

**GRAND COMMANDERY
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR**



**STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEADQUARTERS OF**

**Sean P. McBride
Grand Commander**

**13877 Murray Clark Road
Danville, IL 61834**

May 15, 2026

GENERAL ORDER NO. 2- McBride

To the Officers and Members of the Grand and the Constituent Commanderies of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois.

170th ANNUAL CONCLAVE

The 170th Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois will be held in the City of Springfield, Illinois on Thursday, July 16, 2026. The Grand Commandery will convene at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, 701 East Adams Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, at 8:30 A.M. for the opening session and will continue until business is concluded with a recess for lunch. The Election of Officers will be called for on this day at an hour to be set by vote of the Grand Commandry immediately after it is convened,

HEADQUARTERS

Headquarters for the Grand Commander, the Grand Recorder, and all Committees will be the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, 701 East Adams Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701. The Credentials Committee will be open on Thursday, July 16, 2026, between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M. for the registration of Grand Commandery Officers, Past Grand Commanders, Commanders, Generalissimos, Captain Generals, Past Commanders, and all Sir Knights of Constituent Commanderies. Any Sir Knight holding a proxy shall present it at the time of registration. All Illinois Sir Knights will be required to show their current Dues Card at the time of registration. *REGISTRATION WILL CLOSE AT 10:00*

A.M. SHARP.

ATTENDANCE AT CONCLAVE

It is the duty of the Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of each Constituent Commandery to be present at the Grand Conclave and such attendance is required by Section 67 of the Grand Encampment Code. Sir Knight Don J. Cowart, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, is the Attendance Officer for this Grand Conclave and as such will report on attendance of all Dais Officers of Constituent Commanderies.

PROXIES

In the event the Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of a Constituent Commandery is unable to attend the Grand Commandery Conclave in person, each may appoint as their proxy, a member in good standing of the same Constituent Commandery. Such proxy does not by virtue of the appointment become a member of this Grand Commandery. The Grand Recorder has mailed three proxy forms to each Commandery, which must be filled out, signed by the officer appointing the proxy and bear the seal of the Commandery, and thus, the proxy should be prepared before you leave home. Note that each Sir Knight may cast only one ballot: a Sir Knight already entitled to a ballot may not vote more than once by virtue of being assigned a proxy as shown below under VOTING. The proxy must be filed with the Credentials Committee at the time of registration

ROLL CALL

There will be a roll call by the Grand Recorder of the Grand Representatives from Illinois to other Grand Jurisdictions.

VOTING

All Grand Commandery members in good standing, present in person or by proxy SHALL HAVE ONLY ONE VOTE. A current member of the Grand Commandery holding a proxy for another member of the Grand Commandery shall have only one vote. For a Sir Knight to be eligible to vote, the Sir Knight shall be a member of at least one Constituent Commandery that is not in arrears in payments due to the Grand Commandery.

UNIFORMS

Full Templar Uniform as described in Section 477 of the Grand Commandery Statutes, including black shoes, socks, white gloves, and either Chapeau or Military Style Naval Dress Cap with a class A uniform coat, or a Cap and Mantel, shall be worn at the convening of the Grand Conclave. Swords will only be required by Grand Officers and those participating as escorts. Summer Uniforms are permitted for any session after lunch.

HOST COMMANDERY

The Host Commandery for this 170th Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois will be Urbana Commandery No. 16. Urbana Commandery No. 16, and the Conclave Committee have planned many activities for the visiting Sir Knights and their Ladies; we hope everyone will take advantage and have a memorable time.

HOUSING AND GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS

All requests for room reservations must be made direct to the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, 701 East Adams Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, the Grand Commandery Website: www.kt-il.org will have all details on how to make your reservations when available. Meal reservations will also be made online at: www.kt-il.org PLEASE INCLUDE PAYMENT WITH THE FORM. ALL MEALS WILL REQUIRE A TICKET.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

All Committee Chairman shall submit their report to the Grand Recorder, 1700 E. Washington St., Clinton, IL 61727 no later than JUNE 25, 2026. A Preliminary Report of Proceedings will be printed. The Annual Meeting of the Illinois Knights Templar Home will be held on Thursday, July 16, 2026, during the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery

GRAND SESSIONS

This year the York Rite Sessions will again include all three bodies: The Grand Chapter, The Grand Council, and the Grand Commandery of Illinois. The sessions will start with the Grand Commandery on Thursday July 16th, followed by the Grand Chapter on Friday July 17th, and ending with the Grand Council on Saturday 18th. For further information about sessions and schedules go to the Grand Commandery Web-site at kt-il.org click on the 2026 Sessions, there you will find all the information required.

This Order shall be read at the head of the lines at the first Stated Conclave after its receipt and a record made in the Minutes.

Sean P. McBride

Sean P. McBride
Grand Commander

