

**The**  
**BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS**

of

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge

of

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Colorado

With all revisions enacted through the close of  
the Grand Lodge Session, January 26, 2013

Published by

The Grand Lodge A.F. and A.M. of Colorado

February 02, 2013

Revised through January 25, 2014

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge

A.F. and A.M. of Colorado

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# **CONSTITUTION**

## **PREAMBLE**

We, the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Colorado, in order to form a more perfect fraternal union, and to provide for and promote the general welfare of the Masonic Craft, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

## **NAME**

### **SECTION 1. Name.**

The name of this Grand Lodge shall be: "The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Colorado," hereinafter referred to as the "Grand Lodge."

## **BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS**

### **SECTION 2. Definitions.**

This Constitution and the Laws enacted thereunder shall be designated as "The Book of Constitutions of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Colorado," hereinafter referred to as the "Book of Constitutions." The word "Lodge" or "Lodges," unless otherwise specifically defined, shall be construed to mean a Lodge or Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge; and the words "Masonry" and "Freemasonry" shall be held to be synonymous, as shall the words "Mason" and "Freemason."

## **GOVERNMENT**

### **SECTION 3. Masonic Government.**

The actions of Freemasons, as such, in the Grand Lodge, in their Lodges, and in their individual character, shall be regulated and controlled:

- A. By the Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry, being those unwritten principles of Masonic government and policy which have existed from a time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, and which are among the parts of Masonic law or rules of government which may never be altered or disturbed; and by usages and customs which are based upon such landmarks.
- B. By Constitutions, being those written compacts or laws adopted by Freemasons for the government of the Grand Lodge and its constituent Lodges and their members, and which are intended to be permanent in their character.
- C. By Laws or Regulations, being those written Masonic rules of action, adopted by competent authority, and not included in the foregoing; and by usages, customs, rules, edicts, and resolutions, having the force of laws.

## **SECTION 4. Governing Bodies.**

The Grand Lodge is a body of Masons in which is inalienably vested the government of the Masonic Craft within its jurisdiction. A chartered Lodge is a body of Masons congregating and working by virtue of a charter granted by the Grand Lodge. A Lodge under dispensation is a temporary body of Masons congregating and exercising certain limited functions by virtue of a dispensation granted by authority of the Grand Lodge.

## **SECTION 5. Jurisdiction.**

This Grand Lodge is the supreme Masonic authority - legislative, executive, and judicial - in the State of Colorado.

## **SECTION 6. Fundamental Principals.**

The Grand Lodge, which is but the entire body of the Craft in this jurisdiction, acting through its duly chosen representatives, and restricted only by the landmarks, has the sole power and authority to determine what is and what is not "Masonic," and to fix the conditions under which one may enter Freemasonry, or, having entered, remain. Its only guide is its best judgment as to what is required by the good of the Craft; and from its decision there is no appeal. The only title to Masonic office is the best judgment of the brethren voting, or the officer appointing, uninfluenced by solicitation, and exercised with no consideration in mind but the highest good of the Craft. Freemasonry, its activities, titles, ceremonies, symbols, and emblems, are not to be used for political or commercial purposes. It repudiates all unseemly publicity. It tolerates no foreign meddling in its affairs. It interferes with no man's religion, and will not concern itself with matters of political or legislative policy.

# **MEMBERS**

## **SECTION 7. Grand Lodge.**

This Grand Lodge shall be composed of the following named, each of whom is hereby constituted a member thereof:

A. Its Officers, who shall be, and whose rank and titles shall be

1. The Most Worshipful Grand Master
2. The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master
3. The Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden
4. The Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden
5. The Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer
6. The Right Worshipful Grand Secretary
7. The Right Worshipful Grand Lecturer
8. The Worshipful Senior Grand Deacon
9. The Worshipful Junior Grand Deacon
10. The Worshipful Senior Grand Steward

11. The Worshipful Junior Grand Steward
  12. The Worshipful Grand Marshal
  13. The Worshipful Grand Chaplain
  14. The Worshipful Grand Orator
  15. The Worshipful Grand Tiler
  16. The Worshipful Grand Musician
- B. The Representatives of its Lodges, who shall be: the Masters and Wardens of the chartered Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.
- C. Its Permanent Members, who shall be: the Past Grand Masters and Past Deputy Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge, who are members of Lodges under its jurisdiction, and such others as may be so elected by its unanimous vote.
- D. The Members of Its Standing Committees as provided for by the Book of Constitutions.

### **SECTION 8. Eligibility.**

No one shall be a member of the Grand Lodge, nor be eligible to election or appointment to any office therein, or appointment as a member of any committee thereof, or continue to hold any such office or committee membership, who is not a member of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge; nor shall any one be eligible to election or appointment to any office therein, except that of Grand Chaplain, Grand Orator, or Grand Tiler, nor except as otherwise provided by the Book of Constitutions, to appointment as the chairman of any Standing Committee thereof, except Trustees of Benevolent Funds, unless he shall have been duly elected and installed Master of a chartered Lodge. Provided, however, that no Master Mason holding membership in any so-called Masonic body not recognized by this Grand Lodge, or from which the recognition of this Grand Lodge has been withdrawn, shall be eligible to membership in this Grand Lodge.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

### **SECTION 9. Annual.**

An Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, for the election of its officers and the transaction of all business, shall be held at such place and time as shall be prescribed by the laws of the Grand Lodge.

### **SECTION 9a. Annual Anniversary Communication.**

An Annual Anniversary Communication of the Grand Lodge shall be held on the first Saturday in August each year, commencing August 4, 1990, the place of such Anniversary Communication to be fixed at the previous Annual Communication held in January. The budget for the financial operation of the Grand Lodge shall be presented and adopted at such Annual August Anniversary Communication.

### **SECTION 10. Special.**

The Grand Master may call Special Communications of the Grand Lodge, to be held at such places within the State of Colorado and at such times and for such purposes as to him may seem proper.

### **SECTION 11. Constitutional Number.**

The Grand Lodge shall not be opened at any annual or special communication, nor shall any business be transacted therein, unless there be present representatives of at least one-third of the chartered Lodges under its jurisdiction, but a lesser number may meet and adjourn from day to day until a constitutional number shall be present; provided, that at any special communication called for the purpose of ceremony only, the Grand Master, or his duly appointed representative, with a sufficient number of brethren to fill the stations and places, may open the Grand Lodge and perform such ceremony.

### **SECTION 12. Representatives of Lodges.**

Each chartered Lodge shall be entitled to representation in the communications of the Grand Lodge by its Master, its Senior Warden, and its Junior Warden; and each of such officers present, in person, or by proxy, shall be entitled to one vote therein.

### **SECTION 13. Proxies.**

Any Master or Warden, for the time being, of a chartered Lodge in good standing, may be represented at any communication of the Grand Lodge by a proxy, who shall be a member of such Lodge, appointed in writing by such Master or Warden. No other member of the Grand Lodge shall be represented by proxy.

### **SECTION 14. Decision of Questions.**

Except as otherwise provided by the laws hereunder enacted, every question coming before the Grand Lodge shall be decided by a majority vote of the members, or their legally appointed proxies, present and voting in the manner prescribed by such laws.

### **SECTION 15. Votes.**

Each member of the Grand Lodge present at any communication thereof shall be entitled to one vote in his own right and, except as otherwise provided in the laws hereunder enacted, in one capacity only; and each individual present, whether a member or not a member, who holds the proxy of a member, shall be entitled to one vote for each such proxy. No individual, whether a member or not a member, shall hold proxies for more than two members. At no time during the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, either in a session of the Grand Lodge or in a committee of the whole of the Grand Lodge, shall an individual, not a member and not holding the proxy of a member, be entitled to vote in any capacity. (Revised January 29, 2005)

## **OFFICERS**

### **SECTION 16. Election.**

The Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Senior Grand Warden, the Junior Grand Warden, the Grand Treasurer, and the Grand Secretary, of the Grand Lodge, shall be elected at each annual communication; and before the close of such communication all other officers of the Grand Lodge shall be appointed by the Grand Master so elected, after consultation with the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Wardens.

### **SECTION 17. Installation.**

All the officers of the Grand Lodge shall be annually installed, in person, by the Grand Master or his duly appointed representative, and if possible, at the annual communication at which they were selected. Each officer shall perform the duties of his office until his successor shall have been duly selected and installed. Said installation may be open to Grand Lodge members and their invited non-Mason guests, at the discretion of the incoming Grand Master, and in conformity with the guidelines set forth by the custodians of the work.

### **SECTION 18. Succession.**

In case of the death of the Grand Master, or of his absence or inability to act, the powers and duties of his office shall, for the time being, devolve upon the Deputy Grand Master, the Senior Grand Warden, and the Junior Grand Warden, in the order named; provided, that if such vacancy occurs by death within the first half of the term of the Grand Master, the succeeding officer shall become in fact, by operation of law, Grand Master; in all other cases he shall be merely acting Grand Master. In case of the death or disability of all four of the principal officers of the Grand Lodge, the Junior Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge shall be empowered to call a special communication of the Grand Lodge for the election of a Grand Master.

### **SECTION 19. Vacancies.**

Any office of the Grand Lodge shall become vacant by the death, resignation, or inability of the incumbent to act, by his permanent removal from the State, or upon his ceasing to be a member of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge. Any vacancy in any office of the Grand Lodge, other than that of Grand Master, or in any committee of the Grand Lodge, shall be filled by appointment by the Grand Master.

## **THE GRAND MASTER**

### **SECTION 20. Powers.**

The Grand Master shall have power:

- A. To preside at all communications of the Grand Lodge.

- B. To appoint all the appointive officers and all committees of the Grand Lodge, except as otherwise provided by the Book of Constitutions, who shall hold their offices or appointments during his pleasure.
- C. To command at any time all other officers and all committees of the Grand Lodge touching the duties and administration of their several offices, or for advice or assistance in all business pertaining to the Craft.
- D. To exercise and discharge all the executive and judicial functions of the Grand Lodge when it is not in session; and his decisions on all questions relative to the Craft shall be final unless reversed by the Grand Lodge.
- E. To grant or refuse all petitions for dispensations, except during the annual communication of the Grand Lodge.
- F. To constitute Lodges, dedicate Masonic halls, and lay cornerstones of public buildings or structures, either in person or by his representative.
- G. To convene any Lodge; and in person or by deputy to preside therein, inspect its transactions, and require its conformity to Masonic law.
- H. To suspend the functions, by arresting the charter, of any Lodge until the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge; and for misconduct, neglect, malfeasance, or gross unmasonic conduct, to suspend from office the Master of a Lodge or an officer of the Grand Lodge.
- I. To appoint representatives of this Grand Lodge near other Grand Lodges with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal relations, and to receive and accredit representatives of such other Grand Lodges near this Grand Lodge. And have all other powers and prerogatives pertaining to that office under the Ancient Landmarks, Constitutions, and usages of Freemasonry.
- J. To establish a Pilot Lodge program and designate Lodges as part of the program to test programs and procedures with the advice and consent of the Grand Lodge, that may strengthen and advance Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction.

## **SECTION 21. Duties.**

The Grand Master shall perform such duties as may be required of him by the Grand Lodge, and require from all Lodges a strict conformity to the landmarks of Freemasonry, and to the constitution, laws, rules, and regulations of the Grand Lodge. He shall present at the annual communication of the Grand Lodge a written address, setting forth all his official acts during the preceding year, and recommending such action by the Grand Lodge as he may deem necessary for the welfare of the Craft.

## **DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

## **SECTION 22. Duties.**

All other officers and all committees of the Grand Lodge shall perform such duties as by Masonic tradition or established custom appertain to their respective positions, together

with the duties specifically required of them by the Book of Constitutions, or devolving upon them by direction of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.

**A. Deputy Grand Master.**

The Deputy Grand Master when elected and installed shall be responsible for supervising the budget preparation to be submitted at the next Anniversary Communication, shall insure that necessary accommodations are secured for the Grand Lodge Communication to be held in the year following the next Annual Communication and shall be responsible for establishing programs and committees that will become effective following the next Annual Communication. (Revised January 26, 2002)

**B. Senior Grand Warden.**

The Senior Grand Warden when elected and installed shall participate in the budget preparation to be submitted at the next Anniversary Communication and shall insure that necessary accommodations are secure for the Grand Lodge Communication to be held in two years following the next Annual Communication. (Revised January 26, 2002)

**C. Junior Grand Warden.**

The Junior Grand Warden when elected and installed shall participate in the budget preparation to be submitted at the next Anniversary Communication and shall insure that necessary accommodations are secure for the Grand Lodge Communication to be held in three years following the next Annual Communication. (Revised January 26, 2002)

## **LODGES**

### **SECTION 23. Authority.**

Every Lodge shall be held by virtue of either a charter or dispensation issued by the authority of this Grand Lodge. No Lodge shall become incorporated under the laws of any state.

### **SECTION 24. Chartered Lodge.**

A chartered Lodge shall be composed of those Master Masons to whom its charter was granted, and such Master Masons as it shall thereafter admit to membership by regular affiliation, together with those who have been duly elected therein to receive the degree of Master Mason shall be raised to that degree by the authority of such Lodge and shall have signed the bylaws; each of whom shall thereby become a member of such Lodge and entitled to all the rights and benefits appertaining thereto until his membership shall be terminated according to Masonic law.

### **SECTION 25. Lodge under Dispensation.**

A Lodge under dispensation shall be composed of those Master Masons to whom such dispensation was granted, together with those, who, having been duly elected therein to receive the degree of Master Mason, shall be raised thereto by the authority of such Lodge.

## **SECTION 26. Government.**

A chartered Lodge shall have the right to convene as such, to make Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Masons; to establish dues and funds for distinctly Masonic purposes; to mortgage, sell, dispose of and convey real estate by a majority vote of its members present at any Communication of which at least ten days written or printed notice to its members and to the Grand Lodge has first been given, advising them of the proposed action, and provided that such action be approved by the Grand Master; and to transact all business appertaining to Freemasonry agreeably to general Masonic law and its own bylaws approved by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master. A Lodge under dispensation shall be governed by the general Masonic law applicable to it and by the terms of its dispensation.

## **SECTION 27. Officers.**

The officers of each Lodge shall consist of a Master, whose title shall be "Worshipful," a Senior Warden, a Junior Warden, a Treasurer, a Secretary, a Senior Deacon, a Junior Deacon, a Senior Steward, a Junior Steward, and a Tiler, and such other officers as may be provided for by its bylaws.

# **AMENDMENT**

## **SECTION 28. Constitution.**

This Constitution may be amended in one of two ways: First, by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Grand Lodge, or their proxies, present and voting at an annual communication of the Grand Lodge; provided, that the proposed amendment shall have been presented to the Grand Secretary by a member of the Grand Lodge at least ninety days before such annual communication, and a copy thereof shall have been mailed by the Grand Secretary to each officer of the Grand Lodge and to each Lodge at least sixty days before such annual communication and provided further, that changes in such proposed amendment may be made by three-fourths vote of the registered members of the Grand Lodge, or their proxies, present and voting at such annual communication of the Grand Lodge, before voting on such amendment or amendments with such changes at such annual communication. Second, by the unanimous vote of the members of the Grand Lodge, or their proxies, present and voting at an annual communication of the Grand Lodge. Any amendment adopted at a Grand Lodge communication shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

# **LAWS PERTAINING TO THE GRAND LODGE ANNUAL COMMUNICATION**

## **SECTION 29. Annual Communication.**

An annual communication of the Grand Lodge shall be held beginning on the fourth Friday in January 1994, and annually thereafter at 10:00 A.M. in a city under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, such city to be selected by the incoming Grand Master before termination of the current Grand session.

### **SECTION 30. Representatives of Lodges.**

No representative of a Lodge shall be entitled to a seat or a vote in the Grand Lodge at an annual communication unless the annual returns of such Lodge shall have been made, and the annual dues and fees of such Lodge shall have been paid to the Grand Lodge as by law provided.

### **SECTION 31. Rules of Order.**

The following rules of order shall be observed in the transaction of Grand Lodge business:

- A. At the time appointed the Grand Master shall open a Lodge of Master Masons, and as soon thereafter as a constitutional number of representatives of Lodges shall be found to be present, he shall declare the Grand Lodge open.
- B. The Grand Master, subject to control of the Grand Lodge, shall be the judge of order and debate. The parliamentary usage of civil deliberative bodies shall be followed in so far as it does not conflict with the well established customs of Freemasonry and the time honored powers of the Grand Master.
- C. No member shall speak more than twice upon any subject, except in explanation, without permission of the Grand Master or Grand Lodge. The Grand Master or the Grand Lodge may exclude from any session of the Grand Lodge, as for contempt, any one who shall persist in disobeying any of these rules or other laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge pertaining to its communications.
- D. Every motion or resolution required to be recorded shall be in writing and signed by the mover. No report shall be received from a committee unless it is in writing and signed by a majority of the members of such committee.
- E. When a question is under consideration no motion shall be entertained except to refer, to amend, or to postpone to a certain time or indefinitely, which motions shall have preference in the order here stated. Any member may call for division of a question. A motion to strike out and insert shall be deemed indivisible. In filling blanks the largest sum or number and the longest time shall be first stated.
- F. When a question is put it shall be the duty of every member present to vote, unless for good cause the Grand Lodge shall excuse him.
- G. The adoption by the Grand Lodge of a recommendation or report of an officer or committee of the Grand Lodge shall not, in itself, change existing Masonic law.
- H. The minutes of each communication of the Grand Lodge shall be prepared by the Grand Secretary, and when approved by the Grand Master shall stand as the record of that communication.
- I. Resolutions. A resolution, when passed, expresses the will and intent of the current Grand Lodge and may either approve a specific action or serve as an advisory to the Grand Master for the ensuing year. Any resolution that is in conflict with the Book of Constitutions or which would require a change to the Book Of Constitutions is invalid and of no force or effect. To be considered or passed, a resolution is governed by the same rules as an amendment to the

Book of Constitutions as set forth in Section 28 and 65. (Revised January 26, 2002)

### **SECTION 32. Method of Voting.**

Voting in the Grand Lodge shall be by a show of hands; provided that by order of the Grand Master upon demand of one representative from each of three different Lodges a ballot shall be taken. When voting is by a show of hands each member or proxy-holder shall be counted with the number of votes equal to the votes and proxies carried by that member. When voting is by ballot it shall be governed by the provisions of the constitution pertaining to votes; provided, that a permanent member who represents his Lodge in person or by proxy shall be entitled to an additional vote by reason of his permanent membership.

### **SECTION 33. Election of Officers.**

Voting at the election of officers of the Grand Lodge shall be by written ballots; and a majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary to elect. No one shall solicit votes for himself or another for any office, no nomination for any office shall be made, and no officer shall be elected by motion or resolution.

## **COMMITTEES**

### **SECTION 34. Committees.**

Except as otherwise provided by these laws, all committees of the Grand Lodge shall consist of three members each. Each Session and Standing Committee of the Grand Lodge shall report in writing to the Grand Lodge on every matter referred to such committee, and on all other matters concerning which the duties of the committee require a report.

### **SECTION 35. Appointment.**

As soon as practicable after the opening of an annual communication, the Grand Master shall appoint the members of the Session Committees who shall serve until the close of that communication. After the installation of the officers of the Grand Lodge, and before the close of the annual communication, the Grand Master shall appoint the necessary members of the Standing Committees, with exception of the Jurisprudence Committee, whose members shall be appointed in 2013 for terms of 3 years, 2 years and 1 year with 1 member being appointed by each succeeding Grand Master for a 3 year term.

### **SECTION 36. Session Committees.**

There shall be the following Session Committees:

- A. On Credentials, whose duty it shall be to examine the credentials of those claiming the right to seats in the Grand Lodge; and to report their names and qualifications to the Grand Lodge.
- B. On Visitors, whose duty it shall be, by order of the Grand Master, to examine all visitors not vouched for, and to report their respective names and Masonic connections to the Grand Lodge.

- C. On Grand Master's Address, to which shall be referred the annual address of the Grand Master for recommendations as to division and reference.

### **SECTION 37. Standing Committees.**

There shall be the following Standing Committees:

- A. **Jurisprudence,**  
to which shall be referred all proposed legislation affecting the constitution or laws of the Grand Lodge; all decisions, edicts, and rulings of the Grand Master; and all other matters of legal significance.
- B. **Finance,**  
to which shall be referred all questions of a monetary character affecting the interest of the Grand Lodge; and whose duty it shall be to examine the accounts and financial reports of all officers and committees of the Grand Lodge, to set standards and procedures for all financial records, to prepare and submit the proposed Grand Lodge budget for the ensuing year together with a preliminary report on the current financial condition of the Grand Lodge to the constituent Lodges prior to the 4th Monday in April annually, to make a full report before the close of each Annual Communication on the financial condition of the Grand Lodge.
- C. **Charters and Dispensations,**  
to which shall be referred the returns and records of Lodges under dispensation, and all petitions for charters, change of location or name, or for consolidation, of Lodges.
- D. **Appeals and Grievances,**  
to which shall be referred all appeals, and all memorials and petitions in relation to any matters of grievance, which shall come before the Grand Lodge.
- E. **Fraternal Relations,**  
to which shall be referred the reports of Grand Lodges in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge. Such committee shall present at each annual communication of the Grand Lodge a report containing such facts pertaining to Masonry in general, and such opinions of the committee, as it may deem of interest to the Craft in Colorado.
- F. **Memorials (Necrology),**  
whose duty it shall be to present to the Grand Lodge at each annual communication suitable memorials and resolutions concerning deceased brethren.
- G. **Masonic Education,**  
to consist of five members, whose duty it shall be to promote the study of Masonry in Lodges and by Masons, and to formulate and effectuate the necessary plans therefore.
- H. **Armed Forces Welfare,**  
to consist of three or more members at the discretion of the Grand Master, whose duty it shall be on behalf of this Grand Lodge to extend relief and comfort

to Masons who are or were in the military service of the United States, and their families, under such regulations as the Grand Lodge may prescribe. (Revised January 26, 2008)

**I. Custodians of the Work,**

which shall consist of the Grand Lecturer, who shall be chairman of the committee, and four other members. This committee shall be invested with the custody, preservation, and interpretation of the esoteric work, lectures, forms, and ceremonies adopted by the Grand Lodge and required to be used by Lodges. Its decisions in regard thereto shall be reviewable only by the Grand Lodge. It shall keep a record of such of its proceedings and rulings as may with propriety be committed to writing, and report all its decisions and rulings to the Grand Lodge.

**J. Educational Assistance**

**1. Scholarships**

Grand Lodge Scholarship Committee:

**Purpose:**

The Scholarship Committee established by the Grand Master shall administer all funds appropriated for scholarship purposes by the trustees of the Colorado Masons Benevolent Fund Association.

**Composition:**

In addition to the Grand Master, the Scholarship Committee shall consist of a chairman appointed annually, and six members appointed for staggered six year terms, all of whom serve at the pleasure of the Grand Lodge. Term vacancies shall be filled for the balance of an unexpired term.

**Operation:**

Each year the Scholarship Committee shall formulate a plan for awarding of scholarships to worthy graduates of Colorado public high schools who desire to attend Colorado institutions of higher learning, including trade or business schools. Annually, the committee shall select the scholarship recipients, the amount of award to each, and such other matters as may be deemed appropriate. The Committee shall furnish the trustees with a list of names and addresses of the recipients, the institution to be attended, and the amount of the individual award. The trustees shall cause the payment to be made to the institution. The amount of scholarships awarded annually shall not exceed the yearly appropriation for this purpose.

**2. Vocational Training Assistance**

Grand Lodge Vocational Grant Committee:

**Purpose:**

The Vocational Grant Committee shall administer the funds appropriated for vocational training purposes by the trustees of the Colorado Masons Benevolent Fund Association.

**Composition:**

In addition to the Grand Master the Vocational Grant Committee shall consist

of a chairman appointed annually, and six members appointed for staggered six year terms, all of whom serve at the pleasure of the Grand Lodge. Term vacancies shall be filled for the balance of an unexpired term.

**Operation:**

Each year the Vocational Grant Committee shall formulate a plan for awarding vocational training assistance to worthy graduates of Colorado public high schools who desire to attend Colorado vocational training establishments or schools. Annually, the committee shall determine the recipients, the amount of the award to each and other such matters as appropriate. The committee shall furnish the trustees with a list of the names and addresses of the recipients, the establishment to be attended, and the amount of the individual award. The trustees shall then cause the payment to be made to the establishment. The amount of assistance awarded annually shall not exceed the yearly appropriation for this purpose. (Revised January 25, 2003)

**SECTION 38. Nonprofit Corporations.**

**Purpose:**

The Grand Lodge has caused the creation, qualification and perpetuation of Colorado non-profit corporations, to conduct its charitable, scientific, literary, educational, fraternal and benevolent work, each exempt from federal income taxation, under section 501(c), of U.S. Internal Revenue Code and corresponding Colorado Statutes, each governed by the Grand Lodge, this Constitution and the respective organizational documents, by-laws, rules and regulations of each corporation:

- A. The Colorado Masons Benevolent Fund Association.
- B. The Robert Russell Eastern Star Masonic Center of Colorado, Inc.
- C. The Colorado Masonic Library and Museum Association
- D. Colorado Masonic Properties, Inc.
- E. The Colorado Masons' Preservation and Assistance Fund, Inc.
- F. The Colorado Masonic Foundation for Children.
- G. The Colorado Masons Voluntary Perpetual Membership Fund.
- H. Colorado Masonic High School Band Camp. (Revised January 25, 2003)
- I. Colorado Masons – Child I.D. Program, Inc. (1/28.2006)

**SECTION 39. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication, January 25, 2003.

**SECTION 40. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication, January 25, 2003.

**SECTION 41. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication, January 25, 2003.

**SECTION 42. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication, January 25, 2003.

**SECTION 42a. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication, January 25, 2003.

**SECTION 42b. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication, January 25, 2003.

**DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

**SECTION 43. Deputy Grand Master.**

The Deputy Grand Master shall attend the Communication of the Grand Lodge, and at all times render the Grand Master such assistance as may be required of him.

**SECTION 44. Grand Wardens.**

The Senior Grand Warden and the Junior Grand Warden shall assist the Grand Master at the Communications of the Grand Lodge, and perform such other duties as by Masonic usage appertain to their respective offices.

**SECTION 45. Grand Treasurer.**

Except as otherwise provided by these laws, the Grand Treasurer shall have charge of all the funds and securities of the Grand Lodge. It shall be his duty:

- A. To give his receipt for all monies received from the Grand Secretary; to deposit all funds under his control as Grand Treasurer in a bank in the name of "The Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A.M. of Colorado"; and to pay all warrants of the Grand Lodge drawn on him, when signed and certified by the Grand Secretary, for such amounts and for such purposes as are specified in the Book of Constitutions, or as may be designated in a duly adopted resolution of the Grand Lodge, which warrants he shall cancel when paid. He shall not loan out or invest any of the funds of the Grand Lodge in his possession, except as ordered by the Grand Lodge; provided, that upon the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and by order of the Grand Master he may invest and reinvest such funds in obligations of the United States of America, or in funds or securities guaranteed or insured by the United States of America, or in such funds and securities consistent with the Standards for Investments under the Colorado Uniform Prudent Investor Act, Colorado Revised Statutes 15-1-304.1 and 15-1.1-101, et seq, as the same may from time to time be amended. 1/25/97
- B. To keep in suitable books a just and accurate account of all his receipts and disbursements as Grand Treasurer, and to attend upon the Grand Lodge when required with the books and documents relating to his office, and upon the Grand Master or any committee of the Grand Lodge whose duty it may be to act in relation to the fiscal concerns of the Grand Lodge.

- C. To submit to the Grand Lodge at each annual communication a faithful report of his transactions as Grand Treasurer for the preceding year, showing the amount of his receipts and disbursements by items, accompanied by Vouchers for all monies paid out by him as Grand Treasurer, together with a statement of the existing condition of the several funds of the Grand Lodge and the funds and securities and other property of the Grand Lodge in his possession, and satisfactory evidence that the cash balance as shown by such report is deposited in a bank in the name of "The Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Colorado," and that the securities representing the invested funds of the Grand Lodge as shown by such report are in his possession.
- D. To give bond or Insurance to "The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Colorado," with a surety or insurance company as his surety, conditioned for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office as specified in the laws of the Grand Lodge, in an amount to be determined annually by the Grand Master and the Committee on Finance, equal to the largest amount in his hands at any time; the expense of such bond or insurance coverage to be paid by the Grand Lodge. Such bond or insurance coverage shall be subject to the approval of the Committee on Jurisprudence of the Grand Lodge, and shall be deposited with the Grand Master for safekeeping. (Amended 1/24/2004)
- E. To pay and deliver to his successor in office, or to such person as may be designated by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master, all money and property of the Grand Lodge under his control, making all proper assignments when necessary.

#### **SECTION 46. Grand Secretary.**

The Grand Secretary shall record the transactions of the Grand Lodge and conduct its correspondence, under the direction of the Grand Master; receive all monies due to the Grand Lodge, except those whose collection is otherwise provided for by law, promptly pay them over to the Grand Treasurer, taking his receipt therefor, and keep a correct detailed account thereof in suitable books. He shall keep the seal of the Grand Lodge, and shall sign and certify all official documents emanating from that body and when necessary affix the seal of the Grand Lodge thereto. It shall be his duty:

- A. To submit to the Grand Lodge at each annual communication a faithful report of the monies received by him as Grand Secretary during the preceding year, showing the sources from which derived, and a statement of the receipts and disbursements of the Grand Lodge for the preceding year, together with such information in regard to the annual returns and membership of Lodges as the Grand Lodge may require.
- B. To receive and preserve all petitions, applications, appeals, and other documents addressed or belonging to the Grand Lodge; and to attend with any necessary books, papers, or writings, under his control or custody, all communications of the Grand Lodge for the transaction of business, and upon the Grand Master or any committee of the Grand Lodge whose duty it may be to act in relation to the fiscal concerns of the Grand Lodge.

- C. To keep a register of the receipts and disbursements of the funds of the Grand Lodge except those in charge of The Colorado Masons Benevolent Fund Association, a register of charters and dispensations to form new Lodges, a register of all Lodges and their members and unfinished material, and a register of the annual returns of Lodges.
- D. To furnish each Lodge with the necessary blanks for its annual returns and other reports required. To furnish all printed matter which the Lodges are required to obtain from his office or which may be ordered by the Grand Lodge, for which warrants of the Grand Lodge shall be drawn in payment; and to hold and dispose thereof as the Grand Lodge shall direct.
- E. To cause to be printed so much of the proceedings of the annual communication of the Grand Lodge as it may order, and the proceedings of such special communications as may be ordered by the Grand Master; and to dispose thereof as the Grand Lodge shall direct.
- F. To transmit to each Lodge at the end of each month a list of all members of Lodges suspended or expelled for unmasonic conduct, and of those reinstated to membership after suspension or expulsion for such cause, as reported to him by the several Lodges in such month.
- G. To have charge of the library of this Grand Lodge.
- H. To transmit to each Lodge a monthly list of each petition for the degrees or for membership by affiliation and of every rejection of such petition, such information having been submitted to the Grand Secretary by the Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction. See Section 68.
- I. To give bond or insurance coverage to "The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Colorado," with a surety or insurance company as his surety, conditioned for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office as specified in the laws of the Grand Lodge, in any amount to be determined annually by the Grand Master and the Committee on Finance, which shall not be less than five thousand dollars, the expense of such bond or insurance coverage to be paid by the Grand Lodge. Such bond or insurance coverage shall be subject to the approval of the Committee on Jurisprudence of the Grand Lodge, and shall be deposited with the Grand Master for safekeeping. (Amended 1/24/2004)

#### **SECTION 47. Compensation of Grand Secretary.**

The Grand Secretary's salary shall be presented in the budget of the Grand Lodge each year with the approval of the Finance Committee. The salary shall be considered fixed for the year when the delegates of this Grand Lodge approve the budget. The Grand Secretary shall be allowed such additional sum for clerical assistance and contingent office expense as the Grand Lodge may from time to time appropriate for that purpose.

#### **SECTION 48. Grand Lecturer.**

The Grand Lecturer shall impart to the officers and the members of Lodges the work, lectures, forms, and ceremonies, for Lodges, as adopted by the Grand Lodge and

interpreted by the Custodians of the Work. He shall require from all Lodges and their officers a strict conformity to the established standard work of this Grand Lodge; and he may convene any Lodge for the purpose of giving instruction in such manner as to him may seem desirable. He shall inspect the condition of Lodges and examine their records, books and accounts, to ascertain if they are complying with Masonic laws, and make such recommendations to them as he may deem necessary. With the approval of the Grand Master, he shall divide the state into districts. He shall, with the approval of the Grand Master, appoint one or more District Lecturers to each, who shall be under his supervision and direction and he may authorize them to perform such duties as are above specified as he may deem proper, reporting to him their activities. The Grand Lecturer shall report the facts of inspection to the Grand Master in such form and detail as the latter may require and file a copy of that report with the Grand Secretary. He should make a detailed report of the acts and expenses of himself and his District Lecturers to the Grand Lodge at each annual communication.

#### **SECTION 49. Compensation of Grand Lecturer.**

The Grand Lecturer's salary shall be presented in the budget of the Grand Lodge each year with the approval of the Finance Committee. The salary shall be considered fixed for the year when the delegates of this Grand Lodge approve the budget. The Grand Lecturer shall be allowed such additional sum for actual expenses incurred in the performance of his duties as the Grand Lodge may from time to time appropriate for that purpose.

#### **SECTION 50. Grand Deacons.**

The Senior Grand Deacon and the Junior Grand Deacon shall assist the Grand Master and Grand Wardens at the communications of the Grand Lodge, by performing such duties as by Masonic usage appertain to their respective offices.

#### **SECTION 51. Grand Stewards.**

The Senior Grand Steward and the Junior Grand Steward shall assist the Grand Deacons and other officers of the Grand Lodge at the communications of the Grand Lodge, and perform such other duties as may be required of them by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master.

#### **SECTION 52. Grand Marshal.**

The Grand Marshal shall introduce visitors at the communication of the Grand Lodge, assist at the installation of officers, make proclamations in the name of the Grand Lodge or Grand Master, and communicate and execute the commands of the Grand Master in all processions of the Grand Lodge.

#### **SECTION 53. Grand Chaplain.**

The Grand Chaplain shall lead in devotional exercises at the communications of the Grand Lodge.

### **SECTION 54. Grand Orator.**

The Grand Orator shall prepare an address upon some Masonic subject, which he shall deliver before the Grand Lodge at its annual communication.

### **SECTION 55. Grand Tiler.**

The Grand Tiler shall guard the door of the Grand Lodge at its communications, report all those who desire admission, see that none enter but such as are duly authorized by the Grand Master and properly clothed; and perform all the other customary duties appertaining to his office.

### **SECTION 55A. Grand Musician.**

The Grand Musician shall perform at Communications of the Grand Lodge and at other times when requested, attend and perform music at Cornerstone Ceremonies when needed, and will help and support Lodges in the use of appropriate music for Degrees.

## **REVENUES AND FUNDS**

### **SECTION 56. Sources of Revenues.**

The revenues of the Grand Lodge shall be derived from the assessment of dues and fees upon the Lodges under its jurisdiction; from fees for the issuing of charters and dispensations, from proceeds of the property of defunct Lodges, from the sale of publications, from the interest and income from its invested funds, and from any other source provided for by the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

### **SECTION 57. Dues and Fees.**

The following dues and fees shall be paid to the Grand Lodge:

- A. Each chartered Lodge shall pay annually as dues for each of its members, except Perpetual Members, so much as shall be fixed and specified by this Grand Lodge at its Annual Anniversary Communication in August of each year. Of the amount so fixed as annual dues, a minimum of \$.50 (50 cents) shall be allocated to the Grand Lodge Charity Fund, and used exclusively for charitable, benevolent, and educational purposes.
  1. In cases of Plural Membership, the member's 'Mother Lodge' shall be required to pay the Grand Lodge per capita tax on that member, except Perpetual Members and the second Lodge in which he holds membership shall be exempt therefrom. (All) members who shall have attained the age of sixty-five prior to December 1, 1958 are exempt.)
  2. Each Lodge working under dispensation shall pay annually, as dues, for each brother raised to the degree of Master Mason by authority of such Lodge \$1.50.
  3. For each dispensation to form a new Lodge there shall be paid \$60.00.
  4. For each charter issued to a new Lodge there shall be paid \$40.00.
  5. For each duplicate charter issued to a Lodge there shall be paid \$5.00.

6. For each dispensation, other than for a new Lodge, issued by the Grand Master, there shall be paid \$5.00
- B. The Trustees of the Colorado Masons Perpetual Membership Fund shall pay annually as dues for each Perpetual Member, so much as shall be fixed and specified by this Grand Lodge at its Annual Anniversary Communication in August of each year. Of the amount so fixed as annual dues, a minimum of \$.50 (50 cents) shall be to the Grand Lodge Charity Fund, and used exclusively for charitable, benevolent, and educational purposes.
  1. The Trustees of the Colorado Masons Perpetual Membership Fund shall provide to the Finance Committee the amounts they will be able to pay for each Perpetual Member without endangering the integrity of the fund by March 15th of the prior year for Annual Budget planning.

## **SECTION 58. Collection of Revenues.**

Fees for dispensations shall be payable to the Grand Master, and when received by him shall be turned over to the Grand Secretary. Contributions or bequests to, or income from any special or trust fund of the Grand Lodge which shall have been placed in charge of The Colorado Masons Benevolent Fund Association shall be paid to and received by that Association. Unless otherwise specifically provided, all other revenues of the Grand Lodge shall be paid to the Grand Secretary.

## **SECTION 59. Funds.**

### **A. Funds.**

The Grand Lodge has established the following Funds, in the care, custody, control, investment, management and disbursement by the named officers, trustees and entities:

1. The Grand Treasurer and Secretary: The General Fund: All fees, revenues of, and contributions to the Grand Lodge not otherwise designated.
  - a. The General Fund shall be disbursed only through warrants signed and certified by the Grand Treasurer, for such amounts and for such purposes as are specified in the laws of this Grand Lodge, or as may be designated in a duly adopted resolution thereof.
  - b. Funds appropriated by the Grand Lodge to, for the use or benefit of, or in furtherance of the purpose of any fund created for any special purpose.
2. The Trustees of the nonprofit corporations named in Section 38 of the Book of Constitutions.
  - a. All of which funds shall be received, managed, invested and be disbursed by the Trustees in accordance with the articles of incorporation, bylaws, rules and regulations of the corporations.
3. It is intended that all income and assets of this Grand Lodge, to the extent not required for programs, operation, maintenance or as otherwise designated of this Grand Lodge be irrevocably dedicated to charitable, scientific, literary, educational, fraternal, benevolent or relief purposes.

**B. Funds deposit, transfer, investment.**

All funds in the care, custody and control of the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Secretary, and each/all of the Trustees and entities above named shall be deposited only in financial institutions approved by the Grand Master and the Finance Committee, and from such financial institutions may then be transferred, invested and reinvested in obligations of the United States of America, or in funds or securities approved by the Grand Master and the Finance Committee, consistent with the Standards for investment under the Colorado Prudent Investor Act, C.R.S. §15-1-304.1 & §15-1.1-101, et seq., as the same may from time to time be amended.

**C. Dissolution.**

Should the Grand Lodge, or any or all of the named entities ever cease to exist, all remaining income and assets shall be transferred either to the Colorado Masons Benevolent Fund Association, for distribution in accordance with the articles of incorporation, bylaws, rules and regulations of the Association, or to such organization or entities controlled by the Grand Lodge which are organized and operated exclusively for charitable, scientific, literary, educational, fraternal, benevolent or relief purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501 (c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code (or the corresponding provision of any future United States of America Internal Revenue Law). Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of competent jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of this Grand Lodge is then located exclusively for such purpose or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes. (Revised January 25, 2003)

**SECTION 60. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication, January 25, 2003.

**SECTION 61. DELETED**

by a vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication January 26, 2002.

**SECTION 62. DELETED**

by a vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication January 26, 2002.

**MASONIC DEGREES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

**SECTION 63. Degrees.**

This Grand Lodge recognizes no degrees in Masonry except those of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, as conferred under its regulations or the regulations of the several Grand Lodges with which it is in fraternal relations.

**SECTION 64. Masonic Organization.**

This Grand Lodge admits the following named organizations, and none other, to be regular and duly constituted Masonic, bodies, possessing sole jurisdiction in the State of

Colorado over the degrees authorized by such organizations, and the exclusive right to establish and maintain in the State of Colorado constituent of subordinate bodies with authority to confer such degrees: the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Colorado, the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Colorado, the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Colorado, the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America. Provided that such bodies require of their members satisfactory evidence of good standing in their Lodges as requisite to maintenance of membership in said bodies. A Master Mason must be found proficient in the Master Mason degree before making a petition for the degrees or before affiliating with or becoming a member of any organization that requires as a prerequisite membership in a Blue Lodge. (Revised January 27, 2001)

## **AMENDMENT**

### **SECTION 65. Laws Pertaining to Grand Lodge.**

These laws pertaining to the Grand Lodge may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Grand Lodge, or their proxies, present and voting at an annual communication of the Grand Lodge; provided that the proposed amendment shall have been presented to the Grand Secretary by a member of the Grand Lodge at least ninety days before such annual communication, and a copy thereof shall have been mailed by the Grand Secretary to each officer of the Grand Lodge and to each Lodge at least sixty days before such annual communication, and provided further, that changes in such proposed amendment may be made by a three-fourths vote of the registered members of the Grand Lodge, or their proxies, present and voting at such annual communication of the Grand Lodge, before voting on such amendment or amendments with such changes, at such annual communication; or that, in lieu of such notice, the unanimous consent of the registered members of the Grand Lodge, or their proxies, present and voting at such annual communication, shall have been obtained to the presentation of the proposed amendment. Any amendment adopted at a Grand Lodge communication shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

## **LAWS PERTAINING TO LODGES RELATIONS WITH GRAND LODGE**

### **SECTION 66. Laws and Regulations.**

The laws and regulations of The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Colorado pertaining to Lodges under its jurisdiction are hereby declared to be contained in: The Book of Constitutions, containing laws; The Book of Ceremonies, containing ceremonies for use of the Grand Lodge; The Colorado Craftsman, or Masonic Monitor, containing ceremonies for use of the Lodges; and The Book of Forms, containing ceremonies for the use of Lodges and regulations regarding the books of record, blank forms, furniture, tools, and clothing, required to be used by Lodges; together with the regulations pertaining to the esoteric work, as promulgated by the Custodians of the Work, whether committed to writing or otherwise.

## **SECTION 67. Forms.**

Each Lodge shall use the books of record and account as prescribed by the Book of Forms. Any petition, report, or other document required by law to be used by a Lodge or a Mason for any particular purpose for which a form is prescribed by the Book of Forms, shall be in such form.

## **SECTION 68. Returns, Dues and Fees.**

- A. Each chartered Lodge shall make a monthly return to the Grand Secretary which shall show all changes in membership of the Lodge.
- B. The Lodge shall report all work done by the Lodge: all petitions received; all petitions rejected; all suspensions or expulsions from membership; reinstatements to membership, and any other facts the Grand Lodge may require.
- C. The Lodge shall also make an annual recapitulation of the same for the year ending November 30, which shall show the names of the officers, the number of members of the Lodge. Each Lodge shall pay to the Grand Lodge the dues and fees required by law, except the Grand Lodge Per Capita Dues of Perpetual Members, to be paid based upon the membership work, or other facts shown in its monthly recapitulation sheet dated June 30th. The annual recapitulation shall be delivered to the Grand Secretary not later than December 10th of each year and the dues and fees paid to the Grand Secretary not later than January 10th of each year. (Revised January 26, 2008)
- D. The Lodge shall report promptly to the Grand Secretary any Masonic impostor found to be such by the Lodge or any of its officers or members.
- E. Each Lodge shall forward to the Grand Secretary, by June 15<sup>th</sup> of each year, a copy of any required tax return that has been filed with the Internal Revenue Service, during the present or previous calendar year for any and all entities in which the Lodge has a financial interest or responsibility. In the event that any required report is delinquent and a reminder does not result in the report being correctly filed, the Grand Lodge may file the required report(s). (Revised January 26, 2008)

## **SECTION 69. Reports.**

A Lodge shall immediately after its annual election report to the Grand Secretary the names and addresses of its newly elected officers.

## **SECTION 70. Official Correspondence.**

A Lodge shall have all official correspondence from the Grand Master, Grand Secretary, or other officer of the Grand Lodge, read in open Lodge at the next stated communication following its receipt, unless otherwise instructed.

## **SECTION 71. Duplicate Charter.**

If the charter of a Lodge shall have been destroyed, stolen, or surreptitiously taken and detained, or shall have become defaced, or illegible, rendering it unfit for use, the Grand

Master may order a duplicate charter to be issued by the Grand Secretary, upon the payment of such fee therefor as may be required by law, which duplicate shall show the reasons for its issuance.

### **SECTION 72. Surrender of Charter.**

A Lodge may surrender its charter, subject to the approval of the Grand Lodge; provided, that at a stated communication of the Lodge, after at least thirty days notice to all the members, a majority of the members present vote to do so, and there are less than seven negative votes.

### **SECTION 73. Arrest of Charter.**

The charter of a Lodge may be arrested at any time by the Grand Master or Grand Lodge should the interests of Masonry require it. If the charter is arrested by the Grand Master, the jurisdiction, rights, and privileges of the Lodge, and the Masonic standing of its members, remain in abeyance until further action by the Grand Lodge. Immediately upon the arrest of the charter of a Lodge the person or persons having in custody the property of such Lodge shall deliver to the Grand Secretary the funds, books of record and account, seal, and jewels of the Lodge, and shall hold all other property of the Lodge subject to his order.

### **SECTION 74. Revocation of Charter.**

The Grand Lodge may revoke the charter of a Lodge for any cause that it may deem to be sufficient. If a Lodge shall fail to meet for one year; or shall fail to make its annual returns, or fail to pay its dues and fees, to the Grand Lodge, as required by law; or for two consecutive years shall fail to be represented at the annual communications of the Grand Lodge; its charter shall be subject to arrest and revocation.

### **SECTION 75. Dissolution of Lodge.**

A Lodge can be dissolved only by the surrender or revocation of its charter, which when declared by the Grand Lodge shall be conclusive; and thereupon the members and unfinished material of such Lodge shall become non-affiliated Masons; and all the property of the Lodge shall become the property of the Grand Lodge, subject to its absolute disposal, and must on demand be surrendered to the Grand Lodge or its authorized agent by the person or persons having it in custody. The Grand Lodge shall in no case be liable for any indebtedness of a defunct Lodge beyond the net amount received from the sale of the property of the Lodge and from dues collected from members of the Lodge, after paying all expenses attending the settlement of the affairs of the Lodge.

### **SECTION 75a. Temple Associations:**

If a Lodge owns or shares ownership in real estate or a building it shall form a Temple Association, incorporated under the laws of Colorado, for the purpose of representing it in the ownership or management of such real estate or building.

**A. Title**

All real estate or buildings owned or acquired by a Lodge shall be held in the name of their Temple Association.

**B. Joint Ownership**

A Temple Association shall enter into joint ownership in real estate or buildings only with organizations recognized as Masonic by this Grand Lodge; which would include exclusively, other Lodges chartered by this Grand Lodge and those organizations named as duly constituted Masonic Bodies in Section 64 of this Constitution.

**C. Dissolution**

Upon the dissolution of the Lodge (Sec. 75) the Lodge's Temple Association shall also be dissolved and all of its assets including all right title and interest in any real estate and buildings shall vest in the Grand Lodge; and, The Articles of Incorporation of any Temple Association shall expressly so provide.

**D. Notice Requirements**

All notices covered by Section 26 concerning the mortgage, sale, and disposition of Real Estate also apply to Temple Associations.

**E. Use Of Building**

So long as the requirements and prohibitions of Section 116 are complied with, a temple association may allow a building under its management to be used for weddings, receptions, business meetings, and social functions and permit alcoholic beverages to be consumed on the premises during such functions so long as no sale of alcoholic beverages occurs on the premises and the sponsor or host of the party or function complies with all state and local laws concerning the possession and use of alcoholic beverages. (1/27/2001)

**SECTION 76. Certificates.**

A Mason of any degree in good standing in a Lodge whose charter shall have been surrendered or revoked, whose dues to such Lodge shall have been paid up to the date of the surrender or revocation or who shall pay such dues to the Grand Lodge, shall, upon application in writing to the Grand Secretary, be entitled to a certificate setting forth the facts of his standing, which certificate shall have the force and effect of a dimit as of the date of the dissolution of the Lodge. One who shall have been suspended from membership in such a Lodge prior to its dissolution may be restored to the standing of a non-affiliated Mason only by action of the Grand Lodge, upon his written application accompanied by a recommendation from the Lodge within whose jurisdiction he is residing.

**SECTION 77. Consolidation of Lodges.**

Two or more Lodges having contiguous or concurrent territorial jurisdiction may be consolidated and formed into one Lodge either under the charter of one of the Lodges or under such charter with amendment as to the name or number or as to both name and number, by the Grand Lodge at an annual communication; upon the petition of such Lodges, accompanied by a certificate from each Lodge that at a communication held

after at least thirty days' notice to all members a resolution agreeing to such consolidation together with a list of officers to serve the consolidated Lodge was adopted by a two-thirds vote of the members present, with less than seven dissenting. The petition shall also be accompanied by the charter of each Lodge; and if the consolidation shall be approved by the Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary shall certify the fact on the charter designated by the Grand Lodge to be that of the consolidated Lodge, cancel the charter of any other Lodge, or the charters of all other Lodges included in the consolidation, and return all charters to the consolidated Lodge. The members and unfinished material of all Lodges included in the consolidation shall be the members and unfinished material of the consolidated Lodge, and the records and property of all such Lodges shall become the property of the consolidated Lodge, which shall be liable for all debts previously incurred by any of the Lodges included in the consolidation.

## **JURISDICTION AND PLACE OF MEETING**

### **SECTION 78. Jurisdiction.**

The territorial jurisdiction of each Lodge shall be coextensive and concurrent with every other Lodge and extend over all the territory within the State of Colorado under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge. Such jurisdiction shall include the exclusive right to receive petitions for the degrees of Masonry from all eligible persons residing within such geographical limits, except by dispensation of the Grand Master and the permission of the Jurisdiction involved. And in addition the right of a chartered Lodge to exercise penal powers over any Mason, whether Master Mason, Fellow Craft, or Entered Apprentice, whether a member or the material of such Lodge or any Lodge, or not, residing or sojourning within such limits. Each Lodge shall have personal jurisdiction over all its members and unfinished material, except its incumbent Master, or the Grand Master if he be a member thereof, wheresoever's residing. (Revised January 28, 2006)

### **SECTION 79. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication January 27, 1996.

### **SECTION 80. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication January 27, 1996.

### **SECTION 81. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication January 27, 1996.

### **SECTION 82. Meeting Place.**

Each Lodge shall have a regular meeting place that has been approved by the Grand Master, in the community, town, or city designated in its charter; and it shall not hold any communication in any other than its regular place of meeting without the consent of the Grand Master; provided, that if two or more halls in the same building shall have

received the approval of the Grand Master, any Lodge whose regular place of meeting is in such building may hold any of its communications in any of such halls. A Lodge may change its regular place of meeting from one hall or building to another in the same community, town, or city, by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a stated communication, after at least fifteen days' notice to the resident members, and with the consent of the Grand Master.

### **SECTION 83. Change of Meeting Place.**

A Lodge shall not change its regular place of meeting to any other community, town, or city, than that designated in its charter, except by consent of the Grand Lodge. Such consent may be granted upon the petition of a Lodge, accompanied by a certificate that the petition was authorized by a resolution adopted by a two thirds vote of the members present at a stated communication, after at least fifteen days' notice to all members; and by a certificate that a copy of such resolution was sent to each Lodge whose jurisdiction would be affected by the change, at least sixty days before the annual communication at which the petition is presented to the Grand Lodge.

### **SECTION 84. Halls.**

A Lodge shall not become an occupant of a hall with any other than exclusively moral or benevolent associations, nor with any body of so-called Masons not recognized as regular by this Grand Lodge. The hall and adjoining rooms used as a meeting place by a Lodge shall not be used as offices, except for Masonic business, nor for mercantile or commercial purposes. A Lodge shall not hold a communication and confer any degree on any floor of a building when any society or organization or entity that is not recognized as Masonic by this Grand Lodge under Section 64 shall be meeting in another room or hall on the same floor. However, if a Masonic Building is constructed so as to have sound proof rooms and halls, and/or rooms and halls separated from each other, affiliated or appendant organizations such as OES, Amaranth, DeMolay, Job's Daughters or Rainbow Girls may hold communications or meetings at the same time and on the same floor as the Masonic Lodge meeting.

## **OFFICERS**

### **SECTION 85. Annual Election.**

The officers of each Lodge shall be elected, or appointed, and installed annually, to serve until the next annual election, or until their successors shall have been duly elected, or appointed, and installed.

### **SECTION 86. Election and Appointments.**

The Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Secretary, of each Lodge shall be elected at its last stated communication in November or the first stated communication in December; and the Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior Steward, Junior Steward, and Tiler; and, if so provided for by the bylaws of the Lodge, a Chaplain or a Marshal, or both; shall be appointed by the Master so elected, after consultation with the Wardens. (Amended 1/24/2004)

### **SECTION 87. Voting.**

A majority of all the votes cast at an election of an officer of a Lodge shall be necessary to elect. The voting shall be by written ballots. No one shall solicit votes for himself or another for any office; no nomination for any office, other than secretary and treasurer shall be made, and no officer shall be elected by motion or resolution.

### **SECTION 88. Eligibility to Office.**

No one shall be eligible to election or appointment to, or continue to hold, any office in a Lodge unless he be a member of that Lodge, excepting that a member of one Lodge may be appointed Tiler of another. Any member of a Lodge shall be eligible to election or appointment to any office therein except that of Master, but no one shall hold more than one office in the same Lodge. No one shall be eligible to election as Master unless he shall have been previously elected and installed a Warden or Master of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge or a Grand Lodge with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal relations. Appointment and installation by the Grand Lodge of a Master or Warden of a chartered Lodge shall be equivalent to election and installation.

### **SECTION 89. Installation.**

Each officer of a Lodge whether elected or re-elected, appointed or re-appointed, shall be installed in person in open Lodge at the communication at which the annual election of officers is held, or at a stated or special communication of the Lodge, or at a ceremony open to Lodge members and their invited non-Masonic guests. Such a ceremony will be at the option of each constituent Lodge and in conformity with the guidelines to be prescribed by the Custodians of the Work. Such installation to be held not later than January 20th following. Two or more Lodges having concurrent jurisdiction may have a joint installation of officers, if the necessary officers and number of members of each Lodge required by law for opening such Lodge shall be present. (Revised January 24, 1998)

### **SECTION 90. Installing Officer.**

Only a present Master or a past Master shall install the officers of a Lodge. One who has been elected, or appointed by the Grand Lodge, and installed Master of a chartered Lodge only, becomes a past Master at the expiration of his term of office as such. No objection shall be entertained to the installation of anyone to an office unless the objection shall be based upon an alleged irregularity in the election of an officer, or upon facts that would constitute the basis of a charge of unmasonic conduct against the one to whose installation objection is made.

### **SECTION 91. Failure to Elect or Install.**

If a Lodge shall fail to elect and install its officers, or any of them, within the time prescribed by these laws, the Grand Master may grant a dispensation to elect and install, or to install, such officer or officers as the exigencies of the case may require, an election in such case to be held only after at least five days' notice to the members of the Lodge.

### **SECTION 92. Duties.**

The duties of each officer of a Lodge are such as are required by the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge, the bylaws of the Lodge, and the ancient usages of Freemasonry.

### **SECTION 93. Succession.**

In case of the death or disability of the Master of a Lodge, the Senior Warden and Junior Warden shall, in succession, assume the prerogatives and duties of the office of Master, except such as pertain to the installation of officers. If the offices of Master, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden shall become vacant by the death or disability of the incumbents, the Grand Master may order an election by the Lodge to fill such vacancies and any vacancy or vacancies that may be caused by such election; and at the time appointed he shall, either in person or by representative, assemble the Lodge, preside therein, and install the officers who shall be elected.

### **SECTION 94. Vacancies.**

Any officer of a Lodge, other than the Master and Wardens, may resign his office. The death or disability of an incumbent of the office of Treasurer, Secretary, or any appointive office, shall create a vacancy in that office. The permanent removal of a Treasurer or Secretary of a Lodge from its territorial jurisdiction, if it shall result in his inability to perform the duties of his office shall thereby vacate such office. A Lodge may order an election to be held at a stated communication with five days' notice to all resident members, to fill a vacancy in the office of Treasurer or Secretary, but until it takes such action and an election is held, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the Master. The Master may remove any appointive officer for cause and thereby create a vacancy in office. A vacancy in an appointive office may be filled at any time by the Master. An officer elected or appointed to fill a vacancy shall be installed without dispensation.

## **GOVERNMENT**

### **SECTION 95. Communications.**

The communications of a Lodge are either Stated or Special; and, except for conferring of degrees and examination of Candidates may be conducted while open on any appropriate degree. The stated communications shall be held at the time fixed by the bylaws of the Lodge, but not oftener than twice in any month, and not less than two weeks apart. Special communications may be held at the pleasure of the Master for such purposes as are authorized by law, but no communication, nor any form of Lodge installation, shall be held on Sunday except to perform Masonic funeral services or to lay the cornerstones of Churches, by the Grand Lodge. 1/25/97

### **SECTION 96. Stated Communications.**

Except as otherwise provided by law, all the business of a Lodge shall be transacted at its stated communications while the Lodge is open on the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, or Master Mason Degree as appropriate as determined by the Master of the

Lodge; and, except for the conferring of degrees and examination of candidates, or the voting on advancement. 1/25/97

### **SECTION 97. Special Communications.**

The Master of a Lodge may call a special communication of the Lodge for the purpose of conferring any degree, or degrees, upon any duly elected candidate or candidates; conferring Masonic burial, installing officers, performing deeds of charity, receiving a visit from an officer of the Grand Lodge, receiving or imparting Masonic instruction; or for the transaction of any special business which by law may be acted upon by a Lodge at either a stated or special communication without formal notice to members; by giving due and timely notice, verbal or otherwise, to a suitable number of brethren. A special communication shall not be held for any other purpose without giving written or printed notice to all members or to resident members, as required by law, or in the absence of such law to all members. Immediately after the opening of a Lodge at a special communication the Master shall state the purpose(s) for which the communication was called, and no other business shall be transacted or work done at that communication than that for which it was called.

### **SECTION 98. Constitutional Number.**

A Lodge shall not be opened or stand opened, nor shall any business be transacted or work done therein, unless there be present the charter under which it works and four (4) or more Master Masons, one of whom shall be its Master or Senior Warden or Junior Warden, or Past Master, and at least three of whom shall be members of such Lodge; provided that a Lodge may be opened by a present or Past Master, of any Lodge, for the purpose of conferring Masonic burial.

### **SECTION 99. Opening and Closing the Lodge.**

A Lodge may be opened at a stated communication or Special Communication on any one or more degrees, When the Lodge is opened on more than one degree the opening shall proceed from the lower to the higher degree, and the closing from the higher to the lower, without any break in continuity. The Lodge shall be closed on the higher degree before labor is resumed on the lower, and when closed on any degree labor shall not be resumed on that degree nor the Lodge reopened thereon at that communication. A communication shall not be called off from one day to another. A trial begun at a stated or special communication may be continued from one communication to another. Special communications of a Lodge, called for the purpose of Masonic burial, may be opened and closed on the first degree of masonry by simple declaration, in an appropriate location. The minutes shall state where the Lodge was opened. (Revised January 25, 2003)

### **SECTION 100. Minutes.**

Minutes of each communication showing a true record of such proceedings as may with Masonic propriety be committed to writing shall be prepared by the Secretary, or in his absence, by a member appointed to act in his place by the presiding officer. Minutes are to be approved only at a stated communication of the Lodge and when approved shall be signed by the Secretary, or acting Secretary, as the case may be, and the

Master, Warden or Past Master presiding at the communication in which the approval occurs. Objections to minutes shall be entertained only when they point out errors or omissions and the presiding officer shall give opportunity for such corrections before declaring them approved. Thereafter the minutes shall not be expunged or obliterated for any purpose.

### **SECTION 101. Amending Proceedings.**

A Lodge shall not at any special communication alter or amend any of the proceedings of a stated communication. Except as otherwise provided by law, any motion or resolution adopted or action had at a stated communication may be reconsidered at that or the next succeeding stated communication, provided it has not gone into effect.

### **SECTION 102. Bylaws.**

A Lodge may amend its bylaws in the manner provided by such bylaws, but no amendment shall become effective until approved by the Grand Master. A Lodge shall not suspend its bylaws, or any of them, or adopt any motion or resolution diminishing or nullifying any of them.

### **SECTION 103. Voting.**

Every member of a Lodge shall be entitled to vote on any question coming before the Lodge when he is present; and except as otherwise provided by law every such question shall be decided by a majority vote of the members of the Lodge present and voting.

### **SECTION 104. Master.**

The Master of a Lodge is responsible to the Grand Lodge for the manner in which his Lodge is governed and for the work done therein. It is his duty to see that the Grand Lodge is informed of all matters required by The Book of Constitutions and to declare out of order and refuse to put any motion or resolution which, if carried, would violate any law, rule, regulation, edict, or order of the Grand Lodge or any principle of Masonry; and the question whether it would do so or not must be determined by the Master alone. He has the right, and it is his duty, to exclude from the Lodge any brother who may be in a condition incompatible with the professions of a Mason, or who by his perverseness or contumacy may interfere with the proper working of the Lodge or disturb its harmony. Parliamentary rules, while useful as guides to the orderly conduct of business, cannot control the will and pleasure of the Master of a Lodge. He has the power to regulate discussion in the Lodge and to terminate debate whenever he sees proper to do so. From the decision of the Master there shall be no appeal to the Lodge. An appeal may be taken from the decision of the Master to the Grand Master, for his action when the Grand Lodge is not in session, subject to final action by the Grand Lodge, or an appeal may be taken directly to the Grand Lodge.

### **SECTION 105. Presiding Officer.**

The Master shall preside over all communications of the Lodge, except that, in his absence the Senior Warden, if present, shall preside, and in the absence of both, the Junior Warden, if present, shall preside, and in the absence of all three, a Past Master

of that Lodge may preside. The presiding officer shall be responsible for the conduct and business of such communication. Should it become necessary or desirable for such presiding officer to leave his station temporarily, he may request any officer or Past officer of any Lodge to preside over the Lodge or to confer a degree or degrees, and so long as the Master, Warden, or Past Master shall remain in the Lodge, such action shall not affect the validity of the proceedings. All communications of a Lodge shall be opened and closed by the Master, a Warden, or a Past Master of that Lodge, except that special communications for the purpose of conferring Masonic burial may be opened and closed by a present or Past Master of any Lodge.

#### **SECTION 106. Notices.**

Any notice, other than verbal, which by law is required, shall be issued by the Secretary, by order of the Master or the Lodge, in written form and under the seal of the Lodge; and shall be served by delivery at the hands of a Master Mason or by depositing it in the mail addressed to the address last known to the Secretary as that of the one for whom it is intended, and by registered mail when the law so stipulates. Only Trestleboards and other Lodge Public Notices may be delivered by electronic means such as private e-mail or an individual Lodge's website.

#### **SECTION 107. Summons.**

The Master of a Lodge or the Lodge has the right to summon any Mason for any purpose within the scope and business of Masonry, but except when required by law this great power shall be exercised only in case of extreme emergency. A summons, which is an imperative order to appear at such time and place as may be therein designated and need not contain anything beyond the requisition to attend, shall be written or printed and under the seal of the Lodge; and shall be served either by actual delivery by any Master Mason, designated for the purpose by the Master, of a copy thereof to the brother to whom issued, or by depositing a copy thereof in the mail addressed to the last known address of such brother. The obligation of every Mason to obey a summons is absolute, and his failure so to do, without good and sufficient cause, shall subject him to charges of unmasonic conduct.

#### **SECTION 108. Seal.**

Each chartered Lodge shall have a seal having some Masonic device and showing the name and number of the Lodge and the place where held; and all official documents or papers emanating from such Lodge, but not its ordinary correspondence, shall bear the imprint of such seal.

#### **SECTION 109. Reports of Officers.**

The Treasurer, Secretary, and any other officer or member whose duty it is to receive, collect, or have charge of, any of the funds of a Lodge shall each at least once a year make a written report to the Lodge showing his receipts and disbursements of such funds in such detail and form as the Lodge may require. The accounts and reports of such officers or members shall be examined at least once a year by a competent committee, appointed by the authority of the Lodge for that purpose, who shall make a

written report thereon to the Lodge, and the fact that such report has been made shall be entered in the minutes.

### **SECTION 110. Book of Constitutions.**

Each Lodge shall keep a copy of the Book of Constitutions in its hall. The Master and Wardens of each Lodge shall read, or listen to the reading of, the Book of Constitutions within two months after the annual election in the Lodge, and report to the Grand Master their compliance with this law within that time.

### **SECTION 111. Instructing Representatives.**

No representative of a Lodge shall be bound by the instructions of his Lodge concerning any matter to be brought before the Grand Lodge unless such instructions were adopted by the Lodge at a stated communication after at least five days' notice to all resident members.

### **SECTION 112. Funds.**

No Lodge shall at any time dispose of its funds, or other property, or any part thereof, by general distribution among its members. A Lodge shall not appropriate or donate any of its funds for any other than strictly Masonic purposes, except a Lodge may donate an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00 in any one fiscal year, unless the Lodge by laws provide otherwise, for any of the following purposes:

#### **A. Charities:**

That the Lodge deems worthy for funding, including: public schools, hospitals, for emergency service.

#### **B. Scholarships:**

1. To a deserving senior in any public high school in the state of Colorado, toward tuition in a Colorado institution of learning, above the high school level.
2. Additional Lodge funds up to \$500.00 in any one year may be used for educational grants to match monies made available by the Trustees of the Colorado Masons Benevolent Fund Association . (Revised January 27, 2001)
3. A Lodge may award more than one matching fund Educational Grant to Graduating Public School Seniors, not to exceed the amount authorized by the Grand Lodge and/or the Colorado Masons Benevolent Fund Trustees as described in Section 112, paragraph 2, sub-section (b). (1/24/2004)

#### **C. Awards:**

In the form of cash and/or Trophies for:

1. Scholarship
2. Citizenship
3. Athletics

**D. Sponsorship**

Of activities and Chapters of The Order of DeMolay, Assemblies of Order of Rainbow for Girls, and Bethels of the Order of Job's Daughters.

**SECTION 113. Indebtedness.**

A Lodge shall not engage in any enterprise for constructing, purchasing, or leasing a building or hall without the consent of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master. A Lodge shall not incur, directly or indirectly, any indebtedness or liability in an amount greater than ten dollars per capita of its membership without consent of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.

**SECTION 114. Compensation of the Secretary.**

The compensation of the Secretary of a Lodge shall be fixed by the bylaws of the Lodge.

**SECTION 115. DELETED**

by a vote of the Grand Lodge at the 117th Annual Grand Lodge Communication January 24, 1978.

**SECTION 116. Intoxicating Liquors.**

A Lodge may allow private parties to bring alcoholic beverages on to the premises for private consumption but not for sale, at functions, such as weddings, receptions, business meetings and social functions. The functions using alcohol shall be separate and apart from the Lodge hall as determined by the Lodge Temple Board or Building Association. Such use may not take place during the time period from two hours prior to, during, and for two hours after all meetings of Masonic youth groups: International Order of DeMolay, International Order of Rainbow for Girls and the International Order of Job's Daughters. (Revised January 23, 2010)

**A. Festive Boards and Table Lodges.**

The Grand Lodge of Colorado, in recognizing that the duties of a Lodge's officers and the individual obligations of Masons govern effectively the use of alcoholic beverages, provide that a Lodge may allow the use of such beverages during festive boards, Table Lodges, Agapes, and ceremonies such as those recognized and observed by the appendant bodies so long as such use does not lead to intemperance or excess; Conducting degree conferrals or Lodge business at a table Lodge where alcoholic beverages are served is prohibited. (Revised January 26, 2008)

**SECTION 117. Appearance in Public.**

A Lodge shall not appear in public procession, nor otherwise in public as a Lodge, nor shall Masonic clothing or jewels of Officers of the Lodge be worn in public, without dispensation from the Grand Master, except upon Masonic occasions which are hereby declared to be Masonic funerals, Memorial Services, Cornerstone Layings, when presenting Scholarship or an Award of Excellence, Installation of Officers, and celebrations of Saint John's Days, June 24 and December 27. Should either of the Saint

John's Days fall on Sunday, a Lodge so desiring may celebrate the Saturday preceding or the Monday following.

### **SECTION 118. Activities.**

All the activities of a Lodge shall be conducted by its proper officers and committees, and in no event by delegated authority not under the immediate control and direction of the Lodge. A Lodge shall not form or permit to be formed any auxiliary or subsidiary society or organization for the purpose of conducting any of its activities; nor shall a Lodge countenance, or lend any aid or encouragement to, any society, organization, or group of individuals that claims to be functioning under the authority or auspices of a Masonic Lodge, except to an organization created by a Lodge for the purpose of administering its benevolent funds or representing it in the ownership or management of real estate or a building.

### **SECTION 119. Non-Masonic Organizations.**

Neither a Lodge nor its members shall knowingly permit any non-Masonic organization to attach itself to the Masonic Fraternity; and no Lodge shall sponsor or endorse any such organization whatsoever, except the Constituent Lodges of the Grand Lodge of Colorado, A.F. & A.M., are permitted to sponsor Chapters of the Order of DeMolay, Assemblies of the Order of Rainbow for Girls, and Bethels of the Order of Job's Daughters. Such sponsorship may include expenditure of Lodge funds for said youth organizations or their activities. Intention to sponsor said youth organizations shall be made by two-thirds majority vote of the brethren present at any Stated Communication of which the brethren shall have at least 15 days prior notice and then shall be submitted to the Grand Master for his approval.

### **SECTION 120. Use of Word "Masonic".**

No Mason or group of Masons, without the approval of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master, shall, by the use of the word "Masonic" or otherwise, convey the impression of Masonic connection or approval, and no Mason shall be associated in such activities of others.

### **SECTION 121. Petition to Civil Authorities.**

A Lodge, as such, shall not present a petition to the civil authorities, nor take part in municipal, state, or national affairs.

### **SECTION 122. Entertainment.**

A Lodge shall not engage in or conduct any entertainment or form of amusement for profit; nor shall a Lodge endorse any public entertainment given in the name of a corporation, society, or individual, for the purpose of influencing public patronage.

### **SECTION 123. Begging.**

A Lodge shall not issue or furnish, or officially endorse, any letter or document to any person whomsoever, or to any organization, to be used for business or begging purposes; nor in writing or print or otherwise solicit pecuniary assistance or donations of money or merchandise for any purpose whatsoever, from any Lodge or Mason of this or

any other jurisdiction, nor from any non-Mason or the general public, unless authorized to do so by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master, nor shall any Lodge entertain such letters or requests from any source unless such letters or requests shall have the approval of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master of Colorado. No Mason shall circulate in any Lodge a petition asking support or financial aid for any matter or thing not Masonic.

#### **SECTION 124. Soliciting.**

No one shall be permitted to solicit business of any kind, or circulate any petition not Masonic, in the Lodge room or the rooms adjacent thereto under the control of a Lodge, at any communication of a Lodge or immediately prior to or following a communication; and if such act be committed by a Mason he shall be subject to charges of unmasonic conduct.

#### **SECTION 125. Commercial Enterprises.**

Neither this Grand Lodge nor any Lodge under its jurisdiction has in any manner authorized, or is in any way responsible for, the creation of any mutual benefit association, insurance company, or any other commercial enterprise, whether called "Masonic" or not, whose business activities are limited to dealings with Masons; nor is this Grand Lodge or any Lodge under its jurisdiction legally or morally responsible for any agreement, contract, or other act of any such association, company, or enterprise. Any Mason who shall make representations in conflict with this declaration to induce any person to join, become interested in, or transact business with any such association, company, or enterprise, shall be subject to charges of unmasonic conduct.

#### **SECTION 126. Advertisements.**

The use by any Mason of a Masonic emblem or a statement of, or an allusion to, his Masonic membership to attract attention to his business, shall subject him to charges of unmasonic conduct.

#### **SECTION 127. Improper Publicity.**

No transactions of a Lodge not proper to be made public shall be disclosed outside of the Lodge; and it is the duty of every Mason to obey the injunction of the ancient charges that he is not to let his family, friends or neighbors know the concerns of the Lodge. The name of any one who has petitioned for the degrees of Masonry, or for membership by affiliation, shall not be published in any manner. A Lodge may, through trestleboards or bulletins, give names of elected candidates who will receive degrees. Any Mason whether member or visitor who improperly discloses to anyone who is not a Master Mason any of the transactions of a Lodge shall be subject to charges of unmasonic conduct.

#### **SECTION 128. UnMasonic Conduct.**

All violations of Masonic obligations or moral or Masonic law are hereby declared to be offenses which shall subject the violator to charge, trial and punishment.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

### **SECTION 129. Membership.**

**A. It shall be the duty**

of every Master Mason to be a member of some Lodge, if qualified, provided that no Master Mason shall be admitted to his or any other Lodge without presenting a dues card of the current or immediately preceding year.

**B. Plural Membership.**

A Master Mason of this Grand Jurisdiction may be a member of any and all Lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction, or some other Grand Jurisdiction with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal relations at one and the same time, and any member may belong to the Research Lodge of Colorado and/or a Memorial Lodge in Colorado in addition to being a member of another Lodge or Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction. He may hold an appointive or an elective office in any Lodge in which he is a member in this Grand Jurisdiction. However, he may hold office as a Master in only one Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction at any one time, except that he may hold any office in a regular Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction and in the Research Lodge and/or a Memorial Lodge in Colorado at the same time. (Revised January 24, 1998)

**1. Procedure:**

His application for membership shall be accompanied by a certificate, showing that he is a member in good standing from each Lodge to which he is already a member. His application for plural membership shall be by written petition on an approved form which has been adopted by this Grand Lodge. The application shall be accompanied by such fee as is charged by the Lodge for affiliation. The applicant shall be recommended by two members of the Lodge to which the petition is addressed who have known him for at least 30 days. Formal ballots for the election of a member to plural membership shall not be used. After the application is received and read at a stated of special communication, a member of the Lodge may object to the application by making his objection to the Master. Receipt of an objection shall delay the candidate's election until an investigation is completed by the Master who will determine if the objection has merit. If the Master finds that the objection has merit, the applicant will be declared rejected. If the Master finds that the objection does not have merit, the applicant will be declared elected to plural membership in the Lodge. If there is no objection interposed to the application for plural membership, the applicant shall be deemed to be elected. (Revised January 24, 1998)

**2. Rights attending plural membership:**

A Master Mason becoming a plural member of a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction under the above procedures shall have all the rights, benefits and obligations as any other member. The Lodge shall count him as a regular member on the rolls. He shall pay the same dues as other members. (Revised January 24, 1998)

**3. Plural Members:**

May purchase a Voluntary perpetual Membership based only on the amount of Lodge dues, and not including any amount for Grand Lodge dues or per capita; which is referred to herein as a Perpetual Plural Membership. A Perpetual Plural Member may transfer by affiliating as a plural member with any Lodge of his choice within the Grand Jurisdiction, but if such a transfer requires additional funds (added to the original funds paid) to equal twenty-six (26) times annual dues of the Lodge to which he desires to transfer, the required additional funds shall be remitted with his petition for affiliation. Provided however, when two or more Lodges consolidate, any Perpetual Plural Memberships by either of the Lodges shall be the property of the surviving Lodge, without any added funds being required. If the affiliation is outside this Grand Jurisdiction the entire Perpetual Plural Membership fee shall remain with the Lodge of which he was a Perpetual Member. If a Perpetual Plural Member of a Lodge ceases to be qualified as a "plural" member of said Lodge, then the Perpetual Plural Membership may be (1) transferred to another Lodge as a Perpetual Plural Membership, or (2) converted to a normal Voluntary Perpetual Membership by payment of an additional sum sufficient, when added to the original purchase amount, to equal 26 (twenty-six) times the sum of the current annual dues of his Lodge and the Grand Lodge Per Capita. The requirements of this paragraph serve to protect the new Lodge, and the new Lodge may, in its discretion, waive this provision and accept a lesser amount for Lodge dues.

**C. Dual Membership.**

**1. In Lodges Outside Colorado.**

A Master Mason of this Grand Jurisdiction may become a member of a Lodge where he resides in another Grand Jurisdiction with which this Grand Jurisdiction permits such dual membership. He shall notify the Secretary of his Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction of such action, giving the date of election to such dual membership, together with the name, number if any, and location of the Lodge.

**2. In Lodges in Colorado.**

A Master Mason domiciled in Colorado who belongs to a Lodge in a Grand Jurisdiction with which this Grand Lodge permits dual membership, may continue that membership together with his membership in this Grand Jurisdiction. He shall have visited the Lodge before presentation of his petition for membership.

**3. Procedure.**

His application for membership shall be accompanied by a Certificate, showing that he is a member in good standing from the Lodge or Lodges in the other Grand Jurisdiction(s). His application for dual membership shall be by written petition on an approved form which has been adopted by this Grand Lodge. The application shall be accompanied by such fee as is charged by the Lodge for affiliation. The applicant shall be recommended by two members of the Lodge to which the petition is addressed who have

known him for at least 30 days, or recommended by one member of the Lodge and one member of another Lodge recognized by the Grand Lodge of Colorado, both of whom shall have known the petitioner for at least 30 days. Formal ballots for the election of a member to dual membership shall not be used. After the application is received and read at a stated meeting, a member of the Lodge may object to the application by making his objection known to the Master. Receipt of an objection shall delay the candidate's election until an investigation is completed by the Master who will determine if the objection has merit. If the Master finds that the objection has merit, the applicant will be declared rejected. If the Master finds that the objection does not have merit, the applicant will be declared elected to dual membership in the Lodge. If there is no objection interposed to the application for dual membership, the applicant shall be deemed to be elected. (1/25/97) (Revised January 26, 2002)

**4. Committee of Investigation.**

This Section was deleted in its entirety at the Annual Communication of January 24-25, 1997

**5. Rights Attending Dual Membership.**

A Master Mason becoming a dual member of a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction under the above procedures shall have all the rights, benefits and obligations as any other member. The Lodge shall count him as a regular member on the rolls. He shall pay the same dues as other members. The Lodge shall pay the same dues, or contributions, as it pays for other members to the Grand Lodge.

**6. Reports.**

The Secretary shall report the election of dual membership to the Grand Secretary within three days, giving the name, number, if any, and the Grand Jurisdiction of the Lodge in which the newly elected dual member intends to retain dual membership, but thereafter shall not separate his name from others in making reports. The Grand Secretary shall immediately notify the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge in which he retains membership of his election, giving the date of his election, the name, number and location of our Lodge.

**7. Expulsion - Suspension.**

In case of expulsion or suspension from membership in this Grand Jurisdiction, the Secretary shall immediately notify the Grand Secretary who shall notify the Grand Secretary of the other Grand Jurisdiction of such action. Expulsion or suspension from membership in the other Grand Jurisdiction may be grounds for charges of unmasonic conduct in this Grand Jurisdiction.

**D. Honorary Membership.**

By the unanimous vote of its members present at a stated communication, a Lodge may confer honorary membership upon a member of another Lodge, which gives the right to speak but not to vote.

E. **Voluntary Perpetual Membership.**

Voluntary Perpetual Memberships are hereby authorized in Chartered Constituent Lodges pursuant to the following terms and conditions:

1. **A Master Mason** in good standing and possessing a current dues card in a Chartered Constituent Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction may voluntarily elect to become exempt from payment of annual dues to his Lodge and the Grand Lodge Per Capita by purchasing a voluntary Perpetual Membership effective as of the date such purchase is made.
2. **Any individual, group, organization or Lodge** may purchase a Voluntary Perpetual Membership in honor of or in memory of any Master Mason, living or deceased, who is or was at the time of his death, a member in good standing of a chartered Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction, only after a favorable vote of the Lodge.
3. **A Chartered** Lodge may receive the fee for a Voluntary Perpetual Membership from a petitioner for the degrees, for advancement, for re-instatement or for affiliation. But such fee shall not be transmitted to the Grand Secretary until a favorable ballot has been had on the petition or until after the conferral of the Master Mason's degree.
4. **The purchase fee** for a Voluntary Perpetual Membership is not refundable except under conditions determined by the Grand Secretary to be mistakes of fact rendering the applicant ineligible for Voluntary Perpetual Membership as of the date of the application.
5. **A member purchasing** a Voluntary Perpetual Membership shall apply to the Secretary of his Lodge for such membership on forms prescribed by the Grand Lodge and shall tender therewith twenty-six (26) times the sum of the annual dues of his Lodge and the Grand Lodge Per Capita at the time of application or if he desires to purchase a Voluntary Perpetual Membership by installment payments (not to exceed three years), he shall submit a written application to his Lodge and arrange for such installment payments. A member making installment payments shall continue to pay annual dues until his Voluntary Perpetual Membership is paid in full.
6. **A Memorial Perpetual Membership** may be purchased by following the same requirements and provisions as outlined in this Section for the sum of at least one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00). A distribution will be made depending on the net return of the Perpetual Fund's investments and will be split seventy-five (75) percent to the Lodge and twenty-five (25) percent to the Grand Lodge.
7. **The application** for the Voluntary Perpetual Membership shall be signed by the applicant and shall have the certification of the Lodge Secretary. The application shall not become effective until the applicant's record has been certified by the Grand Secretary. The application shall contain thereon the computations upon which the fee was predicated. A copy of the completed membership form shall be furnished to the applicant and his Lodge. The

Grand Secretary shall issue to the member a Voluntary Perpetual Membership certificate under the seal of the Grand Lodge, signed by the Grand Master and attested by the Grand Secretary. A regular dues card shall be issued by the Secretary annually to the Voluntary Perpetual Members at the same time other dues cards of the Lodge are issued.

8. **The fee collected** by a Lodge for Voluntary Perpetual Membership shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary. An eligible member may purchase a Voluntary Perpetual Membership at any time. Therefore the funds remitted are initially invested for a partial year and shall be designated as partial year investments. Earnings on partial year investments shall be calculated from the date of initial investment through the following calendar year (December 31st) at the interest rate at which they were initially invested. After the initial partial year of investment, all funds credited to each Lodge shall be designated as permanent funds and annual earnings distributed under Paragraph 9 hereof.
9. **The Grand Secretary** shall transmit all monies received from Voluntary Perpetual Memberships to the Trustees of the Colorado Masons Voluntary Perpetual Membership Fund, a Colorado Nonprofit Corporation, hereinafter created (The Fund). Such monies shall be invested and reinvested from time to time in any form of securities that are consistent with the standard for Investments under the Colorado Uniform Prudent Investor Act, Colorado Revised Statutes 15-1-304.1 and 15-1.1-101, ET SEQ., as the same may be amended from time to time, under the supervision and control of the Fund Trustees. The fund shall annually be accounted for separately on an individual member basis listing the Constituent Lodge, the date received, the amount paid by each member for Lodge dues and Grand Lodge per capita, plus any assessments in effect. After making payment or an allowance for payment of the cost and expenses of administration of the Fund, from the principal of the fund and any earnings thereon, annually, on an individual member basis, commencing with the Masonic year next following the enrollment of a member in the Fund, the fund shall pay to the member's Lodge, for the account of the member, an amount equal to the annual Lodge dues of the member for the ensuing Masonic year and will pay to the Grand Lodge an amount equal to the Grand Lodge per-Capita for the member and any assessments or installment of assessments then in effect. In the event a Lodge increases its dues or the Grand Lodge increases per capita to a level that would endanger the integrity of the fund to pay the entire increase, it will be the duty of the Trustees of the fund to determine a reasonable amount to return to that Lodge or to the Grand Lodge until such time that the earnings of the individual accounts of the members of that Lodge or the Grand Lodge can accommodate the increase. (Revised January 23, 2010)
10. **A Voluntary Perpetual Member** may transfer by affiliating with any Lodge of his choice within the Grand Jurisdiction, but if such a transfer requires additional funds (added to the original funds paid) to equal twenty-six (26)

times annual dues of the Lodge to which he desires to transfer, the required additional funds shall be remitted with his petition for affiliation. The requirements of this paragraph serve to protect the new Lodge, and the new Lodge may, in its discretion, waive this provision and accept a lesser amount. Provided however, when two or more Lodges consolidate, any Voluntary Perpetual Memberships by either of the Lodges shall be the property of the surviving Lodge, without any added funds being required. If the affiliation is outside this Grand Jurisdiction the entire Voluntary Perpetual Membership fee shall remain with the Lodge of which he was a Perpetual Member.

11. **A holder of a Voluntary Perpetual Membership** is subject to all the provisions of the Constitutions and laws of the Grand Lodge of Colorado and loss of membership due to suspension or expulsion shall automatically terminate such endowed membership, and shall cause such holder to forfeit his Perpetual Membership and any future claim to fees paid or to revenues earned from such membership. The Lodge which held the Voluntary Perpetual Membership at the time of the forfeiture, as provided herein shall continue to receive the revenues earned from such membership.
12. **Upon the death** of a Voluntary Perpetual Membership holder, the Constituted Lodge and the Grand Lodge shall annually receive the amount of Dues and Per Capita Dues, respectively, on which the purchase fee was based.
13. **A Voluntary Perpetual Member**, at any future time, may add any amount to his membership fee through his local Lodge Secretary.
14. **(a) There is hereby authorized** to be created as a Colorado Nonprofit Corporation, the Colorado Masons Voluntary Perpetual Membership Fund (The Fund). Which Fund is created, formed and incorporated for charitable, educational and fraternal purpose(s), including receiving, being the custodian of and accountable for, investing, reinvesting, disbursing and managing the monies of the Voluntary Perpetual Membership Fund (The Fund) of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Colorado, which Fund will provide a stable source of dues, per capita and assessment monies for the support, perpetuation and increase of the Chartered Constituent Masonic Lodges of this state and of the M.W. Grand Lodge, in order that the charitable, philanthropic and educational endeavors of the Lodges and the M.W. Grand Lodge may continue.
14. **(b) Trustees.** The business and affairs of the Colorado Masons Voluntary Perpetual Membership Fund shall be managed by a board of five (5) voting Trustees, to be the Grand Master and four (4) Masons appointed by the Grand Master. Each trustee, except the Grand Master shall serve a term of four (4) years, but the terms shall be staggered so that only one term shall expire in any one year. The Grand Lodge, or the Grand Master when the Grand Lodge is not in session, may remove any trustee from office for good and sufficient cause.

14. **(c) Duties of the Trustees.** The duties of the Trustees shall be (i) to receive from the Grand Secretary all monies paid for the purchase of Voluntary Perpetual Life Memberships, (ii) to be the Custodian of and accountable for, to invest, reinvest, disburse and manage the monies of the Voluntary Perpetual Life Membership Fund, (iii) to maintain books, papers, records, and accounts of such Fund, which shall be at all times open to examination by the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master, or any committee of members of the Grand Lodge which may be appointed for that purpose, and (iv) to report to the Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication or the Grand Master, in such form and detail as it or he may request.

### **SECTION 130. Unaffiliated and Nonaffiliated Masons.**

An unaffiliated Mason is one who is not a member of a Lodge because of his suspension or expulsion from membership therein. A nonaffiliated Mason is one who has ceased to be a member of a Lodge for any other reason.

### **SECTION 131. Disqualifications of NonAffiliate.**

A nonaffiliated Master Mason who has continued as such for twelve months without petitioning some Lodge for membership by affiliation shall not be permitted to visit any Lodge except that he may visit a Lodge not more than once for the purpose of qualifying himself to petition for such membership; nor shall he have any claim to Masonic relief, or be permitted to appear in any Masonic procession, or be entitled to Masonic burial.

### **SECTION 132. Withdrawal from Membership.**

Subject to the provisions of the Book of Constitutions, any member of a Lodge, other than an installed officer, may withdraw from membership therein. An application for withdrawal from membership shall be in writing and signed by the applicant, and shall be received only at a stated communication of the Lodge and then laid over for action at the next stated communication; when if the dues of the applicant shall have been paid to, or remitted by, the Lodge to the date when his application was presented to the Lodge, and if he is not otherwise indebted to the Lodge, and if no charges are pending against him, and no objections are offered, the application shall be granted by order of the Master without vote of the Lodge; the fact shall be entered of record, and the membership of the applicant shall thereby terminate in such Lodge as of the date of such action, and the Secretary shall issue to him, without fee therefor, a certificate to that effect, which certificate shall be termed a dimit. A duplicate dimit shall not be issued, but if a dimit be lost or destroyed, the Secretary may, upon application, issue a certificate to the effect that the records of the Lodge show that the dimit was granted.

### **SECTION 133. Objection to Granting Dimit.**

No objection to the granting of a dimit shall be entertained unless the objector shall at the same time present charges of unmasonic conduct against the applicant, or give notice that he will do so at the next stated communication of the Lodge. If at the next stated communication no charges shall have been preferred, the dimit shall be granted. If charges should be preferred and trial had and the accused acquitted, the dimit shall be granted. Should the accused be suspended or expelled from membership and upon

his reinstatement still desire a dimit, a new application shall be presented. An application for a dimit may be withdrawn.

### **SECTION 134. Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft Removed from Jurisdiction.**

A Lodge may grant a waiver of jurisdiction, which shall have the force and effect of a dimit, to an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft who is the material of such Lodge and who shall have permanently removed from its territorial jurisdiction, against whom no written objection to advancement is in force; and may do so even if he shall have been previously rejected for advancement.

## **VISITORS**

### **SECTION 135. Qualifications of Visitor.**

A visitor shall not be admitted to a Lodge unless he shall be a member of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge or a Grand Lodge with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal relations; provided, that a nonaffiliated Master Mason holding a dimit from such a Lodge may be admitted under the provisions of law pertaining to nonaffiliated Masons; nor until his Masonic qualifications shall have been ascertained by strict trial and due examination or by lawful information. A visitor not vouched for by lawful information applying for admission to a Lodge shall be required to produce documentary evidence of his Masonic membership and standing, satisfactory to the Master of the Lodge he desires to visit, preliminary to his examination.

### **SECTION 136. Lawful Information.**

Lawful information is hereby declared to be as follows: A., having sat in a Lodge of Master Masons with B., thereby obtains lawful information that B. is a Master Mason and can vouch for him as such. If A. vouches to B., each knowing the other to be a Master Mason, that C. is a Master Mason, C., being present, then B. is in possession of lawful information that will enable him to vouch for C. anywhere. Knowledge of the membership of an individual in some other organization than the Lodge is not in itself sufficient grounds for vouching for him as a Master Mason.

### **SECTION 137. Examination of Visitor.**

The examination of a visitor shall be made by the Master or by a competent committee of two Master Masons appointed by the Master; and if the committee reports when the Lodge is at labor, such report shall be made in open Lodge before the visitor is admitted. Private examination and instructing a visitor as a preliminary to vouching for him are prohibited.

### **SECTION 138. Objection to Visitor.**

A visitor shall not be admitted to, nor be permitted to remain in, a Lodge, if a member of such Lodge shall object. An objection to a visitor shall not extend beyond the communication at which it is made, and shall not be recorded in the minutes; provided that no objection shall be valid against the Grand Master, or his duly appointed

representative; nor against any officer of the Grand Lodge visiting in an official capacity; nor against a Master Mason in good standing who is acting as counsel at a hearing or trial.

## **DUES**

### **SECTION 139. Amount of Dues.**

Each Lodge shall by its bylaws fix the amount which each member of the Lodge shall pay annually as dues to the Lodge, and to this amount may be added the amount of dues payable to the Grand Lodge, and shall not assess any member beyond such amount.

### **SECTION 140. Accrued.**

The dues of a member of a Lodge begin to accrue from the date when his membership in the Lodge is acquired: the date when he received his Master Mason Degree or on the date when his petition for affiliation as a Master Mason, or his petition for dual or plural membership has been approved; and, unless by provisions of the bylaws of the Lodge he shall become exempt from the payment of dues, shall continue until his membership in the Lodge shall have terminated.

### **SECTION 141. When Payable.**

Dues to a Lodge are due and payable, before or on, the time fixed by its bylaws, or in the absence of such provision, on the first day of each calendar year, and shall be in arrears unless paid by the 1st day of each calendar year or at the time fixed by the Lodge's by-laws. An amendment to the bylaws of a Lodge which changes the amount of dues shall apply only to the dues that begin to accrue at the time fixed for the next payment of dues. (Revised January 25, 2003)

### **SECTION 142. Exemption From Dues.**

A Lodge shall not declare or certify that any one shall be a member thereof for life. A Lodge may by its bylaws provide that a member who shall have been such for a certain number of years, or who shall have reached a certain age, and who shall have paid dues to such Lodge throughout a certain period, shall thereafter be exempt from the further payment of dues, or a Lodge may by its bylaws provide that a member under the above circumstances and provisions shall pay to the Lodge such amounts as the Lodge is required to pay to the Grand Lodge; but no such exemption shall be granted by reason of the payment of a fixed sum in cash or for other consideration; provided, however this does not apply to fully paid Voluntary Perpetual Membership in accordance with Section 129 (e); and such exemption may be withdrawn by amendment of such bylaws.

### **SECTION 143. Remission of Dues.**

A Lodge may, by a majority vote of its members present at a stated communication, remit the accrued dues, in whole or in part, of any member, for good cause, upon his request, or upon a statement of facts made by any brother justifying such action, or the Lodge may authorize the Master to remit such dues without making the action a matter

of record in the minutes. A Lodge may in like manner remit the dues, in whole or in part, of a brother who has been suspended from membership for less than two years for the nonpayment of dues, and thereby reinstate him to membership; or remit the dues, in whole or in part, of a brother who has been suspended from membership for more than two years, and thereby qualify him to apply for reinstatement. No consideration of any such remission shall be admissible at a subsequent communication of the Lodge.

#### **SECTION 143a. Personnel Deployed to Combat Duty.**

Military Personnel Deployed to Combat Duty: In such event that a Lodge shall have a brother that is an active duty military personnel; when such time arises that the brother is a Master Mason, and has paid dues for a minimum of one (1) full year, should he (the brother) be deployed by order of the US Military outside the boundaries of the United States of America, into combat duty, the Lodge shall remit the brothers dues and shall have remitted any dues payable to the Grand Lodge; until such time as the brother is repatriated to US soil or has passed in service to his country. (Revised January 26, 2008)

#### **SECTION 144. Suspension for Non-Payment of Dues.**

A member of a Lodge who is in arrears for dues (See Section 141) shall be subject to suspension from membership. When a member becomes delinquent in such amount the Master shall order the Secretary to notify him to appear at the first stated communication in June, or if the Lodge is dark in June at the last stated communication before going dark and show cause why he should not be suspended from membership, the notice to be served by delivery by a Master Mason or by sending it by registered or certified mail to the last known address of the member, at least twenty days prior to the communication at which he is notified to appear. If at the communication specified the arrearage of dues shall not have been paid to the Lodge, the Master, upon proof of service of notice and the fact of arrearage as shown by the records of the Lodge, shall order a vote to be taken by written ballot upon the question of suspension of the member, and if a majority of the members present and voting, vote for his suspension, he shall be thereby suspended from membership. If a majority do not vote for his suspension any dues owed by him shall be declared remitted. A Lodge may not extend the time for payment of dues beyond one year. (Revised January 25, 2003)

#### **SECTION 144a. Military Personnel Deployed to Combat Duty.**

During such time as a Master Mason has paid dues for a minimum of one (1) full year, should he (the brother) be deployed by order of the US Military outside the boundaries of the United States of America, into combat duty, no Lodge shall suspend such a brother for Non-Payment of Dues. Such brother shall remain a Master Mason in good standing. (Revised January 26, 2008)

#### **SECTION 145. Reinstatement within Two Years.**

A brother who shall have been suspended from membership for the non-payment of dues shall be reinstated to membership by the payment within two years thereafter of all arrearage in dues to the date of his suspension as of the date of such payment; and the

Secretary shall report the fact at the next stated communication of the Lodge and enter it of record.

### **SECTION 146. Reinstatement after Two Years.**

A brother who shall have remained suspended from membership for more than two years for the nonpayment of dues shall be reinstated to membership only by a majority vote, by written ballot, of the members present at a stated communication of the Lodge, upon his petition in writing, after all his arrearage in dues to the date of his suspension shall have been paid to, or remitted by, the Lodge. Neither the Master nor the Lodge shall refuse to entertain such a petition for reinstatement to membership, and if it be rejected it may be renewed at intervals of not less than six months each; but the Lodge may refer the petition to a committee for investigation and report as to the character and conduct of the petitioner, before it votes upon the petition.

### **SECTION 147. Soliciting.**

It is unmasonic to improperly solicit any person to become a Mason. (Improper solicitation being defined as any form of coercion.)

### **SECTION 148. Petition for Degrees.**

A petition for the degrees of Masonry shall be addressed to a Lodge, and shall be for the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, but the Lodge shall ballot for election to each degree separately.

### **SECTION 149. Form of Petition.**

#### **A. Form.**

A petition for the degrees shall be in the form required for such purpose by the Grand Lodge. The petitioner shall affirm his belief in the existence of one ever-living and true God, and state the following facts: the date and place of his birth; his place of residence and his occupation; the length of time he has resided in the State of Colorado and within the territorial jurisdiction of the Lodge to which his petition is addressed; that he has or has not previously petitioned for the degrees to any Lodge, and if such petition has been made, the name and location of every such Lodge and the approximate date of each such petition; and that he has or has not, in the past, violated, is not now violating, and will not in the future violate, any of the criminal laws of the state; together with any other facts that may be required by the form of petition adopted by the Grand Lodge. The handwritten portions of the petition shall be in the handwriting of the petitioner, and the petition shall be signed by the petitioner with his name in full. The petitioner shall be recommended by two members of the Lodge to which the petition is addressed who have known him for at least six months or recommended by one member of the Lodge and one member of another Lodge recognized by the Grand Lodge of Colorado, both of whom shall have known the petitioner for at least six months, and the petition shall be accompanied by the fee required by the bylaws of the Lodge.

**B. Residence.**

A petition for the degrees shall not be received by a Lodge from one who has not resided within its territorial jurisdiction at least six months immediately preceding the stated communication at which the petition is presented, except for the purpose of applying for a waiver of jurisdiction over the petitioner as provided for elsewhere in these laws; nor from one who has been previously rejected by such Lodge until at least six months after such rejection; nor from one who has been rejected by any other Lodge until at least twelve months after such rejection. A Lodge that receives a petition for the degrees from one who had been previously rejected by another Lodge shall immediately notify the other Lodge, by registered mail, that the petition had been received and that it will take the usual course.

**C. Residence Defined.**

Residence as used in these laws is defined to be the place where a man's habitation is fixed without any present intention of removing it therefrom, and to which place he intends to return when absent therefrom. A Lodge cannot receive a petition for the degrees from one who has no residence.

**D. Objection to Petition.**

If two (2) or more members of the Lodge to which a petition for the degrees or a petition for membership by affiliation is presented shall object, either orally or in writing, to the reception of the petition, the Master shall order the petition to be returned to the petitioner without further action by the Lodge, and the fact of objection shall be entered in the minutes, without the name of the objectors appearing. If the objection be to a petition for the degrees another petition for the degrees shall not be received from such petitioner until at least six months thereafter. If the objection be to a petition for membership by affiliation the petitioner may present another such petition to the same Lodge or to any other Lodge at any subsequent stated communication.

**SECTION 152. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication January 27, 1996.

**SECTION 153. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication January 27, 1996.

**SECTION 154. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication January 27, 1996.

**SECTION 155. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication January 26, 2001.

**SECTION 156. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication January 27, 1996.

**SECTION 157. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication January 27, 1996.

**SECTION 158. DELETED**

by vote of the Grand Lodge at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication January 27, 1996.

**SECTION 159. Receiving and Referring Petition.**

A petition for the degrees of Masonry or a petition for membership by affiliation shall be presented to a Lodge only at a stated communication. If no objection is made to the reception of a petition it shall be received and shall then be referred by the Master to a committee of investigation, to be named by him in open Lodge, and to consist of three members of the Lodge to which the petition is addressed, none of whom shall have recommended the petitioner; the fee accompanying the petition shall be turned into the funds of the Lodge; and the petition shall not thereafter be withdrawn, but shall be balloted upon, except as hereinafter provided.

**SECTION 160.**

Transferred to Section 149 by a vote of the Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication January 29, 1985.

**SECTION 161. Committee of Investigation of Petition for Degrees.**

It shall be the duty of each member of a committee of investigation to which a petition for the degrees is referred to make strict inquiry into the moral, intellectual, and physical qualifications of the petitioner, and the committee shall make a favorable or unfavorable recommendation, and a Lodge shall not ballot upon such petition until such a report shall have been made to the Lodge by the committee as to the facts disclosed by the report of the committee, and made in compliance with the Book of Forms.

**SECTION 162. Qualifications of Candidate.**

A candidate for the degrees shall be a man at least eighteen years of age at the time his petition is presented to the Lodge, free born, of sound mind, having no maim or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning the part and becoming perfect in the work, but physically able to conform literally to what the several degrees may require of him; shall be of good report, and shall possess a belief in one ever-living and true God. No Lodge shall confer the Entered Apprentice degree upon a candidate unless he possess these qualifications. Provided, however, that where the defect has been so supplied by artificial appliances that the applicant is able by the use thereof to conform to what the degrees require, the Grand Master may, by dispensation, authorize

the reception of his petition if satisfied that the petitioner will not, by reason of such physical defect, become a burden upon the fraternity.

### **SECTION 163. Petition for Membership.**

A Lodge may elect to membership any qualified non-affiliated Master Mason who holds a dimit or the equivalent of a dimit from a Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge or a Grand Lodge with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal relations, regardless of his place of residence in Colorado except by dispensation of the Grand Master and the permission of the Jurisdiction involved. A petition for membership by affiliation shall state the date and place of birth, residence and occupation of the petitioner; the name, number, and jurisdiction of the Lodge of which he was last a member, and any other facts that may be required by the form of petition adopted by the Grand Lodge. The petition shall be signed by the petitioner with his name in full, shall be accompanied by the dimit from the Lodge of which he was last a member, and any fee that may be required by the bylaws of the Lodge to which the petition is addressed, and the petitioner shall be recommended by two members of such Lodge to which the petition is addressed who have known him for at least 90 days or recognized by the Grand Lodge of Colorado, both of whom shall have known the petitioner for at least 90 days. A petition for membership by affiliation shall not be received by the Lodge except from a former member, until after the petitioner shall have visited that Lodge. (Revised January 28, 2006)

### **SECTION 164. Petition of Affiliated Master Mason.**

A Lodge may receive a petition for primary membership by affiliation from a member of another Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge or a Grand Lodge with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal relations, regardless of his place of residence in Colorado except by dispensation of the Grand Master and the permission of the Jurisdiction involved. (Note: One who holds membership in a Lodge in a Grand Jurisdiction where dual membership is not allowed must become a non-affiliated Master Mason and his petition shall be governed by Section 163 of the Book of Constitutions. This prevents the petitioner from violating the regulations of his current Grand Lodge.) In lieu of a dimit the petition shall be accompanied by a certificate of the petitioner's membership in a Lodge; and the Lodge may elect him to membership upon the condition that within six months after a favorable ballot upon his petition he shall file with the Secretary a regular dimit granted to him by the Lodge which issued the certificate of membership. If the ballot upon his petition shall be favorable the Secretary shall notify him of his conditional election; and if within the time specified he shall file such dimit with the Secretary, the fact shall be entered of record, he shall sign the bylaws and he shall become a member of the Lodge which thus conditionally elected him, as of the date of the dimit; provided he shall at the time of the filing of the dimit pay dues for the then current year in the Lodge which conditionally elected him; or if he has paid the current year's dues he shall be exempt until January 1st of the following year. (Revised January 28, 2006)

### **SECTION 165. Committee of Investigation of Petition for Membership.**

It shall be the duty of each member of a committee of investigation to which a petition for membership by affiliation is referred to make strict inquiry into the moral and Masonic standing of the petitioner, and the Lodge shall not ballot upon such petition until the committee shall have so reported to the Lodge.

### **SECTION 166. Petitioner Disqualified.**

If the committee of investigation of a petition for the degrees shall find the petitioner to be totally disqualified, owing to non-residence, non-age, physical disqualification, or other sufficient cause; or if the committee of investigation of a petition for membership by affiliation shall find the petitioner to be totally disqualified owing to lack of regularity in his Masonic connection, or other sufficient cause; the facts shall be reported to the Lodge by the committee and entered of record, the fee which accompanied the petition shall be returned to the petitioner, and no further action shall be taken in the case. If the disqualification shall be subsequently removed, a new petition may be presented.

### **SECTION 167. Charges Against Petitioner for Membership.**

Should charges of unmasonic conduct be preferred against a petitioner for membership by affiliation after the reference of his petition to a committee of investigation, no report from the committee shall be received by the Lodge and no ballot shall be taken on the petition until after final disposition of the charges.

### **SECTION 168. Affiliation of Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft.**

A Lodge may receive from an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft who is a permanent resident of its territorial jurisdiction, and who was formerly the material of another Lodge, a petition for affiliation as an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft. Such petition shall be accompanied by a dimit, or a waiver of jurisdiction having the force and effect of a dimit, or a proper certificate that the Lodge of which the petitioner was formerly the material, is extinct. In all other respects the petition shall take the same course as to reception, reference, and balloting as prescribed for the petition of a Master Mason for membership by affiliation. If the petitioner shall be elected his rights and privileges in the Lodge with which he has thus affiliated shall be the same as those of an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft who received the degree of Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft by the authority of such Lodge. If he shall be rejected he may present a petition for affiliation at any time thereafter to the Lodge within whose territorial jurisdiction he is permanently residing.

### **SECTION 169. Report of Committee of Investigation.**

The committee of investigation of a petition for the degrees or of a petition for membership by affiliation may make a report in writing, signed by at least a majority of its members, in the form adopted by the Grand Lodge, unless granted further time by the Master of the Lodge, at the next subsequent stated communication after the reference of the petition to the committee unless the Master of the Lodge deems more time is necessary to complete the report. When the report has been received the committee shall be discharged and the fact entered of record, but the minutes shall not

show the character of the report. It is improper to discuss in open Lodge the qualifications of a petitioner further than to identify him. (Revised January 24, 1998)

### **SECTION 170. New Committee of Investigation.**

Should a majority of a committee of investigation of a petition for the degrees or of a petition for membership by affiliation fail to report at the proper time, the Master may, in his discretion, grant the committee further time, or appoint a new committee; but a report shall not be received from such new committee until at least four weeks after the petition was referred to it.

### **SECTION 171. Failure of Candidate to Appear.**

If an elected candidate shall fail to present himself for initiation within twelve months after he shall have been notified to appear, his election shall be void, and the fee for the Entered Apprentice degree which accompanied his petition shall be forfeited; provided, that if he shall make a satisfactory excuse to the Lodge for his failure to appear he may regularly petition again without repayment of such fee; and provided further, that if he shall have permanently removed from the State of Colorado the Lodge may waive the forfeiture and return him such fee.

### **SECTION 172. Rights of Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft.**

A candidate who shall have received the degree of Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft by the authority of a Lodge, or who shall have affiliated with a Lodge as an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, shall be the material of that Lodge, and entitled to all the rights of an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft; but he shall not be required to pay any dues to the Lodge, but if any Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft shall fail to qualify himself and petition for advancement, within two years after receiving his last degree, he shall automatically assume the status of an unaffiliated Mason, of whatever degree he may have attained, and before being advanced he shall be required to file a petition for re-instatement which petition shall be referred to a committee and follow the same procedure as a petition for the degrees of Masonry; the Secretary of the Lodge at the end of such two year period shall notify such Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft in writing that he is an unaffiliated Mason of the degree attained and a like notification shall be sent to the Grand Secretary's Office. This provision shall not apply during the time the Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft might be in the military service of the United States.

### **SECTION 173. Dimit Accompanying Petition.**

A Lodge shall not accept for affiliation purposes a dimit from a Lodge under the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge; unless the dimit shall be accompanied by a certificate from the Grand Secretary of such Grand Lodge that the Lodge which issued it is a regular Lodge. The dimit or other documentary evidence accompanying a petition for membership by affiliation shall remain in custody of the Lodge to which the petition is presented. If the petitioner shall be rejected, or his election become null and void, or he is declared totally disqualified, such dimit or documentary evidence shall be returned to the petitioner. If elected and declared a member the date of his affiliation shall be entered on the dimit by the Secretary and the dimit shall be canceled and filed.

### **SECTION 174. Rejected Petitioner for Membership.**

A Master Mason whose petition for membership by affiliation shall have been rejected by a Lodge may petition again at any subsequent stated communication of that or any other Lodge; and the new petition shall be treated in all respects as though he had not previously petitioned.

## **BALLOTING**

### **SECTION 175. Ballot.**

A ballot shall be taken upon every petition to be made a Mason and every petition for membership by affiliation that shall be received and referred to a committee of investigation by a Lodge; unless the petitioner shall be found to be totally disqualified; and unless the ballot shall be in favor of the petitioner, he shall be declared to be rejected (save as provided by Sections 226 and 227). A ballot shall be taken upon every petition of an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft for advancement; such ballot may be taken collectively for each degree upon all petitioners presenting themselves for advancement at a stated communication of the Lodge. A collective ballot disclosed to be unfavorable shall be retaken separately upon each petitioner.

### **SECTION 176. Election to Each Degree.**

A petition for the degrees of Masonry shall be for the three degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, and the committee of investigation to which it shall investigate the qualifications of the petitioner to receive all three such degrees, but the ballot shall be taken for election to each degree upon the moral, intellectual, and physical qualifications of the petitioner to be made a Mason, a Fellow Craft, or a Master Mason.

### **SECTION 177. Ballot Upon Petitions.**

A ballot upon a petition to be made a Mason or a petition for membership by affiliation shall be taken only at a stated communication of the Lodge, except by dispensation of the Grand Master, and may be taken at the next stated communication after the petition shall have been referred to a committee of investigation, and then only after such committee shall have reported thereon to the Lodge; and it shall be taken regardless of the nature of that report, except as otherwise provided in these laws. (Revised January 24, 1998)

### **SECTION 178. Advancement.**

An Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft who is the material of a Lodge may apply for advancement by appearing at any stated or special communication of that Lodge and standing examination upon his proficiency in the lecture of the Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft degree; and presenting himself for and standing such examination shall be considered his petition for advancement. The ballot shall not be spread upon his petition for advancement until after such examination, nor at any other communication than the one at which he was examined. If his petition for advancement shall be rejected by ballot he may, unless written objection to his advancement shall have been filed,

reapply for advancement by standing examination at any subsequent stated or special communication of the Lodge; and he may continue to do so indefinitely at subsequent stated or special communication, so long as the ballot is unfavorable. (Revised January 24, 1998)

### **SECTION 179. DELETED**

by a vote of the Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication January 29, 1985

### **SECTION 180. Balloting.**

When a ballot is taken by a Lodge on a petition to be made a Mason, for membership, or for advancement, each eligible member of such Lodge present, having heard the report of the investigation committee or present within the Lodge when the candidate was examined shall vote. The balloting when once begun shall be completed.

### **SECTION 181. Result of Ballot.**

After a ballot has been completed it shall be examined by each Warden and then by the Master. The result of the ballot shall be declared by the Master unless two (2) negative votes appear, in which event he may order not more than one additional ballot be taken. A ballot announced shall be final, subject neither to reconsideration nor vacation by the Master, the Lodge, the Grand Master, or the Grand Lodge.

### **SECTION 182. Postponement.**

The ballot on a petition to be made a Mason or a petition for membership by affiliation shall be taken at the communication at which the report of the committee of investigation thereon is received; provided, that the Master may, on request in writing of a member who is unavoidably absent, or for other good cause, postpone the ballot until the next stated communication, but no longer.

### **SECTION 183. Secret Ballot.**

The ballot shall be free and secret, and no member shall be required to give his reasons for the ballot he has cast, nor shall he under any circumstances whatever disclose the nature of his vote. There shall be no discussion of the result of any ballot, nor shall the Master, nor a Warden, disclose the number of unfavorable ballots cast in case of the rejection of a petitioner. Any Mason who questions another as to the nature of his vote, or who exposes his own ballot, or divulges its character, or who directly or indirectly discloses to any one who is not a Master Mason in good standing the name of any one who was present or absent when a ballot was taken, shall be subject to charges of unmasonic conduct.

### **SECTION 184. Rejected Petitioner.**

One whose petition to be made a Mason, or for membership by affiliation, shall have been rejected by a Lodge is entitled to no other information in regard thereto than that he was rejected, which information shall be communicated to him by the Secretary. The fee which accompanied his petition shall be returned to him, but if it be returned in the form of an order for the payment of money such order shall not contain any reference to the fee, nor otherwise indicate the purpose for which it was issued.

## **OBJECTION TO CANDIDATES**

### **SECTION 185. Objection to Initiating.**

An objection by two (2) or more members of a Lodge to the initiating of a candidate who shall have been elected by such Lodge to receive the Entered Apprentice degree shall have the effect of a rejection by ballot. Such objection may be made either orally or in writing to the Master, in which case the name of the objectors shall not be divulged, either orally or in writing in open Lodge; and in either case the fact of objection shall be entered of record, without the name of the objector appearing, and the candidate shall be declared rejected.

### **SECTION 186. Objection to Advancement.**

A member of a Lodge shall have the right to object in writing, either to the Master or to the Lodge, to the advancement of an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft who is the material of that Lodge, either before or after his election to receive the degree of Fellow Craft or Master Mason; and if the Lodge does not thereafter investigate and take action on the objection such Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft shall not be advanced unless the objector shall withdraw the objection or cease to be a member of such Lodge.

### **SECTION 187. Investigation of Objection.**

A Lodge may, by a majority vote of the members present at a stated communication, order an investigation to be made, at a subsequent stated or special communication, of an objection to advancement made by a member of such Lodge. If at the investigation the Lodge shall declare the objection to be sufficient because of its being based on acts committed by the candidate which would constitute the basis of a charge of unmasonic conduct, such charge shall be made by the Junior Warden, and the advancement of the candidate shall be held in abeyance pending the outcome of his trial thereon. If the Lodge shall declare the objection to be sufficient for reasons other than such as would constitute the basis of such charge, unless the objector should withdraw the objection or cease to be a member of such Lodge, the candidate shall not be advanced for one year after such action by the Lodge, after which time the objection may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Lodge present at a stated communication after at least thirty days notice to all members.

### **SECTION 188. Objection by Non-Member.**

Any Master Mason in good standing may, orally or in writing, object to a Lodge of which he is not a member to the initiating, passing, or raising of a candidate who is the material of such Lodge, giving the reasons therefor; and if such reasons involve moral turpitude on the part of the candidate, but not otherwise, the Lodge shall at a subsequent stated or special communication investigate the sufficiency of the objection. If the objection shall be to the initiating of the candidate and if at the investigation the Lodge shall declare it to be sufficient, the candidate shall be declared rejected. If the objection shall be to the advancement of the candidate and based upon acts committed by the candidate which would constitute the basis of a charge of unmasonic conduct and shall be declared to be sufficient by the Lodge, the Master shall order the Junior

Warden to prefer such charge, and the advancement of the candidate shall be held in abeyance pending the outcome of his trial thereon.

### **SECTION 189. Investigation of Objection.**

An investigation of an objection to a candidate shall be made only after at least fifteen days' notice to all members of the Lodge, and to the objector if he be not a member. If at the investigation one-third of the members present and voting shall vote for the sufficiency of the objection it shall be declared sufficient. If the Lodge shall fail to find an objection sufficient the standing of the candidate against whom the objection was made shall be the same as it was before the objection was made.

### **SECTION 190. Objection to Conferring Degree by Request.**

A Lodge shall not confer any degree by request of another Lodge if a member of the Lodge of which the candidate is the material shall object thereto, until the objection shall have been referred to the requesting Lodge and definite instructions to proceed shall have been received therefrom.

## **DEGREES**

### **SECTION 191. Degrees.**

Every Lodge while working by virtue of the authority of this Grand Lodge shall have the right to confer the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, in accordance with the ancient usages and customs of Freemasonry, and subject to such rules and regulations in regard thereto as may be prescribed by the Grand Lodge; and no Lodge shall assume to confer any other degree.

### **SECTION 192. Fees for Degrees.**

Each Lodge shall by its bylaws fix the amount of fees to be paid by a candidate for the three degrees when conferred by its authority; provided, that the aggregate amount of such fees shall not be less than fifty dollars. The bylaws shall specify the fee for each degree, and the fee for the Entered Apprentice degree shall be at least one-half of the total amount of fees for the three degrees. The fee that shall be paid for each degree shall be that which is required to be paid by the provisions of the bylaws that are in effect at the time the fee is payable. The fee for the Entered Apprentice degree shall accompany the petition, and no other degree shall be conferred until the fee required therefor shall have been paid to the Lodge. No written or verbal promise to pay shall be accepted in lieu of a fee; nor shall a Lodge, directly or indirectly, refund any fee or any part thereof.

### **SECTION 193. Work.**

By "work" as used in these laws is meant the system of ceremonies and lectures used in opening and closing the Lodge, conferring the three degrees, and instructing candidates.

### **SECTION 194. Standard Work.**

Every Lodge shall use the system of work adopted by this Grand Lodge, as interpreted by the Custodians of the Work and taught by the Grand Lecturer. The delivery or teaching of any Masonic work not authorized by this Grand Lodge or its lawful authority is forbidden. The publishing, distributing, or using of any unauthorized so-called Masonic work, or of any paraphrase of the work, shall subject the offender to charges of unmasonic conduct.

### **SECTION 195. Proficiency.**

A candidate shall not be advanced to the Fellow Craft or Master Mason degree until he shall have been duly elected to receive such degree, after having passed a satisfactory examination upon his proficiency in the preceding degree, unless by dispensation of the Grand Master. Suitable proficiency is hereby declared to mean the ability to answer satisfactorily the questions in the lecture of the degree set forth in the traditional proficiency ritual, or the Alternate Proficiency provided by the regulations of this Grand Lodge. Each Brother shall be provided by his Lodge a ritual aid for the purpose of study, for only that portion of the one letter key or alternate proficiency appertaining to the degree upon which the Brother is standing, as approved by the Custodians of the Work. (Revised January 28, 2006)

### **SECTION 196. Conferring Degrees.**

A candidate shall not receive more than one degree at the same communication of the Lodge; nor after having received a degree shall he be advanced before the next stated communication, nor in less than two weeks, unless by dispensation of the Grand Master. The Entered Apprentice Degree shall not be conferred upon a candidate at the same communication at which he was elected to receive the degrees unless by dispensation of the Grand Master. A Lodge shall not confer a degree or degrees upon more than six candidates in any one day, unless by dispensation of the Grand Master. The conferring of any degree shall be completed at the same communication at which it was begun. Not more than three candidates may be obligated at one time on the first Section of the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees. The Second Section of the Master Mason degree shall not be conferred on more than one candidate at the same time. A Lodge shall not confer two or more degrees or parts of one degree at the same time in different halls or rooms, unless by dispensation of the Grand Master. (Revised January 28, 2006)

### **SECTION 197. Apron.**

A Lodge shall present a lambskin or white leather apron to each candidate at the time of his initiation, which shall be his for preservation.

### **SECTION 198. Examination of Master Mason.**

Every newly-made Master Mason shall be required to pass a satisfactory examination in open Lodge upon his proficiency in the lecture of that degree within three months after the date upon which he was raised. Every Master Mason failing to do so shall hereby forfeit his right to vote or hold office in his Lodge or petition one of the Masonic organizations, recognized by the Grand Lodge of Colorado, or any other organization

that requires as a prerequisite membership in a Blue Lodge during the continuance of such failure. (Revised January 27, 2001)

### **SECTION 199. Conferring Degrees by Request.**

A Lodge may request another Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to confer the degree of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, or Master Masons, or all three such degrees, upon a candidate who shall have been duly elected by the requesting Lodge to receive such degree; and any Lodge may confer any such degree at the request of another Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

### **SECTION 200. Degrees by Courtesy.**

Colorado Lodges may request Lodges without the state to confer any degrees upon their duly elected candidates therein sojourning and conduct necessary examinations, and may render like services for such Lodges; provided such foreign Lodge be under the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal relations and the request be accompanied by a certificate of election and transmitted through the respective offices of the Grand Secretaries.

### **SECTION 201. Candidate of Requesting Lodge.**

A Lodge shall not confer the degree of Fellow Craft or Master Mason upon a candidate at the request of another Lodge until the Master of the Lodge that has been so requested shall have satisfied himself, by examination or lawful information, that the candidate is an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, as the case may be.

### **SECTION 202. Material of Requesting Lodge.**

If a Lodge shall confer a degree at the request of another Lodge, the candidate in such case shall not become the material, or a member, of the Lodge which so conferred the degree, and the fee for such degree shall become the property of the requesting Lodge.

### **SECTION 203. Examination by Request.**

A Lodge may request a Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge or a Grand Lodge with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal relations to examine a candidate or newly-made Master Mason of the requesting Lodge upon his proficiency in any degree, and to report the result of the ballot on the examination. A certificate of proficiency from the examining Lodge shall qualify the Lodge which made the request to ballot upon the advancement of such candidate, or fulfill the requirement that a newly-made Master Mason shall stand examination upon his proficiency in that degree.

- A. A Lodge which shall examine an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft at the request of and for another Lodge, shall ballot only on the proficiency of such candidate, which shall be determined by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting and may be by a show of hands.

## **MASONIC BURIAL**

### **SECTION 204. Masonic Burial.**

Memorial ceremonies used by the Lodge shall be as prescribed by the Custodians of the Work committee. A Lodge, as such, may attend the funeral of a deceased Brother only for the purpose of giving Masonic Burial. If the Burial or Cremation is to be at some distant point, a Lodge may escort the body to its place of departure. Special Communications of a Lodge called for the purpose of Masonic Burial may be opened and closed on the First Degree of Masonry, by simple declaration, in an appropriate location, by a Present or Past Master of any Lodge. The Charter is not necessary for opening the Lodge for the purpose of conferring a Masonic Burial. The minutes shall state where the Lodge was opened and closed. A Masonic Burial may be given in a Cemetery, Residence, Church, Mortuary, Chapel or other suitable place. Any Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft or Master Mason who is in good standing at the time of his death may receive a Masonic Burial, if requested while living, or requested by his survivors. A Master of a Lodge, with the approval of the Lodge, may authorize a Masonic Burial Service for any Master Mason who is in good standing and demits from membership after twenty-five or more years of membership. A card will be issued to this Brother stating; 'If you demit in good standing you may receive a Masonic Burial subject to Lodge approval.' None but masons shall be permitted to participate in the Masonic portion of the Ceremonies; except the Clergy, whether or not they be Masons, shall be permitted to offer a concluding prayer. In the event all active and honorary pallbearers are not Masons, those who are shall be permitted to be clothed as such. Subject to change, according to the circumstances of each case, Lodges holding concurrent Jurisdiction shall, in turn, attend to the duty of giving Masonic Burial to deceased sojourning Brethren unless otherwise requested. In jurisdictions where a Memorial Lodge is Chartered, that Lodge may confer the Masonic Burial.

### **SECTION 205: DELETED**

by action of the Grand Lodge at the 134th Annual Communication, January 28, 1995.

### **SECTION 206: DELETED**

by action of the Grand Lodge at the 134th Annual Communication, January 28, 1995.

### **SECTION 207: DELETED**

by action of the Grand Lodge at the 134th Annual Communication, January 28, 1995.

### **SECTION 208: DELETED**

by action of the Grand Lodge at the 134th Annual Communication, January 28, 1995.

## **TRIALS**

### **SECTION 209. General Jurisdiction.**

A Lodge has jurisdiction to entertain charges of unmasonic conduct against its members regardless of the residence of the accused or the place of the alleged commission of the

offense; also against a member of another Lodge, or a suspended or non-affiliated Mason, when the alleged offense has been committed within its own jurisdiction. Members used herein shall include Entered Apprentices, Fellow Crafts and Master Masons.

### **SECTION 210. Jurisdiction over Master.**

A Lodge shall not entertain charges of unmasonic conduct against the Master of any Lodge during his term of office, as exclusive jurisdiction to arraign and try him while he is Master belongs to the Grand Lodge. After the expiration of his term it may entertain charges for any Masonic offense committed by him while he was Master, except for official misconduct.

### **SECTION 211. Charges against Master.**

A charge of official misconduct or unmasonic or immoral conduct against the Master of a Lodge may be presented to the Grand Master when the Grand Lodge is not in session. The Grand Master shall investigate the charge, after having caused a true copy thereof to be served on the accused; and if he shall find the charge to be without sufficient foundation he shall dismiss the case and report accordingly to the Grand Lodge at its next annual communication; but if he shall find the charge to be well founded he shall forthwith suspend the accused from office, and notify him to appear before the Grand Lodge at its next annual communication, to answer the charge and to abide to the action of the Grand Lodge.

### **SECTION 212. Offense Committed before Petitioning.**

A Lodge shall not entertain charges of unmasonic conduct against a Mason for an offense committed before he petitioned for the degrees of Masonry. If, however, he purposely withheld from the Lodge or its committee of investigation any matters or information which would have resulted in the rejection of his petition if known at the time of his election, or would have disqualified him from petitioning for the degrees, then he has received a degree, or the degrees, through fraud and imposition, for which offense he may be subjected to Masonic discipline.

### **SECTION 213. Charges not to be Entertained.**

A Lodge shall not entertain a charge of unmasonic conduct against any Mason for the purpose of adjusting mere legal rights, pecuniary or otherwise. When the charge against the accused is one which has been, or may be, made the basis of an action in the criminal courts the Lodge may proceed regardless of such criminal action.

### **SECTION 214. Who May Prefer Charges.**

The Master of the Lodge may order the Junior Warden to prefer charges of unmasonic conduct, or any Master Mason in good standing may prefer such charges in any Lodge having jurisdiction.

### **SECTION 215. Charge.**

A charge of unmasonic conduct shall be in writing and shall contain an orderly statement of facts constituting the offense. It should be brief, should avoid repetition,

clearly define the offense, and contain an accurate statement of the time, place, and circumstances of its commission. For convenience, such writing, including the specifications, is designated in these laws as a charge. The charge shall be signed by the brother who prefers it, but if it is presented by the Junior Warden, by order of the Lodge or the Master of the Lodge, he shall sign it officially as Junior Warden. Attached thereto shall be a list of names and places of residence of the witnesses whose testimony is relied upon for proof of the charge, and if a part of such proof be documentary, a sufficient description thereof.

### **SECTION 216. Presentation of Charge.**

A charge of unmasonic conduct shall be presented only in open Lodge at a stated communication, and it shall be entered in full upon the records, which shall show the disposition made of it.

### **SECTION 217. Standing of Accused.**

Except as otherwise provided by law, the Masonic standing of a Mason under charges shall not be affected by such charges. He shall be presumed to be innocent until his conviction has been had by due course of Masonic law.

### **SECTION 218. Appointment of Referee.**

A charge properly filed shall be promptly certified to the Grand Master, and if he finds it unworthy of consideration he shall order it dismissed and so report to the Lodge. If he finds otherwise, he shall forthwith appoint a duly qualified Master Mason, not a member of the Lodge of the accused or accuser, as a referee, who shall have full authority and discretion to conduct a hearing thereon. The Grand Secretary shall mail to the accused by certified mail a copy of the charge or charges, advise him of his right to representation by counsel, and notice of the appointment of the referee. The Grand Secretary shall also mail to the accuser a notice of the appointment of the referee. If either objects to the referee within ten days, the Grand Secretary shall forthwith advise the Grand Master, and opposing party of that objection and the grounds thereof. If overruled by the Grand Master the case shall proceed. If sustained, a substitute shall be appointed, and notice thereof given by the Grand Secretary to the accused and accuser.

### **SECTION 219. Procedure.**

All proceedings before the referee shall be reported by a competent reporter and transcribed to become a part of the record forwarded to the Grand Master for his review and subsequent proceedings on appeal should such occur. The testimony of Masons shall be taken upon their Masonic honor; of non-masons on oath, which the referee is hereby authorized to administer. Technical rules of evidence may be disregarded. Duly certified court records shall be prima facie proof of their recitals. In the absence of specific directions, the referee shall have full discretion as to the conduct of the trial, providing only that full opportunity be given both sides to be present or represented at all proceedings, and have ample opportunity to present proper contentions.

### **SECTION 220. Trial.**

The referee shall fix the time for answer which may be "guilty," "not guilty," or "no offense" charged, with extenuating circumstances, if the accused so elect. If as a result of the answer, evidence is to be taken, a list of witnesses for the accused shall be attached thereto. The referee shall take the testimony of witnesses at such times and places as he shall determine; see that each side is represented by competent counsel, appoint counsel if necessary, permit such reasonable argument as in his judgment justice requires, and at the close of the hearing send to the Grand Master a report of his action and judgment, a record or transcript of the testimony, and recommendation for punishment if the judgment be guilty. The expenses of the referee shall be paid by the Grand Lodge on approval of the Grand Master. All other expenses, if any, shall be taxed by the referee as justice may require. No fee shall be paid or accepted for representing either side in such a proceeding, unless by order of the Grand Master.

### **SECTION 221. Proceedings Following Trial.**

The Grand Master shall review the record forwarded to him by the referee. If he deems the findings and judgment to be incomplete or incorrect under the circumstances, he may return the record to the referee for completion or other change required, or make such changes therein as he shall decide are necessary or desirable. When the Grand Master shall determine the findings and judgment are proper and complete, he shall cause the Grand Secretary to mail to the accused and accuser copies of the findings and judgment. Within ten days from the receipt thereof either party may file specific objections thereto with two copies thereof, with the Grand Secretary, one of which shall be served upon the opposing party. This shall constitute an appeal to the Grand Lodge. Thereupon the case shall be referred to the Committee on Appeals and Grievances. That committee shall examine and consider all matters properly raised thereby, and make due report to the Grand Lodge, which shall affirm, dismiss, reverse and remand, modify the judgment, or make such other disposition thereof as to it may seem proper. If no objections be filed, the Grand Master shall report final disposition to the Lodge, and if further action be necessary to execute the judgment, he shall order accordingly.

### **SECTION 222. Notice - Expense - Publications.**

Notice to parties may be personally delivered or by registered mail. If the answer of the accused be "Guilty" or no answer be filed, the referee shall proceed as justice may require. It is the duty of Masons to attend and testify when summoned by the referee, and he shall use all reasonable effort to obtain their testimony, and also the testimony of nonmasons. No per diem shall be paid witnesses, but their actual expenses may be taxed and paid as the referee may order. Suspension or reprimand shall not be made public nor shall expulsion, save by recommendation of the referee, approved by a two-thirds written ballot of the Lodge in which the charges were filed.

### **SECTION 223. Disclosing Result of Trial.**

In case of suspension or expulsion no member may make the same public, nor communicate it to a non-Mason except by resolution to make public passed by the Lodge, in which event that fact shall be reported to the Grand Secretary.

### **SECTION 224. Standing of Accused.**

If a judgment of conviction be reversed by the Grand Lodge, the accused will be thereby restored to his standing prior to the charge. The standing of an accused person pending appeal will be determined by the Grand Master.

### **SECTION 225. Expulsion.**

A sentence of expulsion shall include expulsion of the convicted from all the rights and privileges of Masonry in general, and expulsion from membership in the Lodge of which he was a member at the time of the imposition of the sentence.

### **SECTION 226. Petition for Restoration.**

An expelled Mason may petition the Grand Lodge for restoration to the rights and privileges of Masonry in general, if his petition be accompanied by a recommendation for restoration from the Lodge of his former membership granted by a two-thirds vote, by written ballot, of the members of such Lodge present at a stated communication after at least thirty days' notice to all members; or if such Lodge not be in existence a recommendation granted in like manner from the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides.

### **SECTION 227(a). Restoration and Reinstatement.**

No expelled Mason shall be restored to the rights and privileges of Masonry except by action of the Grand Lodge, and such restoration shall not reinstate him to membership in any Lodge. He then stands as a nonaffiliated Mason and may obtain from the Grand Secretary a certificate of that fact. Such certificate shall have the force and effect of a dimit for the purpose of a petition for membership by affiliation to the Lodge of his former membership wherein a favorable written ballot by unanimous vote of the members present shall restore him to membership. If such petition be rejected, the fact shall be endorsed on said certificate by the Secretary of said Lodge and returned to the petitioner. The certificate shall thereafter have like force and effect for the purpose of petitioning any other Lodge for membership by affiliation. Therein, also, a unanimous vote is required.

### **SECTION 227(b). Reinstatement after Definite Suspension.**

Reinstatement to membership in a Lodge after definite suspension therefrom for unmasonic conduct shall take place at the expiration of the time specified in the sentence, without further action by the Lodge.

### **SECTION 227(c). Reinstatement after Indefinite Suspension.**

One who shall have been indefinitely suspended from membership in a Lodge for unmasonic conduct may petition such Lodge for reinstatement in not less than one year after the imposition of the sentence; and may be reinstated to membership by unanimous vote by written ballot of the members of such Lodge present at a stated communication after at least thirty days notice to all members. If the petition be rejected by the Lodge, the petitioner may renew it at intervals of not less than one year each;

provided, however, that after three rejections further petitions shall be limited to three year periods and reinstatement still require a unanimous vote.

### **SECTION 228. Right of Appeal.**

Any member of the Lodge may appeal to the Grand Master from the judgment of the referee, and the Junior Warden must do so if so directed by the Master.

## **LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION**

### **SECTION 229. Dispensation.**

A dispensation for the formation of a new Lodge may be granted by the Grand Master at any time except within ninety days next preceding the annual communication of the Grand Lodge, or by the Grand Lodge at an annual communication, upon petition of at least twenty-five Master Masons, each of whom shall be a resident of the territorial jurisdiction of the Lodge that would be formed by the granting of the dispensation.

### **SECTION 230. Petition for Dispensation.**

A petition for a dispensation to form a new Lodge shall be accompanied by a dimit from a Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge or a Grand Lodge with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal relations, with proper certificate of regularity from the Grand Secretary thereof, or a certificate of membership in a Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, for each of the petitioners; a recommendation from each chartered Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction within a 50 mile radius of the proposed location of the new Lodge, except in case where twelve or more Lodges are located within this 50 mile radius the recommendations of three-fourths of such Lodges shall be sufficient; a certificate from the Grand Lecturer that the proposed Master and Wardens are each able to open and close the Lodge and to confer each of the degrees in full according to the regulations of this Grand Lodge; and that each has read or listened to the reading of the Book of Constitutions within the past sixty days, evidence that each of the petitioners has paid ten dollars into a common fund to be used for the expense of the organization of the new Lodge; and the fee required by law to be paid for such dispensation. (Revised January 26, 2002)

### **SECTION 231. Certificate in Lieu of Dimit.**

A member of a Lodge, who is not an officer thereof, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge may join in a petition for a dispensation for a new Lodge; and in lieu of a dimit may furnish a certificate from his Lodge that he is a member in good standing thereof, and his dues paid to December 31 preceding the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge. The subsequent granting of a charter to the new Lodge, with such petitioner named therein as a member of the newly chartered Lodge, shall transfer his membership from the Lodge which issued the certificate to the newly chartered Lodge, as of the date of its charter; and the Grand Secretary shall forthwith notify the Lodge which issued the certificate of such fact of transfer.

### **SECTION 232. Officers of Lodge under Dispensation.**

A dispensation for a new Lodge shall name the brethren to whom it is granted and appoint the Master, who need not have served previously as Master or Warden, and the Wardens. The Master so appointed shall appoint all the other officers of the new Lodge.

### **SECTION 233. Jurisdiction.**

The territorial and personal jurisdiction of a Lodge under dispensation shall be that of a chartered Lodge, except for discipline. If discipline becomes necessary the fact shall be reported to the Grand Master, who, in such case may order charges of unmasonic conduct to be preferred in any Lodge that he may designate.

### **SECTION 234. Communications.**

The communications of a Lodge under dispensation shall be held at the pleasure of the Master of such Lodge, and shall be styled "regular." At the first communication of the new Lodge the Master shall designate the days and hour at which communications shall be held for the purpose of receiving petitions for the degrees and balloting thereon, which communications shall be held at intervals of not less than two weeks each; and no such petition shall be received or balloted upon at any other communication than one of those so designated.

### **SECTION 235. Limitation of Power.**

A Lodge under dispensation shall not elect its officers and its officers shall not be installed; nor shall the Lodge be consecrated or its hall dedicated; nor shall it adopt bylaws for its government; nor receive nor act upon any petition for affiliation; nor issue a dimit.

### **SECTION 236. Termination of Dispensation.**

Twenty days prior to the annual communication of the Grand Lodge a Lodge under dispensation shall deliver to the Grand Secretary its dispensation and books of record and account, and pay to the Grand Lodge such dues and fees as may be required from such Lodge by law.

### **SECTION 237. Petition for Charter.**

The Grand Lodge may at an annual communication grant a charter to a Lodge that has worked under dispensation to the satisfaction of the Grand Lodge and conferred the three degrees, upon the written petition of at least three-fourths of the total number of brethren named in the dispensation and those raised to the degree of Master Mason by the authority of such Lodge; provided, that the number of petitioners shall not be less than twenty-five.

### **SECTION 238. Form of petition for charter.**

A petition for a charter for a new Lodge shall propose the name of the Lodge, which shall not be that of any known living person, and the names of those who have been recommended by the Lodge for appointment as Master and Wardens; and shall be

accompanied by three copies of a proposed code of bylaws for the government of the new Lodge if chartered, and by the required fee for a charter.

### **SECTION 239. Charter Granted.**

The charter, if granted, shall be issued to the brethren who signed the petition therefor provided, that the Grand Lodge may omit any name or names of such brethren, and that the Grand Lodge shall not be bound to comply with the recommendation of the petitioners as to the name of the Lodge or as to the appointment of the Master and Wardens of the Lodge.

### **SECTION 240. Officers of Newly Chartered Lodge.**

The Master and Wardens of a newly chartered Lodge shall be appointed by the Grand Lodge from among the brethren named in the dispensation, and the Master so appointed shall appoint all the other officers of the Lodge; but the Lodge shall not proceed to function as a Lodge until it shall have been fully constituted and its officers installed by the Grand Master or his representative.

### **SECTION 241. Unfinished Work.**

Any unfinished work or business and any records and property of a Lodge under dispensation which shall be subsequently chartered by the Grand Lodge and constituted by the Grand Master, shall be the work or business and the records and property of such chartered Lodge.

### **SECTION 242. Certificates.**

If the dispensation for a new Lodge shall be revoked, or if the Grand Lodge shall refuse to grant a charter to such Lodge, the dimitts or certificates of membership which accompanied the petition for a dispensation, or the dimitts or certificates of any brethren who were named in the dispensation but not in the charter, shall be returned by the Grand Secretary to the respective brethren who submitted them. Each Mason in good standing who shall have been initiated, passed, or raised by the authority of such Lodge shall, upon proper application in writing, be entitled to a certificate of such fact from the Grand Secretary, which certificate shall have the force and effect of a dimit. Any brother who was raised by a Lodge under dispensation, but who for any reason was not named as a member in the charter subsequently granted to such Lodge, shall be entitled to a like certificate, which shall have the force and effect of a dimit.

## **AMENDMENT**

### **SECTION 243. Laws Pertaining to Lodges.**

These Laws pertaining to Lodges may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Grand Lodge, or their proxies present and voting at an annual communication of the Grand Lodge; provided, that the proposed amendment shall have been presented to the Grand Secretary by a member of the Grand Lodge at least ninety days before such annual communication, and a copy thereof shall have been mailed by the Grand Secretary to each officer of the Grand Lodge and to each Lodge at least sixty days before such annual communication, and provided further, that changes in such

proposed amendment may be made by a three-fourths vote of the registered members of the Grand Lodge, or their proxies, present and voting on such amendment, or amendment with such changes, at such annual communication, or that, in lieu of such notice, the unanimous consent of the members of the Grand Lodge, or their proxies, present and voting at such annual communication shall have been obtained to the presentation of the proposed amendment. Any amendment adopted at a Grand Lodge Communication shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

## **GENERAL**

### **SECTION 244. Date Effective - Repeal.**

This Book of Constitutions shall take effect immediately and all laws conflicting with it, and all previous laws omitted herein are hereby repealed.

**Notes:**

[illegible]