

**Part I – Grand Lodge**

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## Part I – Grand Lodge

### CHAPTER 4 – DISTRICTS AND DEPUTIES

#### Sec. 4.01 Const.

**Deputies of the Grand Master.** The Grand Lodge, having provided in its By-Laws for the designation of districts, may authorize the appointment of a Deputy of the Grand Master to represent the Grand Master in each district.

#### Sec. 4.02 B.L.

**Deputy Appointment and Title.** The Grand Master shall appoint at each Annual Communication, or as soon thereafter as possible, a Deputy of the Grand Master for each of the districts. The jurisdiction of each Deputy shall extend only to the Lodges within the district to which he is assigned.

The Deputy shall be known as the "Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. \_\_\_\_\_," and shall bear the title "Very Worshipful." He shall receive a warrant for his appointment signed by the Grand Master and attested by the Grand Secretary under the seal of the Grand Lodge.

#### Sec. 4.03 B.L.

**Deputy Eligibility.** Every Deputy of the Grand Master shall be well skilled in the Standard Work and Lectures of this Jurisdiction and in the Customs of the Craft. He shall be a Master or a Past Master and a member in good standing of a Lodge in the district for which he is appointed. No one shall be eligible to hold the office of Deputy of the Grand Master for more than two successive terms but shall be eligible for reappointment after a lapse of one year.

#### Sec. 4.04 B.L.

**Deputy's Powers and Duties.** The powers and duties of a Deputy of the Grand Master are:

1. Visit every Lodge within his district officially at least once each year and at such other times as requested by the Worshipful Master of the Lodge. The Grand Master may grant Deputies permission to forego a visit to a Lodge or Lodges if weather conditions, illness or financial hardships prevail,
2. Report to the Grand Master after each visit, on forms to be furnished by the Grand Secretary, the general and/or particular condition of the Lodge visited and his official acts in relation thereto,
3. Each District Deputy shall sign for a copy of the Standard Work at the Annual Communication in which he is installed, or such other times when a Deputy is installed, and he shall return such copy upon the termination of his tenure as Deputy of the Grand Master. While assigned to him, the Deputy will not allow the Standard Work to leave his personal supervision. He shall disseminate the Standard Work and Lectures to officers and members of each Lodge within his district, and give them such general instructions as they may require concerning their duties. For this purpose the Deputy shall receive instructions from the Grand Master, **Rev. 2002**
4. Examine such books and records of each Lodge within his district as the Grand Master may direct; and
5. Perform such other duties as the Grand Master may direct.

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**Sec. 4.05 B.L.**

**Deputy Removal and Vacancy in Office.** The Grand Master may remove any Deputy of the Grand Master from office.

The Grand Master shall fill any vacancy in the office of Deputy of the Grand Master with an appointment for the un-expired term.

**Sec. 4.06 B.L.**

**Retention of Title.** A Deputy of the Grand Master shall retain permanently the title of "Very Worshipful."

**Sec. 4.07 B.L.**

**Assignment of Lodges U.D. to Districts.** The Grand Master, upon issuing a dispensation for a new Lodge, shall assign the Lodge initially to the district in which it is situated. The assignment shall become permanent upon the granting of a charter to the Lodge, unless the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master shall order otherwise. Historic Lodges shall not be assigned to a district.

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**Sec. 4.08 B.L.**

**Districts.** The Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall be divided into geographical districts and every chartered Lodge shall be assigned to a district.

The Grand Master shall have the authority to make such rearrangements of the districts as he may deem advisable, if he shall determine that a change will facilitate the operation of the system. The rearrangement shall be effective until the next Annual Communication when the Grand Master shall report his action to the Grand Lodge for its approval.

**District No. 2** Ashler, No. 121, Bothell; Edmonds, No. 165, Edmonds; Richmond-Haller Lake, No. 248, Shoreline; Yancey C. Blalock, No. 265, Seattle; Genesis, No. 305, Edmonds  
**Rev. 2008**

**District No. 3** Mount Moriah, No. 11, Valley Junction; Union City, No. 27, Valley Junction; Port Orchard, No. 98, Port Orchard; John Paul Jones, No. 271, Gig Harbor; Hood Canal, No. 288, Belfair. **Rev. 2005**

**District No. 4** Occidental, No. 72, Seattle; Doric, No. 92, Seattle; Green Lake, No. 149, Seattle; Rainier, No. 189, Seattle; Maritime, No. 239, Seattle; Greenwood, No. 253, Seattle; Walter F. Meier Lodge of Research, No. 281, Seattle. **Rev. 2007**

**District No. 5** St. John's, No. 9, Seattle; Eureka, No. 20, Seattle; University No. 141, Seattle; Daylight, No. 232, Seattle; Lafayette No. 241, Seattle; Queen Anne, No. 242, Seattle; Alba, No. 315, Seattle; Esoterika, No. 316, Seattle. **Rev. 2007**

**District No. 6** St. Andrew's, No. 35, Renton; South Gate, No. 100, Burien; Tyee, the Wayfarer's Lodge, No. 115, Renton; Ark, No. 126, Tukwila; Alki, No. 152, Seattle; Delta-White Center, No. 172, Tukwila; Mark P. Waterman, No. 177, Burton; Century, No. 208, Seattle, Luzviminda, No. 317, Seattle. **Rev. 2008**

**District No. 7** Falls City, No. 66, Fall City; Myrtle, No. 108, Issaquah; West Gate, No. 128, Kirkland; Kirkland, No. 150, Kirkland; Unity, No. 198, North Bend; Lakeside, No. 258, Bellevue; Mercer Island, No. 297, Mercer Island; Renaissance, No. 312, Redmond.

**District No. 8** Centennial, No. 25 Snohomish; Peninsular, No. 95, Everett; Crystal, No. 122, Marysville; Arlington, No. 129, Arlington; Everett, No. 137, Everett; Sultan-Monroe, No. 160, Monroe; Damascus, No. 199, Granite Falls; Alpha, No. 212, Everett; Robert Burns, No. 243, Everett; Skykomish, No. 259, Skykomish. **Rev. 2005**

**District No. 9** Whidby Island, No. 15, Coupeville; Camanio, No. 19, Stanwood; Mount Baker, No. 36, Mt. Vernon; Garfield, No. 41, LaConner; Fidalgo, No. 77, Anacortes; Burlington-United, No. 93, Sedro Woolley; Langley, No. 218, Langley.

**District No. 10** Bellingham Bay, No. 44, Bellingham; Lynden, No. 56, Ferndale; Fairhaven, No. 73, Bellingham; Nooksack Valley, No. 105, Nooksack; Whatcom, No. 151, Bellingham; San Juan, No. 175, Friday Harbor; Kulshan International, No. 186, Ferndale; Ferndale, No. 264, Ferndale. **Rev. 2008**

**District No. 11** Port Townsend, No. 6, Port Townsend; Port Angeles, No. 69, Port Angeles; Quilcene-Jefferson, No. 107, Quilcene; Sequim, No. 213, Sequim; Mt. Olympus, No. 298, Forks. **Rev. 2002**

**District No. 12** Franklin, No. 5, Port Gamble; Renton, No. 29, Winslow; Bremerton, No. 117, Bremerton; William H. Upton Naval & Military, No. 206, Bremerton; Steadfast, No. 216, Bremerton; Warren G. Harding, No. 260, Poulsbo; Silverdale, No. 311, Silverdale. **Rev. 2006**

**District No. 13** Verity, No. 59, Kent; King Solomon, No. 60, Auburn; Western Cascade, No. 61, Enumclaw; Diamond, No. 83, Black Diamond; Crescent, No. 109, Enumclaw; Des Moines, No. 245, Des Moines; Thornton F. McElroy, No. 302, Federal Way; Frank S. Land No. 313, Des Moines. **Rev. 2008**

**District No. 14** Defiance No. 22, Tacoma; Evergreen State, No. 68, University Place; Fern Hill, No. 80, Tacoma; Fairweather, No. 82, Tacoma; Joseph Warren, No. 235, Tacoma; Horace W. Tyler, No. 290, University Place; Krucible, U.D. **Rev. 2008**

**District No. 15** Steilacoom, No. 2, Tacoma; Corinthian, No. 38, Puyallup; Valley, No. 71 Orting; Phoenix, No. 154, Sumner; Mt. Tahoma, No. 190, Ashford; Terrestrial-Mt. View, No. 228, Eatonville; Yelm, No. 244, Yelm; Henry A. Greene, No. 250, Lakewood; Parkland-Lakewood, No. 299, Parkland. **Rev. 2006**

**District No. 16** Wynooche, No. 43, Montesano; Gavel, No. 48, Raymond; Grays Harbor, No. 52, Hoquiam; Occident, No. 99, Ilwaco. **Rev. 2004**

**District No. 17** Olympia, No. 1, Tumwater; Harmony, No. 18, Tumwater; Chehalis, No. 28, Chehalis; Winlock, No. 47, Winlock; Centralia, No. 63, Centralia; Tenino, No. 86, Tenino; Robert Morris, No. 97, Silver Creek; Morton, No. 209, Morton.

**District No. 18** Woodland-Kalama, No. 17, Woodland; Castle Rock, No. 62, Castle Rock; Kelso, No. 94, Kelso; Little Falls, No. 176, Vader; Longview, No. 263, Longview;

**District No. 19** Washington, No. 4, Vancouver; Mount Hood, No. 32, Vancouver; White Salmon, No. 163, White Salmon; Twin Falls, No. 180, Yacolt; North Bank, No. 182, Washougal; Ridgefield Daylight, No. 237, Vancouver; Silver Star, No. 286, Battle Ground.

**District No. 20** Yakima-Compass, No. 24, Naches; Goldendale, No. 31, Goldendale; Ellensburg, No. 39, Ellensburg; Cle Elum-St. Thomas, No. 139, Cle Elum; Toppenish-Meridian, No. 178, Toppenish; Hermes, No. 185, Granger; Naches, No. 211, Naches; Mount Adams, No. 227, Yakima. **Rev. 2008**

**District No. 21** Badger Mountain, No. 57, Waterville; Riverside, No. 112, Wenatchee; Chelan Valley, No. 118, Chelan; Zarthan, No. 148, Leavenworth; William H. Jett, No. 285, Wenatchee; Hermanos del Arte, No. 314, Brewster. **Rev. 2005**

**District No. 22** Okanogan, No. 169, Okanogan; Aurora, No. 201, Oroville; Palestine, No. 214, Omak; Methow Valley, No. 240, Twisp.

**District No. 23** Euclid, No. 125, Prosser; Sunnyside, No. 138, Sunnyside; Kennewick, No. 153, Kennewick; Pasco, No. 173, Pasco; Grandview, No. 191, Grandview; Benton, No. 277, Benton City; Richland, No. 283, Richland.

**District No. 24** Walla Walla, No. 7, Walla Walla; Blue Mountain, No. 13, Walla Walla; Waitsburg, No. 16, Waitsburg; Dayton, No. 26, Dayton; Evening Star, No. 30, Pomeroy.

**District No. 25** Hiram, No. 21, Colfax; Whitman, No. 49, Pullman; Oakesdale, No. 55, Oakesdale; Clarkston, No. 143, Clarkston; Lacrosse, No. 155, Lacrosse; Nitosa, No. 204, Asotin. **Rev. 2008**

**District No. 26** Rosalia, No. 84, Rosalia; Spangle, No. 131, Spangle; Malden, No. 188, Malden; Waverly, No. 231, Waverly. **Rev. 2008**

**District No. 27** Spokane, No. 34, Spokane; Temple, No. 42, Cheney; Oriental, No. 74, Spokane; Medical Lake, No. 102, Medical Lake; Orchard, No. 200, Millwood; North Hill, No. 210, Spokane; Manito, No. 246, Spokane; Concordia, No. 249, Millwood; Audubon Park, No. 272, Spokane; Eastern Washington Lodge of Research, No. 310, Spokane. **Rev. 2008**

**District No. 28** Quincy, No. 161, Quincy; Ephrata, No. 167, Ephrata; Moses Lake, No. 174, Moses Lake; Paul Revere, No. 205, Othello.

**District No. 29** Acacia, No. 58, Davenport; Grand Coulee Dam, No. 120, Coulee Dam; Almira, No. 127, Almira; Reardan, No. 146, Reardan; Odessa, No. 156, Odessa.

**District No. 30** Colville, No. 50, Colville; Kettle Falls, No. 130, Kettle Falls; Deer Park, No. 134, Deer Park; Chewelah, No. 135, Chewelah; Newport, No. 144, Newport; Hunters, No. 236, Hunters.



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**Part I – Grand Lodge**

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## Part I – Grand Lodge

### CHAPTER 5 – AMENDMENTS, RULES OF ORDER AND VOTING

#### Sec. 5.01 Const.

##### Amendments.

1. **Presentation.** Proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws shall be presented as resolutions at an Annual Communication. All resolutions submitted to the Annual Communication for consideration must be submitted by a Constituent Lodge of this Jurisdiction or by a Grand Master's recommendation. Legislation submitted or withdrawn by a Constituent Lodge shall first be approved by an affirmative majority of the members at a Stated Meeting of the Lodge. **Rev. 2008**
2. **Referral.** Drafts of all proposed amendments shall first be referred to the Code Commission for approval or revision of the composition and format and then to one or more appropriate committees who shall report thereon before a vote is taken.,
3. **Format.**
  - A. A clear, factual and concise statement of purpose of the proposed legislation shall preface proposed amendments; and
  - B. A Resolution to amend the Code shall set out in full each section or sub-section to be amended or added, with material to be deleted enclosed in parenthesis and struck out, and material to be added underlined. The Code Commission shall see that Resolutions submitted comply with this requirement. **Rev. 1993**
4. **Distribution.** New proposals and those held over from the previous Annual Communication shall be distributed in full by the Grand Secretary to the Constituent Lodges for reading and discussion in open Lodge at least sixty days in advance of the next Annual Communication. **Rev. 1998**

#### Sec. 5.02 Const.

##### Voting on Amendments.

1. A proposed amendment to the Constitution that receives a ninety percent vote shall be declared adopted and shall become a part of the Constitution at the close of that Annual Communication.

If the vote is not ninety percent, but is an affirmative majority, the proposal shall be declared held over for one year and shall be published with the Proceedings under the caption of "Proposed Amendments to the Constitution."

At the next Annual Communication, the proposed amendment shall be reported by the Grand Secretary and called by the Grand Master for action in advance of any new business. **Rev. 2004**

If it shall receive two-thirds of the votes cast thereon, it shall be declared adopted and shall become a part of the Constitution at the close of that Annual Communication; otherwise it shall be declared rejected.
2. A proposed amendment to change the Constitution necessitating a correlating change of the By-Laws, may be included in the change and may be submitted as one Resolution; provided the necessary vote for adoption remains as a Constitutional amendment.
3. A proposed amendment to the By-Laws that receives a three-fourths vote shall be declared adopted and shall become effective at the close of that Annual Communication.

If the vote is not three-fourths affirmative, but is an affirmative majority, the

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## Part I Grand Lodge

### CHAPTER 7 – FINANCE AND REVENUE

#### Sec. 7.01 Const.

**Sources.** Revenue of the Grand Lodge shall be derived from the following sources:

1. Fees charged for dispensations, charters, diplomas and other documents issued under the Grand Lodge authority,
2. Dues and contributions, paid by the Lodges, in an equal and uniform manner,
3. Assessments voted by the Grand Lodge for special purposes and paid by the Lodges in an equal and uniform manner,
4. Assets of dissolved Lodges, subject to all legal and equitable rights of creditors of such Lodges,
5. Proceeds from investments, loans and other transactions made by the Grand Lodge;
6. Earnings from various Grand Lodge funds,
7. Penalties for late returns and late payments; and
8. Penalties for charter reinstatements.

#### Sec. 7.02 Const.

**Financial Procedures.** Methods for levying and collecting revenues and for the management and disbursement of funds of the Grand Lodge shall be regulated by the By-Laws.

#### Sec. 7.03 B.L.

##### **Revenue for the General Fund.**

1. Every Lodge shall pay into the treasury of the Grand Lodge in support of Grand Lodge general activities the following:
  - A. Ten dollars (\$10.00) for a charter granted to a new Lodge,
  - B. Twenty dollars (\$20.00) for each petition approved for conferral of the degrees;
  - C. One dollar (\$1.00) for each degree conferred during the year,
  - D. One dollar (\$1.00) for each member enrolled during the year by affiliation, in Lodges charging an affiliation fee,
  - E. Ten dollars (\$10.00) for each petition for affiliation from a member of some other Jurisdiction, unless the petitioner, through prior membership, has contributed to the Masonic Home Fund, Masonic Home Endowment Fund or General Fund of this Jurisdiction; and
  - F. A sum to be set annually by the Grand Lodge [but not to exceed twelve dollars and no cents (\$12.00)] for each enrolled Master Mason, except those whose dues are remitted or not required for any reason. One Dollar of this amount shall be designated for the official publication of the Grand Lodge, one dollar shall be designated for Masonic Public Relations, and one dollar shall be designated for contribution to the George Washington Masonic Memorial Association. The exceptions are: **Rev. 2007**
    - a. A Mason who is supported at the expense of the Lodge or Grand Lodge,
    - b. A Mason whose dues are permanently waived by the Lodge because of inability to pay the same,
    - c. An honorary member who is not also an active member and who resides outside this Jurisdiction,
    - d. An honorary member for whom any other Lodge of this Jurisdiction is liable for Grand Lodge dues,

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2. **Capital Gains or Losses.** Capital gains net of capital losses, whether realized or unrealized, in either case, (“net capital gains”) may be used for the operation and maintenance of the Masonic Retirement Center of Washington. Net capital gains may only be used to the extent authorized by the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary, with the approval of the Committee on Finance. The exception is that net capital gains reasonably attributable to contributions made to this fund by gift, bequest or devise from 1994 through the fiscal year ending April 30, 2005, inclusive, shall be limited as follows:
  - A. The authorized amount may not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the prior year’s net capital gains; and
  - B. The prior year’s net capital gains available shall be reduced by the amount of any net capital loss that has not previously reduced a prior year’s net capital gains.

The use of net capital gains attributable to contributions made before 1994 or after April 30, 2005, shall not be subject to the limitation. **Rev. 2005**

#### **Sec. 7.12 B.L.**

**Masonic Loan Fund.** This special fund shall be maintained to provide loans to Constituent Lodges and Masonic Building Corporations for Masonic purposes.

The Fund shall consist of such monies as may be appropriated for that purpose by Grand Lodge, money and property contributed by gift, bequest and devise, and from any other source.

The Fund shall be managed and disbursed by a committee composed of the Grand Master, the Grand Secretary, and the Committee on Finance. This Committee shall have the authority to make loans pursuant to this Chapter and in such amounts, and under such terms and conditions as may be determined by the Committee; provided, however, that no such loans shall be made unless:

1. The loan is a matter of urgent necessity to the borrower,
2. The loan is a matter of proper concern to Grand Lodge; and
3. The loan will be adequately secured and repaid when due.

Any real and personal property of the Fund may be sold, leased, conveyed or otherwise disposed of by the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary with the approval of the Committee on Finance.

#### **Sec. 7.13 B.L.**

**Masonic Scholarship Endowment Fund.** This special Fund shall be maintained for the purpose of awarding Grand Lodge scholarships annually to deserving students as selected by the Committee on Public Schools Outreach.

The principal of the Fund shall constitute, be, and remain, a permanent trust Fund. This fund shall receive:

1. Money or property that may be donated to the Fund by gift, bequest or devise.
2. Five dollars (\$5.00) for each petition approved for conferral of the Degrees, from the conferring Lodge. **Rev. 2000**

Revenue generated by this fund shall be divided among programs that provide Grand Lodge scholarships to high school juniors and seniors for academic and/or vocational pursuits. At least one scholarship shall be awarded to a deserving applicant who is a member of the Order of DeMolay, the Order of Job’s Daughters or the International Order of Rainbow for Girls. If there are no deserving applicants in this category, then this scholarship may be awarded to another deserving student. **Rev. 2008**

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**Sec. 7.14 B.L.**

**Endowed Life Membership Fund.** The Grand Lodge, having sponsored and established an endowed life membership plan for Masons of this Jurisdiction, shall maintain a special Fund for the management of money received for Endowed Life Memberships under the plan. The principal sum of the Fund shall constitute, be and remain a permanent trust Fund.

1. All sums collected by Lodges for Endowed Life Membership under the Grand Lodge plan shall be immediately remitted to the Grand Secretary who shall place all money so received in the Endowed Life Membership Fund,
2. The Grand Secretary shall immediately issue to the member paying the required fees an Endowed Life Membership Certificate under Seal of the Grand Lodge,
3. The holder of an Endowed Life Membership Certificate may voluntarily transfer to another Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction, whereupon the Grand Secretary, upon notice thereof, shall transfer on the books of the Endowed Life Membership Fund, to the credit of the new Lodge of membership, the fees received for the holder's endowed life membership. Endowed Life Memberships which are purchased with Lodge Funds shall remain in trust for said Lodge of purchase,
4. The holder of an Endowed Life Membership Certificate in a Lodge that becomes dissolved shall, upon affiliation with another Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, have his Endowed Life Membership transferred in the same manner as for a voluntary transfer,
5. All money in the Endowed Life Membership Fund to the credit of two or more Lodges that consolidate shall be combined to the credit of the Consolidated Lodge,
6. Earnings of the Endowed Life Membership Fund, shall be distributed annually to participating Lodges based on their share of the Fund. As set forth in Sec. 7.03 B.L., one percent (1%) of the annual asset valuation shall be retained by the Grand Lodge to defray expenses of managing the Fund.
7. Interest accruing from the Fund, as the share of a dissolved Lodge, shall be added, at the end of each year, to the principal of the Fund,
8. Nothing in this section shall preclude the transfer of Life or Endowed Life Membership Funds on behalf of Lodges that have affiliated with the Grand Lodge of Alaska; and
9. The fiscal year for the Endowed Life Membership Fund shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31 of each calendar year. **Rev. 2002**

**Sec. 7.15 B.L.**

**Grand Lodge Endowment Fund.** This special Fund shall be maintained for the use and benefit of the General Fund. The principal shall consist, be and remain a Permanent Trust Fund. This Fund may receive such sums as may be appropriated thereto by the Grand Lodge and one-fourth of the excess income over expenses occurring in the General Fund annually will be transferred to this Fund.

**Sec. 7.16 B.L.****Renumbered 2008**

**Grand Lodge Self Insurance Fund.** This special Fund shall be maintained for the purpose of self insuring paraphernalia and other property belonging to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington and its Constituent Lodges and paying such deductibles resulting from property loss claims on other Grand Lodge insurance. Eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00) shall be budgeted and transferred from the General Fund each year until the assets of the Self Insurance Fund total twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00).



Any earnings of the Fund in excess of \$25,000.00 shall be returned to the General Fund. The principal of the fund shall be maintained at \$25,000.00 and in the event of the payment of losses, if the principal is reduced to less than \$25,000.00 funds shall be budgeted and transferred from the General Fund to the Self Insurance Fund, provided no more than twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) be transferred each year until the principal of the fund is returned to twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00).

The Committee on Finance shall develop such procedures as necessary for the submission and processing of claims and shall review and approve or disapprove all claims made against the Fund. **Rev. 2005**

**Sec. 7.17 B.L.**

**Renumbered 2008**

**Grand Lodge Capital Fund.** This special Fund shall be maintained for the purpose of relocating the Grand Lodge office, rebuilding the Masonic float, replacing the float truck, or use the interest therefrom for unanticipated and unbudgeted legal expenses. This Fund may receive such sums as may be appropriated for that purpose by the Grand Lodge, together with all monies or property donated to or for the benefit of said Fund by gift, bequest or devise. Expenditures from this Fund will require approval of the Grand Master, Grand Secretary, and Grand Lodge Finance Committee and will be reported at the subsequent Annual Communication. **Rev. 2006**

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- Sec. 8.29 B.L. – [Children Identification Program Foundation](#) Rev. 2008

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## Part I - Grand Lodge

### CHAPTER 8 - COMMITTEES, FOUNDATIONS AND THEIR DUTIES

#### Sec. 8.01 B.L.

**Standing Committees.** The newly-installed Grand Master shall appoint, before the close of the Annual Communication, the following Standing Committees to serve until the close of the next Annual Communication. The number of Committee members shall be no less than the number stipulated.

1. By-Laws, three members
2. Charity, three members
3. Code Commission, five members
4. Correspondence, one member
5. Credentials, ten members
6. Endowment for the Masonic Home Fund, five members
7. Finance, five members
8. Grievances and Appeals, three members
9. Technology, five members
10. Jurisprudence, five members
11. Library and Museum, five members
12. Long Range Planning, ten members
13. Masonic Float, four members
14. Masonic Public Relations, three members
15. Masonic Research and Education, five members
16. Masonic Tribune, one member
17. Membership Development, seven members
18. Military Recognition, seven members
19. Public Schools Outreach, ten members
20. Youth, six members
21. Children Identification Programs (CHIPS), ten members **Rev. 2008**

The Committees on Jurisprudence, Finance, and Credentials shall meet on the day immediately preceding the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge. **Rev. 2005**

#### Sec. 8.02 B.L.

**By-Laws.** The Committee shall:

1. Receive from the Grand Secretary all By-Laws or By-Law amendments submitted by the Lodges for approval, review the same and forward promptly to the Grand Master with a recommendation of approval or disapproval; and
2. Report to the Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication a list of the By-Laws and By-Law amendments submitted for consideration.

#### Sec. 8.03 B.L.

**Charity.** The Committee shall investigate and report upon all applications for assistance, and may report upon the necessities of any worthy Brother whose condition may claim the attention of the Grand Lodge.

Requests for charity will be on forms provided by Grand Lodge. It is the duty of the Chairman to develop and implement a process for review and approval of charitable funds with the approval of the Grand Master. The Charity Committee is authorized to approve charity requests of \$500.00 or less. **Rev.2007**

**Sec. 8.04 B.L.**

**Code Commission.** The Commission shall:

1. Compile and maintain a continuing review of the Washington Masonic Code. Where such review reveals misspelled words, extra, missing, or misplaced punctuation, or similar errors, whether related to grammar, syntax, agreement in number, gender or sentence structure, the Code Commission, with the concurrence of the Committee on Jurisprudence, may jointly authorize publication of such changes, which action shall be reported to the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge for its approval,
2. Receive from the Grand Secretary each Resolution proposing an addition or an amendment to the Code; review, and, when necessary, restructure and/or rewrite the proposal, with the concurrence of the sponsors, to preserve the desired qualities of the Code; approve or revise the proposed placement in the Code,
3. Receive from the Grand Secretary all enactments of Grand Lodge affecting the Code, confirm the placement in the Code and the indexing for each item, and file a report of the same with the Grand Secretary, and
4. Perform a systematic review and upgrading of the Constitution and By-Laws as deemed necessary. The upgrading shall include the restructuring and/or rewriting of portions of the Code when necessary for clarification. Extreme care shall be exercised during this procedure to avoid changing or obscuring the original intent of the legislation. Proposed amendments to the Constitution or By-Laws shall be reported to the Grand Lodge for consideration at the Annual Communication following the completion of the clarification project.
5. Perform a systematic review and upgrading of the Rulings and Decisions as deemed necessary. Clarification, removal or relocation of Rulings and Decisions shall be discussed with the Committee on Jurisprudence and the conclusions shall be reported in the form of a joint report to the Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication for their approval or disapproval and any relevant decisions to be included in the Rulings and Decisions will be forwarded to the Grand Secretary by the Code Commission in the proper format and added to the Grand Master's Rulings and Decisions Document.

**Rev. 2004**

**Sec. 8.05 B.L.**

**Correspondence.** The Committee shall examine the printed or written proceedings or other documents emanating from other Grand Lodges, and report, at each Annual Communication, whatever may seem of sufficient importance and interest to the Craft. He shall deliver his report to the Grand Secretary before the meeting of the Grand Lodge.

**Sec. 8.06 B.L.**

**Credentials.** The Committee shall:

1. Verify the credentials of all Masons claiming the right of membership in the Grand Lodge,
2. List, for the record, at each Annual Communication:

**[Rev.2007]**

- A. The names of Grand Officers and other members of the Grand Lodge in attendance,
  - B. Names and numbers of Lodges represented,
  - C. Names of Masters, Wardens and Past Masters present; and
  - D. Names of proxies present.
3. Report to the Grand Lodge, after the call to order and before the ceremonial opening of the Annual Communication, that the required number of Lodges are present to provide a quorum for the transaction of business; and
  4. Conduct the annual election of officers at the direction of the Grand Master, and report the results to the Grand Lodge.

**Sec. 8.07 B.L.**

**Endowment for the Masonic Home.** The Committee shall foster, promote, increase and develop the objectives of the Masonic Home Endowment Fund as set forth in the Washington Masonic Code.

Its members shall work under the direction of the Grand Master. The members shall visit the Lodges, dispense information, provide speakers, encourage interest, develop programs, prepare and distribute literature, prepare talks, make an annual report to the Grand Lodge and, in conjunction with the Trustees of the Masonic Retirement Center, engage in such further activities as will promote and further the soundness and growth of the Endowment Fund. **Rev. 1995**

**Sec. 8.08 B.L.**

**Finance.** The Committee shall:

1. Examine and report on all matters concerning the finances of the Grand Lodge, not otherwise provided for; and upon all subjects involving an appropriation of its funds. Without such report no appropriation shall be made,
2. Examine and compare the books, papers, vouchers and accounts of the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary, and make detailed reports thereon and submit the same to the Grand Lodge before the close of each Annual Communication; and report the financial condition of the Grand Lodge,
3. Present, before the close of each Annual Communication, an estimate of the probable expenses of the ensuing year (giving each class of expenditure under its proper heading), and recommend the appropriation of such sums as it shall deem necessary,
4. Oversee and approve management and disposition of all real and personal property not assigned to another committee, including any held in trust for the benefit of any charitable activity,
5. Consider for approval the recommendations made by the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary for investment of monies from the various Funds that the Grand Lodge has authorized,
6. Provide knowledgeable oversight on all Grand Lodge Insurance matters including:

[Rev. 2008]

- A. Review and audit all Grand Lodge property and casualty insurance policies to maximize amounts of insurance coverage for the premiums paid, seek methods to eliminate gaps or omissions in coverage and improve coverage while reducing cost.
  - B. Review insurance coverage of Constituent Lodges, Temple Corporations or Associations, and recommend improvements in coverage.
  - C. Act as liaison between insurance providers and Grand Lodge to resolve complaints within this Jurisdiction, and resolve questions regarding Constituent Lodge, Temple Corporation or Association coverage.
  - D. Make report of audit findings and provide recommendations for change when deemed advisable and as provided in Chapter 11. **Rev. 2008**
7. Review all matters that affect the affairs of the 401(k) pension program for employees of the Grand Lodge Office and the Masonic Retirement Center including but not limited to:
- A. Oversee the investment policy of the fund
  - B. Assure the 401(k) program and actions taken on its behalf are within the rules of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and its amendments and any future laws that govern this type of retirement plan.
8. May engage Certified Public Accountants and such other professional assistance as may be required to assist and report to the Committee as to the details of the financial, property and insurance, or other matters pertaining thereto, and subject to the approval of the Grand Master. **Rev. 2008**

**Sec. 8.09. B.L.**

**Grievances and Appeals.** The Committee shall consider, report upon, and make such recommendations as it may deem proper on the following matters:

- 1. Any complaint or grievance appertaining to Masonic discipline,
- 2. All appeals from decisions of any Lodge or the Master thereof; and
- 3. All petitions for restoration.

Matters contained in the report of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals shall be mentioned in our Proceedings only by titles of the cases and statements of action taken. No details of the case shall be mentioned.

**Sec. 8.10 B.L.**

**Technology.** The Committee shall:

- 1. Develop, promote and improve methods of communication between Grand Lodge and Constituent Lodges,
- 2. Provide a review of current communication methods and computer technology available,
- 3. Make recommendation about technology which will assist and improve Masonic Communication.
- 4. Create electronic formatted presentations of certain ritual work as authorized by the Washington Masonic Code.

**Sec. 8.11 B.L.**

**Jurisprudence.** The Committee shall consider and report upon all questions, documents, papers, decisions on Masonic Law and Usage, and proposed amendments to the Constitution, By-Laws, and Regulations.

**[Rev. 2008]**

**Sec. 8.12 B.L.**

**Library and Museum.** The Committee shall be responsible for the daily administration and operation of the Washington Masonic Library and Museum, preserving the artifacts of Masonic history in and for this Grand Jurisdiction and perform such archival functions as may be necessary and proper.

The Committee shall also act as a fund raising committee for the Washington Masonic Library and Museum Foundation.

**Sec. 8.13 B.L.**

**Literacy Outreach. Repealed 2005**

**Sec. 8.14 B.L.**

**Long Range Planning.** The Committee will be custodians of the Washington Grand Lodge Long Range Plans, incorporating and implementing changes necessitated by evolving circumstances within the Grand Lodge. **Adopted 2002**

**Sec. 8.15 B.L.**

**Masonic Float.** The Committee shall be responsible for the public display of the Washington Masonic Family Float in this Grand Jurisdiction as well as other Grand Jurisdictions. **Adopted 2002**

**Sec. 8.16 B.L.**

**Masonic Public Relations.** The Committee shall assist Grand Lodge and its Constituent Lodges with information and news releases on Masonic matters, including Grand Lodge communications, cornerstone laying, dedications and similar matters.

**Sec. 8.17 B.L.**

**Masonic Research and Education.** The Committee shall:

1. On request, furnish speakers on Masonic and kindred subjects for Lodges and for community meetings held under the auspices of Lodges,
2. Select for printing and circulation such Masonic addresses proper and suitable for circulation,
3. Invite and conduct correspondence with Lodges, or members thereof, concerning Masonic subjects; and
4. Have power to expend in its work such funds as may have been appropriated for its use by the Grand Lodge. **Rev. 1994**

**Sec. 8.18 B.L.**

**Masonic Tribune.** The Committee shall be responsible for publication of the official publication of the Grand Lodge on a regular basis as directed by the Grand Master. **Rev. 1999**

**Sec. 8.19 B.L.**

**Membership Development.** The Committee shall research, develop and promote programs to enhance and increase Masonic membership among the constituent Lodges. To assist the Lodges in creating interesting and viable programs for its meetings and activities to promote and create an interesting Masonic environment for greater attendance and participation among its enrolled membership; and shall make an annual report and recommendations to Grand Lodge concerning its activities and findings. **Rev. 2004**

[Rev. 2005]

**Sec. 8.20 B.L.**

**Military Recognition.** The Committee shall provide for the annual recognition of an active duty military Person of the Year, as directed by the Grand Master. **Rev. 1999**

**Sec. 8.21 B.L.**

**Public Schools Outreach.** The Committee shall:

1. Be responsible for all Grand Lodge programs involving the tax-supported Schools including development of long range planning.
2. Recommend and develop programs available to Lodges that promote the Public Schools and enhance public awareness of improved educational opportunities for students.
3. Investigate and support worthwhile Public School recognition programs developed by individual Lodges, and communicate this information throughout the Jurisdiction.
4. Assist Lodges and Districts in the development of single and multi-Lodge programs for worthwhile public school recognition including, but not limited to:
  - A. Literacy Outreach – providing Lodges with information on the importance of a Literate society and Freemasonry’s role through educational outreach programs.
  - B. Selection of deserving students for scholarship awards from the Masonic Scholarship Endowment Fund in accordance with established guidelines.
  - C. Identification of Public School educators who demonstrate exceptional instructional ability and motivation for students. **Rev. 2005**

**Sec. 8.22 B.L.**

**Youth.** The Committee shall maintain a program of guidance and assistance which shall be available to Constituent Lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction for assisting and guiding the Order of DeMolay, International Order of Rainbow for Girls and International Order of Jobs Daughters in their areas.

**Sec. 8.23 B.L. Adopted 2007**

**Children Identification Programs (CHIPS).** The Committee shall be responsible for and implement the CHIPS program, throughout the Jurisdiction, and report to the Grand Lodge at each Annual Communication the results of its efforts.

**Sec. 8.24 B.L. Renumbered 2007**

**Special Committees.** Special Committees may be appointed by the Grand Master to facilitate business of the Grand Lodge whenever it shall be deemed necessary. They shall perform such duties as may be assigned to them by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge. Special Committees whose duties and functions are continued for three successive years following their institution, beginning with the conclusion of the 1995 Annual Communication, shall be reviewed thereafter at the Annual Communication following the third anniversary of their creation and Grand Lodge may choose to make such committees Standing Committees or abolish them. **Rev. 2004**

**Sec. 8.25 B.L. Renumbered 2007**

**Committee Reports.** Every Committee to which any question or matter has been referred shall, after making an investigation, submit a written report-if proper to be written-of the facts determined by its inquiry. Recommendations which the Committee shall deem proper, regarding the subject under investigation, shall be submitted as Resolutions attached to the report.

**[Rev. 2007]**

**Sec. 8.26 B.L. Renumbered 2007**

**Meetings During Annual Communication.** Committees shall not meet while the Grand Lodge is actually in session, except by permission of the Grand Master.

**Sec. 8.27 B.L. Renumbered 2007**

**Bill P. Horn Memorial Masonic Medal Foundation.** The Bill P. Horn Memorial Masonic Medal Foundation is constituted in order to recognize a Mason of note on the world scene who has quietly contributed in a significant way to the improvement of society. A Board of Trustees appointed by the Grand Master shall manage the affairs and operation of the Foundation.

1. The Board of Trustees shall consist of five members, each of whom shall serve a term of five years so arranged that one Trustee shall be appointed or reappointed each year in June following the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge,
  2. The Board of Trustees shall develop and establish operating procedures for the award of the Bill P. Horn Memorial Masonic Medal,
  3. The Board of Trustees may create and administer a trust fund to support this activity; and
- The Trustees shall report annually to the Grand Lodge on the income, expenses, and activities, including the name or names of the recipients of this award. **Rev. 1999**

**Sec. 8.28 B.L. Renumbered 2007**

**Washington Masonic Library and Museum Foundation.** The Foundation is a separately incorporated not for profit corporation chartered under the laws of the State of Washington and organized appropriately according to regulations pertaining to tax exempt charitable, educational and philanthropic organizations.

The Washington Masonic Library and Museum Foundation consists of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Secretary, Grand Historian, and two Trustees by virtue of their election or appointment and then only for the term of their service. Their duties shall be to acquire and take possession of all assets, donations and revenues of the Foundation, oversee all expenditures, employ such paid and volunteer assistance as they deem appropriate, provide oversight to the Library and Museum Committee, and set policy.

The Grand Master shall serve as Chairman of the Board of Trustees and the Grand Secretary as Secretary of the Board and other functions of administration shall be established by the corporation By-laws. **Rev. 2008**

**Sec. 8.29 B.L. Adopted 2007**

**Children's Identification Programs Foundation.** The Foundation is a separately incorporated not for profit corporation governed under laws of the State of Washington and organized appropriately according to the regulations pertaining to tax exempt public charities. The Grand Lodge of Washington is the Sole Member of this Corporation and the Board of Trustees are elected by the Sole Member annually.

1. The board of trustees will consist of a minimum of 7 trustees, who will be elected by the Sole Member. The trustees shall be Master Masons of this jurisdiction. The elected Grand Lodge officers will be voting members ex officio of the board,
2. The term of the board members will be 3 years, staggered in time, for an orderly change on the board; and
3. The board members, as terms expire or for other reasons, will be replaced by others appointed/elected by the Sole Member.



**Part I – Grand Lodge**

**CHAPTER 9 – ANNUAL COMMUNICATION PROCEDURE**

**Sec. 9.01 B.L. – [Communications](#) Rev. 2008**

**Sec. 9.02 B.L. – [Quorum](#)**

**Sec. 9.03 B.L. – [Hours of Convening and of Labor and Refreshment](#)**

**Sec. 9.04 B.L. – [Opening Proceedings](#)**

**Sec. 9.05 B.L. – [Continuing Proceedings](#)**

**Sec. 9.06 B.L. – [Approval of Minutes](#)**

**Sec. 9.07 B.L. – [Distribution of Proceedings](#)**

**[Rev. 2008]**

## Part I – Grand Lodge

### CHAPTER 9 – ANNUAL COMMUNICATION PROCEDURE

#### Sec. 9.01 B.L.

##### **Communications.**

**Annual.** The Grand Lodge shall meet annually on the second Friday of June in the City of Wenatchee, unless an invitation to hold the Annual Communication for a given year in another city shall have been received and accepted by vote of the Grand Lodge, after having been referred without debate to the Committee on Finance for report and found to have a negligible financial impact on the budget of Grand Lodge. [This change shall take effect as of the Annual Communication held in June 2012.] **Rev. 2008**

##### **Special.**

1. The Grand Master may call Special Communications for ceremonial purposes; and
2. Special Communications may also be called by the Grand Master for purpose of enactment of legislation of an emergent nature after 45 days written notice to all Lodges. **Rev. 1992**

#### Sec. 9.02 B.L.

**Quorum.** The Representatives of fifty-one percent of the Chartered Lodges, convened on due notice to all the Lodges, shall be indispensably necessary to open Grand Lodge for the transaction of business; however, on occasions of ceremony, the Grand Master or his special Deputy, with a number of Brethren sufficient to fill the stations and places, may open the Grand Lodge and perform the ceremony for which it is called.

#### Sec. 9.03 B.L.

**Hours of Convening and of Labor and Refreshment.** The Grand Lodge shall convene at ten o'clock A.M. on the first day of each Annual Communication. Thereafter the hours of labor and refreshment shall be at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master.

#### Sec. 9.04 B.L.

**Opening Proceedings.** The Annual Communication shall observe the following initial order of proceedings and business:

1. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain,
2. Roll Call of elective, appointive and past elective officers by the Grand Secretary,
3. Receive the report of the Committee on Credentials regarding the number of Lodges represented,
4. Solemn Ceremonies of Opening the Grand Lodge in Ample Form,
5. Read and approve the minutes of the last Annual Communication, unless dispensed with,
6. Appointments to fill vacancies on Standing Committees and other business affecting the organization of the Grand Lodge, **Rev. 2004**
7. Message of the Grand Master, **Rev. 2004**
8. Referral of the Grand Master's Message to appropriate committees, **Rev. 2004**
9. Report of the Grand Secretary, **Rev. 2004**
10. Referral of the Grand Secretary's Report to appropriate committees, **Rev. 2004**
11. Report of the Grand Secretary on Unfinished Business, **Rev. 2004**

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## Part III – Constituent Lodges

### CHAPTER 13 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 13.01 Const. – [Authority to Hold Lodge](#)
- Sec. 13.02 B.L. – [Lodge Membership](#)
- Sec. 13.03 B.L. – [Sunday Labor](#)
- Sec. 13.04 B.L. – [Proper Time for Business](#)
- Sec. 13.05 B.L. – [Off-Session](#)
- Sec. 13.06 B.L. – [Voting Members](#)
- Sec. 13.07 B.L. – [Change of Meeting Place](#)
- Sec. 13.08 B.L. – [Public Appearance as Masons](#) Rev. 2008
- Sec. 13.09 B.L. – [Grand Honors](#)
- Sec. 13.10 B.L. – [Admitting Visitors](#)
- Sec. 13.11 B.L. – [Objection to Visitor](#)
- Sec. 13.12 B.L. – [Inspection of Charter by Visitor](#)
- Sec. 13.13 B.L. – [Examination for Masonic Fraternal Relations](#)

[Rev. 2008]



**Part III - Constituent Lodges**  
**CHAPTER 13- GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Sec. 13.01 Const.**

**Authority to Hold Lodge.** Every Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction is and shall be held by virtue of a charter from the Grand Lodge or under a dispensation issued by the Grand Master.

*Sec. 13.02 B.L.*

**Lodge Membership:** A Lodge shall be composed of those who retain membership after having been:

1. Named in the warrant of dispensation,
2. Raised and enrolled as a member,
3. Admitted to the Lodge by affiliation; or
4. A member of a Lodge which consolidates with another.

*Sec. 13.03 B.L.*

**Sunday Labor.** No Lodge shall meet on the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday, for Masonic Labor other than the burial of an Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, or Master Mason.

**Rev. 1986**

*Sec. 13.04 B.L.*

**Proper Time for Business.** Except as provided in Section 15.08 B.L., a Lodge may transact its business and conduct its balloting when at labor on any Degree at a Stated Communication.

When one or more Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft Degree Masons desire to attend, the Worshipful Master, at his discretion, may open Lodge on the appropriate Degree. **Rev. 2004**

A Lodge at labor on any Degree for other than business shall be limited to such proceedings as pertain respectively to the Degree on which it is open:

1. The Work and Lectures,
2. Testimony upon Masonic charges; and
3. Programs or ceremonies permitting attendance of E. A's or F. C's.

**Sec. 13.05 B.L.**

**Off-Session.** A Worshipful Master may call a Lodge to Off-Session only for the purpose of a public ceremony and/or the admission of non-Masons into the Lodge room while the Lodge is at Labor. Off-Session is a condition with the Three Great Lights, Lesser Lights and other Jewels displayed in the usual and customary manner. While a Lodge is Off-Session the esoteric work will not be used nor is Off-Session to be used in lieu of calling to Refreshment as part of normal business. Prior to a Lodge being called back On-Session the Worshipful Master will have the Lodge purged. **Adopted 2004**

**Sec. 13.06 B.L.**

**Voting Members.** All Master Masons present who are members, unless excused by unanimous consent must ballot on the following questions:

1. A petition for the Degrees or for Affiliation,
2. The acceptance or rejection of charges for a Masonic Trial,
3. The expulsion or suspension of a member; and
4. A proposal for consolidation of Lodges.

A vote of all members present is not required on other business matters.

**[Rev. 2006]**

## **Sec. 13.07 B.L.**

### **Change of Meeting Place.**

1. **Regular Meetings.** A Lodge may permanently change its regular place of meeting by a vote of its members and the sanction of the Grand Master.

The vote shall be taken at a Stated Communication at least ten days after written notice has been mailed to each member of the Lodge stating the proposed change and the date of the meeting.

Two-thirds of the votes cast must be favorable for the approval of a change of meeting place and the change shall not be effective until sanctioned by the Grand Master.

Only one Lodge at any one time shall be allowed to permanently change its regular place of meeting to the Masonic Retirement Center. This change shall not be effective until approved by the Board of Trustees of the Masonic Retirement Center and sanctioned by the Grand Master.

2. **Temporary Meetings.** The Grand Master may grant permission for a Lodge to temporarily change its regular meeting place for the purpose of:
  - A. Holding a Stated Communication at a suitable place in event of an emergency preventing the Lodge from meeting at its regular place of meeting,
  - B. Holding a Special Communication upon good cause shown, at a safe place in this Jurisdiction other than its own Lodge Room,
  - C. Hosting the Lodges of one or more Districts for a District meeting; and
  - D. Opening Lodge in the auditorium of the Masonic Retirement Center for any purpose deemed proper by the Grand Master. The Grand Master shall not grant such permission to any one Lodge more than once in two months. **Rev. 1996**

## **Sec. 13.08 B.L.**

### **Public Appearance as Masons.**

1. A Lodge or Mason may appear in public in Masonic clothing:
  - A. To attend a Masonic funeral service,
  - B. When escorting the Masonic Float in parades,
  - C. At meetings of the International Order of Job's Daughters, the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, or the Order of DeMolay, and
  - D. When attending Divine Services, community parades, Masonic sponsored scholarship events, Masonic Information booths at community Fairs and CHIPS events as a Lodge under the following rules:
    - a. The Worshipful Master of the Lodge which is sponsoring the event must approve of the appearance and record this approval in the minutes of his Lodge;
    - b. The Deputy of the Grand Master in the District is to be informed of the event sufficiently in advance to provide additional guidance, as needed; and
    - c. Each event and the participation in it must reflect credit upon Masonry as it is presented in the Ancient Landmarks, the written law of Masonry, and other Usages and Customs of Masonry.
2. A Lodge or Mason may not otherwise appear publicly in Masonic clothing without the consent of the Grand Master. The occasions for which the Grand Master may consider granting a dispensation for Masons of Lodges to appear publicly in Masonic clothing are:

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- A. A strictly Masonic occasion;
- B. The performance of Masonic duty, ceremony, or custom; and
- C. To take part in a community patriotic, historical, or educational event. **Rev. 2008**

### **Sec. 13.09 B.L.**

#### **Grand Honors.**

1. The Worshipful Master of a Lodge is the sole judge of what honors, if any, shall be tendered to visitors, other than the Grand Master,
2. In the absence of a preference by the Grand Master, he should be received as follows:
  - A. The Worshipful Master shall direct one or more officers or distinguished members to meet a visiting Grand Master in the Tyler's Room and remain with him until the proper time for his entrance,
  - B. After Lodge has been opened, the Grand Master shall be escorted to the altar and, after the salutation, be presented to the Worshipful Master; and
  - C. The Worshipful Master, while receiving the Grand Master, is in full charge of the Lodge and shall remain covered until the Grand Master shall have accepted the gavel,
3. Other Grand Officers may be received in a ceremony of introduction similar to that used for the Grand Master; and
4. No Mason has the right to demand that he be accorded the Grand Honors of Masonry.

### **Sec. 13.10 B.L.**

#### **Admitting Visitors.**

1. Every Master Mason, on applying for admittance as a visitor to a Lodge, shall exhibit either a receipt for dues or a document showing him to be in good standing, or a dimit that was issued within the previous three years. Such documents shall not be conclusive as to the identity of the holder, who must provide additional evidence of his identity,
2. A Lodge must be satisfied as to the good Masonic standing of an applicant for admission and as to the regularity of the Lodge from which he hails. A Lodge becoming satisfied as to the identity of a visitor and the genuineness and regularity of his documentation shall require additionally, either:
  - A. The personal avouchment by a Brother knowing him to be in good Masonic standing and having met him in open Lodge (examination by a Brother outside of Lodge is not sufficient), or
  - B. That he shall take the Test Oath and submit to a strict trial and due examination by a committee appointed by the Master.
3. A Mason who has been unaffiliated for more than three years shall not be permitted to visit a Lodge in this Jurisdiction, unless, in an exceptional case, he shall have received written permission from the Master of the Lodge to attend the Lodge for a period not to exceed six months.

### **Sec.13.11 B.L.**

**Objection to Visitor.** The privilege of a Mason to visit a Lodge other than his own is subject to the right of any member thereof to object to his admittance. Such member shall not be required to state his reason for the objection. The objection shall hold good only during the communication at which it is made and while the objector is present.

**[Rev. 2008]**



**Sec.13.12 B.L.**

**Inspection of Charter by Visitor.** Inspection of the charter of a Lodge by one seeking admittance as a visitor is a privilege that the Master may grant or withhold at his discretion. It is not an absolute right.

**Sec. 13.13 B.L.**

**Examination for Masonic Fraternal Relations.** Masonic Communications shall be held with Masons only. Whenever it becomes necessary for one Brother to prove another, he may do so in any secure place, after first taking the precaution of administering the Test Oath. When by strict trial each is fully satisfied, the two may converse Masonically, but one cannot vouch for the other for purpose of visitation.

**[Rev. 2008]**

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## Part III – Constituent Lodges

### CHAPTER 14 – LODGE POWERS AND DUTIES

- Sec. 14.01 Const. – [Powers and Duties](#)
- Sec. 14.02 Const. – [Powers of a Lodge](#)
- Sec. 14.03 Const. – [By-Laws](#)
- Sec. 14.04 B.L. – [Communications](#)
- Sec. 14.05 B.L. – [Lodge Seal](#)
- Sec. 14.06 B.L. – [Books](#)
- Sec. 14.07 B.L. – [Minutes](#)
- Sec. 14.08 B.L. – [Annual Reports](#) Rev. 2008
- Sec. 14.09 B.L. – [Lodge Representation in Grand Lodge](#)
- Sec. 14.10 B.L. – [Lodge Communications During Grand Lodge](#)
- Sec. 14.11 B.L. – [Audit Committee](#) Rev. 2008
- Sec. 14.12 B.L. – [Welcome Sign](#)
- Sec. 14.13 B.L. – [Lodges May Sponsor Youth Groups](#)

[Rev. 2008]

## Part III - Constituent Lodges

### CHAPTER 14- LODGE POWERS AND DUTIES

#### Sec. 14.01 Const.

**Powers and Duties.** The powers and duties are those prescribed and determined by the Immemorial Laws and Usage of the Fraternity, and which have not been delegated to the Grand Lodge or expressly modified by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge or by the terms of the Lodge dispensation or charter.

#### Sec.14.02 Const.

**Powers of a Lodge.** The powers of a Lodge are executive, legislative, judicial and educational, and include the following:

1. **Executive.** The performance of its proper work under control of its Master and in accordance with the law,
2. **Legislative.** The enactment of legislation relative to its own affairs, not in conflict with the Constitution or By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, or with the Immemorial Customs and Usages of the Fraternity,
3. **Judicial.**
  - A. The exercise of discipline over its own members (except the Master, or a Past Master for official misconduct during his term of office) and over all other Masons within its territorial Jurisdiction,
  - B. The right to elect to have the accused tried by a Grand Master's Committee,
  - C. The settlement of controversies between all Masons within the Lodge's Jurisdiction, subject to an appeal to the Grand Lodge from a Lodge settlement,
4. **Educational.** The education of deserving persons is a Masonic purpose, and Lodges have power, individually or collectively, to disburse Lodge funds to, or for the benefit of, deserving persons for their education; and
5. **Charitable.** The contribution of funds for the relief of the poor and distressed, whether members in good standing or not, is a Masonic purpose, and Lodges have power, individually or collectively to disburse Lodge funds for the relief of deserving persons in time of emergency or need. **Rev. 1985**

#### Sec. 14.03 Const.

##### By-Laws.

1. A Lodge has full power and authority to enact, for its own government, By-Laws not in conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge or with the principles of Masonry,
2. By-Laws can be amended after adoption only at a Stated Communication and after written notice, either by mail or electronic media, of the proposed amendment has been sent to each member of the Lodge at least ten days before such Stated Communication, **Rev. 2006**
3. The Lodge, after adopting its By-Laws or an amendment thereto, shall transmit to the Grand Secretary four copies or on four copies of Form 28 provided without charge by the Grand Lodge. The Grand Secretary shall transmit the copies to the Committee on By-Laws who, after review, shall forward the forms to the Grand Master with a recommendation of approval or disapproval,

[Rev. 2006]

4. The Grand Master shall affix his approval or disapproval on the several copies of the document after which the original shall be returned to the Lodge and a copy transmitted to the Grand Secretary,
5. By-Laws shall be immediately effective when approved by the Grand Master, whose action shall be conclusive; and
6. Form 28 as revised June 1984 shall be adopted for By-Laws and By-Law amendments.

**Rev. 1993**

**Sec. 14.04 B.L.**

**Communications.** Every Lodge shall meet at least once in six months. Neglect by a Lodge to hold any communication for six months may subject it to forfeiture of its charter.

**Sec. 14.05 B.L.**

**Lodge Correspondence.** All documents or papers emanating from the and requiring attestation, shall bear the signature of the Worshipful Master or Secretary. **Rev. 2007**

**Sec. 14.06 B.L.**

**Books.** Every Lodge shall provide the books needed by the Secretary in the performance of his official duties.

**Sec. 14.07 B.L.**

**Minutes.** The Secretary shall record the minutes of the meeting which shall be read and approved at the direction of the Worshipful Master after which the Worshipful Master shall affix his signature. The minutes, thus approved, cannot be altered or expunged. At the direction of the Worshipful Master, minutes of a previous meeting may be read at a subsequent meeting for the purpose of information. A transcript of such meeting will be submitted to the Grand Lodge when required. **Rev. 1991**

**Sec. 14.08 B.L.**

**Annual Reports.**

1. **End-of-Year Return.** Each Chartered Lodge shall transmit annually to the Grand Secretary on or before February 1, an end-of-the-year return for the previous calendar year, on such forms as may be specified by the Grand Secretary. Each Lodge under dispensation shall transmit a similar return for the period from the date of its organization to December 31 of each year.

Any Chartered Lodge that shall fail to submit an annual report on time may have its representatives barred from all privileges of the Grand Lodge and may have its charter forfeited by a vote of the Grand Lodge. Each Lodge so offending shall, in addition to forfeiting its charter, be fined one dollar (\$1.00) for each day's delinquency after February 1.

Each Lodge shall receive from the Grand Secretary, by March 20, an itemized statement of the amount owed by the Lodge for dues, fees and contributions. Payment shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary on or before April 15. Any Lodge that fails to transmit payment by the required date shall be fined one dollar (\$1.00) for each day's (delay) delinquency after April 15. **Rev. 1991**

**[Rev. 2007]**

2. **Internal Revenue Service Form 990 or 990N (E-postcard).** Each Lodge shall transmit to the Grand Secretary a copy of their Form 990 or 990N (E-postcard) as filed with the Internal Revenue Service. All Lodges who are members of incorporated entities under the Washington Masonic Code who are required to file Form 990 or 990N (E-postcard) will also file a copy with the Grand Secretary. All copies must be received by the Grand Secretary within 30 days of filing. **Adopted 2008**

**Sec. 14.09 B.L.**

**Lodge Representation in Grand Lodge.** Each Lodge shall be represented at every Annual Communication by its Master and Wardens, or by their duly appointed proxies. Any member of the Lodge may be appointed as a proxy except an individual Master Mason may not represent more than one Lodge.

Any Lodge that neglects to be properly represented in Grand Lodge for two successive years, without being excused by the Grand Master, shall have its charter suspended until the next Annual Communication when the charter shall be forfeited unless it is restored by vote of the Grand Lodge.

A charter that has been forfeited may be restored at the next Annual Communication by a request of the Lodge, a favorable vote of the Grand Lodge, and upon payment of a one hundred dollar (\$100.00) penalty.

**Sec. 14.10 B.L.**

**Lodge Communications During Grand Lodge.** A Lodge shall hold no communication while Grand Lodge is in Annual Session, except for burial of an Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft or, Master Mason or by permission of the Grand Lodge. **Rev. 1986**

**Sec. 14.11 B.L.**

**Audit Committee.** Every Lodge shall have an Audit Committee which shall be appointed by the Worshipful Master at the last Stated Communication on or before the annual election of officers and no later than the meeting when officers are elected. The Audit Committee shall:

1. Audit the books of the Secretary and Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer; and
2. Report its findings in full to the Lodge:
  - A. By the second Stated Communication following the annual installation of officers, or
  - B. At the earliest, convenient time, if the date for reporting cannot be met, due to the additional time required for an audit by professional accountants as specified in the Lodge By-Laws.

The report of the Audit Committee shall be recorded in the minutes of the Lodge at the Stated Communication the report is received. **Rev. 2008**

**Sec. 14.12 B.L.**

**Welcoming Sign.** A Lodge may place or erect a welcoming sign at the entrance to its city or town.

**Sec. 14.13 B.L.**

**Lodges May Sponsor Youth Groups.** Any Lodge may, by majority vote of the members at any Stated Communication, sponsor a Chapter of DeMolay, a Bethel of the Job's Daughters, an Assembly of the Rainbow for Girls, or similar youth activity. All financial activities associated

[Rev. 2008]



with the youth organization or activity must be kept separate and apart from those of the sponsoring lodge. The sponsoring lodge has no authority over or power to disburse, distribute or control the funds of any youth group or activity sponsored by the Lodge and, in the event the sponsorship is ended or the youth group or activity disbanded, the Lodge shall have no claim on any assets or funds of the said youth group or activity. **Rev. 1996**

**[Rev. 2008]**

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## Part III – Constituent Lodges

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## Part III – Constituent Lodges

### CHAPTER 16- FORMATION OF NEW LODGES

#### Sec. 16.01 B.L.

**Application for Dispensation.** A new Lodge may be formed within this Jurisdiction, or in foreign territory where no Sovereign Grand Lodge exists, upon the petition of fifteen or more Master Masons, a recommendation by the nearest or most convenient Chartered Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons and granting of a dispensation by the Grand Master.

The petition shall be accompanied by proposed By-Laws for the new Lodge fixing the place and dates for stated communications, fees for Degrees, annual dues, and such other matters as deemed necessary. The By-Laws shall become effective upon the Grand Master granting a dispensation.

The petitioners shall be residents of this Grand Jurisdiction and each shall provide a dimit, or a certificate of good standing or the equivalent, to accompany the petition.

The recommending Lodge shall certify that the Master and Wardens named in the petition are fully competent to confer the Three Degrees of Masonry and that all of the petitioners are in good Masonic standing.

The Grand Master shall in every case satisfy himself through an examination, conducted either by himself or by a Deputy specially authorized, that the petitioners are fully competent to confer the Three Degrees of Masonry according to the Standard Work of Washington. **Rev. 2005**

#### Sec. 16.02 B.L.

**Notice to Lodges.** The Grand Master, before acting upon a petition for a new Lodge, shall report the receipt of the application to each Lodge which might be affected by the new Lodge and notify the Lodges of the district assignment of the new Lodge. **Rev. 2005**

#### Sec. 16.03 B.L.

**Officers of a Lodge U.D.** The officers named in the dispensation for a new Lodge shall hold their offices at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master until the expiration of the dispensation.

#### Sec. 16.04 B.L.

**Permanent Lodge Records.** The dispensation shall be copied at length upon the records of a new Lodge. The charter, when issued, shall be recorded in like manner.

#### Sec. 16.05 B.L.

**Members.** The members of a Lodge Under Dispensation shall consist of those Brethren who:

1. Are named in the dispensation,
2. Formally affiliate with the Lodge; and
3. Receive the Third Degree therein and qualify for enrollment.

Brethren who become members of a Lodge U.D. by affiliation or by receiving the Third Degree therein are members in the full sense of the term and entitled to vote and participate in the transaction of business in common with those named in the dispensation.

[Rev. 2005]

**Sec. 16.06 B.L.**

**Powers of a Lodge U.D.** A Lodge Under Dispensation shall have the general powers and privileges and shall perform the duties of a Chartered Lodge, except that it cannot:

1. Install its officers,
2. Discipline its members or other Masons; and
3. Be represented in Grand Lodge.

A Lodge U.D. need not have a seal.

**Sec. 16.07 B.L.**

**Grand Lodge Dues.** A Lodge Under Dispensation must pay Grand Lodge dues.

**Sec. 16.08 B.L.**

**By-Laws.** A Lodge Under Dispensation shall have By-Laws conforming to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge. The By-Laws of a Lodge Under Dispensation may be amended in the same manner as those of a chartered Lodge. **Rev. 2005**

**Sec. 16.09 B.L.**

**Discipline.** All matters of charges and discipline against a member or members, except the Master, of a Lodge U.D. shall be vested in the nearest Chartered Lodge, whose Jurisdiction shall be complete, subject to appeal to the Grand Lodge.

**Sec. 16.10 B.L.**

**Master Not Subject to Lodge Discipline.** The Master of a Lodge Under Dispensation shall not be subject to discipline by any Chartered Lodge during his official term of office. In case such dispensation is annulled, or the charter is refused, the Lodge of Original Jurisdiction over him may consider preferring charges against such Master, unless the charges are of official misconduct during his term of office.

**Sec. 16.11 B.L.**

**Extension of Dispensation.** Every Lodge working under a dispensation shall, when applying for an extension of such dispensation, submit its books of record for inspection by the Grand Secretary on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> day of May preceding the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge response to the application shall be to annul the dispensation, or to continue the dispensation until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

**Adopted 2005**

**Sec. 16.12 B.L.**

**Charter Requirements.** A Lodge Under Dispensation and seeking a charter shall:

1. Have a membership of at least fifteen,
2. Give proof of its members' skill and ability to perform the work, including the conferring of the Three Degrees,
3. Deliver to the Grand Lodge:
  - A. Its dispensation,
  - B. An attested transcript of all its Proceedings; and
  - C. A copy of its By-Laws,

**[Rev. 2005]**

4. Show that it is clear of all indebtedness; and
5. Provide evidence of having secured and prepared a suitable and safe place for meeting as a Lodge.

**Sec. 16.13 B.L.**

**Application for Charter.** A Lodge U.D. applying for a charter shall deliver its dispensation, By-Laws, books of record and returns of the Lodge to the Grand Secretary on or before the 31st of May preceding the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge response to the application may be to annul the dispensation, continue the dispensation until the next Annual Communication, or order a perpetual charter.

**Sec. 16.14 B.L.**

**Meetings After Charter Granted.** Brethren to whom a charter shall have been granted may continue to meet and work as a Lodge Under Dispensation, until the Lodge shall have been constituted, unless otherwise ordered by Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.

**Sec. 16.15 B.L.**

**Constituting a Lodge.** Upon issuance of a charter, the Grand Master, or his Special Deputy, who shall be an officer of the Grand Lodge or a Past Master belonging to a Lodge in this Jurisdiction, shall convene the Brethren of the new Lodge to be formed, constitute the Lodge, and install its officers.

**Sec. 16.16 B.L.**

**Charter Members.** All members of a Lodge Under Dispensation at the time the charter is granted shall be charter members thereof.

**Sec. 16.17 B.L.**

**Precedence on Grand Lodge Roll.** Each Lodge shall take precedence according to the order in which it stands upon the roll of the Grand Lodge.

**Sec. 16.18 B.L.**

**Historic Lodges.** Historic Lodges may be formed with the authority to preserve their buildings, paraphernalia, and/or historic connections to their communities. They shall be subject to the same provisions as a regularly chartered Lodge with the following exceptions:

1. Membership shall consist of Master Masons only who are in good standing in a chartered Lodge of this Jurisdiction or of a Grand Lodge recognized by the Grand Lodge of Washington. Membership may be voluntarily terminated at any time and shall automatically cease should a member lose good standing in any Lodge of which he is a member.
2. The Lodge is not required to submit monthly or annual reports to the Grand Secretary. Membership records shall only be maintained by the Lodge. The Lodge shall submit annually to the Grand Master a summary of its activities during the preceding year.
3. Only Master Masons of another Lodge in this Jurisdiction shall be eligible to hold office and vote. The installation of Officers shall be by proclamation.
4. An officer or former officer shall not, by reason of that position alone, be a member of Grand Lodge. A Past Master of a Historic Lodge, who has only served as Worshipful Master of a Historic Lodge, shall not be entitled to the title, rights, powers or privileges

of a Past Master of a Lodge.

**[Rev. 2008]**

16-4

5. A dimit or request for dimit shall not be received or issued by a Historic Lodge.
6. A petition for dispensation to form a Lodge U.D. shall not be required providing an application is submitted to the Grand Master to charter a Historic Lodge which is signed by 15 or more Master Masons in good standing and who are members of a Washington Lodge. A charter shall be issued without charge following a 2/3 favorable vote at a Grand Lodge Annual Communication granting the issuance of a charter. A charter may not be granted for a Historical Lodge until 100 years has elapsed from the date its original charter was surrendered.
7. A Historic Lodge, once chartered, shall adopt By-Laws for its own government. The By-Laws, once adopted or amended by the Lodge, shall follow the same course as those of a regularly chartered Lodge.
8. A charter may be revoked at any time by the Grand Lodge upon the recommendation of the Grand Master.
9. Stated meetings shall be held once annually and its meetings may be held anywhere in the Jurisdiction upon such notice as their By-Laws may provide.
10. The name of a Historic Lodge shall read: (name) Historical Lodge, No. (#) The number shall not be the same as the number of any active lodge in this Jurisdiction;
11. Historic Lodges shall be exempt from payment of all Grand Lodge revenue and assessments.
12. A Historic Lodge shall not have the power to:
  - A. Confer any of the Degrees, or
  - B. Exercise discipline over its members.
13. In the case of the surrendering or revocation of the charter of a Historic Lodge, all assets of the Lodge shall become the property of the Grand Lodge.
14. A regularly chartered Lodge, or any other Historic Lodge, shall not consolidate with a Historic Lodge. **Adopted 2008**

[Rev. 2008]

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## Part III – Constituent Lodges

### CHAPTER 21 – PROPERTY AND FINANCE

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[Rev. 2008]

## Part III - Constituent Lodges

### CHAPTER 21- PROPERTY AND FINANCE

#### Sec. 21.01 Const.

**Property of Demised Lodge.** The books, papers, jewels, funds, furniture and all other property of any Lodge under this Jurisdiction shall, upon demise of the Lodge, vest in and belong to this Grand Lodge subject to the legal and equitable rights of creditors of such demised Lodge in and to such properties.

It shall be the duty of the last Presiding Officer, the Secretary and the Treasurer to surrender the same without delay to the Grand Secretary. In case of real property the proper officers shall have the title conveyed to the Grand Lodge.

#### Sec. 21.02 B.L.

**May Levy Assessment.** A Lodge may levy upon its members, in addition to its regular dues, a tax or assessment for strictly Masonic purposes or to pay off its floating indebtedness. Vote on such levy must be at a Stated Communication after ten days' notice. An adopted tax or assessment assumes the nature of dues and the failure of a member to pay the levy is the same as non-payment of dues.

#### Sec. 21.03 B.L.

**Incurring Debt for Another Lodge.** No Lodge shall incur indebtedness for another Lodge without authority from the latter to do so.

#### Sec. 21.04 B.L.

**Funds not to be Distributed.** No Lodge shall distribute its funds among its members.

#### Sec. 21.05 B.L.

**Real Property.** A Lodge may acquire and hold real property for its use and benefit, but only when title to the real property is placed in the name of a Title Holding Corporation.

No Masonic corporation shall acquire any real property by means of purchase, donation, and inheritance or by any other means until such property has been inspected for toxic wastes or other contaminants. Upon completion of such inspection, reports of the same shall be forwarded to the Committee on Finance for approval.

Lodges that hold title to real property in the Lodge's name as of June 15, 2007 shall transfer title to such real property to a Title Holding Corporation formed in a manner consistent with Section 21.08 B.L. Such transfer shall be completed no later than June 1, 2008, unless the Grand Master waives the requirement.

No Lodge or Title Holding Corporation shall sell, transfer, or dispose of any real property unless approved as follows:

1. Real property that is owned by a Title Holding Corporation requires the approval of at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the Trustees present at a meeting of the Trustees at which a quorum is present and  $\frac{2}{3}$  approval of the members of each Lodge that is a member of the Title Holding Corporation. The Lodge shall provide its members at least 20 days advance notice of the stated meeting of such vote.
2. Real property that is owned by a Lodge requires the approval of  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the members of the Lodge present at a stated meeting of the Lodge. The Lodge shall provide its members at least 20 days advance notice of such vote. The requirement of 20 days advance notice shall be waived if the transfer of title is to a Title Holding Corporation.

**Rev. 2008**

**[Rev. 2008]**



**Sec. 21.06 B.L.**

**Borrowing for Building Purposes.** No Lodge, either in its name or in the name of an association or corporation, shall undertake to borrow money or assume any debt for the purposes of construction of any Lodge building or site thereof without the written approval of the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge Committee on Finance. **Rev. 2007**

**Sec. 21.07 B.L.**

**Approval of Lodge Hall Plans.** All planning for new Masonic Lodge Halls and major remodeling which involves structural design of existing Masonic buildings, and/or major remodeling in the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) or more (cash or equivalent) shall be submitted to the Grand Master and the Committee on Finance, together with the financing plan, for approval prior to commencement of any such building program. **Rev. 1997**

**Sec. 21.08 B.L.**

**Incorporation of Bodies for Masonic Purposes.**

1. A Lodge, Mason, or group of Masons may organize or sponsor an incorporated body for a declared Masonic purpose (including, but not limited to, holding title to Masonic buildings, administering scholarships, and charitable activities), only after receipt of permission of the Grand Master and the Committee on Jurisprudence. This subsection does not expand the number of Lodges that are authorized to incorporate themselves pursuant to Sec. 12.05 B.L.
2. The Trustees of a Title Holding Corporation representing a Lodge shall be elected by the members of the Lodge at a Stated Communication to serve for a specific term. Removal of any Trustee must be in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation or Corporation By-Laws.
3. In the event of the resignation, removal, disqualification, or death of a Trustee representing a Lodge, the Worshipful Master shall appoint a successor Trustee to serve the remainder of the term of the Trustee being replaced. The appointment of the successor Trustee shall be subject to confirmation by the Lodge at the next Stated Communication of the Lodge. **Rev. 2008**

**Sec. 21.09 B.L.**

**Title Holding Corporations.**

1. A Mason, or a group of Masons, may organize or support an incorporated body for the purpose of holding title to Lodge property under the following conditions:
  - A. Adopt Articles of Incorporation and Corporation By-Laws on forms specified by the Grand Lodge,
  - B. Submit the forms, in duplicate to the Grand Secretary. The Grand Secretary shall transmit a copy to the Committee on Jurisprudence who, after approval, shall forward their recommendations to the Grand Master. If disapproved by the Committee the forms will be returned to the incorporators for changes; and
  - C. Corporation By-Laws, approved by the Grand Master, shall be effective immediately but subject to confirmation by the Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication. A copy of the Articles of Incorporation and Corporation By-Laws shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary so as to become a matter of record. The original Articles of Incorporation and Corporation By-Laws, and one copy, shall be returned to the Corporation. **Rev. 2007**

[Rev.2008]



2. The Articles of Incorporation and Corporation By-Laws may provide for sharing of ownership, management and control of real and personal property by and for the benefit of both Masons and non-Masons, or by and for the benefit of a Constituent Lodge or of Masons only, regardless of profit motive or tax-exempt status, provided, however, that no Lodge shall transfer its right, title or interest in any real or personal property to any such title-holding corporation whose Articles of Incorporation do not specifically provide that the net assets of such corporation shall be distributed to the transferring Lodge, or to the Grand Lodge, according to the Lodge's "Contribution Percentages" upon dissolution of such corporation, **Rev. 2004**
3. Amendments to Articles of Incorporation and Corporation By-Laws must be submitted in duplicate for the approval of the Grand Master and the Committee on Jurisprudence on forms specified by the Grand Lodge; and **Rev. 2007**
4. All accumulated annual corporate income, in excess of cash reserve necessary to pay:
  - annual expenses of operation
  - maintenance and repairs
  - taxes and insurance
  - other current expenses
 shall be distributed to the Lodge(s) based upon its share of ownership of the corporation; and
5. To maintain the separate identity of the Lodge and Title-Holding Corporation, the incumbent Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden shall be ineligible to serve as officers of the Corporation except as members of the Board of Trustees.

**Rev. 2003**

**Sec. 21.10 B.L.**

**Borrowing Money.** A title holding corporation shall not borrow money without first securing the written approval of the Grand Master and the Committee on Finance.

**Sec. 21.11 B.L.**

**Reports of Corporations.** The Grand Master shall have the power to require any corporation formed under the provisions of this Chapter, either heretofore or hereafter, to render such reports concerning its activities, receipts, expenditures and plans of procedure as will enable him to make report and recommendation to the Grand Lodge.

**[Rev. 2007]**



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