CONSTITUTION, STATUTES AND REGULATIONS
OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS
TEMPAR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

(For information desired not herein provided, refer to
Grand Encampment Statutes and Regulations)

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

Name

SECTION 1. This body is known as the Grand Commandery
of Knights Templar of the State of Georgia, and its
territorial jurisdiction is the State of Georgia.

ARTICLE II

Powers

SECTION 1. This Grand Commandery, deriving its powers
from the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United
States of America, acknowledges its allegiance to the same;
and accepting the Constitution and Code of Statutes
prescribed by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the
United States of America, hereby enacts the following
Statutes and Regulations, subservient thereto, for the more
perfect government of its affairs.

SECTION 2. Under the Powers vested, it claims and
exercises authority over the Orders of Knighthood,
consisting of the Order of the Red Cross, Order of Malta,
and the Order of the Temple, as defined by adopted Ritual of
the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States
of America. And it claims and exercises authority over the
several Constituent Commanderies at all times comprising
this Grand Body. Therefore, it may grant Dispensations and
Charters for the Institution and Constitution of Commanderies vested with authority to confer said Orders in
regular form, and to transact business for government as may
be necessary, under authorized Statutes and Regulations. It
may enact laws and Regulations for its own government and
its Constituent Bodies. It may censure, suspend or expel,
members of its own Body, or members of Constituent Bodies,
for any violation of its Statutes and Laws. It may arrest
the Charter of a Constituent Body and temporarily or
permanently withdraw the vested powers from said Body, or
dissolve its organization; and generally, it may exercise
all powers and privileges as are not inconsistent with the
Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights
Templar of the United States of America. And, at all times,
as an organization of Knights Templar, or as individuals
composing same, observing obedience to the laws of the
country.
ARTICLE III
Organization

SECTION 1. This Grand Commandery consists of the following Officers and members:

The Grand Commander,
The Deputy Grand Commander,
The Grand Generalissimo,
The Grand Captain General,
The Grand Senior Warden,
The Grand Junior Warden,
The Grand Prelate,
The Grand Treasurer,
The Grand Recorder,
The Grand Standard Bearer,
The Grand Sword Bearer,
The Grand Warder.

(And a Grand Captain of the Guard pro tem to be appointed by the Grand Commander at each Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery); all Past Grand Commanders, all Past Deputy Grand Commanders, all Past Grand Generalissimos, all Past Grand Captains General, all Past Commanders of Constituent Commanderies; and the Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of each Commandery within this jurisdiction, so long as they remain members of a Constituent Commandery. The above indicated members shall be entitled to one vote each in all proceedings of this Grand Body, if he be present, except the Grand Prelate and the Grand Captain of the Guard, unless provided, they are either qualified as a Commander, Generalissimo or Captain General or Past Commander.

SECTION 2: No person shall be eligible to any office in this Grand Commandery who is not a member of a Constituent Commandery, and who is not or has not been a Commander of a Commandery of Knights Templar; except as to the offices of Grand Prelate and Grand Captain of the Guard, which offices may be filled by any Sir Knight of this Constituency in good standing.

Proxies

SECTION 3. Each Constituent Commandery is entitled to three votes, when represented in the Conclaves of this Grand Commandery and may be cast by the Representatives present. If the three ranking elective officers are in attendance, each is entitled to one vote and cannot delegate his voting power to another. The ranking officer, of the above stated officers, registered as present, may cast the vote of an absent officer not registered by proxy. If either the Commander, Generalissimo, or Captain General, or all of them be not present, and if through them or either of them, the Commandery is to be represented by some Past Commander of the Commandery, it shall be necessary for the Past Commander to have a legal proxy from said officer or officers, and the holding of said proxy or proxies, shall not disqualify the holder from the right to cast his own vote as a Past
Commander. The intention hereby being, that an absent officer may have the right to empower his own legal representative. A proxy of either of above named Commandery officers may be held by a Recorder of same Commandery who may not be a Past Commander, of same Commandery, only by consent of the Grand Commandery, but shall have no vote in his own name; nor shall be allowed expenses for attending the Grand Conclave unless he represents the Eminent Commander.

Proxy hereby authorized must be in print or in writing and duly signed by the Sir Knight making the same, and must be held by a member of this Grand Body and of the same Commandery as principal, except as may be permitted by the Grand Commandery as above provided representation by a Recorder.

Titles

SECTION 4. The honorary Title of the Grand Commander is Right Eminent and the official title is Grand Commander; that of the Deputy Grand Commander is Very Eminent and the official title is Deputy Grand Commander, and the honorary title of the remaining Grand Officers, and of the Commanders is Eminent (Grand Captain of the Guard excepted). The honorary title shall be used in addressing or referring to an officer, and when so used, shall immediately precede the official title, e.g. -- Right Eminent Grand Commander, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, Eminent Grand Warder, etc. The official title only shall be used by an officer when necessary to designate his rank or official station.

ARTICLE IV

Business

SECTION 1. This Grand Commandery shall hold an annual Conclave for the transaction of its business at such time and place as may have been previously and regularly determined, and it is the duty of each Constituent Commandery to be then and there represented as provided in Article 3, Section 3.

SECTION 2. Special Grand Conclaves may be called by the Grand Commander (or in case when he cannot act, by the officer entitled under the Statutes of the Grand Encampment to preside), whenever in his opinion the interest of the Order may require it, upon giving the Grand Recorder at least thirty days notice before the date determined upon. The Grand Recorder shall issue notice to each of the members at least ten days before said call date. No business shall be transacted at such called Conclave other than that specified in the order. It shall be the duty of the Grand Commander, upon the request of the majority of the Commanderies, directed to him in writing, to call a special Conclave.

SECTION 3. The Representatives of three Constituent Commanderies, together with enough permanent members of the Grand Commandery to make in all not less than nine, are
necessary for the transaction of business.

SECTION 4. In case of absence of the first four Principal officers at any Conclave of this Grand Commandery the oldest Past Grand Commander in point of service shall preside. If there be no Past Grand Commander present, the oldest Past Commander in point of service shall preside.

SECTION 5. If for any reason and for the good of the order, a regular or special Conclave cannot or may not be held at the time and place appointed, the Grand Commander may designate another time, or if necessary a different place, and cause the Grand Recorder to give ten days' notice thereof to all entitled to be present thereat, incorporating in the notice the reason therefor.

Elections

SECTION 6. The officers of this Grand Commandery, except the Grand Captain of the Guard, shall be chosen annually by ballot, and shall be installed before the close of each Annual Conclave, if present, and hold their offices until their several successors are elected and installed; a majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to a choice, and the officer presiding over the Grand Conclave shall be entitled to the casting of a determining vote, in addition to his own, whenever there is a tie. Any elected officer who may be absent, may subsequently be installed under direction of the Grand Commander at a time and place designated. In case an election for any reason cannot be held at a regular Annual Conclave, it may be held at an adjourned Conclave of same, or at a special Conclave when called in case of necessity. There shall be no nominations before election; nor shall there be a solicitation for votes by letters sent out before the Annual Conclave. Each Sir Knight on being elected to office in the Grand Body, or as soon thereafter as practicable, shall furnish for filing in the office of the Grand Recorder, a concise record of his Masonic History, along with other appropriate data for an historical sketch.

SECTION 7. All bills and resolutions involving the appropriation of funds or a change in Templary Law shall be submitted to the Grand Recorder by March 15th. (1970/34)

ARTICLE V

Duties of Officers and Committees

SECTION 1. The Grand Commander shall attend and preside over all Conclaves of the Grand Commandery. He shall have a watchful supervision over all Commanderies in the jurisdiction and see that the Constitution, Rituals, Statutes and Edicts of the Grand Encampment, and Statutes and Regulations of this Grand Commandery, are duly and promptly observed. He shall have power and authority, during the recess of the Grand Commandery, to fill all vacancies that might occur in the offices thereof except for the offices of Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, and Grand Captain General, and to Grant letters of
Dispensation under provisions of the Statutes to nine or more qualified petitioners, residing within the jurisdiction, empowering them to form and open a Commandery with powers governing Commanderies under Dispensation. When empowered to do so, he shall appoint all officers not made elective, and all Committees authorized by the Grand Commandery, and is empowered to remove them at pleasure and appoint others.

It shall be the duty of the Grand Commander, either in person or by proxy to visit each one of the Constituent Commanderies, at least once during his term of office, and to carefully note and correct any errors or irregularities in the same, either in requirement of the Grand Encampment law or laws and regulations of this Grand Commandery, or of evolutions of the tactics adopted and required by the Grand Commandery. On occasions of his visits to Commanderies he shall have the right to preside and conduct the regular business of same. For all expenses, incident to the duties of his office, he shall have the right to draw his warrant upon the Grand Treasurer and receive reimbursement, not to exceed amount appropriated by Finance Committee and approved by Grand Commandery.

It shall be his duty, upon request of a majority of the Commanderies, directed to him in writing, defining the reasons therefor, to call a special Conclave of the Grand Commandery.

Generally he shall perform the usual traditional duties of his office as laid down by the Statutes, Constitution and Edicts of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America.

SECTION 2. The Deputy Grand Commander, in the event of the death, removal, absence from the jurisdiction, mental or physical incompetency of the Grand Commander, shall perform the function of his office. At all times he shall perform such duties as may be assigned him by the Grand Commandery or Grand Commander.

SECTION 3. The Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General, in the absence, death, removal, or disability of their respective superiors shall act as Grand Commander, in order according to rank. At all times they shall perform such duties as may be assigned them by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander as are traditionally appropriate to their respective stations.

SECTION 4. The Grand Treasurer shall receive all moneys due the Grand Commandery from the Grand Recorder, and from any other source authorized and shall keep it on deposit in bank, and pay out same under such regulations as may be provided. He shall present at each Annual Conclave, or whenever required by the Grand Commandery, an account of his receipts and disbursements, together with his vouchers, and a full statement of the condition of the finances.

He shall be the custodian of the Charter, Standard, and Jewels of this Grand Commandery, and have the same present
at each regular or called Conclave. He shall also be the custodian of all such relics, mementos, or other property, as the Grand Commandery may, from time to time own, unless, provided, the Grand Commandery should specifically direct otherwise, excepting only such records and seals as properly appertain to the office of the Grand Recorder.

He shall give Indemnity Bond in some acceptable Assurance Association for such sum, as may be determined and required, the Grand Commandery paying the premium cost of same.

He shall be paid such salary as the Grand Commandery may determine and direct.

SECTION 5. The Grand Recorder shall keep a proper record of all transactions of the Grand Commandery. He shall receive the dues from the Constituent Commanderies and such other moneys as may traditionally be paid to him for the Grand Commandery, and pay it over to the Grand Treasurer, and have his books and accounts in readiness for examination at each Annual Conclave, or whenever required by the Grand Commandery. He shall keep the seal of this Grand Commandery, and shall affix his attestation to all documents authorized by this body, and to all Dispensations issued by the presiding officer, requiring same. He shall report all unfinished business at or before each Annual Conclave, and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Grand Commandery or its presiding officer. He shall also perform the duties belonging to Committee on Correspondence. He shall audit expense accounts at Grand Conclave, as well as other Bills when requested to do so.

He shall cause the proceedings of this Grand Commandery to be printed within sixty days after the Annual Conclave, and shall send one copy to each Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of every Commandery; and one copy to each of the other members of this Grand Commandery. Also one copy to the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of the United States and one copy to the Grand Recorder; and two copies to each of the Grand Recorders of other Grand Jurisdictions. He shall also cause to be bound in two volumes whenever there are enough to make a volume, the proceedings of this Grand Commandery, and shall keep one in his office subject to the order of the Grand Commandery, and send one to the Grand Treasurer; and in addition he shall keep copies of each Annual Proceedings on hand.

He shall forward all expense bills for printing, postage, office rent, and generally such items as are necessary for the conduct of his office, after approving same, to the Grand Treasurer for payment. The regulation Past Grand Commander’s Jewel, the jewel with one-half carat diamond setting adopted in 1915, or another token of equal value, shall be purchased by him, and he shall have same ready at proper time for presentation. He shall, when required, examine and pass upon the By-Laws of Constituent Commanderies.

He shall give Indemnity Bond in some acceptable
Assurance Association for such amount as required, in favor of the Grand Commandery, the cost of same to be paid by this Grand Body. He shall keep all bonds and official documents belonging to this Grand Commandery stored in the safe in his office. All bonds and official documents shall be subject to inspection by the Grand Commander and by the auditor employed to make the annual audit of Grand Commandery accounts. (1971/29 and 64).

He shall receive such salary as the Grand Commandery may determine and direct.

SECTION 6. All Grand Officers shall perform all such duties, and be entitled to all such rights and privileges as are conferred and extended by usage, and the traditions of the order, and the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America and the Statutes and the Regulations of this Grand Commandery.

SECTION 7. A Grand Orator may be selected annually by the Grand Commandery to deliver an address upon such subject as he may elect, but appropriate to Templary, and such orator so selected need not necessarily be a member of this Grand Commandery, but must be an affiliated Knight Templar. His expenses for attendance shall be paid by him.

SECTION 8. Inspectors shall be appointed by the Grand Commander to inspect all Commanderies he may not be able to inspect himself, by or before March 1st each year. The Inspector shall make a written report to the Grand Commander, on blanks furnished by the Grand Recorder, of information concerning the work, and pertaining to the affairs of the Commandery Inspected. His actual expenses for this service shall be paid on approval by the Grand Commander, by the Grand Treasurer in behalf of the Grand Commandery.

SECTION 9. A Permanent Finance Committee of three members, as now organized, on terms of one, two and three years, (the newly elected Grand Commander after the adjournment of each Grand Conclave, appointing to the vacancy caused by the term expiration, a member for the term of three years, and at same time appointing the Chairman of said Committee for the Templar year) shall consider matters of Finance in connection with any cost of administration, report upon and recommend in connection therewith; and if directed by the Grand Commander, investigate the offices of Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, and the work of the Committee on Investments, if there be one; and generally to perform such incidental duties as may be required by the Grand Commander during the Templar year. At each Annual Conclave this Committee shall examine the books and statements of the Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, and Committee on Investment, if there be one, and all such business as may be referred to it during the session, and submit a detailed report. All matters of business having in purpose an expenditure of money shall be referred to this Committee, and said Committee shall report and make recommendation thereon. This Committee may also act upon general matters which may be referred to it in the
transaction of business.

SECTION 10. A Permanent Memorial Committee consisting of three members, shall be appointed at each Annual Conclave, or as soon thereafter as practicable, by the newly elected Grand Commander, who shall also name the Chairman of said Committee for the Templar year. It shall be the duty of this Committee to submit a Memorial report at the Grand Conclave in respect to the memory of the Templar dead during the year, of this and other Grand Jurisdictions; and generally to perform such business as may be appropriately assigned to it by the Grand Commander or Grand Commandery.

SECTION 11. A permanent Jurisprudence Committee of five members, as now organized on terms of one, two, three, four and five years, (the newly elected Grand Commander after adjournment of each Grand Conclave, appointing to the vacancy caused by the term expiration, a member for the term of five years, and at same time designating and appointing for the Templar year the Chairman of said Committee) shall consider and report upon all matters which may be properly referred to them; generally questions of Templar law and regulations, on the occasion of Grand Conclave, or which may be asked of them by the Grand Commander during his administration.

SECTION 12. A Permanent Charters and Dispensation Committee for New Commanderies, of three members as now organized under the name of Charters and By-Laws, on terms of one, two and three years, (the newly elected Grand Commander after adjournment of each Grand Conclave appointing to the vacancy caused by term expiration, a member for the term of three years, and at same time designating and appointing for the Templar year the Chairman of said Committee) shall consider and report upon all matters which may be properly referred to them; generally having reference to granting of Charters or Dispensations to form new Commanderies, at the occasion of Grand Conclave, or which may be referred to or asked of them by the Grand Commander during his administration; it being clearly understood nevertheless, that the granting of a Dispensation during the interim to form a new Commandery, is the prerogative of a Grand Commander, after considering from whatever source, the merits of petitioners.

SECTION 13. A Permanent Triennial Committee of three members (who are members of Grand Encampment) shall be appointed by the incoming Grand Commander at the first Annual Grand Conclave after the Triennial Conclave. This Committee is to have complete charge of all details relative to the next meeting of the Grand Encampment, including Entertainment, propaganda, transportation, etc. The Committee shall serve until after the next Triennial, and they shall be authorized to draw on the Grand Treasurer for any necessary expenses from funds authorized to be expended for Triennial expenses. (Pro. 1927)

SECTION 14. There shall be a permanent Educational Foundation Committee composed of five trustees of Knights Templar Educational Foundation of Georgia, Inc., said
trustees to be elected by the Grand Commandery of Georgia as provided in the charter of incorporation of said Knights Templar Educational Foundation of Georgia, Inc., as granted by the Judge of the Superior Court of Fulton County, Georgia on the 22nd day of March, 1940. It shall be the duty of this Committee to work with and under the plans of the Grand Encampment Educational Foundation of the division of the Grand Commandery of Georgia. The members of this Committee shall be elected and hold office as provided in the charter above referred to.

This Committee to have in charge also funds now in the hands of the Educational Committee and the Treasurer of the Grand Commandery known as the Whiteside Loan Fund; the Lucy Russell Fund; the W. C. Cantrell Fund; and the Thank Offering Fund, be, and they are hereby placed in the hands of the trustees of Knights Templar Educational Foundation of Georgia, Inc., to be hereafter administered by said trustees in accordance with the terms of the gift as expressed by the donor in making said gift.

A separate set of books to be kept in connection with the administration of these funds. (Pro. 1940)

SECTION 15. PERMANENT RELIEF COMMITTEE. There shall be a Permanent Relief Committee consisting of five (5) members, namely the Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder and the Chairman of the Finance Committee who shall have authority in cases of extreme emergency to draw upon the funds of the Grand Commandery an amount not to exceed $500.00 during any Templar Year. This Committee shall make an annual report at each Grand Conclave.

Each applicant for Relief must be a Knight Templar in good standing or in the case of a widow, her husband must have been in good standing at the time of his death. All applications to be investigated by a person or persons trained in this work, and when the investigator certifies to the Committee that the applicant is worthy, the constituent Commandery of which he is a member, or in the case of a Widow the Constituent Commandery of which her husband was a member in good standing at the time of his death shall be invited to pay one half of the amount allotted by the Committee, and the rest to be paid from the Relief Fund. If the Committee is satisfied that the Constituent Commandery is unable to pay one half of the recommended amount, then the Committee shall be authorized to pay the full amount recommended from the Relief Fund. (1978/ )

SECTION 16. KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION. "A permanent Eye Foundation Committee of three members on terms of one, two and three years in office shall be maintained in this Grand Commandery by appointment by the incoming Grand Commander, of members to fill the vacancies at each Grand Conclave. The Grand Commander shall also designate the Chairman for the ensuing year. The geographical location of the committee members should be such as to best promote and advance our Eye Foundation work throughout the State of Georgia. All members of this committee shall diligently
work to support our Eye Foundation program and the Committee shall make a report annually to the Grand Commandery. It is urged that inspection orders cover a check of Eye Foundation work in Constituent Commanderies."

SECTION 17. PATRIOTIC AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES. The Committee on Patriotic and Civic Activities shall consist of three members to be appointed by the Grand Commander. The Committee shall foster and supervise activities of a patriotic and citizenship nature, whether in peacetime or in warfare, and shall present its recommendations for civic responsibility by Knights Templar individually and collectively, compatible with the patriotic principles of Templary.

SECTION 18. Session Committees, such as Committee on Credentials, Grand Commander’s Address and Distribution of Topics, Commandery Inspections Reports, Commandery reports; and other Committees necessary for the transaction of the business of the Grand Commandery in Conclave shall be appointed by the Grand Commander after the organization for business is completed; and announcement made of same, before delivering his address. Ordinarily the report of Committee on "Grand Commander’s Address and Distribution of Topics," shall be the first report presented to the Grand Conclave for consideration. Committees shall ordinarily consist of not less than three nor more than five members.

SECTION 19. Expenses for attendance at regular or called Conclaves, by Past Grand Commanders, by officers of this Grand Commandery, officers of Constituent Bodies and members of Permanent and Conclave Committees shall be allowed as follows: (subject, nevertheless, to such changes as may be agreed upon at any Grand Conclave). Each officer of this Grand Commandery, and the Grand Orator Annually elected, for his attendance at the Annual or Called Conclave, and each Past Grand Commander, and the Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of each Commandery, (provided, however, that proxy for either the Generalissimo or the Captain General shall not be entitled to such expenses) and each member of the Permanent or Conclave Committees, not entitled to expenses for other consideration, shall receive such sum as may be recommended by the Finance Committee and adopted by the Grand Commandery, provided no representative (or his proxy), of any Constituent Commandery shall draw any pay for his expenses while his Commandery is in arrears for dues, until said arrears are liquidated; and provided further, that no representative shall receive for his expenses more than his Commandery has paid to the Grand Commandery.

ARTICLE VI

General Statutes

SECTION 1. The Seal of the Grand Commandery shall be affixed to all Templary documents as required. The Grand Commander’s seal may be affixed to official papers pertaining to the office of the Grand Commander.
SECTION 2. New Commanderies. Charters or Dispensations may be granted for the establishment of new Commanderies on the petition of nine or more regular Knights Templar directed to the Grand Commandery. For every such Charter or Dispensation, the petitioners shall pay in advance one hundred dollars ($100.00).

No Commandery shall be constituted until it has provided itself with a suitable asylum, with proper paraphernalia to do the work of a Commandery.

No letters of Dispensation for instituting a new Commandery shall be issued by the Grand Commander, save upon the recommendation of the Commandery in the same territorial jurisdiction nearest the place of the new Commandery prayed for; written request by petitioners to Commandery for such recommendation, must be presented at a regular Conclave, read and filed, and referred to a committee of not less than three for investigation and report at a subsequent Conclave of the Commandery before action on said request is taken by said Commandery, and shall lie over until the next regular Conclave. All members of the Commandery to which such petition is made shall be given at least five days' notice in writing by the Recorder as to the purpose of such petition and the particular Conclave at which it is to be passed upon. The Recorder shall certify all action taken on such petition before it is presented to the Grand Commander. But in the event of the refusal of the nearest Commandery to grant a recommendation, application may be made direct to the Grand Commandery, which has power to grant a Dispensation or Charter, without such recommendation. If the new Commandery is to be stationed in a city where there is more than one Commandery, two of them located in such city must recommend such petition, as provided for action by the Grand Commander in granting Dispensations. Or if, where two or more Commanderies elsewhere severally stationed have concurrent jurisdiction, the consent of the two must be obtained before a dispensation for a new Commandery can be granted.

SECTION 3. Grand Representatives. The exchange of representatives between this Grand Commandery and other Grand Jurisdictions of the United States is hereby authorized. The Commissions of representatives near other jurisdictions are to be executed by the Grand Commander and attested by the Grand Recorder, after recommendation of their respective Grand Commanders; and, such Commission as representatives of the Grand Commandery of Georgia near the other Grand Commanderies, shall expire with the Triennial Conclaves of the Grand Encampment, unless just cause be found for annulment before that time. The Grand Commander shall recommend to other jurisdictions appointment of representatives near this, when there is a vacancy, and may recommend annulment of Commissions when in his opinion the interest of the Order demands it.

SECTION 4. Voting. Every member present, either in the Grand Commandery, or in any Constituent Commandery, when a vote or ballot is had, is required to vote, unless he is excused by the presiding officer, for cause shown before the
voting or balloting commences.

SECTION 5. Jewels. Each Past Grand Commander shall be provided with a Past Grand Commander’s Jewel, at once upon retirement from office; the regulation design of same being as adopted in 1915 with half-carat diamond setting, except where a Past Grand Commander may select some other token of equal value. (Pro. 1938)

SECTION 6. Grand Conclave Expenses. The Grand Commandery of Georgia Knights Templar shall pay for the Luncheon following the Church Service held during the Annual Conclave. The Sir Knights shall purchase the Banquet Tickets for themselves and their ladies. The Grand Commandery shall pay for the Distinguished Guests.

SECTION 7. Prohibition. No wine, beer, or other alcoholic beverages shall be served at any entertainment or function of the Grand Commandery, or any Inspection, Banquet or other entertainment, by any Constituent Commandery, and any Commandery violating the letter or spirit of this section shall be guilty of insubordination, and may be punished as provided for the offense of insubordination.

The prohibitions against a Mason engaging in the liquor, etc business as contained in the Masonic Manual and Code of the Grand Lodge of the State of Georgia (F. & A.M.) as the same now are, or may hereafter be amended, are hereby made applicable to each Sir Knight of this Constituency, and any Sir Knight found guilty of violating the provisions of said Masonic Manual and Code shall be punished in the same manner as provided by the said Masonic Manual and Code.

SECTION 8. Applicants for the Orders shall petition by signed application conformable to Grand Encampment Statutes; and in addition, shall give the information therewith, as to where he has resided for the past three years. The Templar residence of an applicant is his recognized legal residence.

SECTION 9. Appeals. No appeal shall lie to the Grand Commandery from a decision of the Grand Commander, except on questions as to the construction of the Constitution, Statutes and Regulations or Ritual of the Grand Encampment, or Statutes and Regulations of this Grand Commandery; nor to the Grand Encampment of the United States, except on questions as above stated.

SECTION 10. No dispensation in behalf of Commanderies, other than to institute a Commandery, shall be granted by the Grand Commander, unless the same has been applied for by a vote of the Commandery at a stated Conclave, which shall be evidenced by the certificate of the Recorder, and the seal of the Commandery.

A Grand Commander in the case of an emergency or for other good reasons may issue a dispensation to a Commandery to receive, read, and ballot on petitions at a stated Conclave (proper notice to be given to the membership) and he may issue a dispensation to a Commandery permitting them to confer the orders in the hall of a Chapter of Royal Arch
Masons in their jurisdiction when he believes it to be in the best interest of Templary. (G.E. Pro. 1934.)

SECTION 11. Public Parades. This Grand Commandery hereby prohibits members of the Order as Knights Templar and all bodies of Knights Templar of this Constituency, from participating in any parade, except Masonic funerals, and to escort the the Grand Commandery before the opening session, or to attend Divine Services or religious memorial services, unless proper Dispensation is obtained; the granting of same being at the discretion of the Grand Commander as to a proper occasion for a parade. On occasion of parades, the display of the Beauceant Banner, together with the United States Flag, only may be made.

SECTION 12. Debates. When the presiding officer either in the Grand Commandery or a Constituent Commandery, wishes the debate to close, he rises, and that shall end the discussion.

SECTION 13. Must Appear in Uniform. Every officer must appear in his proper Uniform at the opening of the Grand Conclave, and of each Conclave of a Constituent Commandery, unless he is excused therefrom for proper cause, by the Grand Commander, or by the Eminent Commander. (Pro. 1950.)

SECTION 14. Jurisdiction. Unless different by special enactment of this Grand Body, the Jurisdiction of a Commandery of this Grand Commandery, is one half the straight line distance between the corporate limits of the municipalities, if any, in which they are stationed, and shall not extend beyond the State of Georgia; and when there is a question of jurisdiction between Commanderies as to distances between them, it shall be settled by securing, if possible, authoritative information from the United States Geological Survey, or the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey offices at Washington, D. C.; and the question shall be determined by such information, if obtained.

SECTION 14.5. Concurrent Jurisdiction. The Grand Commandery of Georgia, Knights Templar, grants concurrent jurisdiction to Coeur de Lion Commandery No. 4, Atlanta Commandery No. 9, Constantine Commandery No. 26, Griffin Commandery No. 35, DeKalb Commandery No. 38 and Douglasville Commandery No. 40, and orders that the membership dues and that the fees for the orders of Knighthood for any of the participating Commanderies shall not be lower than the membership dues and the fees for the orders of Knighthood for the majority of the other Commanderies participating in the same concurrent jurisdiction, and that the total territory over which this concurrent jurisdiction shall hold, shall be extended to include the sum total of the individual territories of each Commandery participating when calculated by the application of the rule of Section 14, Article VI, General Statutes. (1976/29.)

SECTION 15. Diplomas. A Diploma and Certificate of Membership, of design now in use prepared by the Grand Recorder, shall be supplied by the Grand Recorder to each
Sir Knight applying for one through the Recorder of his Commandery.

SECTION 16. 50-Year Award. (a) Any Knight Templar completing fifty-years active membership in this order, the last ten of which shall have been as a member of a Constituent Commandery of this Grand Commandery, shall be awarded an appropriate certificate commemorating such long and honorable service. All qualifying service for such certificate shall have been in a Commandery subordinate to this Grand Commandery or to the Grand Encampment of the United States of America, Knights Templar.

(b) It shall be the duty of the Recorder of the Commandery of the member eligible for this award to notify the Grand Recorder, who shall verify the service record. The Grand Commander and the Grand Recorder shall be the judges of eligibility.

(c) The award shall be presented by the Grand Commander or by some distinguished Knight Templar selected by the Grand Commander for the purpose. (1971/28)

SECTION 17. Moseley Pension. The sum of $3,000.00 shall be appropriated annually as a gratuitous pension for Grand Recorder James E. Moseley. Said Annual Appropriation shall be designated "Moseley Pension Fund" and together with interest earned shall be used to provide upon his retirement a gratuitous monthly pension of $250.00. There shall be paid out of this Fund to James E. Moseley the sum of $250.00 on the last day of each Month beginning with the first month of his retirement. (1987/21)

(a) In the event his wife, Mollie shall survive at the death of James E. Moseley, a sum equal to eighty (80%) per cent of said monthly pension shall be paid to her, and to continue until her demise. (1988/24)

SECTION 18. Employee Benefit Fund: An Employee Benefit Fund is hereby created and established by the Grand Commandery of Georgia, for the Retirement Benefit of its employees, initially, Mrs. Loyce Price. The Grand Commandery may be a participant in the annual funding of the Plan with other York Rite Bodies in Georgia, but not limited thereby.

(b.) The retirement benefit plan shall consist of an Annuity, provided by Equitable Assurance Society, or other financial entity.

(c.) Said annuity shall provide for a retirement income for said employees and a lump-sum benefit in event of death.

(d.) The Grand Commandery (and other participating York Rite Bodies) shall be the owners of such Annuity, but specifically for the benefit of said employees.

(e.) The annual premiums for the maintenance of said plan shall be paid by the Grand Commandery and other
participating York Rite Bodies, in such shares as determined by the Benefits Committee, and reported, along with any other pertinent data, at least annually to the Grand Body.

(f.) It shall be the responsibility of said Committee to monitor the said plan, and to establish rules relative to rights vesting in said employees, entitlement conditions, and all other like details.

(g.) The premium necessary to maintain said annuity shall be included in the Annual Budget and paid from the general revenues of the Grand Commandery, and subject to the review of such other committees as deemed appropriate.

(h.) This act may be amended when and if deemed appropriate and desirable.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 19. York Rite Life Membership Fund of the Grand York Rite Bodies of Freemasonry of Georgia. This Grand Commandery does hereby authorize the joint operation of a Life Membership Program under the name and style of THE YORK RITE LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND OF THE GRAND YORK RITE BODIES OF FREEMASONRY OF GEORGIA, which shall be administered by a joint committee of this Commandery, the Grand Chapter of Georgia, R.A.M., and the Grand Council of Georgia, R. & S.M., which committee shall be known as the FUND COMMITTEE.

The Grand Commander shall appoint one Sir Knight for a term of one year, another Sir Knight for two years, and another Sir Knight for three years who shall serve on the joint Fund Committee. Annually thereafter the incoming Grand Commander shall appoint one Sir Knight for a three year term. The Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer shall be an ex-officio member of this Committee. The Committee shall make an annual report to this Grand Commandery.

The joint Fund Committee shall be responsible for setting up the program of Life Membership, prescribing rules for determining eligibility, costs, transfers, terminations and other matters; and, shall also be responsible for investing the funds received and prescribing the amounts to be paid annually to each participating Commandery.

The joint Fund Committee may alter, amend and/or revise its rules and regulations from time to time in order to maintain a sound program.

Participation in the Life Membership Program shall be at the option of the Constituent Commanderies.

SECTION 20. Amendments. These Statutes and Regulations can be amended only in the following manner: The amendment shall be proposed in writing at one Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery and shall then lie upon the table until the next Annual Conclave, when if it receives a two-thirds vote of all the members present it shall be declared adopted; and this applies to an amendment of such
proposition, or to a substitute for same. Provided, however, that changes or alterations in the uniform may be made at Any Annual Conclave by a concurrence of three-fourths of the members present. And provided further, that a motion for general revision of the Statutes and Regulations may be made and adopted, and the revision provided for, may be afterwards submitted and adopted at the next Annual Grand Conclave.

SECTION 21. All Statutory provision of this Grand Commandery, not wholly or partly included in these Statutes, are hereby repealed.

RULES OF ORDER

ARTICLE I

SECTION 1. Before opening the Grand Commandery, the Grand Recorder shall call the roll, and if it appears therefrom that a constitutional number is present, the Grand Commander shall announce that fact and proceed with the opening.

SECTION 2. The Grand Commander shall then extend an invitation to all Sir Knights of good standing to seats in the Grand Commandery.

SECTION 3. The Grand Commander shall then announce the appointment of Committee on Credentials and such other Committees as may be necessary, which shall report subsequently in the order of business.

SECTION 4. If the records of the last Grand Conclave have been printed and distributed, their reading shall be dispensed with, unless a motion to read them is made and carried.

SECTION 5. The Grand Commander’s report shall then be read and referred to the proper committee for distribution.

SECTION 6. After the first session of the Grand Commandery, the wearing of full Uniform may be dispensed with, unless otherwise directed.

ARTICLE II

SECTION 1. All resolutions shall be reduced to writing, shall be read by the Sir Knight introducing same, and after being seconded, presented to the Grand Recorder, when they shall be open for discussion.

SECTION 2. No Sir Knight shall speak more than twice upon any one resolution or motion, without permission of the presiding officer.

SECTION 3. Every Sir Knight shall stand when he speaks, or when he seconds a motion or resolution, and he shall at all times address himself to the presiding officer.
SECTION 4. No Sir Knight shall interrupt the presiding officer or any other Sir Knight, while he is speaking.

SECTION 5. No member shall retire during the Grand Conclaves of the Grand Commandery, without permission of the presiding officer.

SECTION 6. All questions of order shall be decided by the presiding officer, and no appeal shall be had from his decision on same.

SECTION 7. The usual rules governing parliamentary bodies shall be the rules to be observed at the Conclaves of this Grand Commandery.

SECTION 8. Unless otherwise ordered by a majority vote of those present, the election of officers shall be the first business in order on the second day of the Grand Conclave. If the Grand Conclave continues but one day then the election shall be held the afternoon of that day.

SECTION 9. These Rules of Order may be amended at any Regular Annual Conclave by a majority vote of those present.

TEMPLAR UNIFORM

ADOPTED MAY 1905

SECTION 1. From and after this date the following shall be the Templar Uniform for officers and Sir Knights of this Jurisdiction, except as herein otherwise provided. (Pro. 1962)

FULL DRESS

Black regulation coat and black trousers.
* Baldric, sword and belt.
Chapeau, black shoes.
Shoulder straps as per regulation of the Grand Encampment
Costumes for Prelates and Grand Prelate, same as per regulation of Grand Encampment.

FATIGUE DRESS

Black regulation blouse and black trousers.
Black silk or cloth cap with drooping visor.
Sword and belt, black shoes.

Officers and members of the Grand Commandery, and Past Grand Officers, alone to wear shoulder straps and sleeve crosses, same as full dress.

UNIFORM IN DETAIL

"Full Dress Coat"

The Georgia Regulation Dress Coat shall be a single
breasted sack coat of black tropical worsted or similar material -- two cross and crown buttons to close. To have peaked lapels and be form fitting. Two lower outside hung-in pockets with square flaps, left breast welted pocket and at least one inside right horizontal pocket. Coat to be full lined. No shoulder loops. Sleeves to have stitching up 3" from bottom to represent cuffs. Bullion embroidered 1 1/2" cross appropriate to rank to be centered between stitching and edge of sleeve - silver for Sir Knights below the rank of Commander, and gold for Commander and above.

The letters "GA" and the number of the Commandery to be bullion embroidered in 1/2" block letters on a separate patch to be sewn on welt of pocket. Silver for Sir Knights below rank of Commander and gold for Commander and above.

Belt hook inside coat with straight buttonhole through left side of coat for hook to go through when in use.

The above dress coat regulations shall not apply to currently owned uniforms, but shall apply to all dress coats purchased after May 13, 1976. (1976/28)

**FATIGUE BLOUSE**

A fatigue blouse made after fashion of those worn by officers of the United States Army is authorized, but not required. All officers above the rank of Senior Warden to wear shoulder straps.

**TROUSERS**

Black cloth trousers without stripe or ornamentation.

**BALDRIC**

The body of the baldric shall be five inches wide, the whole of white moire antique silk, bordered with black velvet, one inch wide on either side. A strip of silver lace one-fourth of an inch wide, at the inner edge of the black. On the front center of the Baldric a metal star of nine points, in allusion to the nine founders of Templar Order, enclosing the Passion Cross, surrounded by the motto: "In Hoc Signo Vinces"; the star to be three and three-quarter inches in diameter. The baldric to be worn from the right shoulder to the left hip, with the ends extending six inches below the point of intersection. To be lined with green silk, with red Greek cross and a plated hanger on hip. Officers wearing shoulder straps do not wear the baldric; instead they shall wear upon the left breast a jewel, adopted heretofore by this Grand Commandery, to wit: A star in the center of which shall be a red Passion Cross, resting upon a field, half white and half black, representing the beauteant, and suspended from the bar.

* (1965 Conclave, the wearing of the baldric is optional)

**FATIGUE CAPS**

Black cloth two and three quarters inches deep,
drooping leather visor, black silk band one and one quarter inches wide, with appropriate cord and cross on front, one small Templar button on either side and black silk cover. Commanderies at discretion may adopt cap without visor.

SWORD

Straight sword. Thirty-four to forty inches in length, inclusive of scabbard, helmet head, cross hilt, without chain, and metal scabbard with emblematic mountings, the grip of ivory or ebony as elected by each Commandery, the Passion Cross without rays in front center of grip.

Wherever metal occurs all Officers and Past Officers above Generalissimo shall wear gilt. All other Sir Knights silver plated or white metal.

BELT

For all Grand Officers, Commanders and Past Commanders the standard belt shall be black, one and three-fourth inches (1 3/4") wide, length to be specified in order. The gold braid on the face of the belt to be one and five-eighths inches (1 5/8") wide with three red stripes or strips of red braid running lengthwise, so as to separate the face of the gold braid into four separate strips of equal width; the width of red stripe or strip be between three thirty-seconds to one eighth of an inch (3/32 to 1/8") wide.

The belt shall be equipped with four emblematic gilt slides, two barrel chains, each seven inches in length, one barrel chain twenty-two inches in length, cap-snap on fourth slide, emblematic plate and return buckle.

For grand Commanders and Past Grand Commanders the belt shall be similar to the one described above, with the exception of purple stripes instead of red stripes.

All other officers and Sir Knights shall wear a plain black enameled leather belt, without lace, trimmed as above described with silver-plated metal.

Designs for belt plates now in use are approved, but from and after the adoption of this report new designs must be submitted to the Grand Commandery for approval.

CHAPEAU

The chapeau designated as a military chapeau, covered with black silk plush, with peaks projecting three and one-half inches front and rear. Widths of peaks two inches. Two black and one white plumes, the white plume under no circumstances to extend beyond the rear peak, black silk oval rosette, with appropriate cross on left side.

COMMANDERS AND PAST COMMANDERS

Commanders and Past Commanders shall wear the chapeau,
prescribed for Sir Knights, excepting that it shall be trimmed with two straps of fifteen line gold lace on each side, front and rear, gold tassel on front peak, with appropriate cross in rosette on left side.

SHOULDER STRAPS

As designated by Grand Encampment for the Officers and Past Grand Officers of the Grand Commandery.

Bright red silk velvet, two inches wide by four inches long, outside measurement, bordered with one row of embroidery, of gold, quarter of an inch wide; the Templar cross of gold, with initials of the office, respectively, to be embroidered (old English characters) in silver, on the lower end of the strap.

FOR PAST GRAND COMMANDERS

Same as above, except field of strap to be royal purple and lettering omitted.

FOR COMMANDERS

Emerald green silk velvet, one and one-half inches wide by four inches long, bordered with one row of gold embroidery one quarter of an inch wide, the Passion Cross, with a halo embroidered of silver in the center.

FOR PAST COMMANDERS

Same, as Commander, except field of strap to be bright red silk velvet.

FOR THE GENERALISSIMO

Same as the Commander, except, for the Passion Cross, the square surmounted by the Paschal Lamb.

FOR THE CAPTAIN GENERAL

Same as the Commander, except, for the Passion Cross, the level surmounted by the cock.

COLLAR ORNAMENTS

All Officers and Past Officers of the Grand Commandery shall wear on the collar, one inch from edge, and an eighth of an inch from the top, the Templar Cross, three-quarters of an inch square, embroidered in gold with a bright red velvet center.

Past Grand Commander shall wear the Cross as above described, except, center shall be royal purple.

Commanders and Past Commanders the Passion Cross, one inch in length, bright red velvet center, bordered with gold embroidery. All other Sir Knights, same as Commander, except Cross to be bordered with silver embroidery.
SLEEVE ORNAMENTS

All Sir Knights shall wear midway the cuff on outside of sleeve the Cross appropriate to his rank. Templar crosses to be one inch square. Passion Crosses one and one-quarter inches in length.

Sir Knights will wear the Passion Cross, silver embroidery.

Commanders and Past Commanders the Passion Cross, gold embroidery.

Grand and Past Grand Officers, the Templar Cross, gold embroidery.

All Passion Crosses for Chapeaus two and one-half inches in length.

All Passion Crosses for Caps to be one and one-half inches in length.

All Templar Crosses for Caps, one and one-half inches square.

All Templar Crosses for Chapeaus, two and one-half inches square.

The centers of crosses worn by Past Grand Commanders shall be royal purple; all others bright red.

CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES

ARTICLE I

SECTION 1. Membership. Each Constituent Commandery consists of:

The Commander,
The Generalissimo,
The Captain General,
The Senior Warden,
The Junior Warden,
The Prelate,
The Treasurer,
The Recorder,
The Standard Bearer,
The Sword Bearer,
The Warder,
The Sentinel, and
The Three Guards.

Each Sir Knight, if in good standing when present in Conclave, shall be entitled to one vote in all proceedings of his Commandery. The honorary title of designation of the Commander of a Constituent Commandery is Eminent. See Constitution, Section 4, Titles.

SECTION 2. Elections. The Officers of each
The petition must be referred to a committee of three members of the Commandery for investigation, not vouchers, but cannot be balloted upon (favorable result of which must be unanimous) until at least two weeks after it has been presented to the Commandery, and then only at a stated Conclave ("except by dispensation"). A petition may be withdrawn before ballot, when the report of the Committee is favorable, or when it shall appear that the Commandery has no jurisdiction over the applicant. The Character of the report of a Committee of Inquiry upon an application whether favorable or unfavorable, must not be recorded. The record must only show that the Committee reported.

Regular petitions by Royal Arch Masons may be received by a Commandery under Dispensation, and they may be acted upon by the new Commandery, if constituted after two weeks from the granting of the Charter, as per said Sir Knights' petition for a Commandery.

SECTION 6. Dues. Membership dues shall be such as may be adopted by each Constituent Commandery as incorporated in its By-Laws. Dues are due on the first day of the new Templar year, and should be paid during the current year, but a member is not in arrears until the current year has passed.

SECTION 7. Rejections. A rejected candidate shall not be entitled to any other information save that he is rejected; and any Sir Knight of this jurisdiction who may communicate to him any information as to who was present, or who advocated or who opposed his admission, shall upon conviction be expelled from the Order. And any visiting Sir Knight violating this Statute shall be forever excluded from the Commanderies of this jurisdiction and his Commandery notified of his unknighthly conduct. This Statute shall be read at every Conclave when a rejection occurs.

SECTION 8. Orders. No Commandery shall communicate the Orders of Knighthood, the Red Cross, Malta, or of the Temple; they must each be conferred as per Ritual. No candidate shall receive the Orders conferred in the Commandery in any other than the Commandery nearest his residence, unless the Commandery holding jurisdiction shall waive it. And any Commandery violating this provision shall pay over the fees to the injured Commandery, and be subjected to such other penalty as the Grand Commander or Grand Commandery may determine.

SECTION 9. Treasurer and Recorder Bonded. The Grand Commandery Law requires that the Treasurer and Recorder of each Constituent Commandery be bonded, regardless of the amount of money handled, unless each Commandery's By-Laws require more than one signature either on a voucher or check before it can be disbursed. If the above method is used a Bond is not necessary.

ARTICLE III

SECTION 1. Conclaves. Every Commandery shall meet at least quarterly, but any failure to meet for twelve
successive months, without a satisfactory excuse to the Grand Commander or Grand Commandery, shall be deemed a sufficient cause to arrest the Charter. No Commandery in this jurisdiction shall be permitted to hold a Conclave on Sunday, except for the purpose of attending funerals or Divine Worship, including religious Memorial Services.

No Commandery shall appear in public as such without the express permission of the Grand Commander except upon funeral occasions, as herein stated, or to attend church or Religious Services, including Religious Memorial services for deceased Fraters.

SECTION 2. Summons. Notice, authorized by the Commandery to appear at the Asylum of the Commandery at a certain time, signed by the Commander and attested by the Recorder with the seal of the Commandery, is the only legal summons. It shall be served personally on the Sir Knight or left at his place of residence or sent to him by the Recorder to his last known address by mail, and every Sir Knight so summoned shall promptly and strictly obey the same, unless excused by the Commander. Should he fail to appear or render satisfactory excuse, charges may be preferred against him.

SECTION 3. Removal. No Commandery shall change its name or be removed from the place of its location, temporarily or permanently, without the consent of the Grand Commandery. But a Commandery may remove its Asylum from one house to another in the same place by vote of a majority of the members present at a stated Conclave, and after due notice of the proposed change.

SECTION 4. Statutes and Proceedings to be Kept. It shall be the duty of the Commander of each Commandery to see to it carefully that there shall be always kept in the Asylum, and ready for easy reference, at each Conclave, a copy of the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment and a copy of the Statues and Regulation of this Grand Commandery.

SECTION 5. Discipline. The Constituent Commanderies shall have full power to inflict discipline on any offending Sir Knight as provided in Statutes, but in case of expulsion or suspension, an appeal may be taken to the Grand Commandery, which may reverse the decision, and remand the case for a new trial or make final decision in the matter.

No Sir Knight, member of a Constituent Commandery, shall be stricken from the roll for non-payment of dues until after trial. When a member is in arrears for dues as per standard By-Laws for Commanderies herewith adopted, he shall be summoned to appear at a regular meeting of the Commandery to show cause why charges should not be preferred against him for non-payment of dues, and on his appearing, or not appearing, the Commandery shall act in its discretion by remitting said dues, giving further time, or proceeding to summon him for trial as provided in Disciplinary Rules of the Grand Encampment Statutes. And whether he appears or not, the Commandery may act at its discretion.
SECTION 6. Suspension or Expulsion by Lodge or Chapter. Membership in Lodge and Chapter being a prerequisite to membership in a Commandery, when a member of a Commandery has been suspended or expelled from his Lodge or Chapter for any reason, he shall, after opportunity for a hearing with respect to the fact of such suspension or expulsion only, be suspended or expelled, as the case may be, from his Commandery, upon notice to him of not less than ten days that such action will be taken. And when a member of a Commandery has been suspended or expelled from his Commandery solely because of his suspension or expulsion from Lodge or Chapter, his restoration in such Lodge or Chapter shall entitle him to restoration in his Commandery, provided notice of application for same shall be presented at a Stated Conclave prior to the one at which such restoration is to be had. See Grand Encampment Statutes, Section 202 and 203.

SECTION 7. Expulsion. No expulsion shall be made public in any form, when an appeal is taken, until the decision of the Grand Commandery is made known.

SECTION 8. By-Laws. All Constituent Commanderies in this jurisdiction are required to conform their By-Laws to the Statutes and Regulations of this Grand Commandery, to the Standard By-Law for Commanderies herewith adopted and the Constitution and Edicts of the Grand Encampment of the United States. And before adopting By-Laws or Amendments to same, they shall send a proposed copy to the Grand Commander for approval.

SECTION 9. Seal. Every Commandery shall have a seal, engraved with its name and number, and such Templar devise as it may determine for itself. An impression of every seal shall be lodged with the Grand Recorder and by him preserved with the files of his office. All official documents from Constituent Commanderies shall bear the seal and attestation of the Recorder, and may not be received and acted upon by the Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery unless the seal of the Commandery appears thereon.

SECTION 10. Surrender of Charter. No Commandery can surrender its Charter so long as there are nine members of the Commandery, who desire, and who are able to work under said Charter, according to the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, or the Statutes and Regulations of this Grand Commandery.

SECTION 11. Defunct Commandery. When a Commandery for any cause has ceased to exist, all of its property and effects become the property of the Grand Commandery, and it shall be the duty of the last officers to forward the same to such Sir Knight as may be designated. The members of such a Commandery who are in good standing, shall, upon the payment of their dues each year to the Grand Commandery, be entitled to a certificate of good standing from the Grand Recorder, having charge of the books and effects of the defunct Commandery. Said members may make application by affiliation for membership in a working Commandery; or the
Grand Commandery may assign them to membership in a Commandery if desirable.

When the Charter of a Commandery for any cause has been arrested by the Grand Commander or by the Grand Commandery, the officers of said Commandery shall surrender its records, seal, and paraphernalia, and Rituals entrusted to it, to such officer of the Grand Commandery as may be designated; and if the Charter be not restored, all of its property and effects become the property of the Grand Commandery; and provision for, and disposition of, members will be made as stated above, where a Commandery has ceased to exist.

ARTICLE IV

SECTION 1. Amendments. These rules for Constituent Commanderies may be amended at any regular Annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery by a majority vote of those present. (1975/29)
STANDARD BY-LAWS FOR COMMANDERIES

The following Standard By-Laws are adopted and ordered to be used by the Constituent Commanderies. Privilege is granted to the several Commanderies to adopt Rules of Order and Regulations, not inconsistent with these or other laws governing the Orders of Knights Templar necessary, according to conditions and circumstances, for their needs; and also to amend, or add to, their By-Laws after the proposed amendment or addition is approved and consented to by the Grand Commander.

ARTICLE I

SECTION 1. This Commandery is known and designated as Commandery No. __, Knights Templar, Chartered by the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, of the State of Georgia--- (or, as to Georgia, St. Omer, St. Aldemar and Coeur de Lion, by the Grand Encampment of the United States of America), and being a constituent unit of said Grand Commandery of Knights Templar is subservient to and obedient to, the Rules and Regulations of the same, together with the rules and regulations of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America; and recognizing the Constitutions and Statutes of said superior Bodies as governing and controlling this constituent Body, all allegiance to said governing Bodies is hereby guaranteed; and obedience to said governing Bodies is hereby acknowledged, in all particulars not herein set up.

ARTICLE II

SECTION 1. The regular conclaves of this Commandery shall be held on the _______ evening of each month, the Commandery having previously agreed upon and appointed the hours; provided, however, that a two-thirds vote of all the members present, the Conclaves for July, August and September may be dispensed with, the Commander, notwithstanding, being empowered to convene the Commandery in special Conclave, or on either of the dates of the stated Conclaves for July, August and September.

SECTION 2. The Commander is empowered to convene the Commandery in Special Conclave for the transaction of special business named in the call, and for no other, due notice having been previously given.

ARTICLE III

SECTION 1. The Officers of this Commandery are: Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Prelate, Treasurer, Recorder, Standard Bearer, Sword Bearer and Warder, who shall be elected by ballot at the last stated Conclave in March of each year, without oral nomination, and in full observance of Section 6 of the Constitution of this Grand Commandery. The Sentinel and three Guards shall be appointed by the Commander, with the advice and consent of the Generalissimo and Captain General, on the night of election, if practicable; otherwise
the appointments shall be announced at the next stated conclave.

SECTION 2. All the Officers shall be installed as soon as possible after their election or appointment, and shall perform the duties of their respective offices, and remain in office until their successors are duly elected and installed.

SECTION 3. A Finance Committee of three, two of whom shall constitute a quorum, shall be appointed and organized by the Commander, and announcement made of same on election night, or at the first stated conclave after said election to serve for one year. All accounts shall be approved by them previous to being laid before the Commandery for action. This Committee shall also audit the books of the Treasurer and Recorder, and report at the last stated Conclave in March. They shall perform additional and such other duties pertaining to the work of such committees, or for the general good of the Commandery, as may be required by action of the Commandery, or by the Eminent Commander in the administration of his duties.

ARTICLE IV

SECTION 1. The duties of the several officers of this Commandery are those traditionally pertaining to the government of the Order as provided by the Statutes of the Superior Bodies, attaching to the several offices.

ARTICLE V

SECTION 1. All Petitions for the Orders of Knighthood shall be signed in writing by the applicant on a Petition-Form, corresponding in Regulation to the form provided and adopted by the Grand Encampment of the United States of America, and by the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Georgia, and shall be signed also by two members of this Commandery, who are in good standing as vouchers. See Section 3 herein inclusive.

SECTION 2. The Petition shall be presented at a regular Conclave and referred to a committee of three members (not vouchers) for investigation and report, which must be done at the next regular conclave two weeks or more from that date, unless further time for investigation is granted, except by dispensation.

SECTION 3. All applicants for membership in this Commandery, in addition to subscribing to the requirements of the Petition-Form, and answering the questions therein propounded, shall state where he has resided for the past three years.

SECTION 4. A Petition which is favorably reported on by the committee may be withdrawn before action by the Commandery or, when it appears that the Commandery has no jurisdiction over the petitioner.

SECTION 5. On balloting for election, one negative
rejects. In case of an apparent negative, the Commander shall order another ballot, before making any announcement. After the second regular and perfect ballot he shall announce the result. A massed ballot may be taken when more than one applicant; if a black ball appears, then separate ballots shall be taken.

SECTION 6. One clear ballot entitles the applicant to all the Orders conferred in this Commandery, except that objection may be made to the Commandery or Commander before the conferring of the Order of the Red Cross which would act in all respects as a negative and reject the applicant. If objection be made after the Red Cross is conferred then the objector shall prefer charges and trial shall proceed as per Disciplinary Laws.

SECTION 7. A candidate once rejected shall not be eligible to a second application until six months have elapsed from the date of his rejection; and no person who has been rejected in any other Commandery shall receive the Orders in this, without the consent of the Commandery which rejected him, until after three years from the time of his rejection.

SECTION 8. Application for affiliation shall be acted upon in the same manner as for Orders.

ARTICLE VI

SECTION 1. The fees for the Orders of Red Cross, Malta and Temple shall be $____ and must be paid before to the conferring of the Order of the Red Cross.

SECTION 2. In no instance and under no circumstances shall the Orders be conferred upon an elected Companion without the fee for the orders is paid as provided; and said fee must not be remitted directly or indirectly.

SECTION 3. The fee for Life Membership, exempting from yearly dues, but not from possible assessments to pay expenses, shall be $____. Fee for Life Membership, contributing member for five years $____. Fee for Life Membership, contributing member for ten years $____. The fee for more membership years shall be for a Cash payment as may be agreed upon by the Commandery. Yearly dues payable in advance at the Annual Conclave on Good Friday; shall be $_____. And such pro rata assessments in addition, as may at any time be needed to pay expenses.

SECTION 4. All money received from Life Membership fees shall be invested by the Finance Committee, and only the income therefrom shall be used until the member from whom it was received ceases to be a member of this Commandery, when the principal may be used.

ARTICLE VII

SECTION 1. All members of this Commandery shall be amenable to same for any unknightlyly conduct, and may be
tried for each offense and dealt with as a majority of the members present may determine, as provided by authority of the Superior Bodies, at the discretion of the Commandery.

ARTICLE VIII

SECTION 1. The Proceedings of this Commandery shall be divulged to no one except members of this Order in good standing, and a violation of this Article shall subject the offender, if a member, to such punishment as the Commandery may inflict. Any visiting Knight violating this Article shall be forever excluded from this Commandery, and his Commandery notified of his unknighthly conduct. At each conclave where an applicant is rejected, this section shall be read.

SECTION 2. The nature of a report on a Petition for membership in the Commandery shall not be recorded on the minutes; only the fact that the Committee reported shall be recorded.

ARTICLE IX

SECTION 1. Any member, who is more than two years in arrears for dues shall be required to appear before the Commandery and show cause why charges should not be preferred against him for non-payment of dues. If the response be not satisfactory he shall be summoned to trial for non-payment.

SECTION 2. A Sir Knight shall not be suspended or expelled from this Commandery except after trial on regular charges duly specifying his offense, the accused being allowed full opportunity to make his defense as provided by Statutes.

SECTION 3. A Sir Knight indefinitely suspended or expelled, shall be re-admitted only in the same manner as an unaffiliated Sir Knight. When suspended or expelled because of suspension or expulsion in Lodge or Chapter, and is afterwards restored in said bodies, he is entitled to restoration in this Commandery, provided notice of application for same shall be presented at a stated Conclave prior to the one at which such restoration is expected to be had.

SECTION 4. In the case of Appeal, as provided under disciplinary rules after trial of a Sir Knight, the verdict of the Commandery shall not be made public until after the decision of the Grand Commandery.

ARTICLE X

SECTION 1. A. The order of Knights Templar is declared to be a uniformed order.

B. Each and every officer of a constituent Commandery in this Grand Jurisdiction is required to own and possess a regulation uniform prior to his installation.
C. Each constituent Commandery shall maintain a unit equipped with full Templar Uniforms as prescribed by this Grand Commandery, to be worn at full form openings, and the conferring of the Order of the Temple.

D. A Commandery shall appear in public only in full dress uniform except for attendance at church services or funerals.

SECTION 2. A. The fees for the Orders of Knighthood shall not be less than $85.00, which shall include a Life Sponsor to the K.T. Eye Foundation, and which must be paid before conferring the Order of the Red Cross. There shall be no fee required for affiliation.

B. Of the fee charged each candidate by any constituent Commandery for the Orders of Knighthood, a portion thereof to be determined by each constituent Commandery, shall be deposited in a special separate bank account to be known as the Uniform and Equipment Account; and this fund shall be used only to provide and maintain suitable uniforms for the use of such Commandery and its members.

C. Constituent Commanderies may give a uniform to any member thereof upon such terms and conditions as such Commanderies may desire.

D. All uniforms for constituent Commanderies or the members thereof shall be purchased or provided only by or through such Commanderies.

E. Any Sir Knight desiring to purchase a uniform may do so only through the Commandery of which he is a member; and if such Sir Knight has previously paid fees to any Commandery including sum to be applied to the uniform account of such Commandery, then such sum shall be allowed such Sir Knight as a credit on the purchase of his uniform and shall be paid by the Commandery to which said sum was originally paid.

SECTION 3. All constituent Commanderies under the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Georgia shall strictly observe the foregoing regulations and requirements and enforce obedience thereto.

SECTION 4. All statutes and regulations or parts thereof in conflict with any of the foregoing requirements are hereby expressly repealed. (Pro. 1950).

ARTICLE XI

SECTION 1. The Commander shall be ex-officio a member of all committees authorized by this Commandery, unless otherwise specified and ordered, and shall see that all business delegated is looked after and transacted, or reported on, to the end that the affairs of this Commandery be conducted with diligence and in accordance with business dignity.
SECTION 2. The Recorder shall carefully and faithfully keep the records and members accounts, transact all the business of his office in an expeditious manner, and receive for his services $__________.

SECTION 3. The Sentinel shall receive for his services the sum of $__________.

SECTION 4. The Bonds required of the Treasurer and Recorder shall be for amounts stipulated by action of the Commandery, as practicable and sufficient.

ARTICLE XIII

SECTION 1. Amendments of these By-Laws or additions thereto, must be presented in writing at a regular conclave, and approved, and acted on at a subsequent regular conclave, for final adoption, after the consent of the Grand Commander shall have been obtained to such proposed amendment or addition.

Two-thirds of the members present concurring shall be required for adoption.

INSTALLATION SERVICE FOR THIS GRAND COMMANDERY

At the time selected for the ceremony of installation, the acting Grand Commander shall take his place as presiding officer, and select some competent Sir Knight to act as Grand Marshal, under whose direction the Officers-elect will retire to an adjoining room. The jewels of office should be placed on the Altar in front of the installing officer. The Grand Commander will then direct the Grand Marshal to introduce the Officers-elect, and display them by single line, facing the East, in the order of their official rank, the Grand Commander on the right. The Grand Marshal will then say:

Right Eminent Grand Commander: I present before you these Sir Knights, who, having been duly elected Officers of this Grand Commandery for the ensuing year, are now ready to enter upon the duties of their several stations.

Then, all standing, the Grand Commander will say:

Sir Knights: Before investing you with the jewels of your respective official position, it becomes my duty to receive from you the vow of your office. Are you willing to take such vow:

They bow in token of assent.

Installing Officer: Grand Marshal, you will place the Officers-elect in proper position.

Grand Marshal: Officers-elect count twos! Number one, Draw Swords! Point Swords to the left! Number two, Grasp
blade with right hand! Uncover!

Grand Marshal then says:

Right Eminent Sir: The officers chosen are in proper position to take upon themselves the vow of office.

Grand Marshal, turning to the Grand Commandery, orders:

Sir Knights, Attention! Present swords!

Installing Officer: Officers-elect, repeat after me:

**VOW OF OFFICE**

I, __________, do promise and vow that I will support the maintain the Constitution and Code of Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, the Statutes and Regulations of the Grand Commandery of the State of Georgia, and that I will to the best of my ability, faithfully discharge the duties of the office to which I have been elected.

Grand Marshal orders: Officers-elect, Recover!

Numbers two -- Relinquish sword blades; Numbers one -- Carry swords, Return swords! Grand Marshal addressing the Commandery, orders: Commandery! Carry swords; Return swords; Be seated!

The Grand Marshal will then conduct the Grand Commander-elect to the center of the asylum, and, addressing the presiding officer will say:

Right Eminent Grand Commander: I present to you Sir Knight __________, who has been duly elected to the office of Grand Commander of Knights Templar of this jurisdiction, and who now declares himself ready for installation.

The presiding officer will then say:

Attention, Sir Knights! Uncover! Let us unite with our Grand Prelate in an invocation to the Throne of Grace.

The Grand Prelate will then offer an appropriate prayer.

The Sir Knights will then be covered and the presiding officers will deliver to the Grand Commander the following:

**CHARGE**

Right Eminent Sir: Having been called by the members of this Grand Body to fill the highest office in their gift, I congratulate you upon having received such high honor at their hands, and I now invest you with the jewel of your office.

Having placed the jewel on the left breast of the Grand Commander, he continues:
The high honors of your office are accompanied by weighty responsibilities. While your authority will at all times be respected, and your orders cheerfully obeyed, it is expected that you will have a watchful care over the interests of the Order in your jurisdiction, and enforce a prompt obedience to its Statutes and Regulations; that you will yourself exemplify, in your daily walk and conversation, the excellent tenets of our profession; that your ears will never be closed to the cry of the widow and the orphan; and that you will not turn aside from injured innocence and the wayfaring brother in distress. Maintain with unfailing care the Statutes and regulations of this Grand Body, and by your own respect for law, cause others to find a strong incentive to obedience of all lawful requirements.

Right Eminent Sir: Approach the East. Attention, Sir Knights! Behold your Grand Commander! Grand Commander, behold your Grand Commandery;

The Grand Commandery will now be seated, and should the new Grand Commander desire to offer any remarks this is the appropriate time.

The Grand Marshal then presents the Deputy Grand Commander first, then the remaining officers, according to rank, before the Installing Officer, introducing each by his title, and designating the office to which he had been chosen. The Grand Commander will receive each of these officers with the fitting words calling attention to their official duties and charging them to faithfulness in discharging the same. He will also invest these officers with their respective jewels, charges respectively as follows:

CHARGE TO THE DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER

Very Eminent Sir: In the exalted station to which you have been chosen, you are the immediate representative of the Grand Commander, and in case of unforeseen casualty to him, you are to enter upon his functions and assume his responsibilities. The elevated position you are thus called to occupy demands a corresponding zeal and devotion on your part, which I doubt not, you will ever be found ready to exercise. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, and will only remind you that you be henceforward on duty, and that the faithful soldier and valiant Knight sleeps not at his post.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND GENERALISSIMO

Eminent Sir: You have been elected Grand Generalissimo of this Grand Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Square, surmounted by a Paschal Lamb. When beholding the Lamb, let it stimulate you to have at all times a watchful eye over your own conduct, and an earnest solicitude for the prosperity of the kingdom of the blessed Emanuel, the spotless Lamb of God, who was slain from the foundation of the world.
The Square is to remind you that love and friendship should forever govern the members of Freemasonry and of the Orders of Knighthood. Your station is on the right of your Grand Commander; you are to assist him in his various duties, and so act as the law states and requires. I charge you, therefore, to be faithful to the Sir Knights with whom you are associated; put them often in remembrance of those things which tend to their everlasting peace. Finally, "preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all long suffering and doctrine; ever remembering the promise; "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

CHARGE TO THE GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL

Em. Sir: You are elected Grand Captain General of this Grand Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a level, surmounted by a Cock. As the undaunted courage and valor of the Cock stimulates him to conquer his competitor, or yield himself a victim to the contest, so should you be stimulated to the discharge of every duty. You should have on "The breast-plate of righteousness," so that with patience and meekness you may ever travel on the level of humanity, and be so supplied with divine grace as to prevent you from selling your God or denying your Master. Your station is on the left of your Grand Commander. Your duty among other things, is to see that due preparation is made for the various meetings of the Grand Commandery. You are also to receive and communicate to the lines all orders issued by the Grand Commander. You are to assist in Council, and, in the absence of superior officers respectively, you are to preside over the Grand Commandery. And now, I exhort you, that with fidelity you perform every duty; and, "whatsoever you do, do heartily as to the Lord, and not unto men: continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving"; ever bearing in mind the promise, "Be not weary in well-doing, for in due time we shall reap if we faint not."

CHARGE TO THE GRAND SENIOR WARDEN

Em. Sir: You are elected Grand Senior Warden of this Grand Commandery, I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Hollow Square and Sword of Justice. It is to remind you that, as the children of Israel marched in a hollow square in their journey through the wilderness, in order to guard and protect the Ark of the Covenant, so should you be vigilant in guarding every avenue from innovation and error. Let the Sword of Justice, therefore, be ever drawn to guard the Constitution of the Order. Your station is at the southwest angle of the Triangle, and upon the right of the first division. Let it be your constant care that the warrior be not deterred from duty, nor the penitent molested on his journey. Finally, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven."

CHARGE TO THE GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN

Em. Sir: You are elected Grand Junior Warden of this
Grand Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is an Eagle and Flaming Sword. It is to remind you to perform your various duties with justice and valor, having an eagle eye on the prosperity of the Order. Your station is at the northwest angle of the Triangle, and on the left of the third division. You will be careful that, in addition to the pilgrim's garb, sandals, staff, and script, their whole preparation and deportment shall be such as to cause them to be recognized as children of humility. Teach them that "Magna est Veritas et Prevalsit", is the motto of our Order; and although they will often find the height of fortune inaccessible, and the thorny path of life crooked, adverse, and forlorn, yet by faith and humility -- courage and constancy -- patience and perseverance -- they may gain admission into the Asylum above, there to enjoy the rewards that await the valiant soldiers of the Lord Jesus Christ. Finally, be steadfast, unmoving, always abounding in the work of the Lord, that you may be a shining light in the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND PRELATE

Em. Sir: you are elected Prelate of this Grand Commandery. I have the pleasure of investing you with this Triple Triangle, which is the jewel of your office, and a beautiful emblem of the Deity. Your station is on the right of the Generalissimo. Your duty is to officiate at the Altar, and to offer up prayers to Jehovah. Your jewel is to remind you of the importance of the trust reposed in you; and may He who is able, abundantly furnish you for every good work, preserve you from falling into error, improve, strengthen, establish and perfect you", and finally greet you with "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of the Lord".

CHARGE TO THE GRAND TREASURER

Em. Sir: You are elected Grand Treasurer of this Grand Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office. Your station is on the right of the Grand Generalissimo, in front. The qualities which should recommend a Treasurer are accuracy and fidelity -- accuracy, in keeping a fair and minute account of all receipts and disbursements; fidelity, in carefully preserving all the property and funds that may be placed in his hand, and rendering a just account of same whenever he is called upon for that purpose. I presume that your respect and attachment to the Grand Commandery, and your earnest solicitude for a good name, which is better than precious ointment, will prompt you to the faithful discharge of the duties of your office.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND RECORDER

Em. Sir: You are elected Grand Recorder of this Grand Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office. Your station is on the left side of the Grand Captain General, in front. The qualities which should recommend a Grand Recorder are: promptitude in issuing the notifications and orders of his superior officers; punctuality in attending the meetings of the Grand Commandery; correctness
in recording their proceedings; judgment in discriminating between what is proper and what is improper to be committed to writing; integrity in accounting for all moneys that may pass through his hands, and fidelity in paying the same over to the Grand Treasurer. The possession of these good qualities, I presume has designated you for this important office, and I cannot entertain a doubt that you will discharge its duties beneficially to the Grand Commandery and honorable to yourself. And when you shall have completed the record of your transactions here below, and finished the term of your probation, may you be admitted into the celestial Asylum of the saints and angels, and find your name in the Lamb's Book of Life.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND STANDARD BEARER

Em. Sir: You are elected Grand Standard Bearer of this Grand Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Plumb, surmounted by a Banner. Your Station is in the West, and in the center of the second division. Your duty is to display, support, and protect the Banner of our Order which I now, with pleasure, confide to your valor. You will remember that it is our rallying point in time of danger; and when unfurled in a just and virtuous cause, you will never relinquish it to an enemy but with your life. Let, therefore, your conduct be such as all the virtuous will delight to imitate; let the refugent rays, which ever emanate from pure benevolence and humility, diffuse their lustre on all around, that it may encourage and animate all true and courteous Knights, and at the same time, confound and dismay all their enemies.

CHARGE TO GRAND SWORD BEARER

Em. Sir: You are elected Grand Sword Bearer of this Grand Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Triangle and Crossed Swords. Your station is on the right of the Grand Standard Bearer, and on the right of the second division. Your duty is to assist in protecting the Banner of our Order, with a heart devoted to the principles of Faith, Hope and Charity. Holding the mystic sword that is endowed with justice and fortitude, and tempered with mercy, you may cast your eyes upon the Banner, and remember that "In Hoc Signo Vinces" is an expressive motto of our order, and consoling to the heart of every believer.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND WARDER

Em. Sir: You are elected Grand Warder of this Grand Commandery, I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Square Plate, with a Trumpet and Crossed Swords engraved thereon. Your station is on the left of the grand Standard Bearer, and upon the left of the second division, when separately formed. Your duty is to sound the Assembly, announce the approach and departure of the Grand Commander, to post the sentinels, and see that the Asylum is duly guarded. You will also report all petitions from visitors and strangers. I charge you to be punctual in your attendance, and indefatigable in the discharge of your
important duties, for though yours is among the last offices in the Grand Commandery, it is by no means the least in importance.

Due proclamation shall then be made by the Grand Marshal as follows:

Hear ye! Hear ye! Valiant Knights of the Temple! The officers of the Grand Commandery of Georgia, for the year ensuing have been duly installed into their respective stations. This proclamation is made to the North (one blast on trumpet), to the South (one blast) to the East (one blast) to the West (grand flourish on Trumpet.) All true and courteous Knights will take due notice thereof, and govern themselves accordingly.

If desired, music may be used during the ceremony appropriately in the processional at the beginning and the closing of the ceremonies.

INSTALLATION SERVICE FOR OFFICIALS OF A COMMANDERY

The following ceremony is primarily intended for installation of the officers of a newly constituted Commandery but with easily understood alteration it may be used for any installation.

If the full ceremony is to be used an altar should be placed in front of the Grand Commander and on it the open Bible, Square, Compasses, Crossed Swords, Jewels, Charter, the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, the constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery, and the By-laws of the Commandery. If the ceremony is shortened, a table placed conveniently may be substituted for the altar and on it the official jewels placed. If the Commandery has banners they should be displayed in the East.

The Grand Officers, or appointees, will fill the stations. The Commandery is opened in regular form and election held. The officers chosen retire with the Grand Marshal to the ante-room and form in line with the Commander-elect at the head, swords at carry. (Installation may be public in which event a recess should be taken until installation is complete when work should be resumed.)

The Grand Marshal gives an alarm.

The Grand Warder: Right Eminent Grand Commander, there is an alarm at the door of the Asylum.

Grand Commander: Eminent Grand Warder, attend to the alarm. (Done.)

Grand Warder: Right Eminent Grand Commander, the Grand Marshal with the newly chosen officers desires to enter.

Grand Commander: Admit them. COMMANDERY, ATTENTION!

Grand Warder: (at the door of the Asylum) Grand Marshal
and newly chosen officers, you will enter. (Done.)

(The Grand Marshal escorts the officers chosen who enter forming across the center of the Asylum, facing East, the right resting on the South. Chairs may be provided for the line.)

Grand Marshal: Right Eminent Grand Commander, I present to you for installation the duly chosen officers of this Commandery. OFFICERS CHOSEN, PRESENT, SWORDS!

Grand Commander: COMMANDERY, ATTENTION! OFFICERS CHOSEN, CARRY, Sword! ORDER Swords! Sir Knights, before engaging in this important ceremony, let us invoke the blessing of Deity. Sir Knights, UN-COVER! Eminent Grand Prelate, lead our devotions.

(The Grand Prelate offers a prayer closing with the Lord's Prayer in which all join.)

Grand Commander: SIR KNIGHTS, RE-COVER! OFFICERS CHOSEN, CARRY, Swords! RETURN, Swords! Sir Knights, you behold before you those who have been chosen as officers of this Commandery. We believe them to be tried and true, worthy and well qualified, zealous in the service of Templary and true exemplars of the great tenets of the Order, but if any one of you knows of any reason why they or any one of them should not be installed, let him now speak out or forever hold his peace. Hearing no objection, we will proceed with the installation.

Sir Knights not in line, BE SEATED!

Officers chosen, before investing you with the honors and responsibilities of your respective stations it becomes my duty to administer to you the vow of office. Do you severally consent to take upon yourself that vow?

(They assent.)

Eminent Grand Marshal, place the officers chosen in proper position to take upon themselves the vow of office.

Grand Marshal: Officers chosen, count twos (done). Numbers one, Draw, Swords! Drop point of sword to the left, grasp hilt with left hand; numbers two, grasp blade with left hand; place your right hand upon your left breast.

(Alternative--The following may be used to place the officers chosen in proper position.)

Grand Marshal: Officers chosen, count twos (done). Numbers one, DRAW, swords! Point swords to left; numbers two, grasp blade with right hand; UN-COVER!

Right Eminent Grand Commander, the officers chosen are
in proper position.

Grand Commander: COMMANDERY, ATTENTION! DRAW, Swords, PRESENT, Swords! Officers chosen, you will say "I" pronounce your names in full, and repeat after me:

"I (A.B.) do promise and vow that I will support and maintain the Constitution, Statutes and Rituals of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery of this Jurisdiction, and the By-Laws of this Commandery, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office in which I am about to be installed to the best of my ability."

Sir Knights not in line, CARRY, Swords! RETURN, Swords! BE SEATED!

Grand Marshal: Officers chosen, Drop right hand to side! Numbers two, Relinquish blade; Numbers one, grasp hilt with right hand; CARRY, Swords! RETURN, Swords. BE SEATED!

(Alternative—The following should be used when the alternative method of placing in position is employed.

Grand Marshal: Officers chosen, RE-COVER! Numbers two, relinquish sword blade; numbers one, CARRY, Swords! RETURN, Swords! BE SEATED!)

Grand Commander: Eminent Grand Marshal, present the Commander-elect.

Grand Marshal: Right Eminent Grand Commander, I have the honor to present Sir Knight ________ who has been elected to the office of Commander. I find him well skilled in our sublime mysteries and observant of the noble precepts of our forefathers, and have therefore no doubt that he will discharge the important duties of his office with fidelity.

Grand Commander: Sir Knight ________ as you have been elected to the honorable and important station of Commander of this Commander, it is with genuine pleasure that I enter upon the duty of installing you in that exalted office. As head of a Christian institution you are charged with important duties and responsibilities. It is confidently anticipated that your fidelity to these trusts will reflect honor upon yourself and credit upon your Commandery.

It not becomes my duty to propound to you certain questions to which your unequivocal answers are required:

I. Do you solemnly promise, upon your honor as a Knight Templar, that you will endeavor to correct the vices, purify the morals, and promote the happiness of
those of your brethren who have attained this
magnanimous Order?

II. That you will never suffer your Commandery to be
opened unless there be present at least nine regular
Knights of the Order?

III. That you will not confer the Orders upon anyone
who has not shown a charitable and humane disposition
nor upon anyone who has not attained a reasonable
proficiency in Masonry?

IV. That you will seriously endeavor to promote the
general good of the Order and on all proper occasions
be ready to give and receive instruction, particularly
from the Grand Officers?

V. That, to the utmost of your power, you will
preserve the solemnities of our ceremonies and behave
in open Commandery with the most profound respect and
reverence, as an example to your brethren?

VI. That you will not acknowledge or hold
communication with any Commandery that does not work
under a Constitutional Dispensation or Charter?

VII. That you will not admit any visitor into your
Commandery unless he has been knighted in a lawful
Commandery?

VIII. That you will pay due respect and obedience to
the instructions of the Grand Officers, particularly
those relating to the several lectures and charges, and
will resign your station to them when any visit your
Commandery?

IX. That you will support and maintain the
Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, and
the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of the Grand
Commandery under whose authority you act?

X. That you will bind your successor in office to
observance of these rules?

Do you confirm all these promises and do you agree
to observe them faithfully? (Assents.)

Sir Knight, I now invest you with the jewel of
your office, which is a Passion Cross surmounted by
rays of light. The rays of light are symbols that
suggest to you the humility, love and pure benevolence
that emanate like rays from the religion of the blessed
Emanuél, and which should ever characterize the members
of this Christian Order.

I present you the Charter of your Commandery.
Receive it as a sacred deposit and never permit it to
be used for any other purposes than those expressed in
it. It is your duty to safely transmit it to your
successor.
I also commit to your keeping the Holy Bible, the 
Great Light of Masons of every degree. It confirms our 
belief in the existence of the Eternal Jehovah, the one 
only living and true God, the creator and Judge of all 
things in heaven and earth.

The Crossed Swords resting upon the Holy Bible 
reminds us that we should be "strong in the Lord and in 
the power of His might", that we should put on the 
whole armor of God, to be able to wrestle successfully 
with principalities, powers and spiritual wickedness in 
high places. I also present to you the Constitution 
and Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar 
of the U.S.A., the Constitution, Laws and Regulations 
of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of 

and the By-Laws of Commandery No. 

You should familiarize yourself with them that 
you may rule your Commandery with justice and 
moderation.

And now, Sir Knight, I induct you into the Chair 
of your Commandery. (Done.) I offer you my sincere 
congratulation on your success to this honorable 
station. It will be your special duty to preserve 
inviolate the laws of the Order, to dispense justice, 
reward merit, and expound the sublime principles of 
universal benevolence. You will inculcate the duties of 
charity and hospitality and govern your Commandery 
with justice and moderation and finally, my frater, may 
the illustrious lives of the heroes of past ages whose 
matchless valor has shed undying lustre over the name 
of Knight Templar, encourage and animate you to the 
faithful performance of every duty.

Grand Marshal: Commandery, ATTENTION! DRAW, Swords!
PRESENT, Swords!.

Grand Commander: Sir Knights, behold your Commander. Bear 
ever in mind that the prosperity of your Commandery 
will as much depend on your support and obedience as 
on the assiduity, fidelity and wisdom of your 
Commander. Be ye, therefore, diligent and faithful in 
the performance of your respective duties.

Grand Marshal: Sir Knights, CARRY, Swords! RETURN, Swords!
BE SEATED!

Grand Commander: Eminent Grand Marshal, present the 
officers chosen, in order of rank.

(The Grand Marshal then presents each officer, 
according to rank, introducing him by his title and 
designating the office which he is to fill. The Grand 
Commander will receive him with fitting words, charging 
him to be faithful to his trust. He will also invest 
him with the official jewel and direct the Marshal to 
conduct him to his station. No particular form is 
proscribed but the following charges are suggested as 
appropriate:)
CHARGE TO THE GENERALISSIMO

Sir Knight ________, you have been elected Generalissimo of this Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office which is a Square surmounted by a Paschal Lamb. The Square is to remind you that friendship and love should forever govern Freemasons and particularly Knights Templar. Your station is on the right of your Commander. You are to assist him in the discharge of his various duties and in his absence to preside. I charge you, therefore, to familiarize yourself with the duties of your office that you may adequately discharge them. Be faithful to the Knights with whom you are associated, put them often in remembrance of those things which tend to their everlasting peace. Finally, "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine", ever remembering the promise, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life".

CHARGE TO THE CAPTAIN GENERAL

Sir Knight ________, you have been elected Captain General of this Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Level surmounted by a Cock. As the undaunted courage and valor of the Cock stimulate him to conquer his enemy and fight to the last extremity so should you be stimulated in the discharge of every duty. Your station is on the left of the Commander. Your duty among other things is to see that due preparation is made for the various conclaves of the Commandery and that the Asylum is prepared for the dispatch of business. You are also to receive and communicate to the lines all orders issued by the Commander. You are to assist in council and, in the absence of the Commander and Generalissimo, to preside over the Commandery. I exhort you that with fidelity you perform every duty; and "Whatsoever ye do, do heartily as to the Lord, and not unto men; continue in prayer; ever bearing in mind the promise "Be not weary in well-doing, for in due season ye shall reap if ye faint not".

CHARGE TO THE SENIOR WARDER

Sir Knight ________, you have been elected Senior Warden of this Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Hollow Square with a mailed arm and hand grasping the Sword of Justice. It is to remind you that as the children of Israel marched in a hollow square in their journey through the wilderness in order to guard and protect the Ark of the Covenant, so should you be vigilant in guarding every avenue from innovation and error. Let the Sword of Justice, therefore, be ever drawn to guard the Constitution of the Order. Your station is at the southwest angle of the Triangle and on the right or in front of the First Division. You will attend pilgrim warriors, comfort an support pilgrim penitents, and after due trial, introduce them into the Asylum. Let it be your constant care that the warrior be not deterred from duty nor the penitent molested on his journey. Finally, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your
Father which is in Heaven.

CHARGE TO THE JUNIOR WARDEN

Sir Knight, you have been elected Junior Warden of this Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office which is an Eagle with wings spread holding in its talons a Flaming Sword. It suggests to you the performance of your duties with justice and valor, having an eye on the prosperity of the Order. Your station is at the northwest angle of the Triangle, and on the left of the third division. Your duty is to attend weary pilgrims traveling from afar, conduct them on their journey, plead their cause, and in due time recommend them to the Commander. Impress upon them the motto of our Order: "Magna est Veritas et Prevalabit" and that although the path of life may be thorny, crooked, adverse and forlorn, yet by faith and fidelity, courage and constancy, patience and perseverance, they may gain admission into the Asylum above, there to carry on the high labors begun here below. Finally, "Be ye steadfast, unmoved, always abounding in the work of the Lord" that you may be a shining light in the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.

CHARGE TO THE PRELATE

Sir Knight, you have been elected Prelate of this Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Triple Triangle with a red Passion Cross in the Center of each triangle. It is also an emblem of Deity. Your station is on the right of the Generalissimo. Your duty is to officiate at the altar and offer up prayer to Deity. Your jewel is to remind you of the importance of the trust reposed in you. May "He, who is able, abundantly furnish you for every good work, preserve you from falling into error, improve and strengthen, establish and perfect you" and finally greet you with "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

CHARGE TO THE TREASURER

Sir Knight, you have been elected Treasurer of this Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is Two Crossed Keys. Your station is in front and on the right of the Generalissimo. The qualities which recommend a Treasurer are accuracy and fidelity—accuracy in keeping a fair and minute account of all receipts and disbursements—fidelity in carefully preserving all the property and funds of the Commandery that may be placed in his hands and rendering a just account of the same whenever called upon for that purpose. I am sure that your attachment to the Commandery and your earnest solicitude for a good name which is better than riches will prompt you to the faithful discharge of the duties of your office.

CHARGE TO THE RECORDER

Sir Knight, you have been elected Recorder of this Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is Two Crossed Quill Pens. Your station is on
the left of the Captain General. The essential qualities of a Recorder are promptitude in issuing notifications and orders of his superior officers; punctuality in attending the conclaves of the Commandery; correctness in recording the proceedings; judgment in discriminating between what is proper and what is improper to be committed to writing; integrity in accounting for all moneys that may pass through his hands, and fidelity in paying the same over to the Treasurer. The possession of these qualities, I presume, has led to your selection for this important office. I doubt not that you will discharge its duties with benefit to the Commandery and honor to yourself.

**CHARGE TO THE STANDARD BEARER**

Sir Knight, you have been elected Standard Bearer of this Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Masonic Plumb surmounted by the Banner of the Order. Your station is in the West and in the center of the second division. Your duty is to display, support and protect the Banner of our Order, which I now confide to your keeping. You will remember that it is our rallying point in time of danger. When unfurled in a just and virtuous cause, you will defend it as long as life endures.

**CHARGE TO THE SWORD BEARER**

Sir Knight, you have been elected Sword Bearer of this Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Triangle with Crossed Swords. Your station is on the right of the Standard Bearer and on the right of the second division. Your duty is to assist in protecting the Banner of our Order.

**CHARGE TO THE WARDER**

Sir Knight, you have been elected Warden of this Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Hollow Square with Crossed Swords and a Trumpet thereon. Your station is on the left of the Standard Bearer and upon the left of the second division. Your duty is to sound the Assembly, announce the approach and departure of the Commander, post the sentinel, and see that the Asylum is duly guarded. I charge you to be punctual in your attendance, and tireless in the discharge of your important duties. Though yours is among the lower officers in the Commandery, it is by no means the least important.

**CHARGE TO THE THREE GUARDS**

Sir Knights, you have been chosen Guards. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Hollow Square with a Battle-ax thereon. You will, therefore, be vigilant, challenge with spirit, examine with caution, admonish with candor, relieve cheerfully, protect with fidelity, and fight valiantly.
Sir Knight, you have been chosen Sentinel of this Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Hollow Square with a Sword thereon. I present you this sword, badge of your office. The Sword is placed in the hands of the Sentinel to enable him to effectually guard against the approach of cowans and eavesdroppers and to suffer none to pass or repass but such as are qualified. It morally serves as a constant admonition to set a guard at the entrance of our thoughts, to place a watch at the door of our lips, to post a sentinel at the avenue of our actions, thereby excluding every unworthy thought, word, or deed. As application of visitors for admission into the Commandery are generally made to the Sentinel, your station will often present you to the observation of strangers. It is therefore essential that he who holds this office should be a frater temperate, affable and discreet, of good morals, steady habits and strict discipline. I am sure that a due regard for the honor and reputation of this institution will ever impel you to perform with fidelity the trust reposed in you.

The presiding officer then delivers the following:

**CHARGE TO THE COMMANDERY**

Sir Knights, to manage and conduct the affairs of a Commandery of Knights Templar with that promptitude, integrity and skill which the institution demands, requires the exercise of all the abilities of its officers and members. The officers should remember that the moral and religious duties and precepts which they from time to time should forcibly impress upon the minds of others, should by no means be neglected by themselves; that the most effectual way to insure success is to let precept and performance go hand in hand. I urge you to look well to the East, to the West, to the North, to the South, to see that the entrances are strictly guarded, to the end that you allow none to pass the threshold of your Asylum save the worthy, and at the same time that you suffer no one to be guilty of disorderly conduct among you without admonition and reproof, to the end that this valiant and magnanimous Order shall forever flourish. And now, Sir Knights, "Peace be within thy walls and prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren and companions' sake I now say, Peace be within thee!"

Eminent Grand Marshal, proclaim the installation of the officers of this Commandery.

Grand Marshal: Commandery, ATTENTION! DRAW, Swords! PRESENT, Swords!
OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION

Hear ye! Hear ye! Valiant Knights of the Temple! In the name of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of _____ (or, of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America) I proclaim that the officers of _____ Commandery No. ___ Knights Templar have been duly installed in their respective stations. This proclamation is made to the North (one blast of the trumpet); to the South (one blast); to the East (one blast) and to the West (grand flourish on trumpet). Let all valiant and magnanimous Knights of the Temple take due notice thereof and govern themselves accordingly.

Sir Knights, CARRY, Swords! RETURN, Swords! BE SEATED!

(The Commander may, if he desires, address the fraters. The choir may then render some appropriate musical selection. The Grand Officers may then retire with proper escort and the Commandery will proceed to the regular order of business, resuming labor if the installation has been public.)