



# Arizona State Council Knights of Columbus



Organizational Meeting  
Friday, June 28, 2019 – 3:30 P.M.  
Hotel Acacia/Palo Verde Rooms

## **INTRODUCTION AND STATE DEPUTY'S EXPECTATIONS**

Reverend Father, Worthy State Officers, Worthy Dignitaries, Worthy District Deputies, Brother Knights All. Welcome to the Organization Meeting for the 2019-2020 Fraternal Year. I thank each of you for accepting my invitation to be part of the leadership team for the Knights of Columbus in Arizona. Each of you was chosen because you have exemplified strong leadership qualities and a desire to move the principles of the Knights of Columbus forward. Again, thank you.

As District Deputy you are the official representative of the State Deputy. You are also a guide, monitor, advisor and friend to your subordinate councils. These words represent a responsibility, a bond, and a promise that you make to each of your councils. You get to be witness to and be a part of the accomplishments of the Council. Do not sit on the sidelines watching your councils succeed or fail. You are in the game to win.

Work closely with your councils to assist them achieve their goals. If they do not have any goals, you will work with the council leaders to develop goals for their programs that are aligned with the State Council's goals for charitable outreach, in building the domestic church at the parish level, in growing their membership, and to ultimately achieving Star Council status this fraternal year. Brothers, we are engaging in serious work here to help our pastors build up their parishes, to support men and women as they discern their vocation, to protect families, to protect life at all stages, to protect our children. We cannot do this without strong councils. Councils cannot survive without strong support from their District Deputy.

I want you to understand very clearly the gravity of the responsibility you have agreed to undertake. I know that we are all volunteers and that your duties and responsibilities will take time away from your spouses, friends and family. To do what we need to do will require us all to find the time and make the effort to guide and assist the councils with sometimes simple and occasionally challenging tasks. If they need help completing required paperwork and forms, assist them. If necessary, you may need to help with personal issues. If needed, you may aid them in communicating with their Pastor, or other groups in the Parish.

You can't do this from afar, you must get up close and personal. The keys to success are tell the truth, take responsibility for your actions, and do a good job.

Take the long view in everything you do. Don't repeat the past, but rather look for new ways to solve old problems. Be creative.

A District Action Plan will identify the strengths and weaknesses of each council and what needs to be done to help them meet their goals to achieve Star Council. Prepare one right away and send a copy to the State Deputy. This will be a great tool for you to use all year long. Besides, it will help the State Officers get to know the councils and their needs so we can allocate resources to help you.

I've mentioned the word goals a few times. I recently returned from State Deputy training in New Haven. During the training, they presented to me the Supreme Goals for Arizona for the coming fraternal year. Simply, we have been asked to recruit 955 new members with a net new membership of 563 by next June. Do this and we will add new councils and new roundtables, and reactive dormant councils, and we will see our Order grow. Brothers, we can do this. I know we can. I know it won't be easy. But, if it was easy, we would not have joined in the first place. As engaged Catholic men, we thrive on overcoming challenges and taking on adversity for the Glory of God. It is what we need to do to ensure that the Knights in Arizona can continue to help those in need.

Brothers, the Knights of Columbus must grow. Our Pope and Bishops expect us to continue to offer membership in Our Order to every eligible Catholic man because they know that members of the Knights of Columbus are engaged and active Catholics. Knights build up the Domestic Church, lead strong families, take care of their neighbors, defend life and religious liberty. Knights stand firm and say things are going to get better, because we are going to make things better. That's what Fr. McGivney did, that's what we will do. Later I will talk more about our theme and motto for next year and you will understand this better.

Over the next few days we will provide you with many tools you can use in becoming a highly successful District Deputy this coming fraternal year. Absorb the valuable information you will receive so that you can apply it to help your councils succeed.

Vivat Jesus!

Tom Kailsz, State Deputy

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