

# **DIGEST**

**Of The**

**Constitution and Laws**

*of the*

**Most Worshipful Grand  
Lodge**

**Free and Accepted  
Masons of**

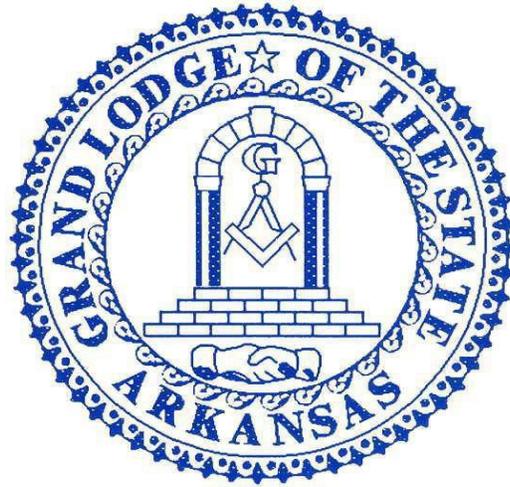
**ARKANSAS**

Version 1.0



2020





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# Grand Lodge of Arkansas

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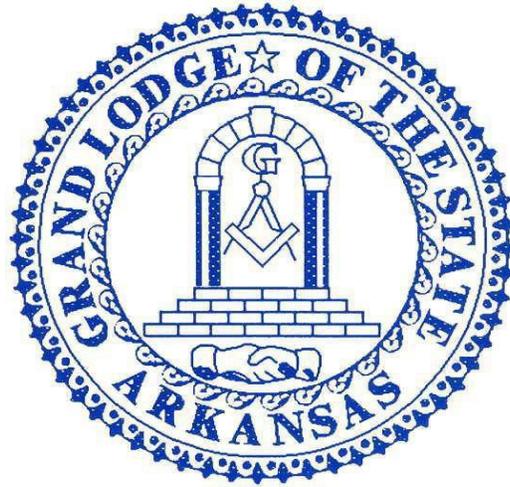
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## **SECTION 1**

# **Constitution and By-Laws**



# SECTION 1.1

## NOTICE OF PROCEEDINGS

### OF THE CONVENTION

THAT FORMED THE CONSTITUTION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF  
ARKANSAS, A. D. 1838, A. L. 5838.

A Convention of Masons of the Ancient York Rite, met in the city of Little Rock, Arkansas, in the month of November, in the year of Christ, 1838, A. L. 5838, composed of the following delegates:

From Washington Lodge No. 82, working under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, Onesimus Evans, P.M., Washington L. Wilson, Robert Bedford, A. Whinnery, R. C. S. Brown, Samuel Adams, and Williamson S. Oldham.

From Western Star Lodge No. 43, working under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, William Gilchrist, P.M., Charles L. Jeffries, P.M., Nicholas Peay, P.M., Edward Cross, P.M., Thomas Parsel, Alden Sprague, and John Morris.

From Mount Horeb Lodge, working under a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Alabama, James H. Walker, Allen M. Oakley, Joseph W. McKean, and James Trigg.

From Morning Star Lodge No. 42, working under a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, John W. Pullen.

Which Convention, on the 21st day of November, A.D. 1838, by unanimous consent of all the delegates, adopted a Constitution for the government of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas: whereupon, a Grand Lodge was opened in due and ancient form, and the officers thereof were elected and installed according to the most ancient usages and customs of the Fraternity: when on the 27th day of November, aforesaid, the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

Attest:

JOHN MORRIS

*Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas.*



## SECTION 1.2

### LEGISLATIVE ACT OF INCORPORATING

#### AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT YORK MASONS OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, AND ITS MASONIC JURISDICTION.

**Sec. 1.** Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas. That Benjamin P. Jett, Grand Master, and others, the officers and members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons of the State of Arkansas, and the Subordinate Lodges, under its jurisdiction, and the several members who now are, or shall hereafter be members, respectively, of said Grand Lodge, or the Subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction, shall be and they are hereby declared to be, a body politic and corporate in name and in deed, by the name and styled of the "Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons of the State of Arkansas and its Masonic jurisdiction." And by the same name shall have perpetual succession of officers and members, and a common seal, with power to change, alter, and make new the same, as often as the said Corporation shall judge expedient.

**Sec. 2.** The said Corporation and the Lodges under its jurisdiction, shall be able and capable in law to purchase, have, hold, receive, enjoy, possess and retain to itself, or any Lodge under its jurisdiction, or any of them, in perpetuity or for any term of years, any lands, tenements or hereditaments, of what kind or nature soever, and to sell, alien, exchange or demise, or lease the same or any part thereof, as the said Corporation shall think proper, and by the same name to sue and be sued, to plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, in any court of law or equity in this State; and to make such rules, orders, and by-laws, not repugnant to the laws of this State, as may be necessary for the order, rule, good government, and arrangement thereof, and it shall be lawful for the said Corporation to constitute Subordinate Lodges, and to do all other things concerning the government, the estate, moneys, and revenues of said Grand Lodge and Subordinate Lodges.

**Sec. 3.** It shall be lawful for said Corporation to take and hold forever, any charitable donation, or devises and bequests of lands, and to appropriate the same for the benefit of said Corporation in such manner as may be determined by the same.

**Sec. 4.** The said Corporation shall be capable in law to have, hold, and receive, possess and enjoy all such estates, real and persons, moneys, goods, chattels and effects, which may be devised or bequeathed thereto, by whatever name such gift, devise, or bequest may be made; and to receive subscriptions and other contributions.

**Sec. 5.** This Act shall be deemed and taken as a Public Act, and notice thereof shall be taken in all courts of justice, and elsewhere, in this State, and shall be given in evidence on any trial of any issue or cause, without special pleading.

**Sec. 6.** This Act shall be in force from and after its passage.

A. RUST,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
WM. K. SEBASTIAN,  
President of the Senate.

Approved, November 25, 1846. Thos S. Drew.

## SECTION 1.3

"LEGISLATIVE ACT AMENDING THE  
'TITLE' OF THE GRAND LODGE" ACT

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AN ACT to Amend an Act to Incorporate the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons of the State of Arkansas and Its Masonic Jurisdiction, Approved November 25, 1846.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas:

**Section 1.** Section 1 of an Act to Incorporate the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons of the State of Arkansas, and its Masonic Jurisdiction, approved November 25, 1846, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"**Sec. 1.** That Benjamin P. Jett, Grand Master, and others, the officers and members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Arkansas, being one and the same as the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons of the State of Arkansas, and the subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction, and the several members who now are, or shall hereafter be members, respectively, of said Grand Lodge, or the subordinate lodges under its jurisdiction, shall be, and they are hereby declared to be, a body politic and corporate in name and in deed, by the name and style of "The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Arkansas, and its Masonic Jurisdiction"; and by the same name shall have perpetual succession of officers and members, and a common seal, with power to change, alter, and make new the same, as often as the said corporation shall judge expedient."

**Section 2.** That all laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith be, and the same are hereby repealed, and this law shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval.

APPROVED: March 6, 1953.

**SECTION 1021.** Due to the fact that about 1900 this Grand Lodge did for several years hold biennial instead of annual meetings, we are now in our 98th Annual Communication; and the Grand Secretary is hereby instructed that in designating this and subsequent Grand Communications of this Grand Lodge, the phraseology to be employed shall be as "the ninety fifth communication, held in Little Rock, Arkansas, in the ninety- eighth year of its existence as a Grand Lodge," etc., etc. -Pro. 1936, p. 76.

**SECTION 1022.** A Master Mason having voted for the adoption of the Constitution of 1868, at the election in that year, is not in violation of Masonry. No matter what may be the character of the Constitution, its adoption or non-adoption was strictly a political question, with which the Lodges or Masons, as such, had nothing to do. We tell the candidates for our mysteries on the threshold of his admission, and at every step of his advancement, that Masonry does not interfere with his political or religious opinions, etc., yet it is hard to educate human nature up to this standard-difficult to school the human heart to divest itself of all outward prejudices, even when beating near the sacred altar where the vows of the Fraternity are assumed. Masonry owes its unity, its strength, its perpetuity to its noninterference with political and religious controversies. Had Masons, as such, participated in the political and religious disputes which have separated men into parties and sects-led to bloodshed and persecution-and brought into the Lodge the prejudices, bigotry and intolerance engendered by partisan strife, Masonry would have failed to accomplish her great mission of charity, been disintegrated, and wrecked in ages gone. Happily for frail and fallen humanity, Masonry, in her mission of mercy to man, has erected an altar around which she assembles her children of all political opinions and religious creeds, and binds them together, as a harmonious brotherhood, by a cord that is not easily broken. Moreover, out of the Lodge, no matter how widely my brother may differ from me on political opinions or religious subjects, if he be hungry, and I fail to feed him; naked, and I fail to clothe him; roofless, and I fail to shelter him; sick, and I fail to minister to his wants; in peril or danger, and I fail to go to his relief, I am no true Mason. - Grand Master English.

## SECTION 1.4

### CONSTITUTION OF THE GRAND LODGE, F. AND A. MASONS OF ARKANSAS

As Adopted October 13, 1873, and Since Amended.

#### ARTICLE 1.

**Sec. 1.** The Grand Lodge of the State of Arkansas shall consist of a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and as many District Deputy Grand Masters as the Grand Lodge may, from time to time, direct; Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Lecturer, Grand Orator, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Senior and Junior Deacons, Grand Chaplain, Grand Tyler, Past Grand Masters, Masters, and Wardens for the time being of regular Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, and all other Past Grand Officers, Past Masters of regular Subordinate Lodges shall be members of the Grand Lodge, and entitled to vote for the period of twelve months after their term of office expires, provided, however, that no past officer shall be a member of the Grand Lodge unless he is a member of a Subordinate Lodge in this jurisdiction; nor shall any Master or Warden or his proxy vote, if his Lodge shall be in arrears for dues.

The Secretary, for the time being, of every subordinate lodge in Arkansas be allowed to serve as a voting delegate at The Grand Lodge Communication. Pro. 2010, p. 23

**Sec. 2.** Every Master and Warden ought to attend the Annual Communication with the jewel of his office, but if he cannot personally attend, he may send a brother of his Lodge as a proxy, or the Lodge may send one or more of its members as a Representative; each Master and Warden, when present, shall have one vote.

**Sec. 3.** If only one Representative appears at any meeting of the Grand Lodge of the State of Arkansas, he shall have power to cast the full vote of the Lodge of which he may be the Representative; and if only two attend, the elective officer highest in rank shall cast two votes, and a proxy shall cast the votes only of the officers he represents.

**Sec. 4.** No Mason shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, District Deputy Grand Master, Grand Lecturer, Grand Senior or Grand Junior Warden, Grand Senior or Junior Deacon, unless he has passed the chair of some regular Lodge. Pro. 1982, p. 86.

#### ARTICLE II.

**Sec. 1.** The Grand Lodge shall hold annual sessions at the seat of government of Arkansas, on the first Thursday of February, at which time the Grand Officers shall be elected and appointed as prescribed in this Constitution, and special Grand Lodges may be held at such times and places as the Grand Master may appoint.

**Sec. 2.** The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Lecturer, Grand Wardens, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Senior and Junior Deacons shall be elected by ballot, and all the other officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master immediately after his election.

**Sec. 3.** In the election of officers no vote shall be given for any brother who is not in nomination, and no nomination shall be in order unless it be seconded. When the ballot is closed, the brother having a majority of all the votes given shall be declared duly elected; and should no one have a majority, a second ballot shall take place, in which only those two having the largest number of votes shall be balloted for; and the Grand Officers so elected and appointed shall be installed according to Masonic usage.

**Sec. 4.** In case of a vacancy in the office of Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master shall succeed; and if he shall die or remove, the Grand Wardens, in the order of rank.

**Sec. 5.** All the officers of the Grand Lodge elected and appointed shall, at the time of their installation, severally make the following declaration:

"I solemnly promise on the honor of a Mason, that in the office of \_\_\_\_\_ I will, according to the best of my abilities, strictly comply with the laws and regulations of this GrandLodge, and all other Masonic usages. "

**Sec. 6.** To constitute a quorum at the Annual Communication, there must be represented at least three Lodges. The Grand Master, if present, must preside; in his absence, the Deputy Grand Master; in his absence, the Grand Senior Warden; in his absence, the Grand Junior Warden; in case of the absence of all these officers, the oldest Past Grand Master or Warden present, according to the rank he held in the Grand Lodge; and should there be none such present, then the Master of the Senior Lodge who may be present, shall have the preference; and that the Grand Lodge may always appear in due form, the presiding officer shall wear the jewel of the Grand Master, and all others, the jewels of the offices they represent.

**Sec. 7.** The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Lecturer, and District Deputy Grand Masters, in their districts shall have full right and authority to preside in every Lodge in this jurisdiction, with the Master on the left hand; and the Grand Master shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as are incident to the office of Grand Master by ancient Masonic usage.

**Sec. 8.** The Grand Master shall have power to grant dispensations upon proper petitions conditioned that the brethren to whom such dispensations shall be granted make application to the Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication for a charter. And should such charter not be granted, or the dispensation continued by the Grand Lodge, the Lodge erected by such dispensation shall be dissolved.

**Sec. 9.** Immediately after the election of the Grand Master, he shall divide the Masonic jurisdiction into as many convenient districts as the Grand Lodge may have created, numbered 1,2,3, etc., in each of which one of the District Deputy Grand Masters shall reside.

**ARTICLE III.**

**Sec. 1.** The Deputy Grand Master shall perform such duties as are incumbent on Deputy Grand Masters by Masonic Usage.

**Sec. 2.** The District Deputy Grand Masters shall aid the Grand Master in his Masonic duties when called on, and perform such duties as are assigned to him by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge.

**Sec. 3.** The Grand Lecturer shall perform such duties as are assigned to him by the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master, or other proper lawful authority. In the absence of the Grand Master, the Grand Lecturer shall preside over the meetings of the Board of Grand Lecturers. Pro. 1975, p.78. Pro. 1998, p.25

**Sec.4.** The Grand Orator shall deliver a Masonic address at each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and also on occasions of public ceremonies by the Grand Lodge.

**Sec. 5.** The Grand Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, proper to be written; he shall submit his record to the Grand Master for his approbation and signature; he shall issue summons as the Grand Master may direct, and give reasonable notice in the papers of every stated meeting of the Grand Lodge, for which services he shall receive such compensation as the Grand Lodge may direct.

**Sec. 6.** The Grand Treasurer must be a brother of good worldly substance, and to him shall be committed the moneys belonging to the Grand Lodge. He shall always keep a fair record of his accounts and transactions; and the uses to which the moneys are appropriated, and shall lay the same, when required, before the Grand Lodge, and shall account for the moneys as may be directed.

**Sec. 7.** The Grand Deacons and Grand Chaplain shall perform such duties as may pertain to their respective offices.

**Sec. 8.** The Grand Tyler shall attend every call of the Grand Master, and shall be present at each meeting of the Grand Lodge, for which service he shall be rewarded from time to time as the Grand Lodge may direct.

**Sec. 9.** No brother can be admitted into the Grand Lodge as a visitor unless he is a member of some regular Lodge, and no visiting brother shall be entitled to vote, and can take part in the debate only by permission.

**ARTICLE IV.**

**Sec. 1.** The Grand Lodge shall have power to constitute new Lodges, under seal; to establish a uniform mode of work throughout its jurisdiction, strictly adhering to the ancient landmarks, usages and customs of Masonry; to hear and determine all appeals from the Subordinate Lodges; to demand reasonable fees for granting charters and dispensations; to

require such annual dues from the Subordinate Lodges as may be necessary; to make such laws for their own government, and for the Subordinate Lodges, as they may think proper; and to do all other acts and things which other Grand Lodges may of right do, consistent with the ancient usages of Masonry.

**Sec. 1-a.** A budget for each fiscal year be prepared in the prior year by the then Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Senior Warden, the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary. Said budget shall not exceed one hundred percent (100%) of the projected revenue of the Grand Lodge for the year in which the budget is to operate, and said budget must be presented to the Grand Lodge for its approval. No funds, or monies may be dispensed other than those recommended by the Budget Committee (composed as of above) and approved by the Grand Lodge.

**Sec. 1-b.** Nothing in Section 1-a shall be construed to limit the light of the Grand Master to use all resources available to preserve the Fraternity in the event of national emergency, threatened repression or extreme civil disorder.

**Sec. 2.** In all questions before the Grand Lodge each Subordinate Lodge shall have three votes, and each officer and member of the Grand Lodge, other than the Representatives of the Lodges, shall have one vote, and in case of a tie, the presiding officer shall give the casting vote.

**Sec. 3.** No vote of the Grand Lodge shall be reconsidered by a less number of members than are present at the passage of the same.

**Sec. 4.** No dispensation for a new lodge shall be granted except upon the petition of at least seven known and approved Master Masons, and such petition shall be recommended, in such form as the Grand Lodge may prescribe, by the chartered Lodge nearest the proposed location of the new Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and approved by the District Deputy Grand Master of the District, unless his reasons for not approving be deemed insufficient.

**Sec. 5.** Every Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall make and transmit to the Grand Lodge such reports as the Grand Lodge may order.

**Sec. 6.** Upon the demise of any Lodge, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, the books, papers, jewels, funds, furniture, and everything else belonging to such Lodge, belong to and vest in this Grand Lodge; and it shall be the duty of the last presiding officers, Secretary and Treasurer, to surrender the same to the Grand Secretary.

**Sec. 7.** Each Subordinate Lodge in this jurisdiction shall pay annually to the Grand Lodge the sum of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) on each member on the roll of the Lodge at the return day. All such funds shall be Grand Lodge dues, and shall be paid into the treasury of the Grand Lodge to be disbursed as directed by the Grand Lodge. -Amended Pro 2007, p.14.

**Sec. 8.** There shall be paid into the treasury of the Grand Lodge, for every dispensation, \$30, and for the charter, \$20 additional; and no charter shall be issued by this Grand Lodge to a

subordinate Lodge until said Lodge subordinate has worked under a dispensation, and exhibited satisfactory evidence of its ability, by the production of a copy of its work for the inspection of this Grand Lodge.

**Sec. 9.** The several Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge shall elect their officers at least once every year, and install the same during the month of December. -Pro. 1976, p.91.

#### ARTICLE V.

**Sec. 1.** On appeal from Subordinate Lodges the Grand Lodge shall, on inspection of the record of the proceedings sent up, affirm the decision, or reverse the same, and render such judgment as the Lodge ought to have rendered, which shall be certified to the Lodge and entered on the record as the judgment in the case, or order a new trial in the Subordinate Lodge, as right and justice may require; and if the Grand Lodge shall render a judgment of expulsion, the party can be restored only by a three-fourths vote of the Grand Lodge, unless special authority be given to the Subordinate Lodge to restore him.

**Sec. 2.** No amendment to this Constitution shall be made until the same, after being proposed in writing to the Grand Lodge and concurring in by the same, shall be published in the proceedings and adopted by at least two-thirds of the Lodges present at the next Annual Communication.



## SECTION 1.5

BY-LAWS  
OF THE  
GRAND LODGE F. AND A. MASONS  
OF ARKANSAS

### ARTICLE I.

#### GOVERNMENT OF THE GRAND LODGE.

**Sec. 1.** The Committee on Masonic Law and Usage, to serve at each Grand Lodge Annual Communication, shall consist of the Past Grand Masters who are members in good standing of Subordinate Lodges in this state, who are in attendance at the session.

The Committee on Budget shall consist of the present Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Senior Warden, the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary. Pro 1978, p. 114.

The Committee on Work shall consist of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden and the Grand Junior Warden.

The Grand Master shall appoint the following committees to serve during the annual communication for which they are appointed:

Committee on Charters and Dispensations to consist of five members.

Committee on Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books to consist of three members.

Committee on Mileage and Per Diem to consist of three members. **Repealed Pro. 2010**  
**p. 54.**

Committee on Credentials and Returns to consist of three members.

Committee on Foreign Correspondence to consist of three members.

Committee on Memorial to the Dead to consist of three members.

**Sec. 2.** Whenever any member wishes to speak he must rise to his feet and address the Most Worshipful Grand Master in a respectful manner; and no member shall speak more than twice on any subject before the Grand Lodge, unless by permission of the same.

**Sec. 3.** The Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary shall annually make a statement of their accounts and proceedings to the Grand Lodge for inspection and approval.

**Sec. 4.** The Grand Treasurer shall be the custodian of all Grand Lodge funds, unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge. Such funds shall be paid out by him only in such manner as directed by the Grand Lodge, or if the Grand Lodge is not in session, as directed by the Grand Master.

## ARTICLE II.

### GOVERNMENT OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

**Sec. 1.** Every Subordinate Lodge, while working under this Grand Lodge, by authority of dispensation granted, shall be required to transmit a copy of its proceedings at the first Grand Annual Communication thereafter.

**Sec. 2.** At each and every meeting of the Grand Lodge, an examination shall be made of all the proceedings of said Subordinate Lodge; and if thought proper, the Grand Lodge may proceed to grant a charter to said Subordinate Lodge or Lodges.

**Sec. 3.** When a dispensation to form a new Lodge shall be granted by the Grand Lodge, or the Grand Master, the brethren signing the petition for the same shall, upon the issuance of the same, become members of the new Lodge, and their membership shall cease in the Lodge from which they came, unless they state, in the petition, that they desire to remain members of their parent Lodges and become Plural Members in the New Lodge, and they shall be considered as having dimitted from the Lodge of which they were members; provided, they shall have paid all Lodge dues; and if a charter has not been granted, then the petitioners shall remain unaffiliated Masons, and thereafter shall proceed as all other nonaffiliates when desiring to join a Lodge.

**Sec. 4.** All amendments to these by-laws shall be made by two-thirds of the members of the Grand Lodge present at any Grand Annual Communication.

## SECTION 1.6

### UNIFORM CODE OF BY-LAWS

#### FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF SUBORDINATE LODGES

**Adopted October 13, 1873, and Subsequently Amended.**

**Article 1.** The officers of this Lodge shall consist of a Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, two Masters of Ceremonies, and Tyler, the first five of whom and at option of the Lodge, the Senior and Junior Deacons, shall be elected annually during the month of December, by ballot, at the stated meeting, previous to the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, a majority of all the votes being necessary to a choice; the other four shall be appointed by the Master-elect, previous to the installation of officers. In case the election is not held in the month of December, no election can be had until the Lodge requests and receives a Special Dispensation from the Grand Master to hold same, giving the date of election. Amended, - Pro. 1976, p.91.

**Article 2.** The annual installation of officers shall be on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist or any time during the month of December. Should the Lodge fail to elect or install the officers at the time herein provided, in such case the old officers shall hold over until an election or installation may be had according to Masonic usage, by requesting a Special Dispensation from the Grand Master (giving date) to install the officers. Amended, - Pro. 1976, p.91.

**Article 3.** The stated meeting of this Lodge shall be on the \_\_\_\_\_ and the Festivals of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist.

**3a.** Should a lodge meeting fall on one of the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, or Christmas, the Lodge can by vote of the Lodge, at a stated meeting prior to the holiday, elect to change that meeting day to any other day within the month the holiday falls.

**Article 4.** All petitions for the degrees, affiliation, and reinstatement, shall be in writing, signed by the petitioner and in the form adopted and required by the Grand Lodge, and be recommended by a member of the Lodge, and shall be presented at a stated meeting and referred to a committee of three for inquiry and report, and lie over for one month, unless by dispensation of the Grand Master the time is waived. Amended, - Pro. 1976, p.91.

**Article 5.** Applications to be passed or raised, where the previous degree or degrees have been conferred in another Lodge, or for affiliation, and the proceedings thereon, shall be the same, except that the petition shall further state the Lodge from which the applicant comes, and be accompanied by his letter of dismission or certificate of good standing.

**Article 6.** The fees in this Lodge shall be for initiation, \$ \_\_\_\_\_; for passing, \$ \_\_\_\_\_; for raising, \$ \_\_\_\_\_; for \_\_\_\_\_.

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**Article 7.** A unanimous vote in favor of the application shall elect to the three degrees or for affiliation, and no further ballot shall be required; provided, however, nothing herein shall be construed as repealing the right of objection to conferring a degree, nor is it intended that anything herein contained shall in any sense change the present requirements as to proficiency one degree before proceeding to another. No degree shall be conferred until the fee required therefor shall be actually paid to the Secretary, and after a petition has been received and referred it shall not be withdrawn.

**Article 8.** In balloting for the degrees, or affiliation, if more than one negative vote appears the candidate shall be declared rejected; but if, on the first ballot, one negative only appears a second ballot may be ordered by the Master, at his discretion. -Amended, Pro. 1980, p.66.

**Article 9.** If a candidate be elected, and shall not apply for the degree within six months, he shall be subjected to a second ballot; further, should more than six months elapse between his first and second, and/or his second and third degrees, he shall likewise be subjected to an additional ballot. In his own discretion, or if the Lodge desires it, the Worshipful Master may appoint a committee which shall investigate and report upon the worthiness of the brother seeking advancement.

**Article 10.** Every candidate for passing and raising shall, before the degree is conferred, be examined in the lecture of the degree already taken, and shall not be permitted to progress unless he shall be found to possess a competent knowledge of that degree; and all candidates who shall receive the degree of Master Mason, shall be required to become proficient in the lecture of that degree.

**Article 11.** The dues shall be \$\_\_\_\_\_ (not less than Grand Lodge per capita) per year, payable\_\_\_\_\_; but the Lodge may, for long and faithful services, or for any other good cause, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any stated meeting, relieve a Brother from the payment of dues.

**Article 12.** No member in arrears for dues at the time of the regular election shall be elected or appointed to any office in this Lodge, nor be allowed to vote at such election.

**Article 12-a.** Before the Lodge votes to elect officers, the Worshipful Master shall ask the Secretary if all present are qualified voters; the Secretary shall satisfy himself and report to the Master which brethren are in arrears and not entitled to vote.

**Article 13.** Every member of a Masonic Lodge knows that he is required to pay the Lodge dues, as provided for in the By-Laws of the Lodge; and he should pay them promptly without waiting for a notice from the Lodge, and if he does not pay his dues he cannot remain a member of the Lodge unless the members of the Lodge have voted at a Stated Meeting prior to the end of the dues paying time to grant him further time in which to pay his current dues.

At the beginning of the dues paying period on which the dues are due, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Lodge to send a statement to each member who has not paid his current dues. The Lodge may use a statement of its own form or one furnished by the Grand Lodge. It shall be the further duty of the Secretary of the Lodge, on or before THIRTY DAYS before the end of the dues paying time, to notify the brother in writing (using the proper form) that unless he pays his CURRENT dues by the end of the dues paying time he will be subject to suspension

for non-payment of dues by the members of the Lodge. Notice mailed to the last known address will be deemed sufficient notice.

The Lodge has the right by vote of the members present, if a brother has not paid his current dues, to vote to suspend him for non-payment of dues or vote to give him further time to pay his dues.

A vote of further time is to extend no further than 1 year from date of said vote before another vote to suspend or allow further time is to be taken. The Secretary may accept the brother's dues in arrears and current dues during this one-year period, placing the brother back in good standing, with no further action by the Lodge.

When a member is suspended for non-payment of dues, the Secretary of the Lodge must notify said member that he has been suspended and that he can no longer honorably wear the emblems of the Fraternity until he has been reinstated by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at a Stated Meeting of the Lodge.

All such suspensions shall be recorded in the minutes of the Lodge and must be reported to the Grand Lodge on the report for the month in which the suspension occurred.

When a member of a Lodge has been suspended for a period of one year or longer from the date of suspension, he must petition for reinstatement using a proper form (personally signed) similar to that of new petitioners (the Birth Certificate or Affidavit or proof of birth may be waived) and the procedure for the processing of such a petition for reinstatement through the Lodge shall be the same as set out in Section 3.3.6 of the Digest. It shall require a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at a Stated Meeting of the Lodge to reinstate.

If a suspended member petitions for reinstatement and receives a two-thirds majority vote for reinstatement his reinstatement will become effective upon his paying such dues as may be required by the Lodge; if he does not pay within six months his election is rescinded and a new petition will be required thereafter.

When such suspended member is reinstated, the fact shall be recorded in the minutes of the Lodge and reported to the Grand Lodge on the monthly report, and the Lodge shall be charged with and shall pay a reinstatement fee equal to one year's Grand Lodge dues, except when the suspension and reinstatement are within the same fiscal year no charge will be made. - Pro. 1982, p.98.

**Article 14.** Repealed.

**Article 15.** The Master and Wardens shall be ex-officio a Committee of Charity, and have power during the recess of the Lodge to draw orders on the treasury for any sum not exceeding \_\_\_\_\_, for the relief of anyone applicant.

**Article 16.** All transactions and proceedings of this Lodge shall be kept inviolably secret; and it shall be the duty of every member to notify the Master of all violations of this provision that may come to his knowledge.

**Article 17.** Any member who shall reveal the name of a brother who may have opposed in the Lodge the admission of a candidate into the order, shall be liable to be suspended or expelled.

**Article 18.** The order of business at the stated meetings shall be:

First - Reading of minutes.

Second - Considering unfinished business.

Third - Receiving and referring petitions.

Fourth - Receiving reports of committees.

Fifth - Balloting for candidates.

Sixth - Receiving and considering resolutions.

Seventh - Considering bills.

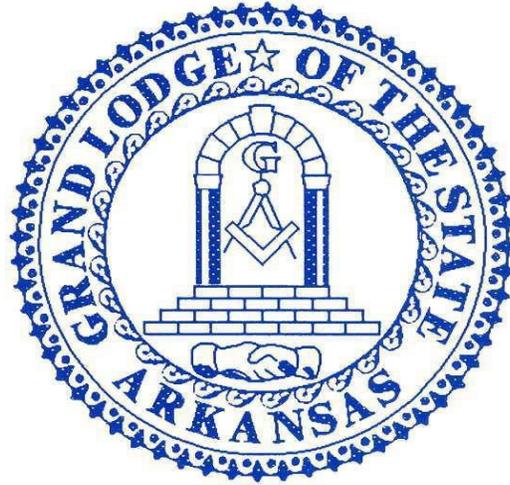
Eighth – Treasurer’s Report. – Pro. 2012, p. 45

Ninth - Conferring degrees or Program of Education. -Pro. 1986, p. 36.

At called meetings no business shall be transacted except that for which the Lodge was called.

**Article 19.** No alteration or amendment of these by-laws shall be made, unless by the Grand Lodge.

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## **SECTION 2**

# **Grand Lodge**



## SECTION 2.1

### GRAND LODGE OPERATIONS

**211** While dispensations for new Lodges are usually issued by the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge has the power to institute a new Lodge. It is not the privilege of anyone else, though the Grand Master may deputize a brother to act for him in the delivery of the dispensation and the instituting of the new Lodge. - Pro. 1957, p. 113.

**212** The Grand Lodge only has the power to constitute a new Lodge. When the Grand Lodge directs that a charter be granted to a Lodge, the ceremony of constituting it is a Grand Lodge function, performed by the Grand Lodge officers, or by those deputized to act for them. - Pro. 1957, p. 113.

**213** Only the Grand Lodge has the power to consecrate and dedicate halls. When the ceremony is performed by the Grand Master it is said to be done 'in ample form'; when done by the Deputy Grand Master it is said to be done 'in due form'; when it is done by a brother deputized to act for the Grand Master it is said to be done 'in form'. - Pro. 1957, p.113.

**214** Only the Grand Lodge has the power to lay a cornerstone, or place a commemorative stone. - Pro. 1957, p. 114; Pro. 1964, p. 88.

**215** An edict of the Grand Lodge and a decision of the Grand Master, when approved as law by the Grand Lodge, are of equal force. If there is an apparent conflict, that which is latest is the last expression of legislative will, and must be regarded as law. So of approved decisions. - Pro. 1879, p. 59.

**216** Any amendment, alteration, change or revision of the laws of this Grand Lodge, or any new law, shall be proposed in writing and sent to the Grand Secretary at least ninety days before the annual communication of the Grand Lodge; a statement of all such matters received by him shall be sent to the Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters and Committeemen of the Grand Lodge and to each Subordinate Lodge at least forty-five days before the annual communication. When this course of action has been followed, the legislation may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Grand Lodge present and voting. - Pro. 1974, p. 108.

The above, however, shall not restrict the Grand Master's power to render decisions or limit his right to make recommendations to the Grand Lodge.

Furthermore, amendments, alterations, changes or revisions of the present law, or new laws, may be proposed at the annual session, and (except in the case of a constitutional amendment, which requires special procedure) may be adopted by a vote of three-fourths of the members of the Grand Lodge present and voting. - Pro. 1945, p. 81. Pro. 2018, P. 51.

**21.7** No Subordinate Lodge has the right to pass resolutions in violation of the Edicts of the Grand Lodge and if it does so, it is subject to discipline and possible loss of its charter. The constitution and edicts of the Grand Lodge are the Supreme Law of Masonry. – Pro. 1921, p. 11.

**21.8** No amendment to this Constitution shall be made until the same, after being proposed in writing to the Grand Lodge and concurred in by the same, shall be published in the proceedings and adopted by at least two-thirds of the Lodges present at the next annual Communication.

**21.9** A Grand Lodge has the exclusive power to constitute Lodges to confer the three symbolic degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry within its jurisdiction. - Pro. 1852, p.26.

**21.10** Each Grand Lodge and her constituents have the exclusive right to make Masons of persons residing within her territorial limits; and therefore no Grand Lodge ought to permit visitors from another State to be initiated within her jurisdiction, unless by consent of the Grand Lodge of the State in which they reside. - Pro. 1852, p. 33.

**21.11** The Grand Master and the Grand Secretary do not have authority to extend the time for, or waive the payment of, Lodge dues to the Grand Lodge. Requests for remission of dues or canceling of indebtedness must be made to the Grand Lodge and acted upon by it. – Pro. 1932, p. 23.

**21.12** The Officers, or their proxies, or the representatives of the Subordinate Lodges in attendance at Grand Lodge, shall register with the Committee on Credentials and Returns before the Grand Lodge is opened, or as soon thereafter as possible. These so registered will be received as members of the Grand Lodge, unless there be an objection to a member who has been registered, in which case the question of his admission shall be referred to the Committee on Credentials and Returns for investigation and report to the Grand Lodge. When the Grand Lodge has assembled, the Grand Secretary shall call the roll of Lodges until it has ascertained that a quorum is present, whereupon, the Grand Secretary will report this to the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge may be duly opened. - Pro. 1951, p. 64.

**21.13** It shall be the duty of the Committee on Memorials to call the roll of the deceased Past Grand Masters of this Grand Jurisdiction, and when the call is completed Funeral Grand Honors shall be given to their memory. - Pro. 1902, p. 51; Pro. 1956, p. 95.

**21.14** No officer or committeeman of this Grand Lodge shall be permitted to enroll his name as a representative of his Lodge unless there be no other representative present from his Lodge. - Pro. 1890, p. 58.

He can give his proxy to a member of his Lodge to represent the Lodge while he is serving in his Grand Lodge capacity. -Pro. 1948, p. 77.

**21.15** Whenever any member wishes to speak he must rise to his feet and address the Most Worshipful Grand Master in a respectful manner; and no member shall speak more than twice on

any subject before the Grand Lodge, unless by permission of the same. – 1.5-Art.1-Sec. 2 Grand Lodge By-Laws.

**21.16** Removed from digest by Grand Lodge Delegates vote. Pro. 2018, p. 51

**21.17** Removed from digest by Grand Lodge Delegates vote. Pro. 2018, p. 51

**21.18** Removed from digest by Grand Lodge Delegates vote. Pro. 2018, p. 51

**21.19** Any and all meetings and the records of any and all committees and boards of this Grand Lodge having in charge or control of the expenditure of the funds of this Grand Lodge, or any funds contributed by the Subordinate Lodges or their members, for Masonic purposes, shall be open to any Master Mason in good standing in any Subordinate Lodge in this State. This gives the right of visitation only and not the right to vote or be heard by any such committee or board. - Pro. 1933, p. 80.

**21.20** Committees and Boards of the Grand Lodge may be appointed or elected from among Master Masons not actual members of the Grand Lodge and when so appointed or elected they become members of the Grand Lodge and continued as such during the period for which appointed or elected. -Pro. 1946, p. 74.

**21.21** The Committee on Masonic Law and Usage, to serve at each Grand Lodge Annual Communication, shall consist of the Past Grand Masters who are members in good standing of Subordinate Lodges in this state, who are in attendance at the session.

The Committee on Budget shall consist of the present Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Senior Warden, the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Secretary. -Pro. 1978, p. 114

The Committee on Work shall consist of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, and Grand Junior Warden –Pro. 2014, p.50. changed Pro. 2017

The Grand Master shall appoint the following committees to serve during the annual communication for which they are appointed:

Committee on Charters and Dispensations is to consist of five members.

Committee on Credentials and Returns is to consist of three members.

Committee on Foreign Correspondence is to consist of three members.

Committee on Memorials to the Dead to consist of three members. – 1.5-Art.1- Sec. 1, Grand Lodge Bylaws.

**MILEAGE & PER DIEM: Repealed Pro. 2010 p. 54.**

**2122 through 2.1.32 Repealed Pro. 2010 p. 54.**

**2133** The Committee on Masonic Law and Usage shall consist of all the living Past Grand Masters in good standing in Subordinate Lodges in this State, to be named in the order of their services as Grand Masters, and three or more of them shall constitute a quorum. - Pro. 1898, p. 141.

**2134** The Committee on Masonic Law and Usage shall meet in advance of the Grand Lodge session, and consider such matters as have been referred to them, and the decisions of the Grand Master rendered up to that time. The expenses of the meetings are to be paid by the Grand Lodge. - Pro. 1898, p. 141.

**2135** The Masonic Law and Usage Committee is charged with the responsibility and is instructed to select the proper sections and/or sub-sections of the Digest for all Resolutions, Recommendations, and Directives presented at each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge when approved by the voting members. - Pro. 1978, p. 113.

**2136** The Board of Appeals and Grievances shall consist of five Master Masons of Arkansas Lodges who shall initially be appointed for terms of one, two, three, four and five years and whose successors shall be elected to a term of five years. The Board shall have the right to meet on call at all times of the year to consider appeals and grievances. An appeal to the Board must be reported to the Grand Lodge and the Board's action on said appeal be approved or disapproved by the Grand Lodge. - Pro. 1978, p. 115.

**2137** All appeals from Subordinate Lodges and all matters that should properly come before the Board of Appeals and Grievances, that are referred to in the Grand Master's Annual Address, shall be placed in the hands of the Grand Secretary at least three days before the meeting of the Grand Lodge. - Pro. 1886, p. 70; Pro. 1891, p. 72; Pro. 1978, p. 115.

**2138** The Board of Appeals and Grievances shall report to the Grand Lodge the facts involved in each case, but the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge shall show only the recommendation made by the Board, and the action of the Grand Lodge thereon. - Pro. 1909, p. 105; Pro. 1978, p. 115.

**2139** No member of the Board of Appeals and Grievances shall serve as a Prosecutor or Defense Counsel in a Subordinate Lodge Trial, Grand Lodge Trial, or Grand Master's Trial proceedings. - Pro. 1981, p. 101.

**2.140** Vacancy on the Board of Appeals and Grievances shall be filled by appointment of the Grand Master and such appointee shall serve until the next session of the Grand Lodge at which time a successor shall be elected to fill the unexpired term. - Pro. 1983, p.93.

**2.141** Fraternal recognition may be extended to a Grand Lodge when it appears to the satisfaction of this Grand Lodge, a committee having first been considered and reported thereon:

That such Grand Body has been formed lawfully by at least three just and duly constituted Lodges, or that it has been legalized by a valid act issuing from the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, or from a Grand Body in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge.

That it is an independent, self-governing, responsible organization with entire, undisputed and exclusive dogmatic and administrative authority over the Symbolic Lodges within its jurisdiction, and not in any sense whatever subject to, or dividing such authority with, a Supreme Council, or other Body claiming ritualistic or other supervision or control.

That it makes Masons of men only.

That it requires conformity to the following, which the Grand Lodge of Arkansas considers necessary in a Masonic Body:

- (1) Acknowledgment of a belief in God the Father of all men
- (2) Secrecy
- (3) The Symbolism of Operative Masonry
- (4) The division of Symbolic Masonry into the three degrees practiced in Arkansas.
- (5) The Legend of the Third Degree
- (6) That its dominant purposes are charitable, benevolent, educational and for the worship of God; and that it excludes controversial politics and sectarian religion from all activities under its auspices.
- (7) The Sacred Book of the Divine Law, chief among the Three Great Lights of Masonry, indispensably present in the Lodges while at work.

That it occupies exclusively its territorial jurisdiction or else shares the same with another by mutual consent; and that it does not presume to establish Lodges in a territory occupied by a lawful Grand Lodge without the expressed assent of such supreme governing Masonic Body. - Pro. 1928, p. 68.

**2.1.41a** The following Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry have been adopted by the Grand Lodge and shall remain unchanged as long as the Grand Lodge exists:

- (1) A belief in GOD and the immortality of the Soul
- (2) The Volume of the Sacred Laws is opened upon the Altar when a Lodge is at Work
- (3) The Legend of the Third Degree
- (4) Secrecy as to the modes of recognition and transactions of the Lodge
- (5) Candidates must be male, free in birth and of age
- (6) The foundation of the Speculative Craft expresses its moral teachings through the symbols of operative masonry.
- (7) Masons must congregate in Lodges
- (8) Lodges must be tiled
- (9) The Government of a Lodge by a Master and two Wardens
- (10) The government of the Craft by a Grand Master chosen from the body of the Craft who has the inherent right of dispensation

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- (11) The equality of all Masons
- (12) That the established Landmarks are unchangeable

**2.142** This Grand Lodge acknowledges no degree of Masonry or Order of Knighthood to be legitimate and genuine except those conferred by or under authority of the following regularly constituted Masonic Bodies of the United States of America, and those of corresponding rank in foreign countries, with whom we have fraternal relations. It is improper for The Grand Lodge of Arkansas to grant recognition to another organization without said organization first asking for recognition, Pro. 2005, p. 71.

The Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons of the several states and territories and their subordinate bodies

The General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and the Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masons of the states and territories and their subordinate bodies

The Grand Councils of the Order of High Priesthood

The General Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters and the Grand Councils of Royal and Select Masters of the states and territories and their subordinate bodies.

The Grand Councils of Thrice Illustrious Masters

The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States and the Grand Commanderies of the states and territories and their subordinate bodies

The Grand College of America Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and their subordinate bodies

The Imperial Council of the Red Cross of Constantine, and its subordinate bodies

The Convent General of the United States of America, Knights of the York Cross of Honor and its subordinate bodies.

Grand Council Allied Masonic Degrees of the U. S. A.

The Royal Order of Scotland

The Order of the Eastern Star

Tall Cedars of Lebanon is not recognized Pro. 2005, p.74.

The York Rite Sovereign College of North America, and its subordinate bodies

Supreme Council, Order of the Amaranth, Inc., and their subordinate bodies

Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of North America (Shrine International) Repealed Pro. 2012, p. 50

Knight Masons

Hillbilly Tuxedo and Fellowship Society

Grotto's of North America

National Sojourners

Scottish Rite

The Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of which George F. Moore is Sovereign Grand Commander and the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Jurisdiction of the United States of which Barton Smith is Grand Commander. - Pro 1917, p. 57; amended, 1938, p. 73; Pro. 1945, p. 81; Pro. 1946, p. 82; Pro. 1967, p. 125.

**2.143** Any Master Mason who shall hereafter take or receive any so-called Masonic Degree or Order of Knighthood from any man or body of men not herein before acknowledged to be legitimate and genuine, shall be expelled from all rights and privileges of Masonry. – Pro. 1917, p. 57.

**2.144** Any Master Mason, who shall hereafter confer, communicate or sell, or be present at or assist in the conferring, communicating, or selling, or solicit anyone to take or receive or apply for any so-called Masonic Degree or Order of Knighthood in any assemblage of men, no matter by what name so ever it may be called, except it be held under the authority of one of the bodies here in before acknowledged to be legitimate and genuine, shall be immediately expelled from all rights and privileges of Masonry. - Pro. 1917, p. 57.

**2.145** Any organization which claims Freemasonry as a prerequisite may enter this Grand Jurisdiction and connect itself with the Masonic Fraternity only after it has received the voted permission of this Grand Lodge. - Pro. 1964, p. 90.

**2.146** The Grand Lodge directs all organizations having Masonic membership as a prerequisite to their own to refrain from conducting any part of their ceremonies or permitting their members to conduct themselves in public in such manner as to embarrass their candidates or the public or bring discredit upon the Masonic fraternity. - Pro. 1940, p. 54.

**2.147** The Committee on Charters and dispensations shall meet one day before the opening day of the Grand Lodge and transact such business as is ready for them. - Pro. 1883, p.65.

**2.148** The Internal Audit Committee shall consist of three members, and shall meet four times a year, on quarters. The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer shall present their reports, books, etc., to the Committee when it meets. The Board of Finance and any other committee in charge of funds shall submit their reports upon the request of the Committee, or the Grand Master. The Committee shall have access to all accounts, including those of the outside accounting firm. Anyone not complying with such request shall be removed from their position, and if deemed necessary, Masonic charges filed.

The Internal Audit Committee shall be answerable only to the Grand Master. The initial Committee shall be appointed by incoming Grand Master, in staggered terms. One will be appointed for a three-year term, one a two-year term, one a one-year term; and, at each succeeding Annual Communication, the vacancy shall be filled by an election of the Voting Delegates. Interim vacancies occurring on the Committee shall be filled by appointment by the Grand Master, and such appointees shall serve until the next Grand Lodge Annual Communication, at which time a successor shall be elected to fill out the unexpired term. Committee members should be selected based on their ability and qualifications to perform their duty to make an accurate report to the brethren at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication, or when deemed necessary. - Pro. 1957, p. 114. - Pro. 2018, p.31&51

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**2.149** The Committee on Credentials and Returns shall meet one day before the opening of the Grand Lodge and transact such business as is ready for them. - Pro. 1951, p. 69.

**2.150** The Committee on Budget shall be charged with the duty of considering each year the prospective income of the Grand Lodge, and recommending such limitations on expenditures as may be necessary to safeguard the finances of the Grand Lodge; the Committee on Budget shall present at each Grand Lodge session a proposed budget of expense for the succeeding year for the consideration of the Grand Lodge. - Pro. 1932, p. 74.

**2.151** The Budget Committee shall, each year, recommend to the Grand Lodge the appropriation of a sum of money to be used by the Grand Master as a contingent fund, at his own discretion in the interest of Freemasonry. The Grand Secretary is empowered to draw his warrants upon the Grand Treasurer for such amount from time to time, as the Grand Master may request; but, provided that the Grand Secretary shall not be authorized to issue any warrant upon said fund unless the Grand Master shall furnish him an account of said expenses. - Pro. 1904, p. 102, as amended in 1932, p. 74.

**2.152** A sufficient sum per annum is hereby allowed to pay the premium on the bonds of the Grand Secretary and Treasurer. - Pro. 1891, p. 59; 1911, p. 90.

**2.153** The Budget Committee, together with the District Deputy Grand Master of the District, are authorized to dispose of such property as was possessed by any Lodge that has become defunct. - Pro. 1935, p. 27.

**2.154** The several Boards and Committees of the Grand Lodge which spend funds in the discharge of their work, shall submit to the Budget Committee, in advance of the Annual Communication, a written estimate of their proposed needs for expenditures in the succeeding year. - Pro. 1950, p. 98.

**2.155** The Committee on Work shall consist of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Senior and Grand Junior Wardens during their respective terms of office. - Pro. 1939, p. 69.

**2.156** That the Grand Secretary prepare job descriptions, work schedules, holiday, vacation, and sick leave policy for full time and part time employees including elective officers. This policy is to be submitted to the Committee on Work for approval, requiring a majority vote of the committee members present. A copy of this policy is to be provided to all employees and written notice given if changes are made. The Grand Secretary shall submit all employment and termination decisions of non-elective employees to the Committee on Work for majority approval before action is taken. - Pro. 1991, p. 87, Pro 2002, p. 71.

**A)** All employees of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of F.&A.M. of Arkansas, whether Full Time, Part Time, or Temporary employed, shall NOT be related either by birth or marriage (to the first degree) to any elected or appointed Grand Lodge Officer. **Pro. 2019**

**2.157** The several Boards and Committees of the Grand Lodge which spend funds in the discharge of their work, shall submit to the Budget Committee, in advance of the Annual Communication, a written estimate of their proposed needs for expenditures in the succeeding year. - Pro. 1950, p. 98.

**2.158** The Committee on Work shall consist of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Senior and Grand Junior Wardens during their respective terms of office. - Pro. 1939, p. 69.

**2.1.59** The several Boards and Committees of the Grand Lodge which spend funds in the discharge of their work, shall submit to the Budget Committee, in advance of the Annual Communication, a written estimate of their proposed needs for expenditures in the succeeding year. - Pro. 1950, p. 98.

**2.1.60** The Committee on Work shall consist of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Senior and Grand Junior Wardens during their respective terms of office. - Pro. 1939, p. 69.

**2.1.61** That the Grand Secretary prepare job descriptions, work schedules, holiday, vacation, and sick leave policy for full time and part time employees including elective officers. This policy is to be submitted to the Committee on Work for approval, requiring a majority vote of the committee members present. A copy of this policy is to be provided to all employees and written notice given if changes are made. The Grand Secretary shall submit all employment and termination decisions of non-elective employees to the Committee on Work for majority approval before action is taken. - Pro. 1991, p. 87, Pro 2002, p. 71.

**A)** All employees of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of F.&A.M. of Arkansas, whether Full Time, Part Time, or Temporary employed, shall NOT be related either by birth or marriage (to the first degree) to any elected or appointed Grand Lodge Officer. **Pro. 2019**

**2.1.62** All hiring and firing of non-elective employees must be approved by the Committee on Work. The Committee on Work acts as an executive committee when Grand Lodge is not in session. Pro. 2002, p.71

**2.1.63** A Board of Finance to consist of five members of the Fraternity shall be elected. - Pro. 1920, p. 52; Pro. 1967, p. 125.

**2.1.64** The said members shall be elected for a term of five years and until their successors are elected and qualified. A majority of said Board shall constitute a quorum, and all the members thereof are to serve without pay. - Pro. 1920, p. 52; Pro. 1982, p. 77.

**2.1.65** The members of said Board elected at the first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge shall determine by lot which member shall hold office for one, two, three, four and five years, respectively, and report to the Grand Secretary the result of the selection; and at every Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge a successor shall be elected to the member whose term has expired, and who shall thereupon serve for the term of five years. The Treasurer of said Board shall give a bond in such sum as may be fixed by the Budget Committee, such bond to be signed by a surety company authorized to sign bonds under the laws of the State of Arkansas, the cost thereof to be paid by the Grand Lodge. - Pro. 1920, pp. 52 and 53; amended 1938, p. 68.

**21.66** The Board of Finance shall have control of all money, bonds and other securities which are turned over to them by the Grand Lodge, or when the Grand Lodge is not in session by order of the Grand Master, and shall invest them in revenue producing securities. If at any time it appears that the Grand Treasurer has not sufficient funds on hand to carry out the orders of the Grand Lodge, he shall notify the Grand Master of that fact, stating the amount needed, and thereupon the Grand Master shall direct the Board of Finance to transfer to the Grand Treasurer such sums, naming the amount, as are required to carry out the orders of the Grand Lodge, and the Board of Finance shall make such transfer. - Pro. 1951, p. 63. amended Pro. 2018, p. 31&52

**21.67** The fiscal year of said Board shall close on the September 30th, and the said Board shall file with the Grand Secretary on or before the 15th day of December each year, an itemized report of all its actions, and a list of the moneys received, interest collected, moneys paid out, and the purpose for which it was paid out, and an itemized list of the securities and moneys under its control. The Grand Secretary shall cause a sufficient number of said reports to be printed in time to be mailed out to all Grand Lodge officers, and subordinated lodges 30 days before the Annual Communication of the the Grand Lodge - Pro. 1977 p.53.- amended Pro. 2018 p. 31&52

**21.68** The Grand Master may at any time and at least once a year shall cause an examination to be made of the books, accounts, securities, moneys and other property under control of the Board, by a committee appointed by him, which committee may, if in its judgment or in the judgment of the Grand Master, it is advisable, employ an expert accountant to aid it in such examination.

If it be found that there are any discrepancies or shortages, or for any other good and sufficient cause, the Grand Master may suspend any or all the members of said Board and appoint new members in their places, to whom all property, moneys and securities held by said Board shall immediately be turned over. The members thus appointed shall hold office until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge; such suspension shall be subject to review by the Grand Lodge, which may approve or disapprove it. If disapproved, the member or members suspended are to be reinstated. If approved, new members shall be elected in the same manner as here in before provided. In such election it shall be designated in whose place each member is elected, and the members thus elected shall continue to act for the unexpired term of the members whom they succeed. - Pro. 1920, pp. 53 and 54.

**21.69** If a vacancy occurs by reason of the death, resignation or removal of any member of the Board, the Grand Master shall appoint his successor, who shall hold office until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, when his successor shall be elected in the manner here in before provided, for the un-expired term of his predecessor. - Pro. 1920, p. 54.

**21.70** The Board of Finance of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Arkansas is hereby authorized and directed to negotiate and sell at such price and upon such terms as it may deem advisable and to the best interest of this Grand Lodge, any and all tracts of real estate or other property of this Grand Lodge which it has acquired, or may hereafter acquire, through foreclosure of its investments, and upon the sale of any such property by the Board of Finance, the Grand Master and Grand Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to execute

deeds or instruments of conveyance for and on behalf of this Grand Lodge to such property. - Pro. 1934, p. 84.

**2.1.71** The Board of Finance shall not dispense any monetary funds other than those recommended by the Budget Committee and approved by the Grand Lodge. Amended, - Pro. 1983, p. 91.

**2.1.72** The Board of Finance shall invest the corpus of the Hall Memorial Fund as provided in the agreement with Brother J. P. Hall in 1931, and shall turn the income from such investments over to the Board of Charities upon request of said Board of Charities. -Pro. 1956, p. 96.

**2.1.73** The corporate surety bond, covering the Grand Lodge officers and the officers of subordinate Lodges, and all who are covered by the provisions of said bond, shall be obtained in limits to be determined by the Budget Committee; a copy of this bond shall be kept in the premises assigned to the Grand Secretary, in a place of maximum security, available for inspection on a need to know basis, or as directed by the Grand Master. - Pro. 1964, p. 87.

**2.1.74** The Grand Master shall have an annual audit made by a Public Accountant, who shall have continuous supervision of the bookkeeping of all Grand Lodge and subsidiary funds. - Pro. 1943. p. 92; Pro. 1961, p. 128.

**2.1.75** The Perpetual Membership Plan was approved as recommended by the Committee. - Pro. 1988, p. 61. (See Section 3.8)

**RETIREMENT ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD:** Repealed Pro. 2011 p.55

**2.1.76 through 2.1.77** Repealed Pro. 2011 p.55

**2.1.78** The Scholarship funds for Sons and Daughters of Master Masons shall be established by this Grand Lodge, and limited to those whose Father is a member in good standing of a Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge. Said fund shall be administered by a Grand Lodge "Youth and Scholarship Board" of five members.

Any request, donations, or gratuities made to the Grand Lodge for the purpose of educational benefits for the Sons and Daughters of Master Masons (as above) shall be deposited in a special account designated M.: W.: Grand Lodge, F. & A. M., Inc. (Scholarship Fund), and shall be irrevocably committed to such use. The Board of Finance shall have the responsibility of investing said funds, and shall also administer any funds designated by the Grand Lodge for such purpose and committed on any basis whatever.

The "Youth and Scholarship Board" shall have the responsibility of awarding scholarships, not to exceed the annual earnings of the monies in the investment account of the scholarship Fund (Plus any sums that may be budgeted by the Grand Lodge). Said Board shall also administer any funds for youth activities and programs as may be budgeted for such purposes by the Grand Lodge. Under no circumstances may scholarship fund earnings be diverted to other usage or purpose.

There shall be no conflict between the Hall Memorial Fund and the operations of the Youth and Scholarship Board projects.

The five Master Masons who will comprise the initial "Youth and Scholarship Board" will be named by the incoming Grand Master. One will be appointed for a five year term, one for a four year term, one for a three year term, one for a two year term, and one for a one year term; at each succeeding Annual Communication the vacancy shall be filled by election. Vacancies occurring on the Board shall be filled by appointment by the Grand Master, and such appointees shall serve until the next session of the Grand Lodge at which time a successor shall be elected to fill out the unexpired term. Amended, - Pro. 1983, p. 4.

**2.1.79** The established charities of this Grand Lodge hereafter shall be administered by the Board of Charities, which Board is, by this Grand Lodge, hereby created. - Pro. 1935, p.101.

The Board of Charities above created shall consist of the following members: The M.:W.: Grand Master, who shall be ex-officio member, the Deputy Grand Master, who shall be ex-officio member of said Board, and five Master Masons in good standing in Lodges in Arkansas. The five Master Mason members above provided for shall be elected by this Grand Lodge as other officials are elected, and of the five first elected, one shall serve for one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years and one for five years. They may decide by lot the length of their terms. As the term of each member expires there shall be elected a successor, who shall serve for a term of five years. Vacancies occurring on the Board shall be filled by appointment by the Grand Master, and such appointee shall serve until the next session of the Grand Lodge at which time a successor shall be elected to serve out the unexpired term. - Pro. 1935, pp. 101 and 102. Amended, Pro. 1946, p. 74.

**2.1.80** It shall be the duty of the Board of Charities to administer the income from the Hall Memorial Fund in keeping with the provisions creating that Fund, as extended and approved by the Court. - Pro. 1956, p. 96.

**2.1.81** The Board of Charities is authorized, and it is hereby made its duty to use every means at all times to secure for the beneficiaries of this Grand Lodge any and all aid to which such beneficiaries are entitled under the State, Federal, or Masonic laws as now or that hereafter be enacted. - Pro. 1935, p. 102.

**2.1.82** The funds appropriated by the Grand Lodge for the use of the Board of Charities shall be expended for the following purposes by this Board:

**First**-For continuing payments to those who were receiving pensions at the time the Board of Charities was created and who are still in need and are now being paid by the Board of Charities.

**Second**-For assisting the Subordinate Lodges in giving aid to any Master Mason, member in good standing of a Lodge in Arkansas, who is indigent and unable to earn a support for himself and family, or any widow of a Master Mason, whose husband was at the time of his death a member in good standing of a Lodge in Arkansas, who is destitute and unable to support herself and family. As far as advisable all payments to be made through and in cooperation with the

Subordinate Lodges as a charitable donation, and to be made at such times and in such amounts as the Board of Charities shall decide, and in such terms as may be arranged with the local Lodge.

**Third**-For the maintenance and education of the indigent orphan children of Master Masons who, at the time of their death, were members in good standing of a Lodge in Arkansas.

**Fourth**-For emergency Grand Lodge charity. - Pro. 1937, p. 65.

**2.1.83** One copy of the published Proceedings shall be furnished to each Lodge to be kept in the custody of the Worshipful Master and his successors in office. - Pro. 1932, p. 85.

**2.1.84** Copies of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge shall be sent to the other Grand Jurisdictions with whom we are in fraternal relation; and a copy shall be sent to the Grand Officers, Past Grand Masters, and members of the Boards and Committees of our own Grand Lodge. - Pro. 1957, p. 114.

**2.1.85** The Grand Lodge should not adopt any magazine or paper as its official organ except such magazine as it publishes itself legally, the Grand Lodge might be held liable for actions or things done by the editors or business managers of a publication which it has officially adopted. A violation of postal regulations-even done with the most innocent of intentions-might easily become a matter of considerable embarrassment to the Craft and the Grand Lodge. - Pro. 1931, p. 135.

**2.1.86** The Publicity Committee will consist of three qualified Masons of Arkansas. The Grand Master elect shall appoint one such member for a term of three years, one for two years and one for one year. Each succeeding year, one member shall be appointed for a term of three years. The Brother whose term is for one year shall be the Chairman of the Committee, and if for some reason it is not practical for him to serve, the Grand Master shall name some other member of the Committee to be the Chairman for that year. The Publicity Committee shall be under the general direction and supervision of the Committee on Work. - Pro. 1983, p. 89.

**2.1.87** The laying of a Cornerstone or the placing of a Commemorative Stone is a Grand Lodge function. A Subordinate Lodge does not have the right to do this, nor the right to have more than one stone in the same building; but the Grand Master may call an Emergent Communication of the Grand Lodge and by dispensation, authorize the stations to be filled by pro-tempore appointments. -Amended, Pro. 1983, p. 100.

**2.1.88** When the cornerstone of a building is laid by the Masonic Fraternity it should be placed in the northeast corner of the structure before the walls are completed and should not be laid on Sunday. - Pro. 1954, p. 72.

**2.1.89** The ceremony of laying a cornerstone or the placing of a commemorative stone should not be conducted on Sunday, even though the edifice be a church house. No Masonic work or ceremony should be performed on Sunday, except in the case of funerals and lodges of sorrow. - Pro. 1969, p. 106; Pro. 1964, p. 89.

**2.1.90** When it is impractical to lay a cornerstone according to the ceremony now described in our Monitor, a commemorative stone or tablet may be placed at any point in the structure, using parts of the ceremony of "trying" and "consecrating" the stone as seem proper, and not using the words "north-east corner" and "cornerstone". - Pro. 1964, p. 88.

**2.1.91** The Grand Honors of Masonry are given as a tribute to honor a Grand Master, a Past Grand Master, or a Grand Lodge officer, or upon the installation of the Worshipful Master in his office.

The Grand Honors (not funeral honors) should be given by striking the palm of the left hand with the palm of the right, three distinct times. - Pro. 2002, p. 71.

**2.1.92** The Grand Honors, practiced among Masons at funerals, whether in public or private, are given in the following manner:

Both hands are raised above the head, the palms gently touching each other, then the arms are crossed on the breast, the left uppermost, and the open palms of the hands gently touching the shoulders, and then the arms are lowered, the palms gently touching the thighs. These are given three times, and while they are given the third time, the brethren audibly pronounce the following words; When the hands are raised above the head: "We commend his spirit to God who gave it"; when the arms are crossed on the breast: "We cherish his memory here"; and when the hands are extended toward the ground: "And consign his body to the grave." - Pro. 2002, p. 71, as amended Pro. 2003, p. 24.

**2.1.93** No dispensation or charter shall ever hereafter be granted by this Grand Lodge to any Subordinate Lodge which may be named after, or in honor of, any living person., - Pro. 1879, p. 65.

**2.1.94** Applicants for authority to work under dispensation must be affiliated Master Masons in good standing, members of Lodges in Arkansas, and no Lodge must recommend petitioners unless it knows them to be worthy, and have complied with the law in every particular. -Pro. 1873, p.17; Pro. 1880, p. 31; Pro. 1885, p. 23; Pro. 1890, p. 8.

**2.1.95** A lodge under dispensation may dimit any of its members. -Pro. 1884, p. 29.

**2.1.96** A Lodge while working under dispensation is subject to the same Grand Lodge dues as those working under charters. -Pro. 1885, p. 21.

**2.1.97** Where a dispensation for a new Lodge has been withdrawn by the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master cannot restore it. -Pro. 1876, p. 13.

**2.1.98** The site of the hall in which a Lodge holds its meetings at the time the charter is granted by the Grand Lodge is the center of the Lodge's territorial jurisdiction. It has the privilege of moving it any direction within an area of three miles by its own volition, so long as the new location is within the territorial jurisdiction as set out in Section 3.1.23,24,25,26,27; thus making

a circuit of six miles in diameter with its domicile still in the center. This permission to Lodges to vary from the center is for mere convenience in getting halls, and by exercising this privilege of oscillating around its center for such convenience, the Lodge in no manner affects the lines of jurisdiction or changes its domicile, unless the Grand Lodge authorizes the change. -Pro. 1951, p. 68.

**2.1.99** Only the Grand Lodge can change the domicile of a Lodge. When changed by the Grand Lodge the site of the hall at the new location becomes the center of the territorial jurisdiction. - Pro. 1951, p. 68.

**2.1.100** The Grand Lodge accepts a plan submitted providing for the purchase of fidelity insurance to cover all officers and members of Subordinate Lodges. -Pro. 1961, p.128.

**2.1.101** If the Subordinate Lodges fail or refuse to discharge their duty, in the discipline of Masons within their jurisdiction, such Lodges would be answerable to the Grand Lodge and subject to have their charters withdrawn. -Pro. 1858, p. 39.

**2.1.102** Where a Lodge having surrendered its charter, the same members desiring afterwards to go to work again at the same place, stand as though the Old Lodge never existed. The Grand Lodge may return the charter if it chooses and if the number has not been given to some other Lodge it will doubtless restore its original number, but they have no right to demand the charter. -Pro. 1880, p. 27.

**2.1.103** The Grand Lodge has power to make a Code of By-Laws for Subordinate Lodges. -Pro. 1859, p. 38.

**2.1.104** The fiscal year, for the Grand Lodge, shall begin on the first day of January and end on the 31st day of December in each year, December 15th, each year, shall be the return day on which Grand Lodge dues are based as provided in 1.4-Art.IV-Sec.7, of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1977, p. 53. Amended - Pro. 2018, p. 49

**2.1.105** Each subordinate Lodge in this jurisdiction shall pay annually to the Grand Lodge in the sum of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) on each member on the roll of the Lodge at the return day. All such funds shall be Grand Lodge dues, and shall be paid into the treasury of the Grand Lodge to be disbursed as directed by the Grand Lodge. -1.4-Art. IV-Sec.7, Constitution, Amended Pro. 1983, p.86, Pro, 2007, p.14.

**2.1.106** Accounts of Delinquent Lodges are referred to the Budget Committee for investigation and settlement. -Pro. 1934, p.92, 93.

**2.1.107** Whenever a Lodge shall have become defunct, and all its records lost in the burning of our Grand Lodge records, or otherwise, any member of such Lodge may produce to the Grand Secretary satisfactory evidence of his having been such a member, and the Grand Secretary is authorized thereupon to make to such brother a certificate, which shall be considered a dimit. - Pro. 1882, p. 41, as amended in 1936, p. 61.

**2.1.108** The custom of issuing certificates, by the Grand Secretary, to members of defunct Lodges without any charge shall be discontinued and the Grand Secretary is instructed to require at least one year's Grand Lodge dues be paid before any certificate shall be issued; provided, however, that any member of a Lodge whose charter is surrendered shall not be required to make this payment if the request for the certificate is made within one year from the date of the surrender of the charter. -Pro. 1936, p. 61; Pro. 1948, p. 77.

**2.1.109** A merger of Subordinate Lodges may be effected by mutual consent of all the Lodges seeking such merger in the following manner:

Each Lodge proposed for merger shall furnish to all other Lodges proposed for such merger a complete list of its membership, property and debts certified by the Master and Secretary as correct, at least thirty days before a vote may be taken on such merger; and no vote may be taken on a proposed merger in any Lodge until expiration of thirty days after announcement of the proposed merger by the Worshipful Master in open Lodge, at a regular Stated Communication, and naming date of future meetings for consideration and vote on such merger.

Before spreading the ballot on a merger proposed, the Worshipful Master in each Lodge affected shall cause to be read in open Lodge the list of membership, property and debts as certified from each Lodge to be merged.

Thereupon a ballot may be taken, and a three-fourths majority of members present shall be declared as consent of the said Lodge to the proposed merger; and the Worshipful Master and Secretary of the Lodge or Lodges being merged shall certify to the Lodge with whom such merger is to be made the consent of their Lodge to such merger, and shall attach thereto the charter of their Lodge and an alphabetic list of their merged membership to be forwarded by the receiving Lodge to the Grand Secretary as hereinafter provided.

Upon receipt of such certificate, showing alphabetic list of membership, property and debts and the Lodge charter for surrender, the Worshipful Master and Secretary of the Lodge with whom the merger is made shall immediately certify the completed merger, together with the list of their own membership prior to the merger; and shall transmit same with the certificate, charter and list of members, property and debts received from the merged Lodge or Lodges to the Grand Secretary.

All the information above mentioned shall be submitted to the respective DDGM or DDGM's who will in turn make his/their recommendation to the Grand Master for his consideration and approval or disapproval. The Grand Secretary shall then carefully inspect same and, finding the papers to conform therewith, shall certify approval of such merger to the Lodge with which such merger is made, and shall cancel the surrendered charters.

Thereafter all property, real and personal, of the merged Lodge or Lodges, shall vest in the Lodge with whom the merger is had, subject to unpaid obligations of the merging Lodge. -Pro. 1932, p. 43, 44.

**2.1.110** Jurisdiction as between merged Lodges and remaining surrounding Lodges shall be the midway point between the domicile of the merged Lodge and the domicile of the Lodge in question. -Pro. 1932, p. 44, 86.

**2.1.111** When two or more Lodges are merged, as provided for in Paragraph 2.1.109 hereof, all property, both real and personal, of the merged Lodges shall vest in the Lodge with whom merger was had; therefore, all suspended or expelled members of the merged Lodges must apply for reinstatement to the Lodge with whom the merger was had. This Lodge, having acquired all rights of the merged Lodges, shall handle the petition for reinstatement in the same manner as they would from one of their own members. -Pro. 1934, p. 21.

**2.1.112** A brother who wishes to affiliate, where all the records of his Lodge have been destroyed, and the Lodge has become defunct, should first apply to the Grand Secretary for evidence of his standing or membership; and if no such evidence can be there obtained, he should procure the certificate of the nearest brethren of his Lodge, as the best evidence in his power. -Pro. 1867, p. 62.

**2.1.113** Masons of this Grand Jurisdiction, who are members of defunct Lodges of other Grand Jurisdictions, and who apply for affiliation in this, must present certificates of their good Masonic standing, issued by the Grand Secretary of the Grand Jurisdiction from whence they came. -Pro. 1889, p. 59.

**2.1.114** Persons residing in this Grand Jurisdiction, who claim to be Masons of defunct Lodges of other Grand Jurisdictions, and cannot procure certificates of their good Masonic character from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Jurisdiction from whence they come, may be made over again, if proper material, in the regular way, upon the payment of the fees, but this latter plan should not be adopted until all ordinary means of acquiring information have been exhausted. - Pro. 1892, p. 10, as revised.

**2.1.115** A member of a Defunct Lodge who fails to obtain a certificate from the Grand Secretary and to petition a regular Lodge for affiliation within one year from the time of the arrest or surrender of the charter of the Lodge in which he previously held membership, becomes a willful nonaffiliate. -Pro. 1942, p. 65.

**2.1.116** Dimits coming from other jurisdictions than those in the United States are to be treated the same as those in our home jurisdiction, provided this Grand Lodge is in Fraternal Relations with the Grand Jurisdiction from which the dimit comes. -Pro. 1919, p. 12.

**2.1.117** Where a member of a defunct Lodge took a certificate from the Grand Secretary's office and on it applied to affiliate with a Lodge and was rejected and the defunct Lodge revived, such revivor did not make him a member of the revived Lodge. The certificate he received had the force of a dimit and after his rejection he stood as an unaffiliated Mason. -Pro. 1906, p. 100.

**2.1.118** There shall be awarded, by the Grand Lodge, to every Master Mason who has been a Master Mason in good standing for FIFTY YEARS, or more, and who is now a member in good standing, of an Arkansas Lodge, a suitable button in recognition of his long membership; provided, he was made a Master Mason in some regular Lodge of this or some other Grand Jurisdiction recognized by this Grand Lodge. Pro. 1971, p. 75. Pro. 2010, p. 53.

Said buttons shall be furnished by the Grand Lodge upon application of the Subordinate Lodge of which the Brother is a member; said application to be accompanied by a certificate from said Lodge showing the Brother is eligible under the above requirements.

In all cases where the records of a Lodge have been destroyed, the Subordinate Lodge shall require such proof as will convince a reasonable and careful man that the Brother is eligible, and upon presentation of such proof and its acceptance, as proof, by the Lodge, the officer of the Lodge may make application and proper certificate upon such proof.

The presentation of all FIFTY-YEAR BUTTONS shall be made by the Grand Master or his personal representative at such time and place as shall be designated by the Grand Master. -Pro. 1937, p. 94.

**2.1.119** We do not now permit a Mason, or a Lodge, to engage the Fraternity in local, state, or national politics; we cannot allow this done in our Subordinate Lodges or Grand Lodge activities. All Brethren will refrain from political activity, such as mailings, for any candidate for a subordinate Lodge or Grand Lodge office. -Pro. 1997, p. 23.

**2.1.120** A Lodge in Arkansas cannot work material or affiliate brethren who originate under the jurisdiction of a Lodge in another state without the consent of that Lodge or its Grand Lodge. The request for permission to work such material shall be transmitted to the Grand Lodge of Arkansas and by it be forwarded to the sister Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1938, p. 70.

**2.1.121** When judgment is reversed on appeal to Grand Lodge, the accused is restored to membership in his Lodge. Upon expulsion and no appeal the Grand Lodge can only restore accused as a Mason at Large. -Pro. 1906, p. 99.

**2.1.122** Restoration, by the Grand Lodge, of a brother suspended or expelled, to the benefits and privileges of Masonry, shall not restore him to membership in the Lodge which expelled or suspended him. -Pro. 1857, p. 90.

**2.1.123** When the Grand Lodge restores a brother to membership as a Mason at Large he is furnished with a statement or certificate by the Grand Secretary setting forth the action of the Grand Lodge. A Mason at Large must apply for affiliation with some regularly constituted Masonic Lodge within one year, attaching his certificate from the Grand Secretary in lieu of the dimit customarily required by law. Failure to make such application for affiliation within the stated period, places a Mason at Large in the attitude of a willful nonaffiliate, and all Masonic communication with him is interdicted and prohibited until he changes his status in accordance with Section 3.1.184. -Pro. 1932, p. 25.

**2.1.124** A nonaffiliated Mason at Large is not subject to dues in the Subordinate Lodge, and it has no jurisdiction to suspend him for nonpayment. -Pro. 1881.

**2.1.125** Most annual meetings of Masonic fraternities and other organizations normally charge a registration fee to defray some of the cost for the annual meeting. The attendees who attend the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas be charged a registration fee of \$10.00 per person to defray some of the cost associated with the annual communication. – Pro. 2007, p. 43

**2.1.126** A Past Grand Master has no authority to interpret the laws, issue opinions, or grant dispensations, or perform any other functions reserved for the office of Grand Master. The actions of a Past Grand Master issuing opinions, interpreting laws, or granting a dispensation is a violation of Masonic Law, and would subject him to trial and punishment. Pro. 2005, p. 69

**2.1.127** A Past Grand Master has no authority to intercede into the actions of The Grand Master, overrule a decision, or give leave to a brother to not answer a due summons. The title "Past Grand Master" conveys no authority to take any action beyond that mentioned in The Digest of Laws pertaining to The Grand Lodge Masonic Law & Usage Committee. Pro. 2005, p. 70

**2.1.128** The Grand Master may summon The Law & Usage Committee, or any Grand Lodge Committee or any individual brother for a meeting at any time. The same is true of a Worshipful Master, as the question would relate to committees and members within his lodge. Pro. 2005, p. 70

**2.1.129** The Grand Master has the authority and an obligation to expunge a vote taken in Grand Lodge if he believes it to have been spoiled by the manner in which it was taken; the exclusion of legal delegates, or other inconsistencies with a fair and informed election. Pro. 2005, p. 70

**2.1.130** The Grand Master is not strictly bound in his actions by The Constitution and Laws of this Grand Lodge. However, the Grand Master must not violate his Masonic Obligations- those oaths made on his knees, hands on the Holy Bible, made willingly before God and Man, those cannot be broken. He can do what is good for the Fraternity, but not if it breaks these vows. In doing so, he would be just as accountable as every other Master Mason. Pro. 2005, p. 71-amended Pro. 2018, p. 32 & 53.

**2.1.131** The Grand Master has the authority to appoint a brother to fill the term of a vacant elective office of this Grand Lodge. Pro. 2005, p. 72

## SECTION 2.2

### GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

**221** No one who is not a citizen and resident of the State of Arkansas can be elected to any office in the Grand Lodge, and the removal from the State of one who has been elected to an office in the Grand Lodge, thereby vacates the office. - Pro. 1918, p. 96.

**222** Only members of Lodges in Arkansas are eligible to hold office in the Grand Lodge. - Pro. 1948, p. 77.

**223** When ample opportunity has been given for placing names in nomination for an office, and only one brother has been nominated for it, the presiding officer may declare nominations closed for that particular office and may proceed to cast or direct someone to cast the vote of the Grand Lodge. - Pro. 1944, p. 77.

**224** When there is a vacancy in the office of Grand Master, the officer who succeeds to the position shall do so immediately upon taking the oath of office. - Pro. 1948, p. 78.

**225** The Grand Master should not accept any office in a Subordinate Lodge during his official term, but this rule does not apply, to the Deputy, or the District Deputies. - Pro. 1874, p.44.

**226** The Grand Master shall have the power to grant a dispensation for a new Lodge upon proper petition. - Art. II, Sec. 8, Constitution.

**227** The Grand Master has the power and authority to suspend or arrest the Charter of any Subordinate Lodge. In a case where a brother's action are committed against The Grand Lodge, and in other cases where there is a complexity in the wrong that makes it difficult for a single lodge to address the wrong, the Grand Master has the authority and an obligation, even in the absence of a request from five Past Masters of the lodge, to take action. This practice has been established in our Grand Lodge and reaffirmed in subsequent Grand Lodge Sessions. - Pro. 1953, p.73., Pro 2005, p. 71.

**228** The Grand Master alone has the power to dispense with proficiency required under the tenth Section of the Uniform Code of By-Laws. - Pro. 1872, p. 13-14.

**229** The Grand Master may grant a dispensation, dispensing with the necessity of twelve months' residence in this State before a Lodge can initiate an applicant for degrees, as this regulation is not a land mark and the dispensing power of the Grand Master is always an implied exception to these rules, which are designed to regulate the action of Subordinate Lodges in selecting material for initiation. - Pro. 1887, p. 72.

**2210** The Grand Master does not have the power to grant a dispensation to make a Mason out of rejected material. - Pro. 1875, p. 13.

**2211** In Arkansas, we have enough Lodges to work up all of our material and the Grand Master should not exercise the power of making a "Mason at Sight." - Pro. 1871, p.42

**2212** The Grand Master has the right and authority to designate any Master Mason to do and perform any act that he could do or perform if present except the right of issuing dispensations. - Pro. 1934, p. 85.

**2213** The dispensing power of the Grand Master cannot be delegated by him to another. - Pro. 1885, p. 22.

**2214** In the absence or inability of the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden or Junior Warden, the Grand Master may designate some individual Past Master by name to act as his representative to open and close the Lodge and to preside over the Lodge for the transaction of business. - Pro. 1947, p. 68.

**2215** The State shall be divided into not less than seven nor more than thirty-eight Masonic Districts; the boundaries of which shall be fixed by the Grand Master. - Pro. 1978, p.115.

**2216** It shall be the duty of the Grand Master to furnish to each member of the Committee on Masonic Law and Usage, and the Membership of this Grand Jurisdiction, thirty days (and he shall furnish said Committee and membership with full information pertaining to such other matters as occur after the date of the first report), before the meeting of the Grand Lodge, a copy of all his decisions rulings, or actions and, on their report, be either affirmed or reversed, in whole or in part, or changed or modified, as to the Grand Lodge seems proper and correct. - Pro. 1856, p. 52; Pro. 1894, p. 41; Pro. 1897, p. 73; Pro. 1898, p. 141; Pro. 1905, pp. 96 and 99; Pro. 1982, p. 98. amended Pro. 2018, p. 32 & 53

**2217** The Grand Master shall have the right to initiate, enter into, and promote activities and /or programs by which revenue is obtained for the benefit of Masonic purposes. Monies raised from such initiatives shall be timely deposited into a fund established by the Grand Treasurer, entitled Grand Master's Program Fund. Dispersal of said funds shall be at the discretion of the Grand Master following majority approval of the Committee on Work. Any funds deposited and not spent shall remain in the fund. Should the Fund accumulate to a sizeable amount, the Committee on Work, upon majority vote, may release a determined amount to the Board of Finance to be invested and may be drawn upon as the Committee on Work deems necessary, following majority approval. - Pro. 1997, p. 24.

**2218** The Grand Master shall have an annual audit made by a Public Accountant, who shall have continuous supervision of the bookkeeping of all Grand Lodge and subsidiary funds. The annual audit shall be furnished to all subordinate lodges and Grand Lodges officers. All effort shall be made to have it available before the Grand Lodge Communication. If it is unavailable at that time, it shall be mailed, or provide in electronic format. - Pro.1943, p. 92; Pro. 1961, p.128; Pro. 2014 p. 50. amended Pro. 2018, p. 32&52.

In cases of material residing on or near the border of states, the Grand Master is authorized to grant waiver of jurisdiction, if the case fully meets the approval of the Grand Master and the states asking waiver of jurisdiction extend the same privileges to citizens of Arkansas. - Pro. 1897, p. 72.

## 2020

**2219** The Grand Treasurer shall be the custodian of all Grand Lodge funds, unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge. Such funds shall be paid out by him only in such manner as is directed by the Grand Lodge, or if the Grand Lodge is not in session, as directed by the Grand Master. - Pro. 1951, p. 62.

**2220** The Grand Treasurer shall designate a depository or depositories for Grand Lodge funds and all deposits made therein shall be made to the credit of the Grand Treasurer in his official capacity and name, so that upon his death or removal all funds will at once be subject to the order of his successor. - Pro. 1951, p. 62.

**2221** The Grand Treasurer shall give bond with securities, approved by the Grand Master, in an amount as fixed by the Budget Committee. The condition of the bond of the Grand Treasurer shall be that he will safely keep, account for, and payout on appropriation made by the Grand Lodge, all money of the Grand Lodge that may come into his hands, and faithfully discharge the duties of his office. Said bond must be presented and approved before installation, and on his failure to execute bond, the Grand Master shall appoint a brother in his place who can and will do so before he is installed. - Pro. 1881, p. 47; amended 1882, p. 51; 1883, p. 67.

**2222** The Grand Secretary shall for each session of the Grand Lodge prepare a program for such session. - Pro. 1900, p. 100.

**2223** The Grand Secretary is hereby instructed to have printed on a separate page in the proceedings of each year's session the edicts and decisions as promulgated for such year. - Pro. 1896, p. 86; And each subsequent year shall be added thereto. - Pro. 1919, p. 41.

**2224** The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer are authorized to purchase a Past Grand Master's jewel or a Past Grand Master's ring to be presented to the Grand Master at the end of his term of office, and to draw the usual warrant in payment. - Pro. 1957, p. 114.

**2225** The Salary of the Grand Secretary and the amount allowed to the Grand Secretary for office assistance shall be such as is fixed by the Grand Lodge. - Pro. 1951, p. 63

**2226** The Grand Secretary shall receive all money due the Grand Lodge and shall deposit it to the credit of the Grand Treasurer, in such depository as the Grand Treasurer, or Grand Lodge, may designate. The Grand Secretary shall draw warrants on the Grand Treasurer in such amounts and for such uses as the Grand Lodge may order, and when the Grand Lodge is not in session, as the Grand Master may direct. -Pro. 1951, p. 63.

**2227** The Grand Secretary shall give bond with securities, approved by the Grand Master, in an amount as fixed by the Budget Committee. The condition of the bond of the Grand Secretary shall be that he will pay over to the Grand Treasurer all money of the Grand Lodge that shall come into his hands, and faithfully discharge the duties of his office. Said bond must be presented and approved before installation, and on his failure to execute bond the Grand Master shall appoint a brother in his place who can and will do so before he is installed. - Pro. 1881, p. 47; amended 1882, p. 51; 1883, p. 67.

## 2020

**2228** When the Grand Lodge shall appropriate money for the use of a specific Board, Committee or Grand Lodge Officer, the Grand Secretary may draw a warrant on the Grand Treasurer, transferring such sums to the designated Board, Committee or Grand Lodge Officer, to be used by them as directed by the Grand Lodge. It shall be the duty of such Board, Committee or Grand Lodge Officer to make a full report and accounting for all funds so received and disbursed, at the next session of the Grand Lodge. - Pro. 1951, p. 63.

**2229** The Grand Secretary shall perform all duties of the Committee on Credentials and Returns, so far as returns are concerned. - Pro. 1881, p. 63.

**2230** It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to have prepared, prior to the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, ready for the use of the Committee on Credentials and Returns, a blank for the registration of those who are in attendance. This blank shall be arranged with spaces for entries in the following manner: Name and number of the Lodge, spaces for the names of the officers or representatives and spaces for registering others who are in attendance.

The Committee on Credentials and Returns shall enter on this blank, in the proper places, the names of those who are in attendance at Grand Lodge and the capacities in which they represent their Lodges. Proxies shall be registered under the heading to show the officer they represent as proxies. -Pro. 1951, p. 64.

**2231** Repealed Pro. 2010, p. 54

**2232** The Grand Master and the Grand Secretary do not have authority to extend the time for or waive the payment of Lodge dues to the Grand Lodge. Requests for remission of dues or canceling of indebtedness must be made to the Grand Lodge and acted upon by it. -Pro. 1932.

**2233** The Grand Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, proper to be written; he shall submit his record to the Grand Master for his approbation and signature; he shall issue summons as the Grand Master may direct, and give reasonable notice in the papers of every stated meeting of the Grand Lodge, for which services he shall receive such compensation as the Grand Lodge may direct. -1.4-Art. III-Sec. 5, Constitution.

**2234** The Grand Secretary shall annually make a statement of his accounts and proceedings to the Grand Lodge for inspection and approval. -1.5-Art.1-Sec.3, Grand Lodge By-Laws.

**2235** Removed from digest by Grand Lodge Delegates vote. Pro. 2018, p.31&52.

**2236** The corporate surety bond, covering the Grand Lodge officers and the officers of subordinate Lodges, and all who are covered by the provisions of said bond, shall be obtained in limits to be determined by the Budget Committee; a copy of this bond shall be kept in the premises assigned to the Grand Secretary, in a place of maximum security, available for inspection on a need to know basis, or as directed by the Grand Master. - Pro. 1964, p. 87.

**2237** As soon as possible before January 1st, each year, the Grand Secretary shall furnish to each Lodge a summary of the quarterly reports that have been filed by the Lodge during the past year, together with a statement of the amount of Grand Lodge dues to be remitted to the Grand Lodge. This summary will be the annual report of the Lodge. -Pro. 1977, p. 53. amended Pro. 2018, pg. 32. & 52.

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**2240** It is improper that a District Deputy Grand Master should act either as a prosecutor for the Lodge or as a representative of the accused in the trial of any brother in a Subordinate Lodge. He should, however, if present, assist the presiding officer in the proper conduct of all trials; or, if requested by the Worshipful Master, he may preside and conduct the trial. - Pro. 1928, p. 25, as revised.

**2241** The several District Deputy Grand Masters in the respective districts in this Grand Jurisdiction are constituted agents of this Grand Lodge to negotiate the sale of any Lodge halls left by defunct Lodges in the several districts, and after such sales have been reported to and approved by the Budget Committee, deeds therefor shall be executed and delivered by the Grand Master and Grand Secretary on behalf of the Grand Lodge. - Pro. 1889, p. 59; Pro. 1934, p. 91; Pro. 1935, p. 27.

**2242** A District Deputy Grand Master possesses none of the extraordinary powers of Grand Master, such as granting dispensations, making at Mason at sight, or any power that a Grand Master can exercise by the usages of Masonry, unless that power is given in the Constitution, or by special legislation enacted by the Grand Lodge. - Pro. 1939, p. 105.

**2243** A District Deputy Grand Master has no power to dispense with examination as to proficiency, having no dispensing power whatever. - Pro. 1872; Pro. 1967, p. 124.

**2244** The District Deputy Grand Masters have no authority to dispense with Masonic law prescribing the time and mode of proceedings on petitions for degrees. - Pro. 1862, p. 13.

**2245** A District Deputy Grand Master has not the right to order a Lodge to meet on a certain day and investigate charges against a member, or a complaint by a brother against the Lodge. - Pro. 1879, p. 17.

**2246** A District Deputy Grand Master has no authority to delegate to another the rights, privileges, powers and prerogatives of his office. - Pro. 1891, p. 23.

**2247** District Deputy Grand Masters have no power to withdraw the charter of a Lodge or grant a dispensation to form a new Lodge. - Pro. 1867, p. 46.

**2248** The Jewel of a District Deputy Grand Master shall be of silver, a square within a circle, with the sun's rays in the angle of the square. - Pro. 1910, p. 68.

**2249** In all future applications for dispensations for new Lodges, District Deputy Grand Masters shall be required before endorsing same, to ascertain the condition of Masonry in the Lodges contiguous to the localities for which dispensations may be applied and such inquiries relative to each Lodge so contiguous shall be forwarded to the Grand Master with such application. -Pro. 1890, p. 42.

**2250** A District Deputy Grand Master may refuse to install one whom he knows to be wholly unfit, and should give the Lodge any information or knowledge he has of the character of such officer-elect, and advise the Lodge to disapprove of his election. When the District Deputy Grand Master has done this, he has discharged his duty and gone to the extent of his authority. If the Lodge still insists it may install the officer-elect; but a Lodge that would do so in the face of such facts should be reported by the District Deputy Grand Master and severely disciplined by the Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1896, p. 14-15.

**2251** The Grand Lecturer shall perform the duties of:

1. Supervising the Ritual Program of the Board of Grand Lecturers, under the direction of the Committee on Work. Pro. 1998, p. 25.

2. Have the responsibility of maintaining uniformity in the Adopted Work of the Grand Lodge. In the event there is not unanimous agreement among the Board as to any portion of the Adopted Work, he shall have responsibility of preparing the necessary presentation for action by the Delegates at Grand Lodge.

3. Serving as a communications link between the Committee on Work and the Board of Grand Lecturers, and to advise the Committee on Work as to any problems in the Ritual Program. - Pro. 1986, p. 52 - Pro. 1998, p. 25.

**2252** The Committee on Work shall approve the appointment of not more than eight (8) Deputy Grand Lecturers for one (1) year terms but may be appointed for as many terms as the Committee on Work may see fit. The Deputy Grand Lecturers will be appointed by the Grand Master with the unanimous approval of the Committee on Work. The Deputy Grand Lecturers will have the title of Worshipful Deputy Grand Lecturer and will be received at Lodge as other Grand Lodge Officers. The Deputy Grand Lecturers will serve at the will and pleasure of the Committee on Work and may be removed by the Committee on Work for any cause deemed sufficient by said Committee. - Pro. 1998, p.25.

**2253** The Grand Lecturer and his deputies will be the highest authority as to the correct work and all changes whatsoever in said work and lectures except when authorized and adopted by the Grand Lodge. Any willful and/or intentional variance from the adopted work or lectures is

hereby strictly forbidden and willful disobedience as determined by the Grand Master may result in disciplinary action. - Pro. 1998, p.25

**2254** The Grand Lodge recognizes the work and lectures as exemplified before the Grand Lodge in its 1939 Session, the Second Section of the Master Mason Degree as exemplified before the Grand Lodge in its 1972 Session, the Floor Work for the Three Degrees as exemplified before the Grand Lodge in its 1977 Session and the Floor Work for the Second Session of the Master Mason Degree as exemplified before the Grand Lodge in its 1995 Session as the adopted work of this Grand Jurisdiction. And their preservation and dissemination are enjoined on the Committee on Work and the Grand Lecturer and his deputies, under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed. - Pro. 1998, p.26.

**2255** All suggested changes in the adopted work of this Grand Lodge shall be referred to the Grand Lecturer and his deputies for study and report to the Committee on Work before being taken up for action on the Floor of the Grand Lodge. - Pro. 1998, p.26.

**2256** Before anyone shall be appointed as a Deputy Grand Lecturer it shall be the bounden duty of the Committee on Work to know that said appointee has the ability and determination to perform the duties of the office in the manner prescribed by the Grand Lodge. All new appointees as Deputy Grand Lecturer shall stand an examination and prove their proficiency on the Adopted Ritual before the Grand Lecturer and his deputies before said appointment shall be approved. - Pro. 1998, p.26.

**2257** The Deputy Grand Lecturers shall meet with the Grand Lecturer at such time and place as may be designated by the Grand Lecturer or the Grand Master, for the purpose of conference and comparison of the Work. - Pro. 1998, p.26.

**2258** Schools of Instruction shall be held at such times and places as the Grand Lecturer and his Deputies shall deem necessary and advisable. The purpose of such schools shall be for the securing of the uniform rendition of the work and lectures of this Grand Jurisdiction throughout the State. All schools shall be under the direct supervision of the Grand Lecturer and his Deputies and they shall make such rules and regulations for the conducting of said schools as they may deem advisable. - Pro. 1998, p.26.

**2259** The expense incident to the holding of Schools of Instruction or the examination for certificates when ordered by the Grand Lecturer or his Deputy, and the compensation for the Grand Lecturer, Certified Instructors, Certified Lecturers or others assisting at the request of the Grand Lecturer or his Deputy, shall be fixed by the Committee on Work, and when certified by them, shall be paid by the Grand Secretary out of the Grand Lodge funds, provided the total expended shall not exceed the amount appropriated by the Grand Lodge for that purpose. - Pro. 1998, p.26.

**2260** The Grand Lecturer and his Deputies may appoint such Brethren as may be qualified as instructors in the Work and Lectures. The appointment shall be made after rigid examination, under rules and regulations set forth by the Grand Lecturer and Deputies. If the applicant is found to be worthy and well qualified, such Brother may be issued a certificate that will

authorize him to teach the lectures, or the Lectures and the Work as adopted in 1939, the Second Section of the Master Mason Degree only as adopted in 1972, the Floor Work as adopted for the three degrees in 1977, the Floor Work of the 2nd Section of the Master Mason Degree as adopted in 1995 in any Lodge in the State, and he may give instruction to any Mason when so requested. When the appointee is authorized to teach the Lectures only, he shall be designated as a Certified Lecturer and if he is authorized to teach both the lectures and the Work as adopted in 1939 and 1972, and the Floor Work as adopted in 1977 and 1995, he shall be designated as a Certified Instructor. - Pro. 1998, p.27.

The Deputy Grand Lecturer may appoint in each district in his area, one brother that is certified in all of the adopted ritual as District Instructor and one brother that is also certified in all of the adopted ritual as Deputy District Instructor. The District Instructor and the Deputy District Instructor will work under the direction of and at the will of the Deputy Grand Lecturer. The two brethren will be issued a card designating them as the District Instructor and the Deputy District Instructor

**2261** The Certified Lecturers and Certified Instructors shall at all times be under the control and supervision of the Grand Lecturer and his Deputies who may send them to any Lodge in the State for instruction purposes. - Pro. 1998, p.27.

**2262** Nothing herein contained shall be construed as taking from any Brother his right, nor of relieving him of his duty to give instruction to candidates for advancement in the degrees, or to any other less informed Brother who may desire instruction. It is hoped that every Lodge will have certified Lecturers and Instructors among their members, but until this is accomplished, the Grand Lodge urges all well informed Brethren to continue giving instruction to the best of their ability. - Pro. 1939, p. 106.

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**2264** A Deputy Grand Lecturer is not a Grand Lodge Officer, however, he is vested with the title of Worshipful and is to be extended the Grand Honors. Pro. 2005, p. 72

**2265** The Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Law & Usage has no authority to make decisions by petition. No committee has such authority, to do so would be inappropriate and improper. Pro. 2005, p. 72

**2266** As soon as possible before January 1st, each year, the Grand Secretary shall furnish to each Lodge a summary of the quarterly reports that have been filed by the Lodge during the past year, together with a statement of the amount of Grand Lodge dues to be remitted to the Grand Lodge. This summary will be the annual report of the Lodge. -Pro. 1977, p. 53. amended Pro. 2018, pg. 32. & 52.

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a statement of such travel with the Grand Secretary in accordance with adopted rules and regulations. - Pro. 1980, p. 68.

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**22124** The expense incident to the holding of Schools of Instruction or the examination for certificates when ordered by the Grand Lecturer or his Deputy, and the compensation for the Grand Lecturer, Certified Instructors, Certified Lecturers or others assisting at the request of the Grand Lecturer or his Deputy, shall be fixed by the Committee on Work, and when certified by them, shall be paid by the Grand Secretary out of the Grand Lodge funds, provided the total expended shall not exceed the amount appropriated by the Grand Lodge for that purpose. - Pro. 1998, p.26.

**22125** The Grand Lecturer and his Deputies may appoint such Brethren as may be qualified as instructors in the Work and Lectures. The appointment shall be made after rigid examination, under rules and regulations set forth by the Grand Lecturer and Deputies. If the applicant is found to be worthy and well qualified, such Brother may be issued a certificate that will

authorize him to teach the lectures, or the Lectures and the Work as adopted in 1939, the Second Section of the Master Mason Degree only as adopted in 1972, the Floor Work as adopted for the three degrees in 1977, the Floor Work of the 2nd Section of the Master Mason Degree as adopted in 1995 in any Lodge in the State, and he may give instruction to any Mason when so requested. When the appointee is authorized to teach the Lectures only, he shall be designated as a Certified Lecturer and if he is authorized to teach both the lectures and the Work as adopted in 1939 and 1972, and the Floor Work as adopted in 1977 and 1995, he shall be designated as a Certified Instructor. - Pro. 1998, p.27.

The Deputy Grand Lecturer may appoint in each district in his area, one brother that is certified in all of the adopted ritual as District Instructor and one brother that is also certified in all of the adopted ritual as Deputy District Instructor. The District Instructor and the Deputy District Instructor will work under the direction of and at the will of the Deputy Grand Lecturer. The two brethren will be issued a card designating them as the District Instructor and the Deputy District Instructor

**22126** The Certified Lecturers and Certified Instructors shall at all times be under the control and supervision of the Grand Lecturer and his Deputies who may send them to any Lodge in the State for instruction purposes. - Pro. 1998, p.27.

**22127** Nothing herein contained shall be construed as taking from any Brother his right, nor of relieving him of his duty to give instruction to candidates for advancement in the degrees, or to any other less informed Brother who may desire instruction. It is hoped that every Lodge will have certified Lecturers and Instructors among their members, but until this is accomplished, the Grand Lodge urges all well informed Brethren to continue giving instruction to the best of their ability. - Pro. 1939, p. 106.

**22128** The Grand Lecturer, a Certified Instructor, or a Certified Lecturer cannot decide questions of law, the Grand Master being the only one having authority to render decisions on the law. - Pro. 1951, p. 69.

**22129** A Deputy Grand Lecturer is not a Grand Lodge Officer, however, he is vested with the title of Worshipful and is to be extended the Grand Honors. Pro. 2005, p. 72

**22130** The Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Law & Usage has no authority to make decisions by petition. No committee has such authority, to do so would be inappropriate and improper. Pro. 2005, p. 72

**2.2.131** All anonymous letters and correspondence will be immediately thrown away, no creditability will be given. Pro. 2018, pg 62

**2.2.132** A lodge may use whatever prayer they wish in open lodge provided that prayer does not infringe upon any other members religious or political beliefs. If there are known members of different faiths present at a meeting, the monitor prayer should be used. Pro. 2018, pg 62

**2.2.133** Shrine is to be reclassified from a Clandestine to a Civic organization for a period of three (3) years. During this time, Arkansas masons who are not shriners would be allowed to petition and join the shrine just as they may join any other Civic organization.

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During the three year grace period, members of the shrine in Arkansas who have never been masons must join a subordinate lodge and become master masons

Members of the shrine who voluntarily signed a self-expulsion form so they could remain as members of the shrine will be allowed to petition for masonic reinstatement by completing a petition and signing a statement agreeing to abide by Arkansas masonic law and their masonic obligations

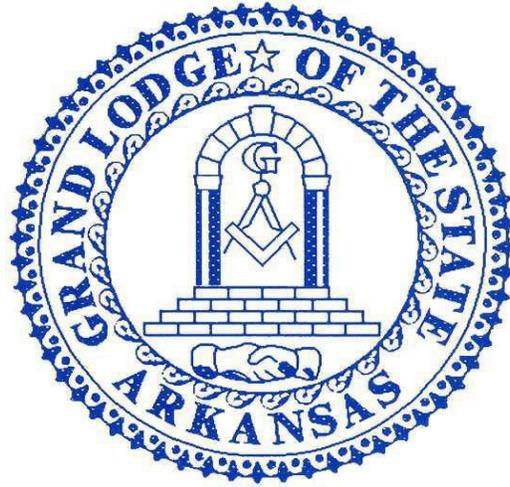
Members of the shrine who were expelled either by trial commission or Grand Master action, for shrine activity only, would be allowed to petition for reinstatement by completing a petition and signing a statement agreeing to abide by Arkansas Masonic law and their masonic obligations

All reinstatements would submit a petition for reinstatement along with the signed agreement and background check release to a subordinate lodge. The lodge would investigate and proceed in the usual manner as with any other reinstatement as provided for in the Digest of law. The reinstatement would be a subordinate lodge decision, not a Grand Lodge decision. If the ballot be dark and the candidate declared rejected, he would wait the established six (6) month time period and either repetition the original lodge or another subordinate lodge

At the expiration of the three (3) year grace period, assuming that all the Arkansas shriners have masonic membership in good standing, Fraternal recognition would be fully reinstated to the shrine and recognized as a fraternal organization which predicates its membership on masonic membership. At the end of the three (3) year grace period, all shriners who are not master masons in this or another grand jurisdiction duly recognized by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Arkansas will be suspended from the shrine. If not, the shrine will remain a Civic organization in Arkansas.

These provisions will go into effect ONLY AFTER the shrine approves legislation at their annual session in July 2019 as follows: A provision that requires Arkansas shriners to hold current masonic membership Pro. 2019, pg 15

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## **SECTION 3**

# **Subordinate Lodge**



## SECTION 3.1

### LODGE OPERATIONS

**3.1.1** The parliamentary usages of Masonic bodies, when not regulated by by-laws, are generally conducted by the presiding officer in accordance with the Standard Manuals; and the previous question may be moved, where questions are multiplied and debate has become burdensome. - Pro. 1870, p. 76.

**3.1.2** Every member, when in order, has the right to be heard upon any question before the body, and should be respectfully heard. It is not the Masonic custom to cut off a brother desiring to speak from this privilege. The exercise of a sound discretion is left to the presiding officer in regulating debate. - Pro. 1870, p. 76.

**3.1.3** The Grand Honors, practiced among Masons at funerals, whether in public or private, are given in the following manner:

Both hands are raised above the head, palms gently touching each other, then the arms are crossed on the breast, the left uppermost, and the open palms of the hands gently touching the shoulders, and then the arms are lowered, the palms gently touching the thighs. These are given two times in silence, and on the third time, the brethren audibly pronouncing the following words; when the hands are raised above the head: "We commend his spirit to God who gave it"; when the arms are crossed on the breast: "We cherish his memory here"; and when the hands are extended toward the ground: "And consign his body to the grave." - Pro. 2003, p. 24.

**3.1.4** A regular Masonic Lodge is one which works under a charter or dispensation issued to it by authority of a Grand Lodge or governing body recognized by the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, as provided in the Proceedings of 1928, page 68. -Pro. 1938, p. 68.

**3.1.5** No authority exists for the creation of branch Lodges. -Pro. 1897, p. 15.

**3.1.6** A clandestine Masonic Lodge is one which exists without regular authority, or which exists and works under authority of a governing body which is not recognized by the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, and any Mason who knowingly visits any clandestine Lodge should be disciplined. - Pro. 1950, p. 87.

**3.1.7** Where an applicant holding a dimit from a Lodge in the Indian Territory, deposited the same with a Lodge in Cincinnati which proved to be a clandestine Lodge, he may, by procuring a duplicate dimit from the Indian Territory Lodge be allowed to affiliate thereon with a Lodge in this jurisdiction, if the Lodge is satisfied that he did not know the Cincinnati Lodge to be clandestine. - Pro. 1907, p. 15.

**3.1.8** Every application for a dispensation to form a new Lodge shall be accompanied by a statement of the distance of the proposed domicile of said Lodge from the city of Little Rock. - Pro. 1878, p. 43.

**3.1.9** There is no distance prescribed between Lodges in the county. They may be near each other provided the interest of the Order requires it. Of this the Grand Master cannot always judge. He must generally rely upon the judgment of the Lodge recommending the dispensation of a new Lodge. -Pro. 1870, p. 15.

**3.1.10** The petitioners for dispensation for a new Lodge, who are members of the nearest chartered Lodge, have the right to vote upon the question of recommendation when it comes before said Lodge. -Pro. 1886, p. 18.

**3.1.11** No Lodge shall recommend a dispensation for a new Lodge until the petitioners therefor shall file with the Secretary of the recommending Lodge a receipt for the payment of dues assessed against them up to date under seal of the Lodge to which they belong, and the recommending Lodge shall so certify. -Pro. 1869, p. 69; 1871, pp. 41, 78.

**3.1.12** Where a brother's name is signed to a petition for a dispensation for a new Lodge without his consent or authority, the granting of the dispensation does not make him a member of the new Lodge, nor divest him of membership in his own Lodge, though he be not in arrears for dues. When the mistake is made known to the new Lodge and he is charged with dues there, the Lodge should instruct the Secretary to balance his account for dues, and strike his name from the list of its members as being erroneously there. -Grand Master English.

**3.1.13** A brother signed a petition for a dispensation for a new Lodge, but before a charter was granted he signed a petition for another dispensation for another new Lodge, in the same county; charters were granted to both Lodges. He belonged to the first Lodge, for which he petitioned, from the date of dispensation up to the date of the dispensation for the second Lodge which he signed; then he belonged to said second Lodge and owed dues accordingly. -Pro. 1876, p. 11.

**3.1.14** A Lodge working under a dispensation or warrant from the Grand Master is a regular and constitutional Lodge, and not merely a number of Masons working after the manner of a Lodge; it is not composed only of the Master and Wardens named in the warrant, but of all brethren who affiliate with it, and brothers may affiliate with, and candidates be admitted members of, such Lodge, and the charter, when granted, is but a continuance of the warrant, and does not create a new Lodge, although the existence of a Lodge under dispensation terminates at the end of the next Communication after the dispensation was issued, if not continued, or charter granted. -Pro. 1854, p. 32.

**3.1.15** Lodges under dispensation have no power to elect their officers. -Pro. 1846, p.14.

**3.1.16** The officers of a Lodge under dispensation are not entitled to installation. -Pro. 1875, p. 36.

**3.1.17** The Master of a Lodge under dispensation does not by virtue of such appointment and service become a Past Master when such Lodge is chartered and continued. A Past Master is one who has been actually elected or named in the Charter and installed Master of a Chartered Lodge and has served as such until the expiration of the term for which he was installed. -Pro. 1976, p. 85.

**3.1.18** A Lodge under dispensation shall send in the dispensation, the minute book, and other records, so that the same shall be in the office of the Grand Secretary at least five days before the opening day of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1957, p.114.

**3.1.19** A Lodge under dispensation cannot meet or transact any business during the period when its dispensation and records are in the hands of the Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1957, p.114.

**3.1.20** When a Charter is granted by the Grand Lodge, the work of the Lodge is still in suspense until the charter is delivered, the Lodge is constituted, and the officers are elected and installed. - Pro. 1957, p. 115.

**3.1.21** A Lodge under dispensation can not try and expel a Mason who is not a member of it, but can exclude an unworthy Mason not a member of it from visiting. Though having only limited powers, it must of necessity have the power to protect itself by disciplining its own members, but has not general jurisdiction over all Masons living within its bounds so as to give it the authority to try a nonaffiliated Mason. In such case charges should be preferred against the offender before the chartered Lodge nearest his residence. - Pro. 1872, p. 15; Grand Master English.

**3.1.22** A Lodge under dispensation may proceed to discipline its Master and Wardens for neglect and refusal to pay dues in the following way: As to the Wardens, the Lodge has power to deal with them and suspend them for nonpayment of dues, as in case of any other member; as to the Master, the fact can be reported to the Grand Master, who has the sole jurisdiction and right to remove him and appoint another, when the Master can be dealt with as other members. The Grand Master has power to remove either of the officers, and it is the shorter and better mode to report to the Grand Master and request his action. -Pro. 1878, p.32.

**3.1.23** The territorial jurisdiction of each Subordinate Lodge in Arkansas shall be all of that portion of the State of Arkansas that is nearer to the domicile of that Lodge than it is to the domicile of any other Lodge in Arkansas as measured in straight lines. -Pro. 1951, p.67.

**3.1.24** The three miles referred to in the Lodge charter has reference to the location of the hall or meeting place of the Lodge, and has no bearing on the territorial jurisdiction of the Lodge as set out in Sec. 3.1.23 -Pro. 1951, p. 67.

**3.1.25** Where there are two or more Lodges domiciled within the corporate limits of the same city or town, they shall have concurrent jurisdiction over the territory lying within the corporate limits of such city or town, but not outside such corporate limits. The general rule as set out in Sec. 3.1.23 shall apply as between Lodges within the city or town and the Lodges whose domicile is outside the corporate limits. -Pro. 1951, p. 67.

**3.1.26** Where the domicile of a Lodge, located outside the corporate limits of a city or town, is so close to the corporate limit line that a portion of the territorial jurisdiction (as set out in Sec. 3.1.23) extends into the corporate limits of such city or town, then jurisdiction over such portion as lies within the corporate limits shall be concurrent between all Lodges domiciles within the

corporate limits of such city or town and the Lodge domiciled just outside the corporate limits. - Pro. 1951, p. 67.

**3.1.27** The Master has the same right to vote on the proposition to move the domicile of the Lodge as any other brother has. The vote should be the usual voting sign. -Pro. 1926; Pro. 1951, p. 68.

**3.1.28** Every Subordinate Lodge shall have a suitable hall or place in which to meet and confer the degrees of Masonry, and every subordinate Lodge shall hold its stated meeting with reasonable regularity, and any Subordinate Lodge that does not have a suitable place in which to meet and confer degrees, or that fails or neglects to hold a stated meeting for six consecutive months, may be suspended from working by the Grand Master until such time as they make a proper showing that they will comply with these requirements, and upon such showing being made to the Grand Master, he may revoke the suspension and permit the Lodge to resume work. -Pro. 1937, p. 96.

**3.1.29** The Edicts of this Grand Lodge, providing that Lodge halls shall not be used for any but Masonic purposes, are hereby amended so as to allow the Lodges of this jurisdiction to permit the use of said halls by the Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Knights of Honor, or any other charitable organization if they so desire. -Pro. 1885, p. 49.

**3.1.30** A Lodge may occupy the ground floor of a building, provided the proper safeguards are preserved against intrusion and danger of exposure. -Pro. 1933, p. 29.

**3.1.31** A Lodge renting a Lodge room may divide it and rent out all spare rooms for proper objects, provided always the proper safeguards are preserved against intrusion and danger of exposure. - Pro. 1884, p. 25, as revised.

**3.1.32** A Lodge, being the owner of a hall, has the right to charge the so-called "higher orders" rent for its use. -Pro. 1885, p. 22.

**3.1.33** A Lodge may rent its hall to a charitable institution and establish another hall in the same town. -Pro. 1908, p. 12.

**3.1.34** A Lodge can not lawfully rent its Lodge room, the place where its meetings are held, for school purposes or permit the same to be so used, schools not being such charitable institutions as are contemplated by our law. Provided, that in case of an emergency arising from destruction of a school building, or some other emergency preventing the school house from being used, a Lodge room may be rented for that purpose, until the emergency is past. -Pro. 1922, p. 86.

Under the provisions of this section, a church may also use the Hall. -Pro. 1972, p.77.

**3.1.35** A Lodge has not the right to rent its lower rooms for a pool or billiard hall. -Pro. 1898, p. 17.

**3.1.36** A Lodge can rent or lease its property to any person, firm, partnership or corporation to conduct a business not prohibited by our Masonic edicts, but the Lodge itself cannot engage in a commercial business. -Pro. 1949, p. 99.

**3.1.37** It is not proper to hold games, sports and amusements in a Masonic Lodge Hall, except such social features as are contemplated in Sec. 3.1.84 hereof; this restriction does not apply to banquet halls and other space not used exclusively for Lodge purposes. -Pro. 1933, p. 29, as revised.

**3.1.38** The furnishings in a Lodge dining and/or recreation area (not the Lodge meeting room), such as tables and chairs, etc., whether donated to the Lodge by other organizations or not, are the property of the Lodge and may be loaned to whomever the Lodge desires, each case to be considered separately and approved by the three principal officers of the Lodge. -Pro. 1976, p. 85.

**3.1.39** A Lodge dining and/or recreation area (not the Lodge meeting room) may be used as polling places for elections. -Pro. 1976, p. 85.

**3.1.40** This Grand Lodge hereby recommends that the Worshipful Master of every Subordinate Lodge in this state which owns, either in whole or in part, the building wherein its Communications are held, shall cause said building, or the interest of the Lodge therein, to be insured in some reliable fire insurance company for an amount equal to three-fourths of the value of the interest of the Lodge and they shall thereafter keep such interest at all times so insured, making the loss, if any, payable to the Master and Wardens, naming them, and their successors in office as Trustees for the Lodge. The Worshipful Master may cause a warrant to be drawn on the Treasurer of his Lodge for the amount of the premium paid for such insurance, and this resolution shall be his authority therefore. -Pro. 1904, p. 103; 1913, p. 97.

**3.1.41** A Masonic Lodge may build or take a lease jointly with the Odd Fellows, or other charitable orders, or in connection with or over a business house, by taking the title to its interest in the realty in the name of the Master and the Wardens, by name, their successors in office, as Trustees for the Lodge, the Lodge having the exclusive control of the part owned or leased. -Pro. 1895, p. 14, as amended by Pro. 1913, p. 97.

**3.1.42** All real estate to be used by or for the benefit of any Subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, may be conveyed to the Master and Wardens of such Lodge and their successors in office, as trustees, for the use and benefit of and subject to the absolute control of such Subordinate Lodge; and any real estate, the title of which is now in the Grand Lodge for the use of a Subordinate Lodge, shall, upon the request of such Lodge, be by the Grand Master conveyed, under the seal of the Grand Lodge, to the Master and Wardens of such Subordinate Lodge, and their successors, for the purpose above specified; and any property so held for the use and benefit of a Subordinate Lodge may be conveyed or mortgaged by the Worshipful Master and Wardens, as trustees, as aforesaid, when authority so to do is given by such Subordinate Lodge in conformity with its By-Laws, without further authority from this Grand Lodge; provided, however, before the surrender or forfeiture of the charter of any Subordinate Lodge, it shall be the duty of the trustees to convey all real property belonging to the

Lodge to the Grand Lodge; the Grand Lodge shall settle up the liabilities of the defunct Lodge so far as the assets of said Lodge permit.

In the event of the failure or refusal of the Lodge or its trustees to comply with this requirement, the Grand Master shall cause a suit to be instituted in the Chancery Court which has jurisdiction to cause a receiver to be appointed, the assets sold, and the proceeds applied to discharging any indebtedness of said Subordinate Lodge; the Grand Master shall file a claim on behalf of the Grand Lodge for any residue remaining. -Pro. 1913, p. 97, as amended 1938.

**3.1.43** If any Lodge desires to buy, lease, sell, convey or mortgage any real estate, written notice of such intention shall be ordered at a stated meeting to be given to all members of the Lodge, informing them that at the next stated meeting of the Lodge such proposition, naming the proposition, will be submitted to the Lodge, and the same shall be entered on the minutes of the Lodge. If, at the next stated meeting, a majority of the members present consent to such purchase, lease, sale, conveyance or intention to mortgage, it shall be entered on the minutes of the Lodge; thereupon the Master and the Wardens of the Lodge, as trustees of the Lodge, shall execute, under the seal of the Lodge, the contract, conveyance, or mortgage, but not otherwise. A recital in the contract, conveyance or mortgage that notice of the proposed meeting had been given and that the Lodge had, by a majority vote of those present, directed the purchase, lease, sale, conveyance or mortgage, shall be conclusive evidence of those facts. -Pro. 1913, p. 97; amended 1949, p. 100.

**3.1.44** No Lodge is authorized to commence work under its charter until the officers are regularly elected and installed. -Pro. 1873, p. 17, revised.

**3.1.45** The Worshipful Master is the legal custodian of the charter of a Subordinate Lodge. When he is installed he receives the charter into his charge and it is his bounden duty to preserve it carefully and transmit it to his successor in office. He is required, at all times, to have it in his possession or under his immediate control, and is responsible for seeing that it is present at the opening of the Lodge; and the Lodge cannot pass a resolution or make any sort of regulation directing what shall be done with it and they have no right, by vote, to order it taken out of the charge of the Worshipful Master. -Pro. 1911, p. 27, as revised.

**3.1.46** A Lodge may, during the period of temporary loss of its charter, elect or install officers or transact any other business. But a Lodge must not continue indefinitely without its charter, and in case of loss must apply to the Grand Secretary for a duplicate charter. -Pro. 1909, p.35.

**3.1.47** The old rule is that a Lodge cannot voluntarily surrender its charter while seven members vote to retain it, that being the number to whom the original warrant to work was granted. -Grand Master English.

(1) All but seven members may receive dimitts at a Stated Communication of the Lodge; these seven should vote to surrender their charter and effects and it is the duty of the last presiding officers, Secretary and Treasurer, to see that the bills of the Lodge are all paid, and its remaining property turned over to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge. The Grand Secretary

will thereupon issue certificates to these brethren, and with such certificates they may apply for affiliation with some other Lodge. -Pro. 1932, p. 24.

(2) A Lodge should not surrender its charter for the purpose of avoiding the payment of its debts. That would not be just to creditors; and Masons should be just. -Grand Master English.

**3.1.48** A Lodge may pass a resolution or motion setting up the procedure for handling the business of the Lodge, provided it does not conflict with the Grand Lodge Law or the Uniform Code of By-Laws for the government of Subordinate Lodges. Such a resolution, when regularly passed, is binding upon the Lodge until it has repealed or amended; however, it does not become a part of the By-Laws of the Lodge, and is subject to change or repeal, by the Lodge, at any Stated Meeting. - Pro. 1950, p. 89.

**3.1.49** The Lodge should specify in such standing resolution what bills or expenses are so authorized for payment; the Lodge should not adopt a blanket resolution covering all expenses of whatever nature. -Pro. 1950, p. 89.

**3.1.50** The Subordinate Lodges in this jurisdiction have no power to make By-Laws, a uniform code having been prescribed for them by the Grand Lodge. In this code the time for the election of officers, installation of officers, the amount of fees to be charged for the degrees, the amount of dues to be charged, the time for the stated meetings and the maximum amount to be expended by the Worshipful Master or Wardens in anyone case for charity have been left blank, and each Subordinate Lodge has the power to fill these blanks, and when so filled the By-Laws are complete. The blanks left in the Uniform Code of By-Laws are at all times subject to the control of the Lodge, and may be changed when necessity requires it, without reference to the Grand Lodge; but nothing can be added by a Lodge to what is contained in such By-Laws. -Pro. 1951, p. 65.

**3.1.51** A resolution proposing to change any part (authorized by the Grand Lodge) of the Uniform Code of By-Laws, shall be introduced at a stated meeting of the Lodge and, shall lie over to the next stated meeting of the Lodge, except where a Lodge has two stated meetings per month the resolution shall lie over for one month. All members shall be notified of the pendency of the resolution, stating what it is, and when this has been done, a majority of the members who are in attendance at the next stated meeting, may legally make the change. All members of the Lodge must be notified of any change in the By-Laws. - Amended Pro. 1976, p. 85.

**3.1.52** A Lodge is not authorized to make a law governing grievances as between one brother and another; such being an amendment to the By-Laws. -Pro. 1920, p. 15.

**3.1.53** The By-Laws in reference to the payment of fees for degrees cannot be suspended by a Lodge. -Pro. 1887, p. 28, as revised.

**3.1.54** Every Lodge in this jurisdiction, at the raising of a brother, shall present to him a copy of the By-Laws of the Lodge, and recommend that he at once obtain a copy of the Monitor adopted by this Grand Lodge. Such presentation shall be made by the Worshipful Master immediately

after the charge is delivered. The Worshipful Master shall impress upon the newly-made brother the importance of carefully studying both the By-Laws and the Monitor. -Pro. 1906, p. 101.

**3.1.55** While the 24th of June and the 27th of December are Masonic festival days, they are none the less Stated Communications, and there can be no irregularity in reading for approval of the minutes of previous meetings; in fact, they should be read, unless dispensed with by a vote of the Lodge, until the next regular meeting, which is usually done. No other business should be conducted except that above or conferring degrees as permitted by Sec. 3.1.79. -Pro. 1887, p. 26, Pro. 1993, p.43.

**3.1.56** Where the regular monthly Stated Communication of a Lodge falls on the 24th of June or the 27th of December, all Lodge business can be lawfully transacted the same as at any other time. -Pro. 1893, p. 13-14.

**3.1.57** Lodges may change the time of their stated meetings to suit themselves, by amending the By-Laws as provided in Sec. 3.1.51. When a change in date is made the Grand Secretary shall be notified of such change. -Pro. 1951, p. 66.

**3.1.58** No Masonic work or ceremony shall be performed on Sunday, except in case of funerals and Lodges of Sorrow, memorial services and similar obligatory services of those organizations having Masonic membership as a prerequisite. -Pro. 1970, p. 117.

**3.1.59** It is in conflict not only with "law and right", but it is a violation of the long established customs and usages of Masonic bodies to confer degrees or to engage in any other regular work of the Lodge upon Sunday. -Pro. 1890, p. 9.

**3.1.60** When the 24th of June or the 27th of December falls on Sunday, Subordinate Lodges should not install officers on that day. We are taught that our ancient brethren wrought in both Operative and Speculative Masonry, and that they wrought six days and rested the seventh, and consecrated the seventh day, as a day of rest from their labors. There can be no necessity for a violation of this law, and Lodges should provide for an emergency by appointing another time for the installation of officers. -Pro. 1892, p. 9.

**3.1.61** It is not proper for the officers or members of a Lodge to assemble in the Lodge Hall on Sunday and rehearse the work and lectures of the Degrees, and all other organizations extended the use of the Hall on Sunday shall conform to the regulations which apply to a Masonic Lodge. -Pro. 1953, p. 74.

**3.1.62** All organizations having Masonic membership as a prerequisite to their own membership are directed to refrain from sponsoring or holding on Sunday any circus, athletic event, or other entertainment from which they expect to derive any financial gain, or which might bring discredit on Masonry. -Pro. 1951, p. 61.

**3.1.63** A Subordinate Lodge can meet out of its territorial jurisdiction, and open in the third degree, exclusively for the purpose of funeral services of a deceased member of the Lodge, but

the better practice would be to meet in its Lodge room, and then go to the burial ground. -Pro. 1886, p. 20.

**3.1.64** An Arkansas Lodge cannot meet as such in a sister Grand Jurisdiction and a dispensation requested for that purpose was denied. -Pro. 1932, p. 24.

**3.1.65** Only a Lodge chartered by the Grand Lodge of Arkansas may meet in this Grand Jurisdiction, and a request for a foreign chartered Lodge to open in an Arkansas Lodge's hall was refused. -Pro. 1964, p. 90.

**3.1.66** Unless he has the authority of the Grand Master to do so, a District Deputy Grand Master can not legally open a lodge in the absence of the Worshipful Master and both of the Wardens - Pro. 1909, p. 35.

**3.1.67** No Lodge can be opened by any Past Master, except for funerals, unless with the consent and in the presence of one of the three principal officers of said Lodge; and such Past Master must be one who derives the title from service as the Master of a Lodge. A Past Master of another jurisdiction is competent. -Pro. 1856, p. 103; Pro. 1908.

**3.1.68** All the Lodges must be opened up regularly at the stated meetings. 1877, p. 235.

**3.1.69** At a stated meeting, if there are seven brothers present, they must open up from the Entered Apprentice degree; if only five, they must open up from the Fellow Craft degree; but if only three, they must open in the Master's Degree, and they cannot do anything in the Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft Degrees -Pro. 1879, p. 16-17.

**3.1.70** At a regular meeting, a Lodge can confer the Entered Apprentice degree before the Lodge is opened on the Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees, the candidate having been elected prior to that meeting; and may afterwards continue to open up. -Pro. 1880, p. 30.

**3.1.71** When, at a regular meeting the Worshipful Master, supposing the business of the Master's Lodge completed, dispenses with labor, and resumes labor in the Fellow Craft's Lodge, this does not preclude him from resuming labor in the Master's Lodge, if it turns out to be necessary to transact other business. He has power over the Lodge until the meeting terminates and the Lodge is finally closed. -Grand Master English.

**3.1.72** An Entered Apprentice may remain in the Lodge room in the Entered Apprentice degree until the Master closes the Lodge on that degree. -Pro. 1919, p. 12.

A Fellow Craft has the same privilege in a Lodge of Fellow Craft Masons. -Pro. 1938, p. 74.

**3.1.73** A Lodge can not be opened without displaying the three great lights. -Pro. 1897, p. 12.

**3.1.74** The Holy Bible is a "Great Light in Masonry", and "given us as the rule and guide for our faith and practice."-Arkansas Monitor, Edition 1957, p. 15.

**3.1.75** No other book than the Bible can be displayed upon the altar. -Pro. 1908, p.12.

**3.1.76** When the Lodge is at labor, representatives of the lesser lights must be in due form and burning -Pro. 1873, p. 19.

**3.1.77** The American Flag shall be displayed in the Grand Lodge Hall at each session, and all Subordinate Lodges of this jurisdiction are directed to procure and display an American Flag in the Lodge Hall at all meetings. It should stand upon the right of the Worshipful Master's station. -Pro. 1916, p. 107; amended 1938, p. 69.

**3.1.78** A salute to the American Flag shall be given by all in attendance at the opening of the Grand Lodge and at the opening of all Subordinate Lodges at called and stated meetings, by standing, placing the right hand over the heart and repeating the Pledge of Allegiance aloud and in unison. - Pro. 1961, p. 128.

**3.1.79** The order of business at the stated meetings shall be:

First - Reading of minutes.

Second - Considering unfinished business.

Third - Receiving and referring petitions.

Fourth - Receiving reports of committees.

Fifth - Balloting for candidates.

Sixth - Receiving and considering resolutions.

Seventh - Considering bills.

Eighth – Treasurer's Report. – Pro. 2012, p. 45

Ninth - Conferring degrees or Program of Education. -Pro. 1986, p. 36.

At called meetings no business shall be transacted except that for which the Lodge was called. - Art. 18, Uniform Code.

**3.1.80** The regular business of the Lodge shall be transacted at Stated Communications. -Pro. 1953, p. 74.

**3.1.81** The only business to be transacted at called meetings is conducting examinations, approving proficiency, the conferring of degrees (as provided in Sections 3.4.9 and 3.7.67) and conducting funerals. -Pro. 1953, p. 74.

**3.1.82** When in the opinion of the Worshipful Master an emergency exists which makes it necessary to transact business, (other, than conducting examinations and approving proficiency, the conferring of degrees or conducting a funeral) at a called meeting, the entire membership of the Lodge shall be notified of the meeting and the nature of the business to be transacted. -Pro. 1953, p. 74.

**3.1.83** Only one vote shall be allowed the Worshipful Master, even in case of a tie. -Pro. 1850, p. 15; Pro. 1872, p. 70.

**3.1.84** This Grand Lodge recommends to the Subordinate Lodges within this jurisdiction a restoration of the social features of Freemasonry, by having refreshments (if possible) and a time for social intercourse among the craft at each Stated Communication of the Lodge. -Pro. 1892, p. 54.

**3.1.85** A Lodge may close at a regular meeting to a day certain, for the purpose of finishing unfinished business, and such meeting for that purpose would be a continuation of the regular meeting; but at such second meeting the Lodge should not reconsider what has been done at the first meeting, unless the motion was then made and laid over, because members might be absent at the second meeting who had regarded the question settled at the first. -Pro. 1871, p. 15.

**3.1.86** A Lodge must be closed on the highest degree in which it has been opened at a communication. -Pro. 1941, p. 18.

**3.1.87** The Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft Lodges are under and dependent on the Master's Lodge, and the closing of the latter closes the others. -Pro. 1872, p. 17.

**3.1.88** The signs given in closing the Lodges are the same as those given in the opening. -Pro. 1897, p. 11.

**3.1.89** Whenever there shall be any money due a Subordinate Lodge, or to the Grand Lodge for the use of a Subordinate Lodge, such Subordinate Lodge may use the name of the Grand Lodge in collecting and receipting for such money. And when collected the Subordinate Lodge may appropriate and use the same without action of the Grand Lodge or its officers. -Pro. 1886, p. 87.

**3.1.90** No Lodge shall distribute its funds among its members. -Pro. 1885, p. 54.

**3.1.91** Since Masonry is a charitable as well as a moral institution, the funds belonging to a Lodge may with proper discretion be used to relieve the distressed and needy, and special donations may be made by Lodges to worthy non-Masonic institutions. -Pro. 1906, p. 20; Pro. 1919, p. 12; Pro. 1946, p. 24.

**3.1.92** A Subordinate Lodge has the right to loan its money, retaining enough to meet exigencies of charity, its notes being made payable to the Master and Wardens as trustees for the Lodge. - Pro. 1913, p. 97.

**3.1.93** A Lodge has no more right to repudiate its warrant drawn for relief, because there is no money in the treasury, than an individual has for refusing his just note of hand. -Pro. 1889, p. 12.

**3.1.94** Every Lodge shall keep the following books, and such other books as the Lodge itself shall direct, viz: A record book of the proceedings of the Lodge; a register of the names of members, date of initiation, occupation, etc., an alphabetical list of expulsions and rejections; and

such books as may be necessary to present clearly the receipts and accounts of the Secretary and Treasurer. -Pro. 1855, p. 54.

**3.1.95** The presiding officer, whether Worshipful Master or Warden, should sign the minutes of the meeting preceding the one over which he is presiding, as an attestation of their being approved. -Pro. 1879, p. 15.

**3.1.96** There must be an Annual Audit of the Secretary and Treasurer Books, said Compilation to be done by a Committee of three appointed by the Worshipful Master at the first meeting in December and report to the Lodge the first meeting in January on paper which will become permanent record. Said Compilation Committee to consist of well qualified Brethren but cannot include the Secretary or Treasurer of the Lodge. -Pro. 1980, p. 78.

**3.1.97** Section 3.1.96 of the Digest requires an annual audit of the Secretary's and Treasurer's books by a committee of three appointed by the Worshipful Master at the first meeting in December with a report to be given by the Lodge at the first meeting in January.

**3.1.98** The secretary shall turn over all minutes, ledgers, receipts, membership records or reports and any other information to the audit committee immediately upon request.

**3.1.99** The treasurer shall turn over all bank statements, savings statements, cancelled checks, deposit slips, ledgers or books that reflect the finances of the Lodge immediately to the audit committee upon request as well as any other information requested by the audit committee.

**3.1.100** Any secretary or treasurer who does not promptly comply with these requests is guilty of un-Masonic conduct and shall be impeached and tried.

**3.1.101** The records or proceedings of a Lodge, after once being approved, should never be expunged or altered. They should be made to speak the truth, and all needed corrections made before being approved; but if errors or mistakes are afterwards detected, they must be corrected by proper motions, made and entered on the minutes of proceeds when made. -Pro. 1884, p. 25.

**3.1.102** Every Lodge shall have a seal. -Pro 1855, p. 54.

**3.1.103** The seal of the Lodge should be used only by the Secretary, and by him only under the direction of the Lodge, or for attesting the Lodge proceedings. -Pro. 1883, p. 12-13.

**3.1.104** A Lodge can not turn out on any occasion, except to bury a brother or in honor of the Festival Day, without a dispensation from the Grand Master. -Pro. 1873, p. 19; Pro. 1906, p. 23.

**3.1.105** It is not proper for a Masonic Lodge to take part in the dedication of a church, that not being a Masonic purpose. -Pro. 1906, p. 22.

**3.1.106** Every Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall make and transmit to the Grand Lodge such reports as the Grand Lodge shall order. -Pro. 1949, p. 105.

**3.1.107** When making reports called for in 1.4-Art. IV-Sec. 5, of the Constitution, the names of all brethren shall be given in full, no initials to be used. -Pro. 1949, p. 105.

**3.1.108** On or before the 15th day of each quarter. ( March, June, September, December) every Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall transmit to the Grand Lodge, on forms furnished by the Grand Lodge, a report of all work done in the Lodge during the previous month and shall include all of the information asked for on the forms. -Pro. 1949, p. 105. Amended by edict Pro. 2018, p. 49.

**3.1.109** It is the duty of the Subordinate Lodges to pay their dues to the Grand Secretary, and it is recommended that they send up their dues by private hands, or by a post office order, or by express and hereafter no Lodge whose dues shall be represented as lost by mail, shall be credited the Lodge being responsible for the safe delivery of the dues, and not the Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1872, p. 51.

**3.1.110** Every Subordinate Lodge which fails to file its monthly reports for three months, or is in arrears for dues, may be suspended (by the Grand Master) from working until it complies with the requirements. After notice of suspension is given, if and when the Lodge complies with the aforesaid requirements or makes satisfactory arrangements to comply, then the Grand Master may revoke said suspension and the Lodge may resume work. -Pro. 1949, p.105.

**3.1.111** Where a Lodge has two stated communications per month, it may elect officers at either the first or second stated communication in December. -Pro. 1949, p. 100. Amended, Pro. 1976, p. 91.

**3.1.112** A member of an Arkansas Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, who now resides out of the state but remains in good standing in his Arkansas lodge may hold office in the said Lodge so long as he is able to attend stated meetings and perform those duties for which he was elected or appointed. Pro. 2015 p.18.

**3.1.113** Only a member of a Lodge is eligible to hold office in it. -Pro. 1958, p. 77.

**3.1.114** It is not necessary for a brother to be a Certified Lecturer or a Certified Instructor to qualify for election or appointment, or for installation into any office in the Lodge. -Pro. 1949, p. 100; Pro. 1951, p. 62.

**3.1.115** Each Lodge receiving a charter shall elect officers at the first regular meeting after the grant of the charter, and install same at said meeting or at such other time as they may select, in conformity with law and Masonic usage. -Pro. 1889, p. 68.

**3.1.116** Where a Lodge fails to elect its officers, as provided in the Uniform Code of By- Laws, they cannot elect and install without a dispensation from the Grand Master. -Pro. 1957, p. 115.

**3.1.117** Where a Lodge fails to hold the election of officers at the regular time, the then officers hold over, unless the Grand Master authorizes an election on notice. -Pro. 1870, p. 14.

**3.1.118** When vacancies occur to any of the elective offices of a lodge they must be filled by seniority (or pro tempore appointments) during the remainder of the term, and no election can be held to fill them except by dispensation of the Grand Master. -Pro. 1852, p.44.

**3.1.119** Each Lodge may make its own regulations as to nominations in elections for officers. - Pro. 1902, p. 52.

**3.1.120** The election of officers in a lodge is to be by written ballot. -Pro. 1957, p.115.

**3.1.121** A Lodge can not elect officers while at refreshment. -Pro. 1902; p. 52.

**3.1.122** Failure to have paid Grand Lodge dues does not void the right of a Lodge to elect officers, and continue to function as a Lodge in all other respects until the Grand Lodge takes action on the delinquency by suspending or removing the charter. -Pro. 1932, p.23.

**3.1.123** The time for the election of the Deacons is the same as the election of other officers and, if at the election the Lodge does not exercise the 'option' of electing them, it then becomes the duty of the Worshipful Master-elect to appoint them, and when he has done this, the matter is closed and it would not be proper at a subsequent meeting of the Lodge to consider a motion that provided for the election of the Deacons. -Pro. 1948, p. 78.

**3.1.124** Election by written ballot shall be necessary when a Lodge has nominations, if more than one is nominated. If the Lodge chooses not to have nominations, a written ballot must be used in the election of each office. Each of the elective Lodge officers of the Lodge must be elected separately. Motions to elect by acclamation are not of order. However, a Worshipful Master, after allowing sufficient time for nominations, may declare nominations closed, after there has been one nomination. A slate of officers cannot be accepted by motion, nor can two or more officers be elected at the same time. -Pro. 1973, p. 101.

**3.1.125** All Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction must elect and install their Officers during the month of December. -Pro. 1976, p. 91.

**3.1.126** No member in arrears for dues at the time of the regular election shall be elected or appointed to any office in this Lodge, nor be allowed to vote at such election. - Art. 12, Uniform Code.

**3.1.127** Before the Lodge votes to elect officers the Worshipful Master shall ask the Secretary if all present are qualified voters; the Secretary shall satisfy himself and report to the Master which brethren are in arrears and not entitled to vote. -Art. 12-a, Uniform Code.

**3.1.128** Where the Master-elect or a Warden-elect refuses to be installed and to serve as such, a Lodge may ask for a dispensation to elect a new officer and install him. In such a case the office

can not be filled except by dispensation. Such dispensation should not be granted except by request of the Lodge at a regular meeting. -Pro. 1897, p. 12.

**3.1.129** The officers of a Lodge under dispensation are not entitled to installation. -Pro. 1875, p. 36.

**3.1.130** A Lodge should install its Officers at the time fixed in the By-Laws, and should the regular time pass without any action, the Lodge must get a dispensation to install. -Pro. 1879, p. 18; Amended, Pro. 1976, p. 91.

**3.1.131** If the officers of a Lodge be not installed at the time fixed in its By-Laws, or at such other time as the Lodge may have fixed therefor, it is only necessary for the Lodge to procure a dispensation from the Grand Master to install its elective officers. The appointive officers may be installed at any time thereafter without a dispensation. -Pro. 1885, p. 22, as revised.

**3.1.132** Installation of an officer elected or appointed may be done anywhere in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1885, p. 42.

**3.1.133** The officers of Subordinate Lodges shall not be installed by proxy. -Pro. 1957, p. 115.

**3.1.134** It is necessary for the Worshipful Master or other officer of a Subordinate Lodge to be installed, even though he has been installed as a District Deputy. -Pro. 1893, p. 13.

**3.1.135** Installing his successor is the prerogative of the retiring Worshipful Master, although any Past Master may act as installing officer for the occasion. A competent brother, (usually a Past Master) will be appointed to act as Marshal, who will present the officers-elect for installation. - Arkansas Monitor, Edition of 1957, p. 91.

**3.1.136** The Junior Warden-elect of a Lodge, being a Past Master, has the right to install the Worshipful Master-elect; and, after the Worshipful Master has been installed, he may install all the other officers of the Lodge. -Pro. 1884, p. 24-25.

**3.1.137** It is not proper for an individual member or Lodge committee to invite a suspended or expelled member to make a speech to the Lodge at a public installation of officers or any stated or called meeting. -Pro. 2019 amended

**3.1.138** A Lodge cannot change the time for the installation of officers, it must be during the month of December, unless granted a Special Dispensation by the Grand Master. -Pro. 1976, p. 91.

**3.1.139** The Worshipful Master of a Lodge may resign from his office with the consent of the Grand Master. Such a resignation would invoke two provisions. Pro. 2005, p.77

1. A Brother resigning from the office of Worshipful Master would not be entitled to retain his title of Worshipful or to recognition as a Past Master, Pro. 2005, p. 77

2. The remainder of the year would be assumed by the Senior Warden without assuming the office of Worshipful Master. Pro. 2005, p. 77

**3.1.140** There is no power authorizing the resignation or dimit of the Senior Warden or Junior Warden. The Secretary and Treasurer may resign by consent of the Lodge, having been elected by the Lodge. The Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon and Tyler and Masters of Ceremonies may resign by consent of the Master, being placed there by his appointment. -Pro. 1874; Grand Master English; Pro. 2005, p.77-78.

**3.1.141** A Warden of a Lodge under dispensation cannot dimit from his Lodge or resign his office until the expiration of his term, unless released from his office by the Grand Master; then he may dimit. -Pro. 1885, p. 22.

**3.1.142** If a Worshipful Master or a Warden, having served a term, is re-elected at the annual election, and fails to attend at the time fixed for installation, he may be installed at another time; but if he refused, after the day of election has passed, to be installed, he is nevertheless in office by virtue of his former election and installation, and cannot dimit until his successor is elected and installed. -Pro. 1877, p. 44.

**3.1.143** On the death of the Master, the Senior Warden, when present, must preside to the end of the term. -Pro. 1906, p. 25.

**3.1.144** Should a vacancy occur in any of the appointive officers of the Lodge it may be filled by the appointment of the Worshipful Master, and the Lodge may install the appointee at any time thereafter without a dispensation. Though it is not proper to assume that the appointive officers regularly advance, a Worshipful Master, should he so desire, may fill a vacancy by appointing a Brother already holding an appointive office by accepting his resignation, and then appointing him to fill the vacancy. -Pro. 1954, p. 72.

**3.1.145** A Brother holding a Plural membership and installed into the office of Worshipful Master or a Warden cannot be granted a Certificate of Withdrawal from that Lodge in which he holds office until his successor is elected and installed according to our Law. -Pro. 1980, p. 77.

**3.1.146** The amount to be used by the Worshipful Master or Wardens for charity may be changed by amending the By-Laws as provided in Sec. 3.1.51. -Pro. 1951, p. 67.

**3.1.147** No Subordinate Lodge shall circulate any appeal for aid to other than its own members, unless such appeal has the endorsement of the Grand Master and is authenticated by the Grand Secretary. -Pro. 1957, p. 112.

**3.1.148** Any Lodge in this jurisdiction applying for aid for any destitute brother or his dependents, shall in its appeal state how much the Lodge has contributed for the person for whom they are asking relief. -Pro. 1909, p. 107.

**3.1.149** Lodges sending out appeals shall send to the Grand Secretary with the returns a statement showing how much was received on such appeal and how disposed of. -Pro. 1908, p. 73.

**3.1.150** Any member of the Lodge in good standing has a right to attend his Lodge at any and all times when in session, and no officer has the legal power to deny him this right. -Pro. 1906, p. 15.

**3.1.151** A brother suspended for nonpayment of dues has not the privilege of visiting his Lodge. -Pro. 1902, p. 81.

**3.1.152** No suspended Master Mason may attend any meeting of any organization which requires Masonic Membership of all of its members or of its adult male members. (Such a visitation is a violation of Masonic law which subjects the Brother to trial.) The Grand Secretary shall notify all such organizations of all suspensions of any type. -Pro. 1981, p. 100.

**3.1.153** It is a landmark, that an affiliated Master Mason in good standing has the right to visit any Lodge on the globe--subject to the right of objection as set forth in Sec.3.1.160 hereof, otherwise Masonry would be local and not universal in its character. The Fraternity is a great family of brothers, and the right of visitation and hospitality is as extensive as the Brotherhood. Every Master Mason in good standing in his own Lodge should feel that every other Lodge is the home of his near kindred, and that he is welcome there as a brother -Pro. 1870.

**3.1.154** No Mason can vouch for a brother, unless he has sat in a regular Lodge with him, or examined him by appointment of the Worshipful Master, (being with him in organizations other than a Lodge is not sufficient therefor) and the question must be asked by the presiding officer, before a brother is permitted to sit in a Lodge. -Pro. 1869, p. 67; Pro. 1919, p. 12, as revised.

**3.1.155** Examination of a visitor is to be done by a committee, not by the Master. The appointment of the committee to examine may be made when the Lodge is about to open, as well as after it has actually opened. -Pro. 1870, p. 18; Pro. 1920, p. 16.

**3.1.156** No visitor has the right to demand to see the charter of a Lodge previous to his examination. -Pro. 1892, p. 9; Pro. 1895, p. 15.

**3.1.157** It shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master of each Subordinate Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction to require of every visiting brother satisfactory evidence, at least once each year, that he is a member in good standing in the Lodge in which he claims membership. - . 1912, p. 76.

**3.1.158** A non-affiliated Mason does not have an inherent right to visit any Lodge. If a willful non-affiliate he may be admitted by courtesy, but if unworthy, it is a good excuse withholding the courtesy. -Pro. 1957, p. 115.

**3.1.159** A visiting brother has no right to vote upon any question arising in the Lodge visited by him. None but the members of the Lodge have the right to vote. -Grand Master English.

**3.1.160** A brother may object to the admission of any visitor to his lodge, except the Grand Master, the official representative of the Grand Master, or the Grand Lecturer. The objection once stated to the Worshipful Master may not be set aside except by permission of the objecting brother. The Lodge shall respect the objection, informing the applicant that he cannot enter the hall and must retire from the premises. If in the objection there are grounds for charges, they must be investigated according to the Law of Trials. -Pro. 1870; Pro. 1964, p.91.

**3.1.161** The Worshipful Master must request a visitor to leave the Lodge when an objection is raised. An objection is valid only for the meeting at which it is raised; were the same visitor to come a second time, it would be necessary to object a second time. -Pro. 1932, p. 24; Pro. 1964, p. 91.

**3.1.162** Where a brother applied to affiliate and was rejected, he afterwards applied to visit and was denied by the Master, in such case the brother was not willfully non-affiliated; the Lodge ought not to impose a condition on a brother and then punish him for being non-affiliated; if otherwise worthy, he had the right of visiting that every member in good standing of another Lodge had, subject to the rights and powers of the Master to reject, if he saw proper, but in such case the Master should not exercise his discretion adversely to the applicant simply because he is non-affiliated. - Pro. 1871, p. 14.

**3.1.163** A Subordinate Lodge is bound to receive the official visit of a Grand Officer, whether it would admit such officer as a private Mason or not. Fealty to the Grand Lodge requires this. -Pro. 1872, p. 14.

**3.1.164** When a man becomes a Master Mason he can select for himself the Lodge, or particular Masonic family, with which he prefers to affiliate, and may affiliate with a Lodge out of the state of his residence, if there is no regulation of the Grand Lodge to whose jurisdiction such Lodge belongs prohibiting it. -Pro. 1877, p. 43; Pro. 1993, p.58.

**3.1.165** A dimit of itself is evidence that some one bearing the name therein was at the time of the date of the dimit a Master Mason in good standing, and a petition accompanied by such dimit should be received by any Lodge to which it is presented and referred to a committee; but such committee should not report favorably upon such petition until they have examined the applicant and proved him to be a Master Mason in due form, and to be the person named in the dimit, and otherwise worthy, and no one should recommend such a petition until satisfied of like facts. -Pro. 1890, p. 9, as revised.

**3.1.166** A Mason can be elected a member of a Lodge without having visited the Lodge if the committee of investigation reports him a Mason in good standing. When a brother attends the Lodge for the first time, of course, he will have to be examined or vouched for. -Pro. 1896, p. 88.

**3.1.167** A Lodge should not affiliate anyone without a dimit or certificate of good standing sent in with his application. -Grand Master English; Pro. 1881.

**3.1.168** A brother applying for affiliation, whose dimit has been lost, must obtain a duplicate; or legal proof of its existence and loss may be sufficient. -Pro. 1872, p. 16.

**3.1.169** When, a brother receives a dimit and later wishes to resume his membership, he must petition for affiliation, and the petition must take the same course as if he had never been a member of that Lodge. -Pro. 1951, p. 70.

**3.1.170** There is no fee chargeable for affiliation, the same having been abolished by the Grand Lodge in 1876, p. 42. -Pro. 1894, p. 10.

**3.1.171** A citizen of another state, residing in the state where his citizenship is, shall not be permitted to affiliate with a Lodge in Arkansas and/or A member and resident of Arkansas shall not be able to affiliate with a Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction except with the approval of the Grand Masters of both Jurisdictions. -Pro. 1870, p. XLVI; Pro. 1877, p. 42; Pro. 1962, p. 107, Pro. 2012, p. 45

**3.1.172** Where a Mason is made in a Lodge under dispensation, and the dispensation expires or is withdrawn, and no charter granted, he stands non-affiliated, and may apply for affiliation with any other Lodge, furnishing the proper evidence that the Lodge in which he was made is defunct, and that he was a member of it. -Grand Master English.

**3.1.173** When a brother petitioned for affiliation, and was blackballed, he may visit a Lodge after such rejection if no objection is made thereto by any member, but any member may object to his visiting the same as in the case of any other visitor. -Pro. 1909, p. 104.

**3.1.174** A dead brother, however meritorious, can not be subsequently affiliated. -Pro. 1889, p. 12.

**3.1.175** Any Master Mason can dimit from his Lodge and remain unaffiliated; but in so doing he loses all the benefits of Masonry, yet is not absolved from his obligation, and is subject to discipline for un-Masonic conduct by any Lodge in whose jurisdiction he may reside. -Pro. 1874, p. 14.

**3.1.176** A non-affiliated Mason has no right to vote in a Lodge, though he be not willfully non-affiliated. -Pro. 1881, p. 18.

**3.1.177** A brother must be a member of some regular Lodge, or otherwise is in the attitude of a non-affiliated Mason. Being affiliated with a Chapter, but not with a Lodge, does not thereby confer any Lodge privileges. -Pro. 1871, p. 18.

**3.1.178** Dimitted and non-affiliated brethren, unless willful non-affiliates, though living in utter violation of their duty, and neglect of their rights and privileges, are not of that unworthy class who have forfeited all claim upon the sympathy, assistance and charity of the members of the Fraternity -Pro. 1852, p. 12.

**3.1.179** Each and every nonaffiliated Mason shall be deemed to be willfully nonaffiliated who shall have acquired a residence, and resided for a period of twelve months within the jurisdiction of any Lodge in this State, and does not make, or has not made, application to some Lodge to

affiliate therewith within twelve months after such residence has been acquired. -Pro. 1880, p. 67; Pro. 1904, p. 92.

**3.1.180** A dimitted Mason does not become a willful nonaffiliate, in this Grand Jurisdiction, until he has resided, after the issuance of the dimit, twelve months within the jurisdiction of some Lodge. If he continues his residence in the jurisdiction of the Lodge granting the dimit, then the time is to be counted from the date it was granted. But, if he moves from the jurisdiction of that Lodge the time is to be counted, not from the date of the issuance of the dimit, but from the time he acquired a residence within the jurisdiction of another Lodge, in which he continued to reside as long as twelve months. -Pro. 1885, as modified Pro. 1904, p. 92.

**3.1.181** All Masonic communications and conversations shall be, and the same are hereby, interdicted and prohibited between the members of the Lodge of this jurisdiction and willfully nonaffiliated Masons. If that applies to nonaffiliated Masons it only makes good sense that it would apply to those who have been expelled and suspended. Visiting at Masonic functions only leads to Masonic conversations, which is strictly prohibited by Law. -Pro. 1880, p. 67; Pro. 1904, p. 92; Pro. 2006, p. 49-50.

**3.1.182** The family of a willfully nonaffiliated Mason has no rights or status. -Pro. 1871, p. 17.

**3.1.183** Where a brother applies for affiliation and is rejected, he is not a willful nonaffiliate, but in a condition to be affiliated. --Pro. 1881, p. 18. He should be accorded Masonic burial. -Pro. 1908, p. 15; Pro. 1895, p. 14.

**3.1.184** A dimitted Mason who fails to apply for affiliation within twelve months is in the attitude of a willfully nonaffiliated Mason, and under the ban of nonintercourse, but is not thereby debarred from applying for affiliation; but on the contrary, all Masons should be encouraged to cease to be drones, become affiliates and thereby remove the ban of nonintercourse. -Pro. 1881, as amended Pro. 1904, p. 92.

**3.1.185** When a member of a Lodge desires a dimit he shall make application therefor in writing. When the application is presented to the Lodge, if his dues are paid up to and including the Stated Communication at which such application is presented, and if there are no charges pending against the applicant, the dimit shall be granted at once, if there is no objection, and the Worshipful Master shall cause an order to be entered in the minutes directing the Secretary to issue the dimit. If there is an objection, then the matter shall lie over until the next Stated Communication of the Lodge, when, if no charges have been filed, the Worshipful Master shall cause an order to be entered in the minutes of the Lodge directing the Secretary to issue the dimit. -Pro. 1950, p. 87.

**3.1.186** Every brother ought to belong to some Lodge, assist the brethren in their work, and contribute to the funds of the Lodge; but if he chooses to withdraw, he ought to be free to do so; and if he can satisfy his brethren that he is unable to assist in the work of the Lodge, on account of feeble health, distance of residence, or other like good cause, he ought to be excused; and if unable to contribute to the funds of the Lodge, he ought to be relieved from the payment of dues. -Pro. 1852, p. 11.

**3.1.187** A brother in good standing "who desires to pay his dues, get a dimit and quit the Lodge honorably" giving as his reason "that he wanted to sever his connection with all secret societies" is entitled to dimit upon the payment of all dues, there being no charges against him. Provided, that the reason given is sincere, and not for the purpose of evading the duties and obligations resting upon him as a Mason. -Pro. 1893, p. 39.

**3.1.188** A member of a Lodge may dimit therefrom, although he may never have sat in the Lodge, if he is otherwise entitled to the dimit. -Pro. 1896, p. 88.

**3.1.189** When a brother objects to certain material being worked, this would not prevent him from dimitting on that account, but if he thinks the material bad he ought to assert his Masonic right to prevent its reception. -Pro. 1910, p. 30.

**3.1.190** Where a brother asks for a dimit the granting thereof cannot be prevented by the objection of another brother that the applicant has said something about him. -Pro. 1879, p. 15.

**3.1.191** Unless fraud or deception is shown, a brother square on the books should not be refused a dimit because he left the state owing another brother a debt. -Pro. 1889, p. 11.

**3.1.192** A brother who has paid all his dues to the Lodge, but is surety on a note to the Lodge for \$5.00 and asks for a dimit, if otherwise worthy, the mere fact of his suretyship on the note would not preclude his withdrawal on dimit and the same may be granted him. The granting of a dimit would in no way release him from his obligation on the note. -Pro. 1896, p. 14.

**3.1.193** Where a member of a Lodge borrowed money from the Lodge and afterwards made application for a dimit, the fact that a brother is indebted to his Lodge for borrowed money is not in itself sufficient cause to justify the Lodge in refusing the brother a dimit, but when the note is past due it becomes a charge against him, and if he is financially able he ought to be required to pay the same before he is granted a dimit. -Pro. 1898, p. 18-19.

**3.1.194** When the Lodge has granted a petition for a dimit, the brother being lawfully entitled thereto, that moment he ceases to be a member of the Lodge and has no right to vote on any proposition. -Pro. 1950, p. 88.

**3.1.195** When a brother has been granted a dimit, it makes no difference whether the certificate thereof be under seal or not. -Pro. 1872, p. 17.

**3.1.196** Where an absent brother requested to be furnished a diploma and by mistake the Lodge granted him a dimit, it is proper for the Lodge to correct the error on its record by a resolution to that effect. -Pro. 1882, p. 12.

**3.1.197** If there is any reason to suspect or believe that fraud will be practiced by an applicant for a duplicate dimit, it should not be issued, but, where satisfactory evidence is shown, by a worthy brother, that his dimit has been lost or destroyed, a duplication should be given him. -Pro. 1891, p. 23.

**3.1.198** An Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft being finished by a Lodge in another state by request of his parent Lodge remains a member of such parent Lodge, and after being finished is entitled to a dimit therefrom on application and being square with the books. -Pro., 1896, p. 15-16.

**3.1.199** Entered Apprentices or Fellow Crafts are not dimitted, but they may be given waivers of jurisdiction as provided for in Sec. 3.7.40. -Pro. 1951, p. 70.

**3.1.200** No brother is entitled to a dimit until he pays his dues, unless the Lodge for good cause, donate them to him. The fact that the brother removes from the jurisdiction of the Lodge, and neglects to apply for a dimit for years is no good reason for exempting him from dues. If he was prevented by unavoidable casualties from sooner applying for a dimit, the Lodge might in its discretion, if it thought proper, donate to him part or all of its dues. - Grand Master English.

**3.1.201** A Lodge, after regularly granting a dimit, cannot at its next regular or subsequent meeting, in considering the minutes for approval, refuse to recognize its former action, and suspend the brother so dimitted for nonpayment of dues. -Pro. 1887, p. 25.

**3.1.202** When a brother, who has paid his dues in advance, requests a dimit, the unearned portion of the dues already paid, dating from the Stated Communication of the Lodge at which his request for dimit was presented to the Lodge, shall be refunded to him. - Pro. 1947, p. 30.

**3.1.203** Where a brother is charged with having committed a crime, no dimit ought to be given to him or certificate to his family. The Lodge should wait a reasonable time for the civil authority has acted, or if it fails to act, then the Lodge should instituted an inquiry and act accordingly. - Pro. 1870, p. 19.

**3.1.204** Where a brother charged under indictment in the courts of the country with a crime, committed before he became a Mason, applies for a dimit, being "square on the books," although such brother has evaded criminal process and concealed himself from the officers of the law, yet such indictment and concealment do not necessarily raise a presumption of moral guilt so as to preclude a Lodge from acting on a petition for a dimit. It raises such a presumption, however, as should put the Lodge upon its guard, and elicit investigation; but, if after investigation it appears to the satisfaction of the Lodge that there is no ground for charges and no moral guilt, it may grant a dimit. -Pro. 1887, p. 72.

**3.1.205** A brother was ordered to receive a reprimand by the Master for un-Masonic conduct. He refused to receive the reprimand, paid his dues to the Secretary and asked for a dimit. He is not entitled to a dimit until he received the reprimand by the Master, as ordered. -Pro. 1878, p. 7.

**3.1.206** A Lodge has no right to charge a fee for a dimit. The law says he must be square on the books. -Pro. 1877, p. 10.

**3.1.207** When a brother applies for affiliation, if elected, his dimit belongs to the Lodge; if rejected, it is to be returned to him, without any endorsement thereon. -Pro. 1877, p. 11; Pro. 1893, p. 12.

**3.1.208** Stationed officers cannot resign or dimit during their term of office. In their absence, their places must be filled by pro tem appointments. -Pro. 1856, p. 103.

**3.1.209** Where members of one Lodge desire to join another Lodge they must regularly dimit or procure a Certificate of Good Standing and apply to the other Lodge in the manner prescribed by law. -Pro. 1894, as amended Pro. 1932, p. 73.

**3.1.210** When a member of a Lodge in this State desires to transfer his membership to another Lodge and his dues are paid in advance for a period of three months or more beyond the date of his application, he may make application in writing to his Lodge for a Certificate of Good Standing to be used for the purpose of transferring his membership to another Lodge. When the application is presented to his Lodge, if his dues are paid and no charges are pending against him, the Lodge may grant such Certificate at once, provided there is no objection. If there is an objection, the matter shall lie over until the next stated meeting, when, if no charges have been filed, the Worshipful Master shall cause an order to be entered in the minutes directing the Secretary to issue the Certificate to the applicant and he may subsequently attach such Certificate to the regular petition for affiliation to be presented to the Lodge, of which he desires to become a member, if the Certificate has not expired. Said Certificate shall automatically expire at the end of the time for which his dues have been paid. The petition for affiliation will take the regular course of all petitions for affiliation; and if the petitioner is elected he shall immediately become a member of the Lodge electing him. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to report the election to the Grand Secretary on the monthly report, whereon, the Grand Secretary shall transfer the membership of the Brother from the Lodge of which he was a member to the Lodge which has elected him and notify the Secretary of the Lodge in which he held membership of his election to membership in the other Lodge. The Secretary of the Lodge shall note on his records that the Brother has transferred his membership and cancel his membership in the first Lodge. No dimit will be required to complete the transfer of membership.

Failure or neglect of the Secretary to cancel said membership or to report same to his Lodge and to enter same in the minutes of the Lodge shall not affect the validity of the transfer.

The procedure for securing Certificates of Good Standing for the purpose of applying, for Plural Membership shall be the same, except, when the Secretary of the electing Lodge notifies the Grand Secretary that the Brother has been elected as a Plural Member, the Grand Secretary will notify the first Lodge of the election to Plural Membership in the other Lodges. The secretaries of all Lodges shall note the Plural Membership in their records and each shall report to all other Lodges any changes in the Masonic standing of the Brother.

In the event the petitioner is rejected by the Lodge to which he desires to transfer his membership the Certificate of Good Standing shall be returned to him, and such rejection shall in no wise affect his membership in the Lodge issuing such Certificate. -Pro. 1949, p. 101.

**3.1.211** A Certificate of Good Standing issued by a sister Grand Jurisdiction for the purpose of enabling a member to transfer his membership, may be attached to an application for affiliation in lieu of a dimit. The provisions of Sec. 3.1.210 shall extend, so far as they can be made applicable, to any Mason residing within this Grand Jurisdiction who, is a member of a Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal relations, and who desires to affiliate with a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction. -Pro. 1949, p. 101.

**3.1.212** A Mason can be an active member of more than one Lodge. Lodges can also have Honorary Members as provided in Sec. 3.1.222, p. 20. -Pro. 1871, p. 47; Pro. 1946, p.77-78; Pro. 1949, p. 106.

**3.1.213** A member of a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction may petition another Lodge for affiliation as a plural member therein without dimitting from his parent Lodge. The words "Parent Lodge" shall be construed to mean the Lodge in which the member holds his membership at the time he applies to another Lodge for Plural Membership. -Pro. 1946, p. 77, Pro. 1996, p. 35.

**3.1.214** A member of a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, who resides in another Grand Jurisdiction, may apply to a Lodge in that Jurisdiction for affiliation as a Plural Member, provided the Laws of the Grand Jurisdiction in which he resides permit such Plural Membership. In making such application the Laws of the Grand Jurisdiction in which he seeks membership will govern, and likewise a member of a Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction who resides within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas may apply to any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction for Plural Membership, but he shall furnish with such application evidence that the Grand Jurisdiction in which he holds his parent membership permits such Plural Membership. - Pro. 1946, p. 78, Pro. 1996, p. 35.

**3.1.215** Petitions for Plural Membership shall contain all information required in our regular petitions for affiliation and the requirements and procedure thereon shall be the same.

Petitions for Plural Membership must be accompanied by a Certificate of Good Standing. When the member is elected to Plural Membership, the Secretary of the Lodge accepting such Plural Member shall certify to all other Lodges that such Plural Membership is in force. If for any reason, a Plural Member should be dropped from the rolls of active membership by any Lodge, the Secretary of the Lodge which has dropped the Member shall certify to the other Lodges, in which the Plural Member holds membership, that such action has been taken. -Pro. 1946, p. 7; Pro. 1948, p. 79; Pro. 1996, p. 35.

**3.1.216** Should any Mason holding Plural Membership be suspended or expelled for Un-Masonic Conduct by any Lodge in which he holds membership, he shall be automatically suspended or expelled in the all other Lodges in which he holds membership, without further action being required of the other Lodges, beyond noting the fact upon the records of said other Lodges. If a Mason, holding Plural Membership, who has been suspended or expelled for Un-Masonic Conduct is reinstated by the Lodge inflicting the penalty, he shall be automatically reinstated in the other Lodges without further action being required. -Pro. 1946, p. 78.

**3.1.217** Should a Mason holding Plural Membership be suspended for non-payment of dues in one Lodge, he shall also be automatically suspended in all other Lodges. To be reinstated he must meet the dues requirement in all Lodges, after which he may, if he desires, withdraw from any Lodge as provided in Sec. 3.1.218. -Pro. 1957, p. 109.

**3.1.218** A Mason holding Plural Membership may withdraw from any Lodge by applying for and receiving a Certificate of Withdrawal. A Certificate of Withdrawal, as herein provided, shall not be valid for the purpose of applying for and obtaining membership in another Lodge. -Pro. 1949, p. 103.

**3.1.219** Both the parent Lodge and all other Lodges in which a Mason holds Plural Membership shall pay the regular Grand Lodge dues on such member. -Pro. 1949, p. 103.

**3.1.220** Members holding Plural Membership shall have all rights and responsibilities of other members, except that no members will be permitted to hold the office of Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Warden in two lodges at one and the same time. Members who hold the office of Treasurer or Secretary, and the office of Senior and Junior Deacons if elected, in one lodge, to hold any elective office in a lodge where they hold dual membership, except they may not hold the same elective office in both lodges and if they are plural members they may only hold an elective office in two lodges at the same time. -

-Pro. 1957, p. 108, Pro. 1991, p. 86, Pro. 2008, p. 57,  
Pro 2017.

**3.1.221** A Brother holding a Plural Membership and installed into the office of Worshipful Master or a Warden cannot be granted a Certificate of Withdrawal from that Lodge in which he holds office until his successor is elected and installed according to our Law. – Pro. 1980, p. 77.

**3.1.222** There are two classes of honorary members. The first includes those cases where brethren, who are members in other Lodges of this or other Grand Jurisdictions, having done some distinguished Masonic service, as a compliment to them are made honorary members; and the second class includes those who are made honorary members of the Lodge with which they are affiliated. The first is entirely complimentary, and confers no other privileges than those of visiting the Lodge at pleasure, or occupying a seat in the East, and of participating with the members in their private Lodge meetings and their social enjoyments on a more equal footing than ordinary visitors. In the second case the favor is usually bestowed upon aged and faithful brethren as a reward for long and faithful service. In this case it exempts them from payment of all dues and from all obligations to unite in the labors of the Lodge, but deprives them of no privileges which they before enjoyed as members. They are still eligible to office, may vote on all questions, serve on committees when appointed, if they so desire, and are entitled to Masonic relief and burial. When a Lodge simply relieves a member from payment of dues this does not make him an honorary member. It simply has the effect of relieving him of dues, and not of Lodge Labor, as is the case with an honorary member. He is still eligible to office, has the right to vote, must serve on committees when appointed, sit up with the sick when called upon, and, of course, is entitled to Masonic relief and burial. -Pro. 1885.

**3.1.223** It does not lie in the province of any Mason to request any Lodge within this Grand Jurisdiction to make him an honorary member thereof. Honorary membership is a distinction that may be desired by all Masons, but cannot with propriety be asked for by any. -Pro. 1918, p. 18.

**3.1.224** It is wrong to make honorary members by the wholesale, thereby relieving them of payment of dues. The spirit of the law means that each case should be considered and that the length of time a brother may have been a member of a Lodge should not be deemed sufficient reason for making him an honorary member, if he is financially able to pay his dues. -Pro. 1920, p. 17.

**3.1.225** It is a violation of our laws for a Lodge to pass a resolution declaring that all members who have reached a certain age are made Honorary members, exempt from payment of dues. Such Resolutions and all similar general Resolutions making Honorary members for any cause, are additions to the By-Laws which Lodges are forbidden to make. -Pro. 1926, p. 37.

**3.1.226** None but Master Masons have the right of Masonic burial. -Pro. 1867, p. 47; Pro.1906, p. 18.

**3.1.227** A brother sojourning in the vicinity of a Lodge, intending to affiliate, but being delayed in getting his dimit from the Lodge in which he formerly resided, died. The Lodge properly interred him as a Mason, by request of his family, and granted him funeral honors. - Grand Master English.

**3.1.228** A willfully nonaffiliated Mason is not entitled to a Masonic burial. -Pro. 1870, p. 15.

**3.1.229** A Mason who is suspended for non-payment of dues is not entitled to a Masonic burial. - Pro. 1943, p. 78.

**3.1.230** Where a Brother who is under charges of un-Masonic conduct dies before trial whether his Lodge should bury him with funeral honors, and pass the usual resolutions of tribute to his memory, depends upon the nature of the charges, and the prima facie indications of their being well founded. If the charge is for a grave offense, and apparently well grounded, his funeral honors, and publication of resolutions, should be withheld. No public parade should be made by the Lodge over a deceased member not in fair standing. -Grand Master English.

**3.1.231** Where a nonaffiliate applied for membership, was rejected, and afterwards died, the Lodge so rejecting him properly declined to bury him with Masonic honors on the ground that his character was notoriously bad. -Pro. 1873, p. 17.

**3.1.232** While there is no law requiring it, a Lodge should pay for the coffin of a deceased indigent Mason. -Pro. 1879, p. 16.

**3.1.233** When a brother has already been buried it is improper to perform Masonic ceremonies around the grave. But in the case of temporary burial without Masonic ceremonies, or where the body was placed in a vault temporarily, it would be entirely proper to perform the usual Masonic burial ceremonies when permanent interment was had. -Pro. 1896, p. 87.

**3.1.234** When from any providential cause a Lodge is prevented from burying a deceased brother with Masonic honors, a Lodge of Sorrow may be held in the Lodge Hall and the hall may be

open to permit the attendance of relations and friends. -Pro. 1907, p. 76. It should not be held at the grave. -Pro. 1908, p. 16.

**3.1.235** Where a member of a Lodge dies, and owing to the absence of the officers of his Lodge there is no one to call the Lodge together, whereby the brother is buried without the usual Masonic honors, it is not appropriate that the Lodge should afterwards, on the return of the Master, turn out and perform funeral ceremonies at the grave. A funeral discourse, or the inauguration of a monument in his memory, would be appropriate proceedings in such case. - Grand Master English; Pro. 1873, p. 20.

**3.1.236** Reference to the standing of deceased brethren in the church, in tributes of respect, is not un-Masonic. A Brother's individualism is, by common custom and usage, determined by his bearing in every relation of life. If noted for his piety, distinguished for his talents or achievements in any calling or profession, renowned for his patriotism, or beloved for his benevolence, the Lodge in its resolutions of condolence may so specify without violating any Masonic principle, edict or regulation, the taste and the propriety of such reference being discretionary with the Lodge. -Pro. 1873, p. 18-19.

**3.1.237** The Grand Lodge does not prescribe any particular form for a badge of mourning. The Lodge must say whether it shall be worn at all or not, and for what length of time. It does not follow, as a matter of course, on the death of a member that the Lodge wears the badge. -Pro. 1880, p. 13-31.

**3.1.238** Where a brother dies, and in ten days another brother dies, and the Lodge passes resolutions in each case to wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days, only one badge should be worn for the length of time required by the resolution. -Pro. 1877, p. 11.

**3.1.239** The Altar shall be draped one time upon the death of a member of the Lodge at the first stated meeting after knowledge, of the death, and upon receipt of notice from the Grand Secretary of the death of a Past Grand Master, or of a Grand Officer of this Grand Lodge while serving. The Secretary shall announce such a loss before the reading of the minutes and the Worshipful Master shall order the Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon and Chaplain to drape the Altar in memory of the departed Brother. After the draping of the Altar, the three officers stand behind the Altar and there shall be a moment of silent or audible prayer. After the Lodge is closed, the drape shall be removed and stored with other properties of the Lodge. Resolutions of Respect should be sent by the Secretary to the closest relative of the deceased member of the Lodge. -Pro. 1978, p. 114.

**3.1.240** The black cloth used at funeral processions with the Bible, Square and Compasses, should be placed under them and the proper form is: The Three Great Lights, on a cushion covered with black cloth, carried by a member of the Lodge. -Pro. 1933, p. 29.

**3.1.241** The Special Masonic claims of the "Widow and Orphan" of the fraternity are based upon the family relationship to the brother of the institution; and depend, first, upon his good standing; and secondly, upon their own acts. The "widow", by a second marriage, ceases to be a widow, and becomes a wife, perchance of another brother, or of a profane, and, through her new family

relationship, must base her future claims; by her own act the previous relationship having been severed. -Pro. 1935, p. 109.

**3.1.242** The marriage of a widow of a brother Master Mason annuls her claim upon Masonic charity, but does not affect the rights of the children of such brother. -Pro. 1873, p. 18.

**3.1.243** The widow and orphans of a deceased Master Mason are entitled to protection, even if such necessitates charges against a brother Mason for gross neglect and mismanagement of the interests of the estate. -Pro. 1873, p. 17.

**3.1.244** The widows and orphans of Master Masons may forfeit their Masonic rights by their own misconduct. -Pro. 1872, p. 14.

**3.1.245** A Master Mason's daughter or sister does not forfeit any protection due her character by marrying a profane. -Pro. 1881, p. 13.

**3.1.246** Upon the death of any Master Mason in good standing, and a member of any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, it shall be the duty of such Subordinate Lodge to furnish to the widow and orphans of such deceased brother a certificate, under seal, of his membership, standing and death, without any charge therefor. -Pro. 1850, p. 28.

**3.1.247** When a waiver of jurisdiction is desired, by an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft they shall execute such and present to their Lodge a petition for waiver of jurisdiction, stating the name of the Lodge in whose favor he wishes jurisdiction waived and his reason for making the request.

The said petition shall, at the next stated meeting, be referred to a committee of investigation. It shall lie over for a period of one month and until the next stated meeting thereafter and upon the report of the committee of investigation a vote shall be taken upon the petition for waiver of jurisdiction.

If the vote is unanimous in favor of granting the waiver, it shall be granted and the Lodge in whose favor jurisdiction is thus waived shall, if it accepts, acquire jurisdiction as if the petition had properly originated in its own jurisdiction.

If the vote is not unanimous in favor of the granting of the waiver of jurisdiction, it shall be denied.-- Amended Pro. 1993, p. 58.

**3.1.248** A waiver of jurisdiction of a candidate granted to a Lodge on written application without the seal is not void, but a Lodge granting a waiver, should give it in writing and under the seal.-- Pro. 1887, p. 27.

**3.1.249** It is not proper for a Lodge to adopt a blanket resolution that it will not in future grant any waiver of jurisdiction; each case should be decided on its own merits. -Pro. 1887, p.72.

**3.1.250** It is not lawful for a Lodge of this jurisdiction to provide a sick or death benefit for its members. -Pro. 1919, p. 12.

**3.1.251** All Lodges within this Grand Jurisdiction are required to purge the Lodge Room and collect the proper password of the degree, anytime there is a return from Refreshment to Labor. Pro. 2004, p.48.

**3.1.252** When a brother, in his first instance to serve as Worship Master, and The Grand Master finds it necessary to remove him from office, the brother should not be entitled to the title of Past Master, as this is a title denoting honorable service. However, if the brother has previously served honorably as Worshipful Master during another Grand Lodge year he would not lose the title of Past Master. Pro. 2005, p.69.

**3.1.253** Arkansas Masons, when traveling to other grand jurisdictions which are recognized as regular by the Grand Lodge of the Arkansas, and with which this Grand Lodge has established fraternal relations, may, with the consent of the host lodge or grand lodge, visit a tiled communication in any lodge within that jurisdiction and, during the course thereof, exercise Masonic visitation with the brethren who are recognized as regular by that grand jurisdiction. Pro. 2018, p. 33 & 53.

## SECTION 3.2

### LODGE OFFICERS

**32.1** The Worshipful Master promises and obligates himself in his installation to a regular attendance on the Communications of the Grand Lodge, and it is his bounden duty as such Master to attend. -Pro. 1911.

**32.2** The Worshipful Master of the Subordinate Lodges is, by virtue of his office, a member of the Grand Lodge, and should attend it in person, if not prevented by urgent business or necessity. And if he can not personally attend he may send any Master Mason in good standing of the lodge for which the proxy or proxies are being issued. -Pro. 1911, Pro.2006, p.24.

**32.3** Every Subordinate Lodge shall be represented in the Grand Lodge by its officers, representatives or proxies, who must be Master Masons and members of the Lodge which they represent; and such appointment, whether of representatives or proxy, must be certified by the Secretary, and the seal of the Lodge affixed thereto. -Pro. 1856, p. 46.

**32.4** The Master and Wardens of the Subordinate Lodges, being the proper representatives thereof in the Grand Lodge, should attend in person, if not prevented by urgent business or necessity. If they can not attend, they may appoint proxies to attend in their stead, from among the members of their respective Lodges. -Pro. 1852, p. 6.

**32.5** If the Master and Wardens do not attend the Grand Lodge, and fail to appoint proxies, then the Lodge may elect from their own members delegates or deputies to represent it in the Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1852, p. 6.

**32.6** No proxy can give authority for a Mason to represent in the Grand Lodge any other than the Lodge of which he is a member. -Pro. 1886, p. 60.

**32.7** If a Lodge fails to be represented for three consecutive years that fact shall be certified by the Grand Secretary to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations which shall recommend to the Grand Lodge some appropriate action to be taken. -Pro. 1964, p. 89.

**32.8** The mode of voting in this Grand Lodge, by the Representatives of Lodges, shall be as follows: Each Lodge shall be entitled to three votes. If three representatives are present, each shall cast one; if two, and they disagree, the highest in rank shall cast two votes, and the other one. - Pro. 1855, p. 55.

**32.9** A Master of a Lodge who has been re-elected, and is acting as Master of his Lodge has not the right to cast a vote as Past Master within one year after his first incumbency as Master, in addition to casting the three votes for his Lodge. In our opinion one doesn't become a Past Master until his term as Master has expired and his successor has qualified. 1924, p.111.

**32.10** If only one representative appears at any meeting of the Grand Lodge of the State of Arkansas, he shall have power to cast the full vote of the Lodge of which he may be the

Representative; and if only two attend, the elective officer highest in rank shall cast two votes, and a proxy shall cast the votes only of the officers he represents. Art. 1, Sec. 3, Constitution.

**3.2.11** Any Master Mason, in good standing, of the lodge for which the proxy or proxies are being issued, is entitled to represent that lodge as a voting delegate. Pro. 2006, p.24.

**3.2.12 through 3.2.16** Deleted Pro. 2010, p. 54

**3.2.17** A Lodge cannot elect as Worshipful Master one who is not a member of the Lodge. -Pro. 1879, p. 15; Pro. 1878, p. 7.

**3.2.18** An absent brother, a member of the Lodge, can be elected Worshipful Master. -Pro. 1897, p. 10, as revised.

**3.2.19** Where a Lodge finds it absolutely necessary to elect a brother Worshipful Master who has not served as Warden, the facts must be reported to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and the Master-elect must not be installed without his dispensation. -Pro. 1870, p. 46.

**3.2.20** One who has served as Worshipful Master in any Lodge is eligible to be installed, should he be elected to that office in that or any other Lodge, though he may never have been elected and served as Warden. His disqualifications were removed when he was installed as Worshipful Master the first time. -Pro. 1949, p. 99.

**3.2.21** When a Master is installed into office a part of the charge is that he shall preside until his successor is elected and installed, and therefore the retiring Master holds the office until the new Master is installed. -Pro. 1912, p. 49.

**3.2.22** It is not necessary for the Past Master's degree to be conferred on a Worshipful Master- elect, prior to his installation. The full and complete installation ceremonies seat the Master-elect in the chair, and qualify and empower him to preside. --Pro. 1877, p. 12; Pro. 1881, p. 13.

**3.2.23** The reception of the Past Master's degree in a Chapter confers no authority on the brother to preside in a Master's Lodge. -Pro. 1877, p.12; Pro. 1881, p. 13.

**3.2.24** It is the prerogative of the Master to call meetings of the Lodge and not the Lodge to set them. -Pro. 1913, p. 83.

**3.2.25** Neither the Senior nor the Junior Warden has a right to call a meeting of the Lodge, when the Master of a Lodge is at home, and not out of the jurisdiction of the Lodge. -Pro. 1881, p. 11-12. And is in a mental condition to attend to the Lodge affairs. -Pro. 1885, p. 24.

**3.2.26** Where the Worshipful Master moves into another county there is no vacancy. -Pro. 1879, p. 15.

**3.2.27** No appeal lies from the decision of the Master of the Lodge over which he presides, but his decision is final, and this resolution shall be obeyed as the law in all Subordinate Lodges in this jurisdiction. -Pro. 1852, p. 34.

**3.2.28** The Master has no right to expend the funds of the Lodge in any way except for charitable purposes, without the consent of the Lodge. -Pro. 1906, p. 26.

**3.2.29** If a Worshipful Master by refusing to sign a warrant for an account allowed by the Lodge willfully and without cause thwarts the will of the Lodge he can be impeached at once. If he is acting from pure motives, and is mistaken in his judgment, an appeal to the Grand Lodge will settle the case amicably -Pro. 1880, p. 19-30.

**3.2.30** A Subordinate Lodge has no right to try its Master; he is amenable to the Grand Lodge alone. Any five members of his Lodge, or the District Deputy Grand Master may impeach the Master of a Subordinate Lodge before the Grand Master, who shall order an investigation of the charges; and if, in his opinion, they are well founded, and of a character to justify the proceedings, he may suspend the delinquent from office pending a trial by a Grand Lodge Trial Commission.

The Grand Master shall immediately prepare Charges and Specifications and appoint a Grand Lodge Trial Commission, composed of five Past Masters, none of whom is a member of the accused Worshipful Master's Lodge, to conduct a trial. The Trial shall be held at a time and place agreed upon by the Grand Master and the Chairman of the Trial Commission, and should be held as soon as practicable after the charges are filed.

The trial shall be conducted by said Trial Commission in the same manner and under the same regulations in all other respects as if the trial were being conducted under the "LAW OF TRIALS" in open Lodge. The Commission shall select its own Secretary, and may summon witnesses, and make all other necessary arrangements for the proper conduct of the trial. It shall determine the guilt or innocence of the accused and, if the accused be found guilty, fix the penalty, and promptly deliver a full and complete report of its action in the case, together with transcript of all testimony heard and proceedings had therein to the Grand Master; the right of appeal by the accused under the Law of Trials in all things and at all times being hereby preserved.

The decision of the Grand Lodge Trial Commission and any penalty imposed shall be that of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas and the accused shall be advised of the decision, in writing, by the Grand Master, with a copy to the Lodge of which the accused is the Worshipful Master. If the accused be found guilty, and based on the findings of the Trial Commission, the Grand Master shall determine whether or not the suspension from office should be made final. -Pro. 1856, p. 109; Amended, Pro. 1938, p. 72; Pro. 1990, pp. 13-14.

**3.2.31** Members of one Lodge cannot impeach the Worshipful Master of another Lodge. They must belong to the Worshipful Master's Lodge. -Pro. 1880, p. 31.

**3.2.32** Where the Grand Master suspends the Master of a Lodge for misconduct, he is suspended from the functions of his office only, and not from the privileges of Masonry. -Pro. 1874, p. 22.

**3.2.33** A Master of a Lodge, after the expiration of his term, could not be tried for any offense committed by him while Master, that had any connection with his official duties. -Pro. 1867, p. 46.

**3.2.34** It is necessary that a brother be a member of a Lodge to be elected as Warden herein. -Pro. 1872, p. 16.

**3.2.35** The Senior and Junior Wardens are stationed officers in the Lodge, and if the Worshipful Master is not present at a meeting, or from sickness or otherwise is incapacitated to serve, it would be their duty to preside in the order in which they are mentioned. Therefore, in a trial neither the Senior Warden nor the Junior Warden should be appointed to prosecute or to defend. -Pro. 1957, p. 115.

**3.2.36** The Worshipful Master being absent, the Senior Warden has the right to appoint any Master Mason present at a meeting to act as Junior Warden pro tempore; but where the Junior Warden thus appointed is not a member of the Lodge, he would have no vote in any matter. -Pro. 1874, p. 13.

**3.2.37** The Worshipful Master and Senior Warden being absent, the Junior Warden invited a neighboring Past Master to open the Lodge and preside. Before the business of the Lodge was concluded, the Junior Warden was unavoidably called away, and left the Lodge in charge of the Past Master to finish the work and close the Lodge. There was nothing illegal or improper in this. -Grand Master English.

**3.2.38** The Worshipful Master, having removed from the jurisdiction of his Lodge, does not create such a vacancy that the Senior Warden becomes the Master, and amenable only to the Grand Lodge. If guilty of un-Masonic conduct he may be tried the same as if the Master still resided within the jurisdiction of the Lodge. -Pro. 1906, p. 25.

**3.2.39** The Junior Warden has charge of the Craft at refreshment, and it is his duty to prefer charges where a brother's dereliction is well known and the members of the Lodge fail to do so. - Pro. 1897, p. 14.

**3.2.40** An officer of a subordinate Lodge can join in a petition for a dispensation for a new Lodge, provided that he does so as a dual member, and so states in the petition. He cannot withdraw from his parent Lodge during the term of his office, and can be released from office only as provided in Sec. 3.2.29. -Pro. 1956, p. 95.

**3.2.41** A Warden cannot dimit until his successor has been elected and installed. -Pro. 1897, p. 13.

**3.2.42** The Senior Warden should give the orders as he receives them from the Worshipful Master, and a contumacious refusal to do so, subjects him to discipline. -Pro. 1870, p. 15-16.

**3.2.43** A Warden may be suspended for nonpayment of dues. He is subject to suspension for a Masonic offense the same as any other member of the Lodge. -Pro. 1877, p. 11.

**3.2.44** It is not permissible for any brother to occupy two offices in a constituent Lodge at one and the same time; e.g., there is no office as " Secretary-Treasurer. " The office of Secretary is separate and distinct from that of Treasurer and these offices must be filled by different brethren. -Pro. 1928, p. 27.

**3.2.45** The Secretary has no authority to payout money belonging to the Lodge for any purpose without the consent of the Lodge, and the Treasurer can only pay it out upon warrant drawn by order of the Worshipful Master, by consent of the Lodge. -Pro. 1898, p. 17.

**3.2.46** A Lodge may arrange with its Secretary to make personal demand on members for dues, by making a sufficient compensation therefor. -Pro. 1906, p. 25.

**3.2.47** No Secretary has the right to apply money sent to him as Lodge dues, in payment of any debt that may be due him from the sender. To so apply, would be a violation of his duties of office, a wrong against the brother sending his dues, and a misappropriation of Lodge funds, and subject him to severe discipline. -Pro. 1918, p. 18.

**3.2.48** Where the Secretary receives a commission for collecting money or receives a stipulated sum for keeping the minutes of the Lodge, he may reserve his commission on collections for the Lodge, but could not reserve any part of the collections to pay his salary. -Pro. 1898, p. 18, as revised.

**3.2.49** If the, Secretary of a Lodge refuses to notify delinquent members of the fact, on the order of the Lodge, the Lodge should prefer charges against him for neglect of duty, suspend him, and the Worshipful Master can appoint a Secretary pro tem. -Pro. 1875, p. 17.

**3.2.50** It is not right or proper for a Lodge, by resolution or otherwise, to direct its Secretary to deposit its funds in a bank, as they are collected, instead of paying same over to its legally qualified Treasurer. -Pro. 1932, p. 73. (See Also 3.2.52)

**3.2.51** When a member of a Lodge is suspended or expelled, the secretary of the Lodge (Grand Secretary or Grand Master in cases of a Grand Lodge or Grand Master's Trial Commission) shall notify said member in writing that he has been suspended or expelled, and shall state to him in said notice that he can no longer honorably wear the emblems of the Fraternity or participate in any Masonic functions until he has been reinstated. -Pro. 1941, p.76, amended Pro. 1991, p. 34.

**3.2.52** It is not right or proper for a Lodge by resolution or otherwise, to direct its Secretary to deposit its funds in a bank, as they are collected, instead of paying same over to its legally qualified Treasurer, nor is there any authority for a Lodge requiring its Treasurer to give bond. The Treasurer of a Lodge, after being duly installed, is the proper custodian of the funds of the Lodge. The duties of the Secretary are to receive all money due the lodge, in turn paying it to the Treasurer, who in turn will pay it out by order of the Worshipful Master, with the consent of the

brethren. In all instances where monies are taken into the lodge, these funds are to handled in the exact manner prescribed by our Laws and Customs-Pro. 1891, p. 24. Amended Pro. 2005, p. 70.

**3.2.53** Upon recommendation of the Treasurer, a depository for the funds may be designated by a two-thirds vote of the Lodge; and the Treasurer depositing funds in a depository so chosen shall be relieved from personal liability for loss of funds while in the hands of such depository. -Pro. 1932, p. 73.

**3.2.54** The office of Tyler is indispensable. Every Lodge must be duly tyled, but the duties of the office may, and must of necessity, be performed by a brother filling another office, if there are not Masons enough present at any Lodge meeting to fill its offices. -Pro. 1871, p. 43.

**3.2.55** The Tyler's place naturally and necessarily prevents his participation in the general business of the Lodge, but he should always be admitted to the ballot in voting on petitions, etc., and also in voting upon charges, punishments, waiver of jurisdiction, and election of officers, and for this purpose should for the time be properly relieved. -Pro. 1887, p. 28.

While it is a settled law that the Tyler is the proper officer to serve all Masonic notices and summonses, yet a notice or summons received by mail is lawful and the brother is bound to obey it. -Pro. 1887.

## SECTION 3.3

### BALLOT

**3.3.1** A brother cannot be admitted a member of the Lodge upon a motion, without an election. - Pro. 1855, p. 66.

**3.3.2** On the rejection of a petition for affiliation no renewal of such petition shall be had in that or any other Lodge until the expiration of three months; no ballot shall be had at the meeting at which the petition is read, but a committee shall be appointed and ballot had at a subsequent meeting - Pro. 1951, p. 70.

**3.3.3** Where a brother applied for affiliation and was rejected, and at a subsequent meeting a member stated that he had cast a black ball under misapprehension, and asked for a new ballot, which was ordered, and the applicant declared elected, it was an error to order the second ballot. A new petition was necessary. -Pro. 1868, p. 34,71.

**3.3.4** When an applicant for affiliation is rejected by one vote, and at the next meeting the brother who cast the black ball having been reconciled by a committee withdraws his objection in open Lodge, the applicant cannot thereupon be declared affiliated, but must renew his application, after the lapse of three months on first and six months on second application, and a new ballot must be taken. -Pro. 1881, as modified by Pro. 1909, p. 104.

**3.3.5** Neither the brother casting a black ball, nor the Lodge, is compelled to prefer charges against a rejected candidate who applies for affiliation. -Pro. 1877, p. 11.

**3.3.6** Petitions for the degrees, affiliation, or reinstatement shall lie over for one month, unless by dispensation of the Grand Master the time is waived. -Pro. 1949, p. 104; amended Pro. 1976, p. 91.

**3.3.7** No ballot may be had on any petition for the degrees, affiliation or reinstatement until the Grand Lodge has been notified of the petition as provided for in Sec. 3.6.3 and the Lodge has received an acknowledgment of the receipt of such notice by the Grand Lodge. The acknowledgment from the Grand Lodge of the receipt of the notice is to be attached to the petition and retained in the records of the Lodge. -Pro. 1949, p. 107; mended Pro. 1976, p. 91.

**3.3.8** A ballot on an application cannot be had at a called meeting except by a dispensation from the Grand Master. -Pro. 1949, p. 104.

**3.3.9** The need for haste in acting upon a petition for the degrees, or in conferring them must be real and not imaginary. There must be a necessity for immediate action and imperative reason against delay. A matter of personal favor to the Lodge or the applicant shall not be sufficient. - Pro. 1856, p. 111; Pro. 1949, p. 104.

**3.3.10** A Mason who may have received but one or two degrees previous to the change in the law on balloting, made November 20, 1935, must by one ballot be elected to receive such degrees as not received prior to said change. -Pro. 1936, p. 23.

**3.3.11** Before the ballot is spread, remarks upon the moral fitness of the applicant are allowable; but, when the result of the ballot is announced, it must be accepted as a finality without question or debate. -Pro. 1873, p. 20.

**3.3.12** A Master has a right to postpone balloting after the committee of investigation has made its report, for reasons known to himself, with or without the consent of the Lodge, being amenable only to the Grand Master or Grand Lodge for abuse of discretion, if any. - Pro. 1871, p. 15.

**3.3.13** The ballot shall be spread at the altar. -Pro. 1873, p. 19.

**3.3.14** The ballot should be spread but for one candidate at a time. It would be impossible to tell which one was rejected or elected, in case two should be balloted for at the same time, and the ballot should be dark. -Pro. 1892, p. 10.

**3.3.15** The ballot is not legally spread when there is no opportunity to vote on account of the absence of white and black balls. -Pro. 1919, p. 12.

**3.3.16** It is the rule that all members present must vote on applications for the degrees, affiliation, or reinstatement, unless excused by unanimous consent of the Lodge. This applies to the Worshipful Master as well as all the other members. -Pro. 1885; Pro. 1967, p. 125.

**3.3.17** A brother may be excused, by unanimous consent of the Lodge, from voting upon an application. -Pro. 1873, p. 20.

**3.3.18** It is not proper to excuse all members except the committee from voting. - Pro. 1908, p. 16.

**3.3.19** A black ball prevents reception, although every other member of the Lodge may think that the brother erred in judgment, or suspect that he acted from improper motives. He cannot be forced to prefer charges in the latter case, though all others may think that he ought to do so. - Pro. 1870, p. 16.

**3.3.20** After a candidate has been balloted for and declared rejected, and the result so recorded, a motion at the next, or any other communication of the Lodge, to blot out that part of the record and insert in lieu thereof an entry to the effect that there was no ballot, on the suggestion that a mistake was made by reason of a defective ballot box, is out of order, and was properly so ruled by the Worshipful Master. -Pro. 1884, p. 25.

**3.3.21** In balloting for the degrees, or affiliation, if more than one negative vote appears the candidate shall be declared rejected; but if, on the first ballot, one negative only appears a second ballot may be ordered by the Master, at his discretion. -Amended, Pro. 1980, p.66.

**3.3.22** No ballot upon an application for the degrees or affiliation, shall be taken more than once (except as provided in Section 3.3.21), unless some brother shall, during the same evening and while every brother is present who voted before, state that he, through mistake or misapprehension of fact, voted a black ball; in which case, no matter what the number of negatives there were, the ballot shall be taken once more, and once more only; there shall never be any other reconsideration of a ballot; it shall never be announced or made known, either then or afterwards, how many negatives there were, but simply that the ballot was dark, and there shall be no conversation or discussion, from the time the ballot is ordered until the result is announced. -Pro. 1856, p. 111.

**3.3.23** After examination of the ballot by the Junior Warden, Senior Warden and Worshipful Master (in that order) the Worshipful Master shall destroy the ballot. -Pro. 1976, p.84.

**3.3.24** A petitioner shall be promptly notified either as directed by the Master or by first class mail of the action taken by the Lodge whether accepted for initiation, affiliation, or reinstatement, or rejected. -Pro. 1978, p. 114.

**3.3.25** The secrecy of the ballot is sacred, and no violation of it can be permitted in any mode. - Pro. 1957, p. 116.

**3.3.26** A member of a Lodge should not disclose how he voted in the taking of a ballot, nor declare that he would blackball any of a particular religion who might apply; and if he is imprudent enough to so declare, he should at least be severely reprimanded, if not expelled. -Pro. 1871, p. 16-17.

**3.3.27** If a candidate be elected, and shall not apply for the degree within six months, he shall be subjected to a second ballot; further, should more than six months elapse between his first and second and/or his second and third degrees, he shall likewise be subjected to an additional ballot. In his own discretion, or if the Lodge desires it, the Worshipful Master may appoint a committee which shall investigate and report upon the worthiness of the brother seeking advancement. -Pro. 1950, p. 88.

**3.3.28** Article 9 of the Uniform Code of By-Laws contemplates an application by the candidate in some form, either verbal or otherwise, when he has failed to present himself to receive the degrees, or for advancement, within the prescribed time. The ballot is here taken upon the moral qualifications of the candidate, and should be taken before the candidate demonstrates his proficiency in the lecture; but the ballot should not be taken before the time specified has passed. -Pro. 1945, p. 79.

**3.3.29** When a candidate is elected but does not appear for the degree within six months, and is subjected to a second ballot on which he is rejected, he stands in the same position as if he had been rejected on the original petition, and he must wait until six months have elapsed from the time of his rejection before renewing his application for the degrees. -Pro. 1944, p. 75.

**3.3.30** When a candidate has received the first, or first and second degrees, and neglects to demonstrate his proficiency and appear for the next higher degree within six months, and upon being subjected to an additional ballot is rejected, he has the right to renew his application for advancement from stated meeting to stated meeting. The ballot, however, shall not be taken at the meeting at which the application is made, but in order that all brethren may have notice of the application and attend, it should lie over to the next stated meeting; and where a Lodge has two stated meetings a month, it shall lie over for one month. -Pro. 1944, p. 75.

**3.3.31** One Lodge may request another Lodge to confer degrees upon its material as a courtesy. It is a mere matter of courtesy and favor in the case of the Lodge doing the work. The degree or degrees shall not be conferred in one Lodge for another except by the consent of a majority vote at a regular meeting of the Lodge applied to do the work. The fees in such cases shall be collected by the Lodge for which the work is done, and the brother, when raised, shall be a member of the Lodge requesting the work to be done; the Lodge doing the work shall not be accountable to this Grand Lodge for fees for the conferring of the degrees. -Pro. 1946, p. 75.

**3.3.32** When a Lodge rejects a man for the degrees no other Lodge has the right to receive his application for a period of one year, without unanimous permission of the rejecting Lodge. -Pro. 1892, p. 79; amended 1919, p. 40.; amended 2005, p.90.

## SECTION 3.4

### DEGREES

**341** A Lodge may change the amount of fees to be charged for the degrees at any time, by amending the By-Laws as provided for in Sec. 3.1.51 -Pro. 1951, p. 67.

**342** No Lodge shall confer the degrees for a less sum than the price of \$40.00, nor upon credit, nor receive a promissory note therefor in lieu of money, nor donate a portion of them back. -Pro. 1957, p. 110.

**343** No man can be made a Mason without the payment, in good faith, of the regular fees, and there should be no understanding with him that the payment is to be a mere matter of form, and that the fees are to be returned to him, to induce him to become a Mason. After the fees are paid in, and he is made a Mason, the Lodge, having the power to dispose of its funds for Masonic and charitable purposes, may, in its discretion, make donations to him, as to any other worthy member, if his necessities require it. -Pro. 1880, p. 51.

**344** Candidates who were elected to receive the degrees before a change in the Lodge By-Laws in which the fees are increased should be charged the amount in effect at the time of their election, provided they have been diligent in carrying out their part of the agreement; however, if some neglected to avail themselves of their rights and have permitted such time to elapse as would require them to be re-elected, then the fees in effect at the time of re-election would be collected. -Pro. 1948, p. 78.

**345** It is not contemplated by Article 7 of the Uniform Code, that the fees should be paid before the petition is acted upon, but that the fees should be paid before the degrees are conferred. -Pro. 1893, p. 13.

However, a Lodge may, if it desires, require the full payment for the three degrees before any degree is conferred. Should the candidate be stopped before receiving the degrees, the fees for any of the degrees he has not received shall be returned to him. -Pro. 1949, p.99.

**346** The fees accompanying a petition should be returned to the candidate if it is shown that after being elected, he has been prevented by bad health, or unavoidable accident or misfortune from presenting himself for the degree, -Pro. 1891, p. 23.

**347** When a candidate, having applied for the degrees, is rejected, the Secretary must at once return the fee directly to him, but if the rejected party should give an order on the Secretary to pay the fee to a third party the Secretary must so pay it, regardless of any debt existing between the Secretary and such rejected applicant or the party who holds the order. These fees must not be used by the Secretaries of our Lodges as a means of collecting debts due them, from either the rejected candidates or other parties. -Pro. 1885, p. 23-24.

**348** The law does not require the Secretary to turn over the fee accompanying a petition for the degrees until after the applicant shall have been elected, as it is not the property of the Lodge

until such time, but is held by the Secretary for his protection, as the law makes the Secretary responsible for the fee, whether he has received it or not; i.e., it is his duty to protect the Lodge against any loss in such matters. -Pro. 1897, p. 11.

**34.9** Degrees may be conferred at called or special meetings, but no other business shall be transacted except that specified in the notification. -Pro. 1856, p. 109.

**34.10** Degrees may lawfully be conferred on the Festival Days of June 24 and December 27, where the candidate has been previously elected. -Pro. 1906, p. 23.

**34.11** The Lodges subordinate to the Grand Lodge of this State are required to observe in their mode of work the customs and usages of Masonry as adopted by the Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1939, p. 106.

**34.12** This Grand Lodge recognizes the work and lectures as exemplified before the Grand Lodge in the 1939 session as the adopted work of this Grand Jurisdiction, and its preservation and dissemination are enjoined on the Committee on Work and the Board of Grand Lecturers, that are hereinafter provided for, under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by law. The Board of Grand Lecturers shall be the highest authority as to the correct work and all changes whatsoever in said work and lectures except when authorized and adopted by the Grand Lodge are hereby strictly forbidden. -Pro. 1939, p. 106-Pro. 1998,p.25.

This Grand Lodge recognizes the Second Section of the Master Mason Degree as exemplified before the Grand Lodge in the 1972 session and as the adopted work of this Grand Jurisdiction. -Pro. 1972, p. 87. - and the Second Section of the Master Mason Degree floor work as adopted in the 1995 Grand Lodge Session. -Pro. 1995, p. 27

**34.13** On the last visit I made to Brother Reed, in the fall of 1869, he gave me substantially the following history of his work: "Brother Eason came over from England to America as Provincial Grand Lecturer. Brothers DeWitt Clinton and Washburn sat side by side with Brother Webb in learning the lectures from him, and he (Brother Reed) obtained the lectures from Brother Washburn. He was told by Brother Clinton, after he became a Mason, that Brother Washburn could repeat the lectures on the three degrees, as he and Brother Webb received them from Brother Eason, a thousand times without the variation of a word." After all that I have seen and heard, I am satisfied that the Reed work is as near the Webb work, and as near the true ancient work, as it can now be obtained, and that if this work was well understood, and skillfully exemplified in all of our Subordinate Lodges, the Masonry of Arkansas would equal the Masonry of any other state. That the dramatic work of the Third Degree will ever be uniform in the American states, to say nothing of other countries, is not probable. Nor indeed is it important that it should be. The legend of the degree, wheresoever repeated over the globe, is in substance the same, and however variously illustrated, it teaches the same great Masonic lessons. -Grand Master English.

**34.14** No Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction shall obligate more than one candidate at one and the same time in the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft or Master's Degree in Masonry. They may take a class of two or more in the second section of the Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft

Degree; but in no case shall more than one at a time receive the second section of the Master's Degree. -Pro. 1924, p. 27.

**34.15** It is not proper to confer any part of the unwritten work of any degree at one communication and postpone the conferring of the other part of the unwritten work to another communication. - Pro. 1947, p. 68.

**34.16** No degree shall be conferred in any of the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, without giving the lecture belonging to the same, during the same communication, - Pro. 1853 p. 67.

**34.17** The Worshipful Master does not have the authority to substitute the word "affirm" for the word "swear" as used in our obligations, because the candidate states that his religious belief prohibits the use of the word "swear". -Pro. 1953, p. 31.

**34.18** The presentation of the white lamb-skin apron is a part of the ceremonies of the Entered Apprentice degree, and each Subordinate Lodge must present such an apron to each Entered Apprentice, and the apron thus presented becomes the personal property of the Entered Apprentice. -Pro. 1954, p. 72.

**34.19** The Apron must be worn by all Lodge Officers and all Brethren in the manner prescribed in each Degree at all Lodge meetings without exception. -Pro. 1976, p. 85.

**34.20** Master Masons are allowed to wear their white aprons in parades and on special occasions. -Pro. 1996, p. 36.

(1) A Rainbow Dad or Past Rainbow Dad may wear the "Past State Rainbow Dad Apron" in a tiled Rainbow Assembly. The apron shall be a white apron with blue trim; the flap to have the official Rainbow emblem and the body of the main apron will have the Square and Compass; and along the bottom will be the year of service and the title Past State Rainbow Dad. These aprons will only be worn at properly tiled Rainbow Assembly Meetings and Rainbow/Masonic Youth events, but not in a blue lodge meeting or function. Pro. 2014, p.50.

**34.21** The Worshipful Master or the Warden when presiding over the Lodge may call upon any proficient Master Mason to preside in conferring all or any part of the three degrees, provided that one of the three ranking officers or a Past Master is present and sits in the Masonic East with the one so conferring the degree; this does not change the requirement that one of the proper officers must remain until the closing ceremonies of the Lodge are completed. -Pro. 1937, p. 26; Pro. 1946, p. 75.

**34.22** Where, during the conferring of the third degree, and after the obligation has been given, the candidate was discovered to be intoxicated, upon ascertaining which the Master declined to proceed further, and closed the Lodge, leaving the work necessarily unfinished, the entire proceedings are null and void. If the candidate by after exemplary conduct, so purifies and absolves himself from his past misconduct as to be received, the Lodge may raise him, beginning anew, as if said proceedings had never been had. -Pro. 1881.

**34.23** When a Masonic Lodge is in session a hat must be worn by the person who is presiding. This includes all meetings of the Lodge whether open or closed; there shall be no exceptions. - Pro. 1976, p. 85. A hat is defined as a head covering having a brim and crown. -Pro. 1991, p. 36.

**3424** When a degree has been conferred in a manner that is irregular, but not void, the Grand Lodge has approved the following as the proper manner of healing: (1) administer the obligation, (2) explain the irregularity practiced, and (3) read the charge. -Pro. 1873, pp. 21,50.

**3425** In a Lodge under dispensation, in the absence of the Worshipful Master and the Wardens, the Deacons assumed respectively the East and the West, filled the other stations by appointment, and proceeded to initiate, pass and raise candidates, for which irregular conduct the Grand Master withdrew the dispensation, and directed the nearest chartered Lodge to the irregularly made Masons to heal them by administering the obligation appropriate to each degree, explaining the informality practiced, and reading the charge. This was approved by the Grand Lodge as a proper mode of healing. -Pro. 1873, pp. 21, 50.

**3426** Where neither the Master nor Wardens were present, and a Past Master of a neighboring Lodge opened and conferred the degrees the work was irregular but not void; and the candidate should be healed at a regular meeting. A Past Master cannot preside in a Lodge until after it is duly congregated by one of its three principal officers. -Pro. 1872, p. 12.

**3427** Where a petition for initiation was presented at a regular meeting of the Lodge and referred to a committee; and at the time for the committee to report the Lodge failed to meet, and subsequently the District Deputy Grand Master of that district at a meeting of the Lodge, called as a school of instruction, and in the absence of the Worshipful Master, on the request of brethren of the Lodge, had the committee to report, ordered the ballot spread, and the candidate being elected, proceeded to make him a Mason, the proceedings of the Lodge were irregular, but not void. The brother is an Entered Apprentice; and if worthy, he should be advanced without regard to past errors. -Pro. 1895, p. 14-15.

**3428** Conferring the Degrees of Freemasonry in an irregular manner on a candidate of advanced age and ill health in the candidate's home and in one sitting without requiring proficiency in the lectures is prohibited. Pro. 2005, p. 75

## SECTION 3.5

### DUES

#### DUES--IN SUBORDINATE LODGES:

**3.5.1** A Lodge may change the amount of dues at any time by amending the By-Laws as provided in Sec. 3.1.51, but no Lodge working under the authority of this Grand Lodge may charge dues less than the current amount of Grand Lodge per capita. -Pro. 1857, p. 110. Pro. 1997

**3.5.2** Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts pay no dues. -Pro. 1859, p. 16.

**3.5.3** Dues should commence when the candidate has been raised to the degree of Master Mason, or when a brother has been affiliated. -Pro. 1859, p. 16. And are computed from that time to the end of the year. -Pro. 1906.

**3.5.4** The Worshipful Master has no power to accept notes in payment of dues, and settlement so made, without a vote of the Lodge authorizing the same, is void. -Pro. 1895.

**3.5.5** Dues are not chargeable against a brother, after he has been suspended or expelled for an offense, nor after he was dimitted. -Pro. 1908.

**3.5.6** A Lodge has no right to levy a direct tax, but it has the right to change its By-Laws and raise its dues and fees to enable it to pay just debts. A member cannot be required to pay beyond what is required in the By-Laws. He cannot be forced to contribute to special objects or pay assessments for any purpose whatever, such as building a hall, etc. Hence a member cannot be suspended for not paying such a tax or assessment. -Pro. 1951, p. 66.

**3.5.7** Uniform dues cards shall be furnished by the Grand Secretary to the Subordinate Lodges without cost to them; provided, however, that any Subordinate Lodge which has been using some special or distinctive card, may continue to use said card with the certificate of the Grand Secretary as to the regularity of the issuing Lodge on the back thereof, but the cost of such special cards must be borne by the Lodge using them. -Pro. 1935, p. 69.

**3.5.8** The Secretary of each Lodge issuing a card shall be required to affix to it the seal of the Lodge.-Pro. 1934, p. 87.

#### EXEMPTION FROM DUES:

**3.5.9** A Lodge has full Jurisdiction as to the disposition of dues, and for cause may remit the dues of a member with or without a request from him. -Pro. 1898.

**3.5.10** A brother who establishes, to the satisfaction of the Lodge, that he is pecuniarily unable to pay dues, should not be suspended for their non-payment, but placed upon the

"Free List." There is no offense in being too poor to pay. The affront to the law is in the ability to comply with the exactions and refusing. -Pro. 1873.

**3.5.11** It would not be lawful for a Lodge to set its dues at \$6.00 per year and then allow every member credit for 50 cents for each regular meeting he shall attend during the year. -Pro. 1893.

**ARREARS:**

**3.5.12** If the blanks in the By-Laws of a Lodge be filled so as to make the dues payable annually, the members are not in arrears for dues until the end of the year. If the By- Laws are so filled as to require the dues to be paid quarterly, then at the end of a quarter those who have not paid for that quarter are in arrears. -Pro. 1898, p. 132.

**3.5.13** The fact that the members of a Lodge are in arrears for dues does not affect their rights to participate in the proceedings of the Lodge until they are suspended for non-payment, except that no member in arrears for dues at the time of the regular election shall be elected or appointed to any office in the Lodge nor be allowed to vote at such election. - Pro. 1861, p. 29, as amended Pro. 1935, p. 109.

**3.5.14** If a Brother is in arrears for one year only, the Secretary may accept the dues for that year and the current year.

**SUSPENSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:**

**3.5.15** Every member of a Masonic Lodge knows that he is required to pay the Lodge dues, as provided for in the By-Laws of the Lodge, and he should pay them promptly without waiting for a notice from the Lodge, and if he does not pay his dues he cannot remain a member of the Lodge unless the members of the Lodge have voted at a Stated Meeting prior to the end of the dues paying time to grant him further time in which to pay his current dues. Pro. 1980, p. 66.

**3.5.16** At the beginning of the dues paying period on which the dues are due, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Lodge to send a statement to each member who has not paid his current dues. The Lodge may use a statement of its own form or one furnished by the Grand Lodge. It shall be the further duty of the Secretary of the Lodge, on or before THIRTY DAYS before the end of the dues paying time, to notify the brother in writing (using the proper form) that unless he pays his CURRENT dues by the end of the dues paying time he will be subject to suspension for non-payment of dues by the members of the Lodge. Notice mailed to the last known address will be deemed sufficient notice. - Pro. 1976, p. 91.

**3.5.17** The Lodge has the right by vote of the members present, if a Brother has not paid his current dues, to vote to suspend him for non-payment of dues or vote to give him further time to pay his dues. -Pro. 1980, p. 66.

**3.5.18** A vote of "further time" is to extend no further than one year from date of said vote before another vote to suspend or allow further time is to be taken. The Secretary may accept the brother's dues in arrears and current dues during this one-year period, placing the brother back in good standing, with no further action by the Lodge. -Pro. 1980, p. 66.

**3.5.19** When a member is suspended for non-payment of dues, the Secretary of the Lodge must notify said member that he has been suspended and that he can no longer honorably wear the emblems of the Fraternity until he has been reinstated by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at a Stated Meeting of the Lodge. -Pro. 1980, p. 66.

**3.5.20** All such suspensions shall be recorded in the minutes of the Lodge, and must be reported to the Grand Lodge in the report for the month in which the suspension occurred. Pro. 1976, p. 91.

**3.5.21** A Mason suspended only for the non-payment of dues is placed in the attitude of a nonaffiliated Mason. He has no claims upon any Lodge, nor has he any Lodge privileges. He cannot sit in the Lodge that suspended him, or any other Lodge, until he is restored to membership. He is merely a nonaffiliated Mason, and other Masons are not barred from holding Masonic intercourse with him. -Pro. 1874, p. 36; amended Pro. 1951, p. 70.

**3.5.22** Suspension for non-payment of dues does not carry with it conviction of any offense, but rather presumptive evidence of a brother's misfortune and deprives the brother of Lodge privileges only. -Pro. 1893.

**3.5.23** By the Uniform Code of By-Laws, suspension is the only mode of punishment provided for non-payment of dues, and the infliction of such punishment places the brother in the attitude of a nonaffiliated Mason. This penalty is imposed without charges or trial. But the Lodge has power, in its discretion, to inflict a further punishment on the delinquent brother. His dues are a debt of honor to the Lodge for the privileges which he has enjoyed, and they continue to accumulate after his suspension. If he is poor and unable to pay them, and will so frankly and manfully state to the Lodge, his brethren, in the exercise of a charitable habit characteristic of our generous order, will freely remit them and restore him to membership. But if he is able to pay his dues, and persists in his refusal to do so--if he repudiates a debt of honor, and disregards his obligation to obey the By-Laws--he may be charged with such un-Masonic conduct, tried and suspended or expelled from the privileges of Masonry, in the discretion of the members of the Lodge. - Pro. 1879.

#### **REINSTATEMENT FROM SUSPENSION-NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:**

**3.5.24** The Secretary may accept the Brother's dues in arrears and current dues when suspended for non-payment of dues, up until a one-year period of time, placing the Brother back in good standing with no further action by the Lodge. When a member of a Lodge has been suspended for a period of one year or longer from the date of suspension, he must petition for reinstatement, using a Petition for Reinstatement (personally signed) and Background Check Release Form similar to that of new petitioners (the Birth Certificate or Affidavit of proof of Birth may be waived) and the procedure for processing of such a petition for reinstatement through the Lodge shall be the same as set out in Sec. 3.6.3 of the Digest. It shall require a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at a Stated Meeting of the Lodge to reinstate.

If a suspended member petitions for reinstatement and receives a two-thirds majority vote for reinstatement, his reinstatement will become effective upon his paying such dues as may be required by the Lodge; and if he does not pay within six months his election is rescinded and a new petition will be required thereafter.

**3.5.25** A Lodge may remit the dues of a member suspended for non-payment of dues. - Pro. 1953, p. 74.

**3.5.26** It is not necessary for a request for the remission of all or part of the dues which have accumulated against a brother suspended for non-payment to be in writing; a verbal statement to an officer or member and transmitted by him to the Lodge is sufficient.-Pro. 1932.

**3.5.27** In seeking reinstatement from suspension for non-payment of dues, a Lodge cannot remit the dues of members by a blanket resolution; each case must be considered individually. -Pro. 1932.

**3.5.28** A Brother suspended for non-payment of dues who petitions for reinstatement after one year and is rejected, may apply again after an interval of three months. -Pro. 1980, p.66.

**3.5.29** A deceased brother, who stood suspended or expelled at the time of his death, can not be reinstated by a vote of the Lodge. Reinstatement can only be accomplished upon the personal application of the suspended brother, which, in the case stated, is impossible. - Pro. 1880, as revised; Pro. 1893.

## SECTION 3.6

### COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION:

**3.6.1** A Mason cannot serve on a committee of investigation of character in a Lodge other than his own. -Pro. 1887.

**3.6.2** Neither the Senior or Junior Warden nor a member who has recommended a petitioner should be named on the Committee of Investigation. -Pro. 1951, p.69.

**3.6.3** Members who are appointed on a committee to investigate a petitioner shall be notified of such appointment by the Secretary of the Lodge who will furnish to the Chairman of the committee, (and to the other members, if directed to do so by the Lodge) the information given by the petitioner in his petition, which will enable the committee to make a thorough investigation. This notice is to be given on forms furnished by the Grand Lodge for that purpose.

One copy of this NOTICE TO THE COMMITTEE, giving all of the information required, shall be mailed to the Grand Lodge. When the committee has completed its investigation, it shall fill out and sign the report and return it to the Worshipful Master of the Lodge. This signed report to the Worshipful Master shall be an indication that the Committee is ready to make its verbal report to the Lodge at its next Stated Communication. If the Worshipful Master is satisfied that a proper investigation has been made, he may permit the Committee to report, verbally, to the Lodge as provided in Sec.

3.6.5 and 3.6.6. However, the, Worshipful Master shall permit no such report, nor shall any ballot be had upon the petition, until the Lodge has received from the Grand Lodge an acknowledgment that it has received the copy of the Notice to the Committee. The signed report of the Committee shall be attached to the petition and shall be retained in the records of the Lodge. -Pro. 1949, p.105.

**364** The report of a committee of investigation should be a majority report made by committee while standing at the altar. When only one member of the committee is present, however, he may report for the entire committee, provided he has conferred with the other members of the committee and is authorized to report for them. Where it is not possible for any member of the committee to be in attendance at the meeting of the Lodge, the committee may make its report known to the Worshipful Master or Secretary who in turn will make the report to the Lodge. The law contemplates that the committee will consult and arrive at a decision as to what the report will be. -Pro. 1946.

**365** The report of the committee of investigation on a petition for the degrees, affiliation, or reinstatement should merely be favorable or unfavorable without any explanation in the report. Before the ballot is spread any member has the right to make such remarks as would throw light on the application. -Pro. 1907. Amended Pro. 1976, p.91.

**366** A committee of investigation may be inquired of by the members of a Lodge for the purpose and to the extent of showing the identity, business, etc., of the petitioner. But the members of the committee must not be made witnesses of, nor required to give their authority as to the facts in the case on which they base their reports. -Pro. 1898.

**367** It is improper for an investigating committee which finds a candidate objectionable to report favorably and blackball him afterwards. They should report according their findings. -Pro. 1906.

**368** A committee of investigation on the petition for the degrees, affiliation, or reinstatement may, by the permission of the Worshipful Master, withdraw its report after it has been made, but before the ballot has been spread. -Pro. 1916. Amended Pro. 1976, p.91.

**369** An entry should never be made in the minutes as to how a committee of investigation reported. -Pro. 1873.

**3610** It is compulsory that the Committee of Investigation visit the petitioner's home for any petition, whether it be for the degrees or for affiliation or for reinstatement. -Pro. 1964, p.92; Pro. 1965, p.107. Amended Pro. 1976, p.91; Pro. 1988, p.36.

**3611** If a committee refuses or neglects to report a new committee may be appointed and the petition shall lie over another month. -Pro. 1904, as revised.

## SECTION 3.7

### CANDIDATES

**3.7.1** A person made in a clandestine Lodge is no Mason at all, and can not be affiliated in a regular Lodge. If worthy, he may be initiated, passed and raised, as any other candidate. -Grand Master English.

**3.7.2** The fact that a man has read any pretended revelation of Masonry, is no objection to his being initiated, if worthy. -Grand Master English.

**3.7.3** When a candidate offers himself for initiation, he has no right to demand to see the charter and roll of members; if his request is granted, it is on the part of the Lodge an act of courtesy, and not in recognition of a right possessed by the candidate. -Pro. 1873, p. 17-18.

**3.7.4** A Lodge can have two stated meetings per month, but a petition for initiation must lie over for one month. -Pro. 1894, p. 10.

**3.7.5** When a Lodge receives a petition for affiliation and has referred it to a committee of investigation, the applicant becomes the property of the Lodge receiving the petition and he is under its jurisdiction, unless he is rejected. -Pro. 1921, p. 11.

**3.7.6** It is settled law that a Mason living in this state may apply for membership in any Lodge in the state with which he prefers to affiliate. -Pro. 1879, p. 17.

**3.7.7** The act of affiliating an expelled or suspended Mason was as void as if it had been the affiliation of a profane or clandestine Mason, and the Lodge should strike his name from their rolls. -Pro. 1888, p. 55.

**3.7.8** No person must be made a Mason unless he is a man of eighteen years of age, of good character, honest and upright; he must have the use of his limbs and members, as a man ought to have; and with no such defect as may incapacitate him to learn the art, to give all due signs and salutations, to be made a Fellow Craft and Master in due time; honestly and reputably to acquire means of subsistence, and to comply fully with all the duties and obligations assumed by him towards the Craft at large and individual brethren, and such as Masonic law and usage impose upon or require of a good Mason. -Pro. 1946, p. 76.

**3.7.9** Any person possessing the requirements prescribed by Masonic law and usage, although not physically perfect, but possessing no defect which incapacitates him from giving and seeing all signs, grips, steps and salutations, including the position necessary to take the obligations, and who can give and hear the secret words of Masonry, shall be eligible for the degrees of Masonry. -Pro. 1946, p. 76; Pro. 1949, p. 98.

**3.7.10** If an applicant be of outstanding mental and moral character and is not in the future liable to become a burden to his Lodge, or the Fraternity, and the Subordinate Lodge which has jurisdiction over him desires to accept him, it may make its favorable recommendation to the

Grand Master setting out the qualifications and fitness of such applicant and the Most Worshipful Grand Master may issue his dispensation waiving the physical qualifications required in Sec. 3.7.8 and authorize said Subordinate Lodge to accept in the regular manner, such applicant and confer the several degrees of Masonry upon him. -Pro. 1948, p. 78.

**3.7.11** The procedure on the petition of a maimed person shall be the same as for any other person, namely, it shall be read, referred to a committee of investigation, reported and balloted upon, after which, if the petitioner is elected, the Lodge, before conferring the degrees, shall obtain from the Grand Master a dispensation waiving the physical qualifications required in Sect.

3.7.8 If the applicant be of outstanding mental and moral character and is not in the future liable to become a burden on the Lodge or the Fraternity, the Grand Master may issue his dispensation authorizing said Subordinate Lodge to confer the several degrees upon him. -Pro. 1949, p. 98.

**3.7.12** A person under eighteen years of age is not eligible to receive the degrees of Masonry, even though his civil disabilities have been removed by an order of court in accordance with the law of the land. -Pro. 1909, p. 36.Pro.2018, p.13&53

**3.7.13** The Lodge must be its own judge as to dotage. -Pro. 1894, p. 12.

**3.7.14** The requirement as to physical qualifications does not apply to those who have taken one or more degrees.-Pro. 1879, p. 16.

**3.7.15** An Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft who has lost a foot since initiation, and has a prosthesis, or one who has lost a hand after being initiated may be passed and raised. -Pro. 1870, p. ; Pro. 1879, p. 16; Pro. 1894, p. 12.

**3.7.16** Belief in God and in the immortality of the soul is a cardinal doctrine of Masonry, and it is the sense of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas that the God of Masonry is the Great Architect of the Universe, the Creator and Preserver of all things, the God of the Bible as well as the God of those who know nothing about its teachings; that the God of Masonry is not a God-a force-a materialistic cause, but the one true and living God to whom we must all account; and that anyone rejecting these great truths is unworthy of initiation into, or of holding membership in, a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. -Pro. 1879, p. 65; amended Pro. 1951, p. 70.

**3.7.17** A belief in a Supreme Being is required of all candidates for the mysteries of Masonry. No atheist can be made a Mason. -Pro. 1877, p. 11.

**3.7.18** Being a deist is not a disqualification for initiation; but the applicant must believe in God and the immortality of the soul. -Pro. 1879, p. 16.

**3.7.19** One who believes in God, but does not believe in the Bible, can be made a Mason, if otherwise worthy. -Pro. 1867, p. 46.

**3.7.20** Hereafter when a candidate presents himself for initiation, before being prepared he shall make affirmative answer to the following question, "Do you seriously declare upon your honor

that you believe in the existence of one True and Living God, and in the immortality of the soul?"  
-Pro. 1907, p. 87.

**3.7.21** Masonry does not bar any man on account of membership in any church. - Pro. 1935, p. 23.

**3.7.22** A member who, in fear of death, joined the Roman Catholic Church, and for the sake of receiving the benefits of the ordinances of that church renounced Masonry, but afterwards recovered and desired to resume his connection with the Fraternity, ought not for said cause to be expelled. Masonry proscribes no man on account of his politics or religion. - Pro. 1880, p.28-29.

**3.7.23** A man indicted for assault and battery with intent to kill, and escaped from custody, should not be made a Mason, nor his application entertained, until he has surrendered himself, and stood his trial. The Lodge will not inquire into his guilt or innocence while indictment is pending.-Grand Master English.

**3.7.24** No libertine, no scoffer at woman's purity, should be made a Mason. The true Mason not only holds the wife, mother, sister and daughter of a brother sacred, but carefully guards the honor and welfare of all women, and delights in their chastening influence. -Pro. 1889, p. 12.

**3.7.25** No degree of education is required in a petitioner, beyond that he should be able to sign his name to the petition. He ought to be intelligent, honest, moral, just and true. - Pro. 1870, p. 16.

**3.7.26** If an applicant for Masonry understands the English language, as it is spoken, sufficiently well to comprehend the true intent, meaning and teachings of the Work of Masonry, he may be made a Mason although he cannot read or write the English language or sign his name in that language. -Pro. 1895, p. 14.

**3.7.27** It is not necessary for a man to become naturalized before an American Lodge can entertain a petition from him. -Pro. 1892, p. 8.

**3.7.28** We do not now permit a Mason, or a Lodge, to engage the Fraternity in local, state, or national politics; we cannot allow this done in our Subordinate Lodges or Grand Lodge activities. All Brethren will refrain from political activity, such as mailings, for any candidate for a subordinate Lodge or Grand Lodge office. -Pro. 1997, p. 23.

**3.7.29** A candidate seeking to be elected to a Subordinate Lodge or Grand Lodge office, who openly solicits support for his candidacy by the use of mailings or other advertising, shall be disqualified and barred from consideration by the Lodge or Grand Lodge for election to the office to which he aspires. -Pro. 1997, p. 23.

**3.7.30** Upon consent of the candidate, a Lodge may, by vote of the members present at a stated communication, declare their intent to support the candidate, and submit a letter and resume of his qualifications to the Grand Secretary's office at least ninety (90) days before the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge. The candidate may give his consent to only one Lodge to

submit a letter and resume. The Grand Secretary will distribute the letter and resume to all symbolic Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Arkansas at the same time Resolutions are mailed to the Lodges. A candidate for Grand Lodge office may be nominated from the floor without prior notice by a delegate if he so desires. -Pro. 1991, p. 87.

**3.7.31** Jurisdiction is determined by the home or place of residence of the candidate. The general principle is that a home once acquired remains the domicile of the party until another bona fide and permanent residence is acquired at some other place. Temporary absence, or absence for purely business purposes or pleasure, no matter how long continued, if it is not with the view of abandoning the original home and acquiring a new one, does not change the domicile. -Pro. 1906, p. 22.

**3.7.32** A resident of Missouri removing to Arkansas becomes the material of the Arkansas Lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides and the Missouri Lodge acquired no jurisdiction over him by virtue of a petition presented to it while he was in the act of removing. -Grand Master Washburn, as revised.

**3.7.33** No Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall accept a petition for the degrees of Freemasonry from a candidate until he has been a resident of this state for one year, unless a dispensation is obtained from the Grand Master. -Pro. 1950, p. 87. Amended Pro. 1993, p. 58.

**3.7.34** Where one of our citizens becomes the citizen of another state, he cannot, on returning to Arkansas, petition for the degrees until he has resided here for the regular time.- Pro. 1870, as amended; Pro. 1951, p. 70.

**3.7.35** Upon the report of a committee that an applicant for Masonry had not resided within the state for one year, further proceedings should be delayed, and no ballot taken until the full accomplishment of required residence within the jurisdiction. -Pro. 1950, p. 87. Amended Pro. 1993, p. 58.

**3.7.36** A Lodge once legally receiving and referring a petition for the degrees acquires jurisdiction for twelve months only from the date of the ballot on the petition, whether the petitioner is elected or rejected. Upon repetition of the petition the procedure for the processing of such petition shall be the same as if he had not previously petitioned; Section 3.6 must be followed. -Pro. 1976, p. 85, Pro. 2005, p.80.

**3.7.37** The removal of a petitioner from the state, after his petition is before the Lodge, and referred to a committee, does not oust the jurisdiction. -Pro. 1867, p. 47; Pro. 1951, p. 70.

**3.7.38** If a candidate is elected, but as a result of moving from the jurisdiction of the Lodge is prevented from receiving the degrees, they may be conferred upon him as a courtesy as is now provided in Sec. 3.3.31; but the electing Lodge shall only retain this right of jurisdiction over such elected material for a term of three years from the date of the candidate's election. -Pro. 1944, p. 77.

**3.7.39** A Lodge in Arkansas cannot work material or affiliate brethren who originate under the jurisdiction of a Lodge in another state without the consent of that Lodge or its Grand Lodge. The request for permission to work such material shall be transmitted to the Grand Lodge of Arkansas and by it be forwarded to the sister Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1938, p. 70.

**3.7.40** In the case of an Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft desiring a waiver of jurisdiction, the procedure shall be the same as set forth in Sec. 3.1.247, except it shall not be necessary for him to file a petition for the degrees. -Pro. 1950, p. 88.

**3.7.41** Every petition for the degrees of Freemasonry shall be accompanied by a certified copy of a birth certificate, an affidavit, or other acceptable proof of birth, which may be returned to the petitioner after the lodge has acted on the petition. -Pro. 1950, p. 88.

**3.7.42** In cases where it is impossible or impracticable for the petitioner to furnish a certified copy of a Birth Certificate or affidavit or Proof of Birth, he may submit to the Worshipful Master and the Secretary documentary evidence, such as Baptismal Certificate, School Record, Family Bible, Life Insurance or other contract more than five years old or other documents showing his age. When the Worshipful Master and Secretary, after considering the evidence submitted, are satisfied that the statements made in the petition, as to age and parentage, are correct, they may make a statement to that effect, and, when such a statement is attached to the petition, it may be accepted in lieu of the copy of a Birth Certificate. -Pro. 1949, p. 106.

**3.7.43** It does not require a motion to refer a petition for the degrees or affiliation to a committee and unless there is objection, it is the duty of the Worshipful Master to refer petition to the proper committee. Objection could not be made upon merit or demerit of applicant, but upon residence, age, jurisdiction or defect in petition. -Pro. 1897, p. 10-11.

**3.7.44** A Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge shall not permit a petition for the degrees or affiliation to be withdrawn after the same has been referred to a committee of investigation as to character and qualification. -Pro. 1853, p. 74; Pro. 1951, p. 71.

**3.7.45** When a Lodge has received and referred a petition, and it is found that the degrees cannot legally be conferred upon the petitioner, that fact should be noted in the minutes of the stated meeting at which it is made known, whereupon the Committee of Investigation, if still outstanding, should be discharged and the matter closed. -Pro. 1949, p. 99.

**3.7.46** The Grand Master can not authorize the withdrawal of a petition for the degrees after it has been regularly referred, in order to save the applicant the mortification of a rejection. -Pro. 1880, p. 28.

**3.7.47** An unfavorable report of a Committee of Investigation is not equivalent to a rejection. There must be a ballot. -Pro. 1867, p. 46; Pro. 1951, p. 71.

**3.7.48** It is necessary to spread the ballot after an unfavorable report on a petition for the degrees, because the report is verbal, and nowhere made a record of. To stop there would leave no record of the rejection, but the ballot is spread and the applicant is rejected, and no one knows who did

it; whereas, if the committee's report were entered on the record, and the candidate declared rejected on that, then the minutes would show just who did it. -Pro. 1880, p. 28.

**3.7.49** The Monitor approved by this Grand Lodge in 1954 is the adopted Monitorial work of this Grand Jurisdiction. -Pro. 1956, p. 95.

**3.7.50** At every raising the Master shall recommend to the candidate to procure a copy of the Monitor adopted by this Grand Lodge and to study the same. -Pro. 1906, p. 101.

**3.7.51** The Grand Lodge requires that the Subordinate Lodge examine newly-made Master Masons until said Lodge is satisfied with their proficiency. The officer presiding at the conferring of the degree shall instruct the newly-made Master Mason that he is required to become proficient in the lecture of that degree. -Pro. 1956, p. 95; Pro. 1963, p. 102.

**3.7.52** A candidate once initiated is material of the Lodge and remains so, and it is only by consent of that Lodge that the succeeding degrees can be conferred upon him by another Lodge. This may be done in two ways:

1. The Lodge whose material he is may request the second Lodge to confer the degrees. In this event he remains a member of the Lodge in which he was initiated, and the work of conferring the degrees is done by the second Lodge simply as a matter of courtesy, the original Lodge retaining also the fees. Should this course be adopted, it is necessary that the second Lodge after conferring the degrees should cause the candidate to be examined in open Lodge as to his proficiency, and when found proficient should confer the next degrees. When the candidate has thus received the Master's degree the Lodge doing the courtesy work should report to the first Lodge the fact of the completion of the duty assigned it. In the other case, by a complete waiver of jurisdiction, as provided in Sec. 3.7.40. -Pro. 1906, as amended.

2. It requires the unanimous vote of the Lodge in which the Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft was made to grant his application to be transferred to another Lodge to be finished; and the Lodge to which he is transferred cannot finish him unless he is accepted by unanimous vote. -Pro. 1870, p. 46.

Should this new Lodge reject the proffered material the candidate would fall back to the old Lodge, for it to finish or not, as it likes. -Pro. 1877, p. 13.

**3.7.53** Where a waiver of jurisdiction has been granted to an Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft moving into the jurisdiction of another Lodge, it is necessary for him to make application in writing to the Lodge in whose favor the waiver was granted and the procedure thereon shall be that which is set out in Article 5 of the Uniform Code of By-Laws. -Pro. 1906, p. 21, as amended.

**3.7.54** The application of one claiming to be an Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft Mason can not be received on a certificate from a Subordinate Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction, unless said certificate contains a waiver of jurisdiction over the holder thereon, or consent to any other Lodge to finish the work. -Pro. 1891, p. 21.

**3.7.55** Waiver of jurisdiction carries with it the membership of the applicant to the Lodge that finishes him. -Pro. 1890, p. 9.

**3.7.56** Consent of one Lodge to another to complete or finish up work is a waiver of jurisdiction, which carries the fees with it, unless otherwise expressly stipulated. -Pro. 1887, p. 26.

**3.7.57** When a Lodge becomes defunct, its unfinished material may apply for the degrees or advancement, either (1) to the Lodge nearest the domicile of the Lodge which has become defunct, or (2) to the Lodge nearest the then place of residence of the applicant. He shall obtain from the Grand Secretary a certificate of his status, which certificate shall be attached to a petition for such degrees as have not been conferred upon him; this petition shall be referred to a committee of investigation, and shall follow the usual procedure of a petition for the degrees or for affiliation. - Pro. 1942, p. 66.

**3.7.58** Where an applicant lived in the jurisdiction of Lodge B, the charter of which Lodge was withdrawn after his application, and he thereupon applied to the nearest Lodge to him, his application being received and referred to a committee of investigation, but before his application was acted upon, Lodge B had its charter restored, the applicant belongs to the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he lived when he first petitioned. -Pro. 1890, p. 65.

**3.7.59** No person can be made a Mason or advanced while a member of the Lodge interposes an objection, nor should any person be made a Mason or advanced while any considerable number of members of any other Lodge interpose objections, until the objections are investigated, and ascertained to be groundless. -Pro. 1883, p. 13, as revised.

**3.7.60** If a member of a Lodge desires to object to the conferring of a degree on a candidate he must do so in open Lodge in his own proper person, or by privately communicating his objection to the Worshipful Master during the session of the Lodge, or if unable to be present, he may, in his own name, send his objection by a member of the Lodge; and such objection shall hold good in case of a candidate for initiation for only six months, and for advancement, only one month. The brother is not obligated to state his reasons for objecting. The fact of objection alone and not the name of the objector shall be entered on the minutes. -Pro. 1900, p. 61.

If the objection to an elected candidate for initiation is withdrawn before six months, the Worshipful Master shall make the fact known at a Stated Communication, and the candidate may be initiated at or following any Stated Communication thereafter, without further action by the Lodge; but if the objection is allowed to stand for six months, it will have the same effect as rejection on the original ballot and the candidate must re-petition.

If the objection to the advancement of a candidate is renewed at the end of the first month, then the Brother objecting must state his reason to the Master, or to the Lodge, in writing, in order that the objection may be investigated. -Pro. 1955, p. 93.

If the objection to the advancement of a candidate is withdrawn before the expiration of the month, or if the month has elapsed, and the candidate makes known to the Lodge his desire to

be advanced, either orally or in writing, the Worshipful Master shall make the fact known to the Lodge at a Stated Communication, and he may be advanced at or following any Stated Communication thereafter, provided however, not more than six months has elapsed since he received the preceding degree. If more than six months has elapsed he must be rebalotted upon. The Worshipful Master may, if he desires to do so, appoint an investigating committee and postpone a rebalot until he has its report. -Pro. 1949, p. 102.

**3.7.61** Certain brethren in Lodge A objected to Lodge B conferring the degrees on a candidate. Lodge B appointed a committee to confer with the objecting brethren. The committee reported to Lodge B the grounds of the objection. But Lodge B, not considering said grounds sufficient proceeded to work the material, and their action was approved by the Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1884, p. 79.

**3.7.62** Whenever an applicant has paid the fee charged by the Lodge for initiation or advancement, and objection is regularly lodged against his initiation or advancement, the Lodge shall then refund to any such applicant all fees collected for any degree or degrees which have not been conferred. -Pro. 1929, p. 121.

**3.7.63** Every candidate for passing and raising shall, before the degree is conferred, be examined in the lecture of the degree already taken, and shall not be permitted to progress unless he shall be found to possess a competent knowledge of that degree; and all candidates who shall receive the degree of Master Mason, shall be required to become proficient in the lecture of that degree. The officer presiding at the conferring of the degree shall instruct the newly-made Master Mason that he is required to become proficient in the lecture of that degree. Examinations as to proficiency in any degree may be conducted in open Lodge, or the Worshipful Master, with the consent of the Lodge, may appoint a committee of three competent Master Masons to examine, in a place other than the Lodge room, a candidate upon his proficiency in a degree already taken. The committee shall make its report in open Lodge. -Pro. 1951, p. 69; Pro. 1963, p. 102; Pro. 1967, p. 124.

**3.7.64** No person shall be allowed, in any Lodge in this jurisdiction, to advance from the degree of Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, without previous strict and full examination in all work and lectures of the degree or degrees which he has taken, and unless he be found to be aptly informed and proficient in the same; and no Lodge shall advance a brother who is found unable to answer any considerable number of the questions, or is only superficially acquainted with the work and lectures, or when he requires frequent prompting and suggestion of answers to enable him to pass an examination; and any Lodge which allows such examination to be mere matter of form is hereby declared to deserve censure. -Pro. 1857, p. 89; Pro. 1967, p. 124.

**3.7.65** As a general rule, the proficiency of a candidate, including the disposition manifested by him to form his conduct to the moral and Masonic principles inculcated in the degrees, is the only legitimate test of his right to be advanced. -Grand Master English.

**3.7.66** When an examination is conducted in open Lodge, proficiency in the lecture of the degree already taken shall be determined by a vote of the Lodge after proper motion and second. When an examination is conducted by a committee in a place other than the Lodge room, approval by

vote of the Lodge of the committee's report constitutes approval of the proficiency of the brother examined. Voting upon proficiency or the report of the committee shall be conducted in the Master's Lodge. Only a majority vote is required, and the vote may be taken by the usual voting sign. -Pro. 1946; Pro. 1967, p. 124.

**3.7.67** Examinations for advancement may be held and proficiency determined, at Stated or Special Communications. If held at a Special Communication, due notice of the time and purpose of the meeting shall be given. The examination shall be held in the degree upon which the brother is being examined if the examination is conducted in open Lodge. The Worshipful Master shall then open the Lodge in the Master Mason degree and the vote upon the proficiency shall be taken. The calling of a Special Communication for the examination of a candidate for his proficiency in any degree carries with it the right to open in the Master Mason degree to vote upon his proficiency. It is not proper for a Lodge to hear an examination and postpone voting upon the proficiency until a subsequent communication.-Pro. 1954, p. 71; Pro. 1967, p. 124.

**3.7.68** When an Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft has been examined and declared proficient, but owing to sickness or other causes, did not apply for one year to be passed, though attending at intervals the Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft Lodge, he need not be again examined when applying to be passed; but, if desired by the Lodge, he may be. -Pro. 1873, p. 48; Pro. 1967, p. 124.

**3.7.69** A Worshipful Master may at a Stated Communication, or a Special Communication, called for the purpose of hearing an examination, with the consent of the Lodge, appoint a committee to hear the lecture of a candidate or candidates, whose names shall be specified, in a room of the Lodge other than the meeting room, provided security of the room to be used is assured. The committee shall return to that meeting and make their report. This is a special committee appointed for one purpose only and when its work is completed the committee is automatically dismissed or discharged. -Pro. 1970, p. 117.

**3.7.70** A candidate for advancement shall not receive more than one degree in a one month period, except by dispensation from the Grand Master. -Pro. 1938, p. 71, as amended; Pro. 1951, p. 71, Pro. 2012, p. 46

**3.7.71** A dispensation to confer all the degrees on a candidate at one time can only be granted in case of an emergency, but when granted it carries with it the right to confer them without the candidate's proficiency as otherwise required. -Pro. 1898, p. 17.

**3.7.72** If at any time before his advancement a candidate is found to be unworthy, it is not only the right, but the duty of the Lodge to refuse to advance him. An election does not vest in the candidate an indefeasible right to the degrees, but the Lodge is bound to stop, at any point, when they find him unworthy; and if the objections to his advancement are of a nature so serious that they would justify suspension or expulsion, it is the duty of the Lodge to prefer charges and try him. -Pro. 1852, p. 38.

**3.7.73** Deleted. 2019

**3.7.74** An Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft charged in a criminal proceedings, shall not be advanced until the civil prosecution is disposed of, nor without satisfactory inquiry. -Pro. 1870, p. 16.

**3.7.75** It shall be the general law of this jurisdiction that the petition of a rejected applicant for initiation shall not be received until after the expiration of six months from the time of his rejection. -Pro. 1858, p. 36.

**3.7.76** In a petition for initiation from rejected material, it is proper to say, "He has applied to this Lodge and been rejected. "-Pro. 1912, p. 50-51.

**3.7.77** Where there is more than one Lodge in a city or town, and a petition is rejected in one of them, the Secretary shall forthwith certify such rejection to the other Lodge or Lodges; and no petition shall be received from such petitioner in either of such other Lodges after the expiration of the prescribed period of six months for the term of twelve months from the date of such rejection, unless such petition is accompanied by the written recommendation of the Lodge in which he was rejected. -Pro. 1867, p. 62; as amended 1896, pp. 87, 88; Pro. 2005, p.90.

**3.7.78** A candidate was rejected by one black ball; afterwards a brother made known that he cast the ball because the candidate had not been of the jurisdiction for twelve months, and had no other objection. The brother should have made known the fact before the ballot took place, and it should have been postponed until the twelve months were out. But the candidate being rejected, he cannot send in his petition again until after the expiration of six months from the time of such rejection, as in other cases. -Grand Master English.

**3.7.79** Where a candidate applies to a Lodge having no jurisdiction of him, to be made a Mason, and is rejected, such rejection does not bar him from applying to a Lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides. -Pro. 1883, p. 13.

**3.7.80** If another Lodge does confer the degrees upon the rejected material (during said time) it must pay the fees and the material belongs to the rejecting Lodge. -Pro. 1892, p. 79; as amended 1919, p. 40.

**3.7.81** In the case of rejected material, it will require a special dispensation from the Grand Master during the period of one year from the date of such rejection, to enable a Lodge to make a Mason of one who had applied to a Lodge and been rejected, after which the Lodge became defunct, and who now desires to apply to a Lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides other than the nearest Lodge. -Pro. 1892, p. 10, revised.

**3.7.82** This Grand jurisdiction makes no provision for the consideration of a petitioner's race, skin color or ethnicity. Pro. 2005, p. 72

## SECTION 3.8

### PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIP

#### REPORT OF PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIP PLAN COMMITTEE

WHEREAS: This Grand Jurisdiction is suffering losses in membership mainly due to deaths and suspensions for non-payment of dues, and

WHEREAS: This continued loss of membership creates a financial burden on both Subordinate Lodges and the Grand Lodge, and

WHEREAS: Other Grand Jurisdictions have greatly reduced these problems by a successful Perpetual Membership Program, and

WHEREAS: The Grand Secretary's office is computerized, there will be no requirement for additional employees to administer a Perpetual Membership Program.

RESOLVED: That this Grand Jurisdiction establish the following voluntary PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM:

Perpetual Memberships are authorized in Subordinate Lodges subject to the following terms and conditions:

A. Any member in good standing, and possessing a current dues card in a Subordinate Lodge, may become a Perpetual Member in that Lodge pursuant to the provisions of this section.

B. The Member desiring a Perpetual Membership shall apply to the Secretary of his Lodge for such Membership, on the forms prescribed by the Grand Lodge, and shall tender therewith a minimum sum of 16 times the annual dues of his Lodge at the time of the application. The Lodge Secretary shall complete his part of the application and shall forward the same, together with the full fee due, to the Grand Secretary; the effective date of the application shall be the date the Grand Secretary certified the application.

C. A Member unable to purchase a Perpetual Membership outright will be permitted to pay it at the rate of \$20.00 per month until it is paid out. The Perpetual Membership will not be effective until completely paid, and annual dues must be paid until he becomes a Perpetual Member.

D. The application shall be signed by the applicant and have the certification of the Lodge Secretary. The application shall not become effective until the applicant's record has been certified by the Grand Secretary. The application shall contain thereon the computations upon which the Perpetual Membership Fee is predicated. If the Grand Secretary determines that the

minimum fee tendered by the applicant is in excess of that required, the Grand Secretary shall have the power to correct the application and the Lodge Secretary's computations of the fee, accept the application as corrected, and refund any excess fee to the applicant through the Subordinate Lodge Secretary. If the fee tendered is insufficient, the Grand Secretary shall return the application and fee to the Subordinate Lodge Secretary for correction and re- submittal. A copy of the completed and accepted Perpetual Membership Application and a Certificate of Perpetual Membership shall be furnished to the applicant and his Lodge by the Grand Secretary. These provisions shall be construed so, as to permit the Grand Secretary to use computerized records.

E. Once the Perpetual Membership Application and fee have been received and accepted by the Grand Secretary, the perpetual membership fee shall be irrevocable. No circumstance, including but not limited to expulsion or suspension will permit the refunding of the perpetual membership fee to the perpetual member or to any beneficiary. Furthermore, the perpetual member or former perpetual member or his successors, assigns or heirs shall full indemnity and protect the Grand Lodge against all loss, damage, cost and expenses occasioned by, or incident to any legal claim or claims filed to recover the amount of his perpetual membership fee, or the defense thereof. Submittal of the perpetual membership application and its subsequent approval by the Grand Secretary shall furnish prima facie evidence that the member has accepted the rules of perpetual membership and is willing to be governed in accordance therewith. – Pro.2007, p. 43

F. After the applicant's Perpetual Membership has been accepted by the Grand Secretary, the Perpetual Membership Fee shall be paid to the Grand Treasurer, as required in Sec. 2.2.20, 21, 22 of the Digest of Laws. The Funds shall be placed collectively in an irrevocable Perpetual Membership Trust. These Funds shall be accounted for on an individual Lodge basis, listing the amount a person paid into the Fund. The Funds shall be accounted for separately, by the Grand Treasurer, from all other Grand Lodge Funds. The Funds shall be audited annually as required in Sec. 2.2.1, 2, 3, 4, 5 of the Digest of Laws, and shall be administered by the Board of Finance.

G. A Perpetual Member shall owe no further dues to the Lodge of which he is a Perpetual Member. An Annual Dues Card shall be issued by the Lodge Secretary, who shall denote Perpetual Membership thereon. The Perpetual Membership will remain in the lodge through which it was purchased, as long as the purchaser is a member of that lodge. Pro. 2010, p. 53.

H. The total Perpetual Membership fee, along with any additional amount added, will be considered principal and will never be spent. The total interest and dividend income derived therefrom will be paid annually to each Subordinate Lodge and will not be less than 3% and not more than 7% for each Perpetual Member at the time of per capita billing. From time to time there may be appreciation of assets in the fund. The capital gains of the various securities, funds, bonds or notes may be realized and used to supplement the amount returned to the Lodges. Pro. 1998,p.42, Amended 2009.

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I. The Grand Secretary shall, at the time of the annual income distribution, submit a statement to the Lodge for an amount covering the per capita in effect at the time the member joined the Plan. The Lodge shall, during his lifetime and thereafter, pay to the Grand Lodge the amount designated by the Grand Secretary's Per Capita Statement. (Memorial Perpetual) pays Grand Lodge thirty percent (30%) of the interest, up to the per capita in effect at the time the member joined the plan. This section shall at no time be construed to conflict with Article 4, Section 7 of the Constitution.

J. The obtaining of a Perpetual Membership in one Lodge by a Plural Member will have no effect on his membership in the other Lodge(s). If a member holding Plural Membership is suspended for nonpayment of dues in a Lodge in which he does not have a Perpetual Membership, he will be suspended in all Lodges in which he holds membership. Having a Perpetual Membership does in no way subvert Sec. 3.1.219 of the Digest of Laws. -Pro. 1998,p.42.

K. Repealed Pro. 2010, p.53

L. Any Certificate of Good Standing issued under the Digest of Laws to a Perpetual Member shall have endorsed thereon the fact that the holder is a Perpetual Member and the amount of the Perpetual Membership Fee, which shall be transferred to the Subordinate Lodge in Arkansas with which he affiliates.

M. If a Perpetual Member shall be suspended or expelled, or withdraws and is subsequently restored to good standing, or re-affiliates from out of state, his Perpetual Membership shall be deemed to be restored.

N. If a Lodge merges, surrenders its Charter, or has its Charter arrested, the funds credited to that Lodge in the Perpetual Membership Fund shall follow the members, according to the relevant sections of the Digest of Laws dealing with Mergers, surrendering and arrest of Charters.

O. A Memorial Perpetual Membership may be purchased by any person(s) for a deceased Master Mason of an Arkansas Lodge, or some regular Lodge of some other Grand Jurisdiction recognized by this Grand Lodge for not less than \$100.00. A Memorial Perpetual Membership Roll will be established. An Honorarium Perpetual Membership may be purchased by any individual for any person(s). The minimum fee will be \$25.00. Income derived therefrom shall be in accordance with Sub-sections H and I. Amended -Pro. 1992, p. 36. Pro. 1998,p.42.

P. Any person at any time may add any amount to any Perpetual Membership, be it a regular perpetual membership, memorial perpetual membership or honorarium. Such contributions will be made to the Lodge Secretary of the Lodge holding the membership. - Pro. 1998,p.42.

Q. Applications for Perpetual Membership shall be on forms prescribed by the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Secretary shall provide all forms required for the implementation of this Section.

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R. Where Perpetual Members have not been heard from for more than seven years, the Worshipful Master shall direct the Secretary to report the names of such missing Brethren to the Grand Lodge by letter as being deceased. Their names shall then be transferred to the Memorial Perpetual Membership Roll as a Memorial to him, but this action shall have no effect on the amount of money paid the Lodge and Grand Lodge for that Perpetual Member, as set forth in Sub-sections H and I.

S. There shall be no cost to the Subordinate Lodges for the administration of this Program by the Grand Lodge.

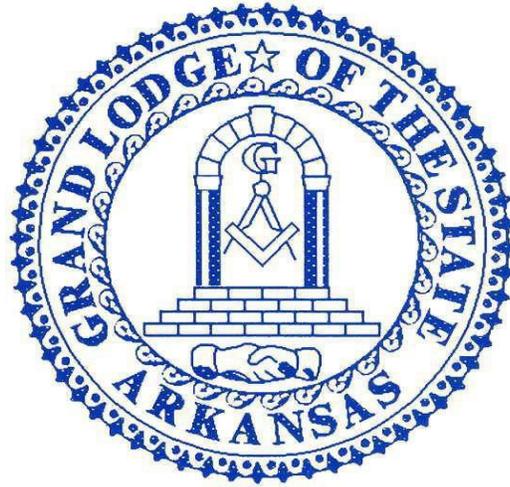
T. In the event that someone should sue at law, the Grand Lodge or a subordinate lodge or lodges for the amount paid for perpetual membership and the case be settled in favor of the plaintiff, by whatever avenue, and the amount paid for perpetual membership returned to him, the subordinate lodge or lodges of which the plaintiff was or is a perpetual member shall no longer receive from the perpetual membership fund any allotment on behalf of said plaintiff.

Any accumulation in the fund relative to said plaintiff's perpetual membership fee shall become invested assets of the Grand Lodge.

Furthermore anyone taking legal action against the Grand Lodge or subordinate lodges shall be handled in accordance with section 4.0.27 of the digest of laws of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas and the expulsion shall stand perpetually. – Pro. 2007, p. 42.



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# **SECTION 4**

## **Trials**



## SECTION 4.0

### LAW OF TRIALS AS ADOPTED BY THE GRAND LODGE:

**4.0.1** Whenever a member of a Subordinate Lodge shall desire to prefer charges against another, he shall furnish the Worshipful Master of said Lodge with a copy of the charges he makes, with full specifications, stating as nearly as possible the time and place of the offense.

**4.0.2** The Worshipful Master shall report and read the same to the Lodge, concealing the name of the informant, at the next regular meeting; and he shall thereupon appoint three disinterested members of the Lodge, whose duty it shall be to investigate the matter, hearing evidence both for and against the accused, and report at the next regular meeting, or as soon thereafter as practicable, upon the propriety of instituting a trial upon said charges.

**4.0.3** If and when said committee shall report that the charges are of such nature that the accused should be put upon trial, the Lodge, at that meeting, by a majority vote of all members present, may decide either to proceed with the trial by the Lodge under the existing "LAW OF TRIALS", or that it will, in the alternative, request the Grand Master to appoint a TRIAL COMMISSION to conduct the trial.

**4.0.4** If and when the Lodge decides to request that the trial be conducted by a TRIAL COMMISSION, the Worshipful Master shall immediately give notice to the Grand Master of the desire of the Lodge; whereupon after investigating.

The Grand Lodge and/or Grand Master's Trial Commission's shall be conducted in the same manner and under the same format in all respects as if the trial were being conducted under the "LAW OF TRIALS" in open Lodge. However, no recordings will be allowed other than the official recordings by the Grand Lodge Trial Commission. All notes and documents are provided to the Grand Lodge Trial Commission Chairman for safekeeping within the Grand Secretary's office.

The Grand Master will determine the location of all Grand Lodge Trials according to what is in the best interest of the Fraternity as a whole.

The Commission Chairman shall be an official representative of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of conducting Grand Lodge Trials. Grand Lodge Trials shall be held in a tiled recess with only the Commission members, Defendant, Prosecutor, and Defense Advisor present. Witnesses shall be called in on an as needed basis. Witness list shall be limited to ten (10)

witnesses for each the prosecution and the Defense. These witnesses shall be notified by certified mail at least 10 days prior to the Grand Lodge Trial date.

Upon completion of all testimony, all but the Commission members shall be excused while deliberation and voting is done. The result of the Grand Lodge Trial Commission's vote as it pertains to the guilt or innocence along with the penalty shall be kept in the strictest confidence until the Grand Master issues a letter to the defendant explaining the findings of the Grand Lodge Trial Commission.

The COMMISSION shall select its own Secretary, may summon witnesses, and make all other necessary arrangements for the proper conduct of the trial. It shall determine the guilt or innocence of the accused, and, if the accused be found guilty, fix the penalty; and promptly deliver a full and complete report of its action in the case, together with a transcript of all testimony heard, evidence presented, and proceedings had therein to the Grand Master, the right of appeal by the accused under the "LAW OF TRIALS" in all things and at all times being hereby preserved.

The procedure for forming a Grand Master or Grand Lodge Trial Commission. The selection process will be by lottery. When either a Grand Master or Grand Lodge Trial Commission becomes necessary, the Grand Secretary will prepare a list of all subordinate lodge numbers in Arkansas by placing them on a sheet of paper suitable to be folded in half. The Committee on Work shall certify that all subordinate lodges in Arkansas are accounted for. Once certified, the numbers will be placed in a vessel. The Grand Treasurer, in the presence of the Grand Secretary and Committee on Work, shall draw Five (5) numbers from the vessel. The Junior Past Master of the selected lodge number will then be contacted by the Grand Secretary and notified that he has been appointed to serve on the Trial Commission. If for some reason, health or usual vocation prevents his participation, additional numbers will be drawn until all positions are filled.

The process will then be repeated by placing the names of all Junior Past District Deputy Grand Masters into a vessel. One name will be randomly drawn. Once selected, the Junior Past District Deputy Grand Master will then be contacted by the Grand Secretary and notified of his appointment to the position of prosecutor of the Trial Commission. Once selected, the members may only serve on one (1) trial as either commissioner or prosecutor. This process will be repeated for each Grand Master or Grand Lodge Trial Commission. The commission being set, shall proceed according to the Law of Trials.

The expense incident to the trial by the COMMISSION shall be paid by the Grand Secretary upon the order of the Grand Master. - Pro. 1955, p. 94, Pro. 2012, p. 46

**4.0.5** If the Lodge decides to proceed with the trial under the existing "LAW OF TRIALS" by the Lodge, the Worshipful Master shall appoint some disinterested member to prosecute, obtain testimony and prepare the case for trial, who shall be furnished with a copy of the charges and specifications, and of the report of the committee thereon, and notify him that he will put upon his trial at the next regular meeting after service of the notice, PROVIDED, that he shall have twenty days notice and at said regular meeting the accused shall be tried upon the charges and specifications, unless he or the prosecutor shall show good cause for a continuance.

**4.0.6** If the accused shall evade notice, or if the Secretary, after diligent inquiry, shall be unable after four months to ascertain the residence of the accused, so that notice may be served upon him, the Lodge may then proceed to trial as if he had been regularly notified; and the Worshipful Master

shall appoint some brother to defend him, if his residence be unknown.

**4.0.7** When the Lodge shall be prepared for trial, such of the charges as have been approved by the committee of investigation shall be read. The testimony on the part of the prosecution shall then be produced, all of which testimony except so much thereof as may be in writing and filed, shall be taken down in writing or recorded electronically or otherwise by someone qualified to do so. The accused will then be permitted to introduce his testimony, which shall likewise be committed to writing, or recorded electronically or otherwise, with the exception of such written testimony as may be filed. It shall be the responsibility of the Subordinate Lodge in which the trial is held or of the Trial Commission to provide for or furnish proper equipment and/or a qualified person to accurately record the trial.

**4.0.8** All testimony, whether of Masons or others, shall be taken upon their honor, and such testimony as cannot be taken in the Lodge room shall be taken before some disinterested member, who shall be appointed by the Worshipful Master, notice being given the opposite party of the time and place.

**4.0.9** When the evidence is closed, the prosecutor may comment upon the evidence. The accused, or any member whom he may desire to represent him, or, in the absence of the accused, the member who had been appointed by the Worshipful Master may be heard in reply; but there shall be no further discussion.

**4.0.10** After the comments upon the evidence shall be closed, the accused shall withdraw from the Lodge room.

**4.0.11** A vote shall be taken upon each specification under each charge, and upon each charge in their order (the accused and his relatives within the Second Degree, and the brother alleged to have been wronged and his relatives within the Second Degree not being permitted to vote), and it shall require a vote of two-thirds of the other members present to sustain the charge or any specifications. Pro. 1998, p.53.

**4.0.12** When the charges shall have been voted upon, if any shall be sustained, the Lodge shall proceed to vote upon the infliction of punishment, the parties named in 4.0.11 not being permitted to vote. And the Lodge should, either by vote, ballot or motion, duly carried by the required two-thirds majority, fix the punishment.

The order of punishment is:

1. Expulsion
2. Definite Suspension (not to exceed 3 years Maximum)
3. Reprimand.

**4.0.13** The highest order of punishment shall first be proposed; if that be not sustained, then the next milder punishment, until the grade be fixed; and no greater number of votes shall be required to inflict a punishment than is necessary to sustain a charge. The accused shall then be admitted and informed of the result of the trial.

**4.0.14** Any member who shall deem himself or the cause of Masonry injured by the decision of his Lodge in any trial, and desiring to appeal therefrom, shall, within six months of the date of the trial,

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file with the Secretary of said Lodge a written notice of appeal to the Grand Lodge; which notice shall set forth his objections to the action of the Lodge.

### 4.0.15

Within 30 days following a trial, the Secretary of the Lodge shall send the Grand Secretary a copy of the record of the trial; which record shall be signed by the Worshipful Master, and certified by the Secretary under the seal of the Lodge; and shall contain a copy of the Charges and Specifications originally preferred, the report of the committee of investigation, a copy of all testimony for and against the accused (committed to writing or recorded by other means), and the original or copy of all papers used upon the trial as evidence or otherwise. --Pro. 1975, p.79; Pro. 1978, p.115; Pro. 1988, p.36.

**4.0.16** The Secretary's certificate to said record shall certify that it contains all original papers or true copies, and a true transcript of the record, and of all the testimony introduced on the trial, and the Secretary shall append to said record a descriptive list of all papers sent up.

**4.0.17** When a suspended, for other than non-payment of dues, or expelled Mason desires to be reinstated, he shall present his petition in writing to the Lodge in which he was suspended or expelled, at a Stated Communication thereof, which petition shall be recommended by at least two members of said Lodge, and shall be referred to a committee of three for inquiry and report, and lie over at least one stated meeting to another, but where a Lodge has two stated meetings a month, it shall lie over for one month, when a vote shall be taken thereon it shall require a vote of three-fourths of the members present to reinstate the petitioner, and in case of expulsion it shall require the unanimous vote of all members resent to reinstate the petitioner.

### 4.0.18 Edict No.1.

(1) The Grand Master has the power and authority, on his own initiative, to file specific charges of un-Masonic conduct or conduct which is detrimental to the good of Masonry, when a Lodge fails to do so.

(2) After thorough investigation, should the Grand Master find it advisable to file charges against a member of a Subordinate Lodge of this Grand Lodge or a brother who resides in this jurisdiction but is not a member of an Arkansas Lodge, said charges shall be filed in the alleged offender's Lodge or in the jurisdiction of a Lodge wherein the alleged offense occurred.

(3) The trial shall then be conducted by said COMMISSION in the hall of the Lodge where the charges were filed in the same manner and under the same regulations in all other respects as if the trial were being conducted under the "LAW OF TRIALS" in open Lodge. The COMMISSION shall select its own Secretary, may summon witnesses, fix the time and make all other necessary arrangements for the proper conduct of the trial. It shall determine the guilt or innocence of the accused, and, if the accused be found guilty, fix the penalty, and promptly deliver a full and complete report of its action in the case, together with a transcript of all

testimony heard and proceedings had therein to the Grand Master; the right of appeal by the accused under the Law of Trials in all things and at all times being hereby preserved.

(4) The expense incident to the investigation and/or trial by the COMMISSION shall be paid by the Grand Secretary upon the order of the Grand Master.

(5) The decision of this Grand Lodge TRIAL COMMISSION and any penalty imposed shall be that of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas and the accused shall be advised of the decision, in writing, by the Grand Master, with copy also to the Subordinate Lodge of which the accused is a member, and to the Lodge in which the charges were filed. In the case of a brother who is not a member of an Arkansas Lodge, the Grand Secretary shall furnish the results of the trial to the Grand Lodge in which the Brother has membership.

(6) The action of the Grand Master in imposing the penalty of the Grand Lodge TRIAL COMMISSION shall be final. While the individual Masons may appeal the decision, the action of the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge TRIAL COMMISSION must be referred to the Grand Lodge Board of Appeals and Grievances at the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1978, p. 115.

(7) Nothing in the foregoing shall be construed to relieve the Subordinate Lodge of the primary responsibility of the supervision of the Craft, nor of its duty and rights in the matter of trials. -Pro. 1975, p. 80.

**4.0.19** In the case of a trial by a Grand Lodge Trial Commission, when circumstances exist that make a trial held within the Lodge of the accused not in the best interest of the Fraternity at large, the Grand Master may order the trial held elsewhere. However, the Grand Master has no authority to order a change of venue in any case other than a trial brought about by charges filed by himself -Pro. 1975, p. 8 1.

**4.0.20** When a member has been expelled by a Grand Lodge Trial Commission or by Grand Lodge itself desires to be reinstated, he shall present his petition in writing to the Grand Master who shall appoint a Committee of Investigation which shall review the proceedings as well as the present status of the member and report DIRECT to the Grand Lodge at its next Annual Communication while in session. The report of the Committee shall be either FOR or AGAINST reinstatement. The vote will be taken by secret ballot and a three- fourths vote of the delegates present and voting will be required to reinstate to membership. If he is restored to membership he becomes a Mason at large and becomes subject to the provisions of Sec. 2.1.123 of the Digest of Laws. -Pro. 1977, p. 70; Pro. 1984, p. 76.

**4.0.21** In the connection with applications to Grand Lodge for Reinstatement, the Special Committee on Investigation for Reinstatement Applicant, as a part of its investigation must review the original Trial and report to the delegates at the next annual grand communication. -Pro. 1984, p. 76., amended 2019

**4.0.22** Though Lodges should not be made court rooms to decide civil controversies, Masons are advised to settle such differences by Masonic arbitration. -Pro. 1887, p. 48.

**4.0.23** Brethren consenting to an arbitration, pledging themselves to abide the same, forfeit their Masonic honor by refusing to abide the decision, and are subject to discipline. - Pro. 1874, p.17.

**4.0.24** Deleted. 2019

**4.0.25** No Mason, even including the Grand Master, is exempt from following his obligations nor from the requirement that he follow the moral and civil code. However, charges against the Grand Master may only be preferred with the written consent of a majority of the Committee on Masonic Law and Usage. Should it be deemed necessary for the Grand Master to be charged, a Sub-Committee of three, elected annually from within the membership of the Law and Usage Committee, shall appoint the Trial Commission. – Pro. 1973, p. 102, Pro. 2007, p. 43.

**4.0.26** Masonry being a moral institution, is opposed to all crime, and when a person admits the commission of a crime, and is punished therefor, Masons should not sign petitions for the pardon of such a person, unless there is some peculiar circumstance which appeals to a good man for clemency. Every Mason must determine that for himself and should be careful not to act in a manner which will encourage the commission of a crime. -Pro. 1920, p. 16.

**4.0.27** A member of this Fraternity, whether an Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, or Master Mason taking action in civil court, or a member assisting professionally in the civil action, against the Grand Master, Grand Lodge (including any and all officers, committees, boards, and commissions), a subordinate lodge (including any and all officers, committees, and boards), or an individual Mason while acting within the scope and/or performance of masonic by-laws, rules, and regulations as set out, defined, or implied by the Digest of Laws and our Masonic Obligations, shall be deemed unworthy to be a Mason and shall be immediately expelled without necessity of trial and the expulsion shall stand perpetually. Notification of the expulsion will be by registered letter by the Grand Master upon his confirmed written knowledge of the civil action. Said action will be reported at the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge. – Pro. 1995, p. 16, Pro 2007, p. 42.

**4.0.28** Any Mason holding membership in a Lodge subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Arkansas shall be EXPELLED without Masonic Trial, if such Mason, upon becoming aware of charges of Un-Masonic Conduct, naming him as the Accused, or upon realization or admission that he is in violation of Masonic by-laws, rules, and regulations as set out, defined, or implied by the Digest of Laws and/or our Masonic obligations, or for personal reasons, may complete and deliver to the Grand Master the form "Waiver of Masonic Trial - Consent to Expulsion" (provided by the Grand Secretary) or a like or similar form satisfactory in form and content to the Grand Master, wherein and thereby requesting Expulsion to avoid and waive all rights to a Masonic Trial. -Pro. 1998, p. 23.

1. When this form (Waiver of Masonic Trial - Consent to Expulsion) the Expulsion shall stand for life with no right of appeal or request of modification. Unless the Grand Master shall deem his request for reinstatement for a good cause. At which time the Grand Lodge, sitting in session, shall approve the Grand Masters determination by a majority vote. The person may submit his application for reinstatement which shall lie over until the next annual communication where the normal procedures shall be followed for reinstatement.

2. When this form is signed and executed by the Grand Master, the Grand Secretary will notify in writing the Expelled Mason and each Subordinate Lodge of which the person is a member that he has been Expelled for life.

3. If this form is rejected and not executed by the Grand Master, notice and/or trial in due Masonic form will occur as otherwise required by Section 4, Law of Trial in the Digest of Laws.

**4.0.29** The Grand Lodge reiterates its position that temperance is a Masonic virtue which is required of its members and its candidates as well. Temperance is a habit which does not apply solely to alcoholic beverages. It is possible for a person to be intemperate who never touches alcohol. Any overindulgence, any vicious habit, is a violation of Masonic moral conduct, for which a person may be charged with a violation of his Masonic duty, and if in the opinion of the brethren he is guilty, he may be punished. -Pro. 1954, p. 69.

**4.0.30** Every Masonic Lodge must be its own judge of the intemperance of its members. -Pro. 1954, p. 70.

**4.0.31** Repealed by Grand Lodge Delegates vote. Pro. 2018, p. 32 & 53.

**4.0.32 B Repealed laws is not retroactive.** Pro.2018, p.32&53

**4.0.33** No Lodge shall introduce intoxicating liquors within the Lodge room, or any room adjoining. Intoxicating liquors shall not be served at Lodge banquets. -Pro. 1856, p. 109; amended, Pro. 1933, p. 66.

**4.0.34** Repealed by Grand Lodge Delegates vote. Pro. 2018, p.32&53.

**Repealed in Law is not retroactive.** Pro. 2018, p.32&53.

**4.0.35** Where a member of the Lodge has been indicted by the Grand Jury for the crime of selling liquors without license, and the Master is in possession of information as to what the proof of guilt will be, he should appoint a committee of investigation, and institute a prosecution in the regular way; provided, the Master believes the testimony to be reliable. The fact that the brother has been indicted by the Grand Jury does not authorize the Lodge to punish him without Masonic trial. Although he might be convicted under the State Law, he would still be entitled to Masonic trial. But, if upon trial by the Lodge, the proof should show that he has sold intoxicating liquor in violation of the law of the land, he should be convicted and expelled. -Pro. 1904, p. 19.

**4.0.36** Repealed by Grand Lodge Delegates vote. Pro. 2018, p.32&53.

**4041 A** If a Mason, or a candidate for the degrees of Freemasonry, is licensed by the state or federal government to make or distribute alcohol, he may do so. Intoxicating liquors cannot be sold in a lodge, nor by a lodge. The man, who happens to be a mason, would simply be looked at as a licensed vendor, retailer, or employee, and not viewed violating masonic law. Pro. 2018, p.32&53.

**4042** If a mason, who has been licensed by the state to legally sell lottery tickets, he may do so. Lottery tickets cannot be sold in a lodge. The man, who happens to be a mason, would simply be looked at as a licensed vendor or retailer, not breaking the Masonic Law, as the game of chance was not a lodge function nor did it hold any Masonic affiliation. – Pro. 1932, p.23, Pro. 2010, p. 52.

**4043** It is not proper for Lodges to have or approve of having stands such as shooting matches, doll racks, knife boards, swings, etc., for speculating purposes at laying of corner stones -Pro. 1910, p. 30.- Pro.2018, p. 32&53.

**4044** If a Mason knowingly and willfully takes a false oath, he is morally unfit to be a Mason, and may be charged, tried and expelled for the offense. If he takes the oath through misconception of its import then he would be guilty of no immorality. The whole matter must depend on his motive and intention, to be gathered from all the circumstances. Of these the Lodge would have to judge on the trial. -Grand Master English.

**4045** A brother having been received into a Lodge under false representation that he had not previously applied to another Lodge and been rejected or withholds his membership in other masonic organizations considered clandestine by the Grand Lodge, should be placed upon trial therefor, and, if found guilty, severely dealt with. -Pro. 1911, p. 26-27. Amended 2019

**4046** When an applicant for the degrees willfully makes a false statement in his petition, it would be proper to prefer charges against him. -Pro. 1932, Pro. 1993.

**4047** If a Mason publicly charges a brother with any act that under Masonic law would amount to un-Masonic conduct, it is a slander and a violation of his obligation, for which he ought to be disciplined. If he would speak of such offense at all, he should make it known to his Lodge in a proper way. There are but few offenses more grossly contemptible in the estimation of all good Masons than the "speaking evil of a brother." -Pro. 1896, p. 15.

**4048** To traduce the good name and reputation of a deceased brother Master Mason is un-Masonic, and ground for charges. -Pro. 1873, p. 17.

**4049** But there may be instances in which it would be immoral and un-Masonic, though lawful, for a Mason to plead the statute of limitations against a debt due his brother. For example: Where a Mason is justly indebted to another, and begs for an obtains indulgence, on faith in promises to pay, until the period of limitation runs out, it would be immoral and un-Masonic to falsify his promises, and avail himself of the naked legal bar. So a Mason should not go to law with his brother until he is satisfied, by the failure of the milder and more fraternal means, that his brother will not render to him that which he claims to be justly due, without a resort to legal coercion. - Pro. 1871, p. 43.

**4050** A Mason who has honestly failed in business and availed himself of the benefit of the Bankrupt Act, is not liable to discipline for pleading his discharge against the debt of a brother Mason. -Pro. 1867, p. 47.

**4051** The purchase, sale or use of an Arkansas cipher rituals of the three Symbolic Degrees of Masonry is forbidden; and any Mason who shall hereafter purchase, sell or use anything purporting to be a cipher ritual or written, printed or otherwise delineated ritual or exposition of Masonry shall be subject to charges. -Pro. 1909, p. 105. Amended 2019

**4052** It is a violation of the Master Mason's obligation to strike or assault by striking a Master Mason who has been suspended for the nonpayment of dues. -Pro. 1924, p. 27.

**4053** Neither a dimitted Mason, nor any other, has a right to leave the Lodge when open, without permission. Charges ought to be preferred against a Mason that would thus act. -Pro. 1874, p. 15.

**4054** A Master Mason cannot withdraw from the Lodge while at work, without the permission of the Worshipful Master, but permission should be granted in case of urgent necessity. -Pro. 1875, p. 14.

**4055** When a brother is ordered to take any station or place in a Lodge, as a pro tem officer, he should immediately obey, unless excused by the Worshipful Master. To obstinately refuse would subject him to discipline for insubordination. -Pro. 1874, p. 15-16.

**4056** An officer of a Lodge who contumaciously refuses to perform his duties is liable to discipline upon charges. -Pro. 1873, p. 18.

**4057** Where an officer refused to remain during the conferring of a degree and withdrew without the permission of the Master, it is a case of gross un-Masonic conduct and a flagrant violation of his Masonic obligation, for which the Lodge should administer proper discipline. - Pro. 1904, p. 20-21.

**4058** Upon a dispute arising in open Lodge, the Master summarily closing the Lodge and declaring he will never sit in the Lodge again, constitutes good ground for charges against him. - Pro. 1894, p. 14, as revised.

**4059** No penalty can be inflicted on a brother for nonattendance when the Lodge is making a Mason of a man whom the absent brother deems unfit material for Masonry. But the brother who absents himself for that reason does the Lodge a wrong and himself an injustice. -Pro. 1910, p. 30.

**4060** Where the rules of a church lead a Mason to renounce Masonry, as a matter of conscience, it is not a matter for Masonic discipline. He may dimit, but he cannot remain a member of the Lodge, and act in contempt of its authority. -Pro. 1867, p. 46.

**4061** A member appointed on a committee having refused to act, stating that owing to his religious views he could no longer remain in a Masonic Lodge, and asked to be expelled and published, was properly expelled. -Pro. 1870, p. 17.

**4062** A Mason who renounces Masonry and is expelled for un-Masonic conduct, has no right to have his private reasons published by the Lodge. -Pro. 1870, p. 18.

**4063** Where a man who has been made a Mason afterwards denies the existence of a Deity, and publicly (on the streets) denounces the Holy Bible as a farce and the invention of men, and puts himself to a great trouble to place infidel papers into the hands of the youth of the community, his conduct affords good grounds for expulsion. -Pro. 1882, p. 12.

**4064** The Grand Lodge condemns the use of Masonic emblems upon public signs or other advertisements as a means of inducing custom or patronage to mere business enterprise. -Pro. 1866, p. 71.

**4065** The Grand Lodge also condemns the use of Masonic Emblems in political advertising; this does not limit the right to refer to Masonic Membership in biographical sketches, even though they may be used politically. -Pro. 1981, p. 98.

**4066** Where a father was expelled from Masonry and died, and his sons, also members of his Lodge, knowing of his expulsion, caused a monument to be erected over his grave bearing Masonic emblems, this is a grave offense and a subject for discipline. -Pro. 1919, p. 41.

**4067** The Grand Lodge cannot interfere, in any manner, with the jewelers who may choose to sell Masonic pins. -Pro. 1870, p. 16.

**4068** It is hereby declared a Masonic offense for anyone to falsely report himself a delegate to the Grand Lodge; and the Subordinate Lodge to which the offending member belongs shall discipline such offender, under penalty of having its charter arrested. -Pro. 1881, p. 63.

**4.0.69** No penalty can be inflicted on a brother for nonattendance when the Lodge is making a Mason of a man whom the absent brother deems unfit material for Masonry. But the brother who absents himself for that reason does the Lodge a wrong and himself an injustice. -Pro. 1910, p. 30

**4.0.70** Where the rules of a church lead a Mason to renounce Masonry, as a matter of conscience, it is not a matter for Masonic discipline. He may dimit, but he cannot remain a member of the Lodge, and act in contempt of its authority.- Pro. 1867, p. 46

**4.0.71** A member appointed on a committee having refused to act, stating that owing to his religious views he could no longer remain in a Masonic Lodge, and asked to be expelled and published, was properly expelled. - Pro. 1870, p.17

**4.0.72** A Mason who renounces Masonry and is expelled for un-masonic conduct, has no right to have his private reasons published by the Lodge. -Pro. 1870, p.18

**4.0. 73** Where a man who has been made a Mason afterwards denies the existence of a Deity, and publicly (on the streets) denounces the Holy Bible as a farce and the invention of men, and puts himself to a great trouble to place infidel papers into the hands of the youth of the community, his conduct affords good grounds for expulsion. -Pro. 1882, p.12

**4.0.74** The Grand Lodge condemns the use of Masonic emblems upon public signs or other advertisements as a means of inducing custom or patronage to mere business enterprise. -Pro. 1866

**4.0.75** The Grand Lodge also condemns the use of Masonic emblems in political advertising; this does not limit the right to refer to Masonic Membership in biographical sketches, even though they may be used politically. -Pro. 1981, p.98

**4.0.76** Where a father was expelled from Masonry and died, and his sons, also members of his Lodge, knowing of his expulsion, caused a monument to be erected over his grave bearing Masonic emblems, this is a grave offense and subject for discipline. -Pro. 1919, p.41

**4.0.77** The Grand Lodge cannot interfere, in any manner, with the jewelers who may choose to sell Masonic pins. -Pro. 1870, p.16

**4.0.78** It is hereby declared a Masonic offense for anyone to falsely report himself a delegate to the Grand Lodge; and the subordinate Lodge to which the offending member belongs shall discipline such offender, under penalty of having its charter arrested. -Pro. 1881, p.63

**4079** Where a member of a Lodge borrows money from the Lodge and refuses to pay it back, it is an offense for which he may be disciplined. -Pro. 1898, p. 18.

**4080** A keeper of public moneys who is willfully a defaulter, is guilty not only of a violation of the civil law, but of gross immorality and, if a Mason, may be charged and tried for such immorality. But the Lodge should not try him until his defalcation has been legally ascertained by the civil authorities, and then, with the Lodge, it is a question of morals- Grand Master English.

**4081** It is one of the landmarks of ancient Freemasonry that no Mason shall solicit or invite in any manner any other person to become a Mason, or to petition a Lodge for initiation. Any brother violating this rule would be guilty of un-Masonic conduct and be subject to charges, trial and punishment. -Pro. 1906, p. 16.

**4082** A member being guilty of adultery, although the women are not, in any way, related to Masons, the Lodge may try him and, if guilty, punish him. "A Mason is obliged by his tenure to obey the moral law. A violation of it is a Masonic offense, whether it is a violation of the obligation or not." -Pro. 1879, p. 16; Pro. 1891, p. 24.

**4083** A Mason has no right to violate the chastity of a Master Mason's wife or his daughter under the plea that others have had illicit intercourse with her. To her father's brother she is chaste, though she may not be to non-Masons, and their wrong will not excuse his crime. -Pro. 1880, p. 31; Pro. 1881, p. 13.

Attempting to violate the chastity of a Master Mason's wife, widow, mother, sister or daughter, even though unsuccessful, is a Masonic offense subjecting the offender to discipline. - Pro. 1919, p. 12.

**4084** A Mason who seduces the daughter of a non-affiliated Mason is guilty of a violation of his Master's obligation and should be tried and punished. -Pro. 1890, p. 8-9.

**4085** When a Master Mason is expelled, the rights of his family fall with him, and his daughter's chastity is no longer protected by the Masonic obligation, but every Master Mason guilty of violating her chastity after such expulsion is guilty of immoral and un- Masonic conduct, for which he may be disciplined and, upon proof of such conduct, may be suspended or expelled. -Pro. 1895, p. 17, as revised.

**4086** Where a member attempts to commit an inhuman offense, the Lodge cannot expel him by resolution without trial. It must conform to the law, however enormous the charge. -Pro. 1879, p. 17.

**4087** The mere running of a pool or billiard table is not a Masonic offense. A brother so engaged who is elected Senior Warden may be installed. -Pro. 1909, p. 104., amended 2019

**4088** Declaring publicly in the Lodge that "no man shall be allowed to become a Mason in that Lodge until a certain rejected Fellow Craft should be advanced," is good grounds for expulsion. - Pro. 1882, p. 11-12.

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- 4089** A respectfully worded petition against the appointment of a person to government service who is believed to be disloyal to Flag and Country is not a Masonic offense. -Pro. 1918, p. 18.
- 4090** It is not a Masonic offense for a Mason to blackball a brother Mason in an Odd Fellows Lodge. -Pro. 1908, p. 15.
- 4091** A Mason may be tried and punished for any gross immorality, whether he violated any point in his obligation or not. -Grand Master English.
- 4092** Where charges are made in an improper form, and no proof taken, it is no trial at all, and the Lodge may proceed de novo, on proper charges and proof. -Grand Master English.
- 4093** There is no limitation by which Masonic crimes run out of date, but Lodges should be careful about stirring up old cases. -Pro. 1880, p. 30.
- 4094** The party aggrieved being a member of a Lodge does not give jurisdiction to his Lodge to receive charges and transfer them to a Lodge having jurisdiction. -Pro. 1872, p. 12.
- 4095** A Lodge may try its own members for any Masonic offense no matter when committed, whether within its territorial jurisdiction or elsewhere. -Pro. 1885, p. 21.
- 4096** Where a brother commits an offense in this jurisdiction where he holds his Lodge membership, runs away and goes to Texas, and there commits further offenses, the Lodge may prefer charges against him, and discipline him, and may then cause him to be published in Texas if it sees fit to do so. -Pro. 1894, p. 13.
- 4097** The Lodge within whose jurisdiction he resides may try a Mason for an offense. -Pro. 1872, p. 12.
- 4098** Where a brother is liable to charges who belongs to one Lodge and lives within the jurisdiction of another, he can be tried in either Lodge; but the Lodge in which charges are first preferred obtains exclusive jurisdiction, and must try the accused, and cannot transfer the trial to another Lodge, except by dismissing and preferring charges there; and charges having been once been preferred in a Lodge having jurisdiction, they cannot be preferred elsewhere while pending. -Pro. 1872, p. 12-13.
- 4099** Where a brother living within the jurisdiction of a Lodge, but not a member, is guilty of un-Masonic conduct, that Lodge still has jurisdiction to try him for such offense, although a new Lodge is established after the offense is committed, within whose jurisdiction he falls. But for offenses committed after the establishment of the new Lodge, he is amenable to it only. -Pro. 1848, p. 38.
- 40100** The Lodge within whose jurisdiction a Masonic offense is committed may try the offender. -Pro. 1922, p. 86.
- 40101** A nonaffiliated Mason, being a Mason at Large, having committed an offense, gives the Lodge in whose jurisdiction the offense was committed the authority to try the accused, and such Lodge is not ousted of the jurisdiction of the case by his removal to another jurisdiction. -Pro. 1888, p. 14-15.

**40.102** If there are two Lodges in the same place, having concurrent jurisdiction, of one of which he is a member, the charges must be preferred in his own Lodge. -Pro. 1852, p.28.

**40.103** A brother living within the jurisdiction of a Lodge of which he is not a member, cannot be tried by that Lodge for a Masonic offense committed by him out of, and previous to, his moving within its jurisdiction. -Pro. 1885, p. 21.

**40.104** It is not necessary to notify the Lodge to which he belongs of the pendency of the case or send them a copy of the charges filed against a brother. The final action of the Lodge should be made known to it. -Pro. 1932, p. 25.

**40.105** An Entered Apprentice, a Fellow Craft, or a suspended Mason, can be tried upon charges, and, if found guilty, punished. -Pro. 1867, p. 46.

**40.106** A suspended Mason may be tried for a new offense. -Pro. 1883, p. 12.

**40.107** A member suspended for nonpayment of dues may be tried for another offense upon charges regularly preferred, as in cases of members in good standing, and he has the right to be present at such trials, which must be held at refreshment until time for voting, when the member must retire and the Lodge resume labor. -Pro. 1884; amended Pro. 1938, p. 73.

**40.108** A dimitted Mason is subject to discipline for un-Masonic conduct by any Lodge in whose jurisdiction he may reside. -Pro. 1875, p. 14.

**40.109** A Mason who has received an order for a dimit may be tried for a crime committed before his dimit, if living within the jurisdiction. If living out of the jurisdiction, the Lodge should lay the matter before the nearest Lodge to the party's residence. -Pro. 1867, p. 47.

**40.110** Where a member of a Lodge against whom charges were preferred, but before report of committee, signed a petition for dispensation for a new Lodge, and was appointed Worshipful Master, but before the dispensation was granted, was notified of the charges, his Lodge does not lose jurisdiction of him, and he should not be permitted to act as Master of the new Lodge until tried and acquitted. -Pro. 1875, p. 18.

**40.111** A member dimits, commits a Masonic offense and moves out of the Lodge Jurisdiction. The Lodge may try him. -Pro. 1870, p. 17.

**40.112** A Lodge in whose jurisdiction a dimitted Mason resides, and has committed an offense, may charge and try him, though he has applied to another Lodge. -Pro. 1881, p. 15-16.

**40.113** A Lodge cannot try its Master, the Grand Master, his Deputy, a District Deputy, Grand Warden, and perhaps other elected Grand Officers, during their official terms. The Grand Lodge can try its own officers as well as Masters of Lodges. -Pro. 1874, p. 37; Amended, see Sec. 4.0.25; Pro. 1973, p. 102.

**40.114** A Master of a Lodge, after the expiration of his term, could not be tried for any offense committed by him while Master, that had any connection with his official duties. - Pro. 1867, p. 46.

**40.115** Where the members of a Subordinate Lodge have preferred charges against their Worshipful Master before the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Lodge failed to reach his case and laid it over till the meeting of the next Grand Lodge, his Lodge cannot go ahead and prefer charges against him and put him upon trial unless the charge is immorality, and his term of office has expired, in which case they may prefer charges and deal with him, but otherwise they must wait till the Grand Lodge gets through with his case. -Pro. 1894, p. 10, as revised.

**40.116** Trial must be before the Lodge or by a Grand Lodge or Grand Masters Trial Commission. A Lodge cannot delegate its power to try a member to a committee. -Pro. 1879; amended Pro. 1947, p. 68. Amended 2019

**40.117** In the trial of an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, the Lodge shall first be opened in the Master's degree; labor shall then be dispensed with in the Master's Degree and resumed in the highest degree to which the accused brother has attained. The accused together with those witnesses who have attained only the same degree, shall then be admitted; the trial shall proceed up to the time of voting at which point labor shall again be resumed in the Master's Degree and the trial continued to its conclusion. -Pro. 1928, p. 25.

**40.118** The Grand Master has the authority to suspend, expel, or arbitrate a brother from the benefits of Masonry pending the outcome of a Grand Lodge Trial Commission. The Grand Master has the authority to take whatever action necessary in the best interest of the Fraternity and this Grand Lodge. Pro. 2005, p.71

**40.119** Where a brother is tried for a criminal offense before a court of law and convicted, the conviction in court does not bind the Lodge. The Lodge must proceed to try him the same as if he had never been tried by court. -Pro. 1895, p. 15.

**40.120** A brother convicted of a crime in court must still be tried by the Lodge, but on such trial evidence of his conviction is sufficient for disciplining him. - Pro. 1870, p. 16; Pro. 1906, p. 20

**40.121** The directory provisions of the Law of Trials do not impair the powers or lessen the duties of the Worshipful Master, and the highest duty of the Master is to maintain discipline and good morals in his Lodge, and when he knows that there has been a violation of Masonic law and good morals, it would be his right and his duty to have the matter investigated. -Pro. 1897, p. 14, 71.

**40.122** None but a member of a Lodge has the right under the first section of the Law of Trials to make formal charges and act as a prosecutor, for no one else has the right to, at all times, appear in and act as a part of the Lodge. But a profane, even a woman, may prefer charges, in the sense of making an accusation against a member, and on such accusation it would become the duty of the Master to appoint a committee to investigate the charges; and if the committee find them well founded, it would be the duty of the committee to reduce the charges to form, and upon their report the accused is put on trial as prescribed in the Law of Trials. -Pro. 1888, p. 35.

**40.123** Deleted, 2019

**40.124** A Lodge has the same rights as an individual Mason has to prefer charges and furnish information to a Lodge having jurisdiction. -Pro. 1872, p. 13.

**40.125** Where a brother's dereliction is well known and the members of the Lodge fail to prefer charges, it is the duty of the Junior Warden to ascertain all the facts he can and prefer charges

himself, if the members of the Lodge fail to do so. The Junior Warden has charge of the Craft at refreshment and it is a part of his duty. -Pro. 1902, p. 28.

**40.126** A Lodge may appoint a committee to inquire into the conduct of a brother, and they may, and indeed should, if they see proper, prefer charges. -Pro. 1884, p. 27.

**40.127** Where A and B have a difficulty and B prefers charges against A, the committee appointed to investigate the charges against A would have a perfect right, and, indeed, it would be its duty to prefer charges against B if it found upon investigation that he was deserving of discipline. The committee might even report no grounds for charges against A and at the same time prefer charges against B. The committee is appointed to take care of the interest of the Lodge and should endeavor to see that justice is done. -Pro. 1900, p. 61.

**40.128** The name of the informant should not be made known after the committee has inquired into the matter and preferred charges, any more than before. His name should not be divulged at any time. -Pro. 1870, p. 19-20.

**40.129** Two separate and distinct counts should not be embodied in one charge. Each separate offense should be made the substance of a distinct charge, with specifications under each, setting out the particulars thereof. -Pro. 1884, p. 27.

**40.130** Charges should not be altered or amended without giving the accused notice. -Pro. 1884, p. 27.

**40.131** When charges are preferred against a brother and no time is stated, either in the charge or specifications, at which the offense was committed, he can demand that the time of the violation complained of be stated in the charge or specifications, as near as possible, so as to give him an opportunity to exonerate himself if he can; but the exact date and time should not be required in every case. -Pro. 1898, p. 16, as revised.

**40.132** Anyone can prefer charges, and it is for the Lodge to determine, through its committee, whether the charges are worthy of consideration. -Pro. 1875, p. 16.

**40.133** When charges have been preferred against a brother, the committee to investigate the charges must be members of the Lodge in which the charges were preferred. Members of a sister Lodge cannot serve. -Pro. 1898, p. 16.

**40.134** When a committee is appointed to investigate charges against a brother, it is their duty to take all the facts and evidence, both for and against the accused. -Pro. 1898, p. 16.

**40.135** When a committee of investigation has been appointed to investigate charges against a brother, they can go behind the time he was made a member of the Lodge; but Lodges should be careful about going behind the Masonic life of a brother, though it might be proper and right in some cases to do so. -Pro. 1898, p. 16, as revised.

**40.136** A committee to whom charges have been referred for investigation must ascertain, from such proof as they can obtain, whether or not there is cause to believe the brother guilty of un-Masonic conduct, and report accordingly. -Pro. 1872, p. 16-17.

**40.137** A Lodge, after charges have been preferred and referred to a committee, and the committee presents minority and majority reports, cannot accept minority report and dismiss the charges. The majority of the committee is the committee. -Pro. 1897, p. 12-13, as revised.

**40.138** Whenever a committee of investigation on charges preferred for un-Masonic conduct shall make a report that the charges are not of such a nature that the accused should be put on trial, said report may, by a majority vote of the members of the Lodge present, be rejected and the charges again referred to the same or another committee for further investigation and report. - Pro. 1909, p. 36.

**40.139** When a committee has failed to bring in specifications in support of charges, it would be the duty of the Master to recommit the matter with directions to the committee to properly amend the charges. -Pro. 1897, p. 14-15.

**40.140** After charges have been preferred and read in open Lodge, a committee of reconciliation may be appointed, when the charges grow out of a business difficulty between two brothers. -Pro. 1881, p. 10.

**40.141** Where two Masons having had a difficulty, and come to blows, afterwards become reconciled and expressed before the Lodge their contrition and desire to make any concessions required on the question of whether the Lodge should punish them, it is the province of the Lodge to consider these facts as mitigating circumstances in their investigation and trials. -Grand Master English.

**40.142** If a committee be appointed to reconcile two brethren, and it does this and no charges are preferred, this settles the matter, but if charges are preferred and a committee reports that the grounds for charges are sufficient to put the accused on trial, the Lodge should proceed to trial whether the brethren become reconciled or not. -Pro. 1886, p. 18.

**40.143** Charges cannot be withdrawn by the accuser after they have been reported to the Lodge and referred to a committee; he might be satisfied, while all others might not. The trial should progress in regular order. -Pro. 1877, p. 12.

**40.144** When charges are received by a Lodge against a brother, a committee appointed to investigate said charges, and the committee report the charges sustained, and the Lodge receives said report, the Lodge cannot vote down the charges and the report of the committee at the next stated meeting and acquit the brother. The brother must be put upon his trial in said Lodge. -Pro. 1878, p. 7.

**40.145** Where a brother was charged with un-Masonic conduct, and a committee appointed to investigate the charge reported that the same was of such nature that the accused should be put on trial, and said report was received by the Lodge and the committee discharged, the Lodge cannot by motion rescind the action. Such a motion should be out of order and should be so declared. The Master should appoint a brother as prosecutor, and the trial should proceed in the regular way. - Pro. 1911, p. 23-24.

**40.146** Where a brother against whom charges are pending dies before trial, his family have the same Masonic rights that the family of any other Mason has. Every man is presumed to be innocent until his guilt is legally established, and death abates the charges, so that guilt could never be legally established. -Pro. 1871, p. 14.

**40.147** When a time has been fixed for the trial and the members of a Lodge generally expect the same to be disposed of at that time, the Worshipful Master should not permit the case to be dismissed at an intervening meeting of the Lodge, when many of the members are absent, and not

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expecting the case to be disposed of at such meeting. -Pro. 1874, p. 38.

**40.148** It is improper for a Lodge to hear the confession of a member, and pardon him, and then prefer charges for the same offense, unless he has misrepresented his case before the Lodge. -Pro. 1879, p. 17-18.

**40.149** The prosecutor should be appointed by the Master and need not be the brother who presented the charges or informed the Master of the misconduct of the accused. -Pro. 1949, p. 77. Amended 2019

**40.150** It is improper that a District Deputy Grand Master should act either as prosecutor for the Lodge or as a representative of the accused in the trial of any brother in a Subordinate Lodge. - Pro. 1928, p. 25, as revised.

**40.151** No member of the Board of Appeals and Grievances shall serve as Prosecutor or Defense Counsel in a Subordinate Lodge Trial. -Pro. 1981, p. 101. Amended 2019

**40.152** In trials when no service is had a brother should be appointed to defend; but not where service has been had and the accused refuses to appear. -Pro. 1906, p. 20.

**40.153** In Masonic trials, any brother in good standing (except the Senior or Junior Warden) whether a member of the Lodge conducting the trial or not, may be appointed by the Worshipful Master or selected by the accused to defend. -Pro. 1886, p. 86.

**40.154** No member of the Board of Appeals and Grievances shall serve as Prosecutor or Defense Counsel in a Subordinate Lodge Trial, Grand Lodge Trial, or Grand Master's Trial proceedings. - Pro. 1981, p. 101.

**40.155** When a Mason is charged with gross un-Masonic conduct, and it is held and confirmed by the civil authorities so that he cannot answer the complaint against him, the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides has a right to proceed with his trial. If the brother is confined by the civil authorities so that he cannot obey the summons of the Lodge, and has not been tried by the court, it is not proper to proceed with his trial in the Lodge. But, on the contrary, if he has been convicted by a sentence of the court, so that he cannot attend the Lodge, then it would be proper for the Lodge to proceed to an investigation of the charges, and act as the evidence would warrant in the premises. -Pro. 1874, p. 15.

**40.156** Deleted, 2019

**40.157** Where charges preferred by the Master are in no way personal to himself, but relate simply to un-Masonic conduct of the accused, in which he has no personal interest, there is no good reason why he should not preside at the trial, and no law to prevent. If the charges involve matters personal to himself, delicacy would require him to decline to preside at the trial of the accused. -Pro. 1874, p. 36.

**40.158** A District Deputy Grand Master should, if present, assist the presiding officer in the proper conduct of all trials; or, if requested by the Worshipful Master he may preside and conduct the trial. -Pro. 1928, p. 25, as revised.

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- 40.159** A Senior Warden under charges may retain his station until his trial comes on, when, if the Worshipful Master is absent, the Junior Warden shall take the East. -Pro. 1881, p. 12.
- 40.160** If a brother, against whom charges are preferred, asks for a continuance of the case on the ground of an absent witness, the Worshipful Master may, either on his own motion or that of the Lodge, demand of him that he state in open Lodge what he expects to prove by the witness. But when the statement is made by the accused, it is for the Lodge and not the Worshipful Master to decide if it is sufficient. -Pro. 1885, p. 22.
- 40.161** There is no provision in the Constitution or Edicts of the Grand Lodge warranting a change of venue. Each Lodge has the legal right to try all charges preferred against brethren within its jurisdiction. There is no change of venue in such cases. The Constitution provides a safeguard against partiality and prejudice (if such can find a place in the Lodge), by appeal and new trial in the Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1875, p. 16.
- 40.162** The Grand Master has no authority to grant a change of venue for the trial of an accused brother. -Pro. 1891, p. 24.
- 40.163** In the case of a trial by a Grand Lodge Trial Commission, when circumstances exist that make a trial held within the Lodge of the accused not in the best interest of the Fraternity at large, the Grand Master may order the trial held elsewhere. However, the Grand Master has no authority to order a change of venue in any case other than a trial brought about by charges filed by himself. -Pro. 1975, p. 81.
- 40.164** Where a brother who is charged with drunkenness appeared for trial, and by his counsel demurred to the charges because no committee has been appointed to wait upon and admonish him, it was an error for the Worshipful Master to sustain the demurrer and dismiss the charges. Demurrers are not recognized in Masonic trials. The Worshipful Master has no power to dismiss charges. They must be dismissed, if at all, by vote of the Lodge. -Pro. 1895, p. 15-16.
- 40.165** A Master of a Lodge, after charges and specifications are preferred, and the committee of investigation has reported, the time for trial set, the accused notified and present, cannot entertain a motion to throw out the charge. The Lodge should proceed to hear the evidence and vote upon the charge and specifications. If the charge and specifications are defective in form or substance, the Lodge may cause them to be amended, serve the accused with a copy of them as amended, and cause him to be summoned again for trial at a time to be fixed. -Pro. 1877, p. 43.
- 40.166** Where charges are made in an improper form, and no proof taken, it is no trial at all, and the Lodge may proceed de novo, on proper charges and proof. -Grand Master English.
- 40.167** It is necessary to furnish names of witnesses to the accused. -Pro. 1879, p. 16. Amended 2019
- 40.168** It is not necessary that the accused should be present at the taking of the testimony outside the Lodge room; but he must have notice of the time and place, that he may attend if he thinks proper. -Pro. 1870, p. 18.

**40.169** Every man is presumed to be innocent until proven to be guilty; the mere fact that charges are preferred does not deprive a brother of any of his Masonic privileges; consequently he can sit in the Lodge and take part in any proceedings not connected with his own trial, until found guilty and suspended or expelled. -Pro. 1875, p. 17.

**40.170** A brother who, under charges, removes to another jurisdiction, can take evidence by notifying the Lodge before whom the charges are brought, of the time and place for the taking of such evidence, giving sufficient time for said Lodge to be represented. -Pro. 1874, p. 17.

**40.171** Deleted, 2019

**40.172** It is improper and a subject for charges, for a member of a Lodge to denounce the Master of his Lodge, and on trial he will not be permitted to show the truth of his denunciation in justification. His remedy is, if the Master be unworthy, to take proceedings for impeaching him, by a complaint signed by five members, made to the Grand Master. - Grand Master English.

**40.173** In a Masonic Trial, if a Brother charged with un-Masonic conduct confesses or admits his guilt, the Lodge should enter his confession or admission of guilt into the record as evidence. After which, the Lodge shall proceed with the Masonic Trial and vote upon the penalty to be inflicted in accordance with 4.0.13, Law of Trials. The Brother need not be present at the Trial. - Pro. 1980, p. 77.

**40.174** The voluntary confession of a brother, before trial, can be introduced as evidence against him. -Pro. 1873, p. 47.

**40.175** Accusing testimony cannot be introduced on a trial, other than that in support of the charges set forth in the specifications, but rebutting testimony responsive to the evidence of the accused in defense may properly be so introduced. -Pro. 1884, p. 27.

**40.176** A witness can refuse to answer any question during the progress of a trial for the reason that the answer might commit himself. A witness can refuse to answer on the grounds that he, by so doing, would violate his Master's obligation. -Pro. 1873, p. 47.

**40.177** The evidence of a brother under charges is valid. The accused undoubtedly has a right to make a statement before the Lodge upon his trial, and the Lodge may give such weight to the statement as they think proper. -Pro. 1874, p. 17.

**40.178** It is not un-Masonic for the accused, on his trial, to make a statement. -Pro. 1873, p. 18.

**40.179** A brother upon trial for assault upon a brother Master Mason has not the right to introduce evidence that, at some previous time, the assaulted brother used vile and slanderous language about him. Such evidence is not admissible. The question before the Lodge is, "is the brother guilty of assaulting a brother, except in his own necessary self-defense?" and any words used by the assaulted brother previous to the assault would have nothing to do with it, as the erring brother could have been proceeded against either in the Lodge or through the courts. Anything that may have been said at the time the difficulty occurred or immediately preceding it is competent, as tending to mitigate the offense. For, whilst vile words are in the main harmless, and as a rule injure the party uttering them more than the one against whom they are directed, yet we cannot divest ourselves of our human passions, and there are occasions when words burn even worse than blows, and are calculated to cause us to momentarily forget that reason and high regard for humanity which all of us so much desire to cultivate and display. -Pro. 1897, p. 13.

**40.180** In a Masonic trial, after a witness has been examined by the prosecution and defense, or during such examination, it is lawful for the Worshipful Master, who is presiding, to interrogate such witness, in order to make plainer any matter pertaining to the trial. The Lodge is the court before which an accused brother is tried, the Worshipful Master the presiding officer of said court. The object of Masonic trials is that even and exact justice may be done, as well to the accused as to Masonry. All proper light should be turned on. No technical rule governing the taking of evidence in the civil courts must be allowed to prevent all parts being plainly and clearly set forth. Either the Worshipful Master or any member of the Lodge present has the right to ask questions for the object above stated, but this right should be exercised with prudence, and only when actually necessary. No colloquy or discussion of the evidence should be permitted during the taking of the same. -Pro. 1891, p. 24.

**40.181** A witness may testify as to statements that have been made to him by another person and if the statements made by the other person have been reduced to writing and signed by the person making the statement, the signed statement may be admitted in support of the testimony given by the witness. -Pro. 1952, p. 77.

**40.182** Copies of public records may be admitted as evidence without previous notice. -Pro. 1952, p. 77.

**40.183** On a trial upon charges both the prosecutor and defense, if otherwise qualified may vote, certain others not permitted; (refers to relatives) and the Lodge, by a majority vote, may excuse any brother at his request. As it requires two-thirds of all present, voting in the affirmative, to convict, the brethren who are excused from voting should either retire or be regarded, for the purpose of the trial, as not present. Otherwise, they would be counted always in the negative, and might prevent a just and proper conviction, although all present actually voting might vote in the affirmative. Thus, ten members are present; one is the prosecutor. The Lodge, for good reasons, excuses three. If these four are counted present, the remaining six might all vote for conviction; yet the accused go unpunished because six would not be two-thirds of ten. Thus, demonstrating that if the brethren excused from voting are counted as present, they do vote practically every time in the negative, because their presence has to be overcome by the affirmative vote. The two-thirds present means two-thirds of those actually required to vote. -Pro. 1872, p.14-15

**40.184** Male relatives of the second degree include Brother, Father, Grandfather, Blood Uncle (Father or Mother's brother), Son, Grandson, and Blood Nephew (brother or sister's son). Each generation is a degree of relationship. It will be noted that this applies not only to the accused but to the accuser as well. -Pro. 1957, p. 107.

**40.185** On a Masonic trial, the Tyler being present, must be counted in determining the two-thirds vote, and must vote; and, to do so intelligently, must hear the evidence taken or read; and for this purpose, the outer door should be closed, and he should come inside and hear the evidence as above stated and vote. -Pro. 1871, p. 17.

**40.186** A member can vote as he pleases on any question before the Lodge, and cannot be disciplined therefor, even if he should vote for acquittal where the charge is a grave one, the proof clear, and there be no rebutting evidence. -Pro. 1886, p. 20.

**40.187** Members in arrears for dues, but not suspended therefor, are entitled to vote on the charges and specifications at Masonic trials. -Pro. 1877, p. 43.

**40.188** The vote on a trial for un-Masonic conduct may be open or by ballot, but the brother on trial has no right to know how any brother voted. -Pro. 1872, p. 52.

**40.189** On the trial of a brother, if the specifications be sustained and the charge not be sustained, the brother stands acquitted, and vice versa, if the charges be sustained and the specifications not be sustained, he stands convicted and must be punished. -Pro. 1885, p. 21-22.

**40.190** After all Trials, the Secretary of the Lodge or the Trial Commission shall notify the accused at his last known address of the results of the Trial. -Pro. 1980, p. 98.

**40.191** Whenever a member of a Lodge has, upon a trial by the Lodge, been found guilty of a charge and specification, for which he has been tried or entered a plea of guilty, and the Lodge fails or refuses to inflict any punishment on him, it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master of said Lodge to inflict such punishment as he may deem suitable for the offense, and if the Lodge and Master refuse to do so, the Grand Master shall arrest the charter of the Lodge. -Pro. 1912, p. 74.

**40.192** A suspension for a definite period, for un-Masonic conduct, debars the subject of suspension from all the privileges of Masonry--from all Masonic recognition by Lodges or individual Masons--during the period of suspension. During that period his family have no claims to Masonic care and charity, other than the general claims of humanity. He stands for the period of suspension as if expelled. On the expiration of the period, he is restored, ipso facto, without action of the Lodge. -Grand Master English.

**4.0.194** During the period between the trial and the action of the Grand Lodge, the suspended or expelled member may not petition any Lodge. -Pro. 1981, p. 99.

**4.0.195** A brother sentenced to receive a reprimand is still in good standing, and is entitled to be heard by the Lodge upon any subject upon which he cares to speak in a respectful and proper manner. -Pro. 1906, p. 16-17.

**4.0.196** Where a brother is expelled and takes an appeal he should not be published until after the Grand Lodge has affirmed the expulsion. If he takes no appeal he may be published whenever the Lodge may see proper to direct it to be done. -Grand Master English.

**4.0.197** A brother was put on trial for one charge and one specification. Vote on charge, 12 affirmative and 8 negative, on specification: 13 affirmative and 7 negative. The Master, by oversight, declared the charge and specification sustained, and the Lodge proceeded to vote on the highest punishment, which was sustained by 14 to 5, and the brother declared expelled. At the next meeting when the minutes were read and approved, the error was discovered, that is, that the charge and specification were not sustained as supposed. The charge and specification not being sustained by two-thirds of the votes, as required by the Law of Trials hereof, the brother was acquitted, and the order of expulsion was void. The minutes should be corrected so as to make them show that the charge and specification were not sustained, and an order passed declaring the act of expulsion to be null and void. -Grand Master English.

**4.0.198** It is wrong to reconsider a vote of suspension at a subsequent meeting, -Pro. 1877, p. 10.

**4.0.199** There is no power in the Worshipful Master of a Lodge, or a District Deputy Grand Master, to direct a Lodge to set aside its judgment of expulsion and proceed to try the accused de novo, on

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account of an error in the trial, if it thinks there are good grounds for it. But where no application is made for a new trial, or, if made, refused, the only remedy left the expelled is an appeal to the Grand Lodge. -Grand Master English; amended Pro. 1982, P.101.

**4.0.200** However, after review of a Trial record of a Lodge or Trial Commission, by the Grand Master or by the Board of Appeals, when either is of the opinion that an improper trial was held, the Trial may, by the Grand Master, be referred back to the Lodge for a new Trial, or referred to a Grand Lodge Trial Commission, without waiting for Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1982, p. 101.

**4.0.201** Neither a District Deputy Grand Master nor the Grand Master himself has the power to set aside the action of the Lodge in case of trial. If the trial is utterly void, the Grand Master may so declare it. -Pro. 1867, p.47.

**4.0.202** After the trial is concluded and the Lodge closed, it has no further jurisdiction over the case, unless the case be remanded by the Grand Lodge in the mode prescribed by law, and should not proceed by a new trial at a subsequent meeting, unless the case is so remanded. -Pro. 1878, p. 42.

**4.0.203** Where a trial was begun on Saturday evening and continued until one o'clock before reaching a vote, which resulted in expulsion, the meeting was legally held although necessarily extended into the first hours of Sunday, according to our reckoning of time, and the expelled brother's redress lies in an appeal to the Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1893, p. 14.

**4.0.204** The Lodge has power to grant the suspended or expelled a new trial, if it thinks there are good grounds for it. -Pro. 1868, p. 136.

**4.0.205** A Lodge has the right, by a majority vote, to grant a new trial on the ground of newly discovered evidence, but should do so only on a proper showing. The proper method in such cases is to make a written application setting forth the newly discovered testimony, upon the sufficiency of which and of the expediency of granting a new trial, the Lodge is to judge. -Pro. 1884, p. 26.

**4.0.206** When an accused brother is acquitted on trial, and no appeal is taken, and the time for taking same permitted to elapse, the Grand Master cannot order a new trial, though in the opinion of the Worshipful Master and other members of the Lodge the cause of Masonry was greatly outraged by such acquittal. -Pro. 1891, p. 22.

**4.0.207** On appeal from Subordinate Lodges the Grand Lodge shall, on inspection of the record of the proceedings sent up, affirm the decision or reverse the same, and render such judgment as the Lodge ought to have rendered, which shall be certified to the Lodge and entered on the record as the judgment in the case, or order a new trial in the Subordinate Lodge, as right and justice may require; and if the Grand Lodge shall render a judgment of expulsion, the party can be restored only by a three-fourths vote of the Grand Lodge, unless special authority be given to the Subordinate Lodge, to restore him. -Article V, Sec. 1, Constitution; Pro. 1977, p. 70.

**4.0.208** An appeal to the Grand Lodge does not suspend the sentence of the Subordinate Lodge, or vacate it, and pending the appeal the officer or member stands suspended or expelled until the removal of the sentence, or expiration of the period of definite suspension. -Pro. 1980, p. 99.

**4.0.209** During the period between the trial and the action of the Grand Lodge, the suspended member may not petition any Lodge. -Pro. 1981, p. 99.

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**4.0.210** One Lodge cannot appeal from the decision of another, in a case where an individual member is tried. -Pro. 1850, p. 26.

**4.0.211** This Grand Lodge is a sovereign body and may entertain the petition of a suspended or expelled Mason for a rehearing of his case. -Pro. 1890, p. 43.

**4.0.212** The Grand Lodge should not, on a petition of individual members, interfere with the action of a Subordinate Lodge in a case in which the Lodge had jurisdiction, and in which their action was taken in regular and lawful manner. -Pro. 1898, p. 133.

**4.0.213** The Grand Lodge is sovereign, with a right of superintending control over all of its subordinates, and any member feeling himself aggrieved by any action of the Lodge in any case affecting his interests, or that of the Fraternity, has a right to appeal, and the pecuniary affairs form no exception. -Pro. 1876, p. 35.

**4.0.214** Where A prefers charges against B, and B prefers charges against A, B is tried and acquitted, A is tried and convicted; but before six months expire A gives notice of an appeal. A has not, after he has been suspended or expelled, the right of an appeal in the case against B. - Pro. 1898, p. 15.

**4.0.215** The Grand Lodge cannot determine any appeal from the decision of a Subordinate Lodge, except upon the record of such Subordinate Lodge, and all the evidence in the case should be sent up to the Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1850, p. 26.

**4.0.216** Where, in a trial, two-thirds did not vote to sustain the charge, but the brother was declared expelled and the time for taking an appeal is lost, the Grand Lodge, on his petition, may issue a mandate to the Secretary of the Lodge to certify up to it a full, true and perfect transcript of the record of the trial, and if, on inspection of the record, the state of the case as above made should appear, the Grand Lodge would declare the judgment of expulsion illegal, and annul it. - Pro. 1876, p. 56.

**4.0.217** A member of a Lodge was suspended and appealed to the Grand Lodge. The papers were not sent up. The Grand Lodge ordered the papers up. Soon after this the member was expelled. The Lodge must send up the papers in the case of suspension; it must obey the order of the Grand Lodge; but the Grand Lodge will dismiss the appeal when the expulsion is made known to it. -Pro. 1879, p.17.

**4.0.218** All appeals from Subordinate Lodges and all matters that should properly come before the Board of Appeals and Grievances, that are referred to in the Grand Master's Annual Address, shall be placed in the hands of the Grand Secretary at least three days before the meeting of the Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1886, p. 70. And Secretaries of Subordinate Lodges are required to carefully prepare and preserve all papers in trials and on appeals, and fully comply with Masonic Law under said head. -Pro. 1891, p. 72; Pro. 1978, p. 115.

**4.0.219** The Board of Appeals and Grievances shall report to the Grand Lodge the facts involved in each case, but the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge shall show only the recommendation made by the Board, and the action of the Grand Lodge thereon. -Pro. 1909, p. 105; Pro. 1978, p. 115.

**4.0.220** Where an appeal was reversed and the cause remanded for a new trial and the Lodge declined to try the brother, because it was of the opinion that the brother had not been charged with the offense

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reported by the Grand Lodge Board, and that the Board, if it had understood the case, might have reported differently, the Lodge must obey the mandate of the Grand Lodge, or its charter would be arrested. -Pro. 1872; Pro. 1978, p. 115.

**4.0.221** Where a Mason has been suspended or expelled and appeals to the Grand Lodge, which affirms the proceedings, the Subordinate Lodge can reinstate without the consent of the Grand Lodge. 1.4-Art.V-Sec.1 of the Constitution applies where the accused has been acquitted or the degree of punishment inflicted is inadequate to the offense committed and the prosecutor appeals and the Grand Lodge reverses the proceedings and pronounces judgment in such degree of punishment as the Subordinate Lodge ought to have done; in such case the right of the Subordinate Lodge to restore is abridged, and it cannot reinstate accused, in cases of expulsion except by the authority of the Grand Lodge. -Pro. 1887, p. 26.

**4.0.222** When judgment is reversed on appeal to Grand Lodge, the accused is restored to membership in his Lodge. Upon expulsion and no appeal the Grand Lodge can only restore accused as a Mason at Large. -Pro. 1906, p. 99.

**4.0.223** The reversal by the Grand Lodge of a judgment of suspension or expulsion by a Subordinate Lodge, operates as an acquittal and restores the condemned brother to all the rights of full membership, where the reversal involves the final disposition of the case; but if it be that on such reversal the case is sent back to the Subordinate Lodge for a new trial the accused stands as he did when charges were preferred. -Pro. 1884, p. 24, as revised.

**4.0.224** A member of an Arkansas Lodge, having been suspended or expelled by a Lodge of another Grand Jurisdiction, with whom the Grand Lodge of Arkansas is in fraternal relations, must file his petition for reinstatement with the Lodge that suspended or expelled him. In making application for reinstatement the petitioner must conform to the laws of that Grand Jurisdiction. - Pro. 1934, p. 21.

**4.0.225** The definite suspension of a brother requires no action of the Lodge that suspended him, to restore him to fellowship at the expiration of his term of suspension. -Pro.1854, p. 30.

**4.0.226** A unanimous vote shall be required to restore an expelled Mason. -Pro. 1853, p. 67, as modified by Pro. 1879, p. 72.

**4.0.227** Where all the requirements of the section regulating proceedings on a petition for reinstatement have been complied with and the application for reinstatement is rejected, a notice given at the time the vote is taken that another application would be made at the next Stated Communication is not such a notice as the law contemplates shall be given. A new petition for reinstatement must be filed and take the regular course. -Pro. 1904, as amended Pro. 1931, p. 135.

**4.0.228** The Worshipful Master should not hurriedly permit a vote on application for restoration in the absence of a member called away on business, whom he knows would oppose restoration if present. -Pro. 1881, p. 15.

**4.0.229** If a Lodge expels a brother and he files an application for reinstatement, the Lodge may reinstate him, if it is satisfied that he has been wrongfully expelled, provided he is proper material for Masonry. If he has been guilty of conduct unbecoming a Mason, although after his expulsion, the members of the Lodge may taken that into consideration for the purpose of considering the propriety of his reinstatement. -Pro. 1921, p. 11.

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**4.0.230** The vote upon a petition for reinstatement must be by ballot. -Pro. 1904, p. 21.

**4.0.231** An expelled Mason having petitioned for restoration, the petition cannot be withdrawn, but must proceed to a ballot. -Pro. 1894, p. 12.

**4.0.232** If a petition for restoration from suspension be rejected it shall not be renewed for three months and from expulsion for six months. -Pro. 1873, p. 15,40.

**4.0.233** A suspended or expelled Mason, when restored, is entitled to all the rights and privileges of other members. -Pro. 1870, p. 16.

**4.0.234** Where a Lodge has suspended or expelled a nonaffiliated Mason, it can restore him to the same status as he was before the suspension or expulsion. -Pro. 1886, p. 20.

**4.0.235** When an expelled or suspended Mason is reinstated by the Lodge which expelled or suspended him, he is placed just where he was before expulsion or suspension, and if he owed dues to the Lodge he would be required to pay them unless excused therefrom by the Lodge. If the reinstatement is by the Grand Lodge the Grand Lodge may or may not require payment of such dues. -Pro. 1896, p. 88.

**4.0.236** Restoration by the Grand Lodge, of a brother suspended or expelled, to the benefits and privileges of Masonry, shall not restore him to membership in the Lodge which expelled or suspended him. -Pro. 1857, p. 90.

**4.0.237** Where a member is expelled or indefinitely suspended for un-Masonic conduct and the Lodge becomes defunct, the Grand Lodge alone has authority to act upon his application for reinstatement. -Pro. 1879, p. 18; Pro. 1886, p. 20.

**4.0.238** A Mason, of any degree, when expelled by Grand Lodge Trial Commission, Grand Master's Trial Commission, or Grand Lodge Delegates shall have the right to petition the Grand Lodge only four times for reinstatement of membership. Such requests for reinstatement may be made consecutively or over a course of time. Requests of this nature are made a matter of Grand Lodge record, and when submitted are to be researched by the Board of Appeals and Grievances as to their eligibility. Requests which have been offered more than four times shall have no consideration before the Grand Lodge. Such requests will be responded to by the

Grand Master using this section of the Digest of Laws as a reference. Further, this section shall be retroactive at adoption. -Pro. 1997, p. 61.

Any form of electronic communication pertaining to matters of Masonic business are prohibited when used as a forum to debate Masonic Law or issues and will subject the member to un-Masonic conduct. - Pro. 2010, p. 39.

**(a)** Prohibited Electronic Communication is defined as any communication involving statement(s) containing any critical opinion(s) or critical statement, talk, or plans of sedition; or an Un-masonic comment or statement, that is in any way electronically transmitted with a possibility that any electronic communications consisting of words, sign, abbreviations portrayed in letters, coded numbers, figures; or other communication of printed or any delineation by drawings, sketches, photographs, codes, or designs by which a message be received. This covers all electronic mails also known as E-Mail, and all forms of social media presently in use or that may hereafter be developed. - **Pro.2015, pg. 32.**

**4.0.239** A brother may not utilize within this Grand Jurisdiction a cipher ritual approved by another Grand Jurisdiction. Our obligation forbids the creation of such cipher aids. Pro. 2005, p.

**4.0.240** (*Incorporates 4.0.24-PRO. 1889; 4.0.48, & Resolution #4, Pro.2011, pg.22, and supersedes those Sections replaced.*)

Any Mason holding membership in a Lodge subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Arkansas shall be expelled as hereinafter provided upon his conviction of a felony by any court of competent jurisdiction of this or any other state of the United States or by a court of the United States. Expulsion shall be effective on the date of conviction or any time thereafter and continue until said conviction shall become final, without further action of the Lodge. When the conviction becomes final, the subject would be allowed to ask for reinstatement through the normal procedure for reinstatement for Un-Masonic Conduct. –**Pro. 2011, p.23.**

A. However, no man who has ever entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or who has been otherwise convicted of a Capital Felony Offense, and/or a Class Y Felony Offense, and/or a Class A Felony Offense in Arkansas, or who has been sentenced by any court of competent jurisdiction of any other state in the United States of America, or any comparable court of a foreign nation, of one or more offenses of the same type, can be made a Mason in Arkansas with the only stipulation being that: **(Pro. 2011, p. 23):**

1. If a man convicted of any such Crime(s) is later exonerated and found innocent of the charge(s) by a court of competent jurisdiction, he may be considered eligible to petition for membership under the Masonic requirements of the M.: W.: Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Arkansas; and further that a Governor's pardon or presidential pardon for any reason other than innocence will not exonerate the man for the purpose of

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membership in the fraternity.

2. Should such conviction be reversed, set aside, or dismissed by the judgment of the court, the subject would be allowed to ask for reinstatement through the normal procedure for reinstatement.
3. In any instance where a mason is charged with the commission of a felony and there is a finding of guilty by a court or jury or if a Mason enters a plea of guilty or a plea of nolo contendere to such offense, the Mason shall be deemed a convicted felon for all purposes relative to this Section, and said Mason shall be expelled as of the date of conviction or any time thereafter.
4. The Secretary of the Lodge shall notify the subject Mason by U. S. mail or his last known address of his Expulsion from the Lodge as a result of his conviction.

5. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the subordinate Lodge to certify the record of Expulsion to the Grand Secretary. ( Furthermore, elements of Resolution #4 Pro.2011 pg.22 shall not be retroaction from the date passed. (*Ed.Note Feb. 4, 2011*) **Pro. 2011, p.22**

**4.0.241** The Grand Lodge reaffirms its stance on the basic requirements of membership as:

1. Being a Man
2. Good Moral Character
3. Lawful Age (18+)
4. Belief in GOD and the immortality of the soul

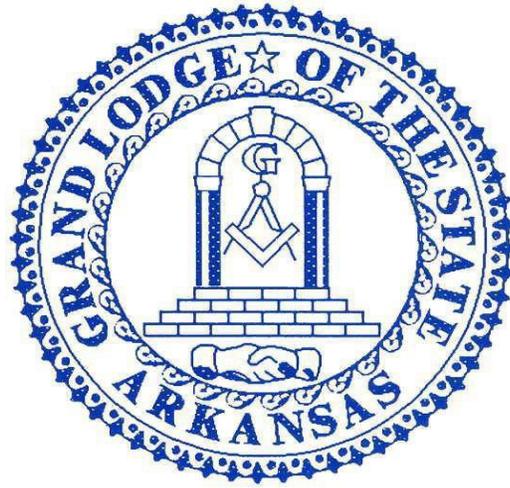
When either a candidate or member no longer meet the above requirement of being a man at any time during his masonic career, it would be proper to prefer charges against him as this requirement is one of the ancient landmarks of Freemasonry. **Pro. 2019**

**4.0.242** The right of two (2) appeals will be extended to the sentence of Definite Suspension. Those brethren would submit their appeal to the Grand Lodge, an investigation committee will be appointed by the Grand Master who will report their findings to the delegates at the next annual grand communication for consideration who would vote either for or against reinstatement. **Pro.-2019**

**4.0.243** Due to the complexities of the statutes and rules, the Grand Lodge of Arkansas cannot support or allow the Grand Lodge to be connected to either Raffles or Bingo. The Grand Lodge of Arkansas does not sanction, stand behind, or allow any fraternal sponsored Raffle or Bingo within our jurisdiction. Pro. 2020



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# **SECTION 5**

## **Forms**



# SECTION 5

## FORMS

### SECTION 5.1

#### PETITION FOR DISPENSATION FOR A NEW LODGE

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas,  
Free and Accepted Masons:

We, the undersigned, affiliated Master Masons in good standing, members of Lodges in Arkansas, and having the prosperity of the Craft at heart, are anxious to exert our best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Freemasonry; and for the convenience of our respective dwellings, and other good reasons, we are desirous of forming a new Lodge to be named \_\_\_\_\_, we therefore, with the approbation of the Lodge nearest our location (hereunto appended), respectfully pray for a dispensation, empowering us to meet as a regular Lodge at \_\_\_\_\_ in the county of \_\_\_\_\_ and State of Arkansas on the \_\_\_\_\_ and there to discharge the duties of Ancient York Masonry in a constitutional manner, according to the forms of the Order and the laws of the Grand Lodge.

The proposed domicile of said Lodge is \_\_\_\_\_ miles from Little Rock, and is \_\_\_\_\_ miles distant from the nearest Lodge; which is \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge No. \_\_\_\_\_, situated at \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ County and State of Arkansas.

And we have nominated and do recommend Brother \_\_\_\_\_ to be the first Master, Brother \_\_\_\_\_ to be the first Senior Warden, and Brother \_\_\_\_\_ to be the first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

The prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict obedience to the commands of the Grand Master and the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge, and the usages and the customs of Masonry.

(The Grand Lodge permits Plural Membership and each signer should state whether he desires Single or Plural Membership. Unless otherwise stated, it will be presumed that he desires Single Membership and when the dispensation is issued he will be automatically dimitted and become a member of the new Lodge.)

(To be signed by at least seven (7) Master Masons, members in good standing of Lodges in Arkansas, and delivered to the Grand Secretary, with the fee, \$30.00, after being recommended by the nearest Lodge, and approved by the District Deputy Grand Master of the District in which the proposed Lodge will be situated.)

## SECTION 5.2

### FORM OF RECOMMENDATION FOR A DISPENSATION FOR A NEW LODGE.

Hall of \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge No. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ County, Ark.,  
\_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas:

We do certify that the above petitioners are affiliated Master Masons in good standing, and have a safe hall, and that the brethren selected as Master and Wardens have exemplified the work of their respective stations before us, and are well qualified to discharge the duties thereof, and that the establishment of a new Lodge at the location indicated would be for the good of Masonry.

We further certify that said petitioners have presented receipts for all Lodge dues,

Witness our hands and seal of said Lodge, on the day and year first written above.

- A. B., Worshipful Master
- B. D., Senior Warden
- C. E. F., Junior Warden

(SEAL)

Attest: O. P. Secretary

## SECTION 5.3

### OTHER ADOPTED FORMS

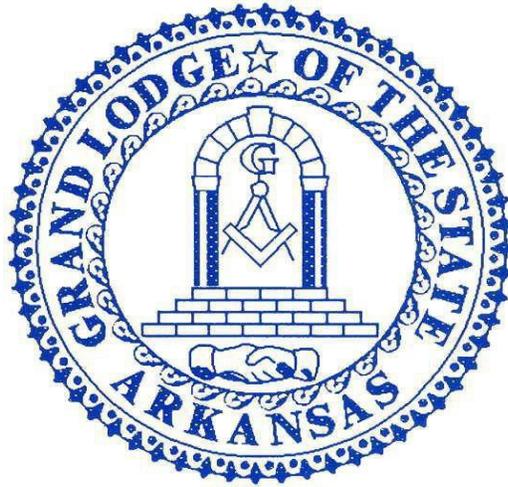
The following adopted forms will be sold or furnished by the Grand Secretary:

Petitions for the degrees  
Petitions for Affiliation or Membership  
Form A. To report reception of petitions  
Certificate of Good Standing  
Quarterly Reports  
Dimits  
Uniform Dues Cards  
Notice to Pay Dues  
Notice to Avoid Suspension  
Notice of Suspension for Non-Payment of Dues  
Request for Courtesy Work  
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# SECTION 6

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# SECTION # 6

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