

**REVISED CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAW OF
The National Grand Commandery Knights Templar F&A.A.Y.
Masons in and for the U.S.A National compact.**

Article I

NAME. PURPOSE. COMPOSITION. FUNCTIONS.

Section I - Name

The name of this National Grand Commandery shall be known as the National Grand Commandery Knight Templar for North America. Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons. Prince Hall Origin. National compact.

Section II - Purpose

The purpose of the National Grand Commandery of Knights Templar shall be the highest legitimate source of Knights Templar power and/or authority working under its National jurisdiction. To bring about a close Masonic command relationship between Knights Templar and Crusaders young and old and to promote Masonic knowledge and religious values to initiate companions to Knights Templar for further elevations. To establish a common bond of fraternal love and understanding between ententes for departments

- A. To issue Grand Warrants, dispensation of National Deputy Warrants and to establish initiation procedures.
- B. To attest the state and subordinate warrants when applicable and to create standards for crusaders functions.
- C. To attest that all Sir Knights and Crusaders are of the original organization of The National Compact of Knights Templar of the United States. Prince Hall Origin and concur to the procedures of the articles of the Most Worshipful National Grand Lodge.

Section III -Composition

The National Grand Commandery Knights Templar is composed of all Grand and States Commandery Knights Templar. COUNCIL OF CRUSADERS AND AUXILIARIES should they come into existence under this National Commandery jurisdiction.

Section IV -Functions

- A. To function as a Legislative; judicial and Executive Body and to sanction and /or authorize the establishment of all organizations referred to in section III above and to issue warrants; charters dispensation and summons to the same. To declare all temples separate by dominion of colored free masons not in accordance with section II of this National Commandery of the United States without the sanction of this National Commandery or no Masonic authority Whatsoever;

ARTICLE II Power of the National Grand Commandery

Section 1 - Powers

- A. To assign all areas of operation for each Grand and/or State Commandery Knights Templar and all other departments mentioned in section III under its jurisdiction and settle all controversies that may arise between Grand and State Commandery and has the final decision and determination over all matters of controversies and grievances which may be brought up by appeal or otherwise.
- B. The National Grand Commandery has the power to make and adopt Laws. Rules and General Regulations for the government of all Grand and/or State Commandery under its jurisdiction and at its pleasures may alter, amend or appeal the same.
- C. It has the power to assess and collect from all Grand and or/ State Commandery under its jurisdiction such money annually or tri-annually to support the maintenance of the National Grand Commandery and whatever may be deemed necessary for the well being and preparatory of the National Grand Commandery.
- D. The national Grand Commandery shall have the power to summon any officers male or female to attend with any books; and/ or papers, of other matters that may be in their possession, being property of the National Grand Commandery
- E. It has the power to assign and fix rituals for male and female departments, to form committees for the purpose for establishing regalia selling. Revising and for the successful structure of this National Commandery and its affiliate the National Crusaders.
- F. The power to grant letters of dispensation and warrants to all States and Grand Commandery and including the Crusaders within its jurisdiction, the State Commandery has the full power to grant letters. Charters warrants and dispensations to subordinate Commandery under that state. The state Commandery May establish as many subordinates as may be deemed necessary and authorize a prescribed distance between each Commandery as needed in each individual state.

Section II- Legislative

- A. The National Grand Commandery shall have the power and authority to make laws and new regulation that are deemed necessary and proper, provided they are not in violation or contradictory to the original Landmarks.
- B. The National Grand Commandery shall have the power to alter or repeal Laws and Regulations by and only by the same legislative procedure by which the law or regulations was Adopted.
- C. The National Grand Commandery can establish a uniform code of by-laws and regulations of all Grand and State Commandery to standardize the work but it will allow Grand or State Commandery from making other laws and regulations deemed necessary for efficient operation in its jurisdiction.
- D. The National Grand Commandery has the power to impose tax on its Grand and State Commandery within its jurisdiction but cannot impose a direct tax upon an individual Sir Knight.

Section III- Judicial

- A. The National Grand Commandery has the power to act as interpreter and administrator of the laws and regulations which it has enacted in its legislative capacity.

Section IV- Executive

All Executive power of the National Grand Commandery when not in session are invested in the National Grand Eminent Commander.

ARTICLE III SOVEREIGNTY AND JURISDICTION

Section I - Sovereignty

The National Grand Commandery of Knights Templar is the only source of authority and exercise exclusive jurisdiction in all matters pertaining to the Knights Templar in the National.

Section II- Jurisdiction

To declare all commanderies in the U.S.A. constituted without the sanction of the National Grand Commandery to be spurious and clandestine.

ARTICLE IV

ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS. VOTING AND THEIR DUTIES

Section I- Election

The Election of the National Grand Commandery Officers shall be held at each regular triennial session.

Section II- Officers

The Officers of the National Grand Commandery are elected and appointed and shall hold their office for three years or until their successors are chosen and installed.

- A. The elected officers of the National Grand Commandery are as follows:

1. National Eminent Commander
2. National Deputy Eminent Commander
3. National Generalissimo
4. National Captain General
5. National Prelate
6. National Treasurer
7. National Recorder
8. National Senior Warden
9. National Junior Warden

B. The appointed officers are as follows:

1. National Sword Bearer
2. National Standard Bearer
3. National Warder
4. National Assistant Recorder
5. National Prelate to Crusaders
6. National Marshall
7. National Inside Sentinel
8. National Outside Sentinel
9. National Trustees (3)

C. Elected Officers must be chosen during the regular triennial communication of the National Grand Commandery Knights Templar, The appointed officers are selected by the National Grand Eminent commander at the same time and hold their office during his pleasure.

D. Should vacancies occur at the same time? It may be filled by temporary appointment by the National Grand Eminent Commander

Section III -Voting

Voting on nomination shall be by ballot unless there are no opposition to the nomination.

Section IV-Duties

A. National Grand Eminent Commander

1. The National Grand Eminent Commander is responsible to the body that compose the National Grand Commandery for faithful performance of his office.
2. To distribute compassion to the poor and needed.
3. To Govern the National Grand Commandery with justice and moderation.

B. National Deputy Grand Eminent Commander

1. He shall preside in the absence of the National Grand Eminent Commander.
2. He shall ascent to the chair in case of death or permanent disability of the National Grand Eminent Commander.
3. He shall perform other duties as assigned by the National Grand Eminent Commander

C. National Grand Generlissimo

1. To receive and communicate all orders, signal and petitions
2. To assist the nation Grand Eminent Commander in his various duties and to preside in the absence of National Deputy Grand Eminent Commander.

D. National Grand Captain General

1. To see that the proper officers make all due preparation for the various meeting of the National Grand Commandery and that Temple is properly prepared for the introduction of candidates and the dispatch of business
2. To receive and communicate all orders and signals issued by the National Grand Eminent Commander to the officers of the Commandery.

E. National Grand Prelate

- I. To minister at the alter and offer up prayers and ablations to deity.

F. National Grand Senior Warden

1. To attend on pilgrim Warriors to comfort and support Pilgrims who repent and after due trail introduce them into the Temple.

G. National Grand Junior Warden

1. To attend on poor and weary pilgrims traveling from afar, to accompany them on their journey, to answer all questions for them and recommend them to the hospitality of the National Grand Eminent Commander.

H. National Grand Treasurer

1. To receive in charge all the funds and property of the National Grand Commandery.
2. To pay all orders drawn on the Treasury and render a just and faithful account of the same when required.

I. National Grand Recorder

1. To faithfully record the proceedings of the National Grand Commandery.
2. To collect the revenue and pay the same over to the National Grand Treasure.

J. National Grand Sword Bearer

1. To assist in the protection of the banner of the order.
2. To watch all signals from the National Grand Eminent Commander and see that they are promptly obeyed.

K. National Grand Standard Bearer?

1. To display, protect and support the banner of the order.

L. National Grand Warder

1. To announce the approach and departures of the National Grand Eminent Commander.
2. To post the sentinel and see that the Temple is duly guarded.

M. National Assistant Recorder

1. To record the proceeding of all the National Grand Commandery meeting.

N. National Grand Prelate To the Crusaders

1. It is his duty to see that the ritualistic work is properly exemplified.
2. He is to have a watchful Care over the interests of the Crusaders and see that the laws of the chapter are promptly obeyed by the members.
3. Maintain with unswerving care, the constitution and regulations of the chapter and the National Grand Commandery.
4. He shall attend all meetings of the Crusaders, including cabinet meeting.

O.**National Grand Trustees**

- I. They shall supervise and manage all the property and holdings established or controlled by the National Grand Commandery.
2. The National Grand Trustees Board shall submit a tri-annual report to the National Grand Commandery exhibiting in detail all its transactions during the preceding years of the National Grand Commandery.

Section V- General Duties and Responsibilities of all Officers

It shall be the duty and responsibilities of all National Grand Commandery of Knight Templar Officers to surrender upon request or demand and all National Grand Commandery properties in their possession the National Grand Eminent Commander or the National Grand Commandery may direct.

ARTICLE V**ORDER OF BUSINESS****Section I-Order of Business**

- A. Open in due form.
- B. Roll call of Officers.
- C. The business proceedings of the previous meeting and intervening meetings are read,
- D. Report's of all Committees
- E. Unfinished business.
 - F. New business
- G. Nominations, elections and appointment of officers
- H. Closing.
- I. This order of business may be dispensed with by the National Grand Eminent Commander of the Knight Templar if it's for expediting the work at hand.

ARTICLE VI**GENERAL REGULATIONS****Section I Dress Code**

Dress code shall be As follows; black or dark blue suit white shirt black tie or bow tie, black, shoes and socks, white gloves headgear with Knight Templar insignia, apron and sword.

Section II -Miscellaneous Regulations

- I. No Sir Knight shall be eligible to hold office in the National Grand Commandery who is at the time of election or appointment, a member not in good standing of a Grand Commandery of this National Grand Commandery,
 2. No Sir Knights shall be eligible to an elected office of the National Grand Commandery who has not served in one or more of the elected office of his State Grand Commandery.
3. Only Sir Knights who are active pass National Grand Eminent Commander, National Deputy, National Generalissimo, or National Captain General are eligible for the National Grand Eminent Commander Office.
4. Eligibility for other elected or appointed officers required that the sir Knights have held some Grand Commandery office.
5. The National Grand Commandery Officers should be paid a donation of services rendered during their tenure of office.
6. As courtesy any Sir Knight traveling to other states should contact the Grand Master of that state first and ask permission to conduct business.
7. The finance committee shall be composed of the National Treasured, Recorder and Trustees who shall make a written report to the National Grand Commandery at each triennial session.
8. The National Grand Eminent Commander, Recorder and Treasure shall be bonded to a sufficient amount which would cover their holding in a reputable bonding company and said bond will be held by the National Grand Trustees.
9. All Grand and State Commandery are required to hold Ascension Day Service within their state each year. A copy of their program must be submitted to the National Grand Eminent Commandery for informational purpose.
10. All Grand and State Eminent Commander must be present at all National Grand Commandery communications or send a representative.
- II. All Grand and State Commandery must make annual written reports to the National Grand Commandery, including membership and tax thirty (30) days prior to the National Grand Commandery annual session.

All amendments to this Constitution shall be presented in writing. The entire section to be amended must be fully written out, as same will be read with the proposed amendment incorporated therein.

The constitution and by-laws shall be amended, revised or altered upon the concurrence of three-fourths of its members present at any triennial session.

Revised by-laws and constitution committee

Eddie R. Salley-Chairman

Lee E. Singleton- Author

Revised Date: 1/26/90

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 “ “ 96
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