

THE GRAND COUNCIL
Allied Masonic Degrees

Of The
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INC.

JOE R. MANNING, JR
SOVEREIGN GRAND MASTER
2012



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Dear Members of the Grand Council,

Earlier this year, Sovereign Grand Master Glen Cook asked me to lead an effort to republish our Constitution, incorporating amendments adopted, but not yet integrated into the document, which was last published in 2015. While the document was last published in 2015, it appears to have not been updated since 2005. The task quickly became more complicated with the discovery of numerous:

- Scriveners errors
- Grammatical errors
- Printing omissions
- Amendments not in proper form
- Amendments loosely written out in committee reports
- Amending one section, but not amending same topic in another section.

With the wonderful assistance of Grand Secretary Clyde H. Schoolfield, Jr., each of the above problems was tackled. The following summarizes our actions:

- Obvious errors were corrected.
- A couple sections, which were virtually incomprehensible, were reformatted, using the same words.
- Amendments in committee reports, even though not properly drafted, were inserted, if the committee report had been adopted by the Grand Council.
- Allowing Red Branch of Eri to have its own Article, similar to Royal Ark Mariners, Secret Monitor and Scarlet Cord.
- Reserving the Appendices for such things passing fees, which periodically need to change, due to inflation, etc.
- Great care was taken to not change any law.

While we are still operating under the version of the Constitution last printed in 2015, I have asked Sovereign Grand Master Cook to post this republished version on our website. These next several months will allow all members to review the republished version prior to the next meeting of our Grand Council. At our February 2021 meeting, after satisfying ourselves that all Grand Council adopted amendments have been incorporated and no law has been changed, the voting delegates can consider substituting this republished version for the 2015 published version.

I want to thank PSGM William Miller for his great assistance in the early stages of the project. We want to thank Sovereign Grand Master Cook for initiating this project.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joe R. Manning, Jr." The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

JOE R. MANNING, JR.

**CONSTITUTION
OF THE
GRAND COUNCIL
OF THE
ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**As adopted on April 16, 1932,
with all subsequent amendments
adopted through February 8, 2020.**

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ARTICLE I: NAME

Section 1. This Grand Council shall be known by the name and style of “The Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America,” hereinafter referred to as “The Grand Council.”

Section 2. Be it remembered that on August 5, 1933, the Grand Council took as its date of formation January 14, 1892, since this date was the beginning of the Allied Masonic Degrees in America with the formation of the Sovereign College of Allied Masonic and Christian Degrees at Richmond, Virginia, and that on April 16, 1932, the subsequent establishment of a Grand Council of Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America occurred in Salisbury, North Carolina, and that the union of the two bodies was drawn up and entered into July 18, 1933, and was ratified by the Grand Council August 5 1933, and was ratified by the Sovereign College at Norway, Maine August 24, 1933, and became effective as of September 7, 1933.

ARTICLE II: DEGREES

Section 1: The Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America shall control and superintend the following grades:

- A. Royal Ark Mariner
 - (i) Installed Commander Noah
- B. Order of the Secret Monitor, including:
 - (i) Brotherhood of David and Jonathan – Induction
 - (ii) Brotherhood of David and Jonathan – Admission of a Prince
 - (iii) Installed Supreme Ruler
- C. Knight of Constantinople
- D. Saint Lawrence the Martyr
 - (i) Installed Worthy Master
- E. Architect
- F. Grand Architect
- G. Grand Tyler of Solomon
- H. Superintendent
- I. Master of Tyre
- J. Excellent Master
- K. Installed Sovereign Master
- L. Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri and Appendant Orders, including:
 - (i) Man-at-Arms
 - (ii) Esquire
 - (iii) Knight
 - (iv) Knight Commander
 - (v) Knight Grand Cross
 - (vi) Knight Supreme Grand Cross

M. Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord, including:

- (i) 1st Grade – Ostiarius or Doorkeeper
- (ii) 2nd Grade – Lector
- (iii) 3rd Grade – Fellow or Healer & Exorcist
- (iv) Presidents Ceremony
- (v) 4th Grade – Councillor
- (vi) 5th Grade – Keeper of the Hidden Secret
- (vii) 6th Grade – Prince of Jerusalem

N. Ye Antiente Order of Corks

Section 2. The Grand Council shall have the power to take under its direction any other Masonic Order approved by the Grand Council and which is not already under the control of a regularly recognized body in the United States.

Section 3. All members of the Allied Masonic Degrees are in possession of all degrees and grades under the control of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America by virtue of membership in a Constituent Council; provided however, that:

- A. The grades in Sections 1.B.(iii), 1.D.(i), and 1.K are reserved for those elected as Sovereign Master of a Constituent Council.
- B. The grade in Section 1.A.(i) is reserved for those elected as Sovereign Master of a Constituent Council or Commander Noah of a Royal Ark Mariner Lodge.
- C. The grades in Section 1.L (Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri) are governed by the provisions of Article XX.
- D. The grades in Section 1.M (Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord) are governed by the provisions of Article XXII.
- E. The grade in Section 1.N is reserved for those who have received the degree in a Cellar of the Order of the Corks.

ARTICLE III: POWERS

Section 1: The Grand Council possesses the supreme superintending authority and has the inherent right of enacting laws and regulation for the Order, and of altering, repealing and abrogating them. It also has the power of investigating, regulating and deciding all matters relative to the Order, and of erasing Councils and trying and expelling members.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP OF THE GRAND COUNCIL

Section 1. The Grand Council shall consist of the Grand Officers as listed in Article VI, together with the several Past Grand Officers, Sovereign Masters, Past Sovereign Masters, Wardens, Treasurers, and Secretaries of the several Constituent Councils, each of whom shall be entitled to one vote only.

Section 2. All members of the Grand Council must be members of Constituent Councils.

ARTICLE V: MEETINGS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL

- Section 1.** The annual meeting of the Grand Council shall be held at such time and place as may be determined by the Grand Council.
- Section 2.** In case of emergency, the Sovereign Grand Master, with the approval of a majority of the members of the Board of General Purposes, shall have the authority to change the time and place of the annual meeting.
- Section 3.** The Sovereign Grand Master shall have the authority to call special meetings of the Grand Council at such time and place as he may deem expedient.
- Section 4.** Except for the institution of a new Council, notice of special meetings shall be given to the Officers of the Grand Council, Past Sovereign Grand Masters and the Secretaries of the Constituent Councils by mail at least fourteen (14) days before the meeting and shall specify the date, hour and place of the meeting and shall set forth the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is being called.
- Section 5.** At any annual or special meeting of the Grand Council, representatives of at least ten percent (10%) of the active Councils must be present in order to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, except at a special meeting to constitute a new Council.
- Section 6.** Every member of the Order, not otherwise qualified to attend, while not entitled to vote, may be admitted to seats in the Grand Council, and with the permission of the Sovereign Grand Master, may speak upon any question submitted to the Grand Council.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL

- Section 1.** The Officers of the Grand Council shall consist of the following:
- A. Sovereign Grand Master
 - B. Deputy Grand Master
 - C. Senior Grand Warden
 - D. Junior Grand Warden
 - E. Grand Secretary
 - F. Grand Treasurer
 - G. Senior Grand Deacon
 - H. Junior Grand Deacon
 - I. Grand Chaplain
 - J. Grand Director of Ceremonies
 - K. Grand Marshal
 - L. Grand Tyler
 - M. Grand Superintendent
 - N. Grand Lecturer
 - O. Grand Director of Music

ARTICLE VII: ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL

- Section 1.** At its annual meeting, the Grand Council shall elect a Sovereign Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Deacons, and a member of the Board of General Purposes.
- Section 2.** A majority vote shall be necessary to elect.
- Section 3.** The elected Officers terms of office shall continue until their successors are elected and installed.
- Section 4.** The Sovereign Grand Master shall appoint the remaining Officers and their terms of office shall terminate at his pleasure.
- Section 5.** Only Sovereign Masters or Past Sovereign Masters, in good standing, shall be eligible to hold office in the Grand Council.
- Section 6.** All Officers, both elected and appointed, shall be installed, each in his own proper person, by the Sovereign Grand Master, or by a Past Sovereign Grand Master, Sovereign Master, or Past Sovereign Master, either in the Grand Council or in a Constituent Council as soon as practicable after election or appointment.
- Section 7.** In the event of a vacancy in the elected or appointed Grand Officers, the Sovereign Grand Master shall have the power to advance the remaining Officers and to fill any vacancy created by such advancement with the approval of the Board of General Purposes.
- Section 8.** The Sovereign Grand Master shall have the authority to appoint a Grand Superintendent as may be needed or required in each state. The Grand Superintendent shall be the direct representative of the Sovereign Grand Master in that state or for the number of Constituent Councils assigned and shall, as may be required, inspect the labors of the Constituent Councils under his supervision, convey fraternal greetings from the Sovereign Grand Master and the Grand Council, assist the Grand Council and its Officers, and the Constituent Councils and their Officers by giving advice, assistance and recommendations and perform such other duties as may be specifically delegated by the Sovereign Grand Master or the Grand Council. The Grand Superintendent shall from time to time, as needed or requested, file written reports with the Sovereign Grand Master, with copies to the Grand Secretary, but no less than once each year, at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VIII: DUTIES AND PREROGATIVES OF OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL

- Section 1.** The Sovereign Grand Master shall have the authority to convene any Constituent Council under the jurisdiction of the Grand Council, to preside therein himself, or by deputy, to inspect proceedings, and to require conformity to the rules of the Grand Council.
- Section 2.** The Sovereign Grand Master shall have the authority to suspend any Officer of the Grand Council or Constituent Council from office, but in no case shall such suspension affect the standing of the Officer or his membership in the Allied

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Masonic Degrees. The Sovereign Grand Master shall report his action in detail at the following annual meeting of the Grand Council.

- Section 3.** The Sovereign Grand Master shall possess the prerogative of investing any Brother, whom he may deem worthy of the honor and who is in possession of the prerequisite degrees, with the Allied Masonic Degrees at sight.
- Section 4.** A Charter cannot be forfeited without the authority of the Grand Council; however, the Sovereign Grand Master will revoke the Charter of a Constituent Council that has not submitted an Annual Return, nor communicated with the Grand Secretary as to the reason for the delinquency for two years.
- Section 5.** All certificates, dues cards, forms, diplomas, etc, issued by Constituent Councils shall have affixed the seal of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America and signature of the Grand Secretary. All other documents are invalid.
- Section 6.** At each annual meeting, the Sovereign Grand Master shall make a written report to the Grand Council of his official acts and doings, and such other matters as he may deem necessary for the consideration of the Grand Council.
- Section 7.** Any subject that is not provided for in the Constitution of the Grand Council shall be governed by the Sovereign Grand Master, with the approval of the Board of General Purposes, and reported to the next annual meeting of the Grand Council.
- Section 8.** The Deputy Grand Master, in the absence or disability of the Sovereign Grand Master, shall possess all the powers and privileges of the Sovereign Grand Master, except that the power to grant Dispensations shall be vested in the Sovereign Grand Master only.
- Section 9.** The duties of the various Officers of the Grand Council shall be such as usually appertain to officers similar to those of the Grand Council.
- Section 10.** The Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary are empowered to pay all expenses of this Grand Council between meetings, which expenses shall be presented for ratification as a portion of the Annual Report of the Grand Treasurer.

ARTICLE IX: BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES

- Section 1.** The Board of General Purposes shall be an advisory board with whom the Sovereign Grand Master may consult when he so desires.
- Section 2.** The Board of General Purposes shall constitute a Committee of Doings of Grand Officers, to whom the reports of the Sovereign Grand Master, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary shall be referred without motion. They shall distribute the various topics in these reports to the proper Committees of the Grand Council.
- Section 3.** The Board of General Purposes shall be composed of three members.

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- Section 4.** At each annual meeting of the Grand Council, one member shall be elected to the Board of General Purposes to serve for a term of three years, or until his successor shall be elected; such term to begin on the day of election.
- Section 5.** In case of vacancy on the Board of General Purposes, by death or otherwise, the Sovereign Grand Master, with the approval of the Board of General Purposes, shall fill the vacancy until the next annual meeting of the Grand Council.
- Section 6.** The Board shall meet upon the call of the President or any two of its members.
- Section 7.** The senior member of the Board shall be President.
- Section 8.** The Board of General Purposes shall have the power to call special meetings of the Grand Council for the consideration of the removal of any Grand Officers for cause.

ARTICLE X: COMMITTEES OF THE GRAND COUNCIL

- Section 1.** The following Committees shall be appointed by the Sovereign Grand Master:
- A. Jurisprudence
 - B. Finance
 - C. Credentials
 - D. Necrology
 - E. Time and Place of Annual Meeting
 - F. Publication
 - G. Archives and History
- Section 2.** Such other Committees as may be necessary may be appointed by the Sovereign Grand Master or by the Grand Council.

ARTICLE XI: FINANCE

- Section 1.** Each petition for a Charter to form a Constituent Council shall be accompanied by a contribution of \$50.00.
- Section 2.** Each Constituent Council shall contribute the sum of \$10.00 annually to the Grand Council for each member on its roll at Low Twelve on the 31st of December, such contribution to be forwarded to the Grand Secretary at the time of making the Annual Report.
- Section 3.** Each Constituent Council shall contribute the sum of \$7.00 to the Grand Council for each Brother invested with the Allied Masonic Degrees. This contribution shall be forwarded at the time of making the Annual Report.
- Section 4.** Each Constituent Council shall contribute the sum of \$2.00 to the Grand Council for each Brother invested as an Installed Sovereign Master. This contribution shall be forwarded with Annual Report.
- Section 5.** The Fiscal Year of the Grand Council and of each Constituent Council shall be the calendar year.

Section 6. The compensation of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary shall be such as may be determined by the Grand Council.

ARTICLE XII: FORMATION OF CONSTITUENT COUNCILS

Section 1. A Charter for a Constituent Council may be granted by the Sovereign Grand Master provided the following conditions are met:

- A. Upon request, the Grand Secretary shall issue to a member in good standing in a Constituent Council the form required to request a Charter to form a new Council.
- B. Five (5) Royal Arch Masons, at least one of whom must be an A.M.D. member, must sign the form requesting a Charter.
- C. The signers must be certified by this, or another, A.M.D. member, as being in good standing in a Royal Arch Chapter.
- D. A set of By-Laws must be adopted.
- E. The By-Laws, together with the signed request form, the certification, and the fee specified in Article XI, Section 1, must be sent to the Grand Secretary.

Section 2. The Officer named as Sovereign Master of a new Council need not have served as a Warden of a Council, but he must be an A.M.D. member.

Section 3. The request for Charter shall include the proposed name of the new Council, which shall not be that of a living person.

Section 4. If a Charter to form a new Council is granted by the Sovereign Grand Master, he shall arrange with the Sovereign Master for the constitution of the new Council.

Section 5. Prior to the institution of a new Council, those Royal Arch Masons who have not previously received the Allied Masonic Degrees shall be invested at sight by the Sovereign Grand Master or by the authority of the Sovereign Grand Master, by the member commissioned to constitute the new Council. Members of a new Council invested with the Allied Masonic Degrees at sight shall not automatically become members of the Grand Master's Council.

Section 6. In the event that the charter of a Constituent Council is suspended, revoked or surrendered, or membership in the Council decreases to less than five, or the Council ceases to function as prescribed by this Constitution:

- A. The original and authentic charter, in custody of the Secretary, must be returned to the Grand Secretary.
- B. All residual funds of the Council shall be returned by check to the Grand Secretary, payable to the Grand Council. Any legitimate outstanding debts of the Council, when verified, will be settled by the Grand Council.
- C. A roster of the members of the Council, with current addresses, shall be sent to the Grand Secretary to facilitate the invitation and transfer of members to other Councils as desired and to minimize loss of good standing.

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- D. All Rituals, Annals, Miscellanea and Annual Returns shall be returned to the Grand Secretary.
- E. All degree paraphernalia, certificates, jewels, aprons, Bibles and any other physical items applicable to the Allied Masonic Degrees shall be returned to the Grand Secretary.
- F. The above actions shall be completed within thirty days after the date the Council is declared inoperative by the Sovereign Grand Master.

ARTICLE XIII: MEMBERSHIP IN CONSTITUENT COUNCILS

- Section 1.** Membership in the Allied Masonic Degrees shall be by invitation only to Royal Arch Masons in good standing.
- Section 2.** Proposals for membership in a Constituent Council may be received and acted upon at either a Regular or Special Meeting.
- Section 3.** A member wishing to terminate his membership in a Council can do so only by written resignation, by Suspension for Non-Payment of Dues, or by failure to attend at least one Council meeting each year, for a period of two years, unless excused by the Council.
- Section 4.** No Constituent Council shall consist of more than twenty-seven members; provided however, this shall not apply to Grand Master's Council.
- Section 5.** A Brother may be a member of more than one Council; provided, however, that he must be reported annually to the Grand Council and the annual contribution made on him by all of the Councils of which he is a member. Councils other than the first the Brother joined shall report him as a Plural member and he shall not count against the maximum membership of twenty-seven in that Council. Plural membership in Grand Master's Council is not permitted except as provided in Article XVIII. A Brother suspended or expelled from one Council is automatically suspended or expelled from all Councils in which he holds membership.
- Section 6.** A Constituent Council may request Emeritus membership status for a member of not less than seven years membership in that Council. Provided however, that such status may be requested for only two members between annual meetings of the Grand Council, and that not more than seven Emeritus members may be on the rolls of a Constituent Council at any time. In the event a member becomes permanently disabled and/or unable to participate, the Council may request Emeritus membership status for him regardless of the period of membership.
- Section 7.** A request for Emeritus membership status must:
 - A. Detail the reasons for which it is made.
 - B. Be approved by unanimous consent of all members of the Constituent Council present at the meeting authorizing it.
 - C. Be signed by the Sovereign Master and the Secretary of the Constituent Council.
 - D. Be addressed to the Grand Secretary.

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E. The Grand Secretary shall review the request ensuring items A thru D of Section 7 have been complied with, notify the Council submitting the request that Emeritus membership status is granted and that the Emeritus member is entitled to an Emeritus member dues card, and report the status change to the Grand Council.

Section 8. Emeritus members are subject to per capita dues and assessments of the Grand Council and shall be included in the Annual Report of the Constituent Council.

Section 9. Should a member of a Constituent Council remove his residence to such a distance as might interfere with participation in its activities, the following actions are permitted:

- A. The member may request a transfer to Grand Master's Council.
- B. The member may request a transfer to a Constituent Council having jurisdiction in his new location, provided he has been invited.
- C. His Constituent Council may apply for his transfer to Grand Master's Council, after written notification of the request for transfer has been made to the member and his written consent obtained.

In any case, the transfer shall be processed as follows:

- A. The request shall detail the reasons for which it is made.
- B. The request shall be approved by unanimous consent of all members of the Constituent Council present at the meeting authorizing it.
- C. The request shall be signed by the Sovereign Master and the Secretary of the Constituent Council.
- D. The request shall be addressed to the Grand Council and contain the complete name and address of the Brother being transferred.
- E. The request shall be presented at the following annual meeting of the Grand Council.
- F. The Grand Secretary shall review the request ensuring items A thru E of Section 9 have been completed, then notify the Council submitting the request that the transfer is authorized, and report the transfer to the Grand Council.
- G. Submit the name and address of the Brother being transferred to the Secretary of Grand Master's Council if the member is transferring to said Council.

Section 10. Membership in good standing in a Lodge of Master Masons and a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons is necessary to maintain membership in a Constituent Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees.

Section 11. A member ceases to be such by resignation, suspension or expulsion. Any member who ceases to be a member of a pre-requisite body, by voluntary non-affiliation for a period greater than six months, or by suspension or expulsion, shall automatically forfeit his membership in his Constituent Council. If, within a

period of six months from such action, the member shall be restored to good standing in all pre-requisite bodies, he shall be automatically restored to membership in a Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees. After the six-month period, he may be restored to membership by a unanimous vote of the members present at a regular meeting, if a vacancy exists.

ARTICLE XIV: MEETINGS OF CONSTITUENT COUNCILS

- Section 1.** Three members of a Constituent Council, one of whom must have authority to open the Council, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
- Section 2.** A Constituent Council which fails to hold a meeting for a period of two years or fails to work in conformity with the Constitution of the Grand Council shall be notified that, unless a meeting is held or the non-conformity is corrected within thirty (30) days, its Charter will be suspended until such time as the requirements, in the opinion of the Sovereign Grand Master, have been met.

ARTICLE XV: OFFICERS OF CONSTITUENT COUNCILS

- Section 1.** The Officers of a Constituent Council shall be styled and designated:
- A. Sovereign Master
 - B. Senior Warden
 - C. Junior Warden
 - D. Treasurer
 - E. Secretary
 - F. Senior Deacon
 - G. Junior Deacon
 - H. Chaplain
 - I. Tyler
- Section 2.** At the discretion of the Council, the Offices of Treasurer and Secretary may be combined.
- Section 3.** The duties of the various Officers of a Constituent Council shall be such as usually appertain to similar officers.

ARTICLE XVI: ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF CONSTITUENT COUNCILS

- Section 1.** Every Constituent Council shall annually, on the day of meeting named in its By-Laws for that purpose, elect its Sovereign Master, Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary.
- Section 2.** Any Officer, other than the Sovereign Master shall be eligible to hold, in addition to his line office, the Offices of Treasurer or Secretary, or both.
- Section 3.** Except by special Dispensation, no Brother may be elected Sovereign Master unless he shall have served as a Warden.
- Section 4.** A majority vote of the members present shall be necessary for election.
- Section 5.** The Sovereign Master-Elect shall appoint the remaining Officers.

Section 6. All Officers shall be installed as soon as practical after election; provided however, that the Sovereign Master-Elect shall not be eligible for installation until after he has been invested with the grade of “Installed Sovereign Master” by a qualified Brother. In the absence of a qualified Brother, the Sovereign Master-Elect may be installed with the understanding he will present himself for investiture of the grade of “Installed Sovereign Master” at the first opportunity when a qualified Brother is present.

ARTICLE XVII: REPORTS OF CONSTITUENT COUNCILS

Section 1. The Secretary of each Constituent Council shall send to the Grand Secretary on or before the 15th day of January an Annual Report as of Low Twelve on the 31st of December of each year.

Section 2. The Annual Report shall contain:

- A. A complete list of Officers
- B. Dates of Election and Installation of Officers
- C. Annotation of changes in membership during the year
- D. Dates of Investiture of new members
- E. Any other information required or deemed expedient

Section 3. A Constituent Council that fails to submit an Annual Report on or before the 15th day of January of the year in which it is due, shall be declared delinquent. If said Constituent Council fails to submit an Annual Return on or before the 15th day of March of the year in which it is due, it may be assessed a fine of \$100.00 payable to the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America. A Constituent Council that fails to submit an Annual Return as required by this Article or Article XI, shall be placed on probation by the Sovereign Grand Master and, if not submitted for two consecutive years, its Charter shall be revoked.

ARTICLE XVIII: DESIGNATED COUNCILS

Section 1. There shall be a Constituent Council known by the name and style of “Grand Master’s Council,” operating under the following regulations:

- A. Its membership shall consist of the Permanent members, those who have been invested with the Allied Masonic Degrees at sight by the Sovereign Grand Master, and such other members as may be elected to membership by Grand Master’s Council.
- B. The Founders of the Grand Council, Past Sovereign Grand Masters, the reigning Sovereign Grand Master, Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary shall be Permanent members of Grand Master’s Council.
- C. With the exception of the Permanent members listed in Section 1.B above and those who have been invested with the Allied Masonic Degrees at sight by the Sovereign Grand Master, members must meet the following qualifications.

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- (i) Those who live in a state or territory where no regularly chartered Constituent Council exists.
 - (ii) Those who live in a state or territory where a regularly chartered Constituent Council exists, provided that a written waiver of jurisdiction has been obtained from the Constituent Council.
- D. In the event that a vacancy occurs in an existing Constituent Council or a new Constituent Council is formed, a member of Grand Master's Council may seek an invitation from such Constituent Council for membership. Should he be accepted by such Constituent Council, his membership may be transferred from Grand Master's Council to the accepting Constituent Council.
- E. With the exception of the Permanent members listed in Section 1.B above, membership in Grand Master's Council shall automatically terminate upon becoming a member of any other Council.
- F. The funds of Grand Master's Council shall be limited to the greater of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per member, or Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$4,500.00). All funds in excess of this limit at the end of the fiscal year shall revert to the Grand Council.

Section 2. There shall be a Constituent Council known by the name and style of the "Council of the Nine Muses" operating under the following regulations:

- A. Its membership shall consist of nine (9) members, elected for life.
- B. The purpose of this Council is to honor those Brethren of the Allied Masonic Degrees who have made outstanding contributions to the field of Masonic Literature or Research.
- C. The Sovereign Master-Elect of this Council shall, immediately after his installation, present a paper representing original research on some subject of interest to the Masonic Fraternity.
- D. The Council of the Nine Muses shall make no annual contribution to the Grand Council on those members who hold Plural membership in another Council.

ARTICLE XIX: ROYAL ARK MARINER LODGES

Section 1. No new Royal Ark Mariner Lodges will be separately warranted. Except as hereinafter provided, and notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, each Constituent Council may freely exemplify the Royal Ark Mariner Degree at its discretion in a Royal Ark Mariner Lodge declared, established, and ordained moored to a Constituent Council of this Grand Council and which shall bear the name and number of the said Constituent Council. The Officers of a Constituent Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees shall be the Officers of a Royal Ark Mariner Lodge moored to the said Constituent Council, with corresponding rank therein as follows:

A.M.D. COUNCIL ROYAL ARK MARINER LODGE

Sovereign Master Worship Commander (N)
Senior Warden Senior Warden (J)
Junior Warden Junior Warden (S)
Treasurer Treasurer
Secretary Scribe
Senior Deacon Senior Deacon
Junior Deacon Junior Deacon
Chaplain Chaplain
Tyler Warden

Past Sovereign Masters of a Constituent Council shall be and are declared Past Commanders (N) of a Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners moored to the said Constituent Council.

Past Commanders (N) of Lodges of Royal Ark Mariners of other Grand Jurisdictions who may be “Brothers” of a Constituent Council of this Grand Council shall be Past Commanders (N) in the Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners moored to the Constituent Council of this Grand Council in which they hold membership.

- Section 2.** All current Royal Ark Mariner Lodges, whether those duly Chartered originally by the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland on March 21, 1932: (i) St. Andrew’s in America No. 1-A (Monroe, North Carolina), (ii) Cassillis No. 2-A (Raleigh, North Carolina), and (iii) Howell No. 3-A (Charlotte, North Carolina), or those warranted by the Sovereign College of Allied Masonic and Christian Degrees: (i) Oxford Lodge No. 1 (Norway, Maine, December 12, 1896) and (ii) Half Moon Lodge No. 1 (New York, New York, February 2, 1908), or those Lodges subsequently warranted by this Grand Council, may continue functioning, if they comply with this Constitution.
- Section 3.** Membership in a Royal Ark Mariner Lodge warranted pursuant to Section 2 herein may be conferred upon a Royal Ark Mason in good standing in his Constituent Capitular Chapter. The only exceptions are Oxford Lodge No. 1 (moored to Josiah H. Drummond Council No. 1, A.M.D.) and Half Moon Lodge No. 1 (moored to Half Moon Council No. 2, A.M.D.). These two Lodges may confer the Degree upon Master Masons in good standing in their Symbolic Lodges, in accordance with the Articles of Union of the Sovereign College of Allied Masonic and Christian Degrees and the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America signed in 1933.
- Section 4.** There shall be no limit on the number of members in Royal Ark Mariner Lodges warranted pursuant to Section 2 herein.
- Section 5.** Each Constituent Council having a Royal Ark Mariner Lodge moored to it that is warranted pursuant to Section 2 herein, shall make an Annual Report to the Grand Council at the same time the Annual Report for the Council is made
This Report shall contain the following information:

- A. The date of the Annual Communication
- B. The elected and appointed Officers
- C. The Date the Officers were installed and by whom
- D. A list of the current membership, as well as any changes such as elevations and losses

Failure to submit an Annual Report to the Grand Council shall result in revocation of the charter of a Royal Ark Mariner Lodge warranted pursuant to Section 2 herein.

Section 6. All members of the Allied Masonic Degrees are in possession of the Royal Ark Mariner degree by virtue of membership in a Constituent Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees and may visit a Royal Ark Mariner Lodge.

ARTICLE XX: ROYAL ORDER OF THE RED BRANCH OF ERI AND APPENDANT ORDERS

Section 1. The Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri is hereby declared, established and ordained to be existent within the bosom of the Grand Council and is a Chamber thereof pursuant to the authority of the original manuscript rituals in the possession of John Yarker, copied and delivered to this Grand Council by John Raymond Shute II on October 10, 1933.

Section 2. Ranks Awarded by Constituent Councils

- A. A Constituent Council may confer upon any member who has not held or is not presently holding an elected office, "for exceptional service to the Council," the rank of "Man-at-Arms" of the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri. The Brethren of this rank shall be designated as "Associate Members" of the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri.
- B. A Constituent Council may each year confer upon as many as two Brethren currently holding office in the said Constituent Council the rank of "Esquire" of the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri. The Brethren of this rank shall be formally designated as "Members" of the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri.
- C. A Constituent Council may each year confer upon one of its members the rank of "Knight" of the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri. This Brother must have been a member of the Allied Masonic Degrees for a minimum of seven years. Only those members holding the rank of "Knight" or above may vote on the names of Brethren for elevation to the rank and title of "Knight" of the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri.
- D. A Constituent Council may each year confer upon one Venerable Brother (the present Sovereign Master) the rank of "Knight Commander" of the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri. Only those Knights holding the rank of "Knight Commander" may preside as head of a Faslairt and/or serve as a governing official of the Knights of the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri attached to a Constituent Council. The presiding official of the Knights of the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri attached to a Constituent Council shall

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be the most senior Knight Commander present at the meetings of the Knights of the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri.

Section 3. Ranks Awarded by the Grand Council

- A. All Grand Officers including those presently holding the rank of Past Sovereign Grand Master shall, with the approval of the Grand Council, be eligible hold the rank and title of “Knight Grand Cross, Red Branch of Eri.”
- B. All Sovereign Grand Masters, past and present, shall, with the approval of the Grand Council, be eligible to hold the rank of “Supreme Knight Grand Cross, Red Branch of Eri.”
- C. The Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America shall retain the right, honor, custom, and privilege of conferring upon those brethren believed worthy, for services directly or indirectly related to our Fraternity, including diplomatic considerations of this Grand Jurisdiction, any level of Knighthood of the Red Branch of Eri.

Section 4. Implementation & Regalia

- A. All Knights of the Red Branch of Eri, who were elected as Knights prior to February 2005 and who are not Past Sovereign Masters, shall continue to hold the rank and title of “Knight” of the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri.
- B. All Past Sovereign Masters, who were elected as Sovereign Masters prior to February 2005, shall be elevated to the rank and title of “Knight Commander” of the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri.
- C. All Present and Past Grand Officers of the Allied Masonic Degrees, including those currently holding the rank and title of “Past Sovereign Grand Master,” shall be elevated to the rank and title of “Knight Grand Cross” of the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri.
- D. All Present and Past Sovereign Grand Masters of the Allied Masonic Degrees shall be elevated to the rank and title of “Knight Supreme Grand Cross” of the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri.
- E. The Grand Council shall not be financially burdened for the procurement, distribution, etc., of jewels, sashes, certificates, lapel pins, etc., except for those attaining the rank and title of “Knight Supreme Grand Cross,” of the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri.
- F. Awardees of all ranks may receive a certificate and appropriate regalia as shall be determined by the Grand Council.

Passing Fees will be required for the following Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri Honors:

- (i) Man-at-Arms (AMRORBE) = Associate Member Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri
- (ii) Esquire (MRORBE) = Member Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri
- (iii) Knight (KRORBE) = Knight Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri

- (iv) Knight Commander (KCRORBE) = Knight Commander Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri
- (v) Knight Grand Cross (KGCRORBE) = Knight Grand Cross Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri

ARTICLE XXI: ORDER OF THE SECRET MONITOR

Section 1. Exercising the authority of its antecedent Sovereign College of Allied Masonic and Christian Degrees of the United States of America is hereby declared, established, and a Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor ordained to be existent within the bosom of the Grand Council and is a chamber thereof, and may be convened by the Sovereign Grand Master acting in his capacity as Grand Supreme Ruler during the annual meeting of the Grand Council and at such other times as may suit his pleasure. The Grand Conclave however possesses no powers of legislation, neither shall it exercise any authority over the brethren of this Grand Council, all such power being reserved unto the Grand Council.

Section 2. The Officers of this Grand Council shall be the Officers of the Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor with corresponding ranks therein as follows:

GRAND COUNCIL	GRAND CONCLAVE
Sovereign Grand Master	Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler
Deputy Grand Master	Right Worthy Deputy Grand Supreme Ruler
Senior Grand Warden	Right Worthy Grand Chancellor
Junior Grand Warden	Right Worthy Grand Counselor
Grand Treasurer	Very Worthy Grand Treasurer
Grand Secretary	Very Worthy Grand Recorder
Senior Grand Deacon	Right Worthy Grand Guide
Junior Grand Deacon	Worthy Grand Guarder
Grand Chaplain	Very Worthy Grand Chaplain
Grand Director of Ceremonies .	Very Worthy Grand Director of Ceremonies
Grand Marshal	Very Worthy Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
Grand Tyler	Worthy Grand Sentinel

Section 3. Past Sovereign Grand Masters of this Grand Council shall be and are declared Most Worthy Past Grand Supreme Rulers of the Grand Conclave of the Order of Secret Monitor.

Section 4. The prefixes to be accorded to and used by Past and Present Grand Officers of the Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor shall be as set forth herein. Supreme Rulers and Past Supreme Rulers of Conclaves appurtenant to Constituent Councils and chambers thereof shall be entitled to use the prefix "Worthy."

Section 5. The Degrees in Article II, Sections 1.B (i), (ii) and (iii), herein shall be exemplified in a Conclave of these degrees appurtenant to each Constituent Council of this Grand Council, which Conclave shall bear the name and number of the said

Constituent Council, and shall be a chamber thereof, and which shall not be separately chartered, nor separate dues paid by its members.

Section 6. The Officers of a Constituent Council shall be Officers of a Secret Monitor Conclave appurtenant to the said Constituent Council and a chamber thereof, with corresponding ranks as follows:

A.M.D. COUNCIL SECRET MONITOR CONCLAVE

Sovereign Master	Worthy Supreme Ruler
Senior Warden	Counselor
Junior Warden	Guide
Treasurer	Treasurer
Secretary	Secretary
Senior Deacon	Director of Ceremonies
Junior Deacon	Guarder
Chaplain	Chaplain
Tyler	Sentinel

Section 7. Past Sovereign Master’s of Constituent Councils shall be and are declared Past Supreme Rulers of a Conclave of Secret Monitor, appurtenant to the said Constituent Council and a chamber thereof.

ARTICLE XXII: MASONIC ORDER OF THE SCARLET CORD

- Section 1.** A. The Grand Conclave of the Order of Secret Monitor of England and Wales, under the authority of the Most Worthy Supreme Grand Ruler Peter Glyn Williams, transmitted the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Grades of the Royal Order of Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord on November 12, 2008 unto several senior members of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America with the intention that, in due course, said Grand Council would incorporate theses Grades under the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees with the authority to control and superintend the Royal Order of Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord in the United States of America. To aid in this endeavor, The Grand Conclave of the Order of Secret Monitor of England and Wales conferred the 1st Grade of the Royal Order of Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord on 223 members of the Allied Masonic Degrees on February 13, 2009.
- B. The Grand Conclave of the Order of Secret Monitor of England and Wales, under the authority of the Most Worthy Supreme Grand Ruler Peter Glyn Williams, transmitted the Preparation and Installation of a President Ceremony on November 11, 2009 unto several senior members of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America with the intention that, in due course, said Grand Council would incorporate the Presidents Ceremony under the Grand Council of Allied Masonic Degrees with the authority to control and superintend the Royal Order of Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord in the United States of America. To aid in this endeavor, The Grand Conclave of the Order of Secret Monitor of England and Wales, under the authority of the Most Worthy Supreme Grand Ruler Michael

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William Guest, conferred the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Grades and the Presidents Ceremony of the Royal Order of Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord on 142 members of the Allied Masonic Degrees on February 13, 2010.

- C. On February 13, 2010, the Sovereign Grand Master of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America, Most Venerable Brother William R. Logan declared all senior members of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America who received these degrees in England to be members of the Royal Order of Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord of the United States of America under the authority and control of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America.
- D. On July 21, 2010, The Grand Conclave of the Order of Secret Monitor of England and Wales relinquished control of the Royal Order of Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord so that it could become a stand alone Grand Body in England and Wales. Thus was formed The Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord under the leadership of Most Distinguished Companion Michael William Guest. The final two Grades of the Royal Order of Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord, now The Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord, will be transmitted on March 18, 2011 unto several senior members of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America with the intention that, in due course, said Grand Council will incorporate these Grades under the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees with the authority to control and superintend the Royal Order of Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord in the United States of America.
- E. The Order consists of the following Grades:
 - (i) 1st Grade – Ostiarius or Doorkeeper (*Conferred in a Consistory*)
 - (ii) 2nd Grade – Lector (*Conferred in a Consistory*)
 - (iii) 3rd Grade – Fellow or Healer & Exorcist (*Conferred in a Consistory*)
 - (iv) Presidents Ceremony
 - (v) 4th Grade – Councillor (*Conferred in a Council of Elders*)
 - (vi) 5th Grade – Keeper of the Hidden Secret (*Conferred in a Council of Entrusted*)
 - (vii) 6th Grade – Prince of Jerusalem (*Conferred in a Council of Princes*)
- F. Any member in good standing of the Allied Masonic Degrees shall be eligible to receive the first three Grades.
- G. Only members who have served as Sovereign Masters of a Constituent Council shall be eligible to receive the 4th Grade.
- H. Only members who have received the 4th Grade and who have served as an appointed or elected Grand Officer of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America shall be eligible to receive the 5th Grade.

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- (i) Additionally, each appointed or elected Grand Officer of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America (including Grand Superintendents, but excluding Committee Members) shall annually be entitled to nominate one member who has received the 4th Grade to receive the 5th Grade.
 - (ii) All such nominations must be made in writing using the official form furnished for that purpose by the Office of the Grand Secretary and whose satisfaction of the above-referenced qualifications must be verified by the Sovereign Grand Master. The appropriate passing fee must accompany the recommendation form.
- I. Only members who have received the 5th Grade and who have served as an elected Grand Officer of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America shall be eligible to receive the 6th Grade.
- (i) Additionally, each elected Grand Officer of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America shall annually be entitled to nominate one member who has received the 5th Grade to receive the 6th Grade.
 - (ii) All such nominations must be made in writing using the official form furnished for that purpose by the Office of the Grand Secretary and whose satisfaction of the above-referenced qualifications must be verified by the Sovereign Grand Master. The appropriate passing fee must accompany the recommendation form.
- J. The Grand Council will establish required passing fees for each Grade of the Order.

Section 2. The Grand Conclave of the Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord of the United States of America may be convened by the Sovereign Grand Master acting in his capacity as Grand Summus during the annual meeting of the Grand Council and at such other times as may suit his pleasure. The Grand Conclave, however, possesses no powers of legislation, neither shall it exercise any authority over the brethren of this Grand Council, all such power being reserved unto the Grand Council.

Section 3. The Officers of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America shall be the Officers of the Grand Conclave of the Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord of the United States of America, with corresponding ranks therein as follows:

GRAND COUNCIL	GRAND CONCLAVE
Sovereign Grand Master	Most Distinguished Grand Summus
Deputy Grand Master	Right Distinguished Deputy Grand Summus
Senior Grand Warden	Right Distinguished Grand Chancellor
Junior Grand Warden	Right Distinguished Vice Grand Chancellor
Grand Treasurer	Very Distinguished Grand Treasurer
Grand Secretary	Very Distinguished Grand Registrar

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Senior Grand Deacon . . . Very Distinguished Grand Director of Ceremonies
Junior Grand Deacon Very Distinguished Grand Herald
Grand Chaplain Very Distinguished Grand Episcopus
Grand Director of Ceremonies Distinguished Grand Sword Bearer
Grand Marshal Distinguished Grand Guarder
Grand Tyler Distinguished Grand Watchman

Section 4. Each Past Sovereign Grand Master of this Grand Council shall be and is declared a Most Distinguished Past Grand Summus of the Grand Conclave of the Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord of the United States of America.

Section 5. The prefixes to be accorded to and used by Past and Present Grand Officers of the Grand Conclave of the Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord of the United States of America shall be as set forth herein above. Presidents and Past Presidents of Consistories appurtenant to Constituent Councils and a chamber thereof shall be entitled to use the prefix “Distinguished.”

Section 6. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd Grades of the Order may be exemplified in a Consistory of these degrees appurtenant to each Constituent Council of the Grand Council, which Consistory shall bear the name and number of the said Constituent Council, and shall be a chamber thereof, and which shall not be separately chartered, nor separate dues paid by its members, subject to the following conditions:

- A. No one may advance by receiving a succeeding Grade who has not received all of the preceding Grades.
- B. A portion of the passing fee for each Grade of the Order, as established in Article XXII, Section 1.J, shall be allocated to a Benevolent Fund as shall be determined by the Grand Council.
- C. The Presidents Ceremony may only be conferred by dispensation of the Grand Summus, which dispensation must provide that the Conferring Officers and the recipients are qualified to participate in this ceremony and that the Ceremony will be conducted in a manner and under such circumstances as befit the dignity of the Order.

Section 7. The Officers of a Constituent Council shall be the Officers of a Scarlet Cord Conclave appurtenant to the said Constituent Council and a chamber thereof, with corresponding ranks therein as follows:

A.M.D. COUNCIL	SCARLET CORD CONCLAVE
Sovereign Master	Distinguished President
Senior Warden	Chancellor
Junior Warden	Vice Chancellor
Treasurer	Treasurer
Secretary	Secretary
Senior Deacon	Director of Ceremonies
Junior Deacon	Herald
Chaplain	Episcopus
Tyler	Watchman

ARTICLE XXIII: PUBLICATIONS

- Section 1.** The “Annals” shall be published under the direction of the Grand Secretary and shall contain a record of the activities of the Grand Council and the Minutes of Grand Master’s Council.
- Section 2.** The “Miscellanea” shall be published annually under the direction of the Committee on Publications and shall consist of papers and other items of interest presented at meetings of Constituent Councils or the Grand Council.
- Section 3.** The Annals and Miscellanea shall be sent to the Secretary of each Constituent Council, who shall distribute them free to each member in good standing in that Council.

ARTICLE XXIV: HONORS

- Section 1.** Upon unanimous approval, a member of one Constituent Council may be elected an Honorary member of another Constituent Council. Such Honorary members shall be provided with a membership card, but shall not be eligible to hold office or vote in the Council in which he holds Honorary membership. Honorary members shall not be included in the membership limitation of Constituent Councils, nor shall such Councils be required to pay the annual per capita contribution on Honorary members.
- Section 2.** A Constituent Council may honor a member of its Council, for distinguished service to the Allied Masonic Degrees, by electing him to be awarded one of several ranks of the Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri, as governed by the provisions of Article XX of this Constitution.
- Section 3.** The rank of title of Knight Grand Cross, the highest award of the Grand Council, may be conferred under the following regulations:
- A. The Sovereign Grand Master shall be entitled to the rank and title of Knight Grand Cross and shall be invested with said rank and title immediately following his installation as Sovereign Grand Master.
 - B. It may be conferred upon such other distinguished Brethren as the Board of General Purposes recommends and the Grand Council elects.
 - C. The number of Active Knights Grand Cross shall be limited to ninety and nine (99).
 - D. The rank and title of Knight Grand Cross, *Honoris Causa*, may be conferred upon such distinguished Brethren of other Jurisdictions as the Board of General Purposes recommends and the Grand Council elects.
 - E. The number of Knights Grand Cross, *Honoris Causa*, shall be limited to twenty and seven (27).
 - F. No contribution shall be required from those who are dubbed Knights Grand Cross, or Knights Grand Cross, *Honoris Causa*.
- Section 4.** Past Grand Rank may be conferred by the Grand Council on Brethren deemed worthy of distinction.

ARTICLE XXV: TITLES

- Section 1.** The Sovereign Grand Master and Past Sovereign Grand Masters shall be entitled to the appellation “Most Venerable.”
- Section 2.** Grand Council Officers, except Most Venerable Past Sovereign Grand Masters serving as Officers, shall be entitled to the appellation “Right Venerable.”
- Section 3.** Sovereign Master and Past Sovereign Masters of Constituent Councils shall be entitled to the appellation “Venerable.”
- Section 4.** All members of the Order shall be styled and designated as “Brothers.”

ARTICLE XXVI: GOVERNING AUTHORITY

- Section 1.** In event that any Section of this Constitution pertaining to Constituent Councils is in conflict with the Statutes of the Grand Lodge in which Grand Jurisdiction the Constituent Council is located, the Grand Lodge Statutes shall prevail, Article III, Section 1 not withstanding.
- Section 2.** Any subject not provided for in this Constitution, and not governed by the Sovereign Grand Master as specified in Article VIII, Section 7, shall be governed in accordance with Statutes of the Grand Lodge in which Grand Jurisdiction the Constituent Council is located.

ARTICLE XXVII: AMENDMENTS

- Section 1.** No motion to alter, add to, or annul any provision of this Constitution shall be received unless notice thereof shall have been announced; and such alterations, in writing, placed in the hands of the Grand Secretary at a previous Annual Assembly of the Grand Council; the Grand Secretary certifying that each Constituent Council has been forwarded a copy of such proposed alterations at least ninety (90) days prior to the vote; and no such motion shall be considered carried unless affirmed by a majority of those members present and voting at the Annual Assembly.
- Section 2.** However, the Constitution may be amended at any Annual Assembly by the unanimous consent of the members present.

APPENDIX A

ROYAL ORDER OF THE RED BRANCH OF ERI AND APPENDANT ORDERS

The Royal Order of the Red Branch of Eri is governed by the provisions of Article XX of this Constitution. Section 3.F of that Article establishes required passing fees for several of the ranks of the Order and provides that certificates and appropriate regalia may be distributed to awardees. The following is an enumeration of those passing fees and those items (if any) to be distributed to the awardees of each rank of the Order as has been determined by the Grand Council.

- A. Man-at-Arms – For a passing fee of \$25.00, the awardee will receive:
 - (i) Man-at-Arms Certificate
 - (ii) Man-at-Arms Lapel Pin
- B. Esquire – For a passing fee of \$50.00, the awardee will receive:
 - (i) Esquire Certificate
 - (ii) Blue Neck Ribbon Collar & Esquire Jewel
 - (iii) Esquire Lapel Pin
- C. Knight – For a passing fee of \$75.00, the awardee will receive:
 - (i) Knight Certificate
 - (ii) Green Neck Ribbon Collar & Knight Jewel
 - (iii) Knight Breast Star
 - (iv) Knight Lapel Pin
- D. Knight Commander – For a passing fee of \$100.00, the awardee will receive:
 - (i) Knight Commander Certificate
 - (ii) Red Neck Ribbon Collar & Knight Commander Jewel
 - (iii) Knight Breast Star (if not previously received)
 - (iv) Knight Commander Breast Cross
 - (v) Knight Commander Lapel Pin
- E. Knight Grand Cross – For a passing fee of \$250.00, the awardee will receive:
 - (i) Distinctive Black Collar & Knight Grand Cross Jewel
 - (ii) Knight Grand Cross Breast Star
 - (iii) Knight Grand Cross Lapel Pin
- F. Supreme Knight Grand Cross – The awardee will receive:
 - (i) Distinctive Purple Collar & Supreme Knight Grand Cross Jewel
 - (ii) Supreme Knight Grand Cross Breast Star
 - (iii) Supreme Knight Grand Cross Lapel Pin

APPENDIX B

MASONIC ORDER OF THE SCARLET CORD

The Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord is governed by the provisions of Article XXII of this Constitution. Section 1.J of that Article establishes required passing fees for each of the Grades of the Order. The following is an enumeration of those passing fees and those items (if any) to be distributed to the recipients of each Grade of the Order as has been determined by the Grand Council.

- A. 1st Grade (Ostiarius or Doorkeeper) – For a passing fee of \$50.00, of which \$10.00 shall be allocated to a Benevolent Fund, the recipient will receive:
 - (i) 1st Grade Certificate
- B. 2nd Grade (Lector) – For a passing fee of \$50.00, of which \$10.00 shall be allocated to a Benevolent Fund, the recipient will receive:
 - (i) 2nd Grade Certificate
- C. 3rd Grade (Fellow or Healer & Exorcist) – For a passing fee of \$50.00, of which \$10.00 shall be allocated to a Benevolent Fund, the recipient will receive:
 - (i) 3rd Grade Certificate, or
 - (ii) Those who receive the 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Grades of the Order on the same date will instead receive a single combined Certificate recognizing their receipt all three Grades.
- D. 4th Grade (Councillor) – For a passing fee of \$50.00, of which \$10.00 shall be allocated to a Benevolent Fund, the recipient will receive:
 - (i) 4th Grade Certificate
- E. 5th Grade (Keeper of the Hidden Secret) – For a passing fee of \$50.00, the recipient will receive:
 - (i) 5th Grade Certificate
- F. 6th Grade (Prince of Jerusalem) – For a passing fee of \$50.00, the recipient will receive:
 - (i) 6th Grade Certificate

PROCEDURE TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE GRAND COUNCIL OF THE ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The following excerpt from the Constitution of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America sets forth the procedure to amend the Constitution.

ARTICLE XXV: AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. No motion to alter, add to, or annul any provision of this Constitution shall be received unless notice thereof shall have been announced; and such alterations, in writing, placed in the hands of the Grand Secretary at a previous Annual Assembly of the Grand Council; the Grand Secretary certifying that each Constituent Council has been forwarded a copy of such proposed alterations at least ninety (90) days prior to the vote; and no such motion shall be considered carried unless affirmed by a majority of those members present and voting at the Annual Assembly.

SECTION 2. However, the Constitution may be amended at any Annual Assembly by the unanimous consent of the members present.

The following procedure should be followed when submitting a proposed amendment to the Constitution.

1. Draft a proposed amendment which clearly states:
 - (i) the reason(s) that the amendment is being proposed,
 - (ii) the current language from the Constitution that is being amended and/or deleted, and
 - (iii) the proposed language that is to be included in the Constitution.

(A sample amendment is included with this procedure.)

2. Submit the proposed amendment to the Grand Secretary, who will then continue with the procedure as set forth in Article XXV of the Constitution.

The proposed amendment will be referred to the Sovereign Grand Master, the Board of General Purposes, and the Jurisprudence Committee for review to insure that it is in proper form.

It is extremely important to note that any proposed revision to procedures which are currently governed by the Constitution may only be accomplished by the adoption of an appropriate constitutional amendment.

Any revision to procedures currently governed by the Constitution proposed in the reports of committees or grand officers, even though adopted by the Grand Council, does not constitute a properly adopted constitutional amendment.

All correspondence should be addressed to the Grand Secretary at:

Clyde H. Schoolfield, Jr.
P.O. Box 11423
Oklahoma City, OK 73136-0423
AMD.Grand.Secretary@gmail.com
www.amdusa.org

**SAMPLE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE
GRAND COUNCIL OF THE ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Whereas the Royal and Select Master degrees are said to complete the “circle of perfection” in Ancient Craft Masonry; and

Whereas Cryptic Masonry is an integral part of Ancient Craft Masonry, along with Symbolic Lodge Masonry and Royal Arch Masonry; and

Whereas the lessons imparted by the Cryptic degrees are fundamental to a more thorough understanding of the various Allied Masonic Degrees; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that Article XIII, Section 1 of the Constitution, which now reads:

Membership in the Allied Masonic Degrees shall be by invitation only to ~~Royal Arch Masons~~ in good standing.

Be amended to read as follows:

Membership in the Allied Masonic Degrees shall be by invitation only to Select Masters in good standing.

Be it further resolved that Article XIII, Section 10 of the Constitution, which now reads:

Membership in good standing in a Lodge of Master Masons ~~and~~ a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons is necessary to maintain membership in a Constituent Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees.

Be amended to read as follows:

Membership in good standing in a Lodge of Master Masons, a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and a Council of Royal & Select Masters is necessary to maintain membership in a Constituent Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees.

Respectfully submitted,

John Henry Jones, P.S.M.
Zerubbabel Council No. 789, A.M.D.

(Note that this sample proposed amendment is provided for instructional purposes only and has not been submitted, nor is it being considered.)