

**STATUTES OF THE  
GRAND COMMANDERY OF  
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE  
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

(Updated: October 20, 2021)

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*Knights Templar of the State of Illinois*

ACT OF INCORPORATION

(1 Priv. Laws 1867, p. 963)

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND APPENDANT ORDERS OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly, That the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain-General, Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois, together with the Past Commanders, Commanders, Generalissimos, and Captains-General of the several chartered commanderies subordinate to said Grand Commandery, while holding said offices, shall be, and the same are hereby declared to be, a body politic and corporate, by the name, style, and description of "The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois."

SECTION 2. The said corporation, by the name and style aforesaid, shall have full power to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded prosecute and defend in all manner of actions at law or in equity, in all places where legal or equitable proceedings are had. The said corporation shall have power to make such constitution, by-laws, rules and regulations for its own government and management of its concerns and government of its subordinates, as shall be deemed advisable, and to alter and amend the same at pleasure: Provided, That such constitution, by-laws, rules and regulations shall not conflict with the constitution and laws of this state and of the United States.

SECTION 3. The said corporation, by the name and style aforesaid, shall be capable in law of purchasing, holding, and conveying real and personal estate for the benefit of said corporation: Provided, That said corporation shall not at any time hold personal or mixed property to an amount exceeding one hundred thousand dollars, nor real estate to an amount exceeding two thousand acres of land.

SECTION 4. That said corporation shall have power to loan money belonging to the same, and take promissory notes or other evidences of debt for money so loaned or any property sold, which may be recovered in their corporate name aforesaid, in all courts and places where judicial proceedings are had.

SECTION 5. The said corporation is also authorized to borrow money in sums not exceeding one thousand dollars at any one time, and at a rate of interest not exceeding ten percent per annum.

SECTION 6. In the management of its business concerns, said corporation is hereby authorized to appoint such agents, officers, and attorneys for that purpose, as from time to time it may be deemed proper.

SECTION 7. Each subordinate commandery under the jurisdiction of the aforesaid Grand Commandery, now in existence, or which may hereafter be chartered by the same, is hereby also declared to be a body politic and corporate, by and under the name, style and number set forth in their respective charters, and by such designation they may respectively sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, prosecute and defend against all suits arising in law or chancery, in all the courts of this state. The said subordinate commanderies respectively, shall be capable in law of purchasing, holding, or receiving by purchase, gift, or otherwise, and of selling and conveying real and personal estate for the benefit of said subordinate commanderies, respectively.

SECTION 8. So far as is applicable, the provisions of sections four (4), five (5) and six (6) of this act shall be applicable to each of said subordinate commanderies.

SECTION 9. In case any subordinate commandery shall cease to exist, all its properties, records, and franchises shall vest in the Grand Commandery aforesaid.

SECTION 10. This act shall be held and deemed a public act and shall be liberally construed by all courts for the benefits of said corporation.

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SECTION 11. This act to be in force from and after its passage.

WILLIAM BROSS,

President of the Senate.

FRANKLIN CORWIN,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Approved March 7, 1867.

RICHARD J. OGLESBY, Governor.

Attest: SHARON TINSDALE, Secretary of State.

(Updated: October 20, 2021)

**STATUTES OF THE  
GRAND COMMANDERY OF  
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE  
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

**NAME**

**SECTION 400.** The title of this body is “The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois.”

**OF WHOM COMPOSED**

**SECTION 401.** It shall consist of the members enumerated in the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

**SECTION 402.** The Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of The United States of America, is hereby adopted and made a part of the Statutes of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois.

**ANNUAL CONCLAVE**

**SECTION 403.** This Grand Commandery shall assemble within 120 days of the end of the fiscal year of each year in the city under contract with the conclave committee, for the election of officers, to hear official reports of the officers and of the Constituent Commanderies, and for the transaction of such business as the welfare of the order may demand; provided, however, that the Grand Commandery may meet in annual conclave at such other time and place in the State of Illinois, as it may, from time to time, determine by a majority vote at the preceding annual conclave, conditioned, that the Grand Commander may change the time or place, or both. The Grand Commandery shall be convened in ample form at the time appointed for each conclave, immediately after which the proceedings of the last session shall be read, unless dispensed with.

**SECTION 404.** The Commander, Generalissimo, and Captain General, for the time being, of all constituent Commanderies under this jurisdiction, being unable to attend the Grand Conclave in person, shall each have the power to appoint as his proxy over his own signature, a member of the same constituent Commandery as said officer. Such proxy shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of his principal, at such Grand Commandery Conclave. A proxy does not by virtue of such appointment become a member of this Grand Commandery. He shall, before acting, produce acceptable evidence of his appointment.

Each member present in person, or by proxy, shall have only one vote.

**REVENUES**

**SECTION 405.** Revenues necessary for support of this Grand Commandery shall be derived from the following sources. Unless otherwise stated, they shall be based upon data shown by the annual reports of the constituent Commanderies filed with the Grand Recorder at the close of each fiscal year (May 31), and all fees, dues, assessments and other indebtedness (except “F” below) shall be paid to the Grand Commandery at the time of filing such report on or before July 1 each year.

From each Constituent Commandery:

A. For each member in good standing, excepting (1) those members whose dues have been remitted by the Commandery because of inability to pay same, (2) fifty-year members exempt by provision of Sec. 460A; a per capita dues of ten dollars (\$10.00). Starting in 2017 (Members in Good Standing in this section shall include all members whose membership (in abeyance) has not been terminated.) (Passed on floor 2014)

B. For each petitioner who has been created a Knight Templar and admitted to membership in such Commandery during the fiscal year; a knighting fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00), which shall be used by the Grand Commandery to purchase a Life Sponsorship in the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., for him.

C. For each member in Good Standing except (1) those members whose dues have been remitted because of inability to pay same, (2) members who have purchased Life Sponsorship Certificates, (3) Members who are Patrons or Associate Patrons of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.; the annual eye foundation assessment levied by Sec. 18 ½ (G. E. C.) one dollar (\$1.00).

D. For each member, such annual Grand Encampment per capita dues as may be from time to time levied by the Grand Encampment upon this Grand Commandery. The Finance Committee shall specifically submit the per-capita amount of this charge as part of the appropriation recommendation at each Annual Grand Conclave. (As of 2018, the Grand Encampment per capita dues are Nine dollars and 00 cents (\$9.00).

E. For every Charter or Dispensation to form and open a new Commandery, which shall include full payment for a charter if afterward granted; two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

F. (Deleted)

G. All assessments which may have been from time to time by this Grand Commandery, provide, that no assessment shall be payable by a constituent Commandery unless it has been proposed, notice, and passed in full compliance with the procedures for amending these statutes, as set forth in section 474 herein; and further provided, that at the discretion of the Grand Commander, the payment of such assessments to the Grand Recorder shall be due no later than 45 days after receipt of invoice or June 15, whichever is earlier. (2009)

#### **SECTION 406.**

**SECTION 407.** No representative of a Commandery shall be entitled to a VOTE unless the current dues (and any other indebtedness) of his Commandery to the Grand Commandery are paid on or before July 1<sup>st</sup>, prior to the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery.

If there be any arrearages from previous years past due from any Commandery to the Grand Commandery for assessments, fees, or financial obligations of any type; no representative of such debtor Commandery shall be entitled to a VOTE unless the current year's dues plus a payment satisfactory to the Grand Commander and the Grand Recorder upon the arrearages shall have been paid on or before July 1<sup>st</sup>, prior to the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery.

### **ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF GRAND OFFICERS**

**SECTION 408.** All officers of the Grand Commandery shall be elected except the Grand Prelate Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Warder and the Grand Sentinel, who shall be appointed by the Grand Commander. In addition, the Grand Commander may, in his discretion, and as the good of the Order may require, appoint a Grand Color Bearer of the Grand Commandery.

When more than one name is in nomination, the election shall be by ballot on voting tags as issued by the Committee on Credentials at the time of registration.

When only one name is in nomination, the election may be by acclamation.

The election of Officers shall be held on the last day of the Annual Conclave at an hour selected during the first session.

### **GRAND OFFICERS' POWERS AND DUTIES**

#### **GRAND COMMANDER**

**SECTION 409.** The duties of the Grand Commander shall be those enumerated in the statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

**SECTION 410.** During the recess of the Grand Commandery, the Grand Commander exercises all the executive powers of the body, and he shall report his action in full thereon to the next annual conclave of the Grand Commandery for its final action. He may at any time vacate an appointment made by him and fill the

vacancy thereby created.

**SECTION 411.** He shall see that the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder and such other officers and members of Committees, as the Grand Commandery from time to time may designate, shall each give bond, executed by a corporate surety company authorized to do business in the State of Illinois. The form and the amount of such bond shall from time to time be recommended by the Committee on Finance of this Grand Commandery. The Grand Commander and the Chairman of the Finance Committee shall judge and approve the sufficiency of such bonds and securities; and the Grand Commander shall keep and preserve the same.

**SECTION 411A.** Be it hereby resolved that a Fund, to be known as the Eloise H. Phillips Charity fund of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois, is created and is maintained by a Committee of Knights Templar for only Charitable and Benevolent purposes, as follows:

(1). A five member committee is hereby created, consisting of five Sir Knights, who will have complete control of the investing and any and all expenditures to be distributed annually from earnings. The Committee shall be composed of the Grand Recorder and the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Commandery, and have three appointed Sir Knights. The Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer are permanent members of the committee; the three appointed members will serve three years. An appointed member, having served two years, will serve as Chairman in the Third year. At the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery the retiring Grand Commander will appoint on Sir Knight to complete the Committee requirements of the five Sir Knights.

(2). The Committee shall direct the investments of the principal of this fund, in order that reasonable safety may be insured and that a fair return on earnings be achieved.

(3). All expenditures from earnings and/or principal shall be made only with the consent and direction of the Committee, and in conformance with the terms of the will of the late Eloise H. Phillips.

(At the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois, on July 29, 1978 at Springfield, Illinois, the above Grand Commandery By-Law was approved by vote of the Grand Commandery.

At the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois, on July 20, 1996 at Decatur, Illinois, the above Grand Commandery By-Law was amended and approved by vote of the Grand Commandery. Repealed (2013)

**SECTION 412.** He may issue patents to representatives of this Grand Commandery near the East of the other Grand Commanderies. Provided that such patents shall expire with the date of the triennial session of the Grand Encampment following the date of said patents.

**SECTION 413.** It is the duty of the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, and Grand Captain General, either in person or by proxy, to attend all conclaves of the Grand Encampment.

## **GRAND TREASURER**

**SECTION 414.** It shall be the duty of the Grand Treasurer to:

A. Receive all moneys belonging to the Grand Commandery from the Grand Recorder, to giving him receipts therefore;

B. Receive all income from investments belonging to the Grand Commandery, and keep an accurate account of the same;

C. Pay out funds of the Grand Commandery upon proper approval of the Committee on Finance, in accordance with the annual budget approved at the Annual Conclave, with authority to make proper adjustments among accounts as is necessary and approved by the Committee on Finance:

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D. Prepare checks for payment of the Grand Commandery funds for approved payouts, with all checks being signed by the Grand Commander and the Grand Treasurer, or in his absence, the Grand Recorder;

E. To invest, from time to time, in accordance with directions provided by the Committee on Investments, any and all funds not required for the immediate cash flow needs of the Grand Commandery. For the purpose of investment with the approval of the Committee on Investments, the Grand Treasurer may enter into contracts, on behalf of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois, with any bank, trust company or brokerage firm covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the Securities Investors Protection Corporation for the custody and servicing of such investments, and for investments servicing in connection therewith;

F. Keep an accurate accounting of all receipts, income, expenditures, disbursements and approvals of the Committee on Finance and render a monthly account to the Grand Commander and the Committee on Finance all receipts, income, expenditures and disbursements of the Grand Commandery, and provide monthly reconcile account statements to the Grand Commander and the Committee on Finance;

G. Render an annual accounting of all receipts, income, expenditures and disbursements of the Grand Commandery during the preceding fiscal year to the Annual Conclave, together with a balance sheet as of the close of the fiscal year;

H. Render an accounting to the Grand Commandery at the Annual Conclave, and more often, if requested by the Grand Commander, of all receipts, income, expenditures and disbursements in comparison to the approved budget for the fiscal year;

I. For the deposits and safekeeping of all evidences of investments, notes and other property the Grand Treasurer, by and with the approval of the Grand Commander and Chairman of the Committee on Finance, shall rent a safe deposit box, in the of the Grand Commander of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois and in a bank or safety deposit vault company, organized and supervised under the laws of the State of Illinois, or the United States of America. The contents of the safety deposit box shall be subject to inspection and/or audit at any time or times as may be required by the Grand Commander and/or Committee on Finance;

J. Have in his charge all personal property of the Grand Commandery as may be entrusted to his care, subject to inspection and audit by the Grand Commander and/or the Committee on Finance;

K. Submit his books and records for examination by the committee on Finance and the Grand Auditor;

L. At the installation of his successor in office, deliver all books, papers, vouchers, approvals, investments, evidence of investments, accounts, fiscal property and personal property of the Grand Commandery, which may be in his possession, to such successor. (2013)

**GRAND RECORDER**

**SECTION 415.** It shall be the duty of the Grand Recorder:

A Perform those duties enumerated for the Grand Recorder of a Grand Commandery in the Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America;

B. Attend all Conclaves of the Grand Commandery;

C. Record the proceedings of the Grand Commandery and all of Charters and Dispensations issued by its authority in books kept for that purpose;

D. Collect the revenues of the Grand Commandery and pay the same promptly to the Grand Treasurer, taking his receipt therefore;



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E. Receive and examine the returns of constituent Commanderies of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois and make adjustments with their representatives;

F. Render an account, at the Annual Conclave, of the revenues collected and paid over to the Grand Treasure during the preceding fiscal year and the amounts owed to the Grand Commandery by any constituent Commandery;

G. Report, at the Annual Conclave, any constituent Commander that failed to make annual returns or pay per capita or assessments for the preceding fiscal year;

H. Report to the Annual Conclave any business left unfinished or carried over from the preceding Annual Conclave;

I. Keep the Seal of the Grand Commandery and affix it to all documents that may require it;

J. Keep and file all Orders, papers, reports and documents that may, from time to time, be issued by the Grand Commander and/or by Committees of the Grand Commandery and affecting Grand Commandery affairs;

K. Procure an appropriate jewel for each retiring Grand Commander, upon completion of his term of office, with a suitable devices and inscriptions;

L. Keep in the books provided for that purpose, a copy of the Coat of Arms and Seal of each constituent Commandery of the Grand Commandery of Knight Templar of Illinois;

M. Submit his books and records for examination by the Committee on Finance and the Grand Commandery Auditor;

N. Perform those duties assigned to him by the Grand Commander, to assist the Grand Commander in the performance of his duties;

O. At the installation of his successor in office, deliver all books, papers, records, supplies, equipment and other items belonging or pertaining to the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois and which may be in his possession to his successor in office;

P. Receive as his sole compensation payable by the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois for the performance of his duties an amount determined by the following formula: \$50.00 for each chartered Commandery, plus \$1.00 for each member, including dual members, as of December 31 of each fiscal year of the Grand Commandery. An estimate of the amount of compensation shall be included in the annual budget approved at the Annual Conclave, with final determination of the compensation made as soon as the records as of December 31 are available. (2013)

## **BONDS**

**SECTION 416.** The Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder shall each give bond executed by a corporate surety company, authorized to do business in the State of Illinois, in such form, and in such an amount as shall from time to time be recommended by the Committee on Finance of this Grand Commandery. The Grand Commander and the Chairman of the Finance Committee shall judge and approve the sufficiency of such bonds and securities and the Grand Commander shall keep and preserve the same. The premium for such bonds shall be paid by the Grand Commandery.

## **GRAND COMMANDERY COMMITTEES**

**SECTION 417.**

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A. The following Standing Committees shall be appointed by the Grand Commander immediately after his installation to act during the recess and at the succeeding Annual Conclave:

- (1) Committee on Jurisprudence, which shall consist of five members, each serving one-year term. (Section 418);
- (2). Committee on Templar Dead, which shall consist of one member serving a one-year term. (Section 420);
- (3). Committee on Public Relations, which shall consist of three members, each serving one-year terms. (Section 422);
- (4). Committee on Credentials, which shall consist of three members, each serving one-year terms. (Section 423);
- (5). Committee on Charters and Dispensations, which shall consist of three members, each serving one-year terms. (Section 426);

B. The Grand Commander may appoint such other committees as he deems appropriate to assist him in the performance of his duties.

C. The following Perennial Standing Committees shall be appointed for extended tenure, as specified;

(1). Knights Templar Education Foundation Committee, Division of the Grand Commandery of Illinois (Section 426), which shall consist of five members, each serving staggered five-year terms, with each incoming Grand Commander appointing one member to replace the member whose term expired;

(2). Knights Templar Eye Foundation Committee (Section) 427 1/2), which shall consist of three members, each serving staggered three-year terms, with the incoming Grand Commander appointing one member to replace the member whose term expired;

(3). Committee on Finance (Section 419), which shall consist of three members, each serving staggered three-year terms, with the incoming Grand Commander appointing one member to replace the member whose term expired;

(4). Eloise H. Phillips Charity Committee (Section 421), shall consist of three appointed members, each serving staggered three-year terms, with the retiring Grand Commander appointing one member for a three-year term to replace the member whose term expired. The appointed member having served two years will serve as Chairman in the third year. In addition to the three appointed members, the Eloise H. Phillips Charity Fund Committee shall include the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer as ex officio members;

(5). Committee on Investments (Section 424), which shall consist of three appointed Trustees, each serving staggered three-year terms, with the sitting Grand Commander at the time of the amendment to the Statute creating the Committee on Investments appointing all three members, with one member having a one-year term, another member having a two-year term and a third member having a three-year term. Thereafter, the Grand Commander shall appoint one member each year for a three-year term to replace the member whose term expired. In addition to the appointed members, the Committee on Investments shall include the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer, as ex-officio members. The three appointed Trustees shall annually select a Chairman from among themselves.

D. The Grand Commander shall at all times be empowered to fill by appointment for the unexpired term, any vacancy, for any cause, in the Perennial Standing Committees.

E. Special Committees: The following Special Committees are hereby created:

(1) Triennial Committee (Section 425), consisting of the Grand Commander, Grand Recorder and one member appointed annually by the Grand Commander;

(2). Committee on Drill Competition, consisting of three judges of Exhibition or Competitive Drill, to judge the drill competition, if any, at the Annual Conclave. (2013)

**SECTION 418.** The Committee on Jurisprudence shall examine all propositions to revise, alter or amend Templar Laws, Bylaws and general regulations as well as all questions of Templar Law and Usage.

**SECTION 419.** Committee on Finance shall have the following duties and powers:

A. Carefully exam all claims for payment presented to the Grand Commandery and approve those payments consistent with the budget approved at the Annual Conclave for payment by the Grand Treasurer;

B. Adjust funds among accounts of the budget as may be necessary to accomplish the purpose of the Grand Commandery;

C. Propose an Annual Budget at the Annual Conclave, based upon consultation with the Deputy Grand Commander to accomplish his programs;

D. Exam accounts and reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder and such other officers and committees of the Grand Commandery as may be presented and concerning finances of the Grand Commandery;

E. Exercise general oversight of all matters affecting the finances of the Grand Commandery;

F. Consider, investments and make recommendations as the Committee on Finance shall deem appropriate and beneficial on all matters effecting the financial affairs of the Grand Commandery or referred to it by the Grand Commander;

G. Cause to be made by a competent accountant, not an officer of the Grand Commandery, nor a member of the Committee on Finance, a careful, complete, and accurate audit of all records, journals, books, paper accounts and annual reports of the Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Eloise H. Phillips Charitable Fund Committee, Committee on Investments, Secretary and Treasurer of the Knights Templar Education Foundation Committee, Division of the Grand Commandery of Illinois, for the last preceding fiscal year of the Grand Commandery and report the results of such audit in detail to the Grand Commandery some practical date. (2013)

**SECTION 420.** The Committee on Templar Dead shall report the names of all Templars of this Grand Jurisdiction, also the names of Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers of the Grand Encampment and of other Grand Jurisdictions, deceased during the year, with appropriate memorials thereon.

**SECTION 421.** Eloise H. Phillips Charity Fund Committee shall have complete control of the expenditures of the income and increase in value of investments in excess of the minimum principal of \$116,114.98, under the following terms;

A. All expenditures from earnings and/or principal of this fund in excess of \$116,114.98, shall be made only with the consent and direction this Committee and only for charitable and benevolent purposes, in accordance with the terms of the will of the late Eloise H. Phillips;

B. Checks for expenditures of the fund shall be prepared by the Grand Treasurer, for signature in accordance with his duties pursuant to written direction of this Committee;

C. Investments of the principal shall be made by the Grand Treasurer under the direction of the Committee on Investments in a manner that assures reasonable safety and fair returns on earnings be achieved to accomplish the charitable purposes of this fund. (2013)

**SECTION 422.** The Committee on Public relations shall consist of three of members, who shall, under the direction, and with the approval, of the Grand Commander, encourage Templars and Templar groups to participate as such, in public programs and affairs. The Committee shall originate, prepare and disseminate news items, informative articles, pictures and other publicity information to the press, magazines, and news media, to the end that the public in general may be kept informed of the activities and objectives of our Order. They shall edit and prepare, as recommended by the Grand Commander, descriptive and informative literature concerning the Order to stimulate and encourage membership.

**SECTION 423.** The Committee on Credentials shall report the name of each representative and proxy present, with the name and number of the Commandery he represents, together with the names of all Past Commanders, giving the names and numbers of their respective Commanderies, the names of all Past Grand Commanders, and the names of all Grand Representatives in attendance.

They shall issue voting tags as provided by the Grand Recorder to all eligible voters of this Grand Commandery who have complied with the requirements of the Committee; and shall render an accounting for all voting tags issued and un-used.

**SECTION 424.** Committee on Investments shall have the following powers and duties;

A. Keep all investments of the Grand Commandery in the name of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois or deposited in accounts in the name of the Grand Commandery of

Knights Templar of the State of Illinois, with the Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder and Chairman of Investments Committee as signatories, with two signatures required. Acceptable depositories include banks, insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or brokerage covered by the Securities Investor Protection Corporation;

B. Invest the funds of the Grand Commandery not required for the immediate cash flow needs of the Grand Commandery in appropriate certificates of deposit, bonds, mutual funds, exchange traded funds, stocks and other securities;

C. Establish appropriate investments policies for the various accounts of the Grand Commandery taking into consideration the purpose of the fund, emphasizing security of principal while yielding reasonable returns, according to the Prudent Investor Rule, set forth in Illinois Compiled Statutes, 760 ILCS 5/5, 5.1, and 5.2, for Trustees of Trust;

D. Retain investments consultants following the guidelines of 760 ILCS investments according to established investments policies;

E. Report annually to the Grand Commandery assembled at the Annual Conclave and more often, if requested by the Grand Commander, a true and correct account in detail of all of its receipts and disbursements, income and gains or losses from investments of the Grand Commandery funds for the preceding fiscal year or year to date, with a descriptive inventory covering all investments and funds;

F. Submit its books and evidence of investments for examination by the Committee on Finance and the Grand Commandery Auditor;

G. Neither the Committee on Investments nor any Trustee or member thereof shall receive any pecuniary or remuneration for services rendered in the investment or management of the funds of the Grand Commandery. (2013)

#### **SECTION 424½**

**SECTION 425.** Triennial Committee shall recommend to the Grand Commander the appropriate disbursement of the accumulated Triennial Fund in manner to encourage participation by the Illinois Grand Commandery at Triennial Conclaves of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America. Investment of the Triennial Fund shall be under the direction of the Committee on Investments. Disbursement of the Triennial Fund by the Grand Treasurer shall be at the written direction of the Grand Commander. (2013)

#### **SECTION 425½**

**SECTION 426.** The Committee on Charters and Dispensations shall report all applications to the Grand Commandery for dispensations or charters, and for the restoration of dispensations or charters which may have been arrested. It shall also report on all matters referred to it relating to the general subject of charters and dispensations.

**SECTION 427.** The committee known as the “Knights Templar Educational Foundation Committee”, Division of the Grand Commandery of Illinois” shall carry out the duties assigned to this committee by the statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, and the rules and regulations promulgated by the Grand Encampment Knights Templar Educational Foundation Committee.

The Committee is charged with the duty of keeping a correct and comprehensive record of all its transactions, and to render a detailed account of the same at each Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery and at such other times as may be require by the Grand Commander.

**SECTION 427½.** The committee known as the Knights Templar Eye Foundation Committee, Division of the Grand Commandery of Illinois shall carry out the duties assigned to this committee by the Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, and the rules and regulations promulgated by the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar Eye Foundation Committee.

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation Committee is charged with the duty of keeping a correct and comprehensive record of all its transactions, and to render a detailed account of the same at each Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery and at such other times as may be required by the Grand Commander.

**SECTION 428.** The Grand Commandery may refer to such committees all other matters it may deem proper and they shall make due report thereon

## **PRINTING OF GRAND COMMANDERY**

**SECTION 429.** The Grand Commander, the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Recorder, who shall let contracts for the same to responsible parties, shall supervise all printing of the Grand Commandery.

## **CHARTERED COMMANDERIES**

### **ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

**SECTION 430.** The first eight officers, together with the Finance Board, of a Commandery shall be elected annually at its annual conclave, which shall be held in either May or June. When more than one name is in nomination, the election shall be by ballot. When only one name is in nomination, the election may be by acclamation.

The incoming Commander shall, after election, but prior to his installation, appoint the Standard Bearer, Sword Bearer, Warder, Sentinel, Guards, Hermits and Color Bearer. A Commandery may, by the adoption of a bylaw to the effect, provide for the election of the Standard Bearer, Sword Bearer and Warder.

Such officers so elected and appointed shall be installed within forty-five days next succeeding their election or appointment. All officers of a Commandery shall be installed in a formal ceremony for such purpose. Such installation may be conducted at a public ceremony. The incoming Commander, as soon as elected, shall be charged with the duty of making suitable arrangements therefor, and for the appointment of the Installing Officer, Marshal, Prelate, and other officers as may be necessary, for such ceremony. (2018)

## **DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

### **COMMANDER**

**SECTION 431.** It is the duty of the Commander to preside at all conclaves of the Commandery, and he is responsible for the proper conduct of its affairs.

**SECTION 432.** It shall be the duty of the Recorder to present to the Commandery at the first stated conclave next following the receipt thereof all communications that may come into his hands addressed to the Commandery.

**SECTION 433.** The Recorder of each constituent Commandery shall make a written recapitulation report to the Grand Recorder, not later than the 10<sup>th</sup> day of each month, enumerating all Knightings, Affiliations, Reinstatements, Demotions, Deaths, Expulsions and Suspensions, during the previous month and the total membership at the end of the previous month, which shall be accompanied by all necessary membership change cards. Failure to make such report by the 10<sup>th</sup> day of each month shall be subject to a late-filing fee of \$5.00 to cover the extra clerical expense, which fee shall accompany the report and be deposited in the general fund.

**SECTION 434.** All communications between a Commandery and its members, and other official correspondence, shall conform to the requirements of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Illinois. Postal cards may be used only for the purpose of notifying members of stated or special conclaves.

**SECTION 435.** The list of names of members, or the mailing list of a Commandery of Knights Templar of this state shall not be addressed or used for any purpose other than that of strict Commandery business, i.e. matters pertaining to the initiatory work and business of the Commandery, business or matters of this Grand Commandery or the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America. The Commander or Recorder of the Commandery, individually and/or jointly, shall be held responsible for the proper use of such list of names for mailing. The only exception from such responsibility shall be the communications from the Grand Commandery or Grand Encampment.

## **OTHER OFFICERS**

**SECTION 436.** The duties of the remaining officers are such as are traditionally appropriate to their several stations, or as prescribed by statutes and regulations.

**SECTION 437.** In the event of the absence from this Grand Jurisdiction, death, or disability of the first three officers of the Commandery, the Junior Past Commander able to serve shall act as Commander.

## **OFFICERS' BONDS**

**SECTION 438.** With respect to any constituent Commandery which owns funds greater than the amount subject to reimbursement by the Grand Commandery Fiscal Officers' Fund, the Treasurer and Recorder shall be bonded by a position form of bond that covers the positions of Treasurer and Recorder from a corporate surety company authorized to do business in the State of Illinois. The bonds shall be in the amounts that the Finance Board shall from time to time determine and be deposited with the Commander. **(2018)**

## **INSURANCE**

**SECTION 438A.** Each Constituent Commandery shall carry property insurance on its paraphernalia, equipment, and other property as listed in the Annual Report and Inventory in such amounts as recommended by the Finance Board and general liability insurance in an amount of at least One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) annual aggregate. A certificate of insurance shall be required to be produced at the annual inspection of the Commandery. **(2021)**

## **SEAL**

**SECTION 439.** Each Commandery shall have a seal, giving the name and number thereof, an impression of which shall be deposited with the Grand Recorder.

**SECTION 440.** Each Commandery in this jurisdiction that has adopted a coat of arms, shall file a copy of the same with the Grand Recorder.

## **POWERS**

**SECTION 441.** A Chartered Commandery has power to decide for itself, who shall be admitted to its membership by admission or affiliation; to confer the Orders of Knighthood in accordance with the usages of the Order and the regulations of the Grand Commandery; to exercise original jurisdiction in the trial and discipline of all its members (save the Commander) and all non-affiliated Knights and members of the Commanderies under dispensation within its jurisdiction; to provide for the current and necessary expenses by an assessment upon its members or by annual dues payable annually in advance, and in case of deficiency in the amount needed to defray its necessary expenses, to impose a special assessment for the purpose; to affiliate Knights created in other Commanderies; to grant demits to its members; to be represented in Grand Commandery, and to instruct its representatives therein; and generally, to transact its business and regulate its private affairs, in accordance with the bylaws and statutes of the Grand Commandery.

## **PLURAL MEMBERSHIP**

**SECTION 441A.**

(1). Plural membership may be held (a) in any constituent Commanderies of this Grand Jurisdiction;

(b) in a constituent Commandery of this Grand Jurisdiction and in a constituent Commandery of another Grand Jurisdiction, providing the law of such other Grand Jurisdiction also so provides; or (c) in a constituent Commandery of this Grand Jurisdiction and in a subordinate Commandery.

(2) Election to Plural Membership shall be upon petition for Plural Membership; accompanied by a Certificate of Good Standing issued by the Commandery of which the petitioner is a member, and, if certified from another Grand Jurisdiction, a statement over seal of petitioner's Commandery, stating Dual Membership is permitted to its members.

(3) Plural members shall be subject to all dues and assessments and entitled to all rights and privileges of full membership in both Commanderies, except that a Plural Member cannot be an elected officer in more than one Commandery at the same time.

(4) Loss of active Plural Membership through action initiated by either Commandery, shall cause loss of membership in both Commanderies; provided, however, that a Plural Member may demit from either Commandery without loss of membership in the other.

(5) Plural members shall be clearly identified as such on all records and reports of constituent Commanderies, including notation thereof on dues cards and/or receipts.

(6). Exception to the annual assessment for a Knight Templar holding a Life Sponsorship shall not apply in more than one Commandery. If a Life Sponsor becomes a plural member, he assumes assessment responsibility in the second Commandery. A Life Sponsor demitting from one Commandery and affiliating with another, carries his exemption status with him and the Commandery with which he affiliates then credits his exemption on its roll. The Commandery from which he demits then removes his exemption status from its reports.

**SECTION 442.** A majority vote at a stated conclave may determine the propriety of an assessment and the amount thereof providing that notice of action on such proposed assessment has been mailed to the membership not less than 10 days prior to the date of the Conclave. An assessment for social entertainment or for expenses incident to a pilgrimage cannot be enforced against one not participating there

## **NEW COMMANDERIES**

### **SECTION 443.**

**SECTION 443A.** No Commandery under dispensation shall move the place of holding its Conclave from the locality named in its dispensation unless the Grand Commander, or the Grand Commandery, as the case may be, upon a petition signed by a majority of the members of such Commandery U. D., shall grant an amendment to such dispensation, changing the place designated therein for the holding of the Conclave of such Commandery U. D.

**SECTION 446.** No names shall be inserted as members in the charter of a new Commandery, except the names of petitioners, those receiving the orders therein and those admitted by affiliation.

**SECTION 447.** The officers of a Commandery under dispensation cannot be elected or installed, and it cannot be represented in the Grand Commandery; neither can it discipline its members, nor adopt by-laws.

**SECTION 448.** No Commandery hereafter chartered shall be named after a living person.

## **JURISDICTION OF COMMANDERIES**

**SECTION 449.** Jurisdiction of all Commanderies in the State of Illinois shall be concurrent. By concurrent jurisdiction is meant that the territorial jurisdiction exercised by one Commandery is the common property of all Commanderies in the State. Any Commandery may receive the petition of any duly qualified Royal Arch Mason residing in the State of Illinois and act thereon.

**SECTION 451.** Waiver of personal jurisdiction over a rejected petitioner cannot be granted within three (3) years of the date of his last rejection, except by unanimous ballot. All applications for waiver of personal jurisdiction shall be presented at a stated conclave and lie over until the next stated conclave before action is taken thereon.

## **RECORDS AND REPORTS**

**SECTION 452.** After the records of a conclave have been read, corrected and approved, they cannot be altered.

**SECTION 453.** Each Commandery under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery shall make out and return to the Grand Recorder, at the conclusion of each Fiscal Year (May 31<sup>st</sup>), a statement showing all work done, and such other information as may be required from the first day of June to the thirty-first day of May inclusive of that Fiscal Year.

All reports shall be completed and returned to the Grand Recorder promptly, in accordance with request shown on form and/or statute.

## **PETITIONING AND BALLOTING**

**SECTION 454.** All petitions for the orders or for membership shall be presented and read in open Commandery, at the conclave when they are received, and the statement of facts contained in the petition shall be entered in the records of the Commandery.

**SECTION 454A.** A petition for the Orders or for membership may be balloted upon at the stated Conclave at which it is received in the Commandery. A petition for the Orders or for membership may be balloted upon at a special Conclave at which it is received in the Commandery, provided that a notice stating the business to be transacted shall be mailed or sent by electronic mail to all members within 100 miles not less than 10 days prior to such special Conclave.

**SECTION 455.**

**SECTION 455A.** The written report of the committee to which the petition is referred shall be separately made; after the final ballot on the petition, the destruction of the report shall be made a matter of record.

**SECTION 455B.** At the conclave when ballot is taken, the petition shall be again read in open Commandery, prior to the spreading of the ballot. Should a petition for the orders or for membership be lost or destroyed after its reception by the Commandery, no ballot shall be had on such petition until a duplicate petition, duly signed by the petitioner and two qualified recommenders is obtained; but such duplicate petition need not lie over for final action beyond the requisite time following reception of original petition.

Balloting for Orders or membership may be by group or separate ballot.

(1) Two or more petitions, whether for Orders or membership, regularly presented, may be balloted upon at one time. After such ballot has been taken, and duly examined by the Captain General, Generalissimo and Commander, if it is unanimous, the Commander shall declare each petitioner elected. In the event of the appearance of a black ball in such group ballot, there must be a ballot upon each petition separately.

(2) Each petition may be balloted on separately. After such ballot has been taken, and duly examined by the Captain General, Generalissimo and Commander, the Commander shall announce the result thereof; provided that if only one negative vote appears, the Commander may order one additional re-ballot before the result has been announced, and before any member of the Commandery present has left the Asylum. The result of this ballot shall be final and shall be so declared by the Commander.

**SECTION 455C.** A petitioner for the orders or for membership, if rejected, shall not be entitled to



any information save that he is rejected; and any Knight who shall communicate to him any information, as to who were present, or who advocated or opposed his admission shall be subject to charges and upon conviction may be expelled from the Order.

**SECTION 455D.**

**SECTION 455E.** Any unaffiliated Knight Templar who has petitioned for membership, and whose petition has been rejected, may renew the said petition to the same or any other Commandery at any subsequent stated conclave.

**SECTION 456.** The Commander may grant a Committee appointed on a petition for the Orders or Membership, or any member thereof, more time; or in case any member of such Committee fails to report, may remove him in open Commandery and appoint another member of the Commandery in his place, who shall report at the same or the next subsequent Conclave of the Commandery.

**CONFERRING OF ORDERS**

**SECTION 457.** No Commandery shall confer the Orders of Knighthood for a less sum than forty-five dollars (\$45.00).

**SECTION 458.** No candidate may sign the bylaws or become a member of the Commandery who has not lawfully received the Order of the Red Cross, Order of Malta, and Order of the Temple.

**BYLAWS**

**SECTION 459.** For the government of its affairs, each chartered constituent Commandery in this Grand jurisdiction shall enact such code of uniform bylaws as may be enacted by this Grand Commandery, but not in conflict with the laws of the Grand Encampment, and which shall include the requirement that a quorum for the conducting of business shall be at least five members entitled to vote therein, including at least one dais officer, and that a quorum for conferring any of the Orders shall be nine regular Sir Knights.

Provided, the amount of fees for conferring the Orders (not less than \$45.00); the amount of annual dues for each member; the time or date of stated conclaves and the hour for opening such conclaves may be determined by such constituent Commanderies respectively. Provided, further, that bylaws, and/or amendments thereto, of constituent Commanderies shall not become operative unless or until approved by the Grand Commander, which approval shall be subject to review of the next succeeding annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery.

**DUES**

**SECTION 460.** Every member of a constituent Commandery, excepting Life Members and 50-year members, shall pay to its Recorder, on or before June 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, a minimum of fifty dollars (\$50.00) or a sum in excess to be fixed by the bylaws of said constituent Commandery as annual dues and assessments. Starting in 2017 (2014)

Newly created Knights and those who are affiliated or reinstated prior to the first day of December in any Templar year shall pay current annual membership dues plus assessments in full. Those created, affiliated or reinstated after the first of December in any Templar year shall pay one-half of the current annual membership and assessments for the balance of that Templar year.

**SECTION 460A.** Any Sir Knight who has been a member of a constituent Commandery or Commanderies in good standing for a total of fifty (50) years, whether or not consecutive, shall not be required to pay any further dues. A letter from the Eminent Commander, attested by the Recorder, and under official seal of the Commandery shall notify the Grand Recorder, and no further per capita shall be paid on said member by the constituent Commandery or Commanderies.

**SECTION 460B.** At the first Stated Conclave in October of each year, the recorder shall report to the Commandery the names of each member in arrears for dues and/or other indebtedness to the Commandery, when, if not excused by a majority vote of the members present, the Commander shall appoint Committees of two members each to make personal calls upon, if possible, or otherwise contact, such delinquent members with reference thereto. Reports of such Committees shall be submitted to the Commander at the next or a specified subsequent Stated Conclave when, after review by the Commander, the reports shall be presented to the Commandery. If delinquency still exists, the Commander shall determine whether it is advisable to remit the dues of a member because of illness, infirmity or financial inability, and shall recommend remission to the Commandery for approval whenever he deems the same justified.

The Commandery has the right to remit the accrued dues of any worthy member when his means will not permit him to contribute to its support. If remission be not recommended, the process of suspension shall be undertaken. The Recorder shall be ordered to send a certified or registered letter to the delinquent member at his last known address requesting either payment of his indebtedness before a specific subsequent Conclave of the Commander, or his personal appearance (if possible) at such Conclave to show cause why he shouldn't be suspended for non-payment of dues. This shall be deemed due notice, and the Commandery may if desired, proceed to suspend without his presence. If suspension proceedings are brought before the Commandery the Commander shall inform the Commandery of all pertinent facts regarding the delinquent member, and shall exhibit the return receipt of the certified or registered letter, (or the returned letter) before any action shall be taken by the Commandery. A member suspended for non-payment of dues can only be reinstated by his written petition therefor presented at a stated conclave of the Commandery and a majority vote by ballot at the next stated Conclave, and payment with the petition of such part of his dues in arrears as the Commandery may require.

## **CHANGING PLACE OF MEETING**

**SECTION 461.** No chartered Commandery shall move the place of holding its Conclave from the locality named in its Charter, unless and until the Grand Commandery shall, in Annual Conclave, and after hearing the recommendation of the Committee on Charters and Dispensations, grant or direct amendment to the Charter of the constituent Commandery and authorize such relocation.

A Commandery may direct a petition for Charter amendment and relocation to the Grand Commandery (Grand Commander), provided it has been approved by a majority of the members present at a stated Conclave of the Commandery, after written notice of the proposition for relocation shall have been mailed to all members not less than 20 days prior thereto. The Grand Commander shall refer such petition to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations to investigate and report its recommendation at the next Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery. Should circumstances warrant, the Grand Commander may issue his dispensation to the constituent Commandery to temporarily relocate until the next Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery.

## **DISCIPLINE**

**SECTION 462.** Violation of the laws of God, the laws of the land, the laws of morality, willful violation of the statutes and regulations of the Grand Commandery, or the bylaws of the Commandery are offenses against this order, and subject the offender, after due trial according to the forms provided by the Grand Encampment, which are hereby declared mandatory, to such punishment as the degree of his offense may warrant.

**SECTION 463.** The use or approval, either actual or tacit, of such use of spirituous, vinous or malt liquors as a beverage in an asylum of Knights Templar or on the grounds of a Masonic Temple during the time that any Order is being conferred therein is strictly prohibited and shall subject every offender to discipline. Such use while in Templar uniform, either in whole or in part, (or approval) at any banquet, social, or other function given by, under the auspices of, or for the benefit of Knights Templar, is likewise prohibited and shall subject every offender to discipline.(2018)

**SECTION 464.** Smoking in open Commandery during the conducting of any part of the Orders is prohibited.

**SECTION 465.** No Commandery in this jurisdiction shall be permitted to hold a conclave on Sunday, except for the purpose of attending funerals or divine worship.

**SECTION 466.** All Knights Templar are forbidden the use of facsimiles of banners, crests, name or numbers of Commanderies or other emblems of Masonic Knighthood, for business purposes.

**SECTION 467.** The wearing of jewels, Coat of Arms, or badges of any body of Masonry, other than Templar Jewels, is prohibited in any public display of the Order.

**SECTION 468.** Any Commander who permits members of his Commandery or any organization of its members to tender their services to any other organization other than Knights Templar for any purpose without a dispensation from the Grand Commander has committed an offense and is subject to discipline.

**SECTION 469.** The formation of any incorporated organization, within the membership of any Commandery of this jurisdiction, is prohibited, except it shall be permitted to form associations or corporations under the laws of the State of Illinois for the one and only purpose of holding and administering real estate to be used for Commandery or Masonic lodge purposes.

## **COMMANDERY INSPECTION DIVISIONS**

**SECTION 470.** At the beginning of each new Templar year, the Grand Commander shall divide the constituent Commanderies comprising the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois into so many Divisions as he may deem appropriate. (2008)

**SECTION 471.** At or immediately after the close of each annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery, the Grand Commander shall assign to each of the above Divisions, by general orders, one of the following Grand Officers: Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Senior Warden, or Grand Junior Warden. Each officer so assigned shall inspect the Commanderies in his Division in accordance with an official schedule promulgated by the Grand Commander, directing the correction of any omission or error that he may find to exist and giving such advice and instruction as may appear judicious. In the event of the inability of the Inspecting Officer to appear at the Official Inspection as assigned due to illness or other emergency, such as dangerously inclement weather or personal family obligation, the Inspection may proceed as scheduled under the direction of another Grand Officer or Past Grand Commander chosen by the Grand Commander to act in his stead.

**SECTION 472.** Shortly after the Official Inspection of each Commandery, a separate report shall be made by the Inspecting Officer of its condition, solely for the information of the Grand Commandery, to assist the Grand Commander to correct any irregularities that may exist, to the end of promoting the general welfare and best interests of the Order; so much of said reports as show the grades and standings of each Commandery on inspection shall be incorporated in the printed proceedings of this Grand Commandery.

**SECTION 473.** In the event of the issuance of a dispensation by the Grand Commander he shall assign someone of the above named Grand Officers to inspect the Commandery, under dispensation and should a charter be granted, he shall assign the Commandery to the permanent division most convenient to its location.

## **AMENDMENT OF STATUTES**

**SECTION 474.** The Grand Commandery, in Annual Conclave, by a simple majority vote of the registered delegates, may revise, amend, and alter so much of the Statutes of this Grand Commandery as are not a part of the laws of the Grand Encampment; provided, that such action shall not be taken, unless the member proposing an amendment or change files the same with the Grand Recorder by April 15 preceding the Annual Conclave and it is contained in the official notice of the Annual Conclave. (2017)

## **DECISIONS OF GRAND MASTER**

**SECTION 475.** Any decision of the Grand Master, or action of the Grand Encampment of the United States,

contravening, taking form, or adding to any paragraph, section, or article of these statutes and regulations, shall be binding on this Grand Commandery; and due notice of such alterations, amendment, or decision shall be furnished to each constituent Commandery by the Grand Commander.

## **REPEAL**

**SECTION 476.** All Statutes, Laws, and Regulations heretofore enacted, adopted, or approved in conflict herewith (Sec. 400-476), are hereby repealed.

## **UNIFORMS - STANDARD**

**SECTION 477.** The following is the prescribed standard uniform of a Knight Templar, and no Knight of Malta shall be created a Knight Templar in a Constituent Commandery unless when dubbed, he possesses the uniform prescribed by the Grand Commandery of Illinois or it shall be loaned to him by the Commandery for the purpose of the Ceremony. As used in this Section, the term “gold” shall include gold-plated or gold-colored (metal, Mylar, or thread), the term “silver” shall include silver-plated or silver-colored (metal, Mylar, or thread) and the terms “bullion” and “wire” shall include Mylar or similar material.

## **UNIFORM COAT**

(1) For all Sir Knights, the Templar Dress Coat shall be dark navy black double-breasted sack coat made of black worsted cloth or black tropical worsted, or polyester-gabardine, or double-knit. (Choice to be made by the purchaser.) The Naval Service Dress Uniform of a Chief Petty Officer (with Templar buttons attached) is appropriate for use.

1.1. General Style: Double breasted sack coat, 3 buttons down each forepart, to close with 3 buttons, seam back, no vent, semi-fitting.

1.2. Length: Length, not to exceed over 2 inches below crotch line and no shorter than crotch line. Coat will have roll collar with peak lapels, three inches wide at peak.

1.3. Pockets: To have the appearance of two (2) two outside pockets, one (1) on each side, all to be made with welts no flaps and sewn shut or stayed to prevent sagging. There will be a left breast false pocket (sewn shut) deep. The welt will be about 5 inches in length and 1 inch in width. The coat shall have two inside breast pockets, one on each side.

1.4. Cuff, Sleeves and Shoulders: Cuffs shall be closed and without buttons. There will be Velcro on each sleeve, 2 inches in height and be placed 2 inches above the bottom of the sleeve and centered. There will be Velcro centered on top of each shoulder and as close to the arm seam as possible.

1.5. Lining: The coat shall be lined with dark material.

1.6. Buttons: All buttons shall be black Templar buttons, of metal or hard plastic, with cross and crown in the center and the motto of our Order. “In Hoc Signo Vinces” around the edge. The buttons on the front of the coat shall be 29/32nds in diameter.

1.7. Sword Slit: There shall be a horizontal slit approximately four (4) inches long over the leftside pocket to allow the sword to be hooked outside; sword slit to be at top of pocket welt. The slit shall be fitted with a zipper to cover the opening when not in use. This will allow sword belt chains or slings to be worn on concealed belt or on trouser waist belt.

1.8. Previous Uniform Style Authorized: Nothing in this section is intended to imply that all, or any part, of the uniforms previously authorized, will become or be declared obsolete, except by normal wear and usage. **(2018)**

## **TROUSERS**

- (2) To be black broadcloth or doeskin, without side stripes or ornamentation of any kind whatever.

## **SHIRT**

- (3) White Dress without button down collar

## **SHOES**

- (4) Black leather or Man-made material

## **SOCKS**

- (5) Black

## **TIE**

- (6) Black with no visible emblem

## **GLOVES**

- (7) White lisle thread

## **CHAPEAU**

(8) *For Sir Knights:* A Military Chapeau with white ostrich plume of at least four ply, at least eight inches in width and twenty-two inches in length with black silk velvet binding. Two black under-plumes are optional. A bow of flat velvet material approximately three-fourths inch wide and three inches long to be placed across the front bill of the Chapeau, covering the front quill of the plume in such a manner that no part of the front quill is exposed. On the left side a black satin rosette, oval in shape, five inches in height by four inches in width composed of approximately thirty-three points, in single fold, and four rows of quilling one fourth of an inch in width, on which is laid a red silk velvet passion cross three inches high by two inches wide.

*Commanders and Past Commanders:* The same except the Passion Cross shall be bordered with No. 26 gilt or gold bullion embroidery one fourth of an inch wide, leaving the velvet exposed in the center to the width of three eighths of an inch; said cross to have at the points of the intersection alternate rays of No. 26 and No. 27 gilt or gold bullion embroidery in solid pattern.

*Grand Officers:* The same except diagonally across the peaks, both front and back, a band of gold plated wire lace fifteen lines wide of vellum (No 1962); in front a gilt or gold plated tassel, half round in shape, with bright bullion and dull head. On the rosette a Templar cross of red silk velvet, bordered with a single row of No 26 gilt or gold bullion embroidery, one fourth of an inch in width. Said cross to be two and one half inches square including embroidery.

*Past Grand Commanders:* The same except diagonally across the peaks, both front and back, a band of black velvet one and one half inches wide, on which shall be embroidered a pattern of laurel leaves and berries on the stem, the leaves of No 26 gilt or gold bullion, the stem and berries of No 26 and 27 gilt or gold bullion twisted in alternate strands/ the band edged with a rope pattern of embroidery three thirty seconds of an inch wide, done in No 26 and 27 gold gilt or gold bullion, in the ration of three to one strands, respectively. The rosette shall be the same except the field of the Templar cross shall be purple velvet.

## **MILITARY STYLE NAVAL DRESS CAP**

The Military Style Naval Dress Cap:

*For Past Grand Commanders:* Military Style Naval Dress Cap with white top, black band, and black visor with one row of gold oak leaves and acorns, metal purple Templar Cross 2 ¼ inches square, fixed to the front of the black band and a gold chin strap attached with

gold buttons.

For Grand Commanders: Same as above except red Templar Cross.

For Grand Commandery Officers: Same as above except plain black visor.

For Commanders and Past Commanders: Same as above except with a 1 3/8 x 2-inch red metal Passion Cross trimmed in gold with rays.

For all other Sir Knights: Same as above except using a red metal Passion Cross trimmed in silver with a silver chin strap attached with silver buttons. (2014)

### **SHOULDER STRAPS**

(9) Are to be worn by the officers of the Grand Commandery, Past Grand Commanders, Past Deputy Grand Commanders, Past Grand Generalissimos, and Past Grand Captain Generals, as well as Commanders, Past Commanders, Generalissimos and Captain Generals of constituent Commanderies. The straps shall be placed one-quarter inch inward of the sleeve seam at the top of each shoulder with the cross being centered slightly forward of the top shoulder seam of the Uniform Coat.

Grand Officers: Bright red velvet, two inches wide by four inches long, with at least one row of either gilt or real gold bullion embroidery three eighths of an inch wide; the Templar cross of gold.

Past Grand Commanders: Same as above except the color the straps shall be royal purple.

Past Deputy Grand Commanders, Past Grand Generalissimos, and Past Grand Captain Generals: The same as the Grand Officers, with the initial "P" prefixed to the designation of office.

Commander: Emerald green silk velvet, one and one half inches wide by four inches long, bordered with one row of embroidery of gold one quarter of an inch wide, the passion cross with a halo embroidered of silver in the center.

Past Commanders: Same as Commanders except the color of the strap will be bright red.

Generalissimos: During his incumbency in office, the same as the Commanders except in place of the passion cross there will be a square surmounted the paschal lamb.

Captain Generals: During his incumbency in office the same as the Commanders except in place of the passion cross there will be the level surmounted with the cock.

Other officers of a Commandery: During incumbency in office, to wear the jewel appropriate to their respective offices, except the prelate who when in the asylum shall wear the appropriate robes, as prescribed by the Grand Commandery, when outside the asylum, he shall wear the regulation uniform of his grand jurisdiction, with his jewel as prescribed in the installation ceremonies (a triple triangle); a prelate may wear his robes outside the asylum when attending a funeral or a religious service.

### **SLEEVE CROSSES**

(10) For officers below the rank of Captain General and all non-officers, shall be a passion cross of red silk velvet one and three-quarter inches high; for Generalissimo and Captain General the same, except the cross shall be bordered with one row of No 26 silver-plated bullion, three sixteenths of an inch in width; for Commanders and Past Commanders, the passion cross of red silk velvet two inches high, bordered with one row of No 26 gilt or gold bullion embroidery three-sixteenths of an inch wide, the velvet to show in the cross to the width of three-sixteenths of an inch and to have at the points of the intersection alternate rays of No 26 and No 27 gilt or gold bullion embroidery in solid pattern; for Grand Officers, a Templar cross of red silk velvet bordered with a single row of No 26 gilt or gold bullion embroidery three-sixteenths of an inch wide, outside measurements of said cross, including the embroidery, to be one and one-half inches square; for Past Grand Commanders, the same, except the velvet shall be purple. For all, they are to be placed one inch from the bottom of the cross to the bottom of the cuff in the center of each outside sleeve of the uniform coat.

### **SWORD AND SCABBARD**

11) To be a white metal scabbard, with three metal rings, two on the upper mount and one on the middle mount, a straight cross guard, and helmet head; a black handle (*grip*) ornamented with a white metal passion cross one inch in height, inlaid flush; to be 34 to 40 inches long, inclusive of scabbard; sword blade not to exceed nineteen millimeters (about three-quarters of an inch) in width with a scabbard of only sufficient

width to properly sheath it.

Commanders and Past Commanders: The same, except a sword with a gold-plated scabbard, guard, and helmet head; a white plastic or ivory handle etched in black, in front the monogram of the owner and on the opposite side a passion cross with rays.

Grand Officers at or above the rank of Junior Warden and Past Grand Dais Officers: The same, except the Templar cross in place of the passion cross. There shall be no chain from pommel to cross guard upon any sword of any Knight of any rank. The sword and scabbard shall be suspended from a leather, vinyl or nylon sling, of which the visible material shall be black, attached to the belt or worn over the right shoulder.

### **JEWELS**

(12) To be worn from the left shoulder to the left lapel of standard uniform coat beginning at the left shoulder seam the Red Cross or Malta jewel as preferred, honorary jewels ending the highest jewel of office, present office jewel being designated as highest office. The Malta Jewel must be worn on the uniform Coat even if other jewels are not worn immediately above, in the jewel so prescribed, the Masonic Veterans Pin shall be allowed for all those qualify to wear the same .(2005 Passed on floor)

The Grand Encampment Knight Templar Cross of Honor and G Wilbur Bell Excalibur award will overrule all other jewels and will be worn closest to the left lapel in above order. Jewels will be placed in a straight line even with the breast pocket and will not exceed the number that can be placed in the specified area of the uniform coat.

### **CAPE**

(13)

### **FATIGUE COAT**

(14)

### **RATINGS FOR FATIGUE COATS**

(15)

### **FATIGUE CAPS**

(16)

### **CAP CORDS**

(17)

### **CROSS**

(18)

### **CROSSES**

(19)

### **BUTTONS**

(20)

### **MANTLE**

(21) In general, the mantle shall be of the style worn by Medieval Templars and by Members of the Sovereign Great Priories. It shall consist of white material, with hood, reaching to approximately twelve inches from the floor and ornamented as follows:

Members of the Order below the Rank of Commander: The mantle shall be of white; the hood to be lined with silky white material; the Passion Cross in bright red, nine inches in height, on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with white cords with white tassels.

Commanders and Past Commander: The mantle shall have a single red ribbon, one inch wide stitched one half inch from the outer edge; the hood to be lined with similar red material; the Passion Cross in red with gold rays, nine inches in height, on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with red cords with red tassels.

Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers entitled to permanent Rank: The mantle shall have the ribbon of a Past Commander and an additional red ribbon one half inch wide stitched one half inch from said ribbon; the Templar Cross in red nine inches in height, on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with red cords with red tassels.

Grand Commander: The mantle shall have a single red ribbon, two inches wide, stitched one half inch from the outer edge; the hood lined in red with the similar material; the Templar Cross in red nine inches in height on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with red cords and red tassels.

Past Grand Commanders: The mantle shall have a single purple ribbon, two inches wide, stitched one inch from the outer edge; the hood lined in purple in similar material; the Templar cross in purple nine inches in height on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with purple cords with purple tassels.

### **CAP – for Mantle**

(22) The Templar Cap shall follow the design and specifications of the style worn by the Sovereign Great Pories, three inches in depth and very slightly flared at the top.

Members of the Order below the rank of Past Grand Commander: The cap shall be of bright red velvet (or silk) and the cross displayed on the front of the cap shall be appropriate to rank, red Passion Cross for the members below the rank of Commander, red Passion Cross with gold rays for Commanders and Past Commanders; and red Templar Cross for all Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers entitled to permanent rank.

Past Grand Commander: The cap shall be purple velvet (or silk) with purple Templar Cross.

### **COMMANDERY BADGE**

(23) The distinctive badge of a Constituent Commandery shall be worn on the right breast of the mantle, the Badge will be no less than five (5) inches or more than eight (8) inches high, the Badge of the Commandery will be superimposed upon the Malta Cross, or the Malta Cross will be incorporated within the Commandery Badge. The design shall be approved by the Grand Commandery Committee on Jewels and Uniforms. No other ornamentation or Templar jewels or recognitions shall be worn on the mantle, a Jewel of Office may



be worn around the neck suspended from a cord of appropriate color to rank or a silver chain.

### **CLOTHING TO BE WORN WITH CAP AND MANTLE**

(24) All Sir Knights: Black Trousers, white long sleeve shirt, black four in hand tie, black shoes and hose and white cloth gloves.

### **SWORD AND SCABBARD**

(25)

### **UNIFORM MUST BE WORN**

(26) No member shall be admitted to a conclave of his Commandery unless in uniform, which must consist of at least, belt, sword, and fatigue cap, unless excused by vote of his Commandery, or by his Commander. Visiting Knights may be admitted without uniform.

### **SUMMER UNIFORM**

The summer uniform is a short-sleeve white shirt, black tie, it has shoulder identification of your rank, it has a place to have a metal badge, which has the Malta Cross and things that belong as to your rank. It wears a white cap. This uniform is for when you meet in summer and it's hot and you don't have air conditioning, walking in parades, and things like that. Cannot be used in conferrals. (2004 passed on floor)

### **PRELATE'S UNIFORM**

The uniform of the Prelate is the same as the other officers of the line. The robes for council and asylums should not be deviated from and must not be worn in any public display of the order.

### **PRELATE'S ROBES**

The costume for the Prelate shall be as prescribed by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar in Section 253 or elsewhere in its Statutes.

### **RED CROSS ROBES**

There shall be worn in the Jewish council chamber a high priest's robe, and nine or more members' robes. *The High Priest's Robe* shall be so made as to faithfully represent the ancient Jewish high priest's dress; that is to say, white above the waist and blue below the waist, except the extreme bottom which shall be white for the distance of eight to ten inches, with flounce or trimming of white lace; around the lower edge of the blue fabric in the skirt, alternately and equal-distant shall be twelve gilt or gold bells, and twelve knot or woven pomegranates, three each of the colors blue, purple, scarlet and white; an ephod representing gold cloth, trimmed around the edges with blue with gilt lace thereon to be put on over the head and coming about twelve inches below the waist both front and back; around the waist over the ephod in front and underneath it behind, to be worn a girdle, about four inches wide, displaying the colors blue, purple, scarlet and white, woven or embroidered; sleeves of white with blue bands at the wrists. A turban or mitre of white with a band of gilt wire lace fifteen lignes wide embroidered on which in red silk shall be the Hebrew characters that were emblazoned on the front piece of the mitre of the ancient High Priest of Israel. Suspended from the neck by a gilt chain shall be a gold-plated breastplate set with the twelve stones.

*The Members' Robes* shall be of gray or ashen colored material, made plain to button in front and fasten about the waist with a gray worsted cord with tassel. A Jewish turban of roll or twist pattern, of same material as robes; without ornamentation.

*For the Persian Audience Chamber there* shall be seven robes for the officers of the court, and not less than three costumes for Persian guards (at least seven guards' costumes should be used, if possible.)

## *Knights Templar of the State of Illinois*

For Sovereign Master, an under robe of red trimmed with bright colors in embroidery or appliqué (green, purple, yellow), Persian patterns only; conspicuously displayed a blazing sun. A mantle of purple, either in solid color or brocade, trimmed with embroidered or brocaded bands of bright Persian colors. A turban or headdress (no metal crown) of the colors and materials used in robe.

For Prince Chancellor, an under robe of yellow, embroidered or trimmed in green and red in Persian designs, displaying the blazing sun; a mantle of green and red ornamented in bright colors. A headdress or turban of same materials as in robe.

For Prince Master of the Palace, an under robe of green, ornamented in red and yellow; a mantle of red, trimmed in bright colors and displaying the blazing sun. A turban or headdress of corresponding colors.

For Master of Finance, a robe of green, trimmed in yellow and red, Persian designs and effects, showing blazing sun; a short mantle of yellow trimmed in green. A turban or headdress to correspond.

For Master of Dispatches, same general style as for master of finance, except robe of red trimmed in yellow and green, mantle of green. Headdress or turban to correspond.

For Master of Calvary, a tunic of green trimmed in yellow reaching just below the knees, showing blazing sun on the breast, and trimmed in yellow and green. Leggings of gilt-cloth; mantle of green trimmed with red. Turban and headdress to correspond.

For Warden, a robe of orange trimmed in green and red; mantle of green and red. Headdress or turban to correspond.

For Persian Guards, a tunic of green trimmed in yellow reaching just below the knees, and having short sleeves, armlets; hose and strap sandals, spears, shields, and round Persian pot helmet. Blazing sun on breast of tunic and on shields.

One costume should differ slightly from the rest in more elaborate ornamentation, with addition of short shoulder mantle, and should be worn by person having command of the guards. It is recommended that all robes be made to open behind.

### **CANDIDATE'S COSTUME**

There should be used in the work of the several orders, the following equipment for the candidate: Garb of slavery; royal mantle; pilgrim's garb; pilgrim warrior's costume; pilgrim penitent's costume.

Garb of Slavery. Of coarse material, light brown or gray in color; plain in make.

Royal Mantle. A mantle of royal purple, lined with red, made on a yoke, without sleeves; to reach to within ten inches of the floor; trimmed, if desired, or face all around, with gilt or yellow embroidery.

Pilgrim's Garb. Of black material; made on yoke with plain cape reaching nearly to waist; sash or girdle, of same material as rope or worsted cord with tassels: low crown, broad brim, black hat, turned up in front and held by gray shell; scrip of light brown or straw-colored material with straps of same by which to suspend from shoulder; canteen covered with material like scrip, and with strap of same by which to suspend from shoulder. Strap sandals, and rough wooden staff complete the costume.

Pilgrim Warrior's Costume. Of white, trimmed in black, and with black cloak, made long enough to avoid use of leggings; but little ornamentation and of appropriate character. Round helmet of ancient Templar pattern without curtain.

Pilgrim Penitent's Costume. Of white material, made plain, on a yoke, to fasten in front with a sash or girdle at waist, and with red passion cross in center of back.

### **GUARDS AND HERMITS**

Hermits shall wear a costume of cape and cowl design, of coarse brown material, fastening in front and with a rope girdle at the waist. The costume is to be worn with the cowl pulled down over the head and may be worn with a gray (not white) beard.

### **THE UNITED STATES FLAG**

**SECTION 478.** The United States Flag, displayed on the dais in the Asylum, will be a regulation silk Flag, with yellow silk fringe two inches in width, six-foot fly, (as specified in Section 239 Statutes of the Grand Encampment). The staff will be approximately nine feet (ceiling height permitting), including the eagle to surmount it, which will be of gold or gilt metal. Two yellow or gold silk cords with tassels of the same length

as the hoist of the Flag shall be attached to the base of the eagle. If the United States Flag is used with a Standard Guard, whether in or out of the Asylum, it shall be of a size to conform to the size of the Beauseant, six-foot fly, etc., and similar to the Flag displayed on the dais, except with a spearhead instead of an eagle to surmount it, which will be of gold or gilt metal, and without the fringe and the silk cords with tassels. The following dimensions are hereby prescribed:

Hoist portion of the flag .....	39 inches	Fly length of Union.....	30 inches
Fly .....	72 inches	Width of each stripe.....	3 inches
Hoist width of Union .....	21 inches	Width of each star .....	2¼ inches

**(2018)**

**UNIFORM BY-LAWS (UBL)  
FOR CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES**

(See Sec. 459)

**SECTION 1.** The name of this Commandery is \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_, Knights Templar, stationed at \_\_\_\_\_ Illinois.

**THE SEAL**

**SECTION 2.** The seal of this Commandery shall give the name, number and location thereof.

**STATED CONCLAVES**

**SECTION 3.** (a) Stated conclaves of this Commandery shall be held on \_\_\_\_\_ of each month at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, P.M. The Annual Conclave shall be held on the day and hour fixed for the first stated conclave in (May) or (June) (Pick one).

(b) The quorum to conduct business at any stated or special conclave shall be at least five (5) members entitled to vote in this commandery.

(Note \* Special Conclaves -- See Section 65 (b). Constitution of Grand Encampment.)

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**SECTION 4.** The order of business at stated conclaves shall be as follows:

1. Reading of records.
2. Receiving and referring petitions
3. Reports of committees on petitions
4. Balloting.
5. Unfinished business
6. New business.
7. Work.

**CLAIMS**

**SECTION 5.** All bills and claims against the Commandery shall be paid only after their approval by a majority of the Finance Board and by a vote of the Commandery, and then by voucher drawn on the funds of the Commandery signed by the Commander and Recorder and countersigned by the Treasurer.

**APPROPRIATIONS**

All moneys appropriated shall be by a majority vote of the members of the Commandery present at a stated Conclave.

**SECTION 6.** The fiscal year of this Commandery shall be from June 1<sup>st</sup> in each year to May 31<sup>st</sup> of the succeeding year, both dates inclusive.

**SECTION 7.** The Treasurer and Recorder shall make and place their annual reports in the hands of the Finance board prior to the annual conclave.

### **DUTIES OF TREASURER**

**SECTION 8.** The Treasurer shall have in charge all the funds and other fiscal properties belonging to the Commandery, and shall keep a regular and accurate account thereof. The funds shall be kept by him in a responsible bank, designated by the Finance Board in the name of \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery, No. \_\_\_\_\_, K. T., and shall be paid out by him only on order of the Commandery, and then by voucher signed by the Commander and Recorder and by him as Treasurer, and shall preserve such voucher when paid. All fiscal properties shall be deposited by the Treasurer in a safety deposit box in a safety deposit vault, designated by the Finance Board in the name of \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery, No. \_\_\_\_\_, K.T., the expense of such box to be borne by the Commandery which property shall at any time or times be exhibited by him for inspection or audit at the request of the Commander, Finance Board, or Commandery, and in making his annual report show the receipts and disbursements of all funds, the balance on hand, and the number and amount and maturity of all bonds, stocks, and other securities owned by the Commandery, with the rate of interest and date to which interest has been paid. He shall attend all the meetings of the Finance Board with his books, and records, and at the expiration of his of office, deliver all books, records, documents, securities, funds, and property of the Commandery, which may be in his possession, or in his custody, or under his control, to his successor in office forthwith after such successor has been installed.

### **DUTIES OF RECORDER**

**SECTION 9.** The Recorder shall, in addition to the duties imposed upon him by the constitution, laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery collect all fees, dues, and other money coming to the Commandery and immediately pay the same to the Treasurer, taking his receipt therefor; enter upon the records, i.e., the journal from which the records are read, or a cash book (which records or cash book shall always be available for inspection by any member of the Commandery at any reasonable time) the names of all persons from whom he shall have received funds for the account of the Commandery, prior to the close of each conclave, and subsequent to the close of the last preceding conclave, with the amount and purpose of each item of receipt; keep a general ledger in which the assets, liabilities, income and expenses be classified and posted under their proper heads, including dues, fees, rent, interest, uniforms, salaries, banquets and refreshments, tobacco, benevolences, pilgrimages, entertainment; and where all the business transactions of the Commandery will show the accounts open or closed; make the annual report in sufficient detail to disclose the sources of all income and total amount of all orders drawn on the Treasurer; the number and kind of conclaves held; the names and number knighted, admitted, reinstated, deceased, demitted, suspended, expelled and the net membership at the close of the year covered by the report; enter upon the records the annual reports of the treasurer and recorder and the report of the Finance Board of the audit thereof and the recommendations of such board made thereon; and keep a correct registry of all the work of the Commandery, showing all the information contained in each petition, the date, the date of its receipt, the appointment of the committee and the date of its report; the date of election or rejection, the date of receiving the orders and signing the by-laws; notify all petitioners of their election and in case of rejection, see that they are notified by written notice, mailed to their last known address. He shall transmit to the Grand Commandery all reports and statements required by the statutes and regulations. He shall attend the meetings of the Finance board with his books and records when so requested, and shall deliver at the expiration of his term of office all books, documents, correspondence, and other property of the Commandery which may have come to his possession to his successor in office forthwith after such successor has been installed.

### **ANNUAL CONCLAVE**

**SECTION 10.** At the Annual Conclave, and in addition to the officers to be then elected, there shall be

elected a Finance Board composed of five members of this Commandery; provided, not more than three of the officers elected or appointed shall be upon said Finance board, nor shall the Treasurer or Recorder be eligible to election to said Board.

## APPOINTMENTS

The Commander elect shall, prior to his own installation, appoint a Standard Bearer, Sword Bearer, Warder, Sentinel, Guards, Hermits, and Color Bearer, who shall be installed with the officers elected.

## THE FINANCE BOARD

### SECTION 11.

A. At the Annual Conclave, in addition to the officers to be then elected, there shall be elected a Finance Board composed of *(insert a number that is at least three and not more than five)* members of this Commandery; provided, at least one of those elected shall not be one of the officers elected or appointed, the Treasurer and Recorder shall be eligible to election to said Board when it is composed of five, and the quorum for said Board to act shall be three, whether it is composed of five or fewer.

B. The Finance Board shall organize by selecting a chairman and a secretary; have general advisory supervision of the business affairs of the Commandery, reporting to the Commandery from time to time such recommendations, as in the judgment of such Board, shall be for the information and good of the Commandery; review the bills and claims against the Commandery prior to their presentation for payment; cause to be made annually by a competent accountant or an audit committee, a careful, complete, and correct review of all the records, journals, books, vouchers, papers, accounts, and annual reports of the Treasurer and of the Recorder for the last preceding fiscal year, generally conforming to the similar corresponding requirements for Lodges by the Grand Lodge of Illinois; report the findings of such review in detail to the Commandery at the Annual Conclave; and report to the Commandery the amount of the bond of the Treasurer and of the Recorder, the surety thereon, and the form of such bond. **(2018)**

## FEE – MEMBERSHIP

**SECTION 12.** The fee for membership shall be \_\_\_\_\_ Dollars, which shall accompany the petition, and should the applicant be rejected, the fee shall be promptly returned to him.

## FEE – ORDERS

**SECTION 13.** The fees for conferring the orders in this Commandery shall be \_\_\_\_\_ Dollars, which in all cases shall be paid before the Order of the Red Cross is conferred. At least \_\_\_\_\_ Dollars of the fees must accompany the petition and should the applicant be rejected, said sum shall be returned to him.

## DUES

**SECTION 14.** Every member of this Commandery, except honorary members, life members, and 50-year members, shall pay to the recorder the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ Dollars as annual dues, payable in advance on June 1<sup>st</sup> of each year; provided that newly admitted or demitted members shall be chargeable only with the monthly *pro rata* of the annual dues covering that portion of the year during which their actual membership continues.

## DELINQUENTS

**SECTION 15.** At the first stated conclave in September of each year, the recorder shall report to the Commandery the names of all members in arrears for dues, when, if not excused by a majority vote of the members present, the Commander shall order a final notice sent to each of them, addressed to their last known residence, to appear at the next or a subsequent stated conclave and show cause why they should not be

suspended for non-payment of dues.

Thereafter subsequent procedure and final action shall be in accord with the provisions of Section 460 of the Statutes of the Grand Commandery of Illinois.

## **LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

**SECTION 16.** Any member of this Commandery not indebted for dues or otherwise, may upon application at any stated Conclave and upon a majority vote of the members present, become a life member, by paying the sum not less than 20 times yearly dues to the Commandery. (2014)

## **LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND**

**SECTION 17.** The funds arising from life membership shall constitute a "Life Membership Fund" to be kept intact under the charge of the Finance Board, and securely invested by them, and only the interest thereon may be used from time to time; provided that at the death of a life member the amount paid by him for life membership may be released from the life membership fund and be used for general purposes.

## **INVESTMENTS AND CONTINGENT FUND**

**SECTION 18.** Monies of the Commandery heretofore or hereafter invested in bonds, loans or securities can be disposed of before maturity only in the following manner, to-wit:

A proposition in writing, setting forth the reasons and purpose for the sale of any of the securities of the Commandery, shall be submitted and presented to the Commandery at a stated conclave at least four weeks previous to its consideration.

A notice shall be sent to all members of the Commandery of the proposal to use all or any portion of the securities of the Commandery at least two (2) weeks prior to the stated conclave at which said proposal is to be acted upon.

It shall be necessary for a majority of the members present to vote in favor of the proposition before it can be adopted.

Any money which may be collected on maturity of any bond or investment shall be reinvested by the Commandery on recommendation of the Finance Board and by a majority vote of the members present when such action is taken.

## **ADDITIONS TO BYLAWS**

**SECTION 19.** Additions to these bylaws must be offered at a stated conclave; notice of the proposed addition and the time at which action upon it will be taken, must be mailed to all members of the Commandery at least five days prior to the date of such proposed action. Every addition will require the consent of a majority of the members present when the vote is taken for its adoption, at which time an amendment to the addition, if germane to the subject, may be acted upon without further notice being given to the members. If adopted, the addition or additions shall not become effective until approved by the Grand Commander or Grand Commandery.

## **STANDING RESOLUTIONS**

### **HONORARY PAST COMMANDER (1959)**

WHEREAS, the title of Past Commander implies that the holder of the title has served a constituent Commandery as its presiding officer and as such has performed all of the duties incumbent to that office, and

WHEREAS, the title is one of great honor and respect because of the service to the Order required to achieve it, and

WHEREAS, the conferring of the title "Honorary Past Commander" without the recipient having performed the duties of a Commander would tend to degrade the title of "Past Commander" and

WHEREAS, the conferring of the title of "Honorary Past Commander" would remove some of the

incentive for a member to “regularly go through the chairs” and acquire the title of Past Commander by honest effort and service to the Order:

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Grand Commandery of Illinois go on record as opposing the practice of creating “Honorary Past Commander” and that some other means be created to honor those who have rendered valuable and timely service to the Order

### **RANK OF PAST COMMANDER TERM OF SERVICE (1966)**

RESOLVED: That the phrase “term of service” (Sec. 235 G.E.S.) as a qualifying requirement for the title “Past Commander” shall be understood to include:

1. Completion of the full term of service as Commander, with a record of regular attendance as presiding Commander at the stated Conclaves of his Commandery (Sec. 235 G.E.S. – Sec. 431 G.C.S. III.)
2. Faithful discharge of the duties assigned by the statute and established custom to the office of Commander. (Installation Ceremony)
3. A record of attendance at the Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Illinois during his term of service as Commander. (Sec. 67 G.E.C.)

Objection to the retention and use of the title “Past Commander,” based on non-compliance with these requirements, may be filed with the Grand Commander by any member of this Grand Commandery not less than 30 days prior to the Annual Grand Conclave next following the completion of a Commander’s term of service. If found warranted, the Grand Commander may, at his discretion, and subject to the approval of the Grand Commandery, order the title withheld from the Sir Knight in the official records of the Grand Commandery.

### **RITUAL CONTROL (1965)**

The ritualistic materials of the Orders of the Red Cross, Malta and Knight Templar are under the sole supervision of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, and may be issued and published by it alone. (Sec. 3, 231, 232 Grand Encampment Statutes)

The Grand Commandery of Illinois through exclusive right of purchase and ownership shall maintain a registration and control of all rituals leased to Grand Officers, and constituent Commanderies within this Grand Jurisdiction.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF RITUALS TO OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY (1965)**

The Grand Recorder shall lease one Ritual to each of the following officers of the grand Commandery.

Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Warder; and upon request, to Past Grand Commanders.

The Grand Recorder shall obtain an official receipt from each Grand Officer receiving a ritual, a new receipt to be signed each year. These Rituals to be presented each year at the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery and returned to the Grand Recorder at the termination of the Officer’s status as a Grand Officer, or upon resignation or death.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF RITUALS TO CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES (1965)**

The Grand Recorder shall lease and register eleven numbered rituals to each constituent Commandery.

*Knights Templar of the State of Illinois*

Each constituent Commandery shall maintain and regularly account for eleven Rituals, one for each of the following officers: Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Prelate, Recorder, Standard Bearer, Sword Bearer, Warder, and Sentinel.

An official receipt, as furnished by the Grand recorder, shall be taken from each officer entitled to a Ritual at the time of installation, which receipt shall be returned to the Grand Recorder by the Recorder. An acknowledgment record of possession shall also be spread upon the records of the Commandery. All Rituals shall be present at the time of the annual installation of Officers (Sec. 144 Grand Encampment Statutes); and at the Annual Inspection.

Additional Rituals leased and registered to constituent Commanderies for use in ritualistic work shall be under the same controls as required for Officers' rituals.

Constituent commanderies may obtain new rituals (additional or replacement) at a charge of \$6.00 each. Orders must be accompanied by payment in advance, and shall be directed to the Grand Recorder over the seal of the Commandery.

**CERTIFICATE OF LOST OR DAMAGED RITUAL (1965)**

\_\_\_\_\_ A.D. 20\_\_

To: \_\_\_\_\_,

Grand Commander  
The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois

The undersigned Recorder of \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_  
K.T. located at \_\_\_\_\_ under the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Illinois states that  
ritual No. \_\_\_\_\_ of the Orders of the Red Cross, Malta, and Temple, promulgated by the Grand  
Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and the property of the Grand Commandery  
of Illinois was, according to the last available record, issued to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
of \_\_\_\_\_  
(name of Commandery/Grand Commandery Officer)

Said ritual has been lost or damaged and the following investigation has been made:

**MAKE FULL AND COMPLETE STATEMENT PERTAINING TO THE LOSS OR DAMAGE.**

1. Name of last known possessor: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Full explanation as to why it cannot be produced, or how it was damaged: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. A most diligent effort has been made to recover and repossess the ritual and it is my opinion that the ritual is lost beyond recovery.

The above statements are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of party to whom issued if available)

If later found, the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Illinois will be promptly so advised.

Witness my hand and seal of office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D. 20\_\_

at \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_



Recorder

(SEAL)

To: Grand Recorder:  
The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois

Approved.

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Grand Commander

### **PUBLIC APPEARANCE (1970)**

WHEREAS: Sec. 62 (a) G. E. Constitution declares the Order of Knights Templar to be a uniformed Order, and

WHEREAS: It is the considered opinion of this grand Commandery that the public image which a Commandery should present, display, maintain, and enhance is that of a uniformed, disciplined fraternity of Knights of the temple,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That no Commandery of this Grand Jurisdiction shall form and/or appear in public for escort duty, guard duty, parade, or in formation, unless clothed in the uniform prescribed by this Grand Commandery.

### **TREASURER-RECORDER**

WHEREAS: The elected offices and officers of Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer, and constituent Commandery Treasurer and Recorder, are by Statute and Law, separate and assigned by Statute and Law, to inter-related, but necessarily distinctly separate duties and responsibilities, this Grand Jurisdiction as a standing policy, does not approve of, nor permit adoption of Bylaws for consolidation of these offices into the one office of "Grand Recorder" and/or "Recorder.

**INDEX TO THE STATUES OF  
THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF ILLINOIS**

**“Sec. 402. The Constitution and Statues of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America is hereby adopted and made a part of the Statues of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois”**

For information on subject matter not covered by Illinois Statutes, refer to Grand Encampment Statutes.

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