

Constitution and Regulations of the  
Grand Chapter, R.A.M. Of  
Louisiana  
As Adopted in 1997 and amended  
through 2022



# Table of Contents

CONSTITUTION .....	4
ARTICLE I Organization .....	4
Section 1 Name .....	4
Section 2 Officers .....	4
Section 3 How Chosen .....	4
Section 4 Titles .....	4
Section 5 Domicile .....	4
ARTICLE II Convocations .....	4
Section 1 Time and Place .....	5
Section 2 Business .....	5
Section 3 Notification .....	5
Section 4 Quorum .....	5
ARTICLE III Authority .....	5
ARTICLE IV Duties .....	5
Section 1 Grand High Priest .....	5
Section 5 All Other Officers .....	6
ARTICLE V New Chapters .....	6
Section 1 Dispensation .....	6
Section 2 Fee .....	6
Section 3 Restrictions .....	6
Section 4 Composition .....	6
Section 5 Elections .....	6
Section 6 Reporting .....	6
Section 7 Grand Chapter Standing Committees .....	7
ARTICLE VI Amendments .....	7
STATUTORY REGULATIONS .....	7
Section 1 Permanent Member Voting .....	7
Section 2 Constituent Member Voting .....	7
Section 3 Registration .....	7
Section 4 Per Capita & Assessments .....	8
Section 5 Degrees .....	8
Section 6 Qualifications .....	8
Section 7 Jurisdiction of Candidate .....	8
Section 8 Inactive or Weak Chapter .....	8
Section 9 Petitions .....	9
Section 10 Collective Balloting .....	9
Section 11 Rejection .....	9
Section 12 Waiver .....	9
Section 13 Objections .....	9
Section 14 Failure to Appear .....	9
Section 15 Affiliations .....	9
Section 16 Non-Payment .....	10
Section 17 Unknown Address .....	10
Section 18 Off Roll Indebtedness .....	10
Section 19 Forfeiture of Lodge Membership .....	10
Section 20 Honorary Membership .....	10
Section 21 Mileage and Per Diem .....	10
Section 22 Charter Surrender .....	11

Section 23 Charter Arrest & Forfeiture.....	11
Section 24 Restoration .....	11
Section 25 Grand Lecturer.....	11
Section 26 Ritual .....	11
Section 27 Ritual Distribution.....	11
Section 28 Courtesy Work .....	11
Section 29 General Grand Contribution.....	12
Section 30 Mark.....	12
Section 31 Demit & Certificates of Good Standing.....	12
Section 32 Vacancies .....	12
Section 33 Opening & Quorum.....	12
Section 34 Opening & Working in MM, PM, MEM.....	12
Section 35 Substitute for RAM.....	12
Section 36 By Laws .....	12
Section 37 Copies of By-Laws .....	12
Section 38 Trials.....	12
Section 39 Nominations to Grand Chapter .....	12
Section 40 Grand Representatives .....	12
Section 41 Dues Cards.....	13
Section 42 US Flag.....	13
Section 43: Districting.....	13
Section 44 Real Estate .....	13
Section 45 Meeting Places .....	13
Section 46 Grand High Priest Apron.....	13
Section 47 Audit Committee .....	14
Section 48 Plural Membership.....	14
Section 49 Defaulting to Grand Lodge.....	14
Section 50 Monthly Reporting.....	14
Section 51 Letterhead .....	14
Section 52 Traveling Degrees .....	14
Section 53 Proficiency Cards.....	14
Section 54 District Chapters .....	15
Section 55 Publications .....	15
Section 56 Public Installations .....	15
Section 57 Meeting without a Charter.....	15
Section 58 Religious Affirmation Day .....	15
Section 59 Grand Chapter Chapter No. 999.....	15
Section 60 Support of Youth.....	15
Section 61 Purging Records.....	16
Section 62 Scottish Rite Chapters .....	16
Section 63 Traveling Bible .....	16
Section 64 Grand Council / Chapter Foundation.....	16
Section 65 Women's Club/Auxiliaries .....	16
Section 66 Committee to Rewrite the Constitution and General Regulations.....	16
Section 67 Perpetual Membership.....	16
Section 68 Amending .....	16
Section 69 Repeal of Previous .....	16
APPENDIX.....	17
Perpetual Membership .....	17

# CONSTITUTION

## ARTICLE I Organization

### Section 1 Name

The name of this organization is the GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF LOUISIANA. It is a body of Royal Arch Masons in which is inalienably vested the authority of Government and Supervision of Capitular Masonry, within the State of Louisiana, limited only by its Constitutional Obligations to the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

### Section 2 Officers

This Grand Chapter is composed of:

- Grand High Priest
- Grand King
- Grand Scribe
- Grand Treasurer
- Grand Secretary
- Grand Captain of the Host
- Grand Principal Sojourner
- Grand Royal Arch Captain
- Grand Master of the Third Veil
- Grand Master of the Second Veil
- Grand Master of the First Veil
- Grand Chaplain
- Grand Lecturer
- Grand Organist
- Grand Sentinel

the Past High Priests of the Chapters in the jurisdiction, and Past High Priests of other jurisdictions who have affiliated with the Chapters in the jurisdiction, and have been elected members of this Grand Chapter and shall be called the Permanent Members, and the High Priest, the King, and the Scribe, of each Constituent Chapter in its jurisdiction, which shall be called the Constituent Members. [2019]

### Section 3 How Chosen

The first six Officers of the Grand Chapter shall be elected by ballot annually, at the regular Convocations of this Grand Chapter. All Officers listed in Section 2, below the rank of Grand Captain of Host, shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest after his election; and all the Officers shall be installed before the close of the Convocation at which they are elected or appointed, or as soon thereafter as possible.

### Section 4 Titles

The Honorary title of the Grand High Priest is Most Excellent; and the official title is Grand High Priest. The Honorary title of the Grand King, the Grand Scribe and Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary is Right Excellent, the Honorary title of all of the other Officers, and the permanent members of this Grand Chapter is Excellent. A Past Grand High Priest shall retain the Honorary official title with the prefix of Past, to denote his rank. The rank of Past Grand High Priest is the only Past Grand rank authorized by this Grand Chapter.

### Section 5 Domicile

The principal business establishment of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Louisiana shall be located at 5746 Masonic Drive in the City of Alexandria, in the Parish of Rapides in the State of Louisiana, and this location shall be the depository for all the records, surrendered charters and files of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Louisiana. This location may also serve as the office of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Louisiana. [2022]

## ARTICLE II Convocations

## **Section 1 Time and Place**

The Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter shall be held at such time and place as the Grand Chapter shall select. Special Convocations may be called by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, or, in his absence, or disability, by the legally authorized Representative of the Grand Chapter, at such times as may be in his judgment necessary. Special Convocations shall be called at any time that ten or more of the Constituent Chapters in the jurisdiction shall ask for such Convocation.

## **Section 2 Business**

No business shall be transacted at a Special Convocation except that for which it was called.

## **Section 3 Notification**

When a Special Convocation of this Grand Chapter is to be held, at least Thirty days' notice shall be given to all of the Constituent Chapters in the jurisdiction. The Most Excellent Grand High Priest, or his legal Representative may open an emergent Convocation of the Grand Chapter for Ceremonial work when necessary.

## **Section 4 Quorum**

A quorum for the transaction of business in this Grand Chapter shall consist of the Representatives of at least one-fourth of all of the Chartered Chapters in the Jurisdiction.

# **ARTICLE III Authority**

This Grand Chapter shall have full and complete power and authority over the Capitular Rite of Freemasonry in the State of Louisiana. It shall have the exclusive right to organize Chapters of Royal Arch Masons; to issue Charters; annul Charters, and shall hold final authority in Discipline and Government of Royal Arch Masons in its Jurisdiction.

# **ARTICLE IV Duties**

## **Section 1 Grand High Priest**

It shall be the duty of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest to have a watchful supervision over all of the Chapters in the Jurisdiction and to see that the Constitution, Laws and Ritual of the Grand Chapter are duly and promptly observed. He shall have power and authority during the recess of the Grand Chapter, to grant letters of dispensation to nine or more Royal Arch Masons to organize and open Chapters, when such Dispensation is recommended by the nearest Chartered Chapter. He may suspend from office any officer of the Grand Chapter, or the Constituent Chapters for cause. He shall make a full report to the Grand Chapter of all his Official Acts. Advance copies of Grand High Priest Address may be printed provided that it does not result in added expense to the Grand Chapter. [2000]

## **Section 2 Grand King & Scribe**

The Right Excellent Grand King and Grand Scribe, shall, in order named, succeed to the duties of the Grand High Priest, in the event of death or disability of the Officer in line above them. In the event of the vacancy of office by the removal of all of these Officers, by death or disability, the Junior Past Grand High Priest available shall have authority to preside, and conduct the affairs of the Grand Chapter.

## **Section 3 Grand Treasurer**

The Grand Treasurer shall keep a correct account of the funds and property of the Grand Chapter, and render a report of the finances of the Grand Chapter at each Annual Convocation or when called upon to do so by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, or the Grand Chapter.

## **Section 4 Grand Secretary**

The Grand Secretary shall keep a record of the affairs and proceedings of the Grand Chapter in printed form. He shall attend to the correspondence of the Grand Chapter with the Constituent Chapters or other Capitular bodies, and shall collect the dues, and other funds of the Grand Chapter and transmit same to the Grand Treasurer. He shall have charge of the Seal and Official archives of the Grand Chapter, and shall be responsible to the Grand Chapter for the correct and convenient records of all its affairs. He shall receive for his services salary as the Grand Chapter shall determine. [2004]

## **Section 5 All Other Officers**

All of the other officers shall attend to such duties as may be assigned to them by the Grand Chapter, or the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, in addition to the duties of their respective stations as handed down by the traditions of the Order. Grand High Priest's monthly letter to be at his discretion.

# **ARTICLE V New Chapters**

## **Section 1 Dispensation**

No Chapter can be organized in this jurisdiction without a dispensation or charter from the Grand Chapter, or a dispensation from the Most Excellent Grand High Priest.

## **Section 2 Fee**

The fee for a dispensation to organize a new Chapter in this jurisdiction is fifty dollars. The fee for a charter is fifty dollars for a Chapter that is working under a dispensation. These fees must be paid with the application for the dispensation or charter.

## **Section 3 Restrictions**

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest shall not issue a dispensation to organize a new Chapter unless the Chapter nearest to the place where the new Chapter is desired shall recommend the new organization. The Grand Chapter, in Convocation, has the power and authority, to issue a dispensation, or a charter for a new Chapter, without any recommendation.

## **Section 4 Composition**

A Chapter of Royal Arch Masons is composed of:

- High Priest
- King
- Scribe
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Chaplain
- Captain of the Host
- Principal Sojourner
- Royal Arch Captain
- Master of the Third Veil
- Master of the Second Veil
- Master of the First Veil
- Sentinel

and such other officers as may be desired for the proper delivery of the ceremonies; and the Royal Arch Masons exalted in, or affiliated with, the Chapter.

## **Section 5 Elections**

The first five officers of every Chapter in this Jurisdiction shall be elected by ballot, at the last Regular Convocation of the Chapter in the month of November or at the first Regular Convocation of the Chapter in the month of December, as the By-laws of the Chapter shall provide.

Installation shall be on or before the twenty-seventh of December each year; and returns of the Chapters to the Grand Chapter shall be made, up to and including December thirty-first.

## **Section 6 Reporting**

Any Chapter that has not made its annual returns and paid its annual dues to the Grand Chapter shall not be entitled to representation in the Grand Chapter. Any Chapter that shall fail to make its annual returns to the Grand Chapter for two consecutive years shall forfeit its charter.

## **Section 7 Grand Chapter Standing Committees**

The regular or standing Committees of the Grand Chapter shall be:

- Committee on Appeals and Grievances
- Committee on Credentials
- Committee on Distribution
- Committee on Finance
- Committee on Foreign Correspondence
- Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence
- Committee on Necrology
- Committee on Constituent Chapters and State of the Order
- Committee on Work
- Committee on the History (Historical Committee [2010])

Each of these Committees shall consist of three members of this Grand Chapter, except the Committee on Work, which shall consist of five members; and the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence shall review the proceedings of the Capitular Bodies of Freemasonry in fraternal intercourse with this Grand Chapter, and make a report at each Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter. These Committees, and such other Committees as are required for the convenience of his administration, shall be appointed by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest.

## **ARTICLE VI Amendments**

### **Section 1 Prior Constitutions**

All constitutional regulations not included in this Constitution are hereby repealed.

### **Section 2 Amending**

This Constitution may be amended revised, or altered by a concurrent vote of two-thirds of the representatives and permanent members of the Grand Chapter present at any Annual Convocation, provided that such amendment or alteration, shall be proposed in writing, by a member of this Grand Chapter, and lie over to the next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter; and that all of the chartered Chapters in the Jurisdiction shall be notified of the proposed amendment at least three months before the Convocation at which action is to be taken.

## **STATUTORY REGULATIONS**

### **Section 1 Permanent Member Voting**

Each of the permanent members of this Grand Chapter shall be entitled to one vote on all questions in the Grand Chapter. [2019]

### **Section 2 Constituent Member Voting**

Each Chartered Chapter in the jurisdiction is entitled to three votes on all questions in the Grand Chapter. These votes may be cast by the Excellent High Priest, the King, and the Scribe, separately. Or, in the absence of any of these officers the three votes may be cast by the officer's present, the senior officer present having preference for the absent vote. These three officers each have the right to cast their votes by a duly commissioned proxy; but a proxy can only be given to a companion that is a member of the Chapter for which the vote is to be cast and is not a Permanent Member. The proxy is individual to the officer who is the legal representative of his Chapter and cannot affect any vote of the Chapter except that for which the proxy is given. [2019]

### **Section 3 Registration**

A uniform registrations and proxy form is hereby prescribed for use of officers of all constituent Chapters

and the Grand Secretary is required to have these printed and distributed in ample time before each Grand Convocation.

#### **Section 4 Per Capita & Assessments**

**Fees:** Each Chapter in this jurisdiction shall pay to the Grand Chapter annually ten dollars (\$10.00) for each member on its rolls during the year, this amount may be increased up to two dollars (\$2.00) each year for four (4) additional years, at the discretion of the Finance Committee; five dollars (\$5.00) for each degree conferred, ten dollars (\$10.00) for a member transferring membership from one Chapter to another and ten dollars (\$10.00) for a dual membership. [2018]

**Assessments:** Each Chapter shall also pay to the Grand Chapter, annually, for the purpose of funding the Annual Grand Convocation and supporting the Grand Chapter, the sum of two dollars (\$2.00) per member for each member on its roll during the year (Gross Members) for the purpose of defraying the cost of the Annual Grand Convocation. The levy provided for herein shall be collected by the Secretary of each Chapter within this Grand Jurisdiction along with all other dues and transmitted to the Grand Secretary. The provisions hereof shall become effective January 2013. [2012]

**Exceptions:** Any Companion Royal Arch Mason who has held membership in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for 50 years, at least 25 years of which membership has been in a Constituent Chapter of Louisiana, shall be exempt from Grand Chapter or Constituent Chapter dues, fees, assessments or per capita tax for the remainder of his life, provided that this exemption does not apply to any plural or dual membership in Louisiana to which he does not otherwise qualify. Constituent Chapters of this jurisdiction are not required to pay per capita tax on any member who is interdicted during the period of his interdiction. His dues must be paid in full for "Good Standing Recognition." [2012]

#### **Section 5 Degrees**

No Chapter in this Jurisdiction shall have any control over any degree except the four regular degrees; Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and the Royal Arch Degree. The fees for these four degrees shall not be less than twenty dollars in this jurisdiction. The fees must be paid before the degrees are conferred. Electrical Appliances banned.

#### **Section 6 Qualifications**

The qualifications required to entitle a Brother to apply to a Chapter in the jurisdiction for the degrees are: that he shall be a Master Mason in good standing, in a regular chartered Lodge, either under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, or under the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge that is in fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

Members of lodges under dispensation in the State of Louisiana shall be eligible to membership. The applicant shall be a resident of the State of Louisiana for a period of at least six months immediately preceding the date of his application to the Chapter. When an applicant is a member of armed forces of the United States and to comply with the residence requirement would tend to prevent his joining the Chapter, upon proper request from a Chapter asking for same, the Grand High Priest may issue a dispensation waiving this requirement. An applicant shall be physically able to conform to all the ceremonies of the Order. Once a petition for the degrees has been submitted to and received by a Chapter and a committee appointed, the petition cannot be withdrawn for any cause except a clear case of ineligibility.

#### **Section 7 Jurisdiction of Candidate**

A Master Mason may petition any Chapter within 40 miles of his legal domicile. If a candidate applies to a Chapter not nearest his place of residence, the nearest Chapter shall be notified of the fact of the application by the Chapter receiving the same. In the case of an inactive Chapter, the active Chapter receiving the petition may proceed to act after the lapse of the legal waiting period. A Chapter cannot claim jurisdiction over a candidate who has received the Mark Master Degree and left the state permanently. The Chapter should furnish the Brother a Certificate showing he had received the degree.

#### **Section 8 Inactive or Weak Chapter**

In the event there is a weak or inactive Chapter because of a scattered membership, or indifference on the part of some resident members that find it difficult or impossible to secure a quorum at Stated or



Special Convocations to transact business, and it is known that interested Master Masons are being denied Chapter membership because of this deficiency, and these conditions are made known to the Grand High Priest, he is authorized to declare an "Emergency" existent in the Chapter. He may then take with him, or instruct a District Deputy Grand High Priest to do so, a sufficient number of Companions from other Chapters in the same District to Stated or Special Convocations of such Chapter to form a quorum for transaction of business; to receive and refer petitions; to act on these petitions when the committee has reported at this or a subsequent Convocation; to vote on proposed amendment to change domicile of such Chapter to any other available domicile in the State; as may be necessary to make the Chapter a functioning organization.

### **Section 9 Petitions**

When a petition is presented to a Chapter for the degrees it shall be on the regular form approved by this Grand Chapter. Petitions shall only be received at Regular Convocations or at Special Convocations when notice has been given the membership that petitions are to be received. The petitioner shall be recommended by two or more members of the Chapter to which application is made. After the petition is received by the Chapter, it shall be referred to a committee of three members of the Chapter. When the committee has reported, which it may do at one and the same Convocation at which the petition is received, the Chapter shall proceed to ballot on the application. The ballot shall be secret and a unanimous vote in the affirmative is required to elect a candidate. If one negative ballot shall appear, then, the Excellent High Priest shall immediately order another ballot. When if one or more negative ballots shall appear the candidate shall be declared rejected. If the ballot is unanimously affirmative the candidate shall be declared elected.

### **Section 10 Collective Balloting**

By unanimous consent of the members present, a Chapter may ballot collectively on a group of not more than five candidates, for the Chapter Degrees. If one or more negative ballots appear in a collective ballot, then one ballot, only, shall be cast for each candidate of that group, separately.

### **Section 11 Rejection**

When a candidate for the Chapter Degrees has been rejected he cannot apply again to that Chapter until at least six months have passed. He cannot apply to any other Chapter in this jurisdiction until the Chapter which rejected him shall waive its jurisdiction; which jurisdiction is permanent, so long as the rejected candidate remains in the State of Louisiana. Waiver shall not be granted until the expiration of six months after rejection.

### **Section 12 Waiver**

A waiver of jurisdiction on a rejected candidate can only be given by recommendation of the presiding officer, and by a majority vote of the Chapter, at a regular Convocation.

### **Section 13 Objections**

An objection made by a member of a Chapter to any candidate receiving the degrees, shall have the same effect as a negative ballot, but an objection may be made permanent, by stating the reason for the objection, to the Excellent High Priest, or the Chapter; provided the cause for the objection is considered sufficient after consideration by the Excellent High Priest or by the Chapter.

### **Section 14 Failure to Appear**

A candidate who has been elected to receive the degrees in a Chapter, and does not avail himself of the opportunity, within twelve months after date of election, shall forfeit all right to the degrees. He shall only be permitted to reapply, and after another investigation may be balloted for again. Or, if any part of the degrees shall be conferred, and the candidate fails to appear at the request of the Chapter, until twelve months have elapsed, he must apply for the remaining degrees, and the application shall take the same course as an original petition. Permanent jurisdiction over a given applicant is not acquired unless the applicant is rejected, or receives a portion of the degrees. Failure to appear for the degrees after being elected does not confer continuing jurisdiction beyond one year. The signed petition on regular form must in all cases be physically present in Chapter Hall at the time ballot is taken.

### **Section 15 Affiliations**

A petition of a Royal Arch Mason for affiliation shall be accompanied by a demit from a regular Chapter working under a jurisdiction that is in fraternal intercourse with the Grand Chapter and shall be presented in the same manner and take the same course as a petition for the degrees. A candidate for affiliation shall be a member in good standing in a Symbolic Lodge working under the jurisdiction of a Regular Grand Lodge that is recognized by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. However, should a petition for affiliation be rejected, the petitioner may apply again to that Chapter, or to any other Chapter of his choice, at his option. Any Companion who is a permanent resident of the State may petition for affiliation in any Chapter in the State, regardless of where his actual residence is located. If the applicant for affiliation is a member of another regular Chapter in this State he may attach a Certificate of good standing in the Chapter of which he is a member in lieu of a demit. If he is elected, he thereby becomes a member of the Chapter with which he filed his petition for affiliation and the Secretary of said Chapter shall certify to the fact of such election to the Chapter issuing the Certificate of Good Standing, and the petitioner shall thereupon be dropped from the rolls of membership of the issuing Chapter, and his membership therein shall cease as if by demit.

Certificates of Good Standing may be issued to any member of a defunct Chapter upon payment of \$2.00 attached to written application therefore to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter.

### **Section 16 Non-Payment**

Any member of a Chapter in this jurisdiction that shall be indebted to the Chapter for not less than one year's dues, including assessments or other obligations, may be notified of his obligation, and summoned to appear and show cause why he should not be suspended for non-payment of his obligations. After ninety days' notice, unless he shall make satisfactory settlement, he may be suspended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at a regular Convocation of the Chapter. Reinstatement of a member that has been suspended for non-payment of dues may be accomplished, by the full payment of his obligations, or by part payment and part remission or by the remission of his obligations to the Chapter; on his application in writing, and by two-thirds vote by which he was suspended. The Secretary is required to investigate the wellbeing of a Companion before suspending for non-payment of dues. [2012]

### **Section 17 Unknown Address**

A member of a Chapter in this jurisdiction who shall fail to keep the Chapter advised of his address, and whose address is not known, may be dropped from the roll of members, by a majority vote of the Chapter, at a regular Convocation. When his address is again ascertained, he is without further action, replaced on the roll.

### **Section 18 Off Roll Indebtedness**

While a member of the Chapter is off the roll for any cause, no indebtedness can accumulate against him.

### **Section 19 Forfeiture of Lodge Membership**

Should any member of a Chapter in this jurisdiction forfeit his membership in the Symbolic Lodge, he shall be automatically dropped by the Chapter and if he fails to correct his standing to the satisfaction of the Chapter, he shall forfeit his membership in the Chapter until such time as he is reestablished in his Lodge.

### **Section 20 Honorary Membership**

A Companion Royal Arch Mason who is in good standing in his Chapter may be elected an Honorary Member of any Chapter in this jurisdiction. His name must be proposed in open Chapter by a member of the Chapter at a Stated Convocation; the membership must be notified of the intention to vote on such Honorary Memberships; and the ballot must be unanimous.

### **Section 21 Mileage and Per Diem**

the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the State of Louisiana shall provide the Grand High Priest a travel expense account not to exceed Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2500.00), to be paid out on a quarterly basis, after an expenses report and all receipts have been submitted to the Finance Committee for review and approval. Once the Finance Committee has reviewed the Expense Report and Receipts and has approved it, they will forward their recommendation to the Grand Treasurer for payment by a

check drawn on the checking account of the Grand Chapter. Any expenses above the Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollar (\$2,500.00) limit shall be submitted to the Finance Committee for review and they shall make a recommendation for approval or disapproval to the voting delegates at the Annual Grand Convocation. A two-thirds (2/3) approval of the voting delegates is required to pay out any sum over the Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollar (\$2,500.00) limit. [2020]

### **Section 22 Charter Surrender**

The charter of a Chapter in this jurisdiction cannot be surrendered by the Chapter as long as nine members of that Chapter qualified to conduct the affairs of the Chapter and perform the ceremonies of Capitular Masonry properly desire to keep up the organization. A charter can only be surrendered by resolution adopted by all its members, after due notice of the resolution has been sent to the entire membership. Then all of the funds and property of the chapter shall revert to this Grand Chapter. After the charter of a Chapter has been surrendered and the surrender has been accepted by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and the funds, property, and records of the Chapter are delivered to the Grand Secretary, Certificates of Good Standing shall be issued by the Grand Secretary to all members of that Chapter who shall pay to the Grand Secretary any indebtedness due the defunct Chapter.

### **Section 23 Charter Arrest & Forfeiture**

Charters of Chapters in this jurisdiction may be forfeited, and arrested by the Grand Chapter or the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, for disobedience of the orders of the Grand Chapter or the Grand High Priest; by violation of the Regulations of the Grand Chapter; by failure to hold its Convocations at least once a year; and by failure to make returns to the Grand Chapter for two years. A charter that has been arrested by the M. E. Grand High Priest may be restored by him if the cause of arrest has been removed during the recess of the Grand Chapter; and the whole transaction will be reported at the regular convocation of the Grand Chapter, for consideration.

### **Section 24 Restoration**

A charter that is arrested by order of the Grand Chapter can only be restored by the same authority. No charter can be revoked or annulled permanently except by the action of the Grand Chapter in regular Convocation.

### **Section 25 Grand Lecturer**

The Grand High Priest may appoint a Grand Lecturer, whose duty shall be to visit and instruct the Chapters in the Ritualistic Ceremonies, and the purpose of Royal Arch Masonry. He shall receive such compensation as the Grand Chapter shall determine.

### **Section 26 Ritual**

The Ritual of this Grand Chapter is that promulgated by the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and adopted by this Grand Chapter. Making copies of any part of the Ritual is expressly prohibited. No one shall add to, or change in any manner the Ritualistic Ceremonies of opening Chapters, and Lodges of the dependent degrees, and delivering the ceremonies of conferring the degrees, except such revision as may be made by this Grand Chapter.

### **Section 27 Ritual Distribution**

One copy of the ritual may be supplied to each line officer of the Grand Chapter and to each Past Grand High Priest. Constituent Chapters may purchase any number of rituals that they desire and may sell rituals to individual members after they have secured them from the Grand Secretary, and after the member has signed a certificate of accountability which provides for disposition of the ritual at the death of the member. Rituals must be ordered from the Grand Secretary and by Constituent Chapters only.

### **Section 28 Courtesy Work**

Correspondence concerning the conferring of degrees by courtesy, for Chapters in this jurisdiction, or by Chapters in other jurisdictions for the Chapters of this jurisdiction, shall be instituted through the office of the Grand High Priest.

### **Section 29 General Grand Contribution**

This Grand Chapter shall annually contribute to the treasury of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons the requested amount for each Royal Arch Mason of this jurisdiction. [2010]

### **Section 30 Mark**

Every Mark Master, shall select for himself a Mark in accordance with his obligation, and have same in the Archives of the Chapter before the Royal Arch Degree shall be conferred.

### **Section 31 Demit & Certificates of Good Standing**

Any member of any regular Chapter in this state who is not indebted to his Chapter in any amount and against whom no charges are pending is entitled to a demit or a certificate of good standing on making application in writing therefore, and said demit or certificate of good standing may be authorized at any stated convocation of the Chapter, except no officer of a Chapter can be granted a demit or certificate of good standing. If he shall resign from office and his resignation is accepted by the Chapter, and by the Grand High Priest, then, he may be demitted.

### **Section 32 Vacancies**

When there is a vacancy in any office in any Chapter in this jurisdiction; the Grand High Priest may give authority for such Chapter to fill the vacancy by a special election if an elective office or by appointment if an appointive office, and to fill the vacancies caused by such election or appointment.

### **Section 33 Opening & Quorum**

No Chapter in this jurisdiction can open in the Royal Arch Degree unless at least nine Royal Arch Masons are present. No business can be transacted unless five or more members of that Chapter are present, including one of the three ranking officers, unless the meeting is being held under the authority' of Section 8 of these Regulations and in strict accord therewith. This section does not affect the conferral of degrees which must still be done in accordance with the obligations of Royal Arch Masons. [2019]

### **Section 34 Opening & Working in MM, PM, MEM**

Under the authority of a Chapter, Lodges of the dependent degrees may be opened at a special meeting called for that purpose, and any of the dependent degrees conferred, by the legally authorized officers of the Chapter, without opening the Chapter in the Royal Arch Degree.

### **Section 35 Substitute for RAM**

One substitute may be used to make a team of three in the Royal Arch Degree, but should not be used except in emergency cases; when the substitute must go through the whole ceremony.

### **Section 36 By Laws**

Each Chapter in this jurisdiction shall adopt by-laws for their government. A copy of such by-laws shall be furnished to the Grand High Priest for his approval; and the by-laws are without force until they are approved. The Grand High Priest will report his approval to the Grand Chapter for final approval.

### **Section 37 Copies of By-Laws**

Each Chapter in this jurisdiction must supply the Grand Secretary with a full and complete copy of its by-laws, and the Grand Secretary is required to keep an appropriate permanent file thereof, and to report the failure of any Chapter to supply these by-laws to the Grand High Priest for action.

### **Section 38 Trials**

The disciplinary rules for trials, in Chapters in this jurisdiction, shall be the Regulations established by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Louisiana.

### **Section 39 Nominations to Grand Chapter**

It is permissible to nominate officers for election in this Grand Chapter, provided that the name of the candidate only is mentioned and no nominating speeches made. This shall not apply to constituent Chapters.

### **Section 40 Grand Representatives**

The exchange of Grand Representatives with each Grand Chapter with whom we are in fraternal relations is authorized, desired and solicited. Representatives of other Grand Chapters near the Grand Chapter of Louisiana who fail to attend three consecutive annual Grand Convocations without being excused prior to the Grand Convocation may be removed and recommendation of other interested Companions made

to the Grand Chapter they represent, for appointment to fill the vacancy created by their removal. Likewise, when Representatives of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana near other Grand Chapters shall have been absent from three consecutive annual Grand Convocations of the Grand Chapter in which they represent us request may be made for their removal and the appointment of another representative.

**Section 41 Dues Cards**

A uniform dues card for use of all Chapters in this jurisdiction is hereby required. These are to be supplied to all Chapters each year not later than December first for the following year.

**Section 42 US Flag**

The Flag of the United States must be on display in the East of every Chapter in this State during all Convocations and suitable salutation of respect be accorded it at each Convocation.

**Section 43: Districting**

After the Grand Convocation in 2023, the districts of this Grand Chapter shall be divided into convenient groups as follows:

District 1: Plaquemines, St. Bernard, Orleans, St. Tammany, St. John, St. James, Assumption, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Charles and Jefferson Parishes

District 2: Washington, Tangipahoa, Livingston, St. Helena, Ascension, Iberville, West Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge, West Feliciana, East Feliciano and Pointe Coupee Parishes

District 3: St. Mary, Iberia, Vermilion, St. Martin, Lafayette, Acadia, St. Landry, Evangeline, Vernon, Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron and Jeff Davis Parishes

District 4: Rapides, Avoyelles, Concordia, Catahoula, La Salle, Grant, Winn, Jackson, Lincoln, Union, Morehouse, Ouachita, Caldwell, Franklin, Richland, West Carroll, East Carroll, Madison and Tensas Parishes

District 5: Claiborne, Bienville, Webster, Bossier, Caddo, De Soto, Red River, Natchitoches and Sabine Parishes

The Grand High Priest is authorized and instructed to appoint a Deputy in supervision of each group with the authority to visit, advise, and instruct the Chapters assigned to him as the Representative of the Grand Chapter, and to require such Deputy to make regular reports to the Grand High Priest. Deputies are authorized on official visits to Chapters in their respective Districts to examine Chapter records books and Book of Marks. The Chapters of a given District may, by a majority vote of the three ranking Officers of each Chapter, recommend to the incoming Grand High Priest a Past High Priest for appointment as District Deputy, however, the Grand High Priest shall appoint a Deputy of his own choosing in any case, whether the man is recommended or not. The Deputy must also inspect the Charter and report any irregularities. [2022]

**Section 44 Real Estate**

Chapters in their Corporate right may own real estate.

**Section 45 Meeting Places**

Chapters are not compelled to use Masonic Temples as their place of meeting. There is an implied obligation to do so. Meeting places must be devoted exclusively to Masonic purposes and be appropriately dedicated. As a practical proposition it is unlikely that any place other than a Masonic Temple will meet these conditions.

**Section 46 Grand High Priest Apron**

The Grand Chapter shall purchase annually an apron to be presented to the Grand High Priest for the ensuing year to be his personal apron and property.

### **Section 47 Audit Committee**

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest shall appoint a Committee to audit the transactions and books of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Louisiana each year. In choosing the committee and chairman of said Committee preference shall be given to those with financial backgrounds. The Committee shall not be comprised of any elected officer of the Grand Chapter. [2020]

### **Section 48 Plural Membership**

Any Royal Arch Mason in good standing in a constituent Chapter of this State, or of a Chapter elsewhere with whom the Grand Chapter of Louisiana is in fraternal relations and which Grand Chapter permits plural membership, may on regular petition after statutory investigation and delay may be elected to membership in any additional Chapter or Chapters to which he applies and which elect him by unanimous ballot. Such plural member may pay dues in each Chapter in which he holds membership. Involuntary termination of membership in any Chapter shall terminate membership in all Chapters. A plural member whose membership in any Chapter is involuntarily terminated can only be reinstated by the Chapter which terminated it. A Plural Member may hold Appointed Office in any and all constituent Chapters of which he is a member. No Companion may serve as one of the three principal officers (High Priest, King, or Scribe) of more than one Constituent Chapter at the same time. A Companion who serves as a principal officer of a Constituent Chapter may serve as Secretary or Treasurer of another Chapter at the same time. No Companion may serve as Secretary for more than one Constituent Chapter at the same time, nor serve as Treasurer for more than one Constituent Chapter at the same time but, may serve as Secretary and Treasurer of two different Constituent Chapters at the same time. [2022]

### **Section 49 Defaulting to Grand Lodge**

It is expressly understood that on any matter of Law or Regulation on which the Constitution or General Regulations of this Grand Chapter are silent that the Constitution, General Regulations and Edicts of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, F. and A. M., that apply shall be applicable with full force and effect in the Grand Chapter.

### **Section 50 Monthly Reporting**

Secretaries of constituent Chapters shall make a report monthly to the Grand Secretary on forms supplied by him and such reports shall cover tableau of work performed and other pertinent information as required.

### **Section 51 Letterhead**

The triple Tau within a triangle within a circle, the emblem of emblems to a Royal Arch Mason," is prescribed as the official emblem on all letterheads, petition forms, demits, etc., and the Grand Secretary is authorized to secure and supply suitable cuts thereof for use in printing.

### **Section 52 Traveling Degrees**

Constituent Chapters are authorized, when given a dispensation by the Grand High Priest, may to take the necessary degree team, equipment and regalia to the dedicated Lodge room of a Constituent Lodge within its territorial jurisdiction and to there confer the Capitular Degrees upon candidates that have been previously elected to receive the degrees. Such Chapters must have the consent of the Constituent Lodge to use its Lodge room. No business whatsoever may be transacted at such meetings except the conferral of the degrees on candidates that have been previously elected to receive them. A quorum of the Chapter that includes at least one of its three ranking officers must be present.

### **Section 53 Proficiency Cards**

Proficiency cards may be awarded any member of a Constituent Chapter who shall have been found proficient in any degree by a special examining committee or a proficiency card for all four degrees if applicant is found proficient in all four. The examining committee shall consist of three members, the Chairman of which shall be either a Past Grand High Priest; or a District Deputy Grand High Priest; or an officer of the Grand Chapter. The remaining two members shall have the approval of the Committee

on Work. The Chairman shall certify as to the proficiency of the member after examination by the committee. Cards must be renewed every two years.

#### **Section 54 District Chapters**

The organization of a District Chapter in any Capitular District of this state for social, fraternal or educational purposes is authorized. Such District Chapters shall not confer degrees; levy dues or assessments; nor be entitled to representation in the Grand Chapter.

They shall adopt by-laws for their government, which by-laws must be approved by the Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence and by the Grand High Priest. A list of the officers of a District Chapter may be published in the proceedings.

#### **Section 55 Publications**

No constituent Chapter shall send the names of applicants for the Capitular Degrees to its members; nor publish the names in any publication; nor publicize in any manner the names of candidates for the degrees. No constituent Chapter shall publish or otherwise circulate any material that reflects upon the Grand Chapter or any sister Chapter; nor circulate controversial literature; nor bring Masonic material to the attention of the public: without the express approval of the Grand High Priest. Broadcasting of messages or circulars addressed to the Royal Arch Masons of Louisiana is prohibited without the approval of the Grand High Priest. Items of news, announcements of meetings and the like are excepted.

#### **Section 56 Public Installations**

Public installation of Chapter Officers held in regular Chapter rooms is authorized and no dispensation is necessary. Likewise, joint installations, public or otherwise, of the officers of the Chapters of a given Capitular District, without the necessity of a dispensation, are authorized if held in the Chapter room of a chartered Chapter. No installation may be held outside a Chapter room without a dispensation authorizing the same.

#### **Section 57 Meeting without a Charter**

Chapters are authorized to meet temporarily without the physical presence of their Charter in the Chapter room while the Charter is being perma-plaques.

#### **Section 58 Religious Affirmation Day**

The Sunday nearest October 24th of each year is designated as Religious Affirmation Day in recognition of the date as the date of organization of the General Grand Chapter, and all Constituent Chapters are directed to carry out a program of observance. The mechanics of carrying out this program shall be left to the individual Chapters.

#### **Section 59. Grand Chapter Chapter No. 999**

After three months shall have elapsed from the date of the forfeiture, or the acceptance of the surrender of the Charter of a Chapter, no member borne on its rolls shall be deemed in good standing until a certificate of good standing shall be issued to him by the Grand Secretary. Members not indebted to the Chapter at the time of forfeiture or surrender of the Charter shall automatically become members of Grand Chapter Chapter No. 999 and receive a dues card as evidence of good standing without charge; but all members indebted to the Chapter at such date shall be required to pay the amount of their indebtedness to the Grand Chapter Chapter No. 999, before being issued a dues card in said Chapter. In order for a member to remain in good standing he shall pay a fee, annually, equal to twice the current Grand Chapter Per Capita amount to the Grand Chapter Chapter No. 999. A current dues card for said member in the Grand Chapter Chapter No. 999 will be issued annually upon payment of this annual fee. Grand Chapter Chapter No. 999 shall have no officers except that the Grand Secretary will be the Secretary of Grand Chapter Chapter No. 999. [2022]

#### **Section 60 Support of Youth**

The officers of this Grand Chapter are authorized and instructed to support the Youth Foundation established by the Masonic Bodies of Louisiana and to participate in the deliberations of the Foundation; and to bring to the attention of the Grand Chapter any need or desirability for financial participation in its operation.

### **Section 61 Purging Records**

The Grand Secretary is authorized to review the files of the Grand Chapter from time to time and to destroy after one year old correspondence and other material that clearly has no further value historical or otherwise.

### **Section 62 Scottish Rite Chapters**

Royal Arch Masons holding membership in Scottish Chapters are not permitted to visit our Chapters during the conferral of our Most Excellent Masters Degree until they are formally healed since the Excellent Masters Degree under the Scottish Constitutions is not comparable nor the equivalent to our degree of similar name.

### **Section 63 Traveling Bible**

Grand Chapter Holy Bible will be awarded on basis of total points, one

(1) point for each percent gain and one (1) point for each member gain. Chapters having the greatest number of points will be awarded the Holy Bible. Additional plural members or mergers of Chapters are not to be counted on points.

### **Section 64 Grand Council / Chapter Foundation**

Grand Chapter will participate with Grand Council in Masonic Foundation.

### **Section 65 Women's Club/Auxiliaries**

Chapters are not permitted to form Women's Clubs or Auxiliaries. Ladies may form their own organizations without the use of Masonic or Royal Arch Emblems and such.

### **Section 66 Committee to Rewrite the Constitution and General Regulations**

The Most Excellent Grand High Priest shall appoint a Committee to rewrite the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Louisiana. The Committee is charged with providing a progress report at the Annual Convocation each year until the finished product can be presented for approval by the delegates of this Grand Chapter. [2020]

### **Section 67 Perpetual Membership**

A Life or Perpetual membership plan is established for the Grand Chapter. The detailed plan is as contained in the appendix.

### **Section 68 Amending**

These Statutory Regulations may be amended or added regulations adopted, at any Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter by a concurrent vote of not less than two-thirds of all of the members and representatives present. Provided that such amendments or additions, shall be presented in writing, properly signed by a member of the Grand Chapter, and shall be filed with the Grand Secretary at least sixty (60) days before the Annual convocation of Grand Chapter. They shall be referred to a regular or special committee, all constituent Chapters shall be immediately furnished with copies of the same by the Grand Secretary, and come up for action after the committee has reported its recommendation.

### **Section 69 Repeal of Previous**

By adoption of these resolutions all previous laws and edicts not included herein are repealed.



# APPENDIX

## Perpetual Membership

### Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons

Perpetual Memberships are authorized in Louisiana Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, subject to the following terms and conditions:

- A) Any member in good standing and possessing a current dues card in a particular Royal Arch Chapter may become a perpetual member pursuant to the provisions of this section.
- B) The member desiring a perpetual membership shall apply to the secretary of his Chapter for such membership on forms prescribed by the Grand Chapter and shall tender therewith a minimum sum of (20) times his annual dues in effect at the time of the application, but in no event less than (20) times the minimum dues. The secretary shall complete his part of the application and shall forward the same together with the full fee due, to the Grand Secretary, Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons. The date of the application shall be the date the Grand Secretary certified he received the application.
- C) The perpetual membership fee may optionally be paid in five (5) equal annual installments. Use the multiplier of 4.52 X your annual dues at the time of application to determine your installment payment.

#### Example:

On January 1, 1995 your Chapter dues are \$13.00. Multiply \$13.00 X 4.52 to determine that your annual fee will be \$58.76 for five (5) successive years.

When purchased under the five (5) year option, a membership becomes perpetual when the Initial installment is paid and continues as such, provided each of the four remaining Installments is paid by the last day of December in successive years. After enrolling under this option, a member may not revert to the single payment method, but may remit any or all unpaid installments provided no installment is past due.

Having enrolled under the installment option, a member may withdraw from the Perpetual Membership program at any time. In so doing, he reverts to the membership status held before joining the program and shall remit dues to his Chapter for the current year and for successive years unless otherwise exempted.

Failure to pay any installment due by December 31 in the year due constitutes voluntary withdrawal from the program, and regular dues in his Chapter for the same year are payable. After the initial payment, a member may revert formally to regular membership as outlined in this law, and subsequently re-enroll in the program in the same status held when he withdrew. In such circumstance, he shall resume paying the original installments until the fee has been paid in full.

- D) The application shall be signed by the applicant and have the certification of the Chapter secretary. The application shall not become effective until the applicant's record has been certified by the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons. The application shall contain thereon the computations upon which the perpetual membership fee is predicated. If the Grand Secretary determines that the minimum fee, tendered by the applicant is in excess of that required, he shall have the power to correct the application and the Chapter secretary's computations of the fee, accept the application as corrected and refund any excess fee to the applicant through the applying secretary. If the fee tendered is insufficient, the Grand Secretary will return the application and fee to the Chapter secretary for correction and re-submittal. A copy of the completed and accepted perpetual membership application shall be furnished to his Chapter by the Grand Secretary. A certificate of perpetual membership shall be furnished to the applicant by the Grand Secretary. The provisions shall be construed so as to permit the Grand Secretary to use computerized records.
- E) After the perpetual membership application and fee have been received and accepted by the Grand Secretary, the perpetual membership fee shall not be refundable except under circumstances determined by the Grand Secretary to be mistakes of fact rendering the applicant ineligible for perpetual membership as of the date of application.
- F) After the applicant's perpetual membership has been accepted by the Grand Secretary, the

perpetual membership fee shall be paid over to the Grand Treasurer, Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons as required in Article IV, Section 4 of the Constitution and Statutory Regulations. The funds shall be placed collectively in restricted perpetual membership accounts. These funds shall be accounted for on an individual Chapter basis, listing the amount a person paid into the fund for both Chapter dues and per capita and any assessments in effect. The funds shall be accounted for separately, by the Grand Treasurer, from all other Grand Chapter funds. The funds shall be audited annually.

G) To protect your Chapter from future Grand Chapter per capita tax increases on Perpetual Members, the per capita tax will be replaced with a proportionate ratio payment. The proportionate ratio is fixed at the time an applicant becomes a Perpetual Member.

Example:

If your Chapter dues are \$13.00, multiplying by 20 establishes a Perpetual Membership fee of \$260.00. At a 5% return your Chapter receives \$13.00 in interest, the same amount it would have received in dues. Using the example of \$13.00 dues, and with the current per capita of \$4.85, this means that 4.85 parts of the interest earned, (4.85/13), is returned to Grand Chapter and the Chapter keeps 8.15 parts of the \$13.00 earned interest, (8.15/13). As this ratio is frozen at the time an applicant becomes a Perpetual Member, a Grand Chapter per capita increase will not affect it. The Chapter continues to keep 8.15/13 of the money earned and returns 4.85/13 to the Grand Chapter in lieu of per capita tax. If the interest return is more than 5%, your Chapter and Grand Chapter would benefit in the same proportionate ratio as shown above. For example: Eight percent (8%) interest on the original \$260.00 Perpetual Membership fee would return \$20.80 and using the same ratio means that 4.85/13 of the \$20.80 (\$7.70) must be returned to Grand Chapter in lieu of the per capita tax, and your Chapter retains 8.15/13 (\$13.10) in lieu of the annual Chapter dues. This ratio (4.85/13 - 8.15/13) remains the same in perpetuity.

H) A perpetual member shall owe no further dues to the Chapter of which he is a perpetual member. [2019]

I) The perpetual membership fee, less any amount required to supplement earned interest to pay the constituent Chapter the first year's dues and per capita, shall be considered principal and shall never be spent. Principal used to pay the first year's dues and per capita shall be recovered from excess earned interest. Until the original purchase price has been reinstated, annual earned interest equal in amount to the dues and per capita tax of the Chapter established as of the date of the purchase shall be paid annually to the constituent Chapter. After the principal so used shall be recouped, the total amount of interest derived from the funds collectively invested, less administrative charges, shall be paid annually to each constituent Chapter on a pro-rated basis for each perpetual member prior to January 15 of the ensuing year in the manner of a credit on their per capita dues sheet. Administrative charges cover cost of operation of the program, including certificates, forms, accounting, auditing, and advisor fees. [2019]

J) When purchased under the five (5) year option, the same provisions as stated in Section "I", shall apply with these exceptions. The perpetual membership fee, less any amount required to supplement earned interest to pay the constituent Chapter dues and per capita for each of the five (5) installment years, shall be considered principal and shall never be spent. Further, when purchased under the five (5) year option, monetary amounts equating to the particular Chapter dues and per capita tax, established at time of purchase, only, shall be paid to the particular Chapter during the installment period. After the entire Perpetual Membership fee is paid in full, provisions of Section "I" shall apply. In the event a Perpetual Member dies, demits, is suspended or expelled or withdraws from the program prior to making the fifth (5th) for final installment, only the earned interest, less administrative fees, shall be paid to the Particular Chapter if earned interest is less than the member's dues and per capita established at the: time of purchase.

K) The Grand Secretary, Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons, shall, at the time of the annual interest distribution, submit a statement to the constituent Chapter for the amount of the proportionate

ratio payment due to the Grand Chapter for each Perpetual Member computed as set forth in Section "G" above, to prove the credit amount on the per capita dues sheet is correct. The constituent Chapter shall, during the member's lifetime and thereafter, owe the credited amount to the Grand Chapter the amount of the proportionate ratio payment specified in the Grand Secretary's per capita statement. [2019]

L) The obtaining of Perpetual Membership on one Chapter by a plural member shall have no effect on his membership in the other Chapters to which he belongs.

M) A perpetual Member may affiliate under the appropriate section/sections of Grand Chapter Law governing each of the constituent Chapters. If the affiliation is within this Grand Jurisdiction, the entire membership fee he originally paid shall be transferred to the account of the Chapter to which he affiliates. If the affiliation is outside this Grand Jurisdiction, the entire perpetual membership fee shall remain with the Chapter of which he was a perpetual member.

N) Any certificate of good standing issued to a perpetual member shall be endorsed thereon the fact that the holder is a perpetual member and the amount of the perpetual membership fee shall be transferred to the particular Chapter in Louisiana with which he affiliates.

O) If a perpetual member shall be suspended, expelled or demits and is subsequently restored to good standing, or re-affiliates from out of state., his perpetual membership shall be deemed to also be restored.

P) If a Chapter consolidates surrenders its charter or has its charter arrested, the funds credited to that Chapter in the perpetual membership fund shall follow the members according to the relevant sections of Grand Chapter Law dealing with consolidations, surrendering and arrest of charters. In the event the perpetual member is deceased, the funds of that deceased member shall remain in the Perpetual Membership Fund to be used in the administration of that Fund. [2019]

Q) A participant, at a future time, may add any amount to his perpetual membership fee through his local Chapter secretary.

R) Applications for perpetual membership shall be on forms prescribed by the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, and the Grand Secretary shall provide all forms required for the implementation of this section.

S) Where Perpetual members have not been heard from for more than seven (7) years, the High Priest shall direct the Chapter secretary to report the names of such missing brethren to the Grand Chapter on the monthly membership report as being deceased. Their names shall then be transferred to the rolls of deceased perpetual membership, but this action shall have no effect on the amount of money paid the Chapter and Grand Chapter for that perpetual member as set forth in sub-sections "H" and "I".

T) There shall be no cost to the constituent Chapter for administration of this program by the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons.

U) Additional Categories of Perpetual Membership Purchases all at a minimum cost of \$120.00 with the accumulated interest being disbursed as follow 2/3 (66.67%) going to the Constituent Chapter and 1/3 33.33% going to the Grand Chapter.

- 1) Honorary – Living or deceased Royal Arch Mason not a member of the Constituent Chapter
- 2) Memorial – Deceased Royal Arch Mason that is a member of the Constituent Chapter
- 3) Honorary Memorial – Deceased person regardless of gender or residence [2003]
- 4) 50 Year – Companions who qualify for 50-year Certificates [2006]