has the power to confer or communicate Degrees, either with or without charge therefor, and without election by a Body of the Rite, upon Brethren of great merit and desert in his Orient, who he is assured will be faithful and zealous in the Rite, or who are not well able to pay for the Degrees, or he may direct any organized Body or Bodies within his Orient to confer such Degrees for him, either with or without charge therefor. The Sovereign Grand Inspector General may direct that such Brethren be enrolled as members of such Bodies of the Rite in his Orient as he may designate.

[2] In cases where the Degrees are conferred or communicated without charge, the Subordinate Bodies conferring same, or in which the Brethren are enrolled as members, shall not be required to pay to the Supreme Council the customary fees for Degrees; and the Supreme Council shall furnish to such Brethren the usual English Patents without charge.

[3] But a Deputy of the Supreme Council is not authorized to confer or communicate Degrees, or have it done, without charge therefor.

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**S.G.I.G. Official  
Reports**

SEC. 27. Each Sovereign Grand Inspector General shall make, whenever requested by the Sovereign Grand Commander so to do, a full report of his official acts and decisions during such period as may be prescribed by the Sovereign Grand Commander. In this report he may

also make such recommendations for the good of the Rite as he may deem pertinent.

SEC. 28. Upon the death of a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Active or Emeritus, notice thereof shall be given the Sovereign Grand Commander, who shall cause to be promulgated a suitable memorial of his life and Masonic service. Upon the death of an Inspector General Honorary, the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council for the Orient shall cause a suitable memorial page to be set apart in the records of the Lodge of Perfection of which the deceased Inspector General Honorary was a member. This section, however, shall not be construed as prohibiting the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council, or the Lodge, from promulgating any other suitable memorial if desired.

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**Memorials  
for S.G.I.G.s,  
Emeritus,  
Honorary  
Members, &  
Grand Crosses**

[2] The Albert Pike Memorial Services shall be held upon the Sunday preceding the regular sessions of the Supreme Council and the Sovereign Grand Commander shall appoint a committee to make necessary arrangements therefor.

SEC. 29. The Committee on Obituaries shall include in its report to the regular session, the tablets, not previously reported, in memory of deceased Active and Emeriti Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Grand Crosses of the Court of Honour prepared by the Supreme Council, which shall be published in the *Transactions of the Supreme Council* in full, together with a reproduction of a photograph of each of the deceased.

[2] There shall also be published in the *Transactions* a tableau of deceased Inspectors General Honorary.

SEC. 30. The Sovereign Grand Commander may dispense with the draping of the altars and working tools upon the death of an Active or Emeritus Member of the Supreme Council. The Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council may, in like manner, dispense with these memorial acts on the death of an Inspector General Honorary of his Orient.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERS

Official Correspondence with Sov. Grand Commander and between Orients	SEC. 31. All official correspondence with the Sovereign Grand Commander, and between Bodies of the Rite located in different Orients within this general jurisdiction, relating to the status of members, to questions of jurisdiction, to Masonic intercourse, to appeals for Masonic charity or Fraternal assistance, and to every subject requiring legislation by the Supreme Council shall be carried on through the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General or Deputies of the Supreme Council in charge of the respective Orients. All official correspondence with Bodies located in other jurisdictions relating to similar matters must be carried on by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council through the Sovereign Grand Commander, unless and as otherwise ordered or directed by him.
S.G.I.G. Resignation	SEC. 32. The resignation of a Member shall be made to the Supreme Council when in session, subject to its acceptance by a majority vote. In recess it may be made to the Sovereign Grand Commander, who is authorized to accept the same or to report it to the Supreme Council for action.
S.G.I.G. & Deputy Conflict of Interest Disclosure	SEC. 33. Not less than annually, each Active Member or Deputy of the Supreme Council shall complete, sign, and file a conflict of interest disclosure statement on a form as provided by the Grand Executive Director. Said statement shall be filed with the office of the Grand Executive Director not later than the opening of each Biennial Session of the Supreme Council.

## ARTICLE V

### Sessions—Quorum

SEC. 1. The Supreme Council shall meet in regular session biennially between the first day of the month of August and the 15th day of October in each odd year, as specified by the Sovereign Grand Commander and in special session as provided in Section 2 of this Article. No nomination of Grand Crosses shall be made or acted upon except at a regular session. Nominations of Inspectors General Honorary and of Knights Commander of the Court of Honour shall be as prescribed in Article IV, Section 9, and Article XIV, Section 2.

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#### Regular Sessions

SEC. 2. Special sessions may be called by the Sovereign Grand Commander to be held at such time and place as he may name in the call. It shall be his duty to call special sessions upon the written request of a majority of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General at such time and place as may be designated in their request. The date of a special session shall be not less than fifteen days nor more than sixty days after the date of summons except by unanimous consent, and notice of a special meeting shall be given electronically and followed immediately by formal written notice to each Sovereign Grand Inspector General.

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#### Special Sessions

SEC. 3. Seven Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, the Sovereign Grand Commander or Lieutenant Grand Commander being present, or nine Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, in the absence of these officers, shall constitute a quorum for the transactions of business.

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#### Quorum Rules



## ARTICLE VI

### Officers & Employees

SEC. 1. The dignitaries and officers of the Supreme Council are as follows:

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**Supreme Council  
Officers**

#### ELECTIVE

1. Sovereign Grand Commander
2. Lieutenant Grand Commander
3. Grand Prior
4. Grand Chancellor
5. Grand Minister of State
6. Grand Secretary General
7. Grand Treasurer General
8. Grand Almoner

#### APPOINTIVE

9. Grand Orator
10. Grand Master of Ceremonies
11. Grand Chamberlain
12. First Grand Equerry
13. Second Grand Equerry
14. Grand Standard Bearer
15. Grand Sword Bearer
16. Grand Herald

[2] The Sovereign Grand Commander shall appoint a Grand Executive Director from the Honorary Membership to serve under his supervision and may appoint such other officers from the Honorary Membership as he may designate, including Grand Archivist, Grand Chaplain, Grand Stewards, Grand Organist, and Grand Tyler, all of whom shall serve at his will and pleasure.

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**Additional  
Appointed  
Officers**

<b>Sovereign Grand Commander Powers</b>	<p>SEC. 2. The Sovereign Grand Commander is the supreme executive and the chief judicial officer of the Rite within the jurisdiction of this Supreme Council. He is the representative of the Supreme Council when that Body is not in session, and is invested with general powers of supervision, instruction, and administration everywhere within its jurisdiction; and he may decide all questions properly referred to him affecting the interests of the Rite, and shall report his decisions, in such manner as he may deem best, to the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Deputies of the Supreme Council.</p>
<b>Sovereign Grand Commander Office</b>	<p>[2] He shall occupy and maintain the executive offices located in the House of the Temple at the city of Washington in the District of Columbia to perform his duties and superintend the business of the Supreme Council during his tenure of office as Sovereign Grand Commander.</p>
<b>Sovereign Grand Commander Titles</b>	<p>[3] He shall upon his election as Sovereign Grand Commander relinquish all authority of his jurisdiction as Sovereign Grand Inspector General and in addition to the title of Sovereign Grand Commander shall be designated and become Sovereign Grand Inspector General at Large. On his retirement as Sovereign Grand Commander, he shall relinquish his office as Sovereign Grand Inspector General at Large and shall possess the titles of Past Sovereign Grand Commander and Past Sovereign Grand Inspector General at Large.</p>
<b>Sovereign Grand Commander Visitations</b>	<p>SEC. 3. He shall, if practicable, visit, either in person or by duly commissioned representatives, one or more of the Bodies in each state or territory at least once every four years and maintain a travel matrix for purposes of tracking visitations made. The Sovereign Grand Commander shall make report thereof to the Supreme Council at its regular session.</p>
<b>Sovereign Grand Commander Reporting</b>	<p>SEC. 4. He shall, at each regular session, make report to the Supreme Council of all official acts performed and judicial decisions rendered by him in recess. An appeal from any decision rendered by him shall not operate as suspensive. All of his official acts are subject to review by the Supreme Council.</p>



**SEC. 5.** Under the supervision of the Sovereign Grand Commander, the Grand Executive Director shall keep all of the accounts of the Supreme Council, receive all monies due it, and ensure proper receipt thereof, and shall immediately deposit, in the name of the Supreme Council, in a depository or depositories designated by it, all monies received, and render a due account thereof to the Grand Treasurer General. The books and accounts of the Grand Executive Director shall at all times be open for inspection by any Sovereign Grand Inspector General. The Grand Executive Director shall also be custodian of the House of the Temple and of all property, real and personal, belonging to the Supreme Council and is charged with the safekeeping of the same. He shall perform such other duties as may be delegated to him by the Sovereign Grand Commander.

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**Grand Executive  
Director  
Appointment &  
Duties**

**SEC. 6.** The Grand Executive Director shall make to the Supreme Council on the first day of each regular session a full report of the transactions of his office, both general and financial, since the last regular session. He shall also report all property in his possession belonging to the Supreme Council. He shall, if required by the Sovereign Grand Commander, make reports to any session of the Supreme Council.

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**Grand Executive  
Director  
Reporting**

[2] The financial accounts of the Grand Executive Director shall be closed on December thirty-first in each year.

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**Fiscal Year**

**SEC. 7.** The Grand Executive Director shall cause to be reproduced a full report of the transactions of each regular and special session of the Supreme Council, omitting only such portions as the Supreme Council or Sovereign Grand Commander shall direct.

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**Transactions  
Report**

**SEC. 8.** The Grand Executive Director is in charge of the employees in his office, and under his direction as custodian of the House of the Temple and its grounds, and in such other departments as are placed under his direction or control, subject to the supreme executive authority of the Sovereign Grand Commander.

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**Grand Executive  
Director  
Additional  
Duties**

<hr/> <b>Grand Executive Director Financial Report</b>	<p>SEC. 9. The Grand Executive Director as soon as practicable after the close of each calendar quarter shall cause a financial report to be distributed to each Active Member and Deputy of the Supreme Council in such format as may be approved by the Finance Committee.</p>
<hr/> <b>Quarterly Financial Review</b>	<p>SEC. 10. On a quarterly basis, the Finance Committee shall review the revenues, expenditures and financial position of the Council and shall manage and monitor the investment program of the Council, utilizing an independent investment consultant. Such investment may be made in obligations or securities, provided that the aggregate amount of common stocks shall at the time of investing not exceed 75% of the total current market value of all such investments.</p>
<hr/> <b>Disbursements &amp; Check Signatories</b>	<p>SEC. 11. The funds of this Supreme Council shall be paid out by checks drawn on the depositories of the Supreme Council and signed by the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Lieutenant Grand Commander as provided in Section 12 of this Article, and by the Grand Executive Director, the Grand Treasurer General, or an emergency signer as determined by the Sovereign Grand Commander, payable to the order of the persons for whose benefits said checks are drawn. The Committee on Finance may specify a dollar limit under which only one signature of the above-listed officers is required.</p>
<hr/> <b>Lt. Grand Commander as Acting Sovereign Grand Commander</b>	<p>SEC. 12. The Lieutenant Grand Commander, in the absence of the Sovereign Grand Commander from the jurisdiction of the Supreme Council or upon the special request of the Sovereign Grand Commander, shall assume the executive duties and powers of the office of Sovereign Grand Commander, acting as Lieutenant Grand Commander, and shall have authority to issue Letters Temporary for the organization of new bodies, decide questions submitted to him, sign checks and warrants, and perform such other acts as the emergency may require.</p> <p>[2] In the event of the death, resignation, or disability of the Sovereign Grand Commander, the Lieutenant Grand Commander shall assume the office of Sovereign Grand Commander, as Sovereign Grand Commander, and as such shall possess all the powers and be charged with the duties and responsibilities of the office.</p>

[3] He shall render a report of his acts to the Supreme Council at the next regular session. If there be no elected Lieutenant Grand Commander, the rights and duties herein set forth shall inure to, and be discharged by, the Grand Prior.

[4] If under these statutes and during his elected term of office, the Lieutenant Grand Commander should become Acting Sovereign Grand Commander or succeed to the office of Sovereign Grand Commander, he shall so remain during said period and have the title “Sovereign Grand Commander,” and the office of Lieutenant Grand Commander shall remain vacant until the next election of officers by the Supreme Council.

[5] When the Lieutenant Grand Commander assumes the office of Sovereign Grand Commander as authorized under these statutes, he shall be paid and be entitled to the salary, expenses, and benefits, as determined by the Finance Committee.

**SEC. 13.** The Grand Prior presides in the absence of the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Lieutenant Grand Commander. He is, in the Supreme Council when convened, what the Junior Warden is in a Chapter of Rose Croix, and the Craft are under his superintendence while the Members are at refreshment. To him are referred in the first instance, at the request of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, all matters of complaint and controversy between Subordinate Bodies and their respective members, for opinion and advice. He shall also discharge such other duties as may from time to time be required of him by the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Supreme Council.

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**Grand Prior  
Duties**

**SEC. 14.** The Grand Chancellor is the law officer of the Supreme Council. As such he is advisor of the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Supreme Council on matters of Masonic law and precedent, to whom all questions thereof are to be referred; and upon all matters of importance debated in the Supreme Council he may be called upon to deliver his conclusions before the Supreme Council decides. To him it belongs to prepare charges against and prosecute offenders before the Supreme Council or any tribunal created by it; and when any matter is to be investigated or decided by the Supreme Council, he shall, upon request,

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**Grand  
Chancellor  
Duties**

prepare and present clear and concise statements of facts with his views of the law. He will also give his opinion on questions of jurisprudence upon the request of the Sovereign Grand Commander.

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**Grand Minister  
of State Duties**

SEC. 15. The Grand Minister of State is the minister of foreign affairs and shall, when directed by the Sovereign Grand Commander, conduct all the correspondence with foreign bodies and report upon it to the Supreme Council. He shall also perform such other like duties as may from time to time be required of him by the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Supreme Council.

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**Grand Secretary  
General Duties**

SEC. 16. The Grand Secretary General shall keep a faithful record of the transactions of the Supreme Council and of the Council of Administration, and shall keep in his possession and affix to such papers as may require attestation, the official seal of the Supreme Council. He shall perform such other duties as properly appertain to his office, or which may be required of him by the Supreme Council or the Sovereign Grand Commander.

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**Grand Treasurer  
General Duties**

SEC. 17. The Grand Treasurer General is the financial officer of the Supreme Council. He shall serve as the Chairman of the Committee on Finance and report to the Supreme Council as delineated in Article XI, Section 7, of the statutes of the Supreme Council. At each regular biennial session of the Supreme Council, he shall present a proposed budget for the ensuing biennium on behalf of the Committee on Finance.

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**Grand Almoner  
Duties**

SEC. 18. The Grand Almoner exercises management responsibility over and maintains the Almoner's Fund of the Supreme Council. He dispenses its charities, regardless of race, creed, sex, age, or national origin to widows, orphans, the poor, the distressed, and the physically handicapped. At his discretion he may also distribute monies for other educational and charitable purposes.

**SEC. 19.** The Grand Orator is the orator of the Supreme Council and is charged with the duty of causing distinguished visitors to be suitably presented and properly welcomed. He will also be called upon to pronounce eulogies on deceased Brethren and perform such other like services as may from time to time be required of him by the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Supreme Council.

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**Grand Orator  
Duties**

**SEC. 20.** The Grand Master of Ceremonies shall direct the formation of all processions of the Supreme Council, escort and introduce all distinguished visitors, and perform such other duties as the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Supreme Council may direct.

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**Grand Master  
of Ceremonies  
Duties**

**SEC. 21.** The Grand Chamberlain shall assist the Grand Master of Ceremonies in the performance of his duties and perform such other duties as the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Supreme Council may direct. In the absence of the Grand Master of Ceremonies the Grand Chamberlain shall act as his substitute.

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**Grand  
Chamberlain  
Duties**

**SEC. 22.** The First Grand Equerry and the Second Grand Equerry are, when called upon, to assist the other officers in the performance of their respective duties, and are otherwise to perform such other duties as the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Supreme Council may direct.

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**First & Second  
Grand Equerry  
Duties**

**SEC. 23.** The Grand Standard Bearer has in his charge and care the Great Banner of the Supreme Council. It is his duty to carry the Great Banner in all processions of the Supreme Council, and perform such other duties as the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Supreme Council may direct.

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**Grand Standard  
Bearer Duties**

**SEC. 24.** The Grand Sword Bearer has in his charge and care the great cross-hilted double-edged two-handed sword. It is his duty to bear the great sword in all processions, and whenever the Supreme Council is in session to guard and protect the Great Banner of the Supreme Council, and perform such other duties as the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Supreme Council may direct.

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**Grand Sword  
Bearer Duties**

<hr/> <b>Grand Herald Duties</b>	<p>SEC. 25. The Grand Herald shall assist the Sovereign Grand Commander in opening and closing the Supreme Council, lead all processions of the Supreme Council, and perform such other duties as the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Supreme Council may direct.</p> <p>SEC. 26. The official titles of the elective and appointive officers of the Supreme Council are as given at the beginning of Section 1 of this Article.</p>
<hr/> <b>Elective Officer Term</b>	<p>SEC. 27. At the regular session of the Supreme Council, the elective officers shall be elected for a term of two years; the appointive officers shall hold office at the will and pleasure of the Sovereign Grand Commander.</p>
<hr/> <b>Officer Resignation</b>	<p>SEC. 28. The resignation of an officer shall be made to the Supreme Council when in session, subject to its acceptance by a majority vote, but in recess shall be made to the Sovereign Grand Commander, who is authorized to accept the same.</p>
<hr/> <b>Officer Loss of Rights &amp; Privileges</b>	<p>SEC. 29. All of the rights, privileges, and perquisites of the officers are <i>ipso facto</i> terminated by voluntary resignation duly accepted, by permanent removal beyond the general jurisdiction of this Supreme Council, by expulsion or suspension from the Supreme Council or any of its Subordinate Bodies, by voluntary nonaffiliation for a period of one year in either a Blue Lodge or the Scottish Rite, or by expulsion or suspension from the privileges of Masonry by the Grand Lodge or the Lodge of Symbolic Masonry having jurisdiction over such member.</p>
<hr/> <b>Office Succession in Cases of Vacancies</b>	<p>SEC. 30. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in any of the elective offices of the Supreme Council, except that of Grand Secretary General, Grand Treasurer General, or Grand Almoner, the duties pertaining to the office so becoming vacant shall be performed by the next succeeding elected officer or officers in the order of their respective rank until said office shall be filled by election.</p> <p>[2] The elected officer, however, shall retain and also perform the duties of the office to which he was elected. In signing for the office becoming vacant he shall sign as acting as the officer whose office has become vacant and the duties of which office he is at the time performing.</p>



**SEC. 31.** If the office of the Grand Secretary General or the Grand Treasurer General becomes vacant, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the Sovereign Grand Commander or Acting Sovereign Grand Commander until an election is held to fill the same.

[2] If the office of the Grand Almoner becomes vacant, the duties of this office shall be performed by the Grand Treasurer General until the next election.

**SEC. 32.** If a vacancy occurs in the office of Sovereign Grand Commander or any other elective office, the same shall be filled by election on the second or some subsequent day of the next regular session, or at a special session, unless the Supreme Council is then in session.

[2] The Supreme Council has power by a majority vote to adjourn such election from time to time until the vacancy is filled.

**SEC. 33.** A two-thirds vote of the Members present shall be necessary to elect a Sovereign Grand Commander; a majority shall be sufficient in all other cases, except when otherwise provided in these statutes.

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#### **Officer Elections**

**SEC. 34.** No vote by proxy or letter for the election of any officer shall be received or counted.

**SEC. 35.** The Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction shall indemnify any Active Member, Deputy of the Supreme Council, officer or trustee or any former Active Member, Deputy of the Supreme Council, officer or trustee of such Supreme Council, or any person who may have served at its request as an officer or trustee of another corporation against court costs, attorney's fees, judgments and other expenses actually and necessarily incurred by him in connection with the defense of any action, suit, or proceeding in which he is made a party by reason of being or having been such officer or trustee, except in relation to matters as to which he shall be adjudged via the Council of Administration in negligence or misconduct in the performance of a duty. This indemnification shall not be deemed exclusive of any other right to which such

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#### **Indemnification of Active Members, Deputies, Officers, & Trustees**

trustee or officer may be entitled, under any bylaw agreement, vote of board of trustees, or otherwise.

[2] All officers and employees of this Supreme Council shall be placed under bond furnished by a surety company, which bonds shall be in the amount of \$1,000,000 each, the cost of which shall be paid by the Supreme Council.

**Conflict  
of Interest  
Disclosure &  
Voting Rights &  
Limitations for  
Supreme Council  
Members**

SEC. 36. Active Members, Deputies, and officers of the Supreme Council shall disclose any possible conflict of interest with respect to any matter coming before the Council or any of its committees. In the event a member of the Council or any of its committees has any such possible conflict, he shall advise other members of the Council or its committees of any significant reasons, known to him but unknown to such other members, why the matter being considered may not be in the best interests of the Scottish Rite.

SEC. 37. A Member making such a disclosure shall not use his influence nor vote on the matter giving rise to the possible conflict. The minutes of the meeting shall reflect on such disclosure and the abstention from voting.

SEC. 38. The foregoing shall not be construed to prevent any member of the Council or its committees from answering relevant questions of other members on which his knowledge may be of assistance.

**Conflict  
of Interest  
Disclosure &  
Voting Rights  
& Limitations  
for Officers  
& Trustees  
of Scottish  
Rite-Related  
Corporations**

SEC. 39. All officers and trustees of Scottish Rite related corporations shall disclose any possible conflict of interest with respect to any matter coming before the Scottish Rite related corporations. In the event an officer or trustee of a Scottish Rite related corporation has any such possible conflict, he shall advise other officers or trustees of any significant reasons, known to him but unknown to such other officers or trustees, why the matter being considered may not be in the best interests of the Scottish Rite.

SEC. 40. An officer or trustee making such a disclosure shall not use his influence nor vote on the matter giving rise to the possible conflict. The minutes of the meeting shall reflect on such disclosure and the abstention from voting.



SEC. 41. The foregoing shall not be construed to prevent any officer or trustee of Scottish Rite related corporations from answering relevant questions of other officers or trustees on which his knowledge may be of assistance.

SEC. 42. All representatives of our Supreme Council to other Supreme Councils and all representatives of other Supreme Councils to our own shall obtain all documents and information of interest to the Rite and present the same to the Sovereign Grand Commander as early as possible, before each regular session of the Council. All information thus furnished shall be full, clear, and comprehensive. The Sovereign Grand Commander is hereby fully authorized and empowered to remove any representative from our Supreme Council who fails to comply fully with his duties hereunder and to fill his place by the appointment of another, and in case any foreign representative shall fail to comply with his duties, our Sovereign Grand Commander is hereby fully authorized to request the Council from which such representative comes, to remove him from his position and appoint another in his place.

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**Supreme Council  
Representative  
Duties**

SEC. 43. It is the policy of this Supreme Council not to authorize or permit any of its officers or Members, Active or Honorary, or any of the members of Subordinate Bodies under its jurisdiction to engage in any conferences, formal or informal, or to carry on any communications concerning any matter pertaining to the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry with any alleged Masonic Body or organization which is not fully recognized as legitimate and regular by Regular Symbolic Grand Lodges within the general jurisdiction of this Supreme Council.

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**Prohibition on  
Conferences  
with Irregular &  
Unrecognized  
Masonic Bodies**

### **Official Signatures (Descriptions)**

SEC. 44. The distinctive symbol to be used before the signature of the Sovereign Grand Commander is a cross with three cross-bars, near the extremities of which and of the shaft are small cross-bars; the signature to be followed by a rayed equilateral triangle enclosing the figure 33. Violet ink to be used.

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**Sov. Grand  
Commander  
Signature**

## ARTICLE VI – OFFICIAL SIGNATURES (DESCRIPTIONS)

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### S.G.I.G. Signature

[2] The symbol cross to precede the signature of a Sovereign Grand Inspector General has two cross-bars, near the extremities of which and of the shaft are small cross-bars; the signature to be followed by a rayed equilateral triangle enclosing the figure 33; the title may be written out or abbreviated “Sov.: Gr.: Insp.: Genl.:” Purple ink to be used.

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### Deputy Signature

[3] The symbol cross to precede the signature of a Deputy of the Supreme Council is a plain cross with two cross-bars (no cross-bars at the extremities); the signature to be followed by a rayed equilateral triangle enclosing the figure 33; the title may be written out or abbreviated “Dep.: of the Supreme Council.” Crimson ink to be used.

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### 33°, I.G.H. Signature

[4] The symbol cross to precede the signature of an Inspector General Honorary is a plain cross with two cross-bars (no cross-bars at the extremities); the signature to be followed by a rayed equilateral triangle enclosing the figure 33; the title may be written out or abbreviated “Insp.: Genl.: Hon.:” Crimson ink to be used. The use of the abbreviation “Hon.” after the name of an Inspector General Honorary is unauthorized. The Inspector General Honorary may sign himself simply “John Doe, 33°.” If he desires his official designation, he should write it under his name.

[5] For the rest of the symbols to precede or follow signatures and titles, red ink to be used.

[6] In each of the above, the cross-bars are to be horizontal and except where shown differently, the shaft is inclined to the right to correspond with the angle of the strokes of slanting writing.

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### Court of Honour Signatures

[7] The shafts of the crosses used by the Court of Honour are vertical, the end of the shaft and cross-bars being provided with a small cross-bar at the extremities.

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### Rose Croix Signature

[8] For the Rose Croix the symbol is a Passion Cross set on the apex of a pyramid or equilateral triangle.

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### 32° Emblem

[9] By usage and custom the double-headed eagle has become an accepted emblem of the 32°.

## Official Signatures (Samples)

See p. 123 for  
descriptions  
of preferred  
colors for each  
signature.



Eques á

18°

R.: C.:



32°

M.: R.: S.:



32°

Kt.: Comm.: C.: of Hon.:



Inspector General Honorary



G.: C.:



Deputy of the Supreme Council



Sovereign Grand Inspector General

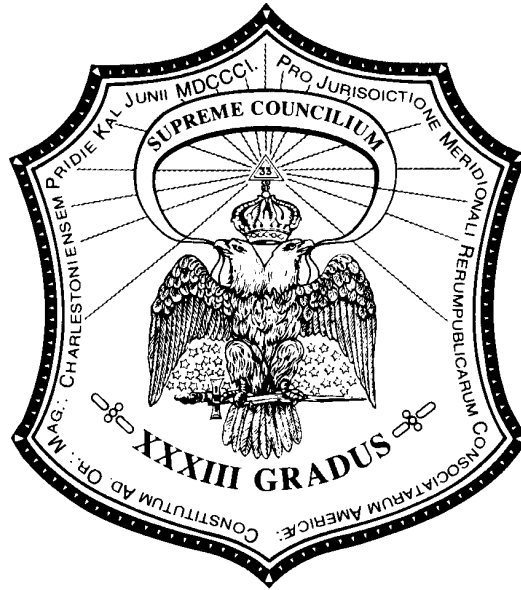


Sovereign Grand Commander



## Official Seals

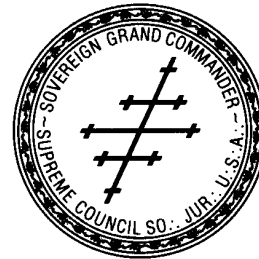
SEC. 45. The Seals attached to the Patents and official documents of this Supreme Council are as shown below:



Great Seal of the Supreme Council



Petty Seal of the  
Supreme Council



Seal of the Sovereign  
Grand Commander



Seal of the  
Grand Chancellor



Seal of the Grand  
Secretary General

SEC. 46. The Supreme Council may, from time to time and at anytime, establish, amend, freeze, or terminate a retirement plan or plans for its employees, within existing legal guidelines.

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**Employees  
Retirement Plan**

### **Disability for Elective Salaried Officers**

SEC. 47. The elective salaried officers of this Supreme Council shall receive their full salary for the length of the term for which they were elected; should they become incapacitated, or for any other reason be unable to perform full-time services, they shall thereafter receive one-third of their salary during the balance of the term to which they were elected.



## ARTICLE VII

### Committees

SEC. 1. The Sovereign Grand Commander shall, within sixty days after each regular session of the Supreme Council, appoint the standing committees to serve until the close of the next regular session of the Supreme Council. He may, during the recess of the Supreme Council, fill any vacancy in any committee caused by death, resignation, or removal of Members. The following are the standing committees of the Supreme Council:

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#### Standing Committees

Appeals and Grievances  
Audit  
Archives and Library  
Benevolence and Fraternal Assistance  
Building and Grounds  
Development  
Americanism Programs  
Finance  
Fraternal Relations  
Jurisprudence and Legislation  
Membership Services  
Honour Nominations  
Obituaries  
Ritual and Ceremonies  
Scholarship  
Strategic Communication  
Strategic Planning

SEC. 2. The Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Deputies of the Supreme Council shall make separate reports of their decisions and of their acts. The reports of their decisions shall be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence and Legislation, and the reports of their acts to the Committee on the State of the Order and Unfinished Business.

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#### Reports

## ARTICLE VII – COMMITTEES

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### Meetings

SEC. 3. When in the opinion of the Sovereign Grand Commander the business of the Supreme Council would be facilitated thereby, he may convene any committee at any time.



## ARTICLE VIII

### Council of Administration

SEC. 1. The first nine officers of the Supreme Council shall constitute the Council of Administration. The Sovereign Grand Commander, or in his absence the Lieutenant Grand Commander, with any four of said Members will constitute a quorum.

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**Members &  
Quorum**

SEC. 2. The Council of Administration, the Sovereign Grand Commander, or in his absence the Lieutenant Grand Commander, being present, after thirty days' notice to all its members of the time and place of meeting, shall assemble for the purpose of advising with the Sovereign Grand Commander on such matters as may be submitted.

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**Meetings**



## ARTICLE IX

### Procedure

SEC. 1. All questions, other than election of officers or amendments to the *Statutes*, shall be presented to the Supreme Council by motion or resolution, and shall be determined by *viva voce* vote of a majority of Members present, unless otherwise provided by statute. Any motion or resolution, upon the request of three Members, shall be reduced to writing before being voted upon.

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Voting in Session

[2] A roll call may be demanded before any proposition.

SEC. 2. Whenever in the opinion of the Sovereign Grand Commander the emergency requires it, a vote of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General may be taken in recess upon a proposition not otherwise provided for by these *Statutes*, and when such vote is so taken, each vote shall be regarded as cast on the day of its receipt by the Grand Executive Director, and the proposition shall be recorded as adopted on the day when he has received the affirmative votes of two-thirds of all Active Members of the Supreme Council. The result shall be made known to the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General by the Sovereign Grand Commander.

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Voting in Recess



## ARTICLE X

### Deputies of the Supreme Council

SEC. 1. The Sovereign Grand Commander may appoint and commission an Inspector General Honorary as the Deputy of the Supreme Council in any territory not occupied by it or by any other regular Supreme Council, with power to confer or communicate the Degrees and establish Subordinate Bodies of the Rite in such territory under Letters Temporary issued by the Sovereign Grand Commander, and to perform such other acts as shall be specified in the commission issued to him by the Sovereign Grand Commander.

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**Appointment &  
Powers**

SEC. 2. The Sovereign Grand Commander may also appoint and commission an Inspector General Honorary as the Deputy of the Supreme Council in any Orient which is unattached and in which there is no resident Sovereign Grand Inspector General, with the powers and prerogatives of a Sovereign Grand Inspector General within such Orient, except as otherwise provided in these *Statutes*. The Deputy of the Supreme Council thus appointed must be at the time of appointment a bona fide resident and an affiliated member of Subordinate Bodies in the Orient for which he is appointed, and shall be exempt from the payment of dues while serving as such Deputy, provided, however, that the residency requirement shall not apply to a Deputy of the Supreme Council appointed for the District of Columbia.

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**Appointment  
to Unattached  
Jurisdictions**

SEC. 3. A Deputy of the Supreme Council shall not have the power to confer or communicate Degrees, except for the purpose of immediately establishing, or as agent of, an organized Body. Nor shall he have the power to confer or communicate Degrees as a gratuity.

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**Degree Conferral  
Limitations**

SEC. 4. All fees collected by a Deputy of the Supreme Council must be paid over by him to the Body for which the Degrees were conferred, or to the Supreme Council if a Body is not organized. He shall be reimbursed for all monies necessarily expended by him in the discharge of his duty in organizing Bodies in unoccupied territories, upon accounts rendered to and approved by the Sovereign Grand Commander.

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**Fees & Expenses**

ARTICLE X – DEPUTIES OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL

Reporting	SEC. 5. A Deputy of the Supreme Council shall make, when requested by the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Supreme Council, a full and detailed report of his acts and decisions together with any recommendations he may have to offer.
Term	SEC. 6. The appointment or commission of a Deputy of the Supreme Council shall be in force no longer than the close of the ensuing regular session of the Supreme Council, unless confirmed at such session by the Sovereign Grand Commander.
Retirement	SEC. 7. When a Deputy of the Supreme Council retires with at least six years of service, he shall be entitled to be called “Past Deputy of the Supreme Council” and to wear the Deputy cap.

## ARTICLE XI

### Revenues, Fees, & Assessments

SEC. 1. The revenues of the Supreme Council shall be derived from fees for Letters Temporary and Permanent Charters; from fees for Patents and Diplomas; from fees and assessments from Bodies under its jurisdiction to cover operating costs; from fees for Degrees conferred by it and by Sovereign Grand Inspectors General or Deputies, and from the sale of its books.

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#### Revenue Sources

SEC. 2. The fees for Letters Temporary and Permanent Charters and the cost of books as listed below may be increased by the Sovereign Grand Commander at his discretion.

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#### Letters Temporary & Permanent Charter Fees

##### Letters Temporary:

Lodge of Perfection .....	\$60.00
Chapter of Rose Croix .....	\$75.00
Council of Kadosh .....	\$75.00
Consistory .....	\$90.00

##### Permanent Charters:

Lodge of Perfection .....	\$70.00
Chapter of Rose Croix .....	\$100.00
Council of Kadosh .....	\$100.00
Consistory .....	\$120.00

[2] The cost of books for organizing Subordinate Bodies (in addition to the above) shall be as follows:

Lodge of Perfection .....	80.00
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SEC. 3. All Patents and Diplomas of the Degrees and Ladies' Certificates shall be issued by the Supreme Council: all Diplomas in Latin, and also Patents in English of Emeriti Members and of Emeriti Members of Honour, and Letters-Patent of Credence to foreign representatives, under the great seal, with the individual seals and sig-

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#### Patent, Diploma, & Certificate Fees

natures of the Sovereign Grand Commander, the Grand Chancellor, and the Grand Secretary General; and those of the 14°, 18°, and 30° also to carry the seal of the Body and the signatures of the presiding officer and the Secretary (or Registrar) of the Body of such Degree, respectively; Patents in English of Masters of the Royal Secret, under the great seal, signed by the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Grand Secretary General, and by the presiding officer and Registrar of the Consistory; and Patents in English of Knights Commander of the Court of Honour, Inspectors General Honorary, Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, and Ladies' Certificates, under the petty seal, with the signatures of the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Grand Secretary General.

[2] The fees, if any, for such Patents, Diplomas, and Certificates shall be as follows:

33° Active, Sov.: Gr.: Insp.: Genl.:.....	No Fee
33° Insp.: Genl.: Hon.:.....	
Original .....	No Fee
Duplicate .....	\$5.00
Grand Cross Court of Honour (Latin only)	
Original .....	No Fee
Duplicate .....	\$10.00
Knight Commander Court of Honour	
Original .....	No Fee
Duplicate .....	\$5.00
32° Master of the Royal Secret	
Original .....	\$8.00
Duplicate or Corrected .....	\$5.00
Ladies' Certificate	
Original .....	5.00
Duplicate or Corrected .....	5.00



Letters-Patent of Credence to Foreign Representative.....	No Fee
Patent of Affiliation from the Jurisdiction of Another Supreme Council .....	5.00

SEC. 4. With the approval of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council, the minimum fees for conferring Degrees shall be as follows:

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**Degree  
Conferral Fees**

- A. For the Degrees from Fourth to Fourteenth, inclusive, including 14° Ring. .... 50.00
- B. For the Degrees from the Fifteenth to the Eighteenth, inclusive. .... 25.00
- C. For the Degrees from the Nineteenth to the Thirtieth, inclusive. .... 25.00
- D. For the Thirty-first and Thirty-second Degrees, Patent included. .... 25.00

However, Subordinate Bodies may increase the fees, and all fees shall be paid in advance.

[2] No Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council shall confer either “E” or “F” for any less or greater fees than those provided and all fees shall be paid in advance to the Supreme Council and credited as follows:

- E. For the Knight Commander Court of Honour,  
Patent included ..... \$300.00
- F. For the Thirty-third Degree,  
Patent included. .... \$500.00

SEC. 5. Within thirty days after the conferring of the Fourth Degree the Secretaries of the Lodges of Perfection shall remit to the Supreme Council the sum of eight dollars for each newly created Secret Master; and after the conferring of the Fifteenth Degree the Secretaries of the Chapters of Rose Croix shall remit the sum of five dollars for each newly created Knight of the East; and after the conferring of the Nineteenth Degree the

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**Assessment  
on Degree  
Conferrals**

Recorders of the Councils of Kadosh shall remit the sum of five dollars for each newly created Pontiff; and after the conferring of the Thirty-first Degree the Registrars of the Consistories shall remit the sum of five dollars for each newly created Master of the Royal Secret, the Registrars of the Consistories shall remit the sum of eight dollars for each Patent, and no Patent shall be issued by the Grand Executive Director until these sums are received by him except as provided in Article IV, Section 25.

**Per Capita  
Assessment**

SEC. 6. The Grand Executive Director shall, annually, on or before the first day of April, make for each Subordinate Body the annual report as provided in Article XV, Section 18, of these *Statutes*. For the year 2021 and payable on January 1, 2022, the per capita assessment shall be set by resolution at any session of the Supreme Council, or by electronic vote, with the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members present. Bodies working under Letters Temporary, whose Charters are granted at the regular session next after their formation, shall not be liable for the per capita assessment during the period covered by the Letters Temporary, but their liability will commence January first after the Charter is granted.

[2] Bodies continued under Letters Temporary shall be assessed for the per capita assessment from following January first, unless the Supreme Council shall order otherwise.

**Finance  
Committee  
Appropriations  
Report**

SEC. 7. At each session of the Supreme Council the Committee on Finance shall report by itemized list the appropriations necessary for the expenses of the Supreme Council, and in no case shall the money drawn from the treasury upon any account exceed the amount appropriated for such account; provided that in case of an emergency or unusual circumstances any item in the budget may be increased upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee and the approval of the Sovereign Grand Commander.

SEC. 8. Each Sovereign Grand Inspector General and Deputy in attendance upon any session of the Supreme Council or of the Council of Administration, or any member of a committee in attendance upon a meeting of such committee called to sit in recess, shall receive such *per diem* for each day's attendance and round-trip travel expenses as prescribed by the Supreme Council.

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**Per Diem  
& Mileage  
Reimbursement**



## ARTICLE XII

### Rituals, Programs, Books, and Libraries

#### Rituals

SEC. 1. The Supreme Council retains title to all the Rituals, Secret Works, and Rubrics, and if a Body ceases to exist, they shall be immediately returned to the Supreme Council.

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**Supreme Council  
Retains All Titles**

SEC. 2. Each Sovereign Grand Inspector General and each Deputy of the Supreme Council may have issued to him one copy of each Ritual, Secret Work, and Rubric of the Degrees from the Fourth to the Thirty-second, inclusive, for all of which he shall receipt to the Grand Executive Director and agree that if he ceases to be such officer, all receipted materials shall be immediately returned to the Supreme Council.

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**Copies for  
S.G.I.G.s and  
Deputies**

SEC. 3. Each Orient Valley must obtain for its use from the Grand Executive Director the following books published by the Supreme Council, viz.:

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**Required  
Publications for  
Valleys**

- 1 Revised Standard Pike Ritual on electronic media 4–32°
- 1 *Scottish Rite Ritual, Monitor and Guide*
- 1 *Grand Constitutions*
- 1 *Morals and Dogma: Annotated Edition*
- 1 *A Bridge to Light*
- 1 *Book of the Words*
- 1 *Forms and Traditions of the Scottish Rite*
- 1 The Synopses and Communications for the Degrees

[2] Every candidate who completes the 14° shall receive a copy of *A Bridge to Light*.

[3] The Synopses and Communications for the Degrees is adopted as the official and required form for communication of a Degree when for good reason it is not exemplified in full form.

Rules for  
Publishing,  
Distributing,  
& Presenting  
Rituals & Related  
Matter

[4] Unless authorized by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in the Orient, it is not permissible to print, publish, or distribute any pictures or illustrations of any part of the Rituals, Rubrics, costumes, scenery, properties, forms, or ceremonies used in the conferring of the Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of the Southern Jurisdiction, or to print in a program or other publication issued by the Bodies any extract from, explanation, or synopsis of any of the Degrees, or to present any part of the Degrees anywhere at any time except in a tiled meeting or for the purpose of communication or rehearsal, and then only before those who are entitled to be present.

[5] Unless authorized by the Sovereign Grand Commander, it is not permissible to present any of the secret work, arcana or obligations anywhere at any time except in a tiled meeting or for the purpose of communication or rehearsal, and then only before those who are entitled to be present.

SEC. 4. No other Ritual, Secret Work, Rubric, Liturgy, manual, monitor, or book of like character than those prescribed and furnished by the Supreme Council shall be used by a Subordinate Body, nor can any Ritual, Secret Work, or Rubric become the property of any person or Body other than the Supreme Council.

Programs

Program &  
Announcement  
Validation

SEC. 5. A Subordinate Body validates its official programs and announcements with the date and signatures from the Valley of the city and the Orient in which it is located.

Degree  
Descriptions  
Require S.G.I.G.  
or Deputy  
Approval

SEC. 6. It is proper to set forth in Reunion programs a short description of each Degree, provided that the substance thereof be first approved by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in the Orient wherein such description is used.

SEC. 7. Whenever it is practicable, all programs and announcements of Reunions must be submitted to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council for his approval before they are published and distributed.

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S.G.I.G. or  
Deputy Approval  
for Programs &  
Announcements

**Books**

SEC. 8. Each Sovereign Grand Inspector General is entitled to have as his own property one copy of each work published by the Supreme Council.

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Books for  
S.G.I.G.s

**Libraries**

SEC. 9. The Libraries of the Supreme Council are placed under the charge of the Sovereign Grand Commander, who shall appoint the employees and prescribe rules and regulations for the management of the same.

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Sov. Grand  
Commander  
in Charge of  
Supreme Council  
Libraries

SEC. 10. Catalogues of the Libraries shall be printed and distributed as the Sovereign Grand Commander may direct.





## ARTICLE XIII

### Clothing and Uniforms, Grand Decorations, Jewels, Rings, Caps

#### Clothing and Uniforms

SEC. 1. The clothing and uniforms shall be such as are prescribed in the Rituals and Liturgies.

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Dress Codes

SEC. 2. At the reception of candidates and upon other ceremonial occasions the Brethren may wear the ordinary evening dress of society or other black clothing, in lieu of the uniform, with the jewels and decorations of this Rite belonging to their rank.

SEC. 3. The mourning color of the Supreme Council is violet on white; that of the Court of Honour, black on orange; that of all the other Bodies, black on red.

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Mourning Colors

#### Grand Decorations

SEC. 4. Those who are entitled to wear the Grand Decorations (*Majora Insignia Ordinis*) of the Thirty-third Degree will be divided into four classes and are as follows:

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Four Classes,  
Gr. Decoration  
Examples

SEC. 5. Fourth Class: The decoration shall be of gold and enamel, one and one-half of an inch in diameter, and made in the form as described in the Appendix to the *Grand Constitutions of 1786*. (See 4°, Article II, page 269, *Grand Constitutions*.) It shall be worn on the left breast, suspended by a white ribbon, one and one fourth inches in width, with gold slide and buckle. This decoration may be worn by all Inspectors General Honorary.

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33°, I.G.H.,  
p. 64

SEC. 6. Third Class: The decoration shall be as prescribed for the Fourth Class, but it shall be one and three-fourth inches in diameter and shall be worn on the left breast, suspended by a white ribbon edged with purple, one and one-half inches in width, with gold slide and buckle. This deco-

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S.G.I.G.s &  
Emeriti Members

ration may be worn by all Active and Emeriti Members of the Supreme Council not of the Second Class.

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Elected Officers,  
20-year  
Members, &  
Grand Reps.

SEC. 7. The decoration shall be as prescribed for the Third Class, but it shall be worn suspended from the neck, on the breast, by a purple ribbon edged with white, two and one-half inches in width. This decoration may be worn by the Grand Prior, Grand Chancellor, Grand Minister of State, Grand Almoner, and such Active and Emeriti Members as have held these offices, and also by all Active and Emeriti Members who have been such for twenty years, and by Grand Representatives of this Supreme Council in other jurisdictions.

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Sov. Grand  
& Lt. Grand  
Commanders,  
p. 64

SEC. 8. First Class: The decoration shall be as prescribed for the Third Class, but shall be imposed upon a rayed sun of silver, two and one-half inches in diameter, set with diamonds, and worn on the left breast. This decoration may be worn by the Sovereign Grand Commander, Lieutenant Grand Commander, by those Brethren who have held either of said offices, and by eminent Masons abroad to whom the honor may be especially decreed by the Supreme Council.

### Jewels

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Jewel Examples,  
p. 65

SEC. 9. Grand Cross. The Jewel of a Grand Cross of the Court of Honour is a Teutonic Cross of gold, one and three-fourth inches square, with raised or beaded edges, resting on a wreath of gold oak leaves; engraved on each arm of the cross is a column on which is a circular plate of gold with white enameled center bordered with blue enamel; gold beads around its base. In the center is a crimson rose with green leaves, and in the border “GR.: CROSS COURT OF HONOUR” in gold letters. It shall be worn on the left breast, suspended by a white ribbon, one and one-fourth inches in width, with gold slide and buckle.

SEC. 10. Knight Commander. The Jewel of a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour is a Passion Cross of gold laurel leaves; on the cross is a raised plate of gold with white enameled center; gold beads around its base. In the center is trefoil of green, around which is “KT.: COMM.:

COURT OF HONOUR” in gold letters. It shall be worn on the left breast, suspended by a white ribbon, one and one-fourth inches in width, with gold bar.

**SEC. 11.** Thirty-second Degree. The Jewel of the Thirty-second Degree is a Teutonic Cross of gold, one and three-fourth inches square, with raised or beaded edges and a surface within frosted, having in the center a wreath of green enamel, with a gold tie at bottom, and within the wreath the numerals XXXII in gold.

**SEC. 12.** Other Degrees. The Jewels of the Thirtieth Degree, of the Eighteenth Degree, and of the Fourteenth Degree shall be such as are prescribed in the Rituals and Liturgies of those Degrees.

### Rings

**SEC. 13.** The ring of the Thirty-third Degree is a triple one of gold, like three small half-round rings side by side, united into one, not exceeding five-sixteenths of an inch in width. This ring may be plain without any device or mark on the outside of it, or it may have on the outside of it an equilateral triangular-shaped plate with the numerals 33 on same. Engraved within the ring should be the proper inscription, together with the name of the Brother and the date on which he received the Degree.

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Ring Examples,  
p. 65

**SEC. 14.** The ring of the Fourteenth Degree is a plain band of gold or silver color which may be encased in a lucite pyramid, approximately five-sixteenths of an inch in width, and having imposed thereon an engraved or enameled plate in the form of an equilateral triangle and within the triangle the Hebrew letter “Yod” and engraved within the ring the proper inscription. The recipient of a Fourteenth Degree Ring is hereby prohibited from placing any emblem or design thereon, except as provided in this section.

### Cap Descriptions

SEC. 15. 33° Active: Sovereign Grand Inspector General. The cap for an Active Member of the Supreme Council shall be circular style, about 3 ½ inches high, made of heavy purple grosgrain silk. Band of purple silk velvet 1 ½ inches wide finished, a cord welt above and below the band. One row of 1 ½ ligne No. 2079 gilt vellum wire lace at top and bottom of band, leaving an interval of 1 ⅛ inches showing on band between the lace. The band embroidered in laurel vine, leaf, and berry pattern in Nos. 26 and 27 fine gilt bullion. In the center of the front of the cap a slanting Patriarchal Cross with crosslets of No. 26 fine gilt bullion, open center in cross filled with purple silk velvet. A regulation gilt bullion double overcord fastened at lower edge of cap on each side with a gold-plated metal button, the latter embossed with a double-headed eagle emblem. Cap lined with purple satin and interlined with cotton and muslin, the inner rim of buckram with a leather sweat band.

SEC. 16. Sovereign Grand Commander. The cap for the Sovereign Grand Commander shall be the same as the above, except it shall be made of violet grosgrain silk, and the band shall be violet silk velvet of a darker shade than the grosgrain silk, and the Sovereign Grand Commander's Cross, being a Cross of Salem with crosslets, shall be used in place of the Patriarchal Cross, open center in the Cross of Salem filled with purple silk velvet.

SEC. 17. Deputy of the Supreme Council. The cap for Deputy of the Supreme Council shall be circular style 3 ⅞ inches high, made of heavy white grosgrain silk. Band of #9 scarlet velvet 1 ¼ inches wide finished, a cord welt above and below band. One row of 3 ligne No. 1962 gilt vellum wire lace at top and bottom of band. In the center of the front of the cap a slanting Patriarchal Cross without crosslets of No. 26 fine gilt bullion embroidery with No. 3 gilt jaceron around the cross, open center in cross filled with red silk velvet. A regulation gilt bullion double overcord fastened at lower edge of cap on each side with a gold-plated metal button, the latter embossed with a double-headed eagle emblem. Cap lined with white satin and interlined with cotton and muslin, the inner rim of buckram, with a leather sweat band.

**SEC. 18.** 33° Inspector General Honorary. The cap for an Inspector General Honorary shall be circular style, 3 ⅛ inches high, made of heavy white grosgrain silk. Band of white silk velour 1 ¼ inches wide finished, a cord welt above and below the band. One row of 3 ligne No. 1962 gilt vellum wire lace at top and bottom of band, leaving an interval of ⅞ inch showing on band between the lace. In the center of the front of the cap a slanting Patriarchal Cross without crosslets of No. 26 fine gilt bullion embroidery with No. 3 gilt jaceron around the cross, open center in cross filled with red silk velvet. A regulation gilt bullion double overcord fastened at lower edge of cap on each side with a gold-plated metal button, the latter embossed with a double-headed eagle emblem. Cap lined with purple satin and interlined with cotton and muslin, the inner rim of buckram, with a leather sweat band.

**SEC. 19.** 33° Grand Cross Court of Honour. The cap for Grand Cross of the Court of Honour shall be circular style, 3 ⅛ inches high, made of heavy white grosgrain silk. Band of blue silk velvet 1 ¼ inches wide finished, a cord welt above and below the band. One row of 3 ligne No. 1962 gilt vellum wire lace at top and bottom of band, leaving an interval of ⅞ inch showing on band between the lace. On center in front a representation of the Grand Cross jewel made as follows: A Teutonic Cross 1 ¾ inches square of 20 ligne gilt flat wire lace edged with 2 rows of No. 3 gilt jaceron resting on a wreath of oak leaves embroidered in Nos. 26 and 27 gilt bullion. On each arm of the cross a column embroidered in Nos. 26 and 27 gilt bullion outlined with black silk thread. On the center of the cross a circle of white grosgrain silk ⅞ inch in diameter with an outer circle of blue grosgrain silk ¾ inch in diameter, both circles outlined with No. 3 gilt jaceron with loops on outside of outer circle of No. 26 gilt bullion. On the blue silk in gold-colored silk embroidery the letters “GR.: CROSS COURT OF HONOUR.” On the white silk circle a crimson rose outlined in black with green leaves and stem in silk embroidery. A regulation gilt bullion double overcord fastened at lower edge of cap on each side with a gold-plated metal button, the latter embossed with a double-headed eagle emblem. Cap lined with blue satin and interlined with cotton and muslin, the inner rim of buckram, with a leather sweat band.

SEC. 20. 32° Knight Commander Court of Honour. The cap for a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour shall be circular style, 3 ¼ inches high, made of heavy red grosgrain silk. Band of red grosgrain silk 1 ¼ inches wide finished, a cord welt above and below the band. One row of 3 ligne No. 1962 gilt vellum wire lace at top and bottom of band, leaving an interval ⅞ inch showing on band between the lace. On center in front a representation of the Knight Commander jewel made as follows: A Passion Cross 2 inches long, with fancy arms embroidered in Nos. 25 and 26 gilt bullion resting on a wreath of gold laurel leaves of Nos. 26 and 27 gilt bullion. The arms of the cross to have red silk velvet centers. A double circle of white grosgrain silk outlined with No. 3 gilt jaceron with loops on outside of outer circle of No. 26 gilt bullion. On outer circle in gold-colored silk embroidery the letters “KT.: COMM.: COURT OF HONOUR.” On the inner circle the trefoil in green silk embroidery. A regulation gilt bullion double overcord fastened at lower edge of cap on each side with a gold-plated metal button, the latter embossed with a double-headed eagle emblem. Cap lined with red satin and interlined with muslin, the inner rim of buckram, with a leather sweat band.

SEC. 21. Fifty-Year Membership. Any 14° member in good standing of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America who became a member of the Scottish Rite fifty (50) or more calendar years prior to the current calendar year is entitled to recognition as such. Such recognition will permit the recipient to wear a 50-year cap or a 50-year pin, and he shall also be entitled to receive a proper certificate. For a member to qualify for such recognition, his records shall be submitted by the Valley Secretary to the Grand Executive Director to be certified.

[2] This cap shall be the same style and shape as that for Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, except that it is made of light blue grosgrain silk, with a band of the same material 1 ¼ inches wide finished. The insignia on center in front shall be the figure 50 surrounded by a green silk embroidered laurel wreath. Cap shall be lined with light blue satin and interlined with muslin. Name of Brother receiving cap shall be embroidered in silk on a separate piece of silk sewn onto the lining.



**SEC. 22.** 32° Master of the Royal Secret. The cap for a Master of the Royal Secret shall be circular style, 3 ⅞ inches high, made of heavy black grosgrain silk. Band of 18 ligne No. 2180 black silk braid 1 ¼ inches wide finished, a cord welt above and below the band. One row of 3 ligne No. 1962 gilt vellum wire lace at top and bottom of band, leaving an interval ⅞ inch on band between the lace. On center in front a double-headed eagle 1 ¾ inches high with a rayed equilateral triangle ¾ inch high, including rays, above the eagle. The total height of the eagle and rayed equilateral triangle to be 2 ½ inches. The eagle of Nos. 29, 30, and 31 gilt bullion. The equilateral triangle to be of red cloth outlined with No. 3 gilt jaceron with figure 32 in center and rays outside of Nos. 25 and 26 gilt bullion embroidery. A regulation gilt bullion double overcord, fastened at lower edge of cap on each side with a gold-plated metal button, the latter embossed with a double-headed eagle emblem. Cap lined with black satin and interlined with muslin, the inner rim of buckram, with a leather sweat band.

**SEC. 23.** Scottish Rite Official Flag. The official flag shall be as follows: the dimensions shall be 3' × 5'. The field shall be white with a centered Scottish Rite eagle. The eagle shall have a dark brown body, white heads and tail feathers and gold beaks and talons. Upon its breast shall be an erect, bordered white triangle, with a centered "32." The eagle's talons shall clutch the blade of a silver, flaming sword draped with a golden banner, bearing, "SPES MEA IN DEO EST." Centered vertically above as well as below the eagle shall be a purple horizontal bar, trimmed with gold at the top and bottom and extending the width of the flag. Each bar shall have white lettering. The bar above the eagle shall bear the words "Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry." The bar below the eagle shall bear the words "Southern Jurisdiction, United States of America."

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**Flag**

Grand Decoration Examples

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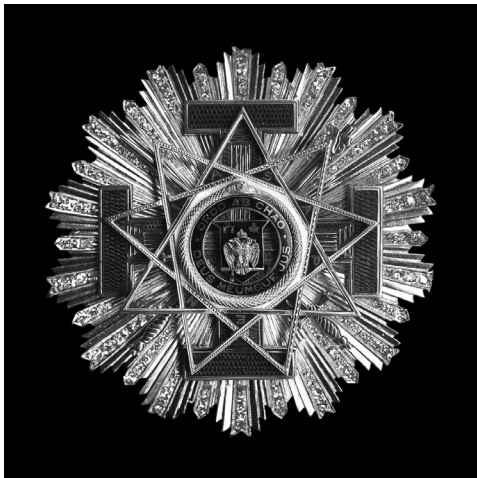
Grand  
Decoration,  
Fourth Class  
Description,  
p. 57



*Grand Decoration, Fourth Class*

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Grand  
Decoration,  
First Class  
Description,  
p. 58



*Grand Decoration, First Class*



## Jewel Examples



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Thirty-second  
Degree Jewel  
Description,  
p. 59

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K.C.C.H. Jewel  
Description,  
p. 58

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Grand  
Cross Jewel  
Description,  
p. 58

*(Left to right) Jewels of the 32°, Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, and Grand Cross of the Court of Honour*

## Ring Examples



*14° Ring*



*33° Degree Ring*

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Ring  
Descriptions,  
p. 59

Cap Examples

Cap  
Descriptions,  
p. 60–63



*(Left to right, top to bottom) Caps of the 32°, 50-Year Member, Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, 33°, Deputy, Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Sovereign Grand Commander, and Grand Cross of the Court of Honour*

## ARTICLE XIV

### Court of Honour

SEC. 1. The Court of Honour, established for those Brethren who have deserved well of the Rite, shall be composed of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, the Emeriti and Honorary Members of the Supreme Council, the Grand Crosses, and the Knights Commander.

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**Members**

SEC. 2. Not less than ninety days before each regular session of the Supreme Council each Sovereign Grand Inspector General and each Deputy of the Supreme Council may file, in the number below specified, in the office of the Grand Executive Director, the electronically submitted nominations of Masters of the Royal Secret who are members in good standing in his Orient, for the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour. Nominations filed less than ninety days before any such session shall not be considered at that session, except by unanimous consent. Nominations shall be entered into the Supreme Council Sentinel Database Management System, and must state the name in full of each nominee, his identification number, the date of his birth, his occupation, his residence, his Blue Lodge name, number, and location, the date when he received the Thirty-second Degree, the names and location of the Bodies of the Rite with which he is affiliated, and a brief statement of his specific services rendered in behalf of this Rite. Provided, that when the nominee is a member of Bodies in another Orient under this general jurisdiction, the approval of such nomination by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in such other Orient shall be obtained, and such nomination shall be charged to the Orient of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council making the same.

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**K.C.C.H.  
Nominations &  
Qualifications**

[2] The number of such nominations for Knights Commander for each Orient in the United States shall be two for each nomination for Inspector General Honorary as set forth in Article IV, Section 9, of these *Statutes*.

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**K.C.C.H. Quotas**

[3] The smaller territorial and foreign Orients may each have eight nominations for Knights Commander, except when in the judgment of the Sovereign Grand Commander a larger number is needed in a particular Orient. The nominations set forth in this numbered paragraph may be a lesser number at the option of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of each Orient.

SEC. 3. In addition to the earned nominations provided for in the preceding section, and in addition to the number standing to his credit, and in the same form and manner, and complying with the same conditions, each Sovereign Grand Inspector General and each Deputy of the Supreme Council may nominate for the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, two Masters of the Royal Secret for each fifty Masters of the Royal Secret who have received the Thirty-second Degree in his Orient since the preceding regular session. Whatever fractions are left over from one session will be counted in the quota for the next Session. The nominations set forth in this numbered paragraph may be a lesser number at the option of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of each Orient. Any unused nominations will be carried forward to the next Session.

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**K.C.C.H.  
Nominations &  
Qualifications**

[2] Nominations under this and the preceding section shall be referred to the Committee on Nominations for review not less than 60 days before each regular session of the Supreme Council. A Supreme Council electronic vote in recess shall follow not less than 45 days prior to such session with names submitted to Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Deputies following ratification of vote.

[3] Members of any Body whose dues are in arrears in any Valley where he holds membership in the Southern Jurisdiction are not eligible for nomination.

[4] This section and the resulting effect will be reviewed at each Supreme Council Session.

**SEC. 4.** The Supreme Council reserves to itself the right to elect Knights Commander of the Court of Honour from the Masters of the Royal Secret of the jurisdiction at large whenever, in its judgment, the interest of the Rite will be thereby promoted.

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**At Large K.C.C.H.  
Elections**

[2] The Sovereign Grand Commander may between Biennial Sessions of the Supreme Council elect ten Knights Commander of the Court of Honour at Large whenever, in his judgment, the interest of the Rite will be thereby promoted. However, Article XIV, Sec. 5, Paragraph 2 must be complied with.

**SEC. 5.** A Sovereign Grand Inspector General or a Deputy of the Supreme Council may not nominate to the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour anyone who has not received the Thirty-second Degree at least forty-four months before the session at which the nomination is to be voted on, and has not a Patent of the Thirty-second Degree from this Supreme Council or a similar Patent from a regular Supreme Council of another grand jurisdiction, which has been officially endorsed by the officers of the Bodies of an Orient in this jurisdiction with which he has become affiliated, and who is not an affiliated Master Mason and a member of a Lodge of Perfection, Chapter of Rose Croix, Council of Kadosh, and Consistory of an Orient of this jurisdiction.

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**K.C.C.H.  
Nomination  
Conferral  
Restrictions**

[2] The ceremonies of Investiture for the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour may be held in the various Orients under the direction of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General or Deputies rather than by this Supreme Council at its biennial session. If a Brother elected to be invested with the rank and decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour does not present himself to receive the Investiture at or prior to the regular session of the Supreme Council next succeeding his election, such election shall be void, but the time may be extended by unanimous vote of the Supreme Council.

[3] Thirty-second Degree Brethren may be admitted to the Knight Commander of the Court of Honour Ceremony at the discretion of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Deputies of the Supreme

Council conducting the ceremony. Furthermore, the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Deputies of the Supreme Council are permitted to conduct the investiture of the Knights Commander in open ceremony with the deletion of the first section as follows: “I invoke upon myself all my Masonic obligations, vows, and promises.”

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**Loss of K.C.C.H. Rank**

[4] Whenever a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour for any cause is suspended by or becomes unaffiliated in his Blue Lodge or any Body of this Rite, and such status so continues for one year, or if he is expelled by any such Lodge or Body, he thereby loses his rank and decoration, together with all his rights and privileges as such.

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**K.C.C.H. or Grand Cross Rank Refused**

SEC. 6. The rank of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour or Grand Cross shall never be asked or applied for, and if asked or applied for, shall be refused.

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**Grand Cross Nominations, Qualifications, & Voting**

SEC. 7. No less than ninety days before the first day of each regular session each Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council may, by sealed letter addressed to the Sovereign Grand Commander, nominate one Inspector General Honorary from his Orient for investiture with the dignity of Grand Cross for signal services and unusual merit, which he shall specify. The cover letter itself shall be designated CONFIDENTIAL and shall include the full name and member identification number of the nominee. Inside the envelope shall be a second, sealed envelope with the actual nomination. This letter shall show, on the outside of the envelope, the following words, “Nomination for Grand Cross,” without the name of the nominee, and shall be laid, with seals unbroken, before the Sovereign Grand Commander, who shall refer them to a committee consisting of all the members of the Council of Administration present at the session, by whom they shall be opened. The recommendations shall be read and the committee shall proceed to select, by unanimous consent, the Grand Cross nominees.

[2] The designates thus selected must be voted upon by the Supreme Council, and unanimous vote shall be necessary in each case for an election.

[3] A Grand Cross shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

SEC. 8. The Court of Honour may assemble when called together by the Sovereign Grand Commander, shall be presided over by a Legate Grand Cross designated by him, may adopt rules of order and bylaws for its government, recommend to the Supreme Council measures of legislation, and be heard in the Supreme Council by its Grand Crosses to explain the same.

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**Court of Honour  
Assemblies**

SEC. 9. Each Grand Cross shall receive a Diploma, Cap, and Jewel from the Supreme Council without charge.





## ARTICLE XV

### Regulations Governing Subordinate Bodies

SEC. 1. Subordinate Bodies of the Rite in this jurisdiction are organized and exist by virtue of Letters Temporary, which are signed by the officer issuing them, or of Permanent Charters granted by the Supreme Council and signed by the Sovereign Grand Commander, the Grand Chancellor, and the Grand Secretary General, attested by the great seal of the Supreme Council.

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**Organization**

SEC. 2. A regular Lodge of Perfection is composed of nine members, and a perfect Lodge, of thirteen; a regular Chapter of Rose Croix, of seven members, and a perfect Chapter, of thirteen; a regular Council of Kadosh, of nine members, and a perfect Council, of eighteen; a regular Consistory of Masters of the Royal Secret, of nine members, and a perfect Consistory, of fourteen; and the number of members required to make these Bodies regular is indispensable.

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**Quorum for  
Bodies**

SEC. 3. A Body may be opened with a lesser number of its own members if there be present the regular number including visitors, or if a Sovereign Grand Inspector General or a Deputy of the Supreme Council be present, but without the regular number of its own members present, the Body can do no work whatever except to confer Degrees, for which purpose only, when candidates have already been elected, it may convene and proceed with no fewer than five members.

SEC. 4. The territorial jurisdiction of a Lodge of Perfection, Chapter of Rose Croix, Council of Kadosh, or Consistory is concurrent with that of every other Body of the same Degree in the same jurisdiction, unless otherwise limited and defined by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council.

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**Territorial  
Jurisdiction**

SEC. 5. The Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council may remove the place of meeting of any Body to any other place within the same city, town, or village or transfer the Charter and meeting place of any Body to any other city, town, or village within his Orient. (See also 1929 *Trans.*, page 249.)

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**Place of Meeting**

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**Charter  
Surrender  
and Valley  
Consolidation**

SEC. 6. It is permissible for a Valley to vote to surrender its Charter or vote to consolidate into another Valley. Before a Valley may vote to surrender its Charter or consolidate into another Valley, the Sovereign Grand Inspector General, or Deputy of the Supreme Council, in the Orient must approve, in writing, of the proposed surrender or consolidation. Consolidation of two valleys requires an affirmative vote of both valleys by their respective Lodges of Perfection.

SEC. 7. Any Body may, by vote of its members held at a Stated Meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose, of which notice is given to all of its members, surrender its Charter and cease to exist, or vote to consolidate into another Valley, unless nine members of such Body, if it be a Lodge of Perfection, Council of Kadosh, or Consistory, or seven members if it be a Chapter of Rose Croix, vote in the negative, in which event the Charter and other property of the Body will be retained and it may continue its work.

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**Charter  
Forfeiture**

SEC. 8. Upon report and recommendation of the Committee on the State of the Order and Unfinished Business, the Charter of any Body which has failed to make returns and pay assessments and dues for two years may, by vote of the Supreme Council, be declared forfeited and void. No Subordinate Body under the jurisdiction of this Supreme Council shall withdraw or attempt to withdraw its allegiance to the Supreme Council without the consent of the Sovereign Grand Commander or of the Supreme Council. The Charter of any Subordinate Body attempting to withdraw its allegiance shall be forfeited and the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council instructed to pick up said Charter and return the same to the Supreme Council.

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**Disposition of  
Property upon  
Body Closure**

SEC. 9. When a Body ceases to exist from any cause, all of its books and records and all of its personal property, consisting of emblems, symbols, and other equipment and paraphernalia used or employed in exemplification of the Degrees of the Rite, and particularly those relating to the Secret Work of the Order, shall immediately pass to and become the property of the Supreme Council and shall be forthwith forwarded to the Supreme Council by the officers of said Body, or by any person having the same in possession or custody in the case of a surrender. In

the case of a consolidation the above items shall pass to the receiving Valley. All other property, real and/or personal, of such Body shall be subjected first to the payment of all lawful liens existing against the same in the order of their legal priority; and secondly, the remainder of such property, if any, shall be subjected to the payment, pro rata, of all other lawful unsecured debts of said Body. All the residue of such property remaining after the payment of liens and debts as herein provided shall immediately pass to and become the property of the Supreme Council in the case of a surrender. In the case of consolidation, the items shall pass to the receiving Valley.

[2] To effect the purposes of this section, the Sovereign Grand Commander or other proper officer of the Supreme Council is hereby given power, to be exercised in his discretion, to appoint one or more persons who shall, upon such appointment, take possession and control of such property, and liquidate and administer the same in accordance with the laws of the state in which such property is situate and in accordance with the provisions of this statute not in conflict with such state laws.

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**Administrator  
Appointment**

[3] When a Body ceases to exist from any cause, the Grand Executive Director shall issue Demits to the members thereof who are in good standing in the case of a surrender. In the case of a consolidation, the Grand Executive Director shall issue new member identification cards to the consolidating members.

**SEC. 10.** Stated Meetings of a Lodge of Perfection must be held at least monthly, and of a Chapter of Rose Croix and a Council of Kadosh, at least once in two months, except during the months of July, August, and September. A Consistory must hold regular meetings at least once every three months.

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**Stated Meetings**

**SEC. 11.** Lodges of Perfection celebrate as a feast day the fifteenth day of the Hebrew month Tishri. The meetings of the Chapter of Rose Croix are held on Maundy Thursday without a feast or banquet, and on Easter Sunday. Councils of Kadosh celebrate as feast day the thirteenth day of January. The annual feast day of the Consistory is the thirty-first day of May.

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**Feast Days**

[2] The Ceremony of Extinguishing and Relighting the Lights may be open to the public by using the Rituals modified for that purpose.

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**Bylaw  
Requirements**

SEC. 12. Each Body must have separate bylaws which must be sent for approval to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or to the Deputy of the Supreme Council for the Orient within thirty days after their adoption, or they will cease to be in force at the end of that period. While awaiting approval, they will be provisionally in force, and if no action is taken upon them within sixty days, they become laws. After they become laws, the presiding officer of the Body must file a copy thereof with the Grand Executive Director. Thereafter amendments to the bylaws must be made and filed in the same manner.

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**Officer Elections  
& Installations**

SEC. 13. Bodies may, by their bylaws, provide for the election of their officers, except for the Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be appointed by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council after conferring with the Valley Personal Representative and any other line officers of the Valley, either annually, biennially, or triennially. Elections in Lodges of Perfection shall be held at the regular meeting nearest to the third day of the Hebrew month Adar; in Chapters of Rose Croix, at the regular meeting nearest to the Thursday after Easter; in Councils of Kadosh, at the regular meeting nearest the twenty-fourth day of June; in Consistories, at the regular meeting nearest to the twenty-seventh day of December, provided, however, that a Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council may permit joint elections at other times; and if, from any cause, a Body fails to elect officers on the day prescribed, the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or the Deputy of the Supreme Council shall order an election to be held on another day fixed by himself, due notice thereof being given to members.

SEC. 14. Officers may be installed at the same meeting at which they are elected or appointed, or at any time within thirty days thereafter. After such time the installation can be had only by dispensation from the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or the Deputy of the Supreme Council. The installation ceremony may, in addition, be performed either at a joint meeting or a joint and open meeting of Scottish Rite members,

their families or friends, with approval of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council. Until the new officers are duly installed, the old officers hold over. Elective officers must be installed in person. Appointive officers may be installed by proxy.

**SEC. 15.** Any officer of a Body may resign.

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**Officer  
Resignation**

[2] The resignation of any officer of a Body may be demanded and his place made vacant by proposition moved at one regular meeting and considered and sustained by the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members present at the next regular meeting.

**SEC. 16.** A member of a Subordinate Body of the Rite maintaining his permanent residence in an Orient other than that in which such Body is located may not be elected to an office in such Body; and when an officer of such Body, after his election, moves from the territorial jurisdiction of that Body, his office immediately becomes vacant; provided, however, that the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in the Orient wherein the Body is located, if he deems it best for the interests of the Body and of the Rite, may authorize the Body to elect to office members who retain their membership in the Body but who reside without the local jurisdiction or beyond the limits of the Orient, and such Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council may ratify and confirm such election if had originally without authority previously given, and may, by appropriate order, authorize the continuance in office of any member of such Body who has previously been elected to an office therein and who, during the term of his office, removes from the Orient in which such Body is located or from the territorial jurisdiction of such Body. Any office in a Subordinate Body shall become vacant by the death of the incumbent, his resignation, his suspension or expulsion, or upon his becoming a nonaffiliate in any Body of the Rite.

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**Officer Residency  
Requirements**

**SEC. 17.** When a vacancy occurs in the presiding office of a Body, the second officer will succeed the first, and the third, the second, and the third office shall be filled by election at a regular meeting, of which due notice shall be given to the members. If both of these officers desire to retain their old positions, the election may be held for the office of pre-

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**Office Vacancies**

siding officer; and if the second officer will accept the head of the Body, and the third officer desires to keep his old place, the election shall be only for the second place. When vacancies occur in other offices, they shall be filled by appointment made by the presiding officer, except in the case of the Secretary or Treasurer, who shall be appointed in accordance with Article XV, Section 13.

**Annual Reports  
from Grand  
Executive  
Director’s Office**

SEC. 18. The Grand Executive Director shall provide annual reports in triplicate on or before the first day of April. One copy will be for the Secretary of the Subordinate Body, one for the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in his Orient, and the third for permanent record in the office of the Grand Executive Director.

**Ritual Reports  
from Secretary**

[2] A report, giving inventory of Rituals, Secret Works, and Rubrics and/or Ritual CDs as of December 31, shall be submitted annually by the Secretary of the Subordinate Body to the Grand Archivist’s office on forms provided by the latter’s office.

**Financial Control**

SEC. 19. Each Body is required to retain control over its own financial affairs and to administer them by the vote of its own members without the interposition of a Board of Control or any similar board; provided, that where Bodies are located in one place and consent thereto, the funds may be managed and controlled by the Lodge of Perfection.

**Almoners’  
Reports &  
Requirements**

SEC. 20. Almoners shall report to the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General or Deputies of the Supreme Council in the Orients each January, showing their yearly total receipts and disbursements, amount on hand, and any investments.

[2] Contributions shall be verified by the signatures of any two officers at the time of collection and deposited in checking bank accounts.

[3] Disbursements for all purposes shall be made by check signed by both the Almoner and either the Secretary or the Treasurer.



**SEC. 21.** When a Body is opened in its highest Degree, all its Degrees are opened and it may pass from work in one Degree to work in another without other form than the declaration that it does so.

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**Opening Degrees**

**SEC. 22.** No Body or any member thereof is permitted to appear in public in uniform, which is defined as the costumes used in degree conferals. Prayer caps may be worn at a funeral conducted by a Scottish Rite Body, or may be worn by dispensation issued by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council. This section shall not be construed to prohibit the display of clothing with Scottish Rite logos, jewelry, etc. when worn by members in public, such personal displays are left to the judgment of each individual.

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**Restrictions  
on Public  
Appearance in  
Uniform**

**SEC. 23.** No Body shall rent, loan, or allow the use of its regalia or other paraphernalia used in the work of its Degrees or ceremonies for any other than Masonic purposes.

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**Non-Masonic  
Use of Regalia  
Prohibited**

**SEC. 24.** No Body or Bodies of the Rite shall be permitted to become a body corporate. By permission of the Supreme Council, or of the Sovereign Grand Commander in recess, any Body or Bodies of the Scottish Rite may, by resolution, authorize designated trustees to organize a corporation or an association, or establish a trust under the civil laws of the jurisdiction in which they are situate, to acquire by gift, devise, or purchase, and hold title to, real or personal property for the use of such Body or Bodies. Such corporation or association or trust shall remain a part of and under the direct control of the Supreme Council.

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**Incorporation  
Prohibited**

[2] The regulations for the use of the above property, such as the construction of buildings, incurring of indebtedness and securing payment of the same, and all matters relating to the control and management of the above property belong to the membership of the Body or Bodies interested, subject always to the general powers of supervision of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or the Deputy of the Supreme Council of the Orient in which the Body is situated, and his written approval is required prior to sales, contributions, or mortgages of any real estate or substantial assets, and in case of construction of buildings, written approval of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the

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**Property Control  
& Management**

Supreme Council is required for the site, plans, contracts, acceptance of bids, and financing. The Lodge of Perfection shall elect the Valley's above designated trustees. Terms of such trustees shall be established so that no trustee may serve more than ten continuous years without a break in service of at least one full year, unless a different time is specified by state statute.

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**Scottish Rite  
Clubs**

[3] It is not objectionable to use the word "club" in designating an organized group of Scottish Rite Masons, anything to the contrary in the proceedings heretofore notwithstanding.

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**Corporations  
for Charitable  
& Educational  
Purposes**

[4] By permission of the Supreme Council, or of the Sovereign Grand Commander in recess, any Body or Bodies of the Rite may, by resolution, authorize designated trustees to organize a corporation, or association, or establish a trust under the civil laws of the jurisdiction in which they are situate, to acquire, by gift or devise, monies or properties for charitable and educational purposes only, no part of the corpus or income of such corporation to inure to the benefit of any individual or Body, but to be used solely and exclusively for charitable and educational purposes.

[5] All the above corporations, associations, or trusts shall provide in their Charter, Articles of Association, or Trust Agreement that the governing board or trustees must be elected or appointed by a Body or Bodies of the Rite. Terms of such board members or trustees shall be established so that no trustee may serve more than ten continuous years without a break in service of at least one full year, unless a different time is specified by state statute.

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**Corporations  
under Supreme  
Council  
Authority**

[6] All corporations, associations, or trusts shall provide in their Charter, Articles of Association, or Trust Agreement the following:

"The lodges and officers named herein must be acting by the authority of and under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, United States of America."



[7] All charitable and educational corporations, associations, or trusts shall provide in their Charter, Articles of Association, or Trust Agreement the following:

“On dissolution, liquidation or winding up of the corporation, association or trust, whether voluntary or involuntary, the net assets shall be transferred to a corporation, association, or trust having the same or similar purposes, whose trustees or governing body shall operate by the authority of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council of the Orient (or particular jurisdiction) and under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, United States of America, which corporation, association or trust shall be exempt from federal income tax under Sec. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any such future law).”

[8] The Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Deputies of the Supreme Council shall require their respective Bodies to secure fidelity coverage protecting their funds, securities and property in the hands of their officers, committees, and trustees, and the officers and directors of corporations formed by them, as will in their judgment protect the Bodies from any financial loss. The fidelity coverage shall be approved and paid for by the Subordinate Body.

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**Fidelity Coverage  
Required**

**SEC. 25.** No Body or Class of candidates is permitted to take the name of any living person.

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**Naming  
Restrictions**

**SEC. 26.** No Scottish Rite Lodge, Club, or Body shall permit the maintenance or operation of any slot machine, pin-ball machine, or other gambling devices in any Scottish Rite Temple, Scottish Rite Cathedral, or in any building, or in any room in any building occupied by or under the control of such Lodge or Body. Fundraisers, such as raffles, are permitted if all local, state, and federal laws are followed, all Grand Lodge regulations of the jurisdiction the Scottish Rite Lodge, Club, or Body is located in are adhered to, and all funds raised are contributed to a 501(c)3 Scottish Rite charity.

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**Gambling  
Prohibitions**

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**Appeals &  
Grievances**

SEC. 27. An appeal may be taken from the action of any Body by any member feeling himself aggrieved thereby to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council for the Orient in which the Body is situate, at any time within thirty days from the date of such action. An appeal may be taken to the Supreme Council from any decision of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council, by any Body or any member feeling aggrieved thereby, within sixty days from the date of such decision. The appeal in the latter case is taken by serving a notice on the officer appealed from and filing a copy with affidavit of service with the Sovereign Grand Commander, who shall have power, in his discretion, to suspend such decision until the appeal can be heard. All appeals to the Supreme Council shall be presented for hearing at the next regular session.

## ARTICLE XVI

### Formation of New Bodies

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#### Petition Process

SEC. 1. Whenever it is desired to organize a Body of the Rite, a Petition shall be made in writing, either to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council for the Orient in which the Body is to be located. (See Form of Application for New Bodies in the Addendum.) If the Body is to be organized in unoccupied territory for which no Deputy of the Supreme Council has been appointed, the Petition shall be made to the Sovereign Grand Commander, if the Supreme Council is in recess. The Supreme Council reserves the power to issue, when in session, Letters Temporary upon petition made to it directly for the establishment of Bodies in unoccupied territory.

SEC. 2. A Petition for a Lodge of Perfection must be signed by no fewer than nine Perfect Elus; for a Chapter of Rose Croix, by no fewer than seven Knights Rose Croix; for a Council of Kadosh, by no fewer than nine Knights of Kadosh; for a Consistory, by no fewer than nine Masters of the Royal Secret.

SEC. 3. Each signer must present with the Petition a Certificate of Good Standing in the Body in which he holds membership, or, if unaffiliated, a Demit from the Body in which he last held membership.

SEC. 4. When the Petition has been completed, it shall be presented to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Orient wherein the new Body is to be located, who shall approve or disapprove it and return it, with all the papers attached, to the petitioning Brethren. Upon receipt of the Petition approved by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General, the petitioners shall forward it, together with all Certificates of Good Standing and Demits, to the Grand Executive Director, and along with proper remittance to cover fees and cost of books, etc., as provided by the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*. (See Article XI.2.)

[2] In an Orient where there is a Deputy of the Supreme Council, he shall transmit such Petition to the Sovereign Grand Commander.

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Issuance  
of Supplies  
& Letters  
Temporary

SEC. 5. Upon the receipt of the Petition and accompanying remittance, the Grand Executive Director shall provide the necessary supplies and report his action to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in whose Orient the Body is to be established, and thereupon Letters Temporary, signed by the Sovereign Grand Commander or Sovereign Grand Inspector General, as the case may be, shall be issued.

SEC. 6. Letters Temporary shall recite that the Body so created temporarily shall, without being regularly constituted and without installation of its officers, have power to fix and collect the fees and dues to be paid by candidates and members, not inconsistent with the provisions of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*. Such Body shall have the power to elect candidates for the purpose of conferring the Degrees upon them, to elect by affiliation members who have received such Degrees in other Bodies, and to do any and all things necessary and proper for the conduct of the business of such Body under the direction of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council.

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Charter  
Application  
Procedures

SEC. 7. Letters Temporary shall be in force to the regular session of the Supreme Council held next thereafter, when application, with the recommendation of the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Sovereign Grand Inspector General, as the case may be, under whose direction the Body was formed, shall be made to the Supreme Council for a Charter. (See Form of Application for Charter of New Bodies in the Addendum.) Such application shall be filed in the office of the Grand Executive Director at least thirty days prior to the date of meeting of the regular session, and shall be accompanied by the required fees for charter and the following documents:

A. Alphabetical list of members who signed the Petition for Letters Temporary, setting forth the name of each in full, followed by Degree attained.

B. Name in full, followed by Degree attained, and name of former Body of each Brother affiliated while under Letters Temporary.

C. Name in full, followed by Degree attained, of each Brother who became a loss under Letters Temporary—death, demission, suspension, etc.—giving date in each case.

D. Name in full, followed by Degree attained, of each Brother invested with Degrees under Letters Temporary.

E. Names in full of Brethren designated by the Sovereign Grand Commander or the Sovereign Grand Inspector General, as the case may be, as the first officers of the Body under charter.

F. Alphabetical list of all members, names in full, followed by Degree attained, as of the date application is made for charter. A computer generated one-line roster can be ordered from the Supreme Council for this purpose.

[2] Thereupon the Grand Executive Director shall certify whether all fees due the Supreme Council have been paid and present the application with accompanying papers to the Supreme Council for consideration.

SEC. 8. If a Charter be not granted, the Letters Temporary may be continued or the temporary Body may be dissolved, in which latter case the Grand Executive Director shall return the Certificates of Good Standing to the issuing Bodies, and shall issue Demits to all Brethren who were members in good standing of such temporary Body at the date of its dissolution.

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**Denial of Charter  
Procedures**

SEC. 9. A signer of a Petition for Letters Temporary who files a Demit may, up to the time of application for charter by the new Body, have his name stricken from the roll of petitioners and his Demit returned to him. A signer of such Petition who files a Certificate of Good Standing may, up to the time of application for charter by the new Body, have his name stricken from the roll of petitioners, in which case the Secretary of the new Body shall notify the Grand Executive Director, who shall then return the Certificate of Good Standing to the issuing Body, and the Brother's standing in the issuing Body remains uninterrupted.

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**Signatory  
Withdrawals**

Limitations of  
Power for Letters  
Temporary

SEC. 10. Bodies working under Letters Temporary do not have power to enact bylaws, but are governed by the direction of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council.

Process after  
Receiving  
Permanent  
Charter

SEC. 11. When the Supreme Council grants a Permanent Charter for the organization of a Body, the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council for the Orient in which it is located will, upon the delivery of the Charter, proceed to organize the new Body permanently by constituting it and installing the officers named in the Charter, and making report thereof, with the date of his action, to the Grand Executive Director, but only in case they were not elected before the Charter was issued.

## ARTICLE XVII

### Regulations Affecting Candidates and Members

SEC. 1. An applicant for the Degrees in any Body of the Rite must be and remain an affiliated Master Mason in a regular Symbolic Lodge. As between Orients of this Supreme Council, there shall be no residence requirement for a petitioner for the Degrees, provided that upon receipt of the Petition, the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Orient of the petitioner's residence shall be notified promptly thereof.

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**Applicant  
Qualifications**

[2] Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Deputies of the Supreme Council may put into force and effect such regulations in their respective Orients as they, in their judgment, deem necessary to assure that the Degrees of the Rite are not conferred upon candidates who do not do their duty, or who have not had opportunity to do their duty, as Symbolic Lodge members.

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**S.G.I.G. & Deputy  
Authority  
over Degree  
Regulations**

SEC. 2. It shall not be permissible for any Subordinate Body of this Supreme Council or for any officer or member thereof to publish or circulate in any printed or written form a list of the names of petitioners for the Degrees for general distribution among the members of such Body.

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**Petitioner  
Privacy**

SEC. 3. An actual resident within the territorial jurisdiction of a Body of the Rite within the general jurisdiction of this Supreme Council can lawfully obtain any of the Degrees from any other officer or Body under the jurisdiction of any other Supreme Council, with written consent and waiver of jurisdiction which shall have been obtained from the Sovereign Grand Commander and the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in charge of the state or territory in which the Brother resides, except as provided in Paragraph 2 of this section.

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**Petitions to  
Other Supreme  
Councils**

[2] Any person who is a citizen within the territorial jurisdiction of any other Supreme Council may be permitted to obtain any of the Degrees from any officer or Body of this jurisdiction with the written consent and waiver of jurisdiction obtained from the Sovereign Grand Commander or proper official of such foreign Supreme Council, pro-

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**Jurisdictional  
Waivers**



vided, however, where the waiver of jurisdiction is requested between the Supreme Councils of the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions of the Scottish Rite for a citizen of the United States, the waiver may be obtained from the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in the state or territory in which the Brother resides or is affiliated.

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**Citizenship  
Requirements**

[3] Except as provided in Paragraph [2] of this Section, a person must be a citizen of the United States in order to petition for and receive new Degrees of this Supreme Council.

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**Residency of  
Overseas &  
Armed Forces  
Candidates**

SEC. 4. Any member of the United States Armed Forces or any officer of the foreign service of the United States Department of State, or any employee of any agency of the United States, regularly employed outside of the United States, or any civilian, officer, or employee working abroad for American industrial or business firms, who is away from his legal residence for extended periods, being an affiliated Master Mason in good standing, may, by Petition to a Subordinate Body of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of either the Northern or Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, establish his Scottish Rite Masonic residence within the jurisdiction of either of said Supreme Councils without reference to his actual or legal place of residence. Such Masonic residence shall be taken for all Scottish Rite purposes to be the residence of such officer or enlisted man, merchant mariner, foreign service officer or employee, or such civilian, officer or employee working abroad for American industrial or business firms, who is away from his legal residence for extended periods, and shall not be changed except by the consent in writing of the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council for the jurisdiction in which such Masonic residence has been established.

Note: The foregoing section is enacted to carry into effect the agreement entered into on August 28, 1909, between the two Supreme Councils exercising jurisdiction over the United States. (See 1909 *Trans.*, App. 203; 1961 *Trans.*, p. 313; and 1975 *Trans.*, p. 168.)



SEC. 5. No Body or officer has power to receive a former member of any spurious Body under any other conditions than those required of a Master Mason, together with a voluntary renunciation in writing of all connection with, and allegiance to, such spurious Body. One who has abandoned or rejected the principles of Scottish Rite Freemasonry can never be received or recognized.

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**Spurious Body  
Memberships**

SEC. 6. Every petition or proposition for the Degrees or application for affiliation must be made at a Stated Meeting at least one month before being voted upon unless otherwise authorized by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council.

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**Requirements  
for Petitions &  
Propositions for  
Membership**

SEC. 7. Any qualified person residing within the territorial jurisdiction of this Supreme Council may be proposed at any Stated Meeting of a Body under its jurisdiction by proposition in writing, signed by one member and seconded by another, also in writing. Such proposition may be made without the knowledge of the person proposed. A Body may, by its bylaws, require candidates to apply for Degrees by petition in writing.

SEC. 8. When a Body has ordered a ballot, the presiding officer has no right to stop or postpone it on a private application to him. The member of the Rite who desires postponement must move to postpone the ballot and give reasons therefor, and the Body will then vote to determine whether to postpone or not.

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**Ballot  
Postponement**

SEC. 9. Sovereign Grand Inspectors General and Deputies of the Supreme Council may permit the vote on a petition for the degrees and affiliation at a stated meeting under this section to be *viva voce*, however the request of any member at a stated meeting for a secret ballot shall take precedence and traditional balloting will follow. Balloting under this section may be for each candidate individually or by multiple candidates at the discretion of the presiding officer of the Body. When, upon a ballot being taken, one objection appears, further action shall be postponed until the next regular meeting of the Body. In the meantime the objector may make known to the presiding officer in private his objection to the candidate, which objection the presiding officer may, in his discretion, make known to the Body, if the identity of the objecting

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**Voting  
Procedures**

Brother be not revealed thereby. The presiding officer may also make known to the Body his opinion as to whether or not the reasons which have been communicated to him are sufficient to justify rejection. At the next regular meeting, whether the reasons have been communicated to the presiding officer or not, a second ballot shall be taken, and if there then be only one negative votes, the candidate will be declared elected.

**Rejected  
Candidates**

SEC. 10. When there are two or more objections cast on the question of initiation or affiliation, the candidate will be declared rejected.

SEC. 11. When a candidate for initiation has been rejected, he cannot again apply to the same Body or any other Body or be again proposed in the same Body, until after expiration of six calendar months.

SEC. 12. When an applicant for affiliation has been rejected, his admission may be again proposed after the lapse of two months, and the proposal must then lie over one month before ballot.

SEC. 13. A candidate rejected upon petition must, when again applying to the same or to another Body, make known to it the fact of his former rejection.

**Post-election  
Objections**

SEC. 14. After a candidate has been elected in a Body and before he has received any of the Degrees conferred in that Body, a written objection signed by two or more Brethren, stating reasons therefor, may be interposed. The objections must be considered by the Body and voted upon, and if two-thirds of the members present vote to override the objection the Degrees can be conferred and the candidate will stand elected. After a candidate has received any Degree in a Body, objections have no effect as to his advancement in that Body.

**Deadline for  
Accepted  
Candidates**

SEC. 15. A candidate elected to receive the Degrees of a Body must present himself at the proper time and place to receive the same within 18 months from the date of his election. If he fails to do so, or to show good and sufficient cause for his delay, he shall thereby forfeit the election and must again petition or be proposed and be balloted for as in the first instance.

**SEC. 16.** Every candidate who receives any of the Degrees in any Body of the Rite becomes thereby a member of the Body which elected him, and his name shall be entered upon its roll.

**SEC. 17.** If a candidate has received any of the Degrees in the jurisdiction of any other Supreme Council, he must regularly affiliate in this jurisdiction, in all of the Degrees previously received, before he can receive any additional Degrees.

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**Supreme Council  
Affiliation  
Requirements**

**SEC. 18.** If a member of the Rite of the jurisdiction of any other Supreme Council affiliates with any Body of this jurisdiction, he must take all the pledges and vows of the Fourteenth, Eighteenth, Thirtieth, and Thirty-second Degrees of the Body with which he affiliates. He may purchase the Diplomas or Patents of the Degrees which he has received, or having such documents from another regular jurisdiction may, in lieu of purchasing others, have the same officially endorsed by the presiding officer and Secretary, or Registrar, of each Body of the Rite in the jurisdiction with which he becomes affiliated, report of which endorsement must be made immediately to the Grand Executive Director under the seal of the Body.

[2] When an applicant for affiliation with a Body or Bodies of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry subordinate to this Supreme Council presents with his Petition a proper Demit or Certificate from the Supreme Council of another grand jurisdiction, or from its Subordinate Bodies, which Supreme Council is recognized by and in Fraternal relationship with this Supreme Council, it is not incumbent upon the Scottish Rite Bodies to which such application for affiliation is presented to inquire into the relationship existing between the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the state in which such application is presented and the Symbolic Grand Lodge, or its Subordinate Bodies, in the state or country wherein such applicant for affiliation holds his Blue Lodge membership, so long as said foreign Supreme Council is duly recognized by and in Fraternal relations with this Supreme Council.

**Symbolic Lodge  
Affiliation  
Requirements**

SEC. 19. Every member of the Rite residing within the jurisdiction of this Supreme Council, to be entitled to the rights and privileges of such membership, must be and remain an affiliated Master Mason in good standing in a regular Symbolic Lodge and a member in good standing of each Body of the Rite, the Degrees of which he possesses, except as provided in the third paragraph of this section and in Section 23 of this Article. A member of the Rite is not required to be or remain affiliated with the Body in which he received the Degrees or in whose territorial jurisdiction he is domiciled. A member of a Body under the allegiance of this Supreme Council does not lose that status by removal from the territorial jurisdiction of that Body, or to a foreign jurisdiction.

[2] A member of the Rite who has received the Degrees in a Body working under a foreign Supreme Council and who is still a resident of the territory occupied by such foreign Supreme Council is eligible to petition for affiliation with a Body of our allegiance, if not prohibited by the Supreme Council to which he owes allegiance.

[3] Any member of the Rite who becomes a nonaffiliate of a regular Symbolic Lodge and who does not within two years reaffiliate with the same or some other regular Symbolic Lodge shall cease to be a member of any of the Bodies of the Rite. He is not restored to membership in the Scottish Rite by his subsequent election to membership in and affiliation with a Symbolic Lodge after the lapse of two years. He can then be restored to membership in the Scottish Rite only by petition and election by a majority vote of members present at a Stated Meeting of each Body of the Rite.

**Demit  
Requirements for  
Affiliation**

SEC. 20. A member of the Rite making application for affiliation must present, in addition to his application, a Demit from the Body of which he was last a member, or a Certificate as provided in Section 24 of this Article, or a proper Certificate from a Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of this Supreme Council.

**Degree Conferral  
Requirements for  
Affiliated Master  
Masons**

SEC. 21. A Body may elect an affiliated Master Mason to receive the Degrees conferred in it, but when ordering the ballot, it must be stated that such election is to take effect only when the candidate shall have received all the preceding Degrees.

SEC. 22. A Body may elect a member of the Rite for affiliation in it, but when ordering the ballot it must be stated that such election is to take effect only when the applicant shall have affiliated with all the Bodies of this Rite of lower Degree in that Valley.

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**Degree Conferral  
Requirements  
for Affiliating  
Members**

SEC. 23. An unaffiliated member of the Rite may apply for affiliation with any Body of the Rite of his selection wherever located.

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**Unaffiliated  
Members**

[2] Any unaffiliated member of the Rite who does not within twelve months from date of demit seek affiliation with the Body or Bodies which conferred the Degrees he has received, shall be prohibited from visiting Bodies, from receiving relief therefrom and from Masonic burial at their hands. And if he resides within a jurisdiction in which Bodies do not exist, he must within twelve months from date of demit affiliate with the several Bodies, the Degrees of which he has received, in some other Orient, or he shall be subject to the same prohibitions.

SEC. 24. A member of a Body in this jurisdiction, who is in good standing and whose dues are paid, who desires to affiliate with another Body of the same Degree in this jurisdiction, may apply for and receive from the Secretary of the Body of which he is a member a duly attested Certificate of his standing in the Body. By presenting such Certificate with his Petition he may apply for affiliation with another Body. If he is elected, he thereby becomes a member of the Body with which he filed his Petition for affiliation, and the Secretary of said Body shall certify the fact of such election to the Body issuing the Certificate of Good Standing, and the petitioner shall thereupon be dropped from the roll of membership of such issuing Body and his membership therein shall be terminated as if by demit. The Certificate herein provided for shall bear date of issue and the seal of the Body for which it is issued, and shall be good for the purpose herein specified until the end of the calendar year in which such Certificate is issued, and such newly affiliated Brother shall not be required to pay any dues to the Body or Bodies with which he affiliates for the remainder of the calendar year during which such affiliation occurs.

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**Certificates of  
Good Standing**

[2] The Inspectors General Honorary and Knights Commander of the Court of Honour may make inter-Valley and inter-Orient transfers of membership without loss of those honors.

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**Suspension from  
Symbolic Lodge**

SEC. 25. Suspension of a member by his Blue Lodge for nonpayment of dues carries with it suspension in every Body of this Rite. The restoration by the Blue Lodge to good standing, if had within two years, restores the member to his rights of all of the Bodies of this Rite. If the restoration is made after two years have elapsed, the suspended member can be restored to membership in the Scottish Rite only by his written request and election by a majority of the members present at a Stated Meeting of each Body of the Rite. The vote on a written request for restoration of membership under this section may be *viva voce*.

[2] Suspension of a member by his Blue Lodge for any cause whatever other than nonpayment of dues, or expulsion therefrom for any cause whatever, carries with it the same penalty in every Body of this Rite. Restoration by the Blue Lodge shall not restore membership in any Body of this Rite, but he can be restored to membership in the Scottish Rite only by petition and election by a majority of the members present at a Stated Meeting of each Body of the Rite. The vote on a petition for restoration of membership under this section may be *viva voce*.

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**Conditions for  
Suspension for  
Nonpayment of  
Dues**

SEC. 26. A member of a Subordinate Body who shall be in arrears for dues for two years shall thereby become suspended, unless such dues are remitted as herein provided, or further time not exceeding twelve months is granted by a majority vote of the members present at a stated meeting; provided, however, that upon the order of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council of the Orient involved, the time of suspension of a member in arrears of dues may be fixed at not less than one year. Annual dues are payable by December 31 of the year preceding the applicable current dues year. Thus, two years in arrears is defined as one year directly proceeding the applicable dues year plus the applicable current dues year.

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**Restoration from  
Nonpayment  
Suspension**

[2] A member suspended for nonpayment of dues who shall within two years pay the arrearages due at the time of his suspension, to-



gether with current year's dues, shall be automatically restored. But if a member fails to pay such dues within two years from the time of his suspension, he shall, upon his written request accompanied by the payment of dues to the time of his suspension, plus current year's dues, and a favorable committee report, and by a majority vote of those present at a Stated Meeting, be restored. A Body may, by a majority vote, with the consent of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council, remit all or part of such delinquent dues. Notwithstanding the above procedures,

1. The Sovereign Grand Inspector General or the Deputy of the Supreme Council may waive payment of dues by a member upon application by the member for good cause. The member must make application each year such waiver is sought.

2. The Sovereign Grand Inspector General or the Deputy of the Supreme Council may reinstate a member, waiving all or any portion of the requirements of the preceding paragraphs.

[3] The Grand Commander may waive the Supreme Council's per capita assessment on "Senior Members" (those who are either 80 years of age or have 50 years or more of total membership) who are in financial need in conjunction with their Valleys waiving their annual dues. Such action will be based upon receiving from their Valleys the names and ID numbers of "Senior Members" who meet the foregoing requirements, certifying that their dues have been waived.

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**Senior Members  
in Need Per  
Capita Waiver**

SEC. 27. No member of this jurisdiction shall be permitted to visit or attend the Body in which he holds membership or any other Body of the Rite in this jurisdiction unless he be in possession of a card such as described in Section 28 of this Article. He shall also, upon demand, exhibit a regular Patent or Diploma of the highest Degree conferred in that Body, or of a higher Degree, or a Certificate as provided in Section 32 of this Article. Every member shall be furnished a card of the highest Degree to which he has attained.

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**Membership  
Card  
Requirement**

**Membership  
Card Issuance**

SEC. 28. The Grand Executive Director shall have printed and distributed member identification cards, or an authorized digital (electronic) version generated by the Supreme Council available for download by the member, which shall be of such size, color, and content as the Grand Executive Director shall prescribe.

**Life  
Memberships**

SEC. 29. Life memberships may be sold in a financially sound plan. Members who have attained the age of 75 or older may be considered for a lesser fee in such a plan. All plans for life memberships shall be submitted to the Sovereign Grand Commander for approval prior to implementation.

[2] A Life Member shall be entitled to all of the rights and privileges of membership in the Subordinate Bodies in which he holds such membership so long as he remains a member in good standing in those Bodies.

[3] A Life Member who, for any reason, has ceased to be a member of his Symbolic Lodge with a consequent loss of membership in his Scottish Rite Bodies shall, upon being restored to membership in his Scottish Rite Bodies, be restored as a Life Member in those Bodies.

[4] The *Statutes of the Supreme Council* permit affiliation of life members. If the holder of a life membership transfers by a Certificate of Good Standing or demits from a Lodge of Perfection in his Orient to another Lodge of Perfection in his Orient, he may transfer his life membership with him. If the holder of a life membership transfers or demits to another Lodge of Perfection in another Orient, his life membership is not transferable and shall remain in the Lodge of Perfection of which he was last a member in the Orient where he purchased his life membership.

**Membership  
Card  
Requirement  
with Patents**

SEC. 30. No Diploma or Patent emanating from this jurisdiction need be recognized unless accompanied by a card as described in Section 28 of this Article or by a Certificate as described in Section 32 of this Article.



SEC. 31. Each Consistory shall, at its own expense (except as provided in Art. IV, Sec. 25 [2]), furnish to each Master of the Royal Secret whom it shall hereafter create, Thirty-second Degree Patent regularly issued and registered by the Grand Executive Director.

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**32° Patents**

SEC. 32. A Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council or a Body which has conferred Degrees may furnish to the member receiving the same a Certificate showing his investiture with the Degrees thus conferred. This Certificate will, for twelve months, entitle the member to be received and acknowledged as having received the Degrees stated in his Certificate.

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**Certificates of  
Investiture**

SEC. 33. Dual and plural memberships are permitted as hereinafter defined:

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**Dual & Plural  
Memberships**

1. Dual membership is defined as membership in a Body of an Orient other than that of a member's primary membership. Dual membership shall be limited to membership in no more than two Orients, either within or without the member's primary jurisdiction.

2. Plural membership is defined as membership in two or more Valleys of the Orient of the member's primary membership.

3. Primary membership is defined as membership in the Valley of the jurisdiction to which a member belongs at the time of initial application for dual or plural membership.

4. Dual membership, with retention of any Supreme Council honors which may have been invested or conferred by this or any other Supreme Council, is permitted on a reciprocal basis with other jurisdictions we are in amity with.

5. If a Brother holds dual membership between the Northern Masonic and Southern Jurisdictions, the Valley of his choice becomes his primary Valley for the purpose of allowing him to be eligible for elective office and for possible further honors. If a Brother holds dual membership between two Orients within the Southern Jurisdiction, the Valley of

his choice becomes his primary Valley for the purpose of allowing him to be eligible for elective office.

6. Dual membership shall cease if the member is suspended or expelled in either jurisdiction for reasons other than nonpayment of dues.

7. Rules of procedure for dual membership shall be in accordance with the terms and provisions, as may be agreed upon, from time to time, by and between the Sovereign Grand Commanders of the jurisdictions involved.

<hr/> <b>Demit Request Requirements</b>	SEC. 34. A member of a Body, if he be clear on the books and under no charges, may withdraw from it and shall be entitled to a Demit, upon application at a Stated Meeting.
<hr/> <b>Dues Exemptions</b>	SEC. 35. A Body may, by a unanimous vote at a regular meeting and with the consent of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council, exempt from the payment of dues to said Body any member whose circumstances justify such exemption, but in such case the Body is not relieved from paying to the Supreme Council the per capita assessment for the member so exempted.
<hr/> <b>Commercial Use of Masonic Emblems</b>	SEC. 36. The use by any member of the Rite of any word, figure, letter, title, emblem, or symbol to denote his rank in or his connection with the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in any written or printed document not Masonic in its character and purposes, or the use by a member of any such word, figure, letter, title, emblem, or symbol for business or advertising purposes in any business, employment, or avocation not Masonic in its purposes nor connected with Masonry is forbidden.
<hr/> <b>Reporting of Petition Rejections, Expulsions, &amp; Suspensions</b>	SEC. 37. In all cases where a petition for the Degrees or an application for affiliation is rejected by a Body of the Rite, the Secretary of the Body in which such action is taken shall promptly report the same to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy in the Orient of the petitioner's residence. And in all cases of expulsion and of suspension, the Secretary of the Body in which such action is taken shall promptly report the same to the Grand Executive Director of the Supreme Council.

SEC. 38. Rosters or lists of membership of any Valley or Orient shall not be used for any commercial purposes whatsoever as similarly defined by Grand Lodges.

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**Commercial Use  
of Membership  
Lists**

SEC. 39. Wills executed by members of the Rite in compliance with ritualistic regulations shall be retained by the makers thereof, or if temporarily deposited with the proper official of any Body of the Rite, shall be by such official forthwith, or as soon as practicable, returned to the respective makers thereof.

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**Member Wills**



## ARTICLE XVIII

### Trials and Penal Statutes

SEC. 1. Trials on accusation of offenses against Masonic law or against good morals or of un-Masonic conduct or unworthiness of any Mason of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, except Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, shall be held by the Lodge of Perfection of which the accused is a member, or within whose Orient he resides or the offense is alleged to have been committed, provided, that charges of violation of the obligation of a Degree higher than that of Perfect Elu shall be prosecuted in the Body of the Rite governing that Degree.

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**Trial Locations**

SEC. 2. The penal jurisdiction of a Lodge of Perfection includes all its own members, wherever residing, except Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, and all Masons of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of any Lodge, whether then standing suspended for nonpayment of dues or otherwise, who reside nearer its place of meeting than to that of any other Lodge of Perfection, or who shall be charged with the commission within its jurisdiction of an offense cognizable by such Lodge. In places where there are more than one Lodge of Perfection, jurisdiction as aforesaid shall be concurrent in such Lodges except as to each Lodge's own members.

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**Penal  
Jurisdictions**

[2] When a Brother has been suspended for cause, the Lodge of Perfection within whose jurisdiction he resides or commits an offense cognizable by said Lodge has exclusive jurisdiction over him.

[3] A change of residence after charges have been filed does not divest the Lodge of jurisdiction to try the charges. When charges have been filed and accepted by a Lodge, there shall be no change of venue for any cause.

SEC. 3. Charges may be preferred by any Brother in good standing; and it shall be the duty of the Venerable Master to direct the Junior Warden, or other officer if he fails or refuses to act, to file charges formally and *ex officio*, against a Brother, if he (the Venerable Master) shall be person-

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**Preferring  
Charges**

ally cognizant, or shall be reliably informed, of such acts or conduct on the part of a Brother as *prima facie* constitute a Masonic offense. Such charges shall be in writing over the signature of the Brother preferring same, and may be general in character, but shall be accompanied by a specification or specifications setting forth the particular acts constituting the offense complained of and giving time and place and all necessary particulars relating thereto, so that the accused may be fully advised of all that he may be called upon to explain or disprove or justify.

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#### Filing Charges

SEC. 4. Charges shall be filed with the Secretary of the Lodge and be presented to the Lodge at the next Stated Meeting thereof. If the Lodge, by a majority vote of the members present at the time the charges are presented, determines that the act or acts set forth in the charges or specifications do not constitute any Masonic offense, the Lodge may refuse to entertain them. But if the Lodge, by a majority vote of those present, decides that the charges are of such character as to justify investigation, it shall designate a Stated Meeting of the Lodge for the selection of a tribunal to ascertain the facts concerning such charges. All action taken shall be subject to the approval or disapproval of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council. The accused and the accuser shall be notified of the presentation of the charges and furnished a copy thereof and advised of the date of the Stated Meeting at which such tribunal will be elected. Where the accused resides within the jurisdiction of the Lodge, the notice, with a copy of the charges, shall be served upon him personally at least ten days prior to date of the meeting at which the tribunal is to be selected. Where the accused resides outside of the jurisdiction of the Lodge and his residence is known, the charges and notice may be served by mailing a copy thereof to him at least ten days before the date of meeting for the selection of the tribunal, and the service shall be completed when the copies are deposited in the United States Post Office, properly addressed and stamped. If the address or whereabouts of the accused is unknown, the tribunal may be selected at the next Stated Meeting after the charges have been accepted, without any attempt to serve notice upon the accused.

SEC. 5. At the time thus fixed the Lodge shall proceed, without any other or further motion or discussion, to select by ballot five of its members, who shall constitute a tribunal to hear the evidence and determine the facts in relation to the charges presented. The persons so selected by the Lodge shall constitute such tribunal, without any right on the part of the accused to object for any reason to the persons so selected. The tribunal shall have power to elect from its number a chairman and a secretary, to fix the time and place of its meetings, and determine the method of its procedure for the taking of testimony, summoning witnesses, and ascertaining the facts. The accused shall have notice of all its meetings and be given the fullest opportunity to present any evidence which he may desire to offer. But if the whereabouts or address of the accused is unknown and cannot be ascertained after due inquiry by the Secretary, the Venerable Master shall appoint some capable and disinterested Brother of the Lodge in which the charges are pending to represent the accused, to whom all due notices shall be given, and who shall have all rights of the accused in appearing for and representing him, and on whom all notices shall be served. The tribunal shall proceed to ascertain the facts with reference to the charges in accordance with the recognized principles and usages of Masonic jurisprudence and hearings before a commission of like character. It shall disregard, however, all technicalities and be governed solely by the desire to do justice. If the testimony of the witness cannot be had before all of the members of the tribunal, it may designate one or more of its number to take testimony of absent witnesses. Members of the Rite testifying before the tribunal may testify under an affirmation upon their honor as such members. If the testimony of a profane is desired, the tribunal may call a notary public for the purpose of administering the oath, or it may hear the statement of the profane without oath. Documentary evidence, certified to or otherwise, pertinent to the case may be received by the tribunal.

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**Tribunal  
Selection,  
Powers, &  
Procedures**

SEC. 6. When the tribunal has heard all the evidence offered by the accused or accuser, it shall determine the facts with reference to the charges and file its findings with the Secretary of the Lodge. The Secretary shall then give notice that the findings of a tribunal will be presented at a Stated or Called Meeting to be held thereafter at a time specified. Such notice may be given by mail to each member at his last known address,

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**Tribunal  
Findings & Vote**



or by publication in the usual manner of giving notice of meetings, in either event at least five days before the date of the meeting. At the meeting thus fixed the findings of the tribunal and the evidence shall be read to the Lodge, and the accused and accuser may be heard in person or by counsel, with reference to the sufficiency of the evidence to sustain the findings, or of the facts found to constitute a punishable offense. After the hearing is concluded, the Lodge shall proceed to vote upon the question as to whether or not the accused is guilty of the charges preferred, or any of them when more than one charge is preferred. The vote shall be taken by secret ballot and all of the members of the Lodge present shall be required to vote. Where more than one charge is preferred, separate ballots should be taken upon each. If fewer than two-thirds of the members of the Lodge present vote “guilty” as to any charge, it shall be dismissed. If two-thirds vote “guilty” as to any charge, the members of the Lodge present shall then proceed by secret ballot to vote upon the penalty in the following order: first, expulsion; second, indefinite suspension; third, definite suspension; fourth, reprimand. These questions shall be determined by the vote of a majority of those present.

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**Evidence in Writing**

SEC. 7. The tribunal, in its discretion, may cause the evidence introduced to be reduced to writing and, if requested by the accused, shall do so. If so, the copies of such evidence shall be filed with the Secretary of the Lodge at the time of the filing of the findings of the tribunal and thereafter shall be and remain a part of the secret archives of the Lodge, and no reference thereto shall be made by any member of the Lodge except upon the hearing for the determination of the guilt or innocence of the accused. When that fact has been determined and no appeal taken, the Lodge may, if it desires, order the copies of the evidence to be destroyed.

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**Appeals Process**

SEC. 8. Either party may within thirty days after judgment appeal from the judgment of the Lodge to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in charge of the Orient, who may affirm or reverse it. From the action of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council either party may within sixty days appeal to the Supreme Council for final adjudication. If there be no Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council



in charge of the jurisdiction, the appeal shall be taken from the Lodge direct to the Supreme Council.

**SEC. 9.** The petition for an appeal will not operate as a suspension of a judgment against the defendant unless a suspensory order is made.

**SEC. 10.** The result of every trial not appealed from or in which no suspension order is made shall be immediately reported by the secretarial officer of the Body in which the trial was had to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council in the Orient, who shall cause the same to be made known to such Bodies, in such manner and at such time as he shall think the interests of the Rite require, and no other publication thereof shall be had.

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**Publication of  
Judgment**

**SEC. 11.** Suspension or expulsion by a Subordinate Body carries with it the same penalty in every Body of the Rite.

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**Universality of  
Penalties**

**SEC. 12.** *Trial of Active Members.* Charges against a Sovereign Grand Inspector General shall be filed in the Supreme Council, which has exclusive penal jurisdiction over all Active Members. Such charges shall be in writing and signed by a Sovereign Grand Inspector General and filed with the Sovereign Grand Commander. Thereupon the Sovereign Grand Commander shall appoint a committee of three Sovereign Grand Inspectors General to investigate the charges and present to the Sovereign Grand Commander the result of such investigation. If the committee decides that there is reason for believing the accused Sovereign Grand Inspector General to be guilty of a penal charge for which prosecution should be had, the Sovereign Grand Commander shall order the trial of the charges to be had at the next regular session of the Supreme Council or, if in his opinion an emergency exists, he may call a special session of the Supreme Council for the trial of such charges, and may or may not, in his discretion, suspend the accused from the discharge of his duties as Sovereign Grand Inspector General pending such trial. The Supreme Council, when charges are presented, shall make such rules as it may see fit for the governing of the trial.

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**Trials of Active  
Members**

Charges & Penalties of Disloyalty for 33° & K.C.C.H. Members	SEC. 13. An Inspector General Honorary or a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour proving unworthy or disloyal, after having been advised in writing and given an opportunity to be heard, may be dropped from the rolls of the Supreme Council by a majority vote of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General present at any session of the Supreme Council, or by electronic vote in recess, which will deprive him of all rights and benefits of the rank held by him.
Supreme Council's Jurisdictional Rights	SEC. 14. Nothing contained in these Statutes or in any rule, resolution, or regulation shall be construed as limiting, abridging, or impairing the inherent right of the Supreme Council to exercise original jurisdiction in any case and to suspend and expel any member of any Subordinate Body, any Honorary Member of this Supreme Council, or any Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in any appropriate form of procedure which may, at any time, be adopted or prescribed by the Supreme Council, provided that the accused shall always, in any case, be afforded reasonable opportunity to be heard in his defense.
Criticism in Proper Forum	SEC. 15. Any adverse criticism or complaint of the Supreme Council, or any member thereof, made by any Brother except in the proper forum of the Rite, is un-Masonic and violative of obligation and is therefore condemned.
Reporting Disloyalty & Insubordination	<p>SEC. 16. It shall be the duty of each Sovereign Grand Inspector General and each Deputy of the Supreme Council to report to the Sovereign Grand Commander any disloyalty or insubordination of any Brother within his Orient who may be of the Thirty-third Degree or who may be a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, and it shall be the duty of the Sovereign Grand Commander to report same to the Supreme Council for necessary action.</p> <p>SEC. 17. It is and shall be the duty of every member of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite to report to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council of the Orient in which he resides any matter involving disloyalty, insubordination or violation of obligation which may come to the knowledge of such member, and it shall be the duty of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the</p>

Supreme Council thereupon to institute or direct the necessary steps to subject such offending member to proper discipline.

SEC. 18. Inasmuch as membership in the Scottish Rite is purely voluntary, any member who finds himself unable to comply with his obligations and with all duties imposed upon him by the statutes of the Order should, out of self-respect and in justice to the Order and his associates therein, retire therefrom in the manner duly provided therefor.

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**Withdrawal from  
Scottish Rite**



## ARTICLE XIX

### Official Locations

SEC. 1. The See of the Supreme Council is at Charleston in the state of South Carolina; but its executive offices are located in the House of the Temple at the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, from which place all decrees, balustres, charters, diplomas, and other official documents shall bear date.

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**See & Executive  
Offices**



## ARTICLE XX

### Amendments

SEC. 1. These *Statutes* may be amended only at a regular session, or at a special session called for that purpose, of the Supreme Council, by the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members then present; provided, that any amendment to the *Statutes of the Supreme Council* must be submitted to the Grand Executive Director by an Active Member only at least ninety days before the regular session, the same to be distributed to each Active Member at least sixty days before the regular session. Any amendment submitted by an Active Member only in less than this time shall require unanimous consent of the Supreme Council to be considered at that session.

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**Procedure**

SEC. 2. Every Resolution submitted for action by The Supreme Council shall be submitted to the Finance Committee for review. If the Finance Committee determines that there is a financial impact it will cause a financial impact Statement to be prepared and presented to The Supreme Council prior to action by The Supreme Council.

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**Finance  
Committee  
Review  
Requirement**





## ARTICLE XXI

### Declaratory Disposition

SEC. 1. These *Statutes*, with the Regulations of 1762, the Grand Constitutions of 1786, as published by this Supreme Council, except as herein modified, together with the edicts and decisions of the Supreme Council, and the unwritten principles and Landmarks of Freemasonry constitute the law of the Rite in the jurisdiction of this Supreme Council.

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Law of the Rite  
Components

**Finis**



## ADDENDA

### ACT OF INCORPORATION

As

### INSPECTORS GENERAL OF THE THIRTY-THIRD DEGREE

(Extract of an Act enacted in December 1823, by the Legislature of the State of South Carolina)

Sec. 33. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That Isaac Auld, M.D., as Sovereign Grand Commander; the Reverend Frederick Dalcho, M.D., as Past Sovereign Grand Commander; James Moultrie, M.D., as Secretary General and Acting Lieutenant Commander; Moses C. Levy, Esquire, as Treasurer General; Moses Holbrook, M.D., Horatio Street, Alexander M'Donald and Joseph M'Cosh, Esquires, with their associates and successors, be, and they are hereby incorporated, and declared a body politic and corporate, in deed and in law, by the name and style of Inspectors General of the Thirty-third Degree: And the said Inspectors General of the Thirty-third Degree shall have power to regulate all orders and degrees of Masonry, from the Sixteenth to the said Thirty-third degree, according to the constitutions of the said several degrees; and the said corporation, by its name and style aforesaid, shall have a common seal, with power to alter the same, and to make all necessary bylaws for their better government; and the said corporation shall have power to purchase lands or personal estate, and to accept any devise, bequest or donation: *Provided*, that the same shall not exceed the sum of ten thousand dollars: *And provided also*, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to interfere with any powers, rights or privileges heretofore granted to the "Most Worshipful Grand Lodge in this State," or any other Grand Lodge of Masons heretofore incorporated.

In the Senate House the twentieth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, and in the forty-eighth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

JACOB BOND I'ON  
President of the Senate

PATRICK NOBLE  
Speaker of the House of  
Representatives

## ACT OF INCORPORATION

As

### THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF SOVEREIGN GRAND INSPECTORS GENERAL OF THE THIRTY-THIRD DEGREE FOR THE SOUTHERN JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES

(Extract of an Act enacted in December 1866 by the Legislature of the State of South Carolina)

No. 4842. An act to incorporate the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Thirty-third Degree for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States.

1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, now met and sitting in General Assembly, and by the authority of the same, That Albert Pike, William S. Rockwell, Giles M. Hillyer, A. G. Mackey, B. Rush Campbell, Benjamin H. French, Henry Buist, Henry W. Schroder, and Howell Cobb, their associates and successors, shall be and are hereby declared to be a body corporate and politic by the name and style of “The Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Thirty-third Degree for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States,” and by the said name shall be capable to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto in any Court of Law and Equity in this State; shall have a common seal, with power to change, alter, break and make new the same, shall be able and capable in law to purchase and retain real estate not exceeding in value the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars and shall have all the other rights, powers and privileges usual, incident, or necessary to corporations.

2. Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid that this Act shall continue of force for fourteen years.

In the Senate House, the fourteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred sixty-six.

W. D. PORTER,  
President of the Senate

CHARLES H. SIMONTON,  
Speaker House of  
Representatives

Approved December 15th, 1866

JAMES L. ORR  
Governor

## ACT OF INCORPORATION

As

### THE SUPREME COUNCIL (MOTHER COUNCIL OF THE WORLD) OF THE INSPECTORS GENERAL KNIGHTS COMMANDERS OF THE HOUSE OF THE TEMPLE OF SOLOMON OF THE THIRTY-THIRD DEGREE OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREE MASONRY OF THE SOUTHERN JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

An Act to incorporate the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree of Scottish Rite Masonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States.

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled*, That Thomas Hubbard Caswell, of the City of San Francisco, State of California; Odell Squier Long, of the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia; Erasmus Theodore Carr, of Miles City, State of Montana; Frederick Webber, of the City of Washington, District of Columbia; Gilmore Meredith, of the City of Baltimore, State of Maryland; and Samuel Emery Adams, of the City of Minneapolis, State of Minnesota, officers and members of the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree of Scottish Rite Masonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, and their successors be, and they are hereby, incorporated and made a body politic and corporate in the District of Columbia by the name of “The Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspectors General Knights Commanders of the House of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty-third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Free Masonry of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America”; and by that name it may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any court of law or equity, and may have and use a common seal, and change the same at pleasure, and be entitled to use and exercise all the powers, rights, and privileges incidental to fraternal and benevolent corporations within the District of Columbia.

Sec. 2. That the said corporation shall have the power to take and hold personal estate and such real estate as shall be necessary and proper for the promotion of the fraternal and benevolent purposes of said corporation, which shall not be divided among the members of the corporation, but shall descend to their successors for the promotion of the objects aforesaid.

Sec. 3. That all claims, accounts, debts, things in action, or other matters of business of whatever nature now existing for or against the present supreme council mentioned in section

one of this act, shall survive and succeed to and against the body corporate and politic hereby created: *Provided*, that nothing contained herein shall be construed to extend the operation of any law which provides for the extinguishing of claims or contracts by limitations of time.

Sec. 4. That said corporation shall have a constitution and regulations or bylaws, and shall have power to amend the same at pleasure: *Provided*, that such constitution and regulations or bylaws or amendments thereof do not conflict with the laws of the United States or of any State.

Sec. 5. That said corporation shall not engage in any business for gain, the purposes of said corporation being fraternal and benevolent.

Approved March 13, 1896. (See 1897 *Trans.*, p. 40.)

## Form of Application for New Bodies

To Form a New Body of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, the Following Regulations Will Be Observed

1. Brethren desiring to organize a new Body of the Rite will make application therefor to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council, as the case may be, in the Jurisdiction in which they reside, using the following form:

To \_\_\_\_\_, 33° \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_  
Sovereign Grand Inspector General (or Deputy of the Supreme Council) in the Orient of \_\_\_\_\_

Ill.: and dear Brother:

We, the undersigned petitioners, who are Master Masons in good standing and members in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in good standing, and who have attained the Degrees placed opposite our respective names, having the prosperity of the Rite at heart and being willing to exert our best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Freemasonry, and promising always to bear true faith and allegiance to the Supreme Council of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America (whose See is at Charleston in the State of South Carolina) respectfully request that you grant us Letters Temporary for the formation of a \_\_\_\_\_ (New Body) at \_\_\_\_\_ (City), \_\_\_\_\_ (Orient) \_\_\_\_\_.

We have nominated and recommend as the first officers of this Body the following Brethren, namely:

In the office of \_\_\_\_\_ Bro.: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_°  
(List all offices and officers for the Body.)

We have selected \_\_\_\_\_ (City)(New Body) \_\_\_\_\_ as the name for this Body. Upon your advice that this petition has been approved, we will promptly remit to the Grand Executive Director of the Supreme Council the fees for Letters Temporary plus the amount necessary for books. (*See Article XI.2.1 of the Statutes of the Supreme Council.*)

*(Here should follow the signatures of all the petitioners)*

2. A petition for a Lodge of Perfection must be signed by no fewer than nine Perfect Elus; for a Chapter of Rose Croix, by no fewer than seven Knights Rose Croix; for a Council of

Kadosh, by no fewer than nine Knights Kadosh; for a Consistory, by no fewer than nine Masters of the Royal Secret. (Article XVI.2 of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*)

3. Each signer must present with the Petition a Certificate of Good Standing in the Body in which he holds membership, or, if unaffiliated, a Demit from the Body in which he last held membership. (Article XVI.3 of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*)

4. When the petition has been completed, it shall be presented to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Jurisdiction wherein the new Body is to be located, who shall approve or disapprove it and return it, with all the papers attached, to the petitioning Brethren. Upon receipt of the petition approved by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General, the petitioners shall forward it, together with all Certificates of Good Standing and Demits, to the Grand Executive Director, along with proper remittance to cover the fees and costs of books, etc., as provided by Article XI.2 of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*. (See Paragraph 19 of the *Secretary's Manual*.)

In a jurisdiction where there is a Deputy of the Supreme Council, he shall transmit such Petition to the Sovereign Grand Commander. (Article XVI.4.2 of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*)

5. Upon receipt of the petition, Certificates or Demits, and accompanying remittance, the Grand Executive Director shall have the Letters Temporary prepared and sent to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General (or to the Sovereign Grand Commander, as the case may be) for signature. Upon receipt of the signed Letters Temporary, the Grand Executive Director shall provide the necessary books and report his action to the Sovereign Grand Inspector General (or Deputy of the Supreme Council) in whose jurisdiction the Body is to be established, and the new Body may begin to work. (Article XVI.5 of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*)



## Form of Application for Charter of New Bodies

(Note: See Article XI.2 and Article XVI.7–10, inclusive, *Statutes of the Supreme Council*)

A Body to which Letters Temporary have been issued must, at the next regular Session of the Supreme Council, make application for Permanent Charter, using the following form. The application must bear the recommendation of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General, or the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, as the case may be.

To the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.: \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_

On the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, Letters Temporary were issued by Ill. :  
, 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Orient of \_\_\_\_\_, (or “Sovereign  
Grand Commander of the Supreme Council” in an Orient where there is a Deputy of the  
Supreme Council) for the formation of a new \_\_\_\_\_ (Lodge of Perfection,  
Chapter of Rose Croix, Council of Kadosh, or Consistory) of the Ancient and Accepted  
Scottish Rite in the Valley of \_\_\_\_\_, Orient of \_\_\_\_\_, by the name of  
, and on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, the said \_\_\_\_\_ was  
organized and opened, and has since continued successfully to work.

It is the desire of the members of said \_\_\_\_\_ to have its existence per-  
petuated, and they therefore pray that a Charter be granted to the said \_\_\_\_\_,  
promising as heretofore faithful obedience and strict conformity to the statutes, laws, edicts,  
and regulations of the Supreme Council, and all proper authorities thereof.

[Within the following space shall be written the names of the officers, who shall be designated by the Sovereign  
Grand Inspector General (or the Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, as the case may be). The  
information designated in Article XVI.7 of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council* shall also be supplied.]

In the Office of _____	Brother _____
In the Office of _____	Brother _____
In the Office of _____	Brother _____
In the Office of _____	Brother _____
In the Office of _____	Brother _____
In the Office of _____	Brother _____
In the Office of _____	Brother _____
In the Office of _____	Brother _____
In the Office of _____	Brother _____

## Constituting Newly Chartered Bodies

When the Supreme Council grants a Permanent Charter for the organization of a Body, the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or Deputy of the Supreme Council for the jurisdiction in which it is located will, upon delivery of the Charter, proceed to organize the new Body permanently by constituting it and installing the officers named in the Charter, and shall then make report thereof, with the date of his action, to the Grand Executive Director, who shall certify the facts, but only in case they were not elected before Charter was issued, to the Secretaries of the Bodies whose members have participated in the organization under Certificates of Good Standing, and thereupon such members, having become members of the chartered Body, shall be dropped from the rolls of the original Bodies and their membership therein shall be terminated as if by Demit. (Article XVI.11 of the *Statutes of the Supreme Council*)

The form upon which report is made to the Grand Executive Director should be as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_

To the Grand Executive Director of the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.:

The Supreme Council, at its Biennial Session on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, having granted Permanent Charter to \_\_\_\_\_, sitting in the Valley of \_\_\_\_\_, Orient of \_\_\_\_\_, and the said Charter having been delivered;

Now, therefore, I, \_\_\_\_\_, 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General in the Orient of \_\_\_\_\_ (or “Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council” in an Orient where there is a Deputy) have this day, in conformity with the statutes of the Supreme Council, permanently organized the said by constituting it and installing the officers named in the Charter.

May it have prosperity and continuance.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sov.: Gr.: Insp.: Genl.:

in the Orient of \_\_\_\_\_

(or “Sovereign Grand Commander” in an  
Orient where there is a Deputy)

**Recommended Colors for Official Signatures**  
*(See pp. 33–35 for signature descriptions and samples.)*

Degree/Honour	Pantone (PMS)	RGB	CMYK	Web
<b>18°, Knight Rose Croix</b> <b>32°, Master of the Royal Secret</b> <b>32°, Knight Commander of the Court of Honour</b>	206U	R: 217 G: 70 B: 104	C: 0 M: 100 Y: 56 K: 0	#D94668
<b>33°, Inspector General Honorary</b> <b>33°, Grand Cross</b> <b>Deputy of the Supreme Council</b>	207U	R: 177 G: 77 B: 103	C: 1 M: 100 Y: 42 K: 18	#B14D67
<b>Sovereign Grand Inspector General</b>	268U	R: 116 G: 90 B: 150	C: 71 M: 97 Y: 0 K: 0	#745A96
<b>Sovereign Grand Commander</b>	2453U	R: 181 G: 146 B: 207	C: 30 M: 48 Y: 0 K: 0	#B592CF



## INDEX

### A

Accounts, Open for Inspection 25  
Acting Sovereign Grand Commander 27  
Active Members of the Supreme Council.  
    *See* Sovereign Grand Inspector  
    General (SGIG)  
Acts of Incorporation 115–118  
Administrator to Liquidate Property of  
    Subordinate Bodies 75  
Almoner's Report of Subordinate Bodies 78  
Amendments to *Statutes* 111  
Annual Reports for Subordinate Bodies 78  
Appeal from Judgment under Penal  
    Statutes 104–105  
Appointive Officers  
    Honorary Membership 23  
    Supreme Council 23, 30  
Appropriations Report by Finance Committee 50  
Armed Forces, Masonic Residence of 88  
Army Bodies 8  
Assessments  
    Degrees Conferred 49–50  
    Per Capita 50  
    “Senior Members” in Need 95

### B

Bonding 32, 78, 81  
Books  
    Accounting, Open for Inspection 25  
    For SGIGs 55  
    Required for Valleys 53  
Budget Determination and Increases 50  
Bylaws of Subordinate Bodies, Requirements of 76

### C

Candidate for Degrees in Another Supreme  
    Council 87  
Caps  
    Descriptions 60–63  
    Examples 66  
Certificates, Diplomas, and Patents  
    Descriptions 47–48  
    Fees 48–49  
Chapters of Rose Croix  
    Ceremonies (Special), Attendance  
        Limitation 76  
    Degrees within 9  
    Election of Officers 76  
    Feast Days 75  
    Number of Members Required 73  
    Stated Meeting Requirement 75  
Charges, Penal. *See* Penal Charges  
Check Signatories 26  
Clothing and Uniforms  
    Alternate to Uniforms 57  
    Prescribed by Rituals and Liturgies 57  
    Public Appearances in Uniform 79  
    Rental or Loan of Uniforms and Regalia 79  
Committees  
    Appointment by Sov. Gr. Cmdr. 39  
    Meetings Convened 40  
    Names 39  
    Per Diem Provisions 51  
    Travel Expense Provisions 51  
    Vacancy Filled by Appointment 39  
Communication of Degrees. *See* Degrees:  
    Communication and Conferral  
Conflict of Interest Disclosure  
    Scottish Rite Corporations 32, 33  
    SGIG and Deputy 20, 32

Consistories

- Degrees within 9
- Feast Days 75
- Number of Members Required 73
- Stated Meeting Requirement 75
- Consolidation of Valleys Permitted 74
- Correspondence, Official Channels 20
- Council of Administration 41
- Council of Kadosh
  - Degrees within 9
  - Election of Officers 76
  - Feast Days 75
  - Number of Members Required 73
  - Stated Meeting Requirement 75
- Court of Honour
  - Assemblies 71
  - Composition 67
  - Rights 71
  - Signatures 33–35

**D**

Degrees

- Assessments and Fees 49–50
- Breakdown into Subordinate Bodies 9
- Communication and Conferral 9–10
  - Fees Paid to Supreme Council 9–10, 49
  - Limitations 9–10
  - Official Publication for 53
  - Supreme Council Conferral 10
  - Without Charge 18
- Jewels Prescribed 59
- Obligatory 9
- Opening on, in Subordinate Bodies 79
- Presentation Only in Tiled Meetings 54
- Demits
  - Issued upon Cessation of Body 75
- Deputy Members 45–46
  - Appointment
    - Unattached Jurisdictions 45
    - Unoccupied Territory 45

Cap 60, 66

- Degree Communication Limitations 18, 45
- Dispensation, Rights and Limitations 18
- Dues Exemptions 45
- Expense Reimbursement 45
- Fees Collected 45
- Indemnification 31–32
- Issued Copies of Rituals, Secret Works, and Rubrics 53
- Per Diem 51
- Personal Representatives 16
- Reporting 46
- Residency 45
- Retirement 46
- Signature 34, 35
- Term 46
- Diplomas. *See* Certificates, Diplomas, and Patents
- Disability of Salaried Elective Officers 37
- Disbursements Procedure 26
- Dispensations 18
- Disposition of Property upon Cessation of Subordinate Body 74
- Doubled-headed Eagle 34
- Dual and Plural Membership 97–98
- Dues
  - Exemptions 98
  - Waiver for “Senior Members” in Need 95

**E**

Election

- Active Members 11
- Emeriti Members 11–12
- Inspectors General Honorary 12–13
- Elective Offices (Officers) of the Supreme Council
- Elections
  - Adjournment 31
  - Removal 12
  - Salary upon Disability 37
  - Term 30
  - Titles 23

Vacancies 30, 31  
 Voting 31  
     Proxy 31  
 Emeriti Members of Honour 12  
 Emeriti Members of the Supreme Council 11  
     Court of Honour Members 67  
     Death and Memorial 19  
     Election 11–12  
     Privileges 11–12  
     Titles 12  
     Voluntary Application 12  
 Employees of the Supreme Council  
     Bonding 31–32  
     Retirement Plan 37

## F

Fees 47–50  
     Degree Conferral 49  
         Assessment 49  
     Ladies' Certificate 48  
     Letters Temporary 47  
     Patents and Diplomas 47  
     Permanent Charter 47  
 Fidelity Coverage for Bodies 81  
 Fifty-Year Membership  
     Cap 62, **66**  
     Qualifications 62  
 Finance Committee  
     Appropriations Report 50  
     Investment of Surplus Funds 26  
     Resolution Reviews 111  
 Financial Control in Subordinate Bodies 78  
 Financial Statements  
     Impact 111  
     Quarterly 26  
 Fiscal Year 25  
 Flag, Official Scottish Rite 63  
 Foreign Jurisdictions  
     Affiliation 92

Degree Communication 17  
 Recognition 8  
 Fourteenth Degree Ring. *See* Rings:  
     Fourteenth Degree

## G

Grand Almoner  
     Duties 28  
     Vacancy in Office 31  
 Grand Chamberlain, Duties 29  
 Grand Chancellor  
     Duties 27–28  
     Seal **36**  
 Grand Cross Court of Honour  
     Application for Demands Refusal 70  
     Cap 61, **66**  
     Dues Exemption 71  
     Election and Vote 70  
     Jewel 58, **65**  
     Membership in Court of Honour 67  
     Nominations and Qualifications 70  
     Voting 70  
 Grand Decoration 57–58, **64**  
 Grand Equerry (First and Second), Duties 29  
 Grand Executive Director 25–26  
     Employees 25  
     Reporting 25, 26, 50  
     *Transactions* 25  
 Grand Herald, Duties 30  
 Grand Master of Ceremonies, Duties 29  
 Grand Minister of State, Duties 28  
 Grand Orator, Duties 29  
 Grand Prior  
     Duties 27  
     Line of Succession Position 27  
 Grand Secretary General  
     Duties 28  
     Seal **36**  
     Vacancy in Office 31

Grand Standard Bearer, Duties 29

Grand Sword Bearer, Duties 29

Grand Treasurer General

Check Signatory 26

Proposed Budget 28

Vacancy in Office 31

## H

Honorary Member of the Supreme Council.

See Inspector General Honorary

House of the Temple, Custodian 25

## I

Indemnification of Active Members, Deputies,  
Officers, and Trustees 31–32

Inspector General Honorary 11

At Large 15

Cap 61, **66**

Conferrals

Location 15

Court of Honour 67

Degree Not Given Gratuitously 15

Disloyalty Penalties and Procedures 106

Election 12–13

Forfeiture of Election 15

Honorarium 49

Jewel. *See* Grand Decoration

Loss of Membership 16

Nominations 13–15

Qualifications 13

Rights 15

Ring. *See* Rings: Inspector General  
Honorary (33°)

Signature 34, **35**

Tableau Published upon Death 19

Transfer of Membership 94

Investment of Surplus Funds 26

Irregular Bodies 33

## J

Jewels

Descriptions 57–59

Examples **64–65**

Judgments under Penal Statutes 105

Jurisdiction

Army Bodies 8

Northern Masonic 7

Penal. *See* Penal Charges: Jurisdiction

Supreme Council

Defined 7

Orients 7

Changes 8

## K

Knight Commander of the Court of Honour

Application for Demands Refusal 70

At Large 69

Cap 62, **66**

Ceremony 69

Court of Honour 67

Disloyalty Penalties and Procedures 106

Elect Attendance Requirement 69

Honorarium 49

Jewel 58–59, **65**

Loss of Rank 70

Nominations 67–69

Qualifications 67, 68

Transfer of Membership 94



## L

- Ladies' Certificates
  - Description 47–48
  - Fees 48
- Law of the Rite, Components 113
- Letters Temporary
  - Application Form 119
  - Continuance 85
  - Fees 47
  - Issuance 17, 84
  - Per Capita Assessment 50
  - Powers 84
  - Surrender 85
  - Term 84–85
- Libraries of the Supreme Council 55
- Lieutenant Grand Commander
  - Acting Grand Commander 27
  - Assumption of Sovereign Grand Commander
    - Duties 26
  - Check Signatory 26
  - Duties Discharged by Grand Prior 27
  - Vacancy in Office 27
- Life Membership. *See* Membership in Subordinate Bodies: Life Membership
- Lodge of Perfection
  - Degrees 9
  - Election of Officers 76
  - Feast Day 75
  - Number of Members Required 73
  - Penal Jurisdiction 101
  - Prescribed Rituals and Related Publications 53
- Postponement 89
- Candidate Requirements 90, 92
- Certificate of Good Standing 93
- Diplomas 96, 97
- Dues Remission 94–95
- Election Forfeiture 90
- Foreign Jurisdiction Members Affiliation 92
- Identification Card 95, 96
- Lay Over of Petitions, Propositions, and Applications 89
- Life Membership 11, 96
- Nonpayment of Dues 94–95
- Objections to Candidates 89–90, 90
- Propositions for Membership 89
- Publication of Petitioners' Names Prohibited 87
- Qualifications for Application 87
- Rejected Candidates 90
- Removal from Jurisdiction 92
- Residence of Armed Forces and Overseas Employees 88
- Roster Use Restrictions 99
- Special Regulations by SGIGs and Deputies 87
- Spurious Bodies Membership 89
- Suspension for Dues Nonpayment 94
  - Restoration of Membership 94–95
- Symbolic Lodge Membership
  - Requirement 92, 94
- Thirty-second Degree Patents 97
- Unaffiliated Members 93
- Waiver of Jurisdiction 87–88
- Mourning
  - Colors Prescribed 57
  - Symbols 19–20

## M

- Masonic Emblems, Symbols, Titles, Usage 98
- Membership in Subordinate Bodies 87–99
  - Affiliations 92, 93
  - Ballot Procedure 89–90

## N

- Name of the Supreme Council 7
- New Subordinate Bodies. *See* Subordinate Bodies: New
- Nominations
  - Committee Report 12–13
  - Numbers, Procedures, & Qualifications.
    - See* Grand Cross Court of Honour: Nominations; *See* Inspector General Honorary: Nominations; *See* Knight Commander of the Court of Honour: Nominations

## O

- Obligatory Degrees 9–10
- Officers of the Supreme Council. *See* Supreme Council: Officers

## Orients

- Creation by Sovereign Grand Commander 7
- Defined 7
- Valleys, Books Prescribed 53

## P

- Patents, Diplomas, Certificates. *See* Certificates, Diplomas, and Patents
- Penal Charges
  - Active Members 105
  - Jurisdiction
    - Active Members 105
    - Change in Residence 101
    - Lodge of Perfection 101
    - Supreme Council Rights 106
    - Suspension for Cause 101
  - Procedures 101–103
  - Service and Notice 102
  - Vote Requirements 102
- Per Diem Provisions 51

## Permanent Charter

- Application and Requirements 84–85
- Application Form 121
- Consolidation of Valleys 74
- Fees 47
- Forfeiture 74
- Procedure upon Receipt 86
- Surrender 74
- Personal Representatives (Valley or Orient) 16–17
- Pike, Albert, Memorial Service 19
- Programs and Announcements of Subordinate Bodies. *See* Subordinate Bodies: Programs and Announcements, approvals and descriptions

## Q

- Quorum Requirements 21

## R

- Representatives of Other Jurisdictions 33
- Resignation
  - Active Members 20
  - Subordinate Body Officers 77
- Resolutions 111
- Retirement Plan, Employee 37
- Revenue Sources 47
- Rings
  - Fourteenth Degree 59, **65**
  - Inspector General Honorary (33°) 59, **65**
- Rituals and Related Matter 53
  - Issuance 53
  - Restrictions on Publication 54
  - Title Retained by Supreme Council 53, 54
- Rose Croix, Signature 34, **35**

## S

### Scottish Rite Related Corporations

Conflicts of Interest Disclosure 32

Voting Restrictions 32

Indemnification of Officers and Trustees 31–32

Seals, Official 36

Secretary of the Valley Appointed 76

Secret Work, Rules for 54

Sessions. *See* Supreme Council: Sessions

Signatures, Official 33–35, **35**, 123

### Sovereign Grand Commander

Assumption of Duties by Lt. Grand

Commander 26

Cap 60, **66**

Check Signatory 26

Election 31

Libraries 55

Offices 24

Powers 24

Report to and Review by the Supreme

Council 24

Seal 36

Signature 33, **35**

Standing Committees 39

Titles 24

Visitations Report 24

### Sovereign Grand Inspector General (SGIG) 11–20

Absence from Regular Sessions 17

Conflict of Interest (Xref). *See* Conflict of  
Interest Disclosure

Court of Honour Members 67

Death and Memorial 19

Degree Conferral and Communication 17

Without Charge 18

Dispensation 18

Election 11

Emeritus Membership Application 12

Indemnification 31–32

Issuance of Books and Rituals Published by the  
Supreme Council 53, 55

Letters Temporary Issuance 17

Life Membership 11

Limited Number 11

Loss of Active Membership 17

Mandatory Retirement Age 11

Member of All Subordinate Bodies 17

Obituaries and Memorial Tablets 19

Per Diem 51

Personal Representatives 16–17

Powers 16

Removal 12

Reporting 16, 18–19, 39

Resignation 12, 17, 20

Retirement 11

Signature 34, **35**

Travel Expense Provisions 51

Trials 105

Vacancy in Office 12

### Spurious Bodies, Members of 89

### Subordinate Bodies 9

Almoner Disbursements 78

Appeal from Action of Any Body 82

Assessments (Degrees, Per Capita) 49–50, 50

Balloting 89–90

Postponement 89

Bylaws 76

Clubs 80

Corporation Provisions 79–82

Cost of Books 47

Degrees

Fees 49

Opening 79

Demits 75, 98

Dues Exemptions 98

Subordinate Bodies (*continued*)

Exist by Virtue of Letters Temporary or  
Permanent Charter 73

Feast Days 75

Fidelity Coverage 81

Financial Control 78

Forfeiture of Charter 74

Gambling Prohibited 81

Incorporation Prohibited 79

Letters Temporary. *See* Letters Temporary

Meeting Place Changes 73

Naming Restrictions 81

New 83–86

    Issuance of Supplies 84

    Letters Temporary. *See* Letters Temporary

    Permanent Charter. *See* Permanent Charter

    Petition 83–84

    Signatures 83

    Withdrawal of Signature 85

Number of Members Required 73

Officers

    Election 76

    Installation 76

    Resignation 77

Permanent Charter. *See* Permanent Charter

Programs and Announcements, approvals and  
descriptions 54–55

Property

    Liquidation upon Termination 74, 75

    SGIG Supervision 79

Regulations Governing 73–82

Reporting 78, 98

Requirements to Open 73

Residence Requirements and Waivers 77

Stated Meeting Requirement 75

Surrender of Charter 74

Territorial Jurisdiction 73

Uniforms and Regalia 79

Vacancies in Offices 77–78

Wills Executed during Ritual 99

Succession in Elective Offices of the Supreme  
Council 30

Supreme Council

    Active Members. *See* Sovereign Grand Inspector  
    General (SGIG)

    Appointive Officers 23

    Elections, At Large 15

    Elective Officers. *See* Elective Offices (Officers)  
    of the Supreme Council

    Emeriti Members. *See* Emeriti Members of the  
    Supreme Council

    Honorary Members. *See* Inspector  
    General Honorary

Location of Executive Offices 109

Officers 23–37

    Bonding Requirements 32

    Conflict of Interest Disclosure 32

    Indemnification 31–32

    List 23

    Loss of Rights and Privileges 30

    Resignation 30

    Term 30

Recognition Policy 8

Revenue Sources 47

Roll Call Vote 43

Seals, Great and Petty 36

Sessions

    Regular, Time and Place 21

    Special, Time, Place, and Manner of  
    Calling 21

Voting

    Recess 43

    Regular Session 43

Surplus Funds Investment 26

Suspension or Expulsion under Penal Statutes 105  
Symbolic Lodge  
    Affiliation Requirement 92  
    Suspension or Expulsion Effects 94

## T

Thirty-second Degree Member  
    Cap 63, **66**  
    Double-headed Eagle Use 34  
    Jewel 59, **65**  
    Patents 97  
    Signature 34, **35**  
Thirty-third Degree. *See* Inspector  
    General Honorary  
*Transactions* Report 25  
Transfer of Membership, Inspectors General  
    Honorary and Knight Co 94  
Travel Expenses Provided 51  
Trials and Penal Statutes 101–107. *See also* Tribunal  
    Active Members (SGIG) 105

    Balloting 103–104  
    Judgment Publication 105  
    Location 101  
    Penalty, Provisions and Determination 103–104  
    Suspension or Expulsion 105  
Tribunal 102–104. *See also* Trials and  
    Penal Statutes  
Trustees, Indemnification of 31–32

## V

Vacancies in Elective Offices 30–31  
Voting. *See also* Elective Offices (Officers) of the  
    Supreme Council: Voting; *See also* Supreme  
    Council: Voting  
Prohibited Due to Conflict of Interest 32

## W

Wills Executed per Ritual 99

