

# Grand Commandery of Knights Templar Of the State of Louisiana

Allan K. Bean  
GRAND COMMANDER



Joe Dan Gibbs  
GRAND RECORDER

GENERAL ORDER NO. 2  
SERIES 2024-2025

JONESVILLE, LOUISIANA  
11 MARCH 2024

## GENERAL ORDER NO. 2

To the Officers and Members of the Grand Commandery, the Constituent Commanderies within the jurisdiction of and holding allegiance to the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Louisiana, and to whom it may concern:

### **GREETINGS:**

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the **Standing Committees** of the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana shall faithfully make every effort to achieve Committee Goals, execute the following specific duties, and timely submit, unless otherwise specified, an annual report to the Grand Commandery for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave:

1. The Committee on Jurisprudence Goals are to establish a standard template of Commandery by-laws, review all existing Commandery by-laws, and inform the Grand Commander of status of by-laws for all Commanderies. It shall also consider all decisions upon questions of Templar Laws and usage reported by the Grand Commander and such other matters as may be referred to it by him or the Grand Commandery or Grand Recorder, and its conclusions shall be reported to the Grand Commandery or Grand Commander, or the Grand Recorder as the case may be. The Committee, when called upon, shall give opinions on general orders, dispensations, and on the legislative, judicial and executive functions of the Grand Commandery and the Constituent Commanderies, and on the prerogatives, powers and duties of the officers and members thereof. The Committee shall submit a final report for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave.
2. The Committee on the State of the Order and Advancement Goals are to evaluate progress and recommend improvements. It shall make a report to the Grand Commander and Grand Commandery on the state of Templary in our Grand Jurisdiction. It shall review the Grand Commandery Vision Statement, Mission Statement, Objectives, Goals and Strategies and progress toward achieving the Goals. The report shall include Strategies used and additional Strategies incorporated by individual Commanderies and the Grand Commandery. It shall make any recommendations for improvement. The Committee shall submit a final report for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave.
3. The Committee on Necrology Goal is to coordinate with the Grand Chapter and Grand Council to conduct a suitable Divine and Necrology Service at the Annual Conclave. It shall report at each Annual Conclave the death of each member of the Grand Commandery occurring since the last Annual Conclave. The Committee shall submit a final report for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave.

4. The Committee on Credentials and Registration Goal is to have Registration active and published on-line at least 90 days before the Annual Conclave. It shall, as directed by the Grand Commander, supervise the registration of knights at the Annual Conclave, validate and issue ballots to those authorized or their allowed proxies, and shall report as soon as practicable after the opening of the Annual Conclave if a quorum is present for the conduct of business and the names of the Members present entitled to participate in the proceedings thereof. Preliminary proceedings report is not required; however, the Committee shall submit a final report for inclusion in the printing of the proceedings.

5. The Committee on Finance Goal is to recommend an annual budget for appropriations and expenses for the ensuing term of office of the Grand Commander. It is to regularly and carefully review the books, accounts and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Recorder, and of such Committees, Officers and Members of the Grand Commandery as may have custody of any funds or property of the Grand Commandery in advance of the convening of the Grand Conclave. The Committee shall report its proposed budget and review to the Grand Commandery for approval. The Committee shall submit a final report for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave.

6. The Committee on Appeals and Grievances Goal is fair consideration of any appeal or complaint. It shall examine all appeals and complaints before the Grand Commandery or any other matter referred to them by the Grand Commander, and report thereon, and recommend such action to the Grand Commandery as, to them, shall seem fit and proper. Preliminary proceedings report is not required if there are appeals and grievances in which case the Committee shall present its findings at the Annual Conclave and submit a final report for inclusion in the printing of the proceedings. Otherwise, the Committee shall submit a final report for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave.

7. The Audit Committee Goal is to timely submit audit to the Committee on Finance. It shall audit the books, accounts and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Recorder, and of such Committees, Officers and Members of the Grand Commandery as may have custody of any funds or property of the Grand Commandery and all other fiscal matters of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana.

8. The American Masonic Fraternal Committee Goal is to have at least 5 Commanderies conduct patriotic activities. It shall publicize, foster, and supervise activities of a patriotic and citizenship nature, whether in peacetime or in wartime, and shall present its recommendations for civic responsibility by Knights Templar individually and collectively, compatible with the patriotic principles of Templary. An allowance of \$250 shall be made annually for the Committee to disburse as a reimbursement to Commanderies for expenses incurred in the above-noted activities in accordance with the Grand Commandery Constitution and/or to purchase suitable awards to be presented at the Grand Commandery Annual Conclave each year for exemplary service in these activities. The Committee shall submit a final report for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave.

9. The Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee Goals are to have at least one minister make the Holy Land Pilgrimage and make at least 5 presentations to fraternal, civic, religious organizations. It shall implement procedures for selection of attendees for the Holy Land Pilgrimage, shall adopt guidelines for fund-raising for the program, shall lead fundraising for the program, and shall publicize the program. The Committee shall coordinate with the Finance Committee for establishing investment strategies and goals for the Holy Land Endowment Fund. The Committee shall coordinate with the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer for the Operating Budget and Investment Funds supporting this program. The Committee shall submit a final report for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Special Committees** of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana of the Grand Commandery of the State of Louisiana shall faithfully make every effort to achieve Committee Goals, execute the following specific duties, and timely submit, unless otherwise specified, an annual report to the Grand Commandery for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave:

1. The Membership Committee Goals are to RECRUIT 10% new members, 5% RESTORATION of inactive members, and RETENTION by 10% reduction in non-death attrition of members. It is the key to the Vision and Mission of our Grand Commandery and the Objectives, Goals and Strategies to move us forward. Additionally, it shall work with and implement those membership development initiatives and activities advanced by the Grand Encampment's Committee on Membership and provide any reports required to GEKT. A member of the committee shall visit each Commandery in their respective areas at least once during the year. The Committee shall submit a final report for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave.

2. The Education Foundation Committee Goal is to award at least one scholarship in each Division to deserving high school graduating students at the high school graduation ceremonies. It shall work with and under The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America Knights Templar Educational Foundation Regulations. It shall provide an accounting of funds managed by the Grand Encampment Educational Foundation to the Grand Commander or his designee whenever directed. It shall receive applications primarily from the Division Commanders and, in its discretion and subject to approval of the Grand Commander, shall pay out such scholarships as it may deem advisable. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be a non-voting member of the Committee, as provided by the Regulations. The Committee shall submit a final report for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave.

3. The Committee on Knights Templar Eye Foundation (KTEF) Goal is 100% Sir Knight participation the Grand Encampment Life Sponsorship program. The KTEF is a superior way to achieve our mission for making a difference in our communities. The committee shall actively pursue strategies to achieve the goal of 100% participation. Additionally, KTEF Patron, Associate Patron, Grand Club, and Memorial programs shall be encouraged, including public recognition of Commandery achievements and individual Sir Knights achievements. The Committee shall submit a final report for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave.

4. The Committee on Public Relations Goals are pictures of Sir Knights in action in every Louisiana Supplement of the Knight Templar Magazine, articles monthly in local news media, and timely publication of Festivals and noteworthy events on our Web site. It shall formulate and devise a plan to publicize Templary and our Grand Commandery. It is the particular duty of this committee to discover when any Festival will be held anywhere in Louisiana and timely provide the Grand Recorder with the details so he may put on the Web Calendar and send notice to all Commanderies. Likewise discover if any details change for a Festival and timely communicate this to the Grand Recorder. The Committee shall submit a final report for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave.

5. The Committee on Perpetual Membership Goal is to earn at least 5% return on investments. It is to review and recommend updates to the Grand Commandery Perpetual Membership Program. It shall recommend policies and procedures to the Grand Commander for the management of funds placed in its care by the Grand Commandery. The Committee shall submit a final report for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave.

6. The Committee on DeMolay and Youth Goals are to formulate a plan to revive DeMolay in Louisiana and to formulate a plan to expand Knight Templar support of Christian Youth groups. In the first instance, DeMolay in Louisiana has nearly vanished. In the second instance, we have not had outreach to Christian Youth groups. Both of these align perfectly with our mission as Christian Masons dedicated

to improving our communities. The Committee shall submit a final report for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave.

7. The Committee on Annual Conclave Arrangements Goal is to make suitable arrangements for the annual Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery at least 6 months prior to the annual grand conclave. It is to secure suitable hotel accommodations for the Officers, Members, and Guests. Preliminary proceedings report is not required; however, the Committee shall submit a final report for inclusion in the printing of the proceedings.

8. The Education Committee Goal is to have every commander develop an annual program plan, preferably before he is installed. It shall be in charge of researching and publicizing appropriate Knight Templary educational programs, both current, historic, and ritual for the edification of all Sir Knights to be presented during regular meetings of the Commanderies of the Grand Commandery. The committee shall coordinate with the Eminent Commander and Recorder of each Commandery to review each Commandery's annual programs plan and provide the Grand Commander and respective Division Commander information regarding each plan. In addition, it shall provide helpful guidance to each Commandery in ritual work. The Committee shall submit a final report for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave.

9. The Correspondence Committee Goal is to have 100% accurate listings of Representatives for our Grand Commandery and all participating Grand Commanderies by the end of the year. It shall determine, advise and recommend to the Grand Commander of any nominations needed. It shall be sure we have correct contact information, such as mailing address, email address, phone number, warrant, and so forth. Collect reports of all communications, especially from each of our Sir Knights, for inclusion with the Committee's final report in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave.

11. The Hospitality and Banquet Committee Goal is their usual wonderful arranging for, overseeing, supplying and staffing the hospitality room at the Annual Grand Conclave. It shall also oversee arrangements for the Grand Banquet during the Annual Grand Conclave, the Ladies Luncheon, and any special activities for the ladies during the Annual Grand Conclave.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Division Commanders and their Deputy Division Commanders are the personal representative of the Grand Commander within their respective Divisions and shall be afforded and treated with such regard, respect and attention as a District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, Free & Accepted Masons.

The primary Goal of each Division Commander is an up-to-date set of approved by-laws in every Commandery in their Division. They shall offer support to and communications with the Commanderies within their respective Divisions as will tend to achieve the Vision, Mission, Objectives, and Goals of Templary. Within his Division, he will contact regularly each of the sitting elected officers; visit each Commandery at least twice a year; make regular monthly reports to the Grand Commander; share and cross-feed actionable ideas to stimulate interest and growth; and conduct necessary correspondence.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that a CADRE be formed of especially proficient Sir Knights to create the framework for proper Sword work and related tactics (*not ritual*) and to train Sir Knights in the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar in the State of Louisiana.

The CADRE Goal is at least 5 proficient trained Sir Knight swordsmen in every Commandery. They will agree on the framework and disseminate it to all Commanderies in Louisiana. They will decide what recognition may distinguish the members of the CADRE and obtain approval from the Grand

Commander. Additionally, CADRE will decide what recognition may be awarded those they deem proficient and obtain approval from the Grand Commander. They will communicate with each Commandery in Louisiana to explain the CADRE mission and solicit Sir Knights to receive training. Most of our Commanderies draw members from wide geographic areas. Accordingly, it is intended primarily for a member of the CADRE to go to where the Sir Knights live for more frequent training which may be conducted in any suitable location. The CADRE shall prepare an annual report on number trained, number proficient, and recommended improvements to the CADRE as part of a final report for inclusion in the preliminary proceedings of the Annual Conclave.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that all Committees, Division Commanders, and CADRE shall perform such other tasks as may be assigned by the Grand Commander and in any event shall work at the direction and discretion of the Grand Commander, who may at any time change the duties set forth herein.

**PROCLAMATION**

It is hereby ordered that this General Order be read in open Commandery at the first stated Conclave held after its receipt and the officers and members shall be governed accordingly.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Louisiana at Jonesville in The Great State of Louisiana on the 11th day of March, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Four, AO 906.



By Order Of:

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allan K. Bean".

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Dan Gibbs".

Allan K. Bean  
Grand Commander

Joe Dan Gibbs  
Grand Recorder

*EVERY CHRISTIAN MASON A KNIGHTS TEMPLAR*

