

**THE UNITED GRAND COMMANDERY
MASONIC KNIGHTS TEMPLAR – P.H.A.
JURISDICTION OF PENNSYLVANIA**

**4301 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19140
(215) 329-2139**

OFFICE OF

**Most Eminent Sir Larry O. Grant No. 1
Most Eminent Grand Commander**

November 2, 2024

GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER THREE

Right Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, Eminent Grand Generalissimo, Eminent Grand Captain General, Eminent Grand Prelate, Eminent Grand Senior and Junior Wardens, Eminent Elected, and Appointed Grand Commandery Officers, Past Most Eminent Grand Commanders, Past Eminent Grand Commanders Eminent Commanders, Generalissimos, Captain Generals, Past Eminent Commanders and Sir Knights of all Subordinate Commanderies owing allegiance to the United Grand Commandery, Masonic Knights Templar – Prince Hall Affiliated, Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania,

Greetings:

“I can do all things through Christ, which strengthened me.”

Philippians 4:13

At the 194th. Annual Grand Conclave of this United Grand Commandery, Masonic Knights Templar held at the Crowne Plaza, 260 Mall Boulevard, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406 on Sunday, August 4, 2024. You my Sir Knights, assembled and reelected me, too the office of Most Eminent Grand Commander of All Masonic Knights Templar for the Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. It is with great honor I accept this position and I pledge to uphold the level Expectations that this body are accustomed to.

By the authority vested in me as the Most Eminent Grand Commander, I Most Eminent Sir Larry O. Grant do hereby direct that this General Order Number Three be read aloud in its entirety in all Subordinate Commanderies and that the Mandates contained herein are strictly adhered to and further, that this General Order shall be brought to Commandery meeting and used as a reference.

The United Grand Commandery, the mother Grand Commandery of Prince Hall Masonic Knights Templar was organized on December 12, 1830 in Philadelphia, PA. We must emphasize the need for respect and love for love one another at all levels within this organization. We can accomplish a lot if we respect and love one another with a strong faith and trust in God for as Masonic Knights Templar.

MANDATES

Mandate No. 25 – Executive Meeting

An Executive Meeting will be held on Saturday, November 2, 2024 at Rose of Sharon Lodge # 39 319 N. Ninth St. Darby PA 19023 Following the Eastern Divisional Council Meeting which convenes at 12 Noon. All Elected and Appointed Grand Commandery Officers are required to attend. If any officer is unable to attend, you will contact Right Eminent Deputy Grand Commander Sir Michael Stewart (215) 471 – 5466. All Eminent Commanders, Generalissimos, Captain Generals and Prelates are required to attend if for any reason you are unable to attend please contact State Divisional Commander Sir Calvin L. Johnson (717) 461 – 1581. All Past Grand Commanders, and Past Most Eminent Grand Commanders are invited to come.

Mandate No. 26 - Quarterly Financial Returns

Quarterly Financial Returns are required and shall be paid on or before due dates. Commanderies are expected to prepare their financial reports in a timely manner, and are to pay Quarterly Taxes for each non-exempt Sir Knights on their membership roll. A copy of your membership roster must be submitted with each Quarterly Financial Returns.

CURRENT ANNUAL PER CAPITA TAX

A. GENERAL FUND	@ \$3.00/QRT.	\$12.00
B. CHARITY FUND	@ \$1.00/QRT.	\$ 4.00
C. BURIAL FUND	@ \$1.00/QRT.	\$ 4.00
D. ACTIVITY TAX	@ \$.75/QRT.	\$ 3.00
E. EDUCATION/ TRAINING TAX	@ \$.75/QRT.	\$ 3.00
F. OFFICE/EQUIPMENT TAX	@ \$.75/QRT.	\$ 3.00
TOTAL	\$ 7.25/QRT.	\$ 29.00

THE COMMANDERY'S CHECK/MONEY ORDER IS DUE AS FOLLOW'S.

FIRST QUARTER (August through October)	November 5, 2024
SECOND QUARTER (November through January)	February 5, 2024
THIRD QUARTER (February through April)	May 5, 2025
FOURTH QUARTER (May through July)	August 1, 2025

A Commandery must be financial to attend the Annual Grand Conclave and/or any Special Grand Conclave. If found delinquent in the reporting of Quarterly Returns, a Commandery and any of its members, regardless of Grand Commandery Officer(s) held, will be denied seating at the Annual Grand Conclave and/or Special Grand Conclave.

Sir Knights, take heed and govern yourselves accordingly!

Mandate No.27 – Special Assignments:

The Right Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, Sir Michael C. Stewart No. 1

Will oversee the operations of 4301 N, Broad St. Office.
Will oversee the Registration and Credentials Committee.
He will oversee the annual Banquet.
He shall Preside over the By-Laws Committee / and Charity. Committee

The Eminent Grand Generalissimo, Sir Kevin M. Small No. 1

Will oversee all appointed Grand Commandery officers. With the exception of the State Divisional Commander, Divisional Commanders, State Grand Lecturer and Divisional Lecturers.
He serves as a member of the Charity Committee.

The Eminent Grand Captain General Sir Demetrius Hellams

Shall oversee the Eastern Divisional Council Meeting School of Instruction and Seminar, along with the State Divisional Commander, Sir. Calvin Johnson #17 and State Grand Lecturer Sir Lee Roberson #1. He serves as a Member of the Charity Committee.

The Eminent Grand Prelate, Sir Marc Spearman #1

Shall oversee and chair the Festive Days and Memorial Service with the assistance of the State Grand Lecturer Sir Lee Roberson #1. He shall serve as a member of the Charity Committee.

The Eminent Grand Senior Warden Sir Calvin C. Boyce, No. 14

He serves as a member of the Charity Committee.

The Eminent Grand Junior Warden Sir Agoi V Ombima, No 2

Shall oversee the Ways and Means Committee. He serves as a member of the Charity Committee.

Mandate No. 28 – By Laws

Each Commandery and the Eastern Divisional Council are ordered to submit copies of their By-Laws to the United Grand Commandery. Commanderies are to submit copies via their respective Divisional Commander. The Eastern Divisional Council is to submit their copies to the State Divisional Commander Sir. Calvin Johnson No. 17.

If a Commandery or the Eastern Divisional Council cannot find their By-Laws they are to reconstruct another set of By-Laws and submit through the aforementioned individual to the Eminent Grand Recorder, Sir Thomas Williams, No. 1, sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Grand Conclave for review and approval of the Jurisprudence Committee.

Mandate No 29 - Eastern Divisional Council Meetings

All Eminent Commanders , Generalissimos, Captain Generals, Prelates, Senior and Junior Wardens of the Subordinate Commanderies are expected to attend the Eastern Divisional Council Meetings and school of instruction, which are held every First Saturday of the month, at the Rose of Sharon Lodge No. 39, 319 N. 9th. Street, Darby, PA 12pm.

This is not just for the officers, the Eminent Commanders of every Commandery are expected to encourage **EVERY SIR KNIGHT** to come out and bring their questions. All Elected and Appointed Grand Commandery Officers are expected to attend these meetings. An attendance record will be kept and periodically reviewed for compliance.

Mandate No. 30 – Social Affairs on the day of Eastern Divisional Council Meeting.

Commanderies and Cyrene Courts may have Banquets, Social Affairs, Fund Raisers, etc. On the first Saturday of the month or Saturday when the Eastern Divisional Council meets, provided the Social Affair starts at 5pm. or later.

Mandate No. 31 – Retain, Reclaim, Recruit and Revitalize.

For this Templar year the United Grand Commandery will emphasize the need to retain and reclaim our Sir Knights. Therefore, it is imperative that each Commandery develops and initiates programs and activities, which will generate and encourage enthusiasm. Our collective goal must be to retain all our Sir Knights and more importantly, get them involved in meaningful programs and activities. To reclaim our lost Sir Knights, we must take the initiative, reach out and extend our hand of Brotherly Love and encouragement. These individuals return to the fold. Regarding revitalization, we will examine ways to revitalize Cyrene No. 9 in the western area, and Hannibal No. 18 in Delaware.

Mandate No.32 – Non-Religious Functions During “Holy Week”

It is hereby ordered that under no circumstances will any Commandery, Sword Club, unit, adopted or affiliated body obedience to the United Grand Commandery, Masonic Knights Templar – P.H.A., Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania sponsor, convene or participate in non-religious social events during the observance of Holy Week, commencing at 12:01 A.M. Palm Sunday,

Mandate No.33 Recognition of Festive Days

It is hereby ordered that under no circumstances will any Commandery, Sword Club, unit, adopted or affiliated body obedience to the United Grand Commandery, Masonic Knights Templar – P.H.A., Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania sponsor, convene or participate in any event on the date when a Grand Body of the Prince Hall Family is in observance of their Festive day or convening an Annual Session. This order will be strictly enforced.

Mandate No. 34 State Divisional Commander and Divisional Commanders.

The Divisional Commanders and the Divisional Lecturers will rate the Commanderies assigned to them to see how each Commandery is progressing. These ratings will determine the Commandery of the year, Eminent Commander of the year. And the Sir Knight of the Year. These awards will be presented at the Annual Banquet. The Divisional Commanders will report to the State Divisional Commander Sir Calvin Johnson, No. 17 whether the Commanderies had submitted their Quarterly Financial Returns in a timely manner in addition to their rating reports.

Dispensations

All requests for Dispensations are to be submitted directly to your Divisional Commander sixty (60) days prior to the date of the activity (degree work, church service, out of state visitation, change of meeting, banquet, social activity, etc.) All Dates for social events including tickets, programs, flyers, and souvenir journals are to be approved prior to and after printing. When inviting the Most Eminent Grand Commander and/or the Most Worshipful Grand Master proper protocol must be adhered to. All questions are to be directed to your Divisional Commander.

Mandate No. 35 State Grand Lecturer

The State Grand Lecturer Lee Roberson No 1 will be responsible for all instructions pertaining to the authorized ritual of the United Grand Commandery He will supervise all Divisional Lecturers and will ascertain that none but the authorized ritual of the United Grand Commandery is used. He will also formulate a competent team, through tryouts of Masonic Knights Templar to perform the Annual Memorial Service and the Passion Night Play. He will work in conjunction with the Eminent Grand Captain General Sir Demetrius Hellams No. 15 in

organizing subjects to be presented, discussed and illustrated at the School of Instruction.

MANDATE No. 36 – Chain of Command

To facilitate administrative and operational efficiency throughout the jurisdiction, all matters concerning the Constitution, Laws, Mandates of the United Grand Commandery, Masonic Knights Templar – P.H.A., the following chain of command is herewith instituted: any questions, issues or concerns beginning with a Sir Knight first directed to the Eminent Commander, then to the Divisional Commander, then to the State Divisional Commander and finally to the Most Eminent Grand Commander. The official response to the question, issue or. Concerns will be in the reverse order. This process will insure conformity and consistency within the Jurisdiction.

On all issues or concerns regarding the Authorized Ritual for the Templar Degrees, prepared for and by the authority of the United Grand Commandery, Masonic Knights Templar – P.H.A., and other related Grand Commandery ceremonies will follow the enacted chain of command any questions, issues or concerns beginning with a Sir Knight is first directed to the Eminent Commander, then to the Divisional Lecturer, then to the State Grand Lecturer and finally to the Most Eminent Grand Commander. The official response to the question, issue or concern will be in the reverse order. Thus informing and/or educating all parties involved.

Regarding the chain of command process, responses should be resolved at the first level provided all parties are satisfied with the findings/conclusions. On more complex/difficult unresolved issues, the process should continue until correctly resolved. Under no circumstance will the United Grand Commandery permit the above mentioned process to be abrogated.

If at the end of this process no one owing allegiance to the United Grand Commandery, will contact or send correspondence to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, regarding grievances. Without first contacting Most Eminent Grand Commander in righting.

Mandate No. 37 – Alcoholic Beverages

Sir Knights under all circumstances, are prohibited from imbibing or exhibiting Alcoholic Beverages while attired or regaled as a Masonic Knights Templar. This is inclusive of our Full dress or Fatigue Uniforms, Jewels/Badges/Banners/Pins/Buttons or Name Plates that may identify a Masonic Knights Templar. Prohibited Beverages include Beer, Wine, or Liquid containing any percentage of alcohol. This mandate is applicable to any and all Sir Knight's owing allegiance to the Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, and extends itself into any Jurisdiction we may be visiting or find ourselves therein associated.

Sir Knights, take heed and govern yourselves accordingly.

Mandate No 38 –Funeral Service & Degree Work

Eminent Commanders shall be responsible for organizing their Commandery's Funeral Team. The designated Funeral Team will demonstrate its proficiency to the Divisional Lecturer. The dress for the Funeral Service shall be Fatigue Uniform with white gloves. Full Dress Uniform shall be worn to a Funeral only when deemed necessary by the Most Eminent Grand Commander, due and timely notice shall be given.

All subordinate Commanderies are directed to notify the Divisional Lecturer of their rehearsals for degree work, including dates, places and times. Under no circumstances will rituals be used during the opening/closing ceremonies, funeral ceremony and the conferring of orders.

Mandate No 39 – Submission of Checks

Any Commandery or individual who submits a check to the office of the Eminent Grand Recorder and said check must be return to the sender for any reason he or the Commandery will be required to pay the amount of the check and any additional fees that are incurred. You shall also be required to submit all future transactions in one of the following methods: (1) Certified Check, (2) Bank Money Order, (3) Postal Money Order.

Mandate 40 – Recommendations, Resolutions and By-Law Changes.

All Recommendations, and By-Law Changes shall be submitted and in the hands of the Jurisprudence Committee at least Sixty (60) days prior to the convening of the Annual Grand Conclave.

Mandate No. 41 – James M. Thornton/James Sheppard, Jr., Educational Awards

We are requesting a donation of \$50.00 from each Grand Commandery Officer and Sir Knight to fund the James M. Thornton/James Sheppard, Jr., Educational Awards Ceremony, so that we can give a deserving student or students an educational award at the Annual Banquet. Please make all checks payable to United Grand Commandery and forward to Sir Otis Guinyard No. 16, Chairman – 401 Carver Lane Royersford, PA 19468 by Saturday May 3, 2025. Thanking you in advance for your support.

Mandate No. 41 – Dress Code for Banquets

Winter Dress for Banquets – Fatigue Uniform, White Shirt, Long Black Tie, Black Trousers, Black Socks, Black Shoes, Shoulder Bars, Office Jewel, Red and Malta Cross Jewels, Veteran Pin (Optional) and Name Plate (Optional)

Summer Dress for Banquets after May – Short White Coat, White Shirt, Black Bow Tie, Black Trousers, Black Socks, Black Shoes, Shoulder Bars, Office Jewel, Red and Malta Cross Jewels, Veteran Pin (Optional) and Name Plate (Optional)

Mandate No. 42 – Deceased Sir Knights

When a death occurs within a Commandery, you are directed to employ the following procedure:

1. Upon receiving notice that a Sir Knight has Passed, the Eminent Commander with his Cabinet will visit the family to secure the following information:
 - (a) Ascertain whether or not the family wants the Knight Templar Funeral Service preformed?
 - (b) Date, Time and Place of Funeral.
 - (c) Consult with the Worshipful Master, Minister and Funeral Director on Arrangements.
2. Inform the Divisional Lecturer and Divisional Commander via telephone of these facts. The official claim form must be properly filled out and the Death Certificate must accompany the claim form.
3. Should the death occur within the active ranks of the United Grand Commandery, the Eminent Commander will immediately notify the Most Eminent Grand Commander and the Grand Recorder?

Mandate No.43 – Most Royal Grand Chief Engineer and the Deputy Grand Chief Engineers

The Most Royal Grand Chief Engineer Sir Quinton O. Mason and the Deputy Grand Chief Engineers Sir Jacob F. Howard III, Sir Derrick L. Holmes are to wear Full Dress Uniform when representing the United Grand Commandery or the Most Royal Grand Court of Cyrene with the following exceptions.

- A. Cyrene School of Instructions Meetings.
- B. Eastern Divisional Council Meetings
- C. Subordinate Royal Court Meetings.
- D. Subordinate Commandery Meetings.
- E. Most Royal Grand Court Luncheons and Banquets.
- F. Celebration of the Christmas Toast and all other all other Events, Functions and Occasions, where the Most Eminent Grand Commander considers the Full Dress Uniform unnecessary.

Mandate No. 44a – Most Royal Grand Chief Engineer and Deputies.

The Most Royal Grand Court Chief Engineer and the Deputy Grand Chief Engineers are required to attend a minimum of six (6) of their Subordinate Commandery's Conclave's annually.

Mandate No. 44b – Engineers' Council

The President of the Engineers' Council shall schedule the entire Engineers' Council Meetings for the year following the consultation with the Most Royal Grand Chief Engineer who will then inform the Most Eminent Grand Commander. The Engineers do not have to pay dues to the Engineers' Council.

Mandate No. 44c Engineers

All Engineers, who are in good Financial Standing with their Subordinate Commanderies, are permitted to voluntarily pay dues in their respective Subordinate Royal Courts of Cyrene unless they are exempted from dues, specifically, those Royal Courts under the auspices of the Most Royal Grand Court of Cyrene (Accepted and Adopted Body of the United Grand Commandery, Masonic Knights Templar – P.H.A., Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania). The said Engineer Shall be entitled to vote and have voice in the Royal Court collecting his dues. If the said Engineer

shall become unfinancial in his Court, he shall forfeit the previously specified right to vote and voice his opinions. All Royal Engineers (those who served in the East with a Royal Commandress) and Past Royal Engineers shall be entitled to vote and have voice in the Annual Session of the Most Royal Grand Court of Cyrene, provided they pay dues in their Royal Courts, unless they are exempted from dues and register for the Annual Session of the Most Royal Grand Court of Cyrene. The Most Grand Chief Engineer, the Deputy Grand Chief Engineers and the past Most Royal Grand Chief shall be entitled to vote and have voice in the Annual Session of the Most Royal Grand Court of Cyrene. They are exempted from Registration Fees of the Most Royal Grand Court of Cyrene provided they register for the Annual Grand Conclave of the United Grand Commandery.

Dates to Remember

Christmas Toast Wednesday, December 25, 2024 Time and Location TBA.
Passion Night Service Friday, April 18, 2025 Time and Location TBA.
Ascension Day Service Thursday, May 29, 2025. Time and Location. TBA.
Annual Grand Conclave Saturday and Sunday, August 1 – 3, 2025. Time and Location TBA.

The theme ore motto of this administration will be **DIFFERENCE**.

D – Determination, Determined to succeed.

I – Instruction, Be willing to give instructions as well as to receive instruction.

F – Fortitude, to have the will to do what I can to make a Difference.

F – Friendship, to befriend one another. (One for all and all for one)

E – Example, to live life as an example of a **MAN and SIR KNIGHT**.

R – Responsibility, to accept the challenge of giving our youth a hope for a better future.

E – Explain, Explain to our youth the difference between thinking you are an Adult and Acting like one.

N – Never, to never give up and always stay Positive.

C – Care, to care for one or another as we do our own.

E – Enter, enter into an agreement with yourself to say,

I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

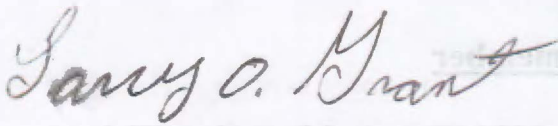
“If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.”

I John 4:1

Sir Knights, I will wield my Sword in defense of Innocent Maidens, Destitute Widows, Helpless Orphans and the Christian Religion.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the United Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, in the Eleventh Month of the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty Four.

Yours in Knightly Courtesy,



**Sir Larry O. Grant
Most Eminent Grand Commander**

**Attest: Sir Thomas P. Williams
Grand Recorder**



I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE