

CONSTITUTION of the GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

of the STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PREAMBLE

We, the Knights Templar constituting the Grand Commandery of the State of New Jersey assembled in Stated Conclave, acknowledging allegiance to the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the government of this Grand Commandery and its Constituent Commanderies.

NAME

Section 1. This body shall be designated and known as the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of New Jersey. The term "Grand Commandery" used hereinafter, shall mean said Grand Commandery Knights Templar of the State of New Jersey. The term "Grand Encampment" used hereinafter, shall mean the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

SEAL

Section 2. The seal of this Grand Commandery consists of a star of nine equidistant points upon which is a double circle one and one half inches outside diameter. Within this circle are the words "Grand Commandery Knights Templar New Jersey". Stars of six points are located on either side of the words "New Jersey". Within the inner circle is a one-inch equilateral triangle with an all-seeing eye at the apex. At the left and outside the triangle is the word "Memento"; at the right and outside the triangle the word "Mori", and below the base of the triangle, the date "A.O. 742" Within the triangle is a cross of Salem surmounted by a small shield with a skull and crossed bones superimposed at the bottom.

MEMBERSHIP

Section 3. Its members are and shall be as prescribed by the Constitution of the Grand Encampment.

Section 4. The Conclaves of this Grand Commandery and the quorum and conduct thereof shall be as prescribed by the Constitution of the Grand Encampment. The Stated Conclave shall be held on the Weekend of the First **SATURDAY** of March each year. The Grand Commander is empowered to change the date of the Stated Conclave of the Grand Commandery should the need arise. The Grand Commander shall obtain the written consent of the Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo and the Grand Captain General to change the date of the Stated Conclave. The Grand Commander may call a Special Conclave at his pleasure. The Grand Commander shall cause the Grand Recorder to make all required notifications, via 30 days written notice to the Grand Staff, the Past Grand Commanders, and to the Recorders of the Constituent Commanderies.

Section 5. Each member 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 by Grand Encampment law, all questions shall be decided by a majority of all votes cast.

Section 6. Proxy representation of the Council Officers of Constituent Commanderies is permitted, providing that the proxy is in writing on the form provided by the Grand Recorder, and is given to a member of this Grand Commandery and provided further that the proxy is at the time of service, a member of the same Constituent Commandery as his principal. The members of this Grand Commandery holding a proxy or proxies are entitled to one vote. The proxy or proxies must be handed to the Grand Recorder before any voting is had thereon.

POWERS AND DUTIES

Section 7. In addition to the powers and duties prescribed for Grand Commanderies by the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, this Grand Commandery shall have such powers and assume such duties as are not presently or in the future reserved to itself by such Grand Encampment.

OFFICERS

Section 8. The Officers of this Grand Commandery and their precedence of rank shall be as follows:

A Grand Commander
A Deputy Grand Commander
A Grand Generalissimo
A Grand Captain General
A Grand Senior Warden
A Grand Junior Warden
A Grand Prelate
A Grand Treasurer
A Grand Recorder
A Grand Standard Bearer
A Grand Sword Bearer
A Grand Warder
A Grand Sentinel

The Past Grand Commanders shall have precedence according to seniority of service, immediately after the Grand Captain General. The first six, together with the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder shall be elected. The remainder shall be appointed by the Grand Commander. The Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder may appoint one or more assistants to aid them in the performance of their duties. The appointed officers noted above are hereinafter referred to as Line Officers. To be eligible to run for the office of Grand Commander a Sir Knight must have been elected, installed, and served a full Templar Year as an Elected Officer of this Grand Commandery. Elective Grand Commandery Officers shall hold office until their successors shall have been duly elected and installed. The Grand Prelate shall hold office during the Templar year or during the pleasure of the Grand Commander. Other appointed Officers shall serve during the Templar year. No Line Officer except the Grand Prelate, Associate Prelates, and the Grand Sentinel shall be appointed to any other appointive office in the year following his term. The duties of the Officers of this Grand Commandery shall be as prescribed generally and specifically by the Constitution of the Grand Encampment and as prescribed generally and specifically in the Laws and Regulations of this Grand Commandery. The Grand Commander may appoint such Staff Officers as he may feel appropriate and necessary to accomplish the orderly operation of this Grand Commandery, as noted in Article XI of the Laws and Regulations of this Grand Jurisdiction. All Officers of this Grand Commandery must hold the title of Past Commander to be eligible to be appointed or elected to office in this Grand Commandery. This includes those Sir Knights who serviced as Commander in another Grand Jurisdiction and who have applied for and received voting privileges in this Grand Commandery. The only exception is that a Knight under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery who is a fully Ordained Christian Minister may be appointed as the Grand Prelate or as an Associate Grand Prelate.

ENDOWMENT FUND

Section 9. This Grand Commandery shall have an Endowment Fund, which shall be administered by a Board of Directors composed of seven (7) members. The Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, by virtue of their office, shall be members of the Board of Directors. Three (3) other Directors will be elected by the Grand Commandery at its annual Conclave for three (3) year terms. The terms shall be staggered so that one (1) Director will be elected each year. The Board of Directors will meet once a year to coincide with the Finance Committee Meeting and at such other times as the President shall require to review the performance of the Endowment Fund. The Board of Directors will elect one (1) member President and another member Secretary. The signature of both of these individuals will be needed to transfer funds from the Endowment Fund to the Operating Fund. The President and the Grand Treasurer must confirm all transactions within the Endowment Fund. Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum. (Revised 3/4/95) The Board of Directors shall exercise the highest degree of care and fiduciary responsibility in the investment of the funds of the Endowment Fund. The Directors are prohibited from investing the monies of the Endowment Fund in any instrument, security or venture which carries a Standard & Poor's rating of less than "A". The Directors will submit an annual accounting of the Endowment Fund and a review of its investment performance to the Grand Commandery at its Annual Conclave. All donations to the Endowment Fund will be deemed to be corpus. The corpus of the Endowment Fund can never be expended or loaned for any purpose. All interest and dividend income earned on the corpus of the Endowment Fund may be transferred to the Operating Fund of the Grand Commandery for general purposes. Any gain on the sale of investments or recognized upon the maturity of any investment will be deemed to be corpus and subject to all restrictions appertaining. The fiscal year of the Endowment Fund shall be the calendar year. The fund shall be audited annually by the Grand Commandery Auditor. In the event that the assets of the Endowment Fund have a fair market value in excess of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) on December 31 of any year, this audit must be performed by a firm of Certified Public Accountants licensed to practice in the State of New Jersey.

TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION

Section 10. Except as provided by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, all Constituent Commanderies shall have concurrent jurisdiction over petitioners for the Orders of Knighthood within the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery.

CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES

Section 11. The membership, officers, their powers and duties and the conclaves of the Constituent Commanderies, together with the necessary quorum to transact business at said Conclaves, shall be as prescribed by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, and as added to by this Grand Commandery from time to time.

PLURAL MEMBERSHIP

Section 12. Plural membership may be held in two or more Commanderies under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, or in one or more New Jersey Commanderies and one or more Commanderies in other jurisdictions provided the laws of such other jurisdictions so provide.

AMENDMENTS

Section 13. This Constitution may be altered or amended by vote of two-thirds of the members present at any Stated Conclave, notice of such proposed alteration or amendment having been presented in writing at a previous Stated Conclave and printed in the call for the Conclave at which such action is to be taken, provided, however, that with the unanimous consent of the members present, any member may introduce an amendment not later than 2:30PM of the day of the Stated Conclave, and it may be considered and acted upon by this Grand Commandery at the Stated Conclave notwithstanding no previous notice to so amend has been given. Amendments to this Constitution may also be adopted at a Special Conclave of this Grand Commandery, provided that the notification requirements of Section 4 of this document have been met and that copies of the proposed amendments are printed in the call for the Special Conclave. All amendments may be modified by the Grand Commandery while in session, but such modification must be distinctly and plainly germane to the subject. All Constitutional provisions, acts or decisions or parts of same which are inconsistent with this Constitution are hereby repealed and declared null and void.

LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ARTICLE I

COMMANDERY OFFICERS

Every Constituent Commandery in this jurisdiction shall be composed of the following:

1. -- **Commander**
2. -- **Generalissimo**
3. -- **Captain General**
4. -- **Senior Warden**
5. -- **Junior Warden**
6. -- **Prelate**
7. -- **Treasurer**
8. -- **Recorder**
9. -- **Standard Bearer**
10. - **Sword Bearer**
11. - **Warder**
12. - **Sentinel**
13. - **Three Guards**

The first three, together with the Treasurer and Recorder shall be elected by a majority of the ballots cast at the final stated conclave of the calendar year. The remainder of the officers may be elected or appointed by the Commander-elect as may be provided by the Commandery By-Laws, all of whom must be installed not later than the next Stated Conclave. The office of Sentinel may be filled by any Sir Knight in good standing in a New Jersey Commandery. Every Constituent Commandery shall have at least three Trustees, each of whom shall serve for a term of three years, with their terms overlapping so that one Trustee will be elected each year at the Annual Conclave. In the event of the death, resignation or removal of a Trustee from the jurisdiction precluding the performance of his duties, the Commander shall appoint a Sir Knight to serve until the next Annual Conclave, when the balance of the unexpired term shall be filled by election.

ARTICLE II

UNIFORMS

No petitioner for the Orders of Knighthood in a Constituent Commandery shall be required to provide himself with a uniform as described in Article III of these Laws before receiving the Order of the Temple. However any Sir Knight elected or appointed to Commandery office must provide himself with such Templar uniform prior to his installation, and must retain possession during his incumbency in office. Each Constituent Commandery must provide sufficient uniformed or robed Knights for the forming of the lines, Prelate's Escort and Triangle Guard.

ARTICLE III

UNIFORM REGULATIONS

Templar uniforms for members of New Jersey Commanderies shall be as specified in the Uniform Regulations for the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of New Jersey.

ARTICLE IV

REVENUE

Every Constituent Commandery in this jurisdiction shall remit to the Grand Commandery with its annual returns, the amount of \$ 25.00 for each Sir Knight created during the calendar year. Each Constituent Commandery shall remit annually toward the support of the Grand Commandery, the sum of \$10.25 for (2011), \$10.50 for (2012), \$10.75 for (2013), \$11.00 for (2014), \$11.25 for (2015) for each of its members, together with an amount equal to all Grand Encampment and Grand Commandery of N.J. per-capita dues and assessments. (Revised 3/2010) Each Constituent Commandery in this jurisdiction shall remit to the Grand Commandery with its annual returns, the sum of \$0.25 per member to be deposited in the 175th Anniversary Fund, to be accumulated over the years in a separate investment account, and used in the year 2035.

ARTICLE V

ANNUAL RETURNS

Every Constituent Commandery shall file an annual return on the forms provided by the Grand Recorder, setting forth the status of the Commandery as of the end of the calendar year. This return must be filed with the Grand Recorder on or before the 31st day of January. For filing a return after the prescribed 31st day of January, there shall be levied against the Commandery a fine of \$5.00 for each day or fraction thereof. A fiduciary report of the financial standing of the Commandery shall be prepared on the form provided by the Grand Commandery and submitted to the Grand Recorder with the annual return. Said financial report is separately subject to the same level of fine as a late annual return. Both these reports must be filed in the forms provided by the Grand Recorder.

ARTICLE VI

VOTING

All Grand Commandery and Constituent Commandery elections may be by voice vote, provided there be unanimous consent of all voting members present. In the event there are two or more candidates for any elective office, Trustee or Director of the Endowment Fund, such elections shall be conducted by paper ballot. All candidates for Elected Office in this Grand Commandery must declare their candidacy for a specific office, in writing and signed by them, with the Grand Recorder prior to the December 31st immediately preceding the State Conclave; no electronic form or communication will be acceptable for this purpose. Postmarks shall determine timeliness of a declaration, and the ruling of the Grand Commander on validity is final. If, and only if, no valid declaration for an elected office is received prior to the deadline, declarations may be received on the day of the Stated Conclave prior to the closing on nominations by the presiding officer. At the Stated Conclave, the Grand Commander shall announce, or caused to have announced, all elected offices together with the names of all declared candidates. Nominations shall then be opened, if needed, for any office for which there is no declared candidate.

ARTICLE VII

VACANCIES

Except as provided by the Constitution of Grand Encampment, all vacancies in Grand Commandery elective offices caused by death, permanent disability or permanent removal from the jurisdiction precluding the performance of the duties of the office shall be filled by appointment by the Grand Commander. A vacancy in a Constituent Commandery elective office or Trustee shall be filled as prescribed by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment.

ARTICLE VIII

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

A Member of a New Jersey Commandery may accept a commission from the Grand Commander of another recognized Grand Commandery to serve as that Grand Commandery's representative. His title shall be "Grand Representative of the Grand Commandery of Near the Grand Commandery of New Jersey". In accepting such appointment, it is his implied duty to establish contact with the proper officer in the jurisdiction he represents, preferably the Grand Recorder or New Jersey's Grand Representative in that Grand Commandery, keeping him informed of matters of Templar interest taking place in New Jersey. Wherever possible, he should attend the Grand Commandery Conclaves in the jurisdiction he represents, as well as those in New Jersey.

ARTICLE IX

PAST GRAND COMMANDER'S JEWEL

At the close of the Annual Conclave, an Official Past Grand Commander's jewel, with the appropriate purple cord, shall be presented to the outgoing Grand Commander. This jewel shall be and remain the property of the Grand Commander receiving it. All previously presented Past Grand Commander's jewels shall remain the property of those Past Grand Commanders who may have received them.

ARTICLE X

TEMPLAR VETERAN RIBBON

All Knights Templar who are on active duty with or honorably discharged or retired from the armed services of the United States of America, are hereby authorized to wear the Knight Templar Veteran's ribbon on their uniform.

ARTICLE XI

STAFF OFFICERS

The Grand Commander may appoint staff officers for specific duties not involving the administration of the Grand Commandery. Their titles, numbers and duties are as follows: Associate Grand Prelates (not to exceed six, or the number of administrative divisions established) who, in the absence of the Grand Prelate, perform such duties as may be appropriate to the occasion and established Templar usage.

Grand Instructor General with Deputy Instructors General (not to exceed six or the number of administrative divisions established) whose duties it shall be to provide instruction to the Constituent Commanderies regarding the military tactics and floor work associated with full form openings and reception of Grand Officers and Distinguished Guests.

The Deputy Instructors General will annually review, assess, and critique the proficiency of the Constituent Commanderies assigned to them in those tactics and floor work, as well as review the various books, records, and operational procedures of said Commanderies, and report in writing to the Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander, and the Grand Instructor General on their findings.

The Grand Instructor General, with the assistance of the Grand Commander, will design the form of that report. Grand Inspector General with Adjutant Inspectors General (not to exceed six or the number of administrative divisions established) whose duty it shall be to inspect and instruct the Sir Knights of this jurisdiction on the Uniform Regulations of this Grand Commandery, Templar protocol, and the physical aspects of the Asylum that do not relate to the tactics and floor work.

The Adjutants will annually review, assess, and critique the compliance in these areas of the Commanderies assigned to them, and report in writing to the Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander, and the Grand Instructor General on their findings.

The Grand Inspector General, with the assistance of the Grand Commander, will design the form of that report. The Grand Commander's Aide (or Aide-de-Camp), Grand Historian, Grand Marshal, Grand Organist and Grand Soloist, whose duties shall be appropriate to their office, and as may be assigned by the Grand Commander.

Three (3) Grand Outer Guards, whose duty shall be to assist the Grand Marshal and Grand Sentinel in the performance of their duties at the Stated and Special Conclaves of this Grand Commandery. At all other times they are to serve as the Aide to the Dais Officer to whom they are assigned; in the performance of that Officer's respective duties. At the discretion of the Grand Commander, each Dais Officer may select his own Aide while serving as a Dais Officer. Any other Officers as the Grand Commander for the time being shall determine as necessary for the efficient operation of this Grand Commandery. The precedence of such offices shall be lower than any offices specified in the Constitution or Laws of this Grand Commandery.

ARTICLE XII COLOR GUARD

The Grand Commander may, at his own discretion, recognize the service to this Grand Commandery of any Sir Knight within its jurisdiction, without regard as to rank or honors received, where such service does not rise to the level of service that might be recognized and honored by any award or honor of the Grand Encampment. Said Sir Knight shall be awarded a white and black shoulder cord, to be presented by the Grand Commander with proper ceremonies. The cord shall be worn on the left shoulder for as long as the Sir Knight remains a member of a Commandery of this Grand Commandery. These Sir Knights shall be designated as permanent members of the Color Guard, that body of valiant Knights who defended the Beauseant from all foes, never retreated, and never allowed the Beauseant to fall into enemy hands. Up to five such awards may be given in the first year of this award; thereafter, no more than two awards may be given in any Templar Year.

ARTICLE XIII ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER OF THE SWORD

The Illustrious Master of the Sword is an Honorary Medal authorized by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America. It is to be awarded by Constituent Commanderies of twenty five members or more to a Sir Knight who has five years or more of continued service from the date of his Knighting, who has demonstrated exceptional and dedicated service to their Commandery. Additional nominations may be made for each additional twenty five members or portion thereof. Acceptance of the Illustrious Master of the Sword Award is contingent upon the payment of one hundred and twenty five dollars by the nominee or other party to the Grand Commandery of New Jersey Endowment Fund. The jewel shall be worn on the left breast pocket of the Knight Templar Uniform. It shall consist of a copper or bronze metal gold plated casting in the form of an oval sixty three millimeters high by fifty millimeters wide. It shall have a border or bezel of gold plated metal two and one half millimeters wide with etched or cast diagonal slashing. The center shall be of red cloisonné enamel with three swords, two crossed in an X pattern, the third centered vertically at the intersection of the other two. The pommels and hilts of the swords finished in yellow cloisonné enamel, the blades and grips of white cloisonné enamel outlined in silver. The words Master of centered horizontally on the left side of the sword intersection; and the words the Sword centered horizontally on the right side of the sword in gothic script, three and one half millimeters in height, etched or cast in gold metal. The jewel shall be fixed to the uniform by two ten millimeter spur and nail posts with military style butterfly clutch back attachments centered twelve millimeters from each end.



ARTICLE XIV

THE MATRIARCH OF THE TEMPLE

The Matriarch of the Temple is an award that any Sir Knight can present to his Lady. It goes hand in hand with our “Illustrious Master of the Sword” award. It may be presented to any lady, by a Knights Templar, that he feels has shown, with her dedication and support of Templary, that she be recognized as a special Lady. Acceptance of the award is contingent upon the payment of one hundred and twenty five dollars to the Grand Commandery Endowment Fund. The jewel shall consist of a copper or bronze or metal casting with gold plating in the form of a circle thirty three millimeters in diameter. It shall have an outer ring of three and one half millimeters wide of blue cloisonné with the word “Matriarch” (at the top) and “of the Temple across the bottom in gold plated material; an inner circle of twenty six millimeters in diameter of white cloisonné enamel with a heart twenty two millimeters high by twenty two millimeters wide of red cloisonné enamel with the letters “NJ” in gold metallic centered above it; a five pointed gold metallic crown eight millimeters wide and seven millimeters high near the bottom of the heart with a white cloisonné enamel “Passion Cross” eleven millimeters high and nine millimeters in width inside the crown at an angle of fifteen degrees. The jewel may be worn attached to a garment by a single spur and nail post with a military butterfly clutch attachment or suspended from a thirty six millimeter wide by seventy six centimeters long blue ribbon for optional neck wear.



ARTICLE XV

COMMITTEES

The Standing Committees of this Grand Commandery, their membership and duties shall be as hereinafter described.

The Standing Committees:

Membership

York Rite

Knights Templar Eye Foundation

Knights Templar Educational Foundation

Patriotic and Civic Affairs

Templar Religious Activities

Public Relations

Annual Conclave and Templar Festival

Asylum Tactics

Templar Jurisprudence

Finance

Necrology

Doings of Grand Officers

By-Laws

The Chairman of each Standing Committee upon his appointment shall prepare an agenda for his Committee for the ensuing year; organize such Committee for effective performance, and report fully and in writing, his Committee's accomplishments to the Grand Commander, the Grand Recorder and Committee on Doings of Grand Officers, not later than January 10th of each year. The Grand Commander may appoint Special Committees to perform specified tasks not within the purview of the Standing Committees. Such Special Committees shall terminate on completion of their assignments, and not later than the end of the Templar year in which they were created.

Membership Committee shall gather all available information on methods of obtaining new members, and shall pursue membership programs based on the most effective methods of the times. The Deputy Grand Commander shall be Chairman of this Committee.

The York Rite Committee shall actively assist in promoting and coordinating York Rite Masonry, and to that end shall work in close collaboration with the Membership Committee. The Deputy Grand Commander shall be Chairman of this Committee.

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation Committee shall promote knowledge of this Foundation and its operations, not only in the Masonic community, but also among the general public. To this end, this Committee shall collaborate with the Public Relations Committee in the dissemination of information, and with the Director of the Foundation to insure prompt processing of applications for assistance. The Grand Senior Warden shall be a member of this Committee.

The Knights Templar Educational Foundation Committee shall manage the funds of the Knights Templar Educational Foundation allocated to this Grand Commandery; make student loans and obtain repayment thereof under the rules and regulations prescribed by Grand Encampment's Educational Foundation Committee, and to make the availability of loans to deserving students known to educational institutions and potential applicants. It shall be composed of 5 members, appointed for five-year terms so that one new member shall be appointed each year. The Grand Commander in office shall make appointments to fill any vacancies for the unexpired portion of the term and may replace any member of the Committee for cause, reporting his action to the Grand Commandery. The Committee shall elect one of its members to serve as Chairman.

The Patriotic and Civic Activities Committee shall adopt measures to promote active participation by all local Masonic bodies in patriotic activities of a public nature, and in appropriate community activities. To this end, it shall collaborate closely with the Public Relations Committee. The Grand Junior Warden shall be Chairman of this Committee.

The Templar Religious Activities Committee shall promote the religious aspects of Templary, with particular regard to established Templar observances, including the Easter Sunrise Service, Ascension Day and Statewide Church services, and the Christmas Observance. Close association shall be maintained with the Public Relations Committee. The Grand Senior Warden shall be Chairman of this Committee and the Grand Prelate shall be a member thereof.

The Public Relations Committee shall operate in close collaboration with all Grand Commandery Committees and Constituent Commanderies for the purpose of obtaining desirable publicity for Templary or other Masonic activities. To this end, it should establish friendly relations with all useful media of public communication.

The Annual Conclave and Templar Festival Committee shall make all arrangements for the orderly conduct of these events. The Grand Captain General shall be Chairman of this Committee.

The Asylum Tactics Committee shall develop and recommend to the Grand Commandery, drill regulations and asylum tactics for full form openings, reception of Grand Officers and Distinguished Guests, and floor work for the Orders of Templary, not inconsistent with the ceremonies and floor movements indicated by the rituals of the Grand Encampment. The Grand Generalissimo and the Grand Inspector General and Grand Instructor General, if such officers are appointed, shall be members of this Committee.

The Templar Jurisprudence Committee shall investigate and make recommendations relative to interpretations of the Constitution. Laws and Regulations; amendments to the same, matters concerning charters and dispensations, and all other questions arising in the field of Templar Jurisprudence.

The Finance Committee shall prepare and supervise compliance with the annual budget of the Grand Commandery, and audit the financial records of the Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Directors of the Endowment Fund and the Knights Templar Educational Foundation Committee.

The Necrology Committee shall perform the usual duties pertaining to a Necrology Committee.

The Committee on Doings of Grand Officers shall serve as an advisory council to the Grand Commander, with particular regard to the performance of duties of Grand Commandery Officers and committees. It shall investigate suspected nonfeasance, malfeasance and misfeasance and may require officers and committees to appear before it in this connection. This Committee shall be composed of qualified Past Grand Commanders.

The Committee on By-Laws shall review all proposed changes to the bylaws of Constituent Commanderies on behalf of the Grand Commander. Proposed changes shall be prepared in triplicate and forwarded to the Chairman of this Committee. After review, the Committee will forward same to the Grand Commander with its recommendation. Copies are distributed to, and retained by the originating Commandery, the Grand Recorder and the By-Laws Committee.

ARTICLE XVI

GENERAL PROVISIONS

A petition for membership by affiliation in a Constituent Commandery having been rejected, does not have to lie over for six months before making another application for membership. The Templar standing of the petitioner is not affected by such rejection, and he may make application at once to the same or another Commandery.

For a Sir Knight to be eligible to run for the officer of Commander, he must have been elected, installed, and served a full year as a Dais Officer of a Commandery of this Grand Commandery.

For a Sir Knight to re-affiliate with the Commandery from which he demitted, he must make the usual application for affiliation, and submit his demit as if he were affiliating with another Commandery. The application then follows the usual course.

All amendments to this Constitution. Laws and Regulations shall be printed and distributed by the Grand Recorder to all Grand Commandery Officers, Past Grand Commanders and Recorders of Constituent Commanderies, so that all copies may be kept up to date.

The proper officer to pass the ballot box when voting on candidates is the Junior Warden; however, it may be done by any person the Commander may designate.

When casting a ballot, the glove shall be removed from the right hand to eliminate the possibility of a mistake in selection of the ballot. The proper salute before balloting is the hand salute, not the Penal Sign.

A Commandery may attend church in full Templar uniform without a dispensation from the Grand Commander. It may enter the church "covered" or "uncovered" and with swords drawn or sheathed, at the option of the church authorities where the service is held.

No Constituent Commandery may relocate without the consent of the Grand Commander. And such relocation proposed must be approved by a majority of members present at a Stated Conclave, due and timely notice of the proposed relocation having been given.

On the evening of the Annual Conclave, the Recorder of a Constituent Commandery shall place a box on his desk wherein any member may place nominations for any or all elective offices, which nominations shall be read for the information of the members before proceeding with the election. However any member who receives a majority of the votes cast, shall be declared elected whether previously nominated or not.

Public installation of officers may be held in the Asylum of a Constituent Commandery, if approved by a vote of the Commandery, and no dispensation is necessary.

At every Stated Conclave of a Constituent Commandery, a portion of Templar laws shall be read aloud. This should include from time to time, appropriate sections from the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, the Constitution and Laws of this Grand Commandery, and the By-Laws of the Commandery.

The proper time to read Templar Law is immediately before closing the Commandery. No business or announcements shall be made after Templar Law has been read.

As the baldric is no longer a part of the present Templar dress uniform, recitation of the explanation of the baldric in the Order of the Temple is optional with the Commandery conferring the Order.

Constituent Commanderies are governed by the calendar year. The Grand Commandery is governed by the Templar year.

The Cap and Mantle, as prescribed in the Uniform Regulations, may be worn in lieu of the Templar uniform when visiting other Commanderies and other Commandery functions.

The Holy Bible is not to be opened until the Prelate steps down from the Dais as a part of the opening of the Conclave.

Due and timely notice means written notice, not verbal or electronic notice, at least 30 days prior to a meeting.

Any Commandery by-laws to the contrary, the proper procedure for any and all amendments to a Commandery's by-laws requires a written amendment, signed by at least three(3) members of that Commandery, to be read at a Conclave, to then be published to all the members of the Commandery, to then be read at a second Conclave, and then voted on at a third Conclave, with the date of the vote announced in the Commandery's meeting notice.

ARTICLE XVI AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these Laws and Regulations shall be made in the manner prescribed for amendments to the Constitution of this Grand Commandery.

UNIFORM REGULATIONS 2018

A. Full Templar Uniform: Chapeau, Dress Coat, trousers, inside leather belt w/sling, sword, scabbard, gloves, black shoes, black socks, white shirt & black tie.

1. Dress Coat:

a. Knights: black, three (3) button double breasted, equidistant from each other with three (3) buttons on each sleeve, outside left breast pocket, regular side pockets, side opening on left side for sword, sleeve insignia on each cuff.

b. Commanders, Generalissimo, Captain General and Past Commanders: same as Knights, except rank shall be indicated by Shoulder Straps.

c. Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, and Past Grand Commanders: same as Commanders, except sleeve to be finished with cuffs of Black Velvet, 4" deep, three (3) buttons and the appropriate cross-centered on each of the cuffs. Lower edge of cuff to start 1/8" from bottom of sleeve.

d. All Other Grand Officers: same as Commanders, except rank shall be indicated by shoulder straps.

2. Buttons: Three (3) 24 gild colored metal cross & crown buttons on each sleeve, three (3) 36 gild colored metal cross & crown buttons on each forepart of coat.

3. Shoulder Straps: As designated by Sections 243 - 244, Statutes of the Grand Encampment.

4. Sleeve Insignia: Passion Cross with rays on each sleeve to be 1-1/2" x 1-1/8" and applied 2" from bottom of cross to bottom of each sleeve.

a. Knights - Silver Cross with bright red center

b. Commanders and Past Commanders - Gold Cross with bright red center.

c. Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder - Templar Cross 1-1/2" square with bright red center.

d. Other Grand Officers - Same as for Commanders

e. Past Grand Commanders - Templar Cross 1-1/2" square with purple Center.

5. Insignia - May be Bullion or Mylar embroidery.

6. Service Stripes: Proscribed for optional wear. They shall consist of gold lace diagonal stripes, 2-1/2" x 1/4", spaced 1/4" apart, and mounted on black uniform material, with each stripe representing five (5) years of service. When worn, the stripes shall be applied to the left sleeve at an angle of 45 degrees, centered from side to side, with the lower end 5"(inches) from the bottom of the sleeve cuff.

7. Jewels: Only Templar Jewels are to be worn on the Templar Uniform. The K.T.C.H. Jewel, Jewel of Office, Past Commanders Jewel, Badge of Commandery, Malta Cross Jewel & the Red Cross Jewel are to be worn on the left breast of the coat on a line with the top of the pocket, placed in the order named, from the wearer's right to left. The Military Service Ribbon or Emergency Service Ribbon is to be centered above the Malta Cross Jewel & the Knights Preceptor Pin is to be centered above the Past Commander's Jewel. In place of the Military Service Ribbon, when not applicable, the Emergency Services Ribbon is to be worn in the same position, over the Malta Jewel. Templar Jewels prescribed for *MANDATORY WEAR* are the Jewel of Office, if applicable, & the Malta Cross Jewel.

7a. Emergency Service Ribbon proposed at Annual Conclave 4 March 2017, approved at Annual Conclave 3 March 2018. The Emergency Service Ribbon is awarded for meritorious service in recognition of those Knights who have performed seven (7) years of satisfactory service certified by in at least one of the following fields: Fire Protection (structural Firefighting, Wildland Firefighting); Law Enforcement (State Police, Sheriff, Police, Corrections, Federal Law Enforcement (FBI, DEA. Et al) or Emergency Medical Services (EMT, Paramedic, Flight Nurse). The ribbon shall be the Blackinton Commendation Bar Model A10809, metal, 3/8" (.0375") high x 1 3/8" (1.375") wide, enameled red above blue on an upwards bias, bordered in gold tone, With clutch back fasteners.

8. Nametags: Proscribed for optional wear. When worn, the nametag shall be centered on the right breast of the coat. Nametags shall be rectangular with 5/8" X 3" dimensions and shall be either Gold (for All elected or appointed Present and Past Grand Officers), with black letters, and Black in color for Sir Knights with white letters and both shall have the cross and crown design. The design will be imprinted or affixed to the left of the tag, with the letters 'S.K. and the name of the Knight" in 1/4" block letters following the design.

9. Trousers - Shall be of black cloth of standard military cut.

10. Sword and Scabbard: Twenty-eight (28) to forty (40) inches long inclusive of scabbard, helmet head, cross handle and metal scabbard, with cross of proper grade, one (1) inch in height on the hilt.

a. Knights: White metal scabbard suspended by three (3) white metal rings, black hilt, ornamented with white Passion Cross.

b. Commanders and Past Commanders: same, except substitute gold-plated metal, with Passion Cross on white ivory hilt.

c. Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder and Past Grand Commanders: same as for Commanders, except substitute Templar Cross for Passion Cross.

d. Other Grand Officers: same as for Commanders.

11. Belt: Worn under coat, sword fixture extending through openings at side. To be plain black leather with two (2) short suspension straps with nickel-plated fixtures for Knights and gold plated fixtures for Commanders, Past Commanders and all Grand and Past Grand Officers.

12. Chapeau:

a. Knight: Military chapeau trimmed with black binding, two (2) black and one (1) white ostrich plumes, bright red velvet Passion Cross two and three-eighths inches long by one and one-half inches wide, bordered with silver, on left side of chapeau, in black satin rosette, placed vertically, front and rear peaks of chapeau to extend four and one - fourth inches from head, sides of chapeau beveled, being one inch smaller at top than at the head.

b. Commanders and Past Commanders: same as Knights, except Passion Cross and rays bordered in gold, and a strip of gold lace, one and three-eighths inches wide on both sides of the chapeau, running diagonally from head, at front and rear, upward to front and rear, to a point at top five inches from peaks, inside edges of lower end one and one-half inches apart, and with gold tassel on upper side of front peak.

c. Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, and Past Grand Commanders: same as for Commanders, except substitute Templar Cross for Passion Cross, in silk velvet, two inches square, bordered in gold to correspond with shoulder straps, bright Red Cross for grand officers listed above & purple for Past Grand Commanders.

d. Other Grand Officers: same as for Commanders.

13. White Garrison Cap: This cap may be worn as directed by the Grand Encampment with the Dress Uniform instead of the Chapeau. The appropriate emblem of rank as previously noted will be worn in the center of the cap, just over the black visor. In the event that permission to wear this cap is removed by Gr. Encampment, this section shall become null and void and shall not affect the rest of the uniform noted in this directive.

14. Gloves: Buff Colored, of cotton thread or chemisette.

15. Black Shoes: Plain Military black shoes.

16. White Shirt: Plain White Shirt.

17. Black Socks: Plain Black Socks.

18. Black Tie: Long plain black tie.

19. Cape: For optional wear as prescribed in Section 252, Statutes of Grand Encampment.

20. Shoulder Cords and fourragere': The shoulder cord or fourragere' [pronounced "fur-uh-zher], when worn correctly, the braided loop of the cord should be worn under the arm with the two single loops on the outside. Worn as part of the Knight Templar Class "A" uniform of certain officers; fourrageres will have a silver tip.

OFFICE	CORD/FOURRAGERE'	COLOR
Grand Instructor General	Fourragere	Red & White
Deputy Instructor General	Cord	Red
Grand Inspector General	Fourragere	Navy Blue & White
Adjutant Inspector General	Cord	Navy Blue
Grand Marshal	Fourragere	Red & Yellow
Associate Grand Marshal	Cord	Red & Yellow
Aide to the Grand Commander	Fourragere	White & Black
Outer Guard/Dais Aide	Cord	White
Ambassador	Cord	Light Blue
Eminent Commander	Cord	Green
Color Guard	Cord	Black & White

21. Optional Templar Uniform for Constituent Commanderies: Cap, Mantle, trousers, inside leather or nylon belt with sling, sword and scabbard, gloves, black shoes, black socks, white shirt, black long tie. Officers of Commanderies may wear the Cap and Mantle as prescribed by Grand Encampment in lieu of dress coat and chapeau only when all officers are so clothed. This uniform may be worn to any Templar function. Templar Jewels as prescribed will be worn on the white shirt, on a line with the top of the pocket on the left breast. It is recommended that only the Jewel of Office and the Malta Jewel be worn.

B. Fatigue Uniform:

1. Knights, Commanders, and Past Commanders: Fatigue Caps, dress coats, trousers, gloves, black shoes, black socks, white shirt, and black long tie. The dress coat shall contain the appropriate sleeve insignia, service stripes, shoulder straps, jewels and name tag as prescribed for the Full Templar Uniform.

2. Grand Commanders, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder & Past Grand Commanders: Fatigue caps: Fatigue coat, trousers, gloves, black shoes, black socks, white shirt, & black long tie.

3. Other Grand Officers: same as for Commanders.

a. Fatigue Coat: Black three (3) button double breasted, equidistant from each other, with three (3) buttons on each sleeve, outside left breast pocket, regular side pockets. The sleeve insignia and service stripes as prescribed for the dress coat are to be worn, as well as shoulder boards prescribed below. Nametags as prescribed shall be optional. The Malta Cross is the only jewel to be worn on this coat. It shall be centered on the left breast pocket on a line with the top of the pocket.

b. Buttons: Three (3) 24 ligne black cross and crown buttons on each sleeve, three (3) 36 ligne black cross and crown buttons on each forepart of the coat.

c. Shoulder Boards: Shoulder boards shall be 4" long and 2" wide, with the outer and inner end beveled on each side at an angle of 45 degrees, to be made stiff of black velvet with a 25 ligne black cross and crown button at the inner end. A block letter "N.J." gold gild metal device, 9/16" in height. The boards shall be placed facing outboard on each shoulder board 1/4" from the outer end. A Templar Cross, 1" square, shall be centered on each shoulder board, with a bright red center for Grand Officers concerned, and a purple center for Past Grand Commanders.

d. Fatigue Caps:

1. Knights: Pershing style cap or Bell type cap of black cloth. Visor of black leather, or other appropriate man made material, double knotted black silk cord, 3/16" in diameter, and cord attached to corner of visor by gold plated cross and crown buttons. In center of cap in front of a Passion Cross of bright red velvet, bordered with silver plated bullion embroidery, 1 1/2" in height, cross arms to be in proportion to height of cross.

2. Commanders and Past Commanders: The same except cord & cross shall be of gold plate instead of silver plate, & rays are added to the Passion Cross.

3. Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Capt. General, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Recorder: same as for Commanders except band is of black velvet in place of mohair braid, and Cross of Templar design with bright red center and gilt bullion border, 1 1/2" square in place of Passion Cross. Front strap of gilt wire lace 3/8" wide, stitched on black leather or some other appropriate man made material, and has two (2) loops of same pattern lace.

4. Other Grand Officers: same as for Commanders.

5. Past Grand Commanders: Same as for Grand Commander except Templar Cross will have a purple center. A cap with black velvet band with gilt bullion embroidery of a laurel and olive vine, in leaf and berry pattern, with border, top and bottom in rope pattern, gilt bullion may also be worn at the option of a Past Grand Commander.

e. Lapel Insignia: Prescribed for optional wear. When worn it shall be block letters "N.J." of metal, 9/16" in height, each letter followed by a period (.) and shall be worn on both lapels of the collar, horizontally, lower edge, 1/2" above the horizontal line of the lapel, the center of the "N.J." at the center of the collar.

1. Knights: White metal devices.

2. Commanders, Past Commander and All Grand Commandery and Past Grand Commandery Officers: Gold metal color devices.

C. Summer Uniform: White Garrison Cap, with appropriate hat badge, Short sleeve white shirt, shoulder boards, collar insignia, long plain black tie, Knights Templar tie clasp, metal ribbon bar, name plate, black socks and black shoes. Dates of Service: The Summer Uniform may be worn between the dates of April 15th and October 15th. This uniform may be worn in the Constituted Commanderies during these dates with permission of the Eminent Commander and as directed by the Grand Commander for various parades, etc.

1. Garrison Cap w/Cross: The Garrison Cap will be white in color with the appropriate cross of rank affixed to the front of it.

2. White Short Sleeve Shirt: The Shirt will be white in color, with shoulder tabs attached. On the shoulder tabs appropriate badge of rank will be attached, i.e: Cross for Sir Knights, Cross with Rays for Commanders and Past Commanders, Red Templar Cross for the Grand Commander and all Elected Members of the Grand Commander Line. Purple Templar Cross for all Past Grand Commanders. The collar of this shirt will be secured with the button.

3. Collar Insignia: The collar insignia shall consist of KT - NJ, worn on the collar points.

4. Long Black Tie: The tie will be long and black as is normally worn with the Dress Uniform.

5. Knight Templar Tie Clasp: The tie shall be secured with the appropriate gold tie clasp imprinted with New Jersey on it.

6. Metal Ribbon Bar: The Metal Ribbon Bar will be worn in place of the following Jewels, from left to right, Knight Templar Cross, Malta Cross, and Red Cross. It will be placed over the left pocket of the white shirt.

7. Name Tag: The name tag shall be gold in color bearing the insignia of the Cross and Crown with the letters of the Sir Knights name in black color. They shall be rectangular with 5/8" X 3" dimensions. The name tag will be worn centered over the right breast of the shirt.

8. Black Socks and Shoes: Black socks should be comfortable for the Sir Knight wearing same. Black shoes should be of plain military style.

D. Class "C" Uniform: Black Blazer, w/ Knights Templar Patch on Pocket, White Shirt, Malta Pin, Gray Tie w/ Templar Cross, Knight Templar tie clasp, Light Grey slacks, black socks, and black shoes and Nametag. Dates of Service: This uniform may be worn at any time for appropriate occasions as outlined by the Grand Commander, when the Dress Uniform would not be appropriate or too cumbersome for the occasion.

1. Black Blazer: The Blazer shall be black in color with a Knight Templar patch affixed to the left breast pocket of the jacket.

2. White Shirt: The shirt will be white in color, either long or short sleeve, according to the comfort of the Sir Knight wearing it.

5. Malta Pin: A small Malta Pin will be affixed to the left lapel in lieu of a full size Malta Cross.

6. Knight Commander of the Temple and Knight Templar Cross of Honor Pins: The lapel pins which accompany these awards may be affixed to the left lapel, below and in addition to the Malta Pin noted above.

7. Gray Tie w/ Templar Cross: With this uniform a gray tie with the following design woven throughout the fabric of the tie: The cross and crown, with crossed swords superimposed on a Malta Cross, with In Hoc Signo Vincens on the arms of the cross, all enclosed in a little silver circle.

8. Knight Templar Tie Clasp: A Knight Templar tie clasp gold in color shall be worn w/ the tie. It shall be imprinted w/ New Jersey & the Cross & Crown Insignia.

9. Light Grey Slacks: Slacks shall be light grey in color and of appropriate length to cover the top of the shoe when properly worn.

10. Black Socks and Black Shoes: Socks shall be black in color and comfortable for the wearer. Shoes shall be plain black military style.

11. Nametag: Nametags shall be rectangular with 5/8" X 3" dimensions & shall be Gold with black letters, & have affixed the cross & crown design. This design will be imprinted or affixed to the left of the tag. This nametag will be worn over the Knights Templar patch on the left breast at the top of the pocket on the black blazer.

7a. Emergency Service Ribbon: *proposed at Annual Conclave 4 March 2017, approved at Annual Conclave 3 March 2018.* The Emergency Service Ribbon is awarded for meritorious service in recognition of those Knights who have performed seven (7) years of satisfactory service certified by in at least one of the following fields: Fire Protection (structural Firefighting, Wildland Firefighting); Law Enforcement (State Police, Sheriff, Police, Corrections, Federal Law Enforcement (FBI, DEA. Et al) or Emergency Medical Services (EMT, Paramedic, Flight Nurse). The ribbon shall be the Blackinton Commendation Bar Model A10809, metal, 3/8" (.0375") high x 1 3/8" (1.375") wide, enameled red above blue on an upwards bias, bordered in gold tone, With clutch back fasteners.