



The Most Worshipful

PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE OF OHIO

....Free and Accepted Masons....

Chester C. Christie # 7

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Office of
M.W. Grand Master

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“Building on The Firm Foundation of Our Historic Legacy”

EDICT CCC 2020-1

January 15, 2020

To: Grand Worthy Matron, Renae Willis; Grand Worthy Patron Gregory Allen; All Grand Chapter Officers - Present and Past; Worthy Matrons, Worthy Patrons; Officers and Members of Subordinate Chapters of Amaranth Grand Chapter Order of The Eastern Star, P.H.A., Inc. State of Ohio; All Worshipful Masters, Wardens, Past Masters, and Brethren of the Subordinate Lodges of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio, Free and Accepted Masons

Greetings:

The provisions of Article V, Section 1 of the By-Laws of Amaranth Grand Chapter (Membership and Fees) authorize the admission of applicants as members of a Chapter via Open Enrollment by special Edict from the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio. Pursuant to Article V, Section 1, and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Most Worshipful Grand Master, I hereby order that Effective February 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020, there will be a period of Open Enrollment to afford women who are not related to Master Masons an opportunity to join the Order of the Eastern Star.

There are many women who desire to share in the light and benefits of the Order of the Eastern Star but are unable to do so due to the lack of a Masonic Bloodline. However, it is imperative that we only recommend for membership petitioners who we believe possess characteristics that are consistent with the tenets and principles of our Order and who we believe will contribute to the stability and growth of our respective Chapters. The goal of this Open Enrollment period is not merely to increase membership, but to promote active participation and achieve long term stability within our Chapters.



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In order to accomplish this, I firmly believe that applicants admitted via this Open Enrollment process must, in addition to their ritualistic work, acquire a fundamental understanding of the structure of the Order of the Eastern Star and its relationship to the Masonic Fraternity. Therefore, I further order that applicants admitted via this Open Enrollment process will be required to take a “New Members” training that shall be offered at the Statewide Workshop of Amaranth Grand Chapter. The “New Members” training shall also be offered on a District Wide basis and otherwise made available to those who are required to take the training but are unable to do so at the OES Workshop. Each new member admitted via this Open Enrollment process must take and complete the “New Members” training within one year of being voted proficient in the Amaranth Degree.

In addition to being found proficient in the Amaranth Degree and participating in the 90 day mentoring period referenced in Article 5 Section 9, all new members admitted via this Open Enrollment process must complete the “New Members “ training before being eligible to hold an elected office. While this Edict is specifically directed to applicants admitted via the Open Enrollment Process, **ALL** “New Members” are advised and encouraged to take the “New Members” Training in order to acquire a better understanding of the structure and operation of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Balloting on Petitions submitted under this Open Enrollment process shall be by white and black balls. One negative ballot will reject the petition consistent with the provisions of Article V Section 7 of the Amaranth Grand Chapter By-Laws.

It is my Prayer that the 2020 Open Enrollment Period will be a blessing to the respective Chapters and to Amaranth Grand Chapter as a whole.

This letter is to be read in the stated meetings of Each Chapter from the month of receipt, through June 2020.

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 Columbus, Ohio this 15th day of January, AD 2020, AL 6020. I remain.



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Respectfully & Fraternally,
Chester C. Christie
Chester C. Christie, PM #7 - 33°
Most Worshipful Grand Master

