



The Most Worshipful

Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio

...Free and Accepted Masons

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“Masonically United, Serving, Inspiring and Cementing”

August 5, 2025

To: Worshipful Masters, Wardens, Past Masters, MW Past Grand Masters, Past Grand Masters, Grand Lodge Officers and Brethren of all Subordinate Lodges of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio, Free and Accepted Masons.

The following Directives are issued and immediately in full force until otherwise revoked.

Directive MDP 2025-1

It is important that we continue to represent Prince Hall Masonry with dignity and respect. To that end, the need to expound on the various Dress Codes within this Jurisdiction has proven to be imperative. Therefore, it is my Directive that in addition to Chapter 34 Section 34.01 of the Masonic Code and Constitution and the MWPHGL of Ohio Protocol Manual (pg.28) the Dress Code of this Jurisdiction will be as follows:

Masonic Dress (Aprons & Collars will be indicated when appropriate*):

- Black suit (or dark), black or dark tie, black or dark shoes, white button-down shirt, dark socks, white gloves

**Note: Must be compatible with the office you serve &/or have served*

White Formal Attire:

- Tuxedo with tails, formal or tuxedo white shirt, white vest or cummerbund, white bow tie, black tuxedo shoes, black socks

Black-Tie Formal:

- Tuxedo with tails, formal or tuxedo white shirt, black vest or cummerbund, black bow tie, black tuxedo shoes, black socks

Summer Formal (May 15 – September 20):

- White Dinner Jacket, black tuxedo pants, white tuxedo shirt, black bow tie, black socks, black shoes

Semi-Formal:

- Black tuxedo (No tails), white tuxedo shirt, black bow tie or black tie, black formal shoes

Business Formal:

- Suit, button-down shirt, conservative tie, dark dress shoes

Business Casual:

- Blazer, slacks, button-down shirt with loafers or dress shoes

Casual Dress:

- Button-down shirt or polos, slacks or khakis, loafers, casual shoe or dress sneakers

No deviation will be permitted from the required dress as it relates to the events and requirements described in Chapter 34.01 Sections b - g of our written Code & Constitution. No jeans, shorts, gym shoes or athletic wear of any kind is to be worn to any Lodge meetings.

Directive MDP 2025-2

Prince Hall Masonry, while based on Religious Principles, is not a Religion.

Therefore, it is my Directive that no Masonic Blue Lodge activities be held between the hours of 6:00 AM and 2:00 PM, on Sundays. (This includes but is not limited to District Meetings, Degree Work, Fundraisers, Cookouts, etc.).

Directive MDP 2025-3

It is our duty as Masons to see that our Lodge Halls are safe for us to conduct our meetings. It is my Directive that no firearms be worn or tolerated at any Lodge Hall Meetings. The exception would be for those that are active law enforcement officers, active military personnel and those hired for the sole purpose of security.

Directive MDP 2025-4

Requests for Dispensations are to be sent to the office of the MW Grand Master no later than two (2) weeks prior to the event. All requests for Dispensations must be in writing with the seal and accompanied fee (forms can be obtained from the Grand Lodge Website under the Grand Secretary's Section).

- Dispensations that deal with activities that are Ritualistic in nature - such as meeting dates and times, etc. are \$5.00.
- Dispensations for Banquets, Balls, Raffles, and Non-Ritualistic functions are \$10.00.
- All Dispensations requested within three (3) days of the event or meeting will be charged a \$25.00 late fee plus the cost of the Dispensation. (No exceptions)

Checks for all Dispensations are to be made payable to: ***"M.W. Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio"***

You must secure a Dispensation for any social affair or raffle prior to having tickets printed and distributed. This is not an option.

Special consideration in case of an emergency will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Directive MDP 2025-5

In an effort to ensure consistency of Prince Hall Masonry within this Jurisdiction, it is my Directive that all programs are to be submitted to the Deputy Grand Lecturer before going to print. Program submission for his review will be to ensure protocol is followed and continuity amongst the Craft is properly displayed. In addition to the program agenda, the seating of any dais is to be reviewed by the Deputy Grand Lecturer before it goes to print and/or publicly communicated.

All participants on the program from the Master of Ceremonies and beyond (i.e., Welcome, Introductions, etc.) shall rehearse those parts to become proficient as you would any good degree work.

Directive MDP 2025-6

The Order of Pythagorans is a Fraternity for young men. The primary aim is to create in the minds of our youth the desire to be better sons as they develop into manhood. Our Order of Pythagorans is in need of Advisors, which will come from our Subordinate Lodges.

It is therefore my Directive that the Worshipful Master of each Subordinate Lodge appoint the Junior Warden of their Lodge to serve as an Advisor to the Pythagorans and a direct link to Pythagorans. The name and address of the appointed officer (Junior Warden) must be submitted to my office no later than January 1, 2024.

Directive MDP 2025-7

It is my Directive that no social functions are scheduled or held on the Constitutional Dates of the Grand Bodies of the State of Ohio:

The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Amaranth Grand Chapter, O.E.S., Grand Worthy Matron and Grand Worthy Patron Recognition Banquets, Prince Hall Day, Esther Day, St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist Day, Ohio Council of Deliberation, Ohio Prince Hall Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, Holy Royal Arch Knights Templar Priests, Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, Grand Thrice Illustrious Master Testimonial Banquet, Grand Assembly of the Golden Circle, Alpha Priory #1 KYCH, Ohio Desert Conferences Joint Sessions, Imperial Council/Imperial Court Session, DOI-Feast of Isis, Grand Court Heroines of Jericho, Grand Guild of Heroines of Templar Crusades, Prince Hall Grand Court Ladies of the Circle of Perfection, Grand Council Order of Pythagorans, and Grand Girls Assembly.

These dates are published well in advance and there is no excuse for not being aware of them. No Dispensations will be granted on those dates.

Directive MDP 2025-8

In accordance with the Protocol Manual of the MWPHGL of Ohio, no events are to be scheduled in the entire month of November without a Dispensation from my office. The only exceptions will be for the MW Grand Master's Recognition Banquet or the Grand Worthy Matron Recognition Banquet.

Directive MDP 2025-9

As it relates to Amaranth Grand Chapter Inc., Order of Eastern Star – P.H.A. State of Ohio, it is my Directive that Chapters may participate in public parades if they receive a Dispensation from the office of the Grand Worthy Matron. Such parades include the following:

- Celebrating St. John, the Baptist Day and St. John Evangelist Day
- Prince Hall Americanism Day
- Civic for Patriotic endeavors
- Non-partisan endeavors

As a precaution, and added security of our Sisters, participation should be by way of motorized vehicles only. Proper dress for participation will be defined by Amaranth Grand Chapter.

This communication is to be read at the Stated and Work Night Meetings in September, October and November and are effective immediately until otherwise revoked. Take due and timely notice of the foregoing and govern yourselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and the private seal of the Grand Master at Cleveland, Ohio this 5th day of August, AD 2025, AL 6025. I remain.

Respectfully and Fraternally,

Maurio D. Powell I

Bro. Maurio D. Powell I, PM #52

Most Worshipful Grand Master
MWPHGL of Ohio F&AM

