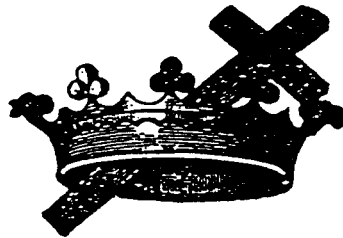


*Constitution and Statutes*

OF THE

GRAND COMMANDERY



OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

OF THE

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

1994

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON UPDATING THE  
CONSTITUTION AND STATUTES OF  
THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR  
OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA**

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To the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of West Virginia:

This present edition of the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Commandery of West Virginia is primarily an updating, but with minor revisions made in its arrangement. Since the last printing in 1984, many changes have been made in both the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment U.S.A. and the Grand Commandery of West Virginia. It is for the purpose of incorporating all such changes in readily accessible form that this edition was commissioned by Right Eminent Grand Commander John G. "Rick" Elam.

Section 320 of this work merely refers to the Grand Encampment's Regulations and Standard Practices of the Knights Templar Educational Foundation. This practice, in lieu of printing such regulations in full, will keep these Statutes current even though Grand Encampment regulations are revised. Copies of the Grand Encampment regulations may be obtained from the Grand Recorder if required.

The undersigned committee would like to give special thanks to Past Grand Commanders Donald E. Peterson and Donald E. Summers for rendering their research assistance to this committee. The committee is hopeful that this latest edition of the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Commandery of West Virginia will be helpful to the Sir Knights of our great state.

Courteously submitted,

Clarence H. Riffée, V.E.D.G.C., Chairman  
Archie E. Bennett, E.G.G.  
Robert L. Caldwell, E.G.C.G.  
H. Courtney Jones, R.E.P.G.C., E.G.R.

Committee to Update the Constitution and Statutes  
of the Grand Commandery of West Virginia



OFFICE OF  
THE GRAND COMMANDER



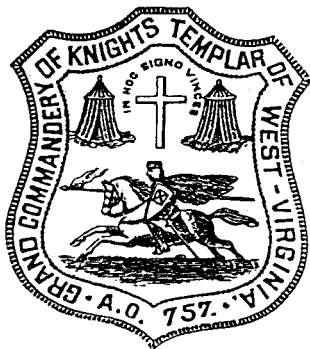
# GRAND COMMANDERY of KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

OF THE STATE OF  
WEST VIRGINIA

## PROCLAMATION

I, John G. "Rick" Elam, Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of the state of West Virginia, by virtue of the authority in me vested by the Constitution and Statutes of said Grand Commandery, do hereby promulgate this revision of the Constitution and Statutes as reported by the committee to update the same, and further, do hereby declare the provisions herein contained to be in immediate and full effect.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Grand Commandery this twentieth day of May, A.D. 1994, A.O. 876.



BY ORDER OF:

John G. "Rick" Elam  
Grand Commander

ATTEST:

H. Courtney Jones, P.G.C.  
Grand Recorder

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**STATUTES AND REGULATIONS OF THE  
GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR  
OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA**

(Revised 1994)

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**PREAMBLE**

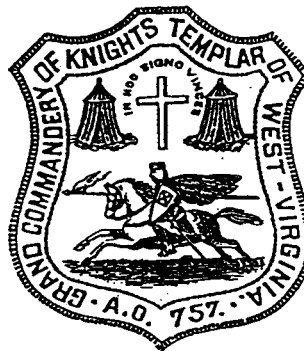
This Grand Commandery exists under and by virtue of the authority vested in it by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and by virtue of a charter of incorporation issued by the Secretary of State of West Virginia, dated June 16, 1955, pursuant to the direction of this Grand Commandery taken at the Annual Conclave at Beckley, West Virginia, May 20-21, 1955. It derives all its powers from the Constitution and Statutes of the aforesaid Grand Encampment, to which this Grand Commandery, its Constituent Commanderies and the individual Knights Templar of this jurisdiction owe fealty and obedience. These Statutes and Regulations are intended to relate only to such matters of government as are expressly left to the discretion of Grand Commanderies by the Constitution and Statutes of said Grand Encampment, together with such other matters falling properly within the jurisdiction of Grand Commanderies, concerning which the Grand Encampment makes no provision. Accepting as its Basic Law the Enactments of said Grand Encampment relative to Grand Commanderies now in force and as hereafter amended, and binding itself, its officers and members, and the officers and members of its several Constituent Commanderies to conform thereto, this Grand Commandery enacts the following

**STATUTES AND REGULATIONS**

(Note: All sections below 301 refer to the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment; Sections 301 and upwards refer to the Statutes and Regulations of this Grand Commandery.)

**TITLE AND SEAL**

**Section 301.** This body shall be known as "The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of West Virginia," and shall have a seal which shall be affixed to all instruments issued by or under its authority, bearing suitable devices and inscriptions as follows:



**Section 302.** (Of whom the Grand Commandery is composed, see Grand Encampment Section 35.)

**Section 303.** (Of whom a Constituent Commandery is composed, see Grand Encampment Section 64.)

**Section 304.** (Powers and duties of a Grand Commandery, see Grand Encampment Section 41.)

**Section 305.** A board of three (3) Trustees shall be elected at the Annual Conclave at which these Statutes are adopted, to hold office until their successors are elected and qualified. The Trustees shall have the custody of all Bonds of Officers of this Grand Commandery and shall be authorized to bring suit for and accept service in suits brought against this Grand Commandery.

### **CONCLAVES**

**Section 306.** The Annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery shall be held on the third Friday in May, beginning at 1:00 o'clock p.m., at such place as may have been previously designated by the Grand Commandery, or at such place as the Grand Commander, having been previously authorized by the Grand Commandery so to do, may select; provided, however, in case of necessity the Annual Conclave shall be held at such time or place as may be determined by the Grand Commander, he having previously secured the consent of a majority of the Constituent Commanderies, and in case of change in time or place of holding the Annual Conclave, the Constituent Commanderies, officers and members of the Grand Commandery, and the representative of the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment shall have at least thirty (30) days notice. (For Special Conclaves, see Grand Encampment Section 36.)

### **PROXIES**

**Section 307.** The Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of each Constituent Commandery within this Jurisdiction, and they only, may appear and vote by proxy; said proxy being at the time a member of the same Commandery as his principal and producing a properly executed certificate of his appointment. But such proxy does not, by virtue of his designated authority, become a member of the Grand Commandery. (see Grand Encampment Section 40.) A Past Commander holding the office of Commander, Generalissimo or Captain General within his Constituent Commandery and present at the Annual Conclave, may not designate another as his proxy for the dais office he holds, as this would in effect give him two votes. (see Section 308.)

### **VOTING**

**Section 308.** Each member of the Grand Commandery present in person or by proxy, shall be entitled to one vote, except that the presiding officer shall vote only in case of a tie, when he shall decide the issue. Unless otherwise provided, all questions submitted shall be decided by a majority vote of those present. (see Grand Encampment Section 38.)

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Section 309.** All the Officers of the Grand Commandery shall be elected at the Annual Conclave, except Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Warder, and Grand Sentinel, which last named Officers shall be appointed by the Grand Commander. Nominations for the elective offices may be made in the Grand Commandery and in all bodies subordinate thereto, but no nominating speeches shall be made further than to give the name of the nominee, his residence, and the Commandery of which he is a member. When more than one

name has been presented for any elective office, the election shall be by ballot, but when only one name has been presented, the election may be by acclamation. If there are more than two (2) nominations for any elective office and no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast on the first two (2) ballots, only the two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes on the second ballot shall be voted for on subsequent ballots. (For election and installation, see Grand Encampment Sections 136 thru 146.)

## **JURISDICTIONS OF COMMANDERIES**

**Section 310.** The Constituent Commanderies of this West Virginia Jurisdiction shall enjoy concurrent jurisdiction throughout the State of West Virginia, and further into our neighboring sister jurisdictions as defined, permitted and adopted by the Grand Encampment of the U.S.A., in Section 148 of the Constitution and Statutes of said Grand Encampment. In the matter of accepting petitioners whose legal place of residence is without the boundaries of the State of West Virginia, you are hereby referred to Section 148 of the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment of the U.S.A., as amended at the 53rd Triennial Conclave of said Grand Encampment, which permits such action when the petitioner's place of residence is nearer to a Constituent Commandery of a sister Grand Jurisdiction.

## **GRAND COMMANDER**

**Section 311.** In addition to the powers and duties prescribed by the Grand Encampment U.S.A. (see Grand Encampment Section 48.), the Grand Commander:

(a) Shall attend and preside over all Conclaves of the Grand Commandery, preserve strict order and discipline, put all questions and motions made and seconded, decide all questions of order, sign the Proceedings of the Grand Commandery when properly prepared, and in person or by proxy, duly constitute newly chartered Commanderies, install the officers of the same, and the officers of the Grand Commandery, as provided in the Statutes of the Grand Encampment U.S.A.;

(b) Shall have authority to grant Dispensations to hold a special election for officers of a Commandery, in case of failure to elect at the specified time;

(c) Shall appoint the members of all Committees and members to fill any and all positions created by the Grand Commandery, except those which are elective;

(d) Shall cause good and sufficient bonds to be executed by the Grand Recorder and the Grand Treasurer, in the penalties hereinafter provided;

(e) Shall, either in person or by proxy, visit and thoroughly inspect each Commandery at least once annually, and shall report, or cause to be reported by his representatives, to the Grand Commandery the result in detail of said inspections. The actual expenses of making said inspections shall be paid out of the General Fund on orders regularly drawn and approved;

(f) Shall, at the convening of each Annual Conclave, make written report to the Grand Commandery of his official acts and doings, and such other matters as he may deem for the best interests of Templar Masonry;

(g) Shall, at or before each Annual Conclave, appoint the following Committees, to serve during such Conclave only:

1. On Visiting Sir Knights;

2. On Dispensations and Charters;
3. On Grievances and Appeals;
4. On Necrology; and
5. Other Special Committees.

Each of the aforesaid Committees to be composed of at least three (3) members of the Grand Commandery. However, the Grand Commander may, from time to time, appoint a Special Committee on Necrology of one (1) member to perform duties specially assigned.

(h) Shall, within thirty (30) days of the adjournment of the Annual Conclave, appoint and promulgate through the Grand Recorder (along with other matters to be immediately reported to the members of the Grand Commandery) the members of the following Committees:

1. On Templar Jurisprudence;
2. On Triennial Conclave;
3. On Past Grand Commander's Jewel;
4. On Knights Templar Educational Foundation;
5. Finance Committee;
6. On Inspection Report Review.

Each of aforesaid Committees to be composed of three (3) members of the Grand Commandery, who shall serve for one (1) year and until their successors are appointed, except the Educational Foundation and Inspection Report Review Committees shall be composed of five (5) members whose terms of office shall be for one (1), two (2), three (3), four (4) and five (5) years, respectively, a successor to the retiring member of said Committee shall be appointed each year. The Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder shall be two (2) of the three (3) members of the Committee on Past Grand Commander's Jewel, and the Grand Recorder shall be chairman of the Triennial Conclave Committee.

(i) Shall, at the Annual Conclave at which he is installed, appoint an Inspector General for the State of West Virginia, as well as a Deputy Inspector General for each Division. (see Section 357g.)

## COMMITTEES

**Section 312.** The Committee on Visiting Sir Knights shall examine and have especially in charge the entertainment of the distinguished Sir Knights visiting the Annual Conclaves of the Grand Commandery.

**Section 313.** The Committee on Dispensations and Charters shall examine and report to the Grand Commandery on all reports and returns from Commanderies working under Dispensation, as well as upon all applications to the Grand Commandery for Dispensations or Charters, and for the restoration of Dispensations or Charters which have been arrested. It shall also report upon all other matters referred to it, or which may come to its notice, under the general subject of Dispensations and Charters.

**Section 314.** All matters of controversy and grievance brought before the Grand Commandery shall be referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, which shall examine into the same and report for action by the Grand Commandery.

**Section 315.** The Committee on Necrology shall prepare and submit to the Grand Commander, or to the Grand Commandery, suitable memorials for the dead of this and other



Grand Jurisdictions, as and when requested so to do by the Grand Commander.

**Section 316.** The Committee on Finance shall budget the finances annually, audit the books of the Grand Commandery, examine the books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, settle and balance the same as well as the accounts of such other Committees, officers or members of the Grand Commandery, and report its findings and recommendations during the Annual Conclave. The Committee may require itemized statements of all accounts before passing on same. It shall ascertain and report the names of those officers, members and Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery entitled to mileage and the amount each is entitled to receive, and its report in this behalf, when adopted by the Grand Commandery, shall constitute warrants on the Grand Treasurer for the payment of the same. It shall also report to the Grand Commandery its recommendations on any and all other matters contained in the reports of the Grand Officers, or which may otherwise be brought to its attention, in regard to financial matters.

**Section 317.** The Committee on Templar Jurisprudence shall meet during the Annual Conclave and at other times during the year, if requested by a majority of the Committee or by the Grand Commander. It shall consider all propositions to revise, alter, or amend the Statutes and Regulations of the Grand Commandery or the By-Laws of Constituent Commanderies, and all other matters or questions of Templar Law and Usage submitted to it by the Grand Commander, or the Grand Commandery, and recommend such action thereon as it deems proper. It shall also consider all decisions reported by the Grand Commander, as well as all other matters involving Templar Law reported by the Grand Commander and other Grand Officers, and report its action thereon to the Grand Commandery.

**Section 318.** The Triennial Conclave Committee shall make all necessary arrangements for the Grand Commandery and the delegates thereof to the Conclave of the Grand Encampment. It shall secure data regarding hotel rates, train and airline services and rates, in going to and returning from said Conclaves, and report all information available to the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery next preceding each Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment. And further, upon request from any Commandery, and at such Commandery's expense, it shall assist in securing for said Commandery quarters in, and transportation to and from the Triennial City. Itemized statements of the actual expenses incurred and paid by said Committee in discharging its duties shall be paid out of the Triennial Fund upon warrants duly issued and approved.

**Section 319.** It shall be the duty of the Committee on Past Grand Commander's Jewel to procure a suitable jewel, engraved on the back thereof: "*Presented by Grand Commandery of West Virginia to Right Eminent \_\_\_\_\_*," together with the year of service, and present the same to the retiring Grand Commander on the installation of his successor.

**Section 320.** (See Regulations and Standard Practice for the Knights Templar Educational Foundation of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.)

**Section 321.** The Committee on Inspection Report Review shall meet a minimum of one (1) time following the annual inspections, but prior to the Annual Conclave. It shall be the duty of this Committee to review the inspection report of each Constituent Commandery, compare said reports with reports from previous years, noting any significant changes in performance or any other pertinent matters which it may deem to require attention, and make recommendations regarding same to the Grand Commander. A written report of its findings and recommendations shall be submitted at the Annual Conclave.

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**Section 322.** The Grand Commander may also appoint, from time to time, such Special Committees as he may deem necessary to serve during such time and to perform such duty or investigate such subjects as may be specially assigned to it, and make report in such manner as the Grand Commander may direct.

## **GRAND TREASURER**

**Section 323.** The Grand Treasurer shall:

(a) Receive all monies, checks and drafts from the Grand Recorder, receipt and carefully account therefor, and deposit the same in an incorporated Bank or Trust Company to the credit and for the use of the Grand Commandery;

(b) Pay all orders or warrants properly issued and approved by the Grand Commander and Grand Recorder, and those drawn for mileage in accordance with Section 316;

(c) Have the books and papers of his office at each Annual Conclave, on the first day thereof, and make settlement with the Grand Commandery as provided in Section 316;

(d) Present an accurate written report at each Annual Conclave, and at other times as requested by the Grand Commander, showing the state of the Treasury and all receipts and disbursements;

(e) Deliver to his successor, upon the certificate of the Grand Commander that the latter is duly qualified to receive the same, all monies, accounts, papers, books and other property belonging to the Grand Commandery and being in his hands or under his control;

(f) Give bond before receiving any money or property of the Grand Commandery, in the penalty of not less than \$25,000.00, the same to be approved by the Grand Commander. Failure to execute the bond required shall forfeit his office, and the Grand Commander shall appoint a Grand Treasurer to serve until the next Annual Conclave. Premiums on this and the Grand Recorder's bond shall be paid by the Grand Commandery upon orders or warrants properly drawn and approved;

(g) Monitor the accounts of the Grand Commandery, as delineated by the budget and to notify the Grand Commander and the Chairman of the Finance Committee when excess expenditures are anticipated and before payment is made;

(h) Perform such other and further duty or duties as may be required by the Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery.

(i) Be paid for his services the sum of \$200.00 per year.

## **GRAND RECORDER**

**Section 324.** In addition to the powers and duties prescribed by the Grand Encampment (see Grand Encampment Section 52.), the Grand Recorder shall:

(a) Collect and receive all revenues of the Grand Commandery, except interest on deposits and on special funds, and forthwith pay them over to the Grand Treasurer, taking proper receipt therefor;

**(b)** Be the custodian of the Charter, Seal, all books of record, documents, reports, blanks and library of the Grand Commandery and deliver them over to his successor in office;

**(c)** Prepare and send to the Recorder of each Commandery in due time all necessary report blanks for any and all official reports required to be made;

**(d)** Annually have printed all amendments made by the Grand Commandery, and after each Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment, all amendments made by that body, and distribute them to the Commanderies and to the officers and members of the Grand Commandery entitled thereto, to be used in keeping their copies of Templar Law posted to date;

**(e)** Keep a true record of the proceedings of the Grand Commandery, and as soon after the Annual Conclave as possible, cause the same to be printed by the lowest responsible bidder and distribute them as follows:

1. To the Grand Master and Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, one (1) copy each;
2. To the Officers and Past Grand Commanders of the Grand Commandery, and the members thereof present at the Annual Conclave, and to others on request, one (1) copy each;
3. To the Recorder of each Commandery, five (5) copies;
4. To the Grand Representatives of other Grand Jurisdictions near the Grand Commandery of West Virginia, one (1) copy each;
5. And to the Grand Recorder of each Grand Jurisdiction in correspondence with this Grand Jurisdiction, two (2) copies each.

**(f)** Forthwith transmit to the Grand Commander information concerning the Templar dead of this and other Jurisdictions, and immediately on receipt of the Commandery reports, compile a complete list of the Templar dead for the year, to be printed on suitable memorial pages in the Proceedings, and forthwith transmit one (1) copy thereof to the Grand Commander to be by him reviewed in his Annual Report or by him referred to the Committee on Necrology, as he may deem proper;

**(g)** Submit his books, accounts, vouchers and other papers for audit on the first day of each Annual Conclave, as provided in Section 316, and at the same time render a complete report of his official acts during the year and his transactions with the Commanderies, reporting therein all Commanderies and officers thereof which are delinquent in any duties prescribed by these Statutes and Regulations or required of them by the Grand Commander or Grand Recorder, which report shall also include a tabulated statement showing the Commanderies, their increase or decrease in membership during the year, the amount paid or due from them, the number Knighted, reinstated, admitted, rejected, deaths, resignations, suspensions, expulsions, and such other matters as may conduce to the good of the Order;

**(h)** Prepare for each Annual Conclave a roll of the officers and members of the Grand Commandery, and at the convening of each Conclave, ascertain by roll call or otherwise, the officers and members present in person or by proxy, and his report to the Grand Commandery in this behalf shall be in lieu of, and have the same effect as, the report of a Committee on Credentials; any error in said report may be corrected, on motion, by a vote of the Grand Commandery; the names of officers and members arriving after the convening may be added to the report, but subject to the provision concerning mileage contained in Section 329;

**(i)** Shall execute good and sufficient surety company bond, to be approved by the

Grand Commander, in not less than \$10,000.00 penalty, conditioned for the faithful performance of the duties of his office and the delivery of all funds, books and property in his possession or under his control, belonging to the Grand Commandery, to his successor in office when elected, installed and qualified to receive the same;

(j) Perform such other and further duties as may be required of him by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander;

(k) Be paid for his services the sum of forty cents (\$0.40) per year per member as shown on the rolls of the Constituent Commanderies and on the Annual Report to the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar U.S.A. as of the close of the preceding Templar year, on his own orders drawn quarterly on the Grand Treasurer and approved by the Grand Commander.

#### REMAINING GRAND OFFICERS

**Section 325.** The duties of the remaining Grand Officers shall be such as are traditionally appropriate in their respective stations, or which may be assigned to them from time to time by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander, and conforming as nearly as may be to the duties of the corresponding officers of the Grand Encampment.

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

**Section 326.** After convening the Grand Commandery, the following order of business shall be observed, but said order or any part thereof, for good cause shown, may be transported or readjusted and used from day to day as the business may require:

(a) Grand Recorder's Report of the officers and members of the Grand Commandery present in person and by proxy;

(b) Reading of the minutes of the last Annual Conclave, and of all Special Conclaves held interim, unless the reading thereof be dispensed with by a vote of the Grand Commandery, and action thereon;

(c) Roll call and reception of the Grand Representatives of Sister Jurisdictions;

(d) Announcement by the Grand Commander of the appointment of Committees mentioned in sub-Section (g) of Section 311;

(e) Reading of the Reports of the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder;

(f) Reference by the Grand Commander (without motion) to the following Committees of such portions of said reports as relate to the following subjects, that is:

1. To the Committee on Dispensations and Charters, all matters regarding Dispensations to, or petitions for, new Commanderies;

2. To the Committee on Grievances and Appeals, all controversies and grievances (except as involve the interpretation of Templar Law.);

3. To the Committee on Necrology, all communications concerning deceased members of the Order;

4. To the Committee on Finance, the reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder and all matters relating to finances and revenues;

5. To the Committee on Templar Jurisprudence, all reported decisions, actions on By-Laws of Commanderies, Dispensations granted and refused by the Grand Commander, and all other matters in said reports involving Templar Law and Usage;

6. To the Committee on Triennial Conclave, any matters relating to the Conclaves of the Grand Encampment;

7. To the Committee on Educational Foundation, all matters relative to said fund;

8. To other Committees specially appointed, such other matters in said reports contained which do not properly fall under any of the regular Committees, but which in the opinion of the Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery, should be considered and reported upon by a special Committee;

(g) Election of Officers;

(h) Report of Committees on:

1. Visiting Sir Knights;
2. Dispensations and Charters
3. Grievances and Appeals;
4. Necrology;
5. Inspection Report Review;
6. Finance;
7. Templar Jurisprudence;
8. Triennial Conclave;
9. Past Grand Commander's Jewel;
10. Educational Foundation;
11. Templar Review;
12. Special Committees.

(i) Unfinished Business - Installation;

(j) New Business;

(k) Selection of place of next Annual Conclave;

(l) Adjournment.

**Section 327.** While the several Committees are preparing their reports, new business may be transacted, but if any subject is brought forward requiring reference to any Committee, it shall be so referred forthwith.

#### **TRIENNIAL CONCLAVE EXPENSE**

**Section 328.** The actual expenses of the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, and Grand Recorder (as Chairman of the Triennial Committee), or their proxies, in attendance upon a Triennial Conclave of the

Grand Encampment shall be paid out of the special Triennial Fund upon orders regularly drawn and approved. Itemized statements of all such expenses shall be submitted to the Finance Committee for audit.

In the event or the inability, for whatever reason, of any of the Grand Dais Officers to attend the Triennial Conclave, their proxy shall be designated and certified from the ranks of the Junior Grand Officers, beginning with the Grand Senior Warden and following down the precedence of rank as outlined in Section 356 of these Statutes, but excluding the offices of Grand Prelate, Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, until any and all vacancies of the Triennial Conclave shall be filled.

In the event that inquiry for proxy throughout the line of Grand Officers fails to fill any and all vacancies in the representation of this Grand Commandery to the Triennial Conclave, the Grand Commander shall appoint as proxy any regular member of the Grand Commandery of West Virginia that he chooses, and said regular member in good standing shall be certified as such.

#### **MILEAGE OF GRAND COMMANDERY MEMBERS**

**Section 329.** Each officer and member of the Grand Commandery and Sir Knight entitled to vote, in attendance upon a Conclave of the Grand Commandery, shall be paid seven and one half cents (\$0.075) per mile both going to and returning from the Conclave. The mileage shall be computed by the shortest practical route according to the current West Virginia state road map.

#### **GRAND OFFICER'S JEWEL**

**Section 330.** Each Officer of the Grand Commandery may keep in his possession, and be responsible for, the jewel of his office during his term, and shall return it to the Grand Commandery upon the election or appointment of his successor.

#### **FEES AND DUES OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY**

**Section 331.** The revenues of the Grand Commandery shall consist of fees for Dispensations or Charters to Commanderies, a fee for each Knight Templar created within the jurisdiction, annual per capita dues upon each member thereof, and all other fees and dues that may be charged to or provided to be paid by the Commanderies and members thereof, to the Grand Commandery; also, the interest and profits on deposits and invested funds. (see Grand Encampment Sections 41e - 133.)

#### **FEES FOR DISPENSATION OR CHARTER**

**Section 332.** A fee of \$100.00 shall accompany every petition for a Dispensation or Charter for a new Commandery. Should the same be refused, the fee shall be returned. If granted by the Grand Commandery, the Dispensation or Charter shall be issued under the signature of the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General, and countersigned by the Grand Recorder, who shall affix the Seal of the Grand Commandery thereto. In case a Dispensation is succeeded by a Charter, the fee first collected shall suffice for both. A Dispensation granted by the Grand Commander shall be issued under his signature and private Seal. (see Grand Encampment Sections 48c - 113 1/2 and 150 - 160.)

## TEMPLAR YEAR - RETURN OF COMMANDERIES DUE

**Section 333.** It shall be the duty of the Grand Recorder to furnish to each Commandery within this jurisdiction, at least sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Conclave, duplicate blank forms upon which said Commanderies shall make Annual Returns, and to furnish such instructions in regard to the same as may be needed.

**Section 334.** Every Commandery in this jurisdiction shall make and forward to the Grand Recorder, not later than the thirtieth (30th) day of April of each year, an Annual Return to the Grand Commandery for the year ending on the thirty-first (31st) day of March last preceding, under the Seal of the Commandery and the signature of its Commander and Recorder, showing a true and correct list of the officers and number of members carried upon its roll as of March thirty-first (31st) together with the names of the persons Knighted, admitted, reinstated, demitted, suspended, expelled or died during the year ending on said March thirty-first (31st), with the dates thereof, and a list of its Past Commanders, and such other information as the Grand Commandery may from time to time require.

And at the same time of filing its Annual Report, which shall not be later than April thirtieth (30th), each Commandery shall pay to the Grand Commandery, through its Recorder, for each and every Knight Templar borne upon its rolls as of March thirty-first (31st) last preceding, the sum of Two Dollars and Ninety Cents (\$2.90) plus the Grand Encampment assessment, to be known as "Annual Dues," and an additional sum of Thirty Cents (\$0.30) to be carried to and known as the "Triennial Fund," which last mentioned fund shall not be drawn against for any other purpose than Triennial Conclave expenses and expenses of the Grand Commandery representatives as provided in Section 328. Provided, that Commanderies may remit, by a vote at the Stated Conclave in March of each year, the dues of any indigent member of said Commandery who shall be unable to pay his annual dues, but the Commandery shall be required to pay Grand Commandery dues upon members whose dues shall be thus remitted.

**Section 335.** Should any Commandery fail or refuse to file its Annual Report, or to pay the sums specified in the foregoing Section, to the Grand Commandery for its use, on or before the thirtieth (30th) day of April of any year, such failure or refusal shall be, by the Grand Recorder, specifically reported at the convening of the next Annual Conclave, and the Grand Commandery may arrest the Charter of such Commandery, refuse it representation in said Annual Conclave, or impose such other discipline or penalty as the Grand Commandery shall determine proper and expedient.

### COMMANDERY FEES FOR ORDERS, ANNUAL DUES, PETITIONS, ETC.

**Section 336.** No Commandery in this Grand Jurisdiction shall confer the Orders of Knighthood for less than Forty Dollars (\$40.00), fix the Annual Dues, payable in advance, for less than Three Dollars (\$3.00), or fix the fee for Life Membership at less than Sixty Dollars (\$60.00). And further, each and every chartered Commandery and all Commanderies operating under Dispensation, shall collect, in addition to any and all other "Fees for Orders," from each candidate upon which is conferred the Order of the Temple, the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) to be remitted to the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of West Virginia, through the Grand Recorder, at the time Annual Returns are filed.

(a) The annual dues of all Constituent Commanderies shall be collected on the calendar year basis and the Grand Commandery shall furnish to the Constituent Commanderies suitable dues cards at the expense of the Grand Commandery. (see Grand Encampment Sections 41e - 81 and 133 - 135.)

(b) In a Constituent Commandery, petitions for the Orders or for membership may be received and balloted upon at the Stated or Special Conclave at which such petition or petitions are read in the Commandery, after such notice as may be deemed proper, without Dispensation from the Grand Commander. (Note: This was originally Section 351-A.)

## ARMORY

**Section 337.** The Order of the Temple can be conferred only by officers and Sir Knights properly and completely clothed in full Templar uniform such as that prescribed in Section 358 of this Constitution and Statutes. This shall apply to all who take part in the conferring of the Order regardless of how minute their participation may be.

(a) It shall be the duty of each Constituent Commandery in this Grand Jurisdiction to provide what shall be termed an "Armory." The Armory shall consist of uniforms and equipment which shall be the property of the Commandery. It shall be located in the Asylum and include lockers or suitable storage space for adequate care of the equipment. The uniforms shall be of various sizes so that when required to appear in uniform, a Sir Knight may draw upon the Armory for the temporary use of proper and sufficient equipment to perform such Templar service as he may be called upon to do. The Armory shall be supervised by a Committee consisting of the Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, Recorder and Treasurer of each Commandery. They shall see that proper and sufficient funds are allocated and used for the purchase, maintenance, repair and care of uniforms and equipment. They shall be responsible for the presence of the number of uniforms prescribed by this Section. For this, the Committee and the Constituent Commandery is accountable to the Grand Commandery. The uniforms, equipment and account books relating to them shall be subject to inspection at regular inspections and the report of such shall be made a part of the regular form of inspection report provided by the Grand Commandery.

(b) The fees for the Orders in each Constituent Commandery shall be increased by the amount of Forty Dollars (\$40.00), which increased amount shall be used to establish and maintain the Armory. As rapidly as a sufficient amount accrues to the Armory Fund, a complete uniform shall be purchased. This uniform becomes the property of the Constituent Commandery. Uniforms shall thus be accumulated until each Constituent Commandery owns a sufficient number to uniform twenty percent (20%) of its membership. However, the total number thus owned shall not be less than twenty-five (25) uniforms if twenty percent of the membership is less than twenty-five (25). The maximum number of uniforms to be owned by any Constituent Commandery need not exceed one hundred (100). A Constituent Commandery may, at its own pleasure, exceed the ownership of one hundred uniforms.

(c) After a Constituent Commandery has complied with the required limits as to the number of uniforms it must have in its Armory, it may, of its own action, reduce the fees for the Orders, except that it shall collect a minimum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per candidate, which amount shall be collected, allocated and spent for the maintenance, replacement and care of uniforms and equipment.

(d) A candidate wishing to purchase his own uniform may do so and will be excused from the payment of any portion of the fee intended for the supplying of uniforms for the Armory. The Armory Committee is authorized to obtain or purchase coats or belts from such of its members who now own, but cannot use them because they no longer fit. The question as to their serviceability for use, and whether the Commandery may claim them as part of the required number as set forth in Section 337(b) shall be determined by the Inspecting Officer at the following regular inspection after acquisition.



## **ELECTION OF COMMANDERY OFFICERS**

**Section 339.** Each Commandery in this Jurisdiction shall hold its election of officers at its first (1st) Stated Conclave in March of each year, and the several Recorders shall report to the Grand Commander and the Grand Recorder the names and addresses of the officers so elected or appointed immediately after their installation. (see Grand Encampment Section 136.)

## **EXAMINATION OF COMMANDER-ELECT**

**Section 340.** Each Commandery shall, before the end of the term of the Eminent Commander, appoint a Committee of three (3) whose duty it shall be to examine the Commander-elect in the work before his installation, and before he can be installed, a favorable report must be made to the Commandery by said Committee. If, after two (2) months from the date of his election, the Commander-elect shall not have qualified to admit of his installation, the position of Commander shall be filled as provided by Templar Law. (see Grand Encampment Section 139.)

## **ELECTIVE OFFICERS OF COMMANDERY**

**Section 341.** The Eminent Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, Treasurer and Recorder of each Commandery shall be elected, and the remaining officers either elected or appointed by the Eminent Commander, as may be provided by the By-Laws of the Commandery. (see Grand Encampment Section 64.)

## **BOND OF TREASURER AND RECORDER**

**Section 342.** The Treasurer and Recorder of each Commandery shall be required to execute bond for the faithful discharge of the duties as such officers in such amount, manner and form as may be prescribed by the By-Laws of the respective Commanderies. (see Grand Encampment Section 75.)

## **DUTIES OF COMMANDERY OFFICERS**

**Section 343.** The duties of the officers of a Commandery shall be fixed by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, by the Statutes and Regulations of this Grand Commandery and such By-Laws as may be adopted by the respective Commanderies. (see Grand Encampment Section 74e.)

## **COMMANDERY SEAL**

**Section 344.** Each Commandery shall have a Seal with the number and name engraved thereon, an impression of which shall be deposited with the Grand Recorder.

## **COMMANDERY BY-LAWS, DUES, ETC.**

**Section 345.** It is the duty of each Commandery to adopt a "Code of By-Laws," subject to the approval by the Grand Commander until the next Annual Conclave and subject to approval by the Grand Commandery at said Conclave. Said By-Laws may prescribe the amount of annual dues to be paid, the penalty for non-payment, and fix the terms of restoration to membership; but no member shall be deprived of any of his rights and privileges without due notice and opportunity to be heard in his defense. Such By-Laws may, from time to time, be revised, altered or amended by the Commandery, as therein provided; but such revisions,

alterations or amendments shall be effective only after the approval of the Grand Commander until the next Annual Conclave, when they shall be submitted to the Grand Commandery and found in no way to conflict with the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment or the Statutes and Regulations of this Grand Commandery. (see Grand Encampment Sections 131 - 133.)

#### **PUBLIC APPEARANCE**

**Section 346.** No Commandery shall appear in public without Dispensation from the Grand Commander, except upon funeral occasions or to attend religious services. (see Grand Encampment Sections 214 - 216.)

#### **RELIGIOUS SERVICES**

**Section 347.** It shall be the duty of each Commandery in this Jurisdiction to attend devotional exercises on at least one (1) of the three (3) following days, viz: Good Friday, Easter Sunday or Ascension Day, and report immediately thereafter to the Grand Recorder the day or days observed and the number of Sir Knights in attendance. (see Grand Encampment Section 214.)

#### **APPROPRIATION TO CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES**

**Section 348.** A sum sufficient to cover the actual and necessary expenses of the entertainment of the Grand Commandery upon its Annual Conclave, or such part thereof as the Grand Commandery may determine, shall be paid out of the General Fund to the Constituent Commandery where the Annual Conclave is held.

#### **BANNER AND FLAG TO BE SHIPPED**

**Section 349.** The banner, flag and other insignia of the Grand Commandery shall be carefully packed at the close of the Annual Conclave, and left in the custody of the Commandery entertaining the Grand Commandery, subject to shipping orders from the Grand Commander or Grand Recorder.

#### **GRAND REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND CONCLAVES**

**Section 350.** The Representatives:

(a) Of this Jurisdiction near other Grand Jurisdictions are courteously requested to attend in person each Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery near which they reside, respectively, and the failure of any Representative to attend two (2) successive Annual Conclaves without excuse deemed sufficient by the Grand Commander of this Jurisdiction, shall be deemed sufficient cause to terminate the Commission of such Representative. Unless sooner terminated, their Commissions shall expire with the close of each Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment. No Sir Knight shall hold more than one (1) such Commission at the same time. (see Grand Encampment Section 48g.);

(b) Of other Grand Jurisdictions near our Grand Commandery are courteously requested to attend each Annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery, and in the failure of any Representative to attend two (2) successive Annual Conclaves without an excuse deemed to be sufficient by the Grand Commander of this Jurisdiction, this shall be deemed sufficient cause for our Grand Commander to request the Grand Commander of that Jurisdiction to terminate

the Commission of said Representative and recommend the appointment of a new Representative.

### **PAYMENT OF GRAND ENCAMPMENT DUES**

**Section 351.** The Grand Commandery dues to the Grand Encampment shall be paid annually out of the Treasury of the Grand Commandery on or before July first (1st).

### **AMENDMENTS TO STATUTES**

**Section 352.** At any Annual Conclave the Grand Commandery may revise, amend, alter, or repeal any of its Statutes and Regulations by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present:

(a) Provided that every resolution proposing to revise, amend, alter or repeal any of said Statutes and Regulations, introduced in writing at one Conclave, shall lie over until the next Annual Conclave before final action thereon; unless after favorable report thereon by the Committee on Templar Jurisprudence, unanimous consent to the consideration of such resolution be given at the Conclave at which it is presented. If the resolution lies over for one (1) year, it, or a digest thereof, shall be incorporated in the notice of the Annual Conclave at which it will be considered. A proposed amendment, while under consideration, may be modified, but no modification shall be made which is not germane to the subject matter of the proposed amendment.

(b) A proposed amendment may be initiated by having a written statement of the amendment confirmed by ballot of at least five (5) Constituent Commanderies and signed and sealed by them and filed with the Grand Recorder at least ninety (90) days before an Annual Conclave. The Grand Recorder shall, within thirty (30) days thereafter, send a copy or synopsis of the proposed amendment to each of the Constituent Commanderies whereupon it shall be presented and acted upon at the ensuing Annual Conclave.

### **STATUTES TO BECOME EFFECTIVE**

**Section 353.** These Statutes and Regulations, if and when approved and adopted by the Grand Commandery, shall become effective upon the proclamation of the Grand Commander. All By-Laws heretofore adopted by the Constituent Commanderies and approved by the Grand Commandery, in so far as they are not in conflict with these Statutes and Regulations shall remain in full force and effect; but where such By-Laws are in conflict with these revised Statutes and Regulations, they shall be forthwith revised and amended so as to conform with this code.

### **FORMER STATUTES REPEALED**

**Section 354.** Upon the going into effect of these revised Statutes and Regulations under the Grand Commander's proclamation as provided in Section 353, all Statutes, Laws and Regulations heretofore adopted or approved by this Grand Commandery, are hereby repealed.

### **TITLES**

**Section 355.** The honorary title of the Grand Commander is "Right Eminent," and his official title is "Grand Commander." The honorary title of the Deputy Grand Commander is "Very Eminent," and his official title is "Deputy Grand Commander." The honorary title of the

remaining Officers of a Grand Commandery is "Eminent." The honorary title shall be used when an Officer is addressed and shall immediately precede the official title, thus: "Right Eminent Grand Commander; Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander; Eminent Grand Senior Warden, etc." When referring to an Officer, the honorary title shall immediately follow the name, thus: "Sir Knight John Doe, Right Eminent Grand Commander; Sir Knight James Brown, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander; Sir Knight Peter Roe, Eminent Grand Senior Warden." The official title shall be used by an Officer only when necessary to designate his rank or official station, thus: "I am Sir Knight John Jones, Grand Commander." (see Grand Encampment Sections 27 and 54.)

### PRECEDENCE OF RANK

**Section 356.** The precedence of rank shall be as follows:

- The Grand Commander;
- The Deputy Grand Commander;
- The Grand Generalissimo;
- The Grand Captain General;
- The Past Grand Commanders according to seniority of service;
- 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;
- The Grand Sentinel;
- The Inspector General;
- The Deputy Inspectors General.

### RESOLUTIONS - RECOMMENDATIONS

**Section 357.** This section lists those resolutions and approved recommendations affecting the basic Templar Law or the conduct of the Grand Commandery.

**(a) Executive Council (adopted 1933)** - The Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, and Grand Captain General shall constitute an Executive Committee to formulate policies for the good of the Order and are authorized to hold conferences for this purpose, the expense of same to be paid by the Grand Commandery.

**(b) Reports (adopted 1933)** - The report of the Grand Commander shall be submitted to the Committee on Jurisprudence at least one week before the convening of the Annual Conclave.

**(c) Reinstatement Committee (adopted 1935)** - The Commander of each Constituent Commandery shall appoint, each Templar year, a Committee on Reinstatements. This Committee shall make effort to secure petitions for reinstatement from those Sir Knights who have been suspended for non-payment of dues.

**(d) Religious Service (adopted 1943 and revised 1976)** - A religious service under the direction of the Grand Prelate will be held during each Annual Conclave. The time of the

religious service will be at the will and pleasure of the Grand Commander. If, for any reason, the Grand Prelate is not in attendance during the Grand Conclave, the Grand Commander will have the authority and responsibility of appointing a Sir Knight to provide for the religious service.

**(e) Past Grand Commander's Jewel (adopted 1973)** - The Past Grand Commander's Jewel is, and shall remain, the property of the Grand Commandery, and shall, at the termination of its usefulness to the recipient, be returned to the Grand Commandery for presentation to a future Past Grand Commander. This resolution shall not affect those Jewels already presented, but it is hoped that a number of these will be returned to the Grand Commandery for future use.

**(f) Annual Conclave Registration (adopted 1975 and revised 1985)** - All persons attending Annual Grand Conclaves will be required to register. Admission to the Grand Commandery dinner and luncheon will be by ticket only. Tickets to these two events will be priced according to the cost of the meals to the host Commandery, and their purchase is optional. Any excess monies remaining after paying these items will be returned to the Grand Commandery Treasury.

**(g) Inspector General Corps**

1. The Inspector General shall have general supervision over the work of the Constituent Commanderies, arrange for holding schools of instruction or practice sessions for the purpose of improving the ritualistic and tactical work in all of the Orders, and perform such other duties and make such reports as the Grand Commander may require;

2. The Deputy Inspector General for each Division shall attend at least one Stated Conclave of each Commandery in his Division to observe the work, conduct such schools of instruction as may be arranged with the Inspector General, and make such reports as the Inspector General or Grand Commander may require.

3. For the purpose of this section and additionally, for the purpose of inspection assignments for the Grand Officers, the State of West Virginia shall be, and is, divided into nine (9) Divisions. All Constituent Commanderies shall be, and are, assigned to that Division as indicated by the situation of the County therein that Commandery is located.

**Division 1.** Hancock, Brooke, Ohio, Marshall, Monongalia;

**Division 2.** Doddridge, Harrison, Marion, Taylor, Preston, Tucker;

**Division 3.** Grant, Hardy, Mineral, Hampshire, Morgan, Berkeley, Jefferson;

**Division 4.** Tyler, Pleasants, Wood, Ritchie, Wirt, Gilmer, Calhoun, Roane, Wetzel;

**Division 5.** Lewis, Barbour, Upshur, Randolph, Braxton, Webster, Pendleton;

**Division 6.** Mason, Jackson, Putnam, Kanawha;

**Division 7.** Clay, Nicholas, Fayette, Greenbrier, Pocahontas;

**Division 8.** Cabell, Wayne, Lincoln, Boone, Logan, Mingo;

**Division 9.** Raleigh, Summers, Wyoming, McDowell, Mercer, Monroe.

4. The Inspector General and the respective Deputy Inspectors General shall each be granted mileage and actual expenses for such services on the same basis as may be allowed for travel to the Line Officers of the Grand Commandery.

5. The Inspector General shall wear a single braided white cord of a minimum diameter of one half inch. Said cord to be worn and fastened in an appropriate manner to the left shoulder, and shall pass under the left arm, between the body and the arm. The Deputy

Inspectors General shall wear a similar braided cord in the same manner, but of red color. The cost of the cords for the Inspector General and Deputy Inspectors General shall be borne by the Grand Commandery of West Virginia and shall remain the property of the Grand Commandery of West Virginia.

6. (Effective May 20, 1988.) At such time as an Inspector General or a Deputy Inspector General is relieved of his duties, he is thereafter entitled to the permanent title of Past Inspector General, or Past Deputy Inspector General, whichever is appropriate, providing his tenure has included three (3) consecutive years of service. He shall further be entitled to wear a single braided cord of a minimum diameter of one half (1/2) inch. Said cord to be worn and fastened in an appropriate manner to the left shoulder, and shall pass under the left arm, between the body and the arm. The cord shall consist of two colors and be braided alternately. In the case of Past Inspector General, the colors shall be white and purple. In the case of Past Deputy Inspectors General, the colors shall be red and purple. The cost of the cords for Past Inspectors General and Past Deputy Inspectors General shall be borne by the Grand Commandery of West Virginia, but the cords, after presentation, shall remain the property of the recipient.

**(h) Expenses of Grand Officers** - The Line Officers of the Grand Commandery shall be allowed, in addition to the standard mileage, actual expenses on any trips which have to do with the business of the Grand Commandery, and the attendance of the members of the Finance Committee being required on the day prior to the Annual Conclave, they each shall be allowed, in addition to the standard mileage, Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for each day in attendance at the Annual Conclaves of the Grand Commandery. A day's attendance is construed to mean where hotel reservations are necessary.

**(i) Membership Award Cordons (adopted 1985)** - Any Knight Templar who is a first line signer recommending favorable action, and who shall have, after April 1, 1985, secured and presented petitions of others for membership in the Commandery, shall receive:

For three (3) petitions,	a White Shoulder Cord;
For six (6) petitions,	a Silver Shoulder Cord;
For nine (9) petitions,	a Gold Shoulder Cord;
For fifteen (15) petitions,	a Red Shoulder Cord;
For twenty (20) petitions,	a Red and White Shoulder Cord;
For twenty-five (25) petitions,	a Red and Silver Shoulder Cord;
For thirty (30) petitions,	a Red and Gold Shoulder Cord;
For thirty-five (35) petitions,	a Red and Purple Shoulder Cord;
For forty (40) petitions,	a White and Purple Shoulder Cord;
For forty-five (45) petitions,	a Silver and Purple Shoulder Cord;
For fifty (50) petitions,	a Gold and Purple Shoulder Cord.

All such awards shall be secured from the Grand Recorder and remain the property of this Grand Commandery, and they shall be returned to it when the recipient receives a subsequent award for additional petitions, ceases to be a Knight Templar, demits or is deceased. The Shoulder Cords in the colors and specifications set forth shall be made of braided cord with a loop which is attached to a button sewn on top of the shoulder of the coat, three and one-half (3 1/2) inches from the shoulder seam, with the cord being at the wearer's left.

**(j) Dual Membership (adopted 1985)** - The Grand Commandery of West Virginia will allow a Knight Templar to hold dual membership in two Constituent Commanderies in the State of West Virginia, or dual membership may be in two Commanderies under the jurisdiction of the

Grand Encampment of the United States of America, provided that the Constitution, Laws, Rules and Regulations of both Grand Commanderies provide for dual membership. In either case, a Knight Templar cannot be an officer in more than one Commandery at a time. Election to dual membership shall be by unanimous ballot and upon election, the dual member shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of a regular member of the Constituent Commandery. A dual member shall pay the full dues to his West Virginia Constituent Commandery/Commanderies, and shall pay the Eye Foundation assessment to his West Virginia Constituent Commandery/Commanderies, unless the Sir Knight holds a permanent contributing membership in the Eye Foundation, in which case, the Eye Foundation assessment will be omitted.

## REGULATION TEMPLAR UNIFORM

**Section 358.** The standard Templar uniform for the Knights Templar of this Jurisdiction shall be as follows:

(a) **Full Dress Uniform** - Black Military Coat with cross on sleeves according to rank, Black Trousers, Black Shoes, Templar Sword, Shoulder Straps for Council Officers only, Buff Gloves, Chapeau. No Officer shall be installed into any office in a Constituent Commandery unless he equips himself with a regulation sword in addition to the above.

(b) **Fatigue Uniform** - Black Military Blouse, Black Trousers, Black Cloth Cap, Belt, Sword, White Gloves, No Baldric or Chapeau worn, Council Officers alone wear Shoulder Straps.

(c) **Distinctions** - Sir Knights will wear white metal wherever metal appears; Commanders and Past Commanders, Grand Commanders and Past Grand Officers, gold.

(d) **Uniform In Detail - Dress Coat** (Specifications for Lapel Type Coat K.T. Uniform adopted by the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of West Virginia on May 30, 1980) - Regulation dress coat should be short, lapel style, double-breasted sack coat, black material of either polyester, wool, or a good combination of the two fabrics. Material to be choice between purchaser and manufacturer. Coat to have roll collar with notched peak lapels, edges single stitched. Length to be one inch below crotch seam. Three button, black cross and crown buttons. Sleeves to be ornamented with two inch Passion Cross 2 1/2 inches from the bottom of the sleeve. Also, three cross and crown buttons on sleeve at "cuff." Two lower pocket flaps and left breast pocket welt. No real outside pockets. Two inside breast pockets, one on each side. Coat will have concealed zipper opening under left side pocket flap. A belt sling, made of two leather slings or short chains from present belt, suspended from trouser belt is to be used. Also, all coats now on order or in use, as approved in prior years, are hereby permitted to continue in use until such time as future changes are made. For Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, Commanders and Past Commanders, the same coat except they will use sleeve crosses appropriate for their station.

(e) **Ornaments** - Grand and Deputy Grand Commanders, Grand Generalissimos, Grand Captain Generals and Past Grand Commanders, Commanders and Past Commanders must wear shoulder straps as an insignia of rank. The Templar Cross for all Grand and Past Grand Officers, the Passion Cross for Eminent Commanders and Past Commanders. All ornaments to be of gilt or gold.

(f) **Chapeau** - The Chapeau, as usually worn, designated as a Military Chapeau, covered with black silk plush, trimmed black silk binding three-fourths (3/4) of an inch in width. Surmounting the Chapeau, two black and one white plume(s). The appropriate cross on the

left side of the Chapeau and, on the right, the number of the Commandery. Sir Knights will wear the Chapeau as described, with the Passion Cross embroidered in silver on scarlet velvet two and one-half (2 1/2) inches in length. No rays permitted on the cross, no lace or tassels on the Chapeau. Commanders and Past Commanders will wear the Chapeau with the Passion Cross and rays embroidered in gold on scarlet velvet, one flat gold tassel allowed on front tip. Grand Commanders and the Officers of the Grand Commandery, the same as for Eminent Commanders, except that the Templar Cross two and one-quarter (2 1/4) inches in length, embroidered in gold on scarlet velvet, will be worn instead of the Passion Cross. Past Grand Commanders, the same as Grand Commanders, except that the Templar Cross shall be embroidered on royal purple silk velvet.

**(g) Insignia Of Rank And Jewel Of Office** - As prescribed by the Statutes of the Grand Encampment. (see "Illustrations of Details of Commandery Officers' Jewels.")

**(h) Swords** - Thirty-four (34) to forty (40) inches, inclusive of scabbard, helmet head, cross handle (or guard) and metal scabbard. Sword to have three (3) rings to be attached by sling or chains to the belt. Sir Knights will wear silver plated scabbard, all metal ornaments or trimmings to be silver plated. The handle of white ivory, with cross or monogram delineated thereon, but no gold allowed except for the Eminent Commander. Commanders and Past Commanders will wear swords of gold plating and handles of ivory, with Passion Cross and rays on handle. Grand and Past Grand Commanders and Officers of the Grand Commandery will wear swords of gold plating and handle of ivory, with Templar Cross delineated on the handle.

**(i) Shoulder Straps** - As provided by the Statutes of the Grand Encampment. (see Section 242.)

**(j) Caps** - Present Navy forms. Black cloth or silk, three (3) inches high, and appropriately trimmed, with falling visors as worn in the United States Army. Sir Knights will wear the cap as specified, with black silk cord in front, fastened at the side with small Templar buttons, in silver, the Passion Cross (no rays) two (2) inches long, embroidered in silver on scarlet velvet in front center of cap, a black silk band one and one-fourth (1 1/4) of an inch wide may be worn around the cap. Commanders and Past Commanders will wear the cap as specified, except that the button be gilt, the Passion Cross with rays, embroidered in gold on scarlet velvet, the cap cord of gilt or gold from button to button across the visor, with gold lace band one (1) inch wide around the cap. For all Officers of the Grand Commandery and Past Grand Council Officers, same as Commanders except the Templar Cross, embroidered in gold and scarlet, substituted for the Passion Cross, cross one (1) inch in length. For the Past Grand Commanders, same as Grand Commanders, except the Templar Cross, embroidered in gold on royal purple silk velvet.

**(k) Crosses** - Sir Knights will wear the Passion Cross, no rays. Commanders and Past Commanders, the Passion Cross with rays. Grand and Past Grand Commanders, Officers and Past Grand Council Officers of the Grand Commandery, the Templar Cross. All Passion Crosses for caps to be two (2) inches in length. All Passion Crosses for sleeves of coat, two (2) inches in length. All Passion Crosses for Chapeau, two and one-half (2 1/2) inches in length. All Templar Crosses for caps, two (2) inches in length. All Templar Crosses for sleeves of coat, two (2) inches in length. All Templar Crosses for Chapeau, two and one-half (2 1/2) inches in length. Past Grand Commanders only are permitted to wear the Templar Cross embroidered on royal purple.



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