

Part I – Grand Lodge

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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.

[Rev. 2006]

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.

Rev. 2008

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; Shoreline, No. 248, Shoreline; Yancey C. Blalock, No. 265, Seattle; Genesis, No. 305, Edmonds; LuzViMinda, No. 317, Seattle. **Rev. 2010**

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 South Gate, No. 100, Burien; Ark, No. 126, Tukwila; Alki, No. 152, Seattle; Delta-White Center, No. 172, Tukwila; Mark P. Waterman, No. 177, Burton. **Rev. 2010**

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**

[Rev. 2011]

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 International, No. 56, Ferndale; Fairhaven, No. 73, Bellingham; Nooksack Valley, No. 105, Nooksack; Whatcom, No. 151, Bellingham; San Juan, No. 175, Friday Harbor; Ferndale, No. 264, Ferndale. **Rev. 2011**

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 St. Andrew's, No. 35, Renton; 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. 2010**

District No. 14 Defiance No. 22, Tacoma; Evergreen State, No. 68, University Place; Fern Hill, No. 80, Tacoma; Fairweather, No. 82, Tacoma; Horace W. Tyler, No. 290, University Place; Krucible, No. 318, Federal Way. **Rev. 2010**

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. 2010**

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. **Rev. 2011**

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; Naches, No. 211, Naches; Mount Adams, No. 227, Yakima. **Rev. 2008**

District No. 21 Badger Mountain, No. 57, Waterville; Riverside, No. 112, Wenatchee; Zarthan, No. 148, Leavenworth; William H. Jett, No. 285, Wenatchee; Hermanos del Arte, No. 314, Brewster. **Rev. 2011**

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.

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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; 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; Odessa, No. 156, Odessa. **Rev. 2010**

District No. 30 Colville, No. 50, Colville; Boyer Mountain, No. 134, Deer Park; Newport, No. 144, Newport; Hunters, No. 236, Hunters. **Rev. 2011**

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CHAPTER 5 – AMENDMENTS, RULES OF ORDER AND VOTING

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- Sec. 5.03 Const. – [Number of Votes](#)
- Sec. 5.04 Const. – [Tie Votes](#)
- Sec. 5.05 B.L. – [Procedure for Code Adoption](#)
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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 Constitution, By-Laws, and/or Standard Work and Freemason's Guide 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. 2011**
 - C. A Resolution must be submitted using the approved form maintained by the Grand Secretary. **Adopted 2011**
 - D. A Resolution not in compliance with proper format will be returned to the proponent for correction. If not corrected and returned to the Code Commission by March 1 in proper format, the Resolution will be rejected and the Committee on Jurisprudence shall report the rejection at the next Annual Communication.
Adopted 2011
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**

[Rev. 2011]

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 proposal shall be declared held over for one year and shall be published with the Proceedings under the caption "Proposed Changes to the By-Laws."

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 a majority of favorable votes, it shall be declared adopted and shall become effective at the close of that Annual Communication; otherwise it shall be declared rejected. **Rev. 1994**

Sec. 5.03 Const.

Number of Votes. Each member of the Grand Lodge shall have one vote, plus one additional vote for each proxy held provided that an individual member shall not be allowed to act as proxy for more than one Lodge. **Rev. 1992**

Sec. 5.04 Const.

Tie Vote. In all cases of a tie, the Grand Master, in addition to his proper vote, shall have the deciding vote.

Sec. 5.05 B.L.

Procedure for Code Adoption. The accomplished codification of written material into the Washington Masonic Code shall establish the basis of the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations, and Standing Resolutions of the Grand Lodge. Upon receipt and adoption by the Grand Lodge the Code shall bear the date of such adoption.

Nothing in the process of codification shall be construed to repeal or amend established matters or to enact new matters. In case of any conflict, the prior Grand Lodge legislation enactment or approved ruling shall prevail.

Sec. 5.06 B.L.

Time Limit. All Resolutions which if adopted would change the Constitution or By-Laws shall be delivered to the Grand Secretary or mailed to him under postmark not later than December 1 preceding each Annual Communication. **Rev. 2003**

The Grand Secretary shall forward all Resolutions to appropriate Standing Committees after the Code Commission has reviewed and approved the composition and format of the Resolutions, as shown in Flow Chart Appendix B. The Grand Secretary shall prior to April 1 print the Resolutions and Committee Recommendations, together with any Resolutions held over from the previous Annual Communication, and forward the same to all Constituent Lodges for study.

[Rev. 2011]

Recommendations of the presiding Grand Master shall be received by the Grand Secretary not later than March 1 preceding each Annual Communication and shall be printed and circulated to the Constituent Lodges for study prior to April 1 along with proposed Resolutions. Recommendations of the Grand Master presented at the Annual Communication, and not previously circulated, shall be presented as Resolutions by the appropriate Committee prior to the following Annual Communication in the prescribed manner unless declared emergent.

Any Resolution submitted after December 1 and prior to twelve o'clock noon of the second day's session of any Annual Communication shall be forwarded to the Grand Master. If the Grand Master believes that any such proposal is urgent and that it should, for the good of Masonry, be considered by Grand Lodge at the ensuing Annual Communication, he may, at his discretion, order the same to be processed and circulated in such manner as time will permit.

Rev. 2003

If time will not permit the processing and subsequent mailing of late Resolutions to the Constituent Lodges, the Grand Secretary when possible shall make such resolutions and committee reports available to each member of Grand Lodge at the time of registration.

Any Resolution submitted after twelve o'clock noon of the second day's session shall not be considered.

Sec. 5.07 B. L.

Manner of Voting. All questions in Grand Lodge shall be decided by members either by voting with their left hand or written secret ballot as determined by the Grand Master. The election of officers shall be by written secret ballot. The written secret ballot may be conducted by means of the use of electronically scored ballots. **Rev. 1992**

Sec. 5.08 B. L.

Disposal of Question. Whenever a vote is required to dispose of any question submitted to Grand Lodge, the affirmative and negative of such shall be taken directly thereon unless the question is resolved in some preliminary manner agreeable to Masonic Law.

Before any vote shall be taken, the report and recommendation of any committee to which the question may have been referred shall be read.

Sec. 5.09 B.L.

Majority Vote Required. All motions are to be decided by a simple majority vote except as provided for in Sec. 5.02 Const.

Sec. 5.10 B.L.

Blank Ballot. A blank ballot does not count as a vote.

Sec. 5.11 B.L.

Motion in Order. When a motion is under discussion no other motion shall be in order except to amend, commit, or postpone.

Sec. 5.12 B.L.

Adjournment. A motion to adjourn is not in order, but the Grand Lodge at any time may be called off at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master.

[Rev. 2011]

Sec. 5.13 B.L.

One Amendment at a Time. A motion to amend the main question must be decided before another motion to amend can be received.

Sec. 5.14 B.L.

Subject-Matter Cannot be Amended. A motion presented as an amendment but which actually changes the subject-matter of the original motion shall not be entertained.

Sec. 5.15 B.L.

Reconsideration. No member except one of the majority which decided the question shall be entitled to move for reconsideration.

Sec. 5.16 B.L.

Speaker to Stand. Any member who wishes to speak shall rise and remain standing and shall address the presiding officer.

Sec. 5.17 B.L.

Proposition Should be in Writing. Every proposal and Resolution shall be put in writing if so requested by any member.

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- Sec. 7.02 Const. – [Financial Procedures](#)
- Sec. 7.03 B.L. – [Revenue for the General Fund](#) Rev. 2011
- Sec. 7.04 B.L. – [Revenue for the Charity Fund](#)
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- Sec. 7.06 B.L. – [Dues for N.P.D. Reinstatements](#)
- Sec. 7.07 B.L. – [Powers to Sell and Convey Securities and Real Estate](#)
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- Sec. 7.13 B.L. – [Masonic Scholarship Endowment Fund](#) Rev. 2008
- Sec. 7.14 B.L. – [Endowed Life Membership Fund](#)
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- Sec. 7.16 B.L. – [Grand Lodge Self Insurance Fund](#)
- Sec. 7.17 B.L. – [Grand Lodge Capital Fund](#)

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 seventeen dollars and no cents (\$17.00) which amount will increase two dollars (\$2.00) each year until twenty-five dollars and no cents (\$25.00)] 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. 2011**
 - 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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CHAPTER 8 – COMMITTEES, FOUNDATIONS AND THEIR DUTIES

Committees

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- Sec. 8.02 B.L. – [By-Laws](#)
- Sec. 8.03 B.L. – [Charity](#)
- Sec. 8.04 B.L. – [Children Identification Programs \(CHIPS\)](#)
- Sec. 8.05 B.L. – [Code Commission](#)
- Sec. 8.06 B.L. – [Correspondence](#)
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- Sec. 8.18 B.L. – [Membership Development](#)
- Sec. 8.19 B.L. – [Military Recognition](#) Rev. 2009
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Foundations

- Sec. 8.26 B.L. – [Bill P. Horn Memorial Masonic Medal](#)
- Sec. 8.27 B.L. – [Children Identification Program Foundation](#)
- Sec. 8.28 B.L. – [Washington Masonic Library and Museum](#)

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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. Children Identification Programs (CHIPS), ten members
4. Code Commission, five members
5. Correspondence, one member
6. Credentials, ten members
7. Endowment for the Masonic Home Fund, five members
8. Finance, five members
9. Grievances and Appeals, three members
10. Jurisprudence, five members
11. Leadership Training, five members (**New 2009**)
12. Library and Museum, five members
13. Long Range Planning, ten 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. Technology, five members
21. Youth, six members

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

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.

[Rev. 2009]

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. 8.21 B.L. Renumbered 2009

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. 8.22 B.L. Renumbered 2009

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. Renumbered 2009

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. 8.24 B.L. Renumbered 2009

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. Each Grand Lodge Committee so defined in this chapter shall give a written accounting of those expenses incurred for which the Grand Lodge made reimbursement as part of their annual report. **Rev. 2011**

Sec. 8.25 B.L. Renumbered 2009

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

[Rev. 2011]

Sec. 8.26 B.L. Renumbered 2009

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. 8.27 B.L. Renumbered 2009

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.

Sec. 8.28 B.L. Renumbered 2009

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, Chairman of the Library and Museum Committee 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]

Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 10 – MASONIC RETIREMENT CENTER

Sec. 10.01 B.L. – [Masonic Retirement Center](#)

Sec. 10.02 B.L. – [Eligibility for Admission](#)

Sec. 10.03 B.L. – [Board of Trustees](#)

Sec. 10.04 B.L. – [Selection of Master Masons to Board of Trustees](#) Rev. 2007

Sec. 10.05 B.L. – [Authority of the Board](#) Rev. 2011

Sec. 10.06 B.L. – [Relief Outside the Masonic Retirement Center](#) Rev. 2010

Sec. 10.07 B.L. – [Board Reports](#) Rev. 2007

[Rev. 2011]

Part I - Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 10- MASONIC RETIREMENT CENTER

Sec. 10.01 B.L.

Masonic Retirement Center. The Grand Lodge may establish and maintain or sponsor a home for eligible persons and the official name of the home shall be: "The Masonic Retirement Center of Washington". The home shall be incorporated as a Washington State not-for-profit corporation subject to the laws of the State of Washington and the Internal Revenue Code of the U.S. Treasury Department, which laws, rules, regulations, and requirements shall have supremacy over the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington, and the Rulings and Decisions of the Grand Masters, and any By-Laws of the corporation established or any successor corporation established hereafter. **Rev. 2007**

Sec. 10.02 B.L.

Eligibility for Admission. Eligibility for admission is subject to such rules and regulations as may hereafter be adopted by the Board of Trustees. **Rev. 2007**

Sec. 10.03 B.L.

Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall be in charge of the Masonic Retirement Center and the title of the board is: "The Board of Trustees of the Masonic Retirement Center of Washington."

The Board shall consist of a minimum of nine members, the majority of which, at any time are to be Master Masons, who are in good standing and members of a Constituent Lodge of the Jurisdiction of Washington and are selected by the Sole Member to represent the Grand Lodge of Washington. Of the minimum number specified, one member of the Board will be the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Washington, who shall not serve as an officer of the Board, and not less than one individual will be requested from the Order of Eastern Star and not less than one individual requested from the Order of Amaranth.

The Board, at its first meeting following the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, shall choose from its membership a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. **Rev. 2007**

Sec. 10.04 B.L. Adopted 2007

Selection of Master Masons to Board of Trustees. Those Master Masons selected by the Sole Member will serve on the Board for a term of office as specified in the Corporation Articles of Incorporation.

Sec. 10.05 B.L. Renumbered 2007

Authority of the Board. The Board shall direct the expenditure of all money appropriated by the Grand Lodge for support and maintenance of the Masonic Outreach Services Program. The Board shall make all necessary rules and regulations for the government of the Masonic Retirement Center, the admission of residents, and the holding of their assets in escrow, pending their acceptance as permanent residents. **Rev. 2011**

Sec. 10.06 B.L. Renumbered 2007

Relief Outside the Masonic Retirement Center. The Board may extend relief or support outside the Masonic Retirement Center through the Masonic Outreach Services Program. **Rev. 2010**

[Rev. 2011]

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](#) Rev. 2011
- Sec. 14.04 B.L. – [Communications](#)
- Sec. 14.05 B.L. – [Lodge Correspondence](#)
- 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](#)

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 one copy on Form 28, provided without charge by the Grand Lodge. The Grand Secretary shall transmit copies to the Committee on By-Laws who, after review, shall forward the form to the Grand Lodge with a recommendation of approval or disapproval, for signature of the Grand Master. **Rev. 2011**

[Rev. 2011]

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 15 – LODGE OFFICERS

- Sec. 15.01 Const. – [Officers](#)
- Sec. 15.02 B.L. – [Who May Vote](#)
- Sec. 15.03 B.L. – [Officer Qualification](#)
- Sec. 15.04 B.L. – [Holding Two Offices](#)
- Sec. 15.05 B.L. – [When To Elect Officers](#)
- Sec. 15.06 B.L. – [Election](#)
- Sec. 15.07 B.L. – [Failure To Elect](#)
- Sec. 15.08 B.L. – [Installations](#)
- Sec. 15.09 B.L. – [Objection to Installation or Absence of Master-Elect](#)
- Sec. 15.10 B.L. – [No Installation Pending Charges](#)
- Sec. 15.11 B.L. – [Jewels and Aprons](#) Rev. 2011
- Sec. 15.12 B.L. – [Office Tenure](#)
- Sec. 15.13 B.L. – [Filling Vacancy](#)
- Sec. 15.14 B.L. – [Powers of a Master](#)
- Sec. 15.15 B.L. – [Permission to Preside](#)
- Sec. 15.16 B.L. – [Absence of Master](#)
- Sec. 15.17 B.L. – [Vacancy in Master’s Office](#)
- Sec. 15.18 B.L. – [Appeal From Master’s Decision](#)
- Sec. 15.19 B.L. – [Immediate Relief](#)
- Sec. 15.20 B.L. – [Treasurer’s Duties](#)
- Sec. 15.21 B.L. – [Secretary’s Duties](#)
- Sec. 15.22 B.L. – [Secretary – Treasurer’s Duties](#)
- Sec. 15.23 B.L. – [Secretary’s Books and Accounts](#)
- Sec. 15.24 B.L. – [Other Officers’ Duties](#)

Part III - Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 15- LODGE OFFICERS

Sec. 15.01 Const.

Officers. Each Lodge shall *elect* the following:

Worshipful Master
Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Treasurer
Secretary; or
Secretary-Treasurer **Rev. 1992**

The Master shall *appoint* the following:

Senior Deacon
Junior Deacon
Senior Steward
Junior Steward
Tyler

The Master may also in his discretion appoint the following:

Chaplain
Marshal
Musician **Rev. 2005**

Sec. 15.02 B.L.

Who May Vote. Only Master Masons who are members in good standing of the Lodge holding the election are entitled to vote. **Rev. 2000**

Sec. 15.03 B.L.

Officer Qualification. All Officers of a Lodge, either elected or appointed, shall be Master Masons in good standing who are voting members thereof, and who shall have passed a proficiency on the Third Degree. Exception: The Chaplain, Musician, and Tyler, who may be members of other Lodges. **Rev. 2005**

Sec. 15.04 B.L.

Holding Two Offices.

1. No Member shall hold two offices in a Lodge at the same time except that a Lodge may at its discretion elect one member to the combined offices of Secretary and Treasurer.
2. No Member may be installed as Worshipful Master or Warden in more than one Lodge at the same time. **Rev. 2001**

Sec. 15.05 B.L.

When To Elect Officers. The elective officers of every Chartered Lodge shall be chosen annually at a Stated Communication of such Lodge during the period beginning the first Monday after the close of Grand Lodge and ending December 14. **Rev. 2003**

[Rev. 2005]

Sec. 15.06 B.L.

Election. Election of officers shall be by written ballot. A Brother receiving a majority of all votes cast is duly elected. A blank ballot is not a vote. A show of hands is not permitted for an election of officers.

Sec. 15.07 B.L.

Failure to Elect. If a Lodge shall fail to elect its Master and Wardens, or any one of them, before December 15, or if the Master-elect or a Warden-elect shall fail or refuse to be installed, the Lodge shall immediately notify the Grand Master, who, for good cause shown, may grant a dispensation to hold an election as soon thereafter as may be practicable. Such dispensation shall be entered at length upon the records of the Lodge.

Sec. 15.08 B.L.

Installations. The Master of a Lodge may, for the Installation of Officers, either separate or joint, open his Lodge on the Master Mason Degree in a tiled Lodge Room of either Lodge.

Rev. 2004

Officers of a Chartered Lodge shall be installed at a Stated or Special Communication as soon as possible after the election but not later than January 31. The ceremony shall be tiled unless, at the request of the Master-elect, the Lodge shall decide by a majority vote to hold it open to the public.

The public Installation of Officers shall be performed after the Master has declared the Lodge at "off-session", and has directed the Junior Deacon to inform the Tyler to tile accordingly. The Three Great Lights, Lesser Lights, Columns and other Jewels shall remain displayed.

Any public Installation of Officers shall be Monitorial and shall conform to proper Masonic Usage deleting those parts of the ceremony not proper to be used outside of a tiled Lodge.

Officers of a Chartered Lodge must be installed as often as elected or appointed. No officer shall be installed by proxy.

Sec. 15.09 B.L.

Objection to Installation or Absence of Master-elect. In the absence of the Master-elect, or should valid objection be made to the installation of the Brother named as Worshipful Master, which cannot be harmonized or settled, the ceremony of installation cannot proceed until ordered by the Grand Master. In other cases, the installation of the Brother or Brothers objected to, alone, will be deferred. **Adopted 2006**

Sec. 15.10 B.L.

No Installation Pending Charges. A Brother shall not be installed while charges of Un-Masonic conduct are pending against him.

Sec. 15.11 B.L.

Jewels and Aprons. The jewels of Lodge Officers shall be of silver or of white metal, to be worn as a badge on the left breast or suspended from a blue velvet collar, which may be trimmed appropriately with silver lace and silver thread emblem. **Rev. 2011**

The jewels of a Past Master and of the officers of a Lodge are:

- Past Master - the Blazing Sun within the Compasses extended on a Quadrant,
- Master - the Square,
- Senior Warden - the Level,

[Rev. 2011]

Junior Warden - the Plumb,
Treasurer - the Crossed Keys,
Secretary - the Crossed Pens,
Secretary-Treasurer - the Crossed Pens (same as Secretary),
Chaplain - the Bible within a Circle,
Marshal - the Baton in a Square,
Senior Deacon - the Square and Compasses united with a Sun,
Junior Deacon - the Square and Compasses united with a Moon,
Stewards - the Cornucopia in a Circle,
Musician - the Lyre in a Circle, and
Tyler - the Crossed Swords.

The Deacons' and Stewards' rods shall be surmounted by the proper jewels in silver or white metal. The Deacons' rods shall be blue; the Stewards' rods shall be white.

The officers' aprons shall be white and should be of lambskin, approximately fifteen inches wide and thirteen inches deep, and may have sky-blue lining and edging, with the respective emblems thereon. **Rev. 2011**

Sec. 15.12 B.L.

Office Tenure. Every installed officer is entitled to hold his office until his successor is installed, unless he vacates his office by:

1. Death,
2. Resignation, but the Master cannot resign,
3. Election and installation into a vacated office of Warden, Treasurer or Secretary,
4. Suspension for a time extending beyond the next annual election,
5. Expulsion; or
6. Removal from office. **Rev. 2000**

Sec. 15.13 B.L.

Filling Vacancy. A vacancy in the office of Warden, Treasurer, or Secretary may be filled by ballot at any Stated Communication, after due notice to the members. A vacancy in an appointive office may be filled at any time.

In case the offices of Master and Wardens all become vacant, the Lodge shall apply to the Grand Master for a dispensation to hold an election. The application must be approved by two-thirds of the members present and be so certified by the Secretary. When the dispensation has been received, the members shall be notified, the election held, the results reported immediately to the Grand Secretary and the officers duly installed. **Rev. 2000**

Sec. 15.14 B.L.

Powers of a Master. The Master of a Lodge has the power to:

1. Discharge all the executive functions of the Lodge,
2. Congregate the Lodge members in an emergency; and
3. Remove any appointed officer for just cause.

Sec. 15.15 B.L.

Permission to Preside. The Master, or a Warden acting as Master, may call to the East any Master Mason and permit him to preside or confer the Degrees while the Master or acting Master is present.

[Rev. 2011]

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.

Rev. 2011

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 31st 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. 2011]

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.

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 19 – COURSE OF PETITIONS

- Sec. 19.01 B.L. – [Action Upon a Petition](#)
- Sec. 19.02 B.L. – [Receiving Petition by Mistake](#)
- Sec. 19.03 B.L. – [Petition Withdrawal](#)
- Sec. 19.04 B.L. – [Return of Fees](#)
- Sec. 19.05 B.L. – [Residence Change Before Election](#)
- Sec. 19.06 B.L. – [Residence Change After Election](#)
- Sec. 19.07 B.L. – [Balloting](#)
- Sec. 19.08 B.L. – [No Discussion on Petition](#)
- Sec. 19.09 B.L. – [Every Member Must Vote](#)
- Sec. 19.10 B.L. – [Balloting Not to be Postponed](#)
- Sec. 19.11 B.L. – [One Ballot for Degrees](#)
- Sec. 19.12 B.L. – [Correcting Error in Ballot](#)
- Sec. 19.13 B.L. – [Re-ballot When First Degree Delayed](#)
- Sec. 19.14 B.L. – [Secrecy of Ballot and Penalty for Violation](#)
- Sec. 19.15 B.L. – [Petition After Rejection](#)

Part III - Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 19- COURSE OF PETITIONS

Sec. 19.01 B.L.

Action Upon a Petition. Action upon a petition for the Degrees or for affiliation shall be in the following manner:

1. A petition shall be presented and accepted only at a Stated Communication. No vote of acceptance shall be taken,
2. Upon acceptance, the petition shall be referred to an Investigating Committee of three Lodge members,
3. The Investigating Committee shall deposit its report with the Lodge Secretary at a subsequent Stated Communication after referral of the petition. The Lodge Secretary will present the investigating committee's report. In case of a vacancy in the committee, the Master may fill the vacancy and receive the report at that Communication, **Rev. 2003**
4. The investigation report shall be signed by at least two members of the committee; and
5. Regardless of whether the committee report is favorable or unfavorable, a ballot is still necessary. The rejection of a petition can be effected only by a ballot.

Sec. 19.02 B.L.

Receiving Petition by Mistake. A petition which has been received by mistake and has not been balloted upon shall be returned and this shall not constitute a rejection.

The petitioner may at any time present a proper petition to any Lodge in this Jurisdiction without reference to the former petition. **Rev. 1992**

Sec. 19.03 B.L.

Petition Withdrawal. A petition for the Degrees cannot be withdrawn after having been presented and accepted by the Lodge.

A petition for affiliation may be withdrawn and the Lodge, upon receiving a written request, shall return the petition and any fees accompanying it.

Sec. 19.04 B.L.

Return of Fees. All fees accompanying a petition for the Degrees shall be returned when:

1. A petition is balloted upon and rejected,
2. The Lodge is directed by the Grand Master to return the fees for cause shown after the petitioner has been elected to receive the Degrees but has not been initiated; or
3. The members present at a Stated Communication decide by majority vote to return the fees in response to a written request from a petitioner whose petition previously received a favorable ballot but who has not received the Preparatory Lecture of the First Degree.

Sec. 19.05 B.L.

Residence Change Before Election. A petitioner for the Degrees who changes his residence before being elected to receive the Degrees shall continue to be under the Jurisdiction of that Lodge for a period of six months from the date of acceptance of the petition. If thereafter he petitions for the Degrees in a Lodge at his acquired place of residence, the time limit of his necessary residence there shall date from the time of his arrival.

[Rev. 2003]

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 20 – CONFERRING OF DEGREES

- Sec. 20.01 B.L. – [Rules on Conferring](#) Rev. 2010
- Sec. 20.02 B.L. – [Right to Object](#)
- Sec. 20.03 B.L. – [Objection to Initiation](#) Rev. 2011
- Sec. 20.04 B.L. – [Objection to Advancement](#)
- Sec. 20.05 B.L. – [Defect After Initiation](#)
- Sec. 20.06 B.L. – [Degrees by Courtesy](#)
- Sec. 20.07 B.L. – [Degrees by Courtesy for Foreign Lodge](#)
- Sec. 20.08 B.L. – [Material of Foreign Lodge](#)
- Sec. 20.09 B.L. – [Objection to Degrees by Courtesy](#)
- Sec. 20.10 B.L. – [Proficiency in the Degrees](#)

[Rev. 2011]

Part III - Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 20- CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Sec. 20.01 B.L.

Rules on Conferring. A Lodge shall observe the following rules when conferring Degrees:

1. Each Degree or portion of a Degree may be conferred upon not more than three candidates at a time,
2. Constituent Lodges shall not confer Degrees upon more than fifteen candidates on one calendar day,
3. All Sections and Portions thereof and Lecture of each Degree must be conferred at the same Communication or Communications of the Lodge on the same calendar day,
4. The Lectures, including the Middle Chamber Lecture, and the Charges may be delivered to more than one candidate at a time; and
5. Notwithstanding any provision or requirement to the contrary, a Constituent Lodge or Lodges may complete unfinished Degree work on any number of candidates in a single day at a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge opened by the Grand Master or his delegated representative for such purpose provided such candidates are Entered Apprentice Masons and have proven their proficiency. **Rev. 2010**

Sec. 20.02 B.L.

Right to Object. Any member of a Lodge has a right to object to the initiation or advancement of a candidate. The right to object shall not be denied a Brother who:

1. Reported favorably as a member of the petitioner's investigating committee,
2. Participated in a favorable ballot at the petitioner's election; or
3. Was in attendance at the Communication but absent from the Lodge-Room when the ballot was spread.

Sec. 20.03 B.L.

Objection to Initiation. A candidate's initiation shall be deferred if following his election to receive the Degrees and before initiation, the Master receives an objection from a member of the Lodge.

If the objection is afterwards withdrawn, the initiation may proceed, but if the objection is not withdrawn within sixty days, it shall have the effect of a rejection by ballot and shall be so recorded by the Secretary. The Master shall not at any time divulge the name of the objector.

Sec. 20.04 B.L.

Objection to Advancement. An objection to the advancement of an Entered Apprentice or a Fellowcraft may be made by any member of the Lodge or by any Lodge in whose Jurisdiction the candidate formerly resided.

The objection shall be assigned to a committee with power to inquire into the cause thereof. The committee's report shall be given at the next Stated Communication, unless further time be given.

The Lodge, after receiving the committee's report, shall resolve the objection in the following manner:

1. If the report assigns no cause for the objection, the Lodge may confer the Degree or Degrees, as if no objection had been made,

[Rev. 2010]

2. If the report assigns a cause for the objection, the Brother objected to shall be informed thereof and shall be given an opportunity to be heard before the committee and before the Lodge. The Lodge will then vote on a motion to declare the objection not based on a Masonic principle or not sufficient to warrant the objection to advancement,
 - A. If two-thirds of the members present vote in favor of the motion, the Lodge may proceed to confer the Degree or Degrees; or
 - B. If less than two-thirds of the members vote in favor of the motion, the objection will be sustained and charges of Un-Masonic conduct deemed accepted. The Secretary of the Lodge shall thereupon request the appointment of a Grand Master's Trial Committee. If the Brother is acquitted the Lodge may confer the Degree or Degrees without further petition. **Rev. 2011**

Sec. 20.05 B.L.

Defect After Initiation. A candidate physically qualified when initiated, and thereafter suffering a physical disability shall not thereby become disqualified to receive the remaining Degree or Degrees.

Sec. 20.06 B.L.

Degrees by Courtesy. A Lodge having elected a petitioner to receive the Degrees, may request another Lodge to confer one or more of the Degrees. No petition, investigation or ballot shall be necessary in the conferring Lodge. The candidate shall become a member of the Lodge which elected him.

Sec. 20.07 B.L.

Degrees by Courtesy for Foreign Lodge. A request for courtesy conferral of Degrees from a Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction shall be forwarded to the Grand Secretary for verification of the regularity of the Lodge making the request. If the regularity of the Lodge is confirmed, the courtesy work may proceed without any further investigation.

Sec. 20.08 B.L.

Material of Foreign Lodge. No Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft of any Lodge outside of this Jurisdiction shall be passed or raised in a Lodge of this Jurisdiction, unless permission of the Lodge in which he was initiated or passed shall have been obtained if that Lodge is in existence.

Sec. 20.09 B.L.

Objection to Degrees by Courtesy. A Lodge consenting to confer the Degrees by courtesy shall not proceed after objection is made by a member of the Lodge unless the objection be withdrawn, but shall withdraw the consent and so notify the requesting Lodge.

Sec. 20.10 B.L.

Proficiency in the Degrees. No candidate shall be passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft nor raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason without proof of proficiency in the preceding Degree. As a minimum, a candidate must be able to demonstrate knowledge of the obligation, signs, words, and grips and all modes of recognition of each Degree.

The Lodge shall be the sole judge of the proficiency of the candidate in the preceding Degree, which shall be ascertained by examination, either in open Lodge or by a committee appointed by the Master of the Lodge and recorded by the Secretary.

[Rev. 2011]

The candidate may be offered the New Candidate Education Program approved by the Grand Lodge in place of the Standard Posting Lecture as proof of proficiency at the option of the Lodge.

Regardless of which method of determining proficiency is selected, every candidate progressing through the Degrees will be furnished a copy of the New Candidate Education Program by his Lodge. **Rev. 2001**

After being raised as a Master Mason the Brother shall pay his dues for the current year as established in the Lodge By-Laws and sign the By-Laws, whereupon he becomes an enrolled member of the Lodge. **Rev. 2000**

[Rev. 2003]

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 21 – PROPERTY AND FINANCE

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[Rev. 2011]

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, Corporation By-Laws, or by a majority vote of the Lodge members at a Stated Communication after due notice. **Rev 2011**
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**

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 expensesshall 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]

Part IV – Disciplinary Code

CHAPTER 27 – DISCIPLINARY POWER OF A LODGE

Sec. 27.01 B.L. – [Appointment of Grand Master’s Trial Committee](#)

Sec. 27.02 B.L. – [Jurisdiction of Grand Master’s Trial Committee](#)

Sec. 27.03 B.L. – [Convening of Grand Master’s Trial Committee](#)

Sec. 27.04 B.L. – [Citation](#)

Sec. 27.05 B.L. – [Service](#)

Sec. 27.06 B.L. – [Return of Service](#)

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Sec. 27.08 B.L. – [Procedure After Judgment](#) Rev. 2011

[Rev. 2011]

Part IV – Disciplinary Code

Chapter 27 – GRAND MASTER’S TRIAL COMMITTEE

Sec. 27.01 B.L.

Appointment of Grand Master's Trial Committee. The Grand Master, upon receiving the files of a case from the Grand Secretary, shall appoint a Grand Master's Trial Committee to try the accused upon the charges. The Committee shall consist of five Past Masters, members of Lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction other than the one of which the accused is a member, and designate one as the Chairman of the Committee.

The Grand Master shall direct the Grand Secretary to notify the members of their appointment and of the designation of the Committee Chairman, and to transmit to the Chairman the files received from the Secretary of the Lodge.

The Grand Master shall fill all vacancies occurring on a Grand Master's Trial Committee.

Sec. 27.02 B.L.

Jurisdiction of Grand Master's Trial Committee. A Grand Master's Trial Committee shall have the judicial powers of, and be charged with all the duties prescribed by Masonic law for a trial of the charges filed.

Sec. 27.03 B.L.

Convening of Grand Master's Trial Committee. The Grand Master's Trial Committee shall select a committee member other than the Chairman to be Secretary and it shall be his duty to keep a true and complete record of all the proceedings and an audio recording of all testimony.

The Chairman of the Committee shall designate the time and place of the trial and instruct the Secretary to cite the accused to appear and answer the charges.

Sec. 27.04 B.L.

Citation. The citation served by the Committee Secretary shall include:

1. A copy of the charges,
2. The time and place assigned for the trial; and
3. A summons for the accused to appear and answer the charges.

Sec. 27.05 B.L.

Service. Due service of the citation shall be deemed complete when made by either of the following procedures:

1. **Personal Service.**
 - A. Delivering a copy of the citation directly to the accused; or
 - B. Leaving a sealed envelope addressed to the accused, containing a copy of the citation, at the accused's usual place of abode with a person of suitable age and discretion residing therein.
2. **Postal Service.** Depositing the citation in a postage pre-paid envelope in a U. S. Post Office within the Grand Jurisdiction, addressed to the accused at his last known post office address. Service of the citation by Postal Service shall be deemed complete 5 business days after deposit in a U. S. Post Office. Mail shall be by certified mail, return receipt requested.

[Rev. 2009]

A minimum of twenty days shall have expired following date of service of the citation before the trial shall commence.

Sec. 27.06 B.L.

Return of Service. Service of the citation shall be certified in writing by the Secretary of the Grand Masters Trial Committee. The record shall show how the citation was served and the date on which it was served.

Sec. 27.07 B.L.

Judgment. The Grand Master's Trial Committee shall, at the close of the testimony and the reading of depositions taken by a commission, and following argument of counsel for the respective parties, decide as to the guilt or innocence of the accused by secret written ballot. Each member of the Grand Master's Trial Committee shall vote and indicate either guilty or not guilty as charged.

If the accused is found guilty, the Committee shall decide the penalty to be imposed and shall render judgment accordingly.

A majority of the Committee shall constitute a quorum necessary for the conduct of the trial; but the verdict of the Committee as to the guilt or innocence of the accused and its judgment as to the penalty to be imposed shall require a majority of the full Committee in favor of such verdict and judgment.

Sec. 27.08 B.L.

Procedure After Judgment. The Grand Master's Trial Committee, as soon as practicable, shall transmit:

1. A copy of its judgment, certified by its Chairman and the Secretary, to the Grand Master and Grand Secretary, the Secretary of the Lodge in which the charges originated, the Secretary of the Lodge(s) of which the accused is a member, and all parties to the charges, and **Rev. 2011**
2. A statement of the right to appeal to all parties of the charges.

Upon receipt of a copy of judgment from a Grand Master's Trial Committee, the Secretary of a Lodge shall enter the judgment upon the minutes of the Lodge at its next Stated Communication. The Secretary of the Lodge, having entered the judgment upon the records of the Lodge, shall communicate the date of such entry in writing to the Chairman of the Grand Master's Trial Committee and the Grand Secretary.

Within thirty days after the date of entry of judgment upon the records of the Lodge, the Grand Master's Trial Committee shall transmit to the Grand Secretary the original record of its proceedings together with all depositions offered and/or received in evidence and the audio recording of all testimony.

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