



February 2026

**TO:** All Texas Elks

**RE:** 2026 Grand Lodge Convention – Chicago, Illinois

The 161<sup>st</sup> Grand Lodge Session will be held in Chicago, IL, from July 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026. The Texas delegation has been assigned to the Palmer House – A Hilton Hotel. This is a historic Hotel that was built in 1872.

**The room rate is \$169.00 plus \$29.41 (17.4%) tax for a per night total of \$198.41 for single, double, triple, or quad occupancy.**

**The Incidental Hold for the hotel is \$100 a day.** This will specifically hit those individuals that are using Debit Cards.

Self-parking is available. The cost should be approximately **\$57 a day** for self-parking. Rates are subject to change.

Valet parking is approximately **\$85 a day**. Rates are subject to change.

The hotel is approximately 2 miles from the Convention Center.

The hotel is non-smoking.

The hotel does allow pets up to 75 pounds with a \$75 deposit. Service animals do not require a deposit.

All rooms have small refrigerators.

The Hilton has both handicap and hearing-impaired rooms available. If needed, such requirements need to be requested at the time the reservations are made. Ensure a note is made on the reservation form under Special Needs.

Check-in time is 3:00 PM; an earlier check-in time may be requested at the time reservations are made but is subject to room availability upon check-in.

Check-out time is 11 AM. A later check-out time may be requested when the reservation is made but is subject to room availability.

Room type requests (king or double) are subject to room availability at time of check-in. However, when a double room is requested for a family or a group, a request will be made at the time the reservation is placed to block the required room type. If a double room is required, all names staying in the room need to be listed on the reservation form. If you are going to be the only person in the room, please do not request a double room; there is typically a shortage of double rooms available.

The Palmer House does **NOT** have shuttle service to and from the Chicago airports. Midway Airport is approximately 45 minutes from the hotel. O'Hare Airport is approximately an hour from the hotel. From O'Hare, Lyft or Uber are available for approximately \$60 one-way cost. A Taxi will cost approximately \$50 one way. The cost from Midway should be less. Lite rail is available with at least one transfer from each of the airport with a cost of \$5 or so each way. [Plan a trip / Get transit directions - CTA.](#)

**Listed below is general information regarding the Chicago convention:**

- The Headquarters Hotel is the Hilton Chicago Hotel.
- Sunday Afternoon Opening Ceremony, Daily Business Sessions, and Closing Session will take place at the McCormick Place – West Building, 2317 S. Indiana Ave., Chicago, IL 60616.
- Sunday afternoon opening ceremony will be 4:00 – 6:00 PM, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at the McCormick Place – West Building Skyline Ballroom.
- The Daily Business and the Closing sessions will start at 8:00 AM.
- Registration and Exhibits will be set up in the McCormick Place – West Building.
- Ritual Competition will be at the McCormick Place – West Building.
- The Texas Elks Caucus will be held at 2 PM on Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at the Palmer House in a to be determined Ballroom.
- DDGER-Designates Seminar will be at the McCormick Place – West Building, on Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, at 12:45 PM. Location to be determined.
- The varying Committee Seminars will be scheduled on Sunday as early as 9:00 AM and following the General Sessions on Monday and Tuesday. These will be listed on the Elks website at some point during May 2026.
- Convention Pre-Registration will open early April, 2026.

Enclosed you will find a housing reservation form. Make additional copies as required ... but ... **Do not alter the form and, please, no homemade forms! Either type or legibly print your reservation information.** Provide an email address (preferred) or a phone number for the purpose of providing reservation confirmation information. Please type or print the email address and/or phone number clearly. If I cannot read your reservation information or your email address or phone number, I cannot make your reservation, and I will not be able contact you for additional information or provide you with your confirmation number.

All reservations are subject to availability. **The Texas Elks room block is for the period of Wednesday, 1 July 2026, through Friday, 10 July 2026.** Any reservations requested outside these dates can be requested but cannot be guaranteed. **All reservations, and cancellations, must be made through the Texas Elks State Association Grand Lodge Convention Housing Chairman; Do not contact the hotel – they will only make, change, or cancel the reservations through the State Association Housing Chairman.** If you need to make a change or cancel your reservation, contact me and I will make whatever change is necessary.

**Deadline for reservations is June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026;** I need to have all reservations in to the hotel by this date.

Guarantee of first night by credit card is required; **The credit card will be charged at time of the reservation. The amount will be refunded if the reservation is cancelled prior to the 72-hour window allowed.**

**A reservation must be cancelled 72 hours prior to arrival;** if not, one (1) night's accommodation and tax will be charged.

There is a block on the reservation form to indicate that you are attending the convention as either the **Lodge Exalted Ruler or the Lodge Alternate Representative;** if that applies, **select the appropriate one.** If not, leave it blank.

**If there is more than one person in your party, provide the names of ALL the individuals who are to be included in the reservation.** This will help ensure that you get the room type that you need and will speed up check-in when you arrive at the hotel.

Please publicize this information within your Lodge and encourage all members that plan on attending the Grand Lodge Convention in Chicago to make reservations as soon as possible.

If you have not received a confirmation e-mail or phone call from me within seven (7) days after submitting your reservation form, contact me to ensure that I have received your reservation.

**All Reservation need to be sent to the following email address: [TexasGrandLodgeHousing@gmail.com](mailto:TexasGrandLodgeHousing@gmail.com).**

If you have any questions, give me a call at 325-374-4541 or email me at [TexasGrandLodgeHousing@gmail.com](mailto:TexasGrandLodgeHousing@gmail.com).

Sincerely and fraternally,

*Jim Stansbury*

Jim Stansbury  
TESA Housing Chairman  
Grand Lodge Convention

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