

The United Grand Commandery of PA

Masonic Knights Templar – Prince Hall Affiliated

Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania

General Order Number One



*Most Eminent Sir Michael C. Stewart No. 1 KYGCH
Most Eminent Grand Commander*

*The Honorable Sir Timothy J. Cager
107th Most Worshipful Grand Master
Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge
Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania*

**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 Michael C. Stewart No. 1, KYGCH
Most Eminent Grand Commander**

September 2, 2025

GENERAL ORDER NUMBER ONE

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:

The Annual Grand Conclave of the United Grand Commandery, Masonic Knights Templar - Prince Hall Affiliated, Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 260 Mall Boulevard, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406. On Saturday, August 2, 2025, through Sunday, August 3, 2025. The Sir Knights assembled, nominated, and elected me to serve this United Grand Commandery as Most Eminent Grand Commander. I am extremely honored, humbled, and grateful, with the blessing and guidance of the ALMGHTY, and your assistance will serve this Grand Commandery to best of my ability.

By the authority in me vested as the Most Eminent Grand Commander. I Most Eminent Sir Michael C. Stewart do hereby direct that this General Order Number One be read aloud in its entirety by all Subordinate Commanderies and the Mandates contained herein are adhered to and used as a reference.

MANDATES

Mandate No. 1 - Executive Meeting:

The Executive Meeting will be held Saturday, October 4, 2025, at Rose of Sharon Lodge No.39, 319 N. 9th Street, Darby, PA at 11.00AM. All Elected and Appointed Grand Commandery Officers, Eminent Commanders, Generalissimos, Captain Generals and Prelates are required to attend. In the event any Grand Commandery Officer is unable to attend please contact the Eminent Grand Recorder, Sir Thomas P. Williams, No. 1 at telephone number (215) 495 - 0774; if any of the above mentioned subordinate Commandery officers are unable to attend, please contact your Divisional Commander. All Past Most Eminent Grand Commanders and Past Grand Commanders are invited to attend.

Mandate No. 2 - Quarterly Financial Returns:

Quarterly Financial Returns are required and shall be paid on or before their 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 Knight on a membership roll. A copy of your membership roster must be submitted with Financial Returns.

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.	<u>\$ 3.00</u>
TOTAL YEARLY	@\$7.25 / QRT.	\$29.00

Each subordinate Commandery is responsible and obligated to submit a MEMBERSHIP QUARTERLY STATUS AND FINANCIAL REPORT quarterly, as indicated:

- a. FIRST QUARTER (August through October) - On or before the Fifth Day of November,
- b. SECOND QUARTER (November through January) - On or before the Fifth Day of February,
- c. THIRD QUARTER (February through April) - On or before the Fifth Day of May,
- d. FOURTH QUARTER (May through July) - On or before the First Day of August,

DUE AS FOLLOWS:

November 5, 2025

February 5, 2026

May 5, 2026

August 1, 2026

Mandate No. 3 - Special Assignments:

The Right Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, Sir Kevin M. Small Sr. No. 1:

Will oversee the operations of 4301 N. Broad St. Philadelphia, PA 19140 - Office.

Will oversee the Registration and Credentials Committee.

He shall Preside over the By-Laws Committee / and Charity Committee

The Eminent Grand Generalissimo, Sir Demetrius R. Hellums Sr. No. 15:

Will oversee all appointed Grand Commandery officers, except for the State Divisional Commander, Divisional Commanders, State Grand Lecturer and Divisional Lecturers. He will oversee the annual Banquet/ Military Ball, He also serves as a member of the Charity Committee.

The Eminent Grand Captain General, Sir Marc B. Spearman No.1:

Will oversee the Eastern Divisional Council Meetings, / School of Instruction, along with State Divisional Commander Sir Calvin Johnson No. 17 and State Grand Lecturer Frederick R. Jackson No. 1. He served as a member of the Charity Committee.

The Eminent Grand Prelate, Sir Calvin Boyce Jr. No. 14:

Will oversee the Festive day Service and the Memorial Service with the assistance of the Grand Lecturer Frederick R. Jackson. And all Prelates of subordinate Commanderies. He serves as a member of the charity Committee.

The Eminent Grand Senior Warden, Sir Agoi V. Ombima. No. 2:

Will oversee the James M. Thornton/James Sheppard Jr. Educational Awards Committee and serves as a member of the charity committee.

The Eminent Grand Junior Warden Sir Mark P. Wilson No. 1:

Will oversee the ways and means Committee. He serves as a member of the Charity Committee.

Mandate No. 4 - 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 P. Williams, No. 1, sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Grand Conclave for review and approval of the Jurisprudence Committee.

Mandate No. 5 - 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 at 12pm, unless otherwise notified.

This school is for ALL Sir Knights, 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. 5a - Social Affairs on the day of Eastern Divisional Council Meeting.

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

Mandate No. 6 - 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 and interest in Templarism. Our collective goal is to retain all our Sir Knights and more importantly, increase meaningful programs and activities that will stimulate excitement and encourage growth.

Mandate No. 7 - 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. 8 - 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. 9 - 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/Military Ball. 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 the rating reports, as well as Divisional Lecturers will report the Ritualistic competence of each Commandery and report the same to State Grand Lecturer Frederick R. Jackson No. 1.

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. 10 - State Grand Lecturer

The State Grand Lecturer Frederick R. Jackson 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 Marc B. Spearman No. 1 in organizing subjects to be presented, discussed and demonstrated at the School of Instruction, and work with Eminent Grand Prelate Calvin Boyce Jr. No. 14 on the Festive Days of this United Grand Commandery.

MANDATE No. 11 - 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. Therefore, 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 revoked.

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 writing.

Mandate No. 12 - 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 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. 13 - 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 14 - 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 15 - Recommendations, Resolutions and By-Law Changes

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

Mandate No. 16 - 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)
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. 17 - 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 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 clam form.

3. Should the death occur among 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.18 - Most Royal Grand Chief Engineer and the Deputy Grand Chief Engineers

The Most Royal Grand Chief Engineer Sir Jacob F. Howard III No. 2 and the Deputy Grand Chief Engineers Sir Robin Jennings No. 16, Sir Stanley J. Jones Jr. No. 16 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. 18a - 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. 18b - 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. 18c 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 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 Royal Grand Chief Engineer, the Deputy Grand Chief Engineers and those that have served as the Most Royal Grand Chief Engineer 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, December 2025, Time and Location TBA.

Passion Night Service Friday April 3, 2026 Time and Location TBA.

Ascension Day Service Thursday, May 14, 2026. Time and Location. TBA.

Annual Grand Conclave Saturday and Sunday, August 1 - 2, 2026. Time and Location TBA.

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


Yours in Knightly Courtesy,

Michael C. Stewart

Most Eminent Sir Michael C. Stewart, No. 1, KYGCH
Most Eminent Grand Commander



Attest:


Sir Thomas Pierre Williams, No. 1, KYCH
Eminent Grand Recorder