

**MASONIC CODE
of
SOUTH DAKOTA**

Constitution and By-Laws
of the Grand Lodge of
Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons
of South Dakota

Jurisprudence Committee

Marvin K. Bailin, Sioux Falls (1990)

Hobart Gates, Custer (1991)

Harry Campbell, P.G.M., Garden City (1992)

Lyle B. Rowen, Sr., P.G.M., Wessington (1993)

Wesley P. Jarman, P.G.M., Huron (1994)

Recorder

John N. Gridley, III, Sioux Falls

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Mackey’s Masonic Jurisprudence of Freemasonry, Chapter IV	I

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

BY THE GRAND LODGE A.:F.: & A.:M.: OF SOUTH DAKOTA

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That the Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of South Dakota forms itself into a Body Corporate and hereby declares and sets forth its Articles of Incorporation as follows:

1

The name of the Corporation shall be the Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of South Dakota.

2

The principal office of the Corporation shall be in the City of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, but offices may be located at other points within the State of South Dakota as may be determined by said Corporation at its regular Comm4unications.

3

The Corporation shall have perpetual existence.

4

The number of Directors or Trustees of said Corporation shall be five and the names and residences of those who shall serve as such until their successors are elected and qualified are as follows:

George V. Ayres, Deadwood, South Dakota

W. E. Milligan, Aberdeen, South Dakota

W. D. Swain, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

George Philip, Rapid City, South Dakota

L. M. Simons, Belle Fourche, South Dakota

5

The Corporation shall not be subject to or under the jurisdiction of any superior body so far as its acts are concerned but should it be dissolved according to law, then in such case the property of said Corporation shall be held by the Directors and Trustees and after the debt shall have been fully paid and the Corporation dissolved by decree of dissolution of the Circuit Court, then the remaining property of the Corporation shall be turned over by the Directors, pro rata according to membership, to the particular Lodges of which the Grand Lodge shall at that time be composed.

**A.:F.: & A.:M.: OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE**

The Corporation is formed for fraternal, benevolent, charitable, educational, philanthropic and Masonic purposes, and for the accomplishment of such purposes among other things usually and customarily done by such Corporation shall have power:

- A. To own and hold property.
- B. To take, own and hold property of every kind or character by gift, devise, bequest, grant or other conveyance or testamentary disposition.
- C. To hold, manage, control, sell, mortgage or convey property given, devised, bequeathed, granted or otherwise conveyed or set aside for such purposes in accordance with the directions of the donor.
- D. To make loans, taking security therefore, to purchase securities and make investments.
- E. To provide for the maintenance and care of the aged, needy, helpless, crippled or incapacitated with or independently of other organizations.
- F. To provide for the maintenance, tuition and education of children and young people by loan or otherwise.
- G. To establish, operate and maintain homes, orphanages, asylums, hospitals, and similar institutions and to endow or contribute to like institutions.
- H. To establish, own, operate and maintain libraries and museums.
- I. To establish, own, manage, edit and publish journals and other publications.

7

The private property of the members of said Corporation shall not be liable for its corporate debts.

DECLARATION

We, the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of South Dakota, in order to form a more perfect fraternal union, establish order, insure tranquility, provide for and promote the general welfare of the Craft and secure to the fraternity in South Dakota the blessedness of Masonic privileges, do hereby affirm our adherence to the ancient landmarks of Freemasonry and furthermore do ordain and establish this Constitution:

CONSTITUTION

Article 1: The Principles of Freemasonry: Landmarks

In which, insofar as they are Landmarks, it is not in the power of any man, or body of men, to make innovation are as follows:

1. The Modes of Recognition
2. The division of symbolic Masonry into three Degrees
3. The legend of the Third Degree
4. The government of the fraternity by a presiding officer called a Grand Master, who is elected from the body of the Craft.
5. The prerogative of the Grand Master to preside over every assembly of the Craft, whatsoever and whenever held.
6. The prerogative of the Grand Master to grant dispensations for conferring Degrees at irregular times
7. The prerogative of the Grand Master to grant dispensations for opening and holding Lodges.
8. The prerogative of the Grand Master to make Masons at sight.
9. The necessity for Masons to congregate in Lodges.
10. The government of every Lodge by a Master and two Wardens.
11. The necessity that every Lodge when congregated should be duly tiled.
12. The right of every Mason to be represented in all general meetings of the Craft and to instruct his representatives.
13. The right of every Mason to appeal from the decision of his brethren in Lodge convened, to the Grand Lodge or General Assembly of Masons.
14. The right of every Mason to visit and sit in every regular Lodge.
15. That no visitor not known to some Brother present as a Mason can enter a Lodge without undergoing an examination.
16. That no Lodge can interfere in the business or labor of another Lodge.
17. That every Freemason is amendable to the laws and regulations of the Masonic jurisdiction in which he resides.

**A.:F.: & A.:M.: OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
CONSTITUTION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE**

18. That every candidate for initiation must be a man, free-born and of lawful age.
19. That every Mason must believe in the existence of God as the Grand Architect of the Universe.
20. That every Mason must believe in a resurrection to a future life.
21. That a book of the law of God must constitute an indispensable part of the furniture of every Lodge.
22. That all men in the sight of God are equal and meet in the Lodge on one common level.
23. That Freemasonry is a fraternal society in possession of secrets that may not be divulged to the uninitiated.
24. That Freemasonry consists of a speculative science, founded on an operative art.
25. That the Landmarks of Masonry can never be changed.

Article II: Style and Title of Grand Lodge

The Name and style of this Grand Lodge shall be “The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of South Dakota.”

Article III: Membership

The Grand Lodge shall consist of its officers, Past Grand Masters, and all other Past Elective Officers; the Worshipful Masters and Wardens for the time being of the several chartered and constituted Lodges under its Jurisdiction, or their legally appointed proxies; the Secretary of each constituent Lodge, Past Masters who have served as a Worshipful Master of a Constituent Lodge within this jurisdiction provided they are still a member of a Constituent Lodge within this jurisdiction, each member of the Board of Custodians, each Trustee, each District master, each member of the Board of general Activities, each member of the Commission on Masonic Education, each member of s Standing Committee, and each member of a Special Committee during their service on such committees. (Amended 1996)

Article IV: Seal

The seal of the Grand Lodge shall be in the form shown by the imprint thereof following:



Article V: Communications

The Grand Lodge shall hold an Annual Communication on the third Friday in June, commencing at 10 o'clock A.M., at such place as may be selected by majority vote of the Grand Lodge at the preceding Annual Communication. In case of emergency the Grand Master may postpone the date of the Annual Communication not exceeding thirty days, in which case he shall cause notice to be given the officers, members, and constituent Lodges at least ten days prior to the third Friday in June.

Article VI: Quorum

No stated or special communication of the Grand Lodge shall be opened, nor shall any business be transacted therein, unless seven of the chartered Lodges of the Jurisdiction be represented; but a smaller number may meet and adjourn from day to day for two days. If a quorum shall not then be present, the Grand Master shall declare the Grand Lodge Closed until the next Annual Communication, and the Grand Officers will hold over for another term.

Article VII: Qualifications for Membership and Office

Section 1. No one shall be eligible to any office, or to membership in the Grand Lodge who is not in good and regular standing in a chartered Lodge in this state.

Section 2. No one is eligible, in the Grand Lodge, in the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master-Grand Master Elect, Senior Grand Warden or Junior Grand Warden who shall not have been duly elected and installed Worshipful Master and presided over a chartered Lodge. (Amended 2000)

Article VIII: Proxies

The Master or either Warden of a chartered Lodge may, if unable to attend, appoint any member of the Lodge his proxy to represent the Lodge in Grand Lodge; such appointment shall be in writing and signed by the officer. No other proxies shall be recognized.

Article IX: Votes

In all elections, and upon all questions before the Grand Lodge, each constituent Lodge shall be entitled to three votes; all other members of the Grand Lodge shall, when present, shall be entitled to one vote each; no member shall be entitled to more than one vote, on any occasion, in his own right.

Article X: Officers-Election-Appointment

- Section 1. The officers of the Grand Lodge shall be a Grand Master, a Deputy Grand Master-Grand Master Elect, a Senior Grand Warden, a Junior Grand Warden, a Grand Treasurer-Secretary, a Grand Chaplain, a Grand Orator, a Senior Grand Deacon, a Junior Grand Deacon, a Senior Grand Steward, a Junior Grand Steward, a Grand Standard Bearer, a Grand Sword Bearer, a Grand Marshal, a Grand Pursuivant, a Grand Tyler, a Grand Historian, and such other officers, boards or commissions as may hereafter be created by the Grand Lodge. (Amended 2000)
- Section 2. At each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, a Deputy Grand Master-Grand Master Elect, A Senior Grand Warden, a Junior Grand Warden, a Grand Treasurer-Secretary shall be elected by ballot. (Amended 2000)
- Section 3. The remaining officers in Section 1 of this Article from Grand Chaplain to Grand Historian, inclusive, shall be appointed by the Grand Master-elect.
- Section 4. Any other officers, boards or commissions hereafter created by the Grand Lodge shall be elected or appointed as may be provided in the by-laws creating them, and for such term or terms as designated in such by-law.
- Section 5. A Jurisprudence Committee of five members shall be elected, one member each year for a term of five years, at each Annual Communication, as each of the several terms of the present incumbents expire, and thereafter. Any vacancy on the Jurisprudence Committee, if filled before the next Annual Communication, shall be filled through appointment by the Grand Master from a list of not less than three nominees submitted by the Jurisprudence Committee, such appointee to serve until the next communication of the Grand Lodge when a member to the Jurisprudence Committee shall be elected for the unexpired portion of the term. No member of the Jurisprudence committee shall be eligible to be elected for more than two consecutive terms. (Amended 1994)
- Section 6. All elections shall be by ballot, and a majority of all votes cast shall be necessary for a choice.

Article XI: Vacancies

- Section 1. In the case of death, absence from the Jurisdiction or disability of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master-Grand Master Elect shall fill his place; in case of the death, absence from the Jurisdiction or disability of both, the Senior Grand Warden shall fill the place of Grand Master; in the case of death, absence from the Jurisdiction or disability of all three, the Junior Grand Warden shall fill the place of the Grand Master; and in case of the death, absence from the Jurisdiction or disability of all Grand Officers mentioned, the surviving Junior Past Grand Master shall be the Grand Master. (Amended 2000)
- Section 2. All vacancies shall be filled by the Grand Master for the time being. The office of the Grand Master is never vacant.

Article XII: Sovereignty and Jurisdiction

- Section 1. This Grand Lodge is the only source of authority over matters pertaining to Ancient Craft Masonry in the State of South Dakota.
- Section 2. Any organization, association, parties or persons professing to have any authority, powers or privileges in Ancient Craft Masonry within the State of South Dakota, not derived from this Grand Lodge, are declared to be clandestine, and all intercourse with or recognition of them, or any of them, is prohibited.

Article XIII: Powers of the Grand Lodge

The Grand Lodge has power:

- Section 1. To do whatever may be considered necessary to the wellbeing and perpetuity of Ancient Craft masonry, subject to the Landmarks and the provisions contained in its own Constitution and By-Laws and particularly:
- Section 2. To grant dispensation and charters for holding Lodges of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, with the right to confer therein the several Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason; and when deemed expedient and for the good cause, may annul, revoke or amend such dispensation or charters, or ant pre-existing dispensations or charters.
- Section 3. To exercise original and exclusive jurisdiction over all subjects of Masonic legislation and administration, appellate, judicial and administrative jurisdiction over the decisions and acts of Lodges, and, when expedient, to exercise original jurisdiction over its officers, members, Worshipful Masters and Master Masons under its jurisdiction.
- Section 4. To fix the location of each Lodge under its jurisdiction, and settle all controversies that may arise between Lodges, and to make final decision and determination of all matters of controversy or grievances which may be brought up by appeal or otherwise.

**A.:F.: & A.:M.: OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
CONSTITUTION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE**

- Section 5. To make and adopt general laws and regulations for the government of the several Lodges under its jurisdiction, and to alter, amend or repeal the same.
- Section 6. To assess and collect from the several Lodges under its jurisdiction such sums of money annually as may be provided for by law, and found necessary for the support and maintenance of the Grand Lodge; provided, that contributions levied upon Lodges shall always be equal and uniform, in proportion to their membership.
- Section 7. To supervise the state and condition of its own finances, and adopt such measures in relation thereto as may be deemed necessary.
- Section 8. To reprimand, suspend or expel any member from its own body for violation of the Constitution, By-Laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge, or for any un-Masonic conduct, and to suspend or expel any accused person upon trial or by appeal.
- Section 9. To consider and review the reports and doings of the Grand Officers for the past year, as well as those of the several Lodges under its jurisdiction.
- Section 10. To establish a mileage and expense rate for its members upon a reasonable and just basis.
- Section 11. To establish and preserve a uniform code of work and lectures within the Ancient landmarks and customs of Masonry.
- Section 12. All powers herein expressed, either general or specific, shall not limit or control any power or function expressed, but each clause shall be construed in furtherance and not in limitation of all powers anciently or otherwise exercised.

Article XIV: Powers of Grand Master

The Grand Master has power:

- Section 1. To convene the Grand Lodge in special communication in case of emergency.
- Section 2. To preside at all regular and special communications of the Grand Lodge.
- Section 3. To make Masons at sight.
- Section 4. To decide all questions of usage, order and Masonic Law.
- Section 5. To appoint Grand Representatives to the various Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge.
- Section 6. To exercise the executive functions of the Grand Lodge when not in session.
- Section 7. To issue dispensations for the formation of new Lodge.
- Section 8. To convene any Lodge within this State and in person, or by proxy, to preside therein, with the Worshipful Master to his left; inspect its proceedings and require its conformity to Masonic rules.

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- Section 9. To suspend the Charter of any Lodge when he may deem it expedient.
- Section 10. To command any member of a Lodge which he may visit, to act as Warden for the time being.
- Section 11. To issue his dispensation to any regular Lodge to waive the statutory period between the conferring of Degrees.
- Section 12. To command every Grand Officer and to call on any of them for information, advice, and assistance on business relative to the Craft and to require of them any information concerning their offices.
- Section 13. To constitute Lodges, dedicate Masonic halls, lay cornerstones of Masonic halls, public buildings or other structures, in person or by proxy.
- Section 14. To cause the Ancient Landmarks and Charges to be observed and to do and perform the duties of ancient Grand Masters agreeably to the requirements of Masonry and the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge.
- Section 15. To appoint all committees not otherwise provided.
- Section 16. To have and to use a Grand Master's seal.
- Section 17. To appoint all officers and fill all vacancies not otherwise provided for by the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge.

Article XV: By-Laws

By-Laws shall be adopted by this Grand Lodge to enforce the provisions of this Constitution, define the duties of officers and committees and to regulate such other matters as to the Grand Lodge may seem pertinent.

Article XVI: Amendments

- Section 1. This Constitution may be amended in the following manner only: A proposed amendment must be submitted in writing at an Annual Communication, seconded by the representatives of two constituent Lodges, and submitted to a vote, and if a majority is favorable to the amendment, it must be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, who shall report at the next Annual Communication. After the report of the Committee, if the amendment shall then receive three-fourths of the votes cast, the same shall thenceforth be a part of this Constitution.
- Section 2. No section of this Constitution shall be revised or amended by mere reference to its title, but the section revised or amended shall be set forth and published at full length.
- Section 3. No standing resolutions shall repeal, change or modify any section of this Constitution.

BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND LODGE

Section One: General Provisions

Section 1.01: Written Law

The Written Law consists of the Constitution and the Enactments of the Grand Lodge as expressed in this Code, and its subsequent enactments as published by its authority.

Section 1.02: Unwritten Law

The Unwritten Law consists of the time-honored customs and usage's of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of general recognition as they are found in the traditional and historic records of Free Masonry, and adapted to the conditions and time in which we live, together with such rules for application as will perpetuate its integrity and usefulness, and not repugnant to the written law.

Section 1.03: Former Laws

While the written law of this Grand Lodge is to be found only in this Code, and subsequent enactments, it is not to be understood that rules of law heretofore expressed by Grand Lodge enactment may not have force as unwritten law, if comprehended within the definition given. The purpose being to render the written law more accessible to the Craft for practical use, by limiting the scope of its record, and specifying where it is to be found. In other words, the design of this Code, as to previous Grand Lodge enactments not embraced herein, is to destroy their force and effect as written law, and repeal them for all purposes wherein they are repugnant to its provisions.

Section 1.04: Code

These laws, when compiled and published shall be designated the "Masonic Code of South Dakota" and shall be divided into Chapters and Sections, each to be numbered consecutively from one to the highest number given. And for purposes of reference and citation, it may be known as the "Code", adding, as it may be necessary, the section, and all amendments hereto when offered in Grand Lodge, shall specify the section of the Code, according to the intent; and if to add new chapters or sections, they shall so state, and number the same. The intention being, not only that the enactments at the time of the adoption of this Code, but all subsequent enactments as written law, shall be embraced herein; and the provisions of this Code shall take effect and be in force from and after the 16th day of June, 1990.

Section 1.05: Decisions—Grand Master

The Grand Master may, in his discretion, report to the Grand Lodge decisions upon Masonic Law made by him during its recess. If made to and approved by the Grand Lodge, they shall not have the force or effect as written law, nor shall they be binding as correct expressions of the unwritten law. They shall have the effect of approval of the acts of the Grand Master in the particular instances, and shall be of value only as opinions formed upon *ex parte* statements, without issue joined and submitted in proceedings requiring judicial determination.

Section 1.06: Recommendation—Grand Master

The recommendation of the Grand Master in his address as to changes in, alteration of or additions to the law, although concurred in by the Grand Lodge in its action thereon, or on the report of a committee to which the same shall have been referred, shall not be of force or effect as law, merely by reason of such action; but to render them or any of them legal enactments, they must be presented to the Grand Lodge in writing, independent of such address or report, and then be referred and adopted as by law provided. In no case shall the adoption of a report have the effect of enacting or changing a provision of the Code. The committee may, however, accompany its report with a draft for a change in the law in accordance with the recommendation of the Grand Master, or otherwise, and may make recommendations and statements as to such draft; but the action of the Grand Lodge in its enactment must be independent of its actions on this report.

Section 1.07: Decisions on Appeal

Cases reported by the Committee on Appeals and Grievances, coming to the Grand Lodge on appeal under the forms of law, are proper judicial proceedings; and the action of the Grand Lodge upon their report, touching the legal questions involved, are judicial in their nature, and may be considered as correct interpretations of existing laws, whether written or unwritten. But such action by the Grand Lodge must in no sense be considered as legislative, or the making of a law.

Section 1.08: Repeal

All resolutions, approved decisions and laws of this Grand Lodge are hereby declared to be incorporated in and evidenced by the contents hereof and all other resolutions, approved decisions and laws heretofore passed and adopted by the Grand Lodge are hereby expressly revoked and repealed.

Section 1.09: Amending the By-Laws

These By-Laws may be amended in the following manner:

1. Any amendment proposed must be in writing. Amendments may be proposed by a chartered Lodge, by a Grand Officer, a permanent member or by the Master or Warden of a Lodge, entitled to sit as representative of his Lodge at the next succeeding Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. Amendments may be proposed at any sittings of the Grand Lodge in Annual Communication, or may be filed with the Grand Lodge Office at any time between Annual Communications. (Amended 1998)
2. If filed with the Grand Lodge Office not less than 90 days prior to the Annual Communication, copies thereof shall be distributed to the Grand Officers, permanent members and Lodges by mail not later than 45 days prior to the convening of the Annual Communication.. The Proposals must be read in the Lodge prior to the Annual Communication. (Amended 2000 and 2001)
3. If presented at the Grand Lodge they shall be placed in the hands of the Grand Lodge Executive Director on the first day of the Annual Communication. (Amended 1998)

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4. All amendments shall be read in Grand Lodge and referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence for consideration and report. Upon the presentation of the report, the Committee shall proceed as follows whether the report is favorable or unfavorable.
5. If the proposed amendment relates to the conduct of the business of the Grand Lodge or that of its officers or boards, the vote shall be taken upon the question of adoption of the amendment, and if a majority vote of the members and representatives shall be in favor of the adoption, the amendment shall be declared adopted.
6. If the proposed amendment relates to the conduct of the business of the Lodges, the vote shall be taken by roll call of the Lodges, each Lodge present having one vote, to be given by the Master or one of the Wardens or a proxy of one of them, giving name and office, as to whether the amendment shall be considered and acted upon at the time or referred to the Lodges for action. If a majority of the whole number of chartered Lodges registered at the communication shall vote in favor of immediate consideration and action, the question shall be upon the adoption of the proposed amendment. The vote shall be taken by ballot, each officer, member and Lodge being entitled to cast its vote as in the election of officers. If two-thirds of the vote shall be in favor of the amendment it shall be declared adopted (Amended 2001)
7. Amendments proposed after the first day of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge while in session shall be laid over to the next Annual Communication or referred to the Lodges as may be directed by vote of the Grand Lodge.
8. References to the Lodges of any proposed amendments shall be for the purpose of information of the Lodges and to allow opportunity to instruct their representatives, but all amendments must be adopted in Grand Lodge as herein provided.

Section 1.10: Standing Resolutions

No standing resolution shall be declared to repeal, change or modify any section of these By-Laws.

Section 1.11: Saving Clause

The officers and committees serving the Grand Lodge at the time of the adoption of this Code shall continue in office with all the prerogatives and powers accorded them under the old By-Laws until the new officers are duly elected and installed.

Section Two: Grand Lodge Officers and Committees

Section 2.01: Grand Master

It shall be the duty of the Grand Master:

1. Address: To present, at each Annual Communication, a written address, setting forth his official acts during the year; the general condition of Masonry within the State, and recommending such legislation as he may deem necessary; and he should submit such address to the Committee on Grand Officers' Addresses and Reports ten days before the Annual Communication.
2. Grand Officers: The Grand Master shall appoint all the appointive officers. (Amended 1998)
3. Appoint Committee: To announce the names of the brethren appointed on the Standing Committees and any Special Committees as soon after his installation as convenient to publish in the proceedings the names of the members appointed on such Committees. No member shall be eligible to be appointed on the Standing Committees or any Special Committees for more than two consecutive terms. (Approved 1993)
4. Suspend Master: It shall be the duty of the Grand Master upon satisfactory proof of un-Masonic conduct, to suspend from the functions of office the Worshipful Master of a Constituent Lodge.
5. Other Duties: To perform such other duties as may be required by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge and the usage's of Masonry.

Section 2.02: Deputy Grand Master - Grand Master Elect

The Deputy Grand Master - Grand Master Elect shall perform the duties required of and pertaining to that office by the ceremonies and usages of Ancient Craft Masonry. The Deputy Grand Master - Grand Master Elect shall be *ex officio* member of all Committees. (Approved 1995, 2000)

Section 2.03: Grand Wardens

The Senior Grand Warden and the Junior Grand Warden shall respectively discharge the duties incumbent upon their several offices by ancient Masonic usage, and in the event of absence from the Jurisdiction, or death or disability of the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master - Grand Master Elect, according to rank, to act as provided in Section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution; and to perform such other duties as may be required of them by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge. The Grand Wardens shall be *ex officio* members of all Committees. (Approved 1995, 2000).

Section 2.04: Grand Treasurer-Secretary

The Grand Treasurer-Secretary shall have charge of the seal and jewels of the Grand Lodge; shall personally attend and record the transactions of the Grand Lodge when meeting in Annual Communication; shall see to the

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drawing of all orders, certificated documents and diplomas requiring the seal of the Grand Lodge, to include the affixing of the seal thereon; shall complete and carry on such communications with the various Constituent Lodges of this Jurisdiction, all appendant and/or allied bodies operating therein, and with such other Jurisdictions as may from time to time be necessary to insure that a harmonious relationship exists between such bodies and this Grand Lodge, and to enforce attention to compliance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge as may be necessary.

The Grand Treasurer-Secretary shall be an *ex officio* member of all Committees. (Amended 2000)

The Grand Treasurer-Secretary shall in concert with the staff of the Grand Lodge office, see that all Constituent Lodges submit correct, complete and accurate annual reports as are required by these By-Laws.

The Grand Treasurer-Secretary shall report to each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge such statistical data concerning the status of the membership of this Grand Lodge as may be directed by the Grand Master.

The Grand Treasurer-Secretary shall devote such time as his duties may require for the efficient and prompt completion of such duties or other programs of the Grand Lodge to include the promotion of Masonry. (amended 1995, 2000)

Section 2.05: Financial Responsibility

It is the financial responsibility of the Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: of South Dakota to provide whatever finances, salaries, and expenses are needed, from Grand Lodge funds to pay its employees so that such Brothers may expend all of their efforts toward the promotion of Masonry in the Blue Lodges of this Jurisdiction. (Approved 1995)

Section 2.06: Printing Board

The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master - Grand Master Elect, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden and Grand Treasurer-Secretary shall constitute a committee with power and authority to determine the contents and composition of the Annual Proceedings and other printing, including forms adopted by Grand Lodge, and obtain bids and award contracts for printing based upon such bids, for all such printing. (Amended 2000)

Section 2.07: Other Grand Officers

The Grand Deacons, Grand Stewards, Grand Chaplain, Grand Orator, Grand Marshal, Grand Pursuivant, Grand Historian, Grand Tyler, shall perform such duties as by ancient usage and custom pertain in their respective offices.

Section 2.08: Board of Custodians of the Work—Appointment

The Board of Custodians of the Work, shall consist of a number of members equal to the number of Districts as determined in Section 2.19, Districts, all of whom shall be appointed by the Grand Master, each for a term of

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three years. The Grand Master installed in 2009 shall appoint additional members to this committee to bring it up to its full number by making appointments of one, two, and three years so as to have, as nearly as possible, an equal number of members whose terms expire each year. The area of responsibility for each member of the board of Custodians of the Work shall be assigned to a specific District, with the individual appointments of each member of the Board of Custodians of the Work strategically located within the confines of the district to which they are assigned, whenever possible. It is desirable, but not mandatory, for the member to reside in the district served. When a vacancy occurs the appointment shall be for the unexpired term. No member of the Board of Custodians of the Work shall be eligible to be appointed for more than two consecutive full terms. Each member shall be a Master Mason in good standing in a Lodge of this Jurisdiction and a Past Master, and shall be proficient in the established work and lectures of this Jurisdiction. (Amended 2009)

Section 2.08: Board of Custodians of the Work—Qualifications

Each newly appointed member after the first named must pass a satisfactory examination before the Board as to his proficiency in the work and lectures of this Jurisdiction before receiving his commission. If he fails to do so, the Board shall notify the Grand Master, who shall vacate the appointment, and make another to fill the vacancy so created.

Section 2.10: Board of Custodians of the Work—Removal

The Grand Master shall have authority to remove any member of the Board who, by reason of neglect of duty, inefficiency, incompetency or other cause shall in the judgment of himself or that of a majority of the Board, be unsuitable for the work, and to fill the vacancy so created.

Section 2.11: Board of Custodians of the Work—Duties

The Board may hold meetings before, during, or after the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge for rehearsal in the established work and lectures, in order to secure uniformity therein, and at that time may hold an Annual School of Instruction for the benefit of all Lodges and Masons. Such School shall be under the charge of the entire Board of Custodians, subject to such regulations as they may adopt and prescribe.

The Board of Custodians shall publish in cipher, and distribute, as hereafter provided, in addition to the complete authorized Ritual, the Entered Apprentice Lecture, First Section, and the Fellow Craft Lecture, First Section, each in separate section.

All copies of the Sectional Rituals shall always remain the property of the Grand Lodge and remain at its disposition and are to be accounted for under such Rules and Regulations as the Board may prescribe. At the option of the Board, the records relating thereto and all surplus copies of such Sectional Rituals shall be in the Custody of the Grand Lodge Executive Director, all subject to action or order of the Grand Lodge. (Amended 1998)

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The Worshipful Master or other designated officer of a Constituent Lodge may place the appropriate Sectional ritual in the hands of a candidate for the Degrees for temporary use and study by the candidate in preparation for examination. Such Sectional Ritual must be surrendered or satisfactorily accounted for before a candidate may be advanced to the succeeding Degree.

It shall not be a Masonic offense for the members of the Board to comply with the provisions of this Section or for an officer of a Constituent Lodge to furnish to a candidate a Sectional Ritual in accordance with the provisions of this By-Law and the Rules and Regulations prescribed by the Board or for a Master Mason to assist a candidate to learn a lecture by use of a Sectional Ritual, nor shall such action by any such Board Member, Lodge officer or Master Mason be deemed a violation of any obligation theretofore taken by any of them.

The Board of Custodians shall publish in written-out form the complete authorized ritual to be placed one copy each to the Elected Grand Lodge Officers (Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master - Grand Master Elect, Senior Grand Warden, and Junior Grand Warden) and by request and upon payment of the applicable fee, each constituent Lodge. Every copy so issued is to be accounted for annually as directed by Grand Lodge. (Approved 1992; amended 2001)

Section 2.12: Trustees

The Trustees of the Grand Lodge shall be the Trustees of the Grand Charity Fund.

Section 2.13: Trustees—Manage Fund

The Trustees shall have the control and management of the permanent Grand Charity Fund. (Amended 2001)

The Trustees shall have the authority to invest in U.S. Government Securities such portion of the General Fund as may from time to time be set aside from said Fund for the investment by action of the Finance Committee and with the approval of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Section 2.14: Report

The Trustees shall, at the Annual Communication each year, make a detailed report to the Grand Lodge of the sources and amounts of all funds that may have come into their hands, together with an itemized statement showing the amount, to whom paid and the purpose of each item of expenditure.

Section 2.15: Prosecute and Defend

The Trustees shall have authority and it shall be their duty in the name of the Grand Lodge to prosecute and defend all actions, and take all necessary legal steps in relation to the investment and collection of the funds under their control.

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Section 2.16: Expenses

The Trustees shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties, as authorized in the annual budget, to be paid out of the General Fund of the Grand Lodge. (Amended 2001)

Section 2.17: Election of Trustees

The Board of Trustees shall be elected from the body of the Grand Lodge. One Trustee shall be elected each year for a term of five years, at each Annual Communication, as each of the several terms of the present incumbents expire, and thereafter.

Any vacancy in the Board of Trustees, if filled before the next Annual Communication, shall be filled through appointment by the Grand Master from a list of not less than three nominees submitted by the Board of Trustees, such appointment to serve until the next Communication of the Grand Lodge when a Trustee shall be elected for the unexpired portion of the term. No member of the Trustees shall be eligible to be elected for more than two consecutive terms. (Approved 1993)

Section 2.18: Powers and Duties of Trustees

In addition to the powers and duties elsewhere set forth, the Board of Trustees shall have power and it shall be its duty:

1. Subject to the directions of the Grand Lodge, to exercise general management, control and supervision over the property, fiscal affairs and employees of the Grand Lodge, including the making or authorizing the execution and acknowledgment of all necessary conveyances, agreements and other instruments by the Chairman or the Vice Chairman, to be attested by the Grand Treasurer-Secretary.
- 1A. The Trustees shall employ an Executive Director for the Grand Lodge of South Dakota to perform such duties as assigned by the Trustees, which duties shall include:
 - a. The approval of an adherence to those office policies and job descriptions created from time to time governing all employees of the Grand Lodge Office;
 - b. The keeping of all membership and related records;
 - c. The accounting and reporting of Grand Lodge income to include the receipt and deposit of all moneys in approved accounts;
 - d. The preparation, final approval and payment of all expenditures on orders regularly issued and signed by the Grand Master or his designated representative;
 - e. The maintenance of appropriate level of supplies for normal activities within the Grand Lodge office, the use by Grand Lodge Officers and by Committees of the Grand Lodge, as well as those maintained available for use by Constituent Lodges;

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- f. The collection, review and compilation of statistics and activities from Constituent Lodge Secretaries as required;
 - g. Notifying each Constituent Lodge of any indebtedness due to the Grand Lodge;
 - h. Supervise and administer the program of Grand Lodge awards including fifty, sixty, and seventy year certificates and pins and distinguished service awards. (Amended 2001)
 - i. Such other matters appropriate to the efficient administrative controls of the Grand Lodge not otherwise fixed by the Constitution and By-Laws or other action of the Grand Lodge. (Approved 1994)
2. To act as a cabinet to the Grand Master in the general administration of the Craft in this Grand Jurisdiction.
 3. To designate one of its members as a Chairman and another as a Vice Chairman, and to appoint a Secretary to preserve the minutes of its deliberation.
 4. To hold at least one meeting every three months at a time to be fixed by notice in writing by the Grand Master, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, or any two members of said Board.
 5. To designate depositories for the funds of the Grand Lodge.
 6. To institute legal proceedings in the name of the Grand Lodge.
 7. To make a report of their doings throughout the year at each Annual Communication.

Section 2.19: Districts

1. The Board of Grand Trustees shall divide this Grand Lodge Jurisdiction into Districts, each District to include approximately seven Lodges, and it may change the boundaries of said Districts from time to time after consulting the Lodges involved in the proposed redistricting to ascertain their recommendations relative to geographic and historic ties which bind Lodges together. That information should then be used to form districts that belong together rather than arbitrarily forming new district boundaries.
2. The Board of Grand Trustees shall further divide this Grand Lodge Jurisdiction into four areas into which the Districts formed as prescribed in paragraph 1 of this Section will be placed. The Grand Master will assign himself, The Deputy Grand Master, The Senior Grand Warden and the Junior Grand Warden as official Grand Lodge visitors to the District meetings held in these respective areas. Adopted in 2006

Section 2.20: District Masters—Appointment and Duties

The Grand Master shall appoint in each district a Master or Past Master, as a District Master, to hold office for a term and period of three years renewable upon agreement of the Grand Master and District Master. It shall be his duty:

- 1a. To generally do all things to promote the welfare of the Lodges within his District.

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- 1b. To approve any temporary changes in the time or place of stated/special meeting of lodges in his district and shall as soon as conveniently may be report the same to the Jurisprudence Committee. 2010
- 1c. To recommend to the Grand Master for his consideration prospective brothers to serve as District Custodians and Membership chairmen. They shall serve at the concurrence of the Grand Master. 2010
2. To visit each Lodge within the District at least once during the year.
- 3a. A District Master may determine if it is more reasonable to hold a meeting combined with one or more other Districts in the same appointed area. He should then contact the District Masters in the same appointed area as prescribed in paragraph 1, Section 2.19 and if feasibility of a greater attendance and better programming is felt by the District Masters, a combined District Meeting may be held. A District Master may decline to attend a combined meeting but if he declines he must hold a District Meeting at some convenient point within his District.
- 3b. It is the responsibility of all District Masters to put a well-planned program together. The program in part should consist of informing the visiting brethren of the benefits and programs provided by the Grand Lodge of South Dakota. Approved 2006.
4. To preside in each Lodge upon the occasion of his official visit; to examine its books and records and see if they are properly kept; to inform himself of the number of members and punctuality and regularity of their attendance; to ascertain the state and condition of the Lodge in all respects; to point out any errors he may discover in their conduct and mode of work; to instruct them in every particular wherein he shall find that they required or may desire information; to promote the preparation of plans for the activities of the year by the Master of the Lodge and particularly to recommend attention to the moral and benevolent principles of Free Masonry.
5. To prepare and submit to the Grand Master, on or before the 15th day of April of each year, a full report of the general condition of Masonry in his District and of his acts therein with such particulars as he may deem necessary, including the names and numbers of the Lodges in his District which he has failed to visit, together with the reasons therefor.
6. To attend meetings as directed by the Grand Master or his designee.
7. To perform such other services and duties as may be entrusted to him by the Grand Master.

Section 2.21: District Masters

Every District Master shall be well skilled in the standard work of the three Degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry and in the customs and usage's of the Craft, and shall receive a warrant of his appointment signed by the Grand Master and attested by the Grand Treasurer-Secretary.

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Section 2.22: *Masonic Messenger* Editorial Committee

1. The Grand Master shall appoint the *Masonic Messenger* Editorial Committee, consisting of no less than three members and name the chairman thereof. One member shall be appointed each year for a term of three years, at each Annual Communication, as each of the several terms of the present incumbents expire, and thereafter. The members of this committee shall not be subject to any term limitation provisions found elsewhere in these By-Laws. (Amended 2001)
2. Such Board shall have the power and duty to:
 - a. Prepare and publish the *Masonic Messenger*. (Amended 2002)
 - b. Perform such other duties as the Grand Master may from time to time delegate to it.
 - c. Present a report of its doings to the Grand Lodge at each Annual Communication. (Amended 2001)

Section 2.23: Commission on Masonic Education

1. The Grand Master shall appoint a Commission on Masonic Education, consisting of eight members, who shall themselves select the chairman thereof. Two members shall be appointed each year for a term of four years, at each Annual Communication, as each of the several terms of the present incumbents expire, and thereafter. The members of this committee shall not be subject to any term limitation provisions found elsewhere in these by-laws. (Amended, 2001)
2. Such Board shall have the power and duty to
 - a. Search out, develop, organize and distribute program material and study outlines for the purpose of promoting Masonic Education and information for the benefit of the Lodges and the Craft.
 - b. Organize and supervise a Masonic Speakers Bureau.
 - c. Consult with District Masters in their selection of District Education Officers in their respective Districts to be nominated for annual appointment by the Grand Master.
 - d. Ascertain that the District Education Officers consult with the Masters in their respective Districts to procure the appointment by the Master of a qualified Lodge Education Officer in each Lodge.
 - e. Perform such other duties as may be necessary and proper in the discharge of the foregoing duties.
 - f. Present a report its doings to the Grand Lodge at each Annual Convention.

Section 2.24: Standing Committees

The Standing Committees of the Grand Lodge shall be:

- a. On Credentials
- b. Grand Officers Addresses and Reports

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- c. Necrology
- d. Jurisprudence
- e. Appeals and Grievances
- f. Finance
- g. Committee on Membership (Approved 1996)
- h. Fraternal Correspondence
- i. Fraternal Relations (Approved 1992)
- j. Life Membership in Perpetuity Program
- k. Committee on Public Awareness (Approved 1996)
- l. Committee on Masonic Youth (Approved 1996)
- m. Unfinished Business
- n. Scholarship (Approved 2001)
- o. Drug and Alcohol Abuse Committee - MMSATP (Masonic Model Student Assistance Training Program) Approved 2006
- p. South Dakota CHIP Committee (Child Identification Program) approved 2006

Section 2.25: Credentials

1. Description: The Committee on Credentials shall consist of chairman thereof named by the Grand Master. The members of this committee shall not be subject to any term limitation provisions found elsewhere in these by-laws. The committee shall function under the three members who shall be appointed and the supervision of the Grand Treasurer-Secretary. (Amended 2001)

2. Duties: To receive and examine the Credentials of the representatives to the Grand Lodge and report thereon at the first day's session and a final report at the close of registration. To issue and account for ballots to those entitled to a vote. (Amended 2001)

Section 2.26: Grand Officers' Addresses and Reports

1. The Committee on Grand Officers' Addresses and Reports shall consist of the Chairman of each of the following Committees:
 - Jurisprudence
 - Appeals and Grievances
 - Fraternal Correspondence

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2. Duties: To receive the annual address of the Grand Master and Grand Treasurer-Secretary's Report for comment and distribution, and report thereon in the afternoon of the first day's session.

Section 2.27: Necrology

1. Description: The Committee on Necrology shall consist of the Grand Chaplain, as Chairman, and the Grand Standard Bearer and Grand Sword Bearer.
2. Duties: To report and comment on deceased brethren in this and other Grand Lodges.

Section 2.28: Jurisprudence

1. Description: The Committee on Jurisprudence shall elect their chairman.
2. Duties: To consider all questions of Masonic Law arising in the business coming before the Grand Lodge, or any of its committees, and all decisions of the Grand Master and report thereon. To consider and report on all propositions to amend the Constitution or By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, and all questions relative to the usage's, privileges and customs of the fraternity. To provide or approve copy for printing amendments of the Constitution, By-Laws or amendments to the same. (Approved 1992)

Section 2.29: Appeals and Grievances

1. Description: The Committee on Appeals and Grievances shall consist of five members and the Brother first named shall be chairman thereof.
2. Duties: To consider all appeals to the Grand Lodge, and all grievances which are required by law to be referred thereto, or which in the judgment of the Grand Lodge should be so referred. To make a separate and distinct report upon each and every subject or case referred to it for consideration.

Section 2.30: Finance

1. Description: The Committee on Finance shall consist of five members and the Brother first named shall be chairman thereof.
2. Duties: To examine and report on the accounts of the Grand Officers and all claims affecting the finances of the Grand Lodge. No appropriation of Grand Lodge funds shall be made without reference to and report from this Committee.

Section 2.31: Committee on Membership

1. Appointments: The Committee on Membership shall consist of a number of members equal to the number of Districts as determined in Section 2.19, Districts, all of whom shall be appointed by the Grand Master, each for a term of three years. The Grand Master installed in 2009 shall appoint additional members to this

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committee to bring it up to its full number by making appointments of one, two, and three years so as to have, as nearly as possible, an equal number of members whose terms shall expire each year. The area of responsibility for each member of the Committee on Membership shall also be consistent with the boundaries of each of the Districts as determined in Section 2.19, Districts. Each member of the Committee on Membership shall be assigned to a specific District, with the individual appointments of each member of the Committee on Membership strategically located within the confines of the District to which they are assigned, whenever possible. It is desirable, but not mandatory, for the member to reside in the district served. When a vacancy occurs the appointment shall be for the unexpired term. No member shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive full terms. The elected Grand Lodge Officers and the Executive Director shall be *ex officio* members. (Amended June 2009)

2. Duties: It shall be the duty of the Committee to review and analyze membership trends of the jurisdiction and to develop, recommend, and implement short, intermediate and long-range goals for membership retention and growth. The Committee shall study and recommend methods of membership development and management to include development of pamphlets, audio and video tapes and other materials, seeking assistance from the Commission on Education and other appropriate Grand Lodge Committees to implement membership goals. (Approved 1996).

Section 2.32: Fraternal Correspondence

1. Description: The Committee on Fraternal Correspondence shall consist of one member.
2. Duties: To consider, review, abstract and comment on the proceedings of other Grand Lodges in fraternal correspondence with this Grand Lodge, as they are referred to him by the Grand Lodge Office, and report thereon at the Annual Communication. (Amended 1998)

Section 2.32A. Fraternal Relations

1. Description: The Committee on Fraternal Relations shall consist of three members appointed by the Grand Master. The Committee shall initially be appointed for one, two, and three year terms. Thereafter the Grand Master shall appoint one Committee member each year for a three year term. Each year the senior member shall be Chairman. (Approved 1992)
2. Duties: To inquire into the character and status of all foreign Grand Lodges which may hereafter apply for recognition and report thereon, whether such application is pending or not, in order to be prepared for applications from foreign Grand Lodges when made, and to receive and report on communications from other Grand Lodges on Masonic recognition and action taken by them relating thereto. (Approved 1992)

Section 2.33: Life Membership in Perpetuity Program

1. Description: The Committee on Life Membership in Perpetuity Program shall consist of five members, two of whom shall be Grand Lodge Trustees, and all of whom shall be appointed by the Grand Master. The Committee shall initially be appointed for one, two, three, four, and five years. Thereafter the Grand Master shall appoint one Committee Member each year for a five year term. No member of the Committee

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on Life Membership in Perpetuity Program shall be eligible to be appointed for more than two consecutive terms. (Approved 1993)

2. Duties: To evaluate procedures and implement changes in procedures as may be necessary for the efficient operation of the Life Membership in Perpetuity program, to elect its Chairman at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, to meet with the Grand Lodge Trustees annually at one Grand Lodge Trustee meeting prior to the time of Grand Lodge, to review and approve, if appropriate, the administrative costs of the Life Membership Fund.

Section 2.34: Other Committee Membership

Each of the following Committees shall consist of three members, appointed by the Grand Master and the Brother first named shall be chairman thereof:

- Committee on Public Awareness (Approved 1996)
- Committee in Masonic Youth (Approved 1996)
- Unfinished Business

Section 2.35: Committee on Public Awareness

1. Appointments: The Committee on Public Awareness shall consist of three members. The term of each shall be three years. The Grand Master elected in 1996 shall appoint one member for a term of one year, one member for a term of two years, and one member for a term of three years. Successors shall be appointed for a term of three years. When a vacancy occurs, the appointment of his replacement shall be for an unexpired term. No member shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive full terms. (Approved 1996)
2. Duties: The Committee on Public Awareness shall be responsible for promoting better public relations with those who are not members of the Fraternity. Additional duties shall be
 - (1) to publicize Masonic events and activities which may be of interest to the public;
 - (2) to assist similar committees and/or Worshipful masters of Constituent Lodges by providing public awareness materials;
 - (3) to enlist the support of the news media and other disseminators of information over the State of South Dakota who are members of the Masonic Order;
 - (4) to cooperate with and promote participation in worthwhile community and school affairs; and,
 - (5) maintain active contact with the Masonic Information Center of the Masonic Service Association. (Approved 1996).

Section 2.36: [This Section reserved.]

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Section 2.37: Committee on Masonic Youth

1. Appointments: The Grand Master elected in 2007 and each succeeding year shall appoint members to this committee and select a chairperson of this committee each year. Such additional committee members shall be representatives of advisors for South Dakota DeMolay, South Dakota Job's Daughters and Rainbow Girls. The committee will not exceed five members plus the chairperson. Terms for all committee members and the chairperson are for one year. The chairperson and committee members may be re-appointed to subsequent terms. The committee may add additional members in an *ex officio* status. (Amended 2007)
2. Duties: It shall be the duty of this Committee to maintain constant liaison with Masonic-related youth organizations (International Order of DeMolay and International Order of Job's Daughters [IOJD], Rainbow Girls and other youth-related organizations currently active in South Dakota. Additional duties shall be:
 - (1) to demonstrate interest, concern and support of the South Dakota Grand Lodge A.:F.: & A.:M.: and of the Master Masons of South Dakota for the youth of South Dakota;
 - (2) to work cooperatively with youth organizations as needed;
 - (3) to assist them in furthering their goals and objectives, and to encourage constituent Lodges to assist in providing adult leadership when requested to do so;
 - (4) to gather information about all activities/programs for youth in the state.

All of the above duties shall be consistent with the principles of Freemasonry. (Approved 2007).

Section 2.38: Unfinished Business—Duties

To report at the beginning of each Annual Communication all matters of business remaining from previous Communications of this Grand Lodge, and at the close of the Communication a summary of business not finally disposed for, for the guidance of subsequent communications.

Section 2.39: [This Section reserved.]

Section 2.40: Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee shall consist of five members who have been appointed by the Grand Master, initially for staggered terms one through five years, thereafter one member each year for a five year term. At least one member of the committee shall at all times, be actively employed as an educator in South Dakota. The committee member who is serving the final year of his current appointment shall act as chairman. The committee shall accept and screen applications for and award scholarships in accordance with Section 2.52 of these Bylaws (Amended & Adopted 2001)

Section 2.41: Drug and Alcohol Abuse Committee—MMSATP

1. Appointments: The committee on Drug and Alcohol Abuse-MMSATP (Masonic Model Student Assistance Training Program) shall consist of six members who shall serve terms of three years each. The Grand Master elected in 2006 shall appoint two members for a term of one year, two members for a term of two years, and two members for a term of three years. Successors shall be appointed for a term of three years

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provided that when a vacancy occurs, the appointment shall be for an unexpired term. The chairman of this Committee shall be appointed by the Grand Master. The elected Grand Lodge Officers and the Executive Director shall be *ex officio* members.

2. Duties: It shall be the duty of this Committee to schedule and oversee the conducting of MMSAT seminars, maintain a concise record of attendees and expenses incurred for each seminar, and to spearhead and oversee each MMSAT Seminar. (Adopted 2006)

Section 2.42: South Dakota Child Identification Program—CHIP

1. Appointments: The South Dakota Child Identification Program (CHIP) shall consist of six members who shall serve terms of three years each. The Grand Master elected in 2006 shall appoint two members for a term of one year, two members for a term of two years, and two members for a term of three years. Successors shall be appointed for a term of three years provided that when a vacancy occurs, the appointment shall be for an unexpired term. The Chairman of this committee shall be appointed by the Grand Master. The elected Grand Lodge Officers and the Executive Director shall be *ex officio* members.
2. Duties: It shall be the duty of this Committee to help implement, coordinate, facilitate, and promote a child identification program with the Grand Jurisdiction of South Dakota utilizing the constituent Lodges within the state for assistance.
3. Funding: Funding for this program will be through the efforts of local Lodges and their fund raising activities, private donations, corporate sponsorship, gifts and grants, and bequests. All funds received will be administered through the Grand Lodge office in a special account earmarked for South Dakota CHIP. (Adopted 2006)

Section 2.43: Special Committees

Special Committees of the Grand Lodge shall be appointed as occasion may require.

Section 2.44: Members and Duties

1. Each Special Committee shall consist of not less than three nor more than five members; unless otherwise ordered the first named Brother shall be Chairman.
2. Special Committees shall promptly investigate all matters referred to them and report to the Grand Lodge as ordered.

Section 2.44A: Revenues

The Revenues of the Grand Lodge shall consist of the following Fees (Approved 1996):

1. For Dispensation to form a new Lodge, fifty dollars.
2. For Charter for new Lodge, twenty-five dollars.
3. For Charter for new Lodge, if no dispensation shall have been granted, seventy-five dollars.

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4. For each Entered Apprentice initiated in any chartered Lodge, five dollars.
5. And dues for each Master Mason reported in the annual returns of a Lodge, as prescribed in Section 4.11 of the By-Laws.
6. Any sums realized out of the property of dissolved Lodges.
7. The income from any money or property given or devised or belonging to the Grand Lodge.
8. All property whatsoever, to which the Grand Lodge is, or may become, entitled.

Section 2.44B: Permanent Uniforms

The permanent uniform for the Grand Lodge Officers elected and appointed, to be worn at all Masonic functions, both public and tiled, or as ordered by the Grand Master, shall be (Approved 1996):

- Medium green blazer
- Black pants
- White shirt
- Choice of tie to be made by the Grand Master Elect
- Black shoes or boots

Section 2.45: Funds

There shall be eight funds, namely, the General Fund, the Grand Lodge General Fund Endowment, the Life Membership Fund, the Facilities Endowment Trust, The Masonic Model Student Assistance Training Program Operating Fund, The Masonic Model Student Assistance Training Program Endowment, The Education Endowment Fund and the Grand Charity Fund. Additional Special purpose funds may be authorized by vote of the Grand Lodge as may from time to time be necessary. The fiscal year of the Grand Lodge shall begin May 1st and end April 30th following. (Amended 1999)

Section 2.46: General Fund

1. The General Fund shall consist of all monies paid into the Grand Lodge Treasury except those belonging to, or especially intended for the other Funds or any of them. All expenses of the Grand Lodge shall be paid from the General Fund.
2. The Grand Lodge Office shall not make any payments on the General Fund except as authorized by the adopted budget unless authorized in writing by the Board of Trustees. All checks for payment shall be counter-signed by the Grand Master and the Grand Treasurer-Secretary, or in the absence of only one of them by either the Deputy Grand Master or the Grand Lodge Executive Director. (Amended 1998).

Section 2.47: Grand Lodge General Fund Endowment

1. The Grand Lodge General Fund Endowment shall consist of all moneys, securities, and property now in said Fund, and gifts, contributions, donations, and bequests of money or property made to the Grand Lodge for the Grand Lodge General Fund Endowment.
2. The Income from the principal of the Grand Lodge General Fund Endowment shall be paid at least annually to the General Fund.

Section 2.48: Life Membership Fund

1. The Life Membership Fund shall consist of all life membership fees from the constituent Lodges.
2. The Trustees shall annually pay from the Life Membership Fund to the respective constituent Lodges an amount equal to the Annual Dues of such Lodge in effect at the time a Life Membership was purchased, less the amount of the Grand Lodge Per Capita Dues in effect at the time said Life Membership was purchased, which Grand Lodge Per Capita Dues shall be paid to the Grand Lodge General Fund. Said amounts shall remain the same in perpetuity. The Grand Lodge Office shall keep a permanent record of those individual amounts. (Amended 1998)

Section 2.49: Facilities Endowment Trust. (Amended 2000)

1. The Facilities Endowment Trust shall consist of funds received from the sale of the Grand Lodge Library Building and such other funds as may be designated or donated for this purpose.
2. Income from the Trust may be used for the expense of operating the Grand Lodge office facility.

Section 2.50: Masonic Model Student Assistance Training Program Operating Fund.

1. The Masonic Model Student Assistance Training Program Operating Fund shall consist of all funds designated for that purpose.
2. Expenditures from the fund shall be paid on all expenses of the Program, as authorized by the chairman of the Masonic Model Student Assistance Training Committee and approved by the Board of Trustees. (Amended 2000)

Section 2.51: Masonic Model Student Assistance Training Program Endowment

1. The Masonic Model Student Assistance Training Program Endowment shall consist of all funds received for this purpose.
2. Funds shall be invested and only the income be available for transfer to the Masonic Model Student Assistance Training Program Operating Fund as required. (Amended 2000)

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Section 2.52: Education Endowment Fund

The Education Endowment Fund shall consist of funds received or designated for that purpose. The net income to be used for education scholarships administered by the Scholarship Committee under the following guidelines:

1. Applications for scholarships will be submitted on forms approved and provided by the Grand Lodge through Constituent Lodges to the Grand Lodge Scholarship Committee for the final screening and selection.
2. Applications will be received only from applicants who have a Masonic connection, either by blood or marriage to a Mason who is, or was at the time of his death, a member in good standing in a South Dakota Masonic Lodge
3. Preference will be given to applicants who demonstrate financial need.
4. Preference will be given to applicants who plan to attend a public or private college, university or technical school in South Dakota
5. Scholarships will be awarded in the minimum amount of :
 - \$1,000.00
 - \$500.00 if matched with a like amount from a Constituent Lodge.
6. Scholarships will be granted for one year only but any student may apply every year for a maximum of five years.
7. The number of scholarships to be awarded in any one year shall be determined by the income that is available from the Grand Lodge Education Endowment Fund plus any additional funds that may be designated for that purpose.
8. Scholarship awards will be used for tuition purposes only and will be issued by check jointly payable to the recipient and the educational institution to be attended. (Amended 2001)

Section 2.53: Grand Charity Fund

The Grand Charity Fund shall consist of all moneys, securities, and property now in said Grand Charity Fund, and gifts, contributions, donations, and bequests of money or property made to the Grand Lodge for the Grand Charity Fund.

Section 2.54: Expenditures from Grand Charity Fund

Any proposed expenditures from the Grand Charity Fund shall be referred to the Board of Trustees for consideration before action is taken by the Grand Lodge.

Section 2.55: Relief Applications

1. All applications for relief shall be made to the Trustees. They shall carefully examine and investigate all applications, and when from a Lodge, shall ascertain its financial condition, the calls upon it for charity, and such other facts as they may deem proper.

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2. In cases of emergency, they may draw upon the Grand Charity Fund, but appropriations for continuous or permanent relief shall be made only by the Grand Lodge. No appropriation for permanent relief shall be made upon the application of a Lodge, unless such application shall have been presented to the Trustees at least thirty days before the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

Section 2.56: Expenditures

Every proposal to appropriate or expend money from the General Fund of the Grand Lodge shall be made in writing and referred to the Finance Committee and shall be reviewed by the Board of Trustees before report to Grand Lodge by the Finance Committee. No money shall be appropriated or expended until such Committee shall have reported, excepting that since the fiscal year of the Grand Lodge ends April 30th preceding each Grand Lodge Communication, all duly constituted officers are authorized to continue the business of the Grand Lodge, including the drawing and paying of warrants, during the interval from May 1st to the Annual Communication, on the same basis as the appropriations made at the previous Annual Communication.

Section 2.57: Debt

No debt shall be contracted, nor any disbursement made, otherwise than by order of the Grand Lodge or the Trustees.

Section 2.58: Accounts

Every account against the Grand Lodge shall show upon its face each item composing the whole claim, and by whose authority the indebtedness was created.

Section 2.59: Warrants

Each warrant drawn for payment of Grand Lodge funds shall show on its face: (Amended 1998)

1. For what consideration or purpose it was issued.
2. Whether it is drawn on the General Fund, Grand Lodge General Fund Endowment, Life Membership Fund, or Grand Charity Fund.
3. Whether drawn by order of the Grand Lodge or the Trustees.

Section 2.60: Salaries

The Grand Lodge Office Staff shall receive such annual salaries as are recommended by the Board of Trustees and adopted as part of the annual budget by the Grand Lodge at each Annual Communication. (Amended 1998)

Section 2.61: Expense

The elected Grand Lodge Officers, District Masters, Members of the Board of Custodians, Trustees, Grand Lodge Executive Director and such others as may be authorized by the Board of Trustees within the limits established by the annual budget, shall be reimbursed for any money necessarily expended in the discharge of his duties. Payments shall be made upon the submission of vouchers, and shall be made no more often than quarterly. (Amended 1998)

Section 2.62: [This Section reserved.]

Section 2.63: [This Section reserved.]

Section 2.64: [This Section reserved.]

Section 2.65: Special Communication

The Grand Lodge may be convened in Special Communication when emergency demands by the Grand Master who shall fix the time, appoint the place and cause the Grand Lodge Office to give ten days' notice to the officers and members. (Amended 1998)

Section 2.66: Occasional Grand Lodge

An occasional Grand Lodge may be assembled by the Grand Master or his representative whenever and wherever the same may be necessary for the celebration of regular Masonic ceremonies or the performance of Masonic work.

Section 2.67: Order of Business

After the Grand Master shall have called the Grand Lodge to order, the following order of business and proceedings shall be observed:

1. Calling the Roll of Grand Officers and Lodges.
2. The usual solemn ceremonies of opening the Grand Lodge in ample form.
3. Reception of Grand Representatives.
4. Address of the Grand Master.
5. Reports of Grand Treasurer-Secretary and Trustees.

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6. Call from labor to refreshment.
7. Call from refreshment to labor.
8. Report of Committee on Credentials.
9. Report of Grand Officers Addresses and Reports Committee.
10. Appointment of Committees by Grand Master.
11. Miscellaneous Business.
12. Unfinished Business.

Section 2.68: Daily Order of Business

The daily order of business during the Annual Communication shall be as follows:

1. Unfinished Business.
2. Presentation and reference or other disposition of Memorials, Petitions and Communications.
3. Motions and Resolutions and reference or other disposition of the same.
4. Committee on Jurisprudence.
5. Reports of Standing Committees, Commissions, and Boards.
6. Reports of Special Committees.
7. Special Orders.

Section 2.69: Rules of Order

The Rules of Order shall be as follows:

1. At the first stroke of the Grand Master's gavel there shall be order, and any breach thereof shall subject the offender to reprimand.
2. No Brother may speak more than once on the same question without permission.
3. Any member twice called to order at one session for transgressing these rules, and guilty of a third offense, may be peremptorily ordered to leave the lodge room for that day.
4. Every Brother who speaks shall rise and remain standing, addressing himself to the "Most Worshipful Grand Master," and no member shall interrupt him unless to call him to order; but after he has been set right he may proceed if he observes due order and decorum. No Brother shall speak until he is recognized by the Grand Master.

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5. All reports of committees to the Grand Lodge shall be reduced to writing in a legible hand, on one side only of the sheets, and signed by at least a majority of the committee; provided that a dissenting minority may also present a report in similar form and manner.
6. Every resolution or motion, not of course submitted to the Grand Lodge, shall be reduced to writing and referred to the appropriate committee.
7. No motion shall be debatable until seconded and stated by the Grand Master, when it shall be in possession of the Grand Lodge, and cannot be withdrawn except by the mover with the consent of the second previous to decision or amendment. The question after being put by the Grand Master, cannot be debated.
8. No appeal to the Grand Lodge from the decision of the Grand Master upon any question arising in Grand Lodge shall be entertained.
9. The yeas and nays shall be ordered upon the demand of five representatives. In taking the same, the Lodges in their order shall be called first, the members second, and the Grand Officers last.
10. On all other matters, the Rules of Debate as laid down in Mackey's Jurisprudence shall govern. (See Appendix.)

Section 2.70: Varying Order

Nothing in the foregoing section shall prevent the Grand Lodge from varying the order of business as laid down in these By-Laws for the purpose of facilitating the work of the Grand Lodge.

Section 2.71: Time of Elections

The election of Grand Officers shall be held at 2 o'clock P.M. on the first day of each Annual Communication, unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge. The election of the Junior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer-Secretary, Trustee, and Jurisprudence Committee Member shall be held only after nominations for these offices have been made in the manner herein set forth. Nominations shall be made in writing and may be made by any Constituent Lodge or by any member of the Grand Lodge. Such nominations, a Masonic Biography, and a 5x7" photograph of the nominee shall be filed with the Grand Lodge Office not later than 90 days before the first day of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

A standard information form shall be provided by the Grand Lodge Office to outline the Masonic Biography of nominees. Forms submitted shall be reviewed for conformity to Masonic usage and custom, and published with the nominee's photograph in the *Masonic Messenger* not less than 35 days prior to the first day of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. The list of such nominations shall be posted by the Grand Lodge Executive Director, with the picture submitted, at the meeting place of the Grand Lodge before the opening of the Annual Communication. In the event that there are no nominations received in compliance with this section, nominations may be made from the floor. (Amended 2001)

Section 2.72: Installation

The installation shall take place at a time following the election that is agreeable to both the Grand Master and Grand Master Elect, with the Proclamation of the installation to be made by the Installing Grand Marshal at the close of the Annual Communication. (Amended 1998)

Section 2.73: Voting for Lodge

In case a constituent Lodge shall have but one representative present, he shall cast three votes; if two representatives shall be present, the higher rank shall cast two votes, and the lower, one; if three representatives be present, each shall cast one vote.

Section 2.74: Representation—Grand Lodge

No Lodge shall be entitled to representation in the Grand Lodge until chartered and duly constituted, but a Lodge Under Dispensation may send delegates thereto who may be admitted and permitted to speak, but shall have no vote.

Section 2.75: Retirement Benefits

Sections 1 through 6 of this Section are hereby repealed in so far as any new Grand Treasurer-Secretary, or Grand Treasurer-Secretary's employees, employed after June 1, 1992, and as to any Grand Treasurer-Secretary or employees of the Grand Treasurer-Secretary's office who are not now vested in the retirement plan and have no legal right to the benefits herein stated. (Approved 1992)

1. Scope of Retirement Plan. There is hereby provided a system of retirement benefits for the following officers and employees: The Grand Treasurer-Secretary and employees of the Grand Treasurer-Secretary's office.
2. Eligibility. Except as hereinafter provided, any person to be eligible to participate in the retirement plan must have attained the age of sixty-five years; must have rendered service in his office or employment for not less than fifteen years, and must have been retired from active duty, either by his own request, or by action of the Grand Lodge.
3. Such officer or employees retiring by virtue of age shall be paid for the duration of his life a monthly income equal to one-half of his or her average monthly salary computed on the basis of his or her highest average annual salary of any five year period of consecutive service.
4. Incapacitation. Any such officer or employee who shall have been employed for a period of ten years or more, but less than fifteen years, who becomes incapacitated by virtue of disability and shall retire at over sixty years of age, at his own request or by action of the Grand Lodge, shall be paid a monthly income for life in sums of such proportion as the number of years of his employment bears to the minimum of fifteen years.

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5. Source of Funds. The Finance Committee shall provide in the annual budget a "Retirement Fund" which shall be annually accrued in an amount sufficient for the payment of benefits when required. (Approved 1992)
6. Social Security. Retirement payments due an officer or employee upon his or her retirement shall be in addition to social security benefits from the State or Federal Government.

Section Three: Grand and Constituent Lodges

Section 3.01: Uniform Code

By-Laws conforming to the Uniform Code, as contained in this section, must be adopted by each Constituent Lodge, as provided under the authority of Section 4.05, Subdivision 13, of these By-Laws.

Article I: Name and Number

The name of the Lodge shall be _____ Lodge No. _____, A.F. & A.M.

Article II: Seal

The following is hereby adopted as the seal of this Lodge:

(Cut or impression to be inserted.)

Article III: Meetings

The Stated Communication of this Lodge shall be held on the _____ of each month at _____ o'clock, except that for the months of _____ the hour shall be _____ o'clock.

By a majority vote the Lodge may call from labor during either or both the months of _____.

Article IV: Trustees

This Lodge may elect at its Annual Communication not to exceed three Trustees, who shall have charge of the invested funds of the Lodge, otherwise the Master and Wardens shall be Trustees of the Lodge.

Article V: Fees

The fee for conferring the Degrees shall be \$_____, of which \$_____ shall accompany the Petition, \$_____ shall be paid before receiving the Fellow Craft Degree, and \$_____ before receiving the Master Mason Degree.

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Article VI: Dues

The annual dues of each member shall be \$_____, payable in advance, on, or before the first day in January.

Article VII: Committee on Charity

The Master and Wardens shall, unless otherwise ordered, be *ex officio* a Committee on Charity, and shall have the power during recess of the Lodge to draw orders on the Treasurer for any sum not exceeding \$_____ for the relief of any one applicant.

Article VIII: Funeral Attendance

The Master may divide the membership of the Lodge into as many equal parts as he desires, for respective attendance at funerals and other occasions, to represent the Lodge.

Article IX: Duties of Treasurer

To make a report to the Lodge at its Annual Communication in December of Each year, showing receipts, disbursements, and financial condition for the year ending at that time.

Article X: Duties of Secretary

To make report to the Lodge at its Annual Communication in December of each year, showing a summary of work done by the Lodge since its preceding Annual Communication, and a statement of the present condition of its accounts with the officers and members, and to perform such other services as are required by Section 4.27 of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.

Article XI: Order of Business

When the Lodge is opened on a Stated Communications the following order of business shall be observed:

1. Reading the minutes.
2. Reading and referring of petitions.
3. Receiving reports of committees.
4. Balloting upon applications for initiation or affiliation.
5. Receiving and considering resolutions and communications.

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6. Considering unfinished business.
7. Disposing of such other business as may come before the Lodge.
8. Conferring Degrees

provided that matters of charity shall always claim precedence.

Article XII: Signing of By-Laws

Any Brother becoming a member of this Lodge shall express his assent to these By-Laws by subscribing his name thereto.

Article XIII: Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended as follows:

The proposed amendment shall be in writing submitted at a Stated Communication of the Lodge, and shall be laid over until the next Stated Communication when action thereon shall be taken, and a two-thirds vote in favor of the amendment shall adopt. If the amendment refers to the time of meeting, or to the fees or dues, it shall be of force and effect immediately upon adoption by the Lodge as herein provided. Amendments relating to any other matter shall be in effect only after submission to and approval of the Grand Master.

Article XIV: Other

In all matters not specifically covered herein the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge shall govern.

Section 3.02: Jurisdiction, Territorial

The Territorial jurisdiction of Lodges shall be either exclusive or concurrent.

Section 3.03: Jurisdiction, Exclusive

Every Lodge, except as provided in the following section shall have exclusive jurisdiction over all territory lying nearer to it than to any other Lodge in this State, distance to be measured in a direct line.

Section 3.04: Jurisdiction, Concurrent

Two or more Lodges in the same city or town shall have concurrent jurisdiction over the same territory, extending half-way to the nearest Lodge in every direction from the city or town. Lodges located in territory bordering upon the Missouri River where there are no bridges across the river may be granted, by the Grand Lodge, concurrent jurisdiction as may be found expedient.

Section 3.05: Dispensation

A dispensation for a new Lodge may be granted by the Grand Lodge or during recess by the Grand Master.

Section 3.06: Petitions—By Whom Signed

Every Petition for Dispensation to form and open a new Lodge shall be signed by not less than fifteen Master Masons in good standing, resident of the jurisdiction of the new Lodge, non-affiliated in this Grand Jurisdiction or in a Grand Jurisdiction permitting plural membership, accompanied by:

1. The fee for dispensation; their recommendations for Master and Wardens; a statement of the population of jurisdiction of the proposed new Lodge, and of their reasons for believing a Lodge is demanded and can be sustained at the place named in the Petition; and the recommendation of the nearest Lodge, or at least two Lodges if of concurrent jurisdiction.
2. The granting by the Grand Master of the Petition for Dispensation to form and open a new Lodge to operate as a demit to the signers thereof who are members of Lodges in this State unless they desire to retain membership in their original Lodge or Lodges which desire must be stated in the Petition for Dispensation. Demits of members of Lodges of other Grand Jurisdictions must accompany the Petition except that Certificate of Affiliation and good standing may be accepted in lieu of a demit from members of Lodges in Grand Jurisdictions permitting plural membership.

Section 3.07: Petition Filed

All petitions for new Lodges shall be filed with the Grand Lodge Office. The petition shall immediately be laid before the Grand Master. (Amended 1998)

Section 3.08: Grand Master Grants

Upon receipt of any Petition for a Dispensation the Grand Master shall investigate the matter to determine the advisability of granting the petition, and the qualifications and character of the petitioners, and may order the dispensation issued, or refer the matter to the Grand Lodge as he may deem best; provided, that no dispensation shall be granted within thirty days prior to the Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge.

Section 3.09: Dispensation Not Granted

If the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge shall decide adversely, the Grand Lodge Office shall return all demits which accompanied the petition or which may have been filed with him to the Brother from whom the same were received, and notify him of such adverse decision. (Amended 1998)

Section 3.10: Form of Dispensation

The Dispensation shall contain the names of the brethren whom the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge shall have appointed to act as Master and Wardens thereunder, and the Master so named shall be notified to make the necessary preparation for opening the Lodge; providing, that before a dispensation shall be issued the Grand Master shall require a certificate of a member of the Board of Custodians that the Brother selected as Master is qualified to open a Lodge and confer the Degrees.

Section 3.11: Lodge—Preparation

Upon receipt of the notice mentioned in the preceding section, it shall be the duty of the Master and the petitioners for the dispensation to secure a suitable hall and proper books, supplies, furniture and paraphernalia therefor, and when done he shall report to the Grand Master that the Lodge is ready for work. Thereupon the Grand Master shall direct the issuance of the Dispensation, and the Grand Lodge Office shall issue and forward the same to the Master therein named. (Amended 1998)

Section 3.12: Dispensation—Record

The Dispensation shall be copied at length upon the record of the Lodge, and the Charter, when issued, shall be recorded in like manner.

Section 3.13: Dispensation—Officers

Every Lodge Under Dispensation shall be set to work by the Grand Master or his special representative. The brethren named for those offices in the petition and dispensation shall be the Worshipful Master and Wardens. The Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected by the members of the Lodge; other offices and vacancies shall be filled as in chartered Lodges. The officers of a Lodge Under Dispensation shall not be installed.

Section 3.14: Jurisdiction—Rights

The territorial jurisdiction of Lodges Under Dispensation shall be defined in Sections 3.02 and 3.03. Such Lodges shall have and exercise all the rights and privileges of chartered Lodges except election of the three principal officers, electing members by affiliation, granting demits and sending representatives to the Grand Lodge. The Worshipful Masters and Wardens or either of them may attend Grand Lodge as delegates.

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Section 3.15: Returns

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge next succeeding the date of a dispensation, the Lodge shall make the following return:

1. the Dispensation;
2. a certified copy of the minutes of all meetings held;
3. if voted by the Lodge, its Application for Charter; and the Worshipful Master shall produce for examination the books and records of the Lodge.

Section 3.16: Charter

The Grand Lodge may order a Charter to be issued, if the work and proceedings of the Lodge shall be found satisfactory, and assign to the new Lodge such name and number as shall be deemed proper. But no Charter shall be issued unless the Lodge shall have conferred the three Degrees in Masonry.

Section 3.17: Constitution

Every new Lodge so chartered will be duly constituted and its officers installed by the Grand Master, or his special representative, assisted by an occasional Grand Lodge, before it can work or do any business under its Charter, except to elect officers.

Section 3.18: Consolidation of Lodges

When two or more Lodges desire to consolidate as one, they shall, upon the written consent of the Grand Master, proceed as follows: The question of such consolidation shall be presented by resolution in each Lodge at a Stated Communication thereof; and stand for action by the Lodges at their next Stated Communications. The respective secretaries shall notify each member of the Lodges of the time when action will be taken thereon. The resolution shall state what Lodge shall be considered the continuing Lodge.

Section 3.19: Action by Lodges

In each Lodge, at such stated communication, the Master shall submit the question: "Shall the Lodges be consolidated as proposed?" If two-thirds of the members present vote, "Yes", then the vote of the Lodge shall be recorded in favor of consolidation. If less than two-thirds vote "Yes", the vote shall be recorded against consolidation. The vote in such cases shall be by written ballot. There shall be no consolidation unless all the Lodges vote in favor of the resolution.

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Section 3.20: Charters

When any resolution shall have been approved in each Lodge concerned by vote as defined in Section 3.18 and the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master officially informed of the same, the Charter of the continuing Lodge shall be considered as the Charter of the consolidated Lodge. The Charter or Charters of the Lodges joining with the continuing Lodge shall be surrendered to the Grand Lodge Office for endorsement of cancellation, signed by the Grand Master and the Grand Treasurer-Secretary, and returned to the consolidated Lodge as a memento. The names of the members in good standing carried upon the Lodge rolls at the time of consolidation shall be affixed to the By-Laws of the active Lodge and thereafter considered as active members under the usual restrictions as prescribed by the Grand Lodge By-Laws. (Amended 1998)

Section 3.21: Location

Every proposition for consolidation shall state the proposed location of the consolidated Lodge and shall clearly set forth the amount of dues accrued against each of the members, the inventory of property and the indebtedness of each Lodge proposing consolidation.

Section 3.22: Officers

The officers of the continuing Lodge shall continue as officers until the next regular election, as determined by the By-Laws of the continuing Lodge, and the Stated Communication of the consolidated Lodge shall be at the time and place fixed for the stated meetings of the continuing Lodge, but such time may be changed at the pleasure of the consolidated Lodge, in conformity with the Grand Lodge By-Laws.

Section 3.23: Name

In case the consolidated Lodge shall so elect, it may assume the name of any of the Lodges entering the consolidation, and the number of the same or another of such Lodges. If the name and number agreed upon are not the name and number of the continuing Lodge, a new special Charter shall be issued without fee.

Section 3.24 Stated Meetings

In case of the consolidation of Lodges, the Stated Communications of the consolidated Lodge shall be at the time fixed for the Stated Communication of the Lodge having the oldest Charter, but such time may be changed at the pleasure of the consolidated Lodge, in conformity with these By-Laws.

Section 3.25: [This Section reserved.]

Section 3.26: New Special Charter

When any consolidation shall have been effected and the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master officially informed of the same, a new special Charter shall be issued without fee, containing the names of the new officers and bearing the number of the oldest Lodge consolidated, and such name as may have been selected by the consolidated Lodge.

Section 3.27: How a Lodge May Be Dissolved

1. By voluntary surrender of its Charter.
2. By a revocation of its Charter by the Grand Lodge.

Section 3.28: Charter Present

The Charter of a Lodge must always be in the Lodge when it is open and at work.

Section 3.29: Duplicate Charter

Whenever the Charter of a Lodge shall be destroyed, stolen or surreptitiously taken and detained, or whenever a Charter of a Lodge becomes defaced or illegible as to be unfit for use, it shall be the duty of such Lodge to apply to the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master for a duplicate Charter to be issued, bearing the original name and number together with the names of the original Grand Officers and Charter Members supplemented with the cause of its issue, and signed by the Grand Treasurer-Secretary and attested by the seal of the Grand Lodge.

Section 3.30: Arrest or Revocation of Charter

For disobedience of its orders, rules or laws, or the orders of the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge may revoke the Charter of a constituent Lodge. And, if upon due trial there shall be found a departure from the original plan of Masonry, or a failure to meet during six months, or a neglect to meet in Annual Communication for two consecutive years, or a failure to make annual returns and pay its obligations to the Grand Lodge for two years, or a condition of the Lodge as to discipline or otherwise, such that its longer existence is deleterious to the honor or usefulness of the Craft, or a depreciated condition as to members, finances or interest in the work, the Charter shall be revoked, the Lodge shall forfeit its Warrant of Constitution and its funds, and shall transfer its funds, records and property of every kind to the Grand Lodge.

Section 3.31: Arrest of Charter

For any of the reasons stated in the foregoing section, the Grand Master, during the recess if the Grand Lodge, may arrest the Charter of a constituent Lodge, but in such case he must report his action, with the reasons thereof to the Grand Lodge at its next ensuing Annual Communication.

Section 3.32: Hearing on Arrest

Upon the hearing of the matter reported by the Grand Master the Lodge may be heard in its own behalf; the Grand Lodge may approve or disapprove the action of the Grand Master; it may restore the Charter without revocation, if satisfied that the discipline is sufficient, and that the good of the Craft will be thereby subserved.

Section 3.33: Debts—Grand Lodge Not Liable

The Grand Lodge is in no sense responsible for the payment of the debts or obligations of a constituent Lodge which shall become extinct by surrender or revocation of its Charter. Its available assets shall be used under the direction of the Grand Master for the payment of such obligations, and for that purpose may be converted into money, or otherwise applied.

Section 3.34: Charter—Application for Restoration

The Grand Lodge, upon proper application therefor, presented at an Annual Communication, may restore a revoked or surrendered Charter. Such restoration must be to the identical Lodge by name and number, and with the right of every member thereof at the date of surrender or revocation, yet unaffiliated and in good standing, to membership therein.

Section 3.35: Property to Grand Lodge Office

Upon the revocation or arrest of the Charter of any Lodge, or if from any other cause a Lodge shall become dormant, it shall be the duty of the last Master, Treasurer and Secretary thereof to surrender to the Grand Lodge Office (subject to the order of the Grand Master) the Charter, books, papers, jewels, furniture, moneys or other property belonging to said Lodge, within two months from the time of such revocation, arrest or becoming dormant, and every member of a Lodge who shall refuse to make such surrender, or who shall, by vote or otherwise, make any other disposition of said effects than as herein designated shall be liable to Masonic discipline for violating the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge. All moneys accruing, as herein provided, shall be placed in the funds of the Grand Lodge. (Amended 1998)

Section 3.36: Revocation—Irregularity—Discipline

If, at any time, it shall be found necessary to arrest or revoke the Charter of any Lodge implicated in such conduct shall be subject to discipline by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master

Section 3.37: [This Section reserved.]

Section 3.38: Charter Surrendered

The Charter of a Lodge may be surrendered, if the proposition be presented at a Stated Communication thereof, and the same be acted upon at a subsequent Stated Communication, of which all the members whose residence is known shall have due and timely notice; but no Charter can be surrendered as long as twelve Master Masons, members of the Lodge, desire to continue work under it, in accordance with the ancient usage's and customs of Masonry and the laws and regulations of this Grand Lodge.

Section 3.39: Grand Lodge Demits

Upon the dissolution of a Lodge for any cause, its members who are not subject to the provisions of the last preceding section, upon payment of any back dues to the Grand Lodge, shall be entitled to a Grand Lodge demit. (Amended 1998)

Section 3.40: Acts Completed

Any uncompleted act of a Lodge which shall have ceased to exist shall be completed by the Lodge acquiring jurisdiction.

Section 3.41: Charter Erased

When a Charter shall be revoked by the Grand Lodge, it shall be erased from the register, and its number shall not again be used upon any Charter in this State unless the Charter shall be restored by the Grand Lodge.

Section 3.42: Incorporation of Lodges

With the consent and approval of the Grand Lodge, or of the Grand Master, a constituent Lodge may incorporate under the laws of the State of South Dakota. The proposed articles of incorporation of such a Lodge or any amendment of the articles of incorporation of a Lodge shall be submitted to the Grand Lodge, or to the Grand Master, for examination and approval. Such articles of incorporation or amended articles of incorporation shall include a provision as follows:

"This corporation and the members thereof shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of South Dakota, and in case such Grand Lodge shall at any time revoke or arrest the Charter granted by it to this Lodge, this corporation shall be dissolved upon application to the Circuit Court of the directors of this corporation, or a majority of the members thereof, or of the Grand Treasurer-Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of South Dakota, and that in such case, or in the case of any dissolution of this corporation for any reason whatsoever, the property of this corporation shall be held by the Directors thereof in trust for the Grand Lodge, and after the debts of the corporation shall have been paid and upon entry by the Circuit Court of the final decree of dissolution, the property of such corporation shall be turned over and transferred and conveyed by such directors to the Grand Lodge aforesaid to be held and owned

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absolutely by such Grand Lodge and to be disposed of by it in accordance with the laws and usages of the Masonic Fraternity.”

Section 3.43: Square and Compass Clubs

In the event a group of Master Masons, all being members in good standing of some regular Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of South Dakota, reside in a community where there is no Masonic Lodge, They may form a Square and Compass Club. The purpose of the Club is to furnish a social and fraternal gathering place for the Brethren without the necessity of maintaining the structure of a formal Lodge.

1. The Club will be chartered by dispensation of the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master upon application of the Master Masons desiring to form the Club. A Charter will be issued upon ratification of the application by action of the Grand Lodge. The application is to include the following information:
 - a. The name of the club
 - b. The community or place where the Club will locate
 - c. The date and time of meetings
 - d. The names of the Master Masons who will be charter officers and members of the Club.
 - e. The proposed by-laws to govern the conduct and activities of the Club.
2. Each member of the Club must continue a member in good standing of some Regular Lodge.
3. The officers of the Club shall be a President, a Vice President and a Secretary - Treasurer and such other offices as the members may desire. Their duties shall be those that are normally attributed to such offices.
4. It shall be the responsibility of the Club to submit a report, annually on or before the fifteenth of February, to the Grand Lodge office, setting forth the number of meetings held, any significant events and a list of the current members.
5. The annual dues of the Club shall be set by the members of the Club.
6. There will be no per capita or assessment due to the Grand Lodge from the Club

Section 3.44: Occasional Lodges

Lodges with memberships of 35 or less Master Masons may elect, by a majority of its membership present at a Stated Communication of the Lodge, to become an Occasional Lodge, with the Grand Master’s approval, thereby operating and being governed under the following regulations:

1. Required to hold at least an Annual communication to elect and install a Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden and a Secretary/Treasurer.

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2. Send a copy of the minutes of this Annual Stated Communication within 30 days to the Grand Secretary.
3. The Grand Secretary will be responsible to see that the Dues Notices are mailed to each member of the Occasional Lodge and that the dues shall be returned to the Grand Secretary's Office for filing.
4. The records of the Occasional Lodge shall be maintained in the Grand Lodge Office with copies being sent to the Lodge Secretary, who also will be responsible for sending any communications he receives immediately to the Grand Secretary, keeping a copy of the same for the Lodge records.
5. The fee for this service shall be \$5.00 per member above the normal Per capita for members plus customary charges for materials provided by Grand Lodge. Proceeds above the Grand Lodge per-capita shall be returned to the Treasurer for the Occasional Lodge's use with acknowledgement of receipt of payment being sent to the Grand Secretary.
6. If a member of the Occasional Lodge has not previously served as Master in a regular Lodge and is elected an Officer of the Occasional Lodge, he will not be entitled to vote at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication.
7. All other Constitution and By-Laws shall apply in the governing of the Occasional Lodge with the exception of those listed above. Amended 2004

Section Four: Constituent Lodges

Section 4.01: Constituent Lodges

Every Lodge shall consist of a Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior Steward, Junior Steward, Marshal and Tyler, and may have a Chaplain and Organist with other members.

Section 4.02: Officers

The Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Secretary shall be elected by the Lodge. All other officers shall be appointed by the Worshipful Master.

Section 4.03: Seal

Each Lodge shall adopt an appropriate seal.

Section 4.04: Powers

The powers of a Lodge are such as are prescribed in its Charter or Dispensation, by the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of this Grand Lodge and the General Regulations of Freemasonry.

Section 4.05: Duties of a Lodge

It shall be the duty of a Lodge:

1. To hold at least one Stated Communication in each month, providing that any Lodge may, by a law, suspend its Stated Communications during two consecutive months of any year.
2. To provide a safe and suitable Lodge room.
3. To keep full and proper record of its transactions.
4. To transmit to the Grand Lodge Office on or before the fifteenth day of February in each year its annual return in form for the last fiscal year ending DECEMBER THIRTY-FIRST, which shall embrace a list of officers and members, of present and past Grand Officers, of initiations, passings, raisings, admissions, demissions, withdrawals, rejections, suspensions, restorations and deaths, with their respective dates, signed by the Master and Secretary and attested by the Seal of the Lodge, and shall pay to the Grand Lodge all sums due the Grand Lodge.

If a lodge fails to comply with the above requirements such lodge shall be penalized \$1.00 per day for each day that it is delinquent. No Lodge shall be entitled to representation in Grand Lodge unless it shall have complied with the requirements of this Section; and if a Lodge fails to comply with

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them for two years, its Charter shall be arrested and the effects of the Lodge disposed of for the benefit of the Grand Lodge; provided, that upon showing satisfactory excuse for failure to comply with the aforesaid regulations, and upon making full returns and paying all back dues, the Charter and other effects of such Lodge may be restored by the Grand Lodge. (Amended 1998)

5. To keep a Lodge Register, in which shall be entered and consecutively numbered the names of all members and their Masonic record.
6. To notify the Grand Lodge Office of all rejections, withdrawals, suspensions, expulsions and restorations immediately after the meeting at which the transaction has occurred. (Amended 1998)
7. Official Communications. To read all official communications from the Grand Master, Grand Treasurer-Secretary or Grand Lodge Office in open Lodge, at the Stated Communications next following the receipt. (Amended 1998)
8. To punish, by reprimand, suspension or expulsion, any member who may be found guilty of a Masonic offense. (Approved 1991)
9. To be represented in every Annual communication of the Grand Lodge.
10. To present to each candidate at his initiation a lambskin or white leather apron, with the date and his name inscribed under the flap thereof.
11. To issue, under the seal of the Lodge, a certificate of the Masonic standing of a deceased Brother in good standing, to his family.
12. Each Lodge shall, within five days after the installation of officers, transmit to the Grand Lodge Office a list, duly certified under the seal of the Lodge, the names of the newly elected and installed officers, with the dates of their installation. (Amended 1998)
13. To adopt By-Laws conforming to the Uniform Code.

Section 4.06: Place of Meeting—Removal

1. No Charter hereafter issued to any Lodge shall specify the room or place in which the Lodge must meet, and any such limitation in any Charter heretofore issued is hereby declared of no force or effect.
2. Removal of the Lodge from the city or town or particular locality named in the Charter may be accomplished as follows:
3. A motion for the removal to a specific location shall be made by a member in good standing of the Lodge, at a Stated Communication of the Lodge, which shall be laid over to a subsequent Stated Communication without further motion or action. Notice that the pending proposal is before the Lodge a copy shall be sent by mail to each member. At such subsequent meeting, the Master shall announce the proposition is open for discussion and shall eventually put the question of the adoption of the motion; provided, however, that the final action may be deferred to any subsequent Stated Communication. If two thirds of the members present shall vote in favor of the proposal, the Secretary and Master shall forthwith certify the record of the meeting to the Grand Master, who shall submit the matter to Grand Lodge with his recommendations for disposition. Grand Lodge action shall be necessary to accomplish any such removal. If the removal shall be

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approved, the Lodge Charter shall be properly endorsed on the margin thereof by the Grand Master and Grand Treasurer-Secretary and the Charter returned to the Lodge. Thereupon the place of meeting of the Lodge shall be deemed changed, and the jurisdiction of the Lodge shall be modified accordingly.

Section 4.07: Written—Served Summons

Every summons issued by a chartered Lodge shall be written or printed, attested by the seal of the Lodge and signed by the Secretary, and shall be served either personally or by registered mail; no other matter than the requisition to attend a communication of the Lodge need be inserted.

Section 4.08: Obedience to a Lodge

Every Mason shall faith-fully obey a summons issued by a Lodge and duly served upon him, if within his power; and for a failure so to do shall be liable to discipline in the manner provided by law, unless excused for reasons satisfactory to the Master.

Section 4.09: Appeals from Master or Lodge

Any appeal by a member of a Lodge to the Grand Lodge from a decision of its Master shall be made in writing in open Lodge, state the facts in the case, be duly authenticated and transmitted by the Secretary to the Grand Lodge Office at least ten days before the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. (Amended 1998)

Section 4.10: Appeals to Grand Master or Grand Lodge

A member of a Lodge cannot appeal from the decision of the Master to the Lodge. Appeal can only be made to the Grand Master or Grand Lodge.

Section 4.11: Annual Dues

Every chartered Lodge shall pay annually to the Grand Lodge the sum of \$25.00 for each Master Mason reported in the annual returns except those whose dues have been remitted and those who are Purchased Life Members. If any Lodge shall collect from a suspended member dues for the non-payment of which he shall have been suspended, such Lodge shall pay to the Grand Lodge that portion of the dues collected which is due it and which has not previously been accounted for. (Amended 2011)

Section 4.12: Special Tax

No Lodge shall levy a special tax or assessment upon its members unless it shall have made provision in its By-Laws for the making of such levy. No assessment shall be levied except at a Stated Communication. Proposal

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for levy shall be made and presented at a Stated Communication and notice thereof shall be sent to each member of the Lodge by mail and action thereon taken at the next succeeding Stated Communication.

Section 4.13: Lodge Opened by Master or Warden Only

The only competent authority to open a constituent Lodge is the Worshipful Master, or, in his absence, the legally chosen Warden by priority.

Section 4.14: Special Dispensations Applied for by Lodge

All applications to the Grand Master for dispensations for any purpose shall emanate from a Lodge at a Stated Meeting, and be concurred in by a majority vote of the members present at such Communication; and such application shall set forth fully and clearly the emergency, under the seal of the Lodge, and be signed by the Master and Secretary.

Section 4.15: In Case of Special Emergency

In case of special emergency, where the provisions of the preceding section cannot be complied with, application for a dispensation may emanate from the Master.

Section 4.16: Dispensation to Be Noted on Records

Every dispensation shall be noted in the records of the Lodge, and prompt report made to the Grand Master of the action taken by authority thereof.

Section 4.17: Communications

The communications of a Lodge are Stated and Special.

Section 4.18: Stated

Stated Communications are those held at the time prescribed by the By-Laws; and at such Communications all general business, such as reception of petitions, balloting for Degrees or membership, election of officers, and the discussion of questions relative to the interests of the Lodge or Fraternity, shall be transacted in a Lodge of Master Masons, Fellowcraft or Entered Apprentices at the discretion of the Worshipful Master, provided that:

1. Lodge shall always be opened in the Master degree under the conditions described in section 4.120 of these By-Laws, or at any specific circumstance determined by the Worshipful Master where only Master Masons can or must be present.

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2. Only Master Masons in good standing are permitted to ballot on Degrees, petitions for membership or the election of officers.
3. Only Master Masons in good standing are permitted to conduct, participate in or vote on any Lodge business: hold or pro-tem any elected or appointed office; or serve on any committee.
4. Any Masonic Education program given shall be applicable to the degree in which the Lodge is opened.
5. Proficiencies and Examination of Degrees shall be given only on the Degree in which the Lodge is opened. At any Stated Communications seven members of the particular Lodge shall constitute a quorum for the Transaction of Business.

Section 4.19: Special Communications

Special Communications shall be called, in the discretion of the Master, by giving due notice thereof, but no business except the conferring of Degrees, acceptance of petitions for degrees or affiliation and referral of same to investigating committees or ceremonial observances (including the necessary examination of candidates for advancement) shall be transacted therein; provided, however, that if urgent business should require immediate action at a Special Communication, the Grand Master, upon the petition of the Master and Wardens of the Lodge, showing the necessity of such Communication, may grant a dispensation for the purpose, and provided, further, that all resident members be notified of such Communication; that the minutes shall show all the facts in full, and that no other business except that specified shall be transacted. A Special Communication for examination of candidates, or work in a particular Degree, may be opened on the appropriate Degree only, and need not be opened on any other Degree. At any Special Communication seven Master Masons shall constitute a quorum. (Amended 2001)

Section 4.20: No Sunday Communications

No Lodge in this State shall be convened on Sunday, except for funeral purposes, or for the purpose of celebrating St. John's Day by appropriate ceremonies or for Lodges conducting public ceremonies, ceremonies in public or celebrating public events. Amended 2010

Section 4.21: The Master

The Master shall have power:

1. To convene his Lodge in Special Communication whenever he may deem it proper and necessary.
2. To preside at every Communication of his Lodge.
3. To cause to be issued all notices and summons which may be required.
4. To appoint all non-elective officers of his Lodge.
5. To appoint all committees.

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6. To fill a vacancy in any office until its successor is installed.
7. To perform such other acts as by ancient usage pertain to his office, which shall not contravene any of the provisions of the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of this Grand Lodge or order of the Grand Master.
8. After having opened his Lodge, to place either of the Wardens, or a Brother from the floor, in the East, and permit him to confer any of the Degrees.

Section 4.22: Master's Duties

It shall be the duty of the Master:

1. To convene his Lodge in Stated Communication at the time prescribed in these By-Laws and the By-Laws of the Lodge.
2. To superintend the official acts of the officers of his Lodge, see that their respective duties are properly performed and to rule and govern his Lodge.
3. To guard carefully against any infraction of the By-Laws of his Lodge, the Written Laws of the Grand Lodge, or the General Regulations of Masonry, and suffer no departure there from upon the plea of convenience or expediency, except in case of emergency, and then only by dispensation of the Grand Master.
4. To see that proper returns of work are annual transmitted to the Grand Lodge Office and that the Grand Lodge dues are promptly paid. (Amended 1998)
5. To cause summons to be issued only when the welfare of Masonry, the interests of the Lodge, or the rights of a Brother demand, and to take special care that disobedience of a duly served summons be promptly followed by discipline unless the offender render excuse for the offense satisfactory to the Lodge.
6. To cause all necessary notices to be issued in the prescribed manner and form.
7. To permit no appeal from his decision to be made to the Lodge.
8. When the Grand Master or his representative shall visit the Lodge, to convene the same, extend to him the proper courtesies, and, when called upon, to submit for his inspection the By-Laws and records of the Lodge, and furnish such facilities as may be necessary for the proper discharge of his duties.
9. To report to his Lodge any instance of culpability on the part of any members of his Lodge which may come to his knowledge; he shall cause the Junior Warden to prefer charges against an offending Brother, who shall be put upon his trial in the Lodge in whose jurisdiction he may reside, and be dealt with as the penal code provides.
10. To sign the Minutes of each Communication immediately after the same shall have been approved by the Lodge.

Section 4.23: The Wardens

It shall be the duty of the Wardens to assist the Master in the discharge of his duties, and to perform such other acts as Masonic usage has assigned to their respective stations.

Section 4.24: Wardens' Limitations

No Warden can call a special meeting of the Lodge while the Master is within the territorial jurisdiction thereof and able to authorize a call.

Section 4.25: Junior at Refreshment

When the Lodge is at refreshment, the Craft is in charge of and must report to the Junior Warden.

Section 4.26: Treasurer

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer:

1. To receive and safely keep all moneys or property of every kind which shall be placed in his hands by the Secretary, or by order of the Lodge, and to give proper receipt therefore.
2. To disburse or transfer the same, or any part thereof, upon the order of the Master, with the consent of the Lodge, duly attested by the Secretary.
3. To keep a book or books which shall contain the current statement of his receipts and disbursements on account of the Lodge.
4. To make to the Lodge, as its By-Laws may require, annual or semi-annual reports of its receipts, disbursements and financial condition.
5. To perform such other duties appertaining to his office as the By-Laws may require or the Lodge may at any time direct.
6. To file a bond, when required to do so by a vote of the Lodge, conditioned that he will faithfully discharge the duties of his office and will deliver, on demand of the Master of the Lodge or his successor in office, all moneys remaining on hand with all books, papers, vouchers, securities, etc., in his possession and belonging to the Lodge. Said bond may be furnished by some surety company, the cost of which shall be paid out of the funds of the Lodge.

Section 4.27: The Secretary

It shall be the duty of the Secretary:

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1. To record all the proceedings of the Lodge proper to be written, including its current receipts and disbursements, and all financial reports, and to submit such record to the Lodge at its next Stated Communication for approval or correction, and to the Master for his signature, attesting such approval.
2. To prepare and transmit a copy of such record, or any part thereof, to the Grand Lodge or to the Grand Master, when required.
3. To collect and to receive all moneys due the Lodge, giving receipt therefore, and to pay the same promptly to the Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same.
4. To make to the Lodge annually or semi-annually, or otherwise, as its By-Laws may direct, a report of its work, of the condition of its accounts with its officers and members, and of all other matters relating to its finances or business which may be under his care.
5. To keep a cash-book and ledger, and deliver the same, with all other books and records appertaining to the office, to his successor.
6. To keep the seal of the Lodge, and to affix the same with his attestation, to all papers issued under its authority, or in obedience to the requirements of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.
7. To preserve the By-Laws of the Lodge, the Book of Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, its published proceedings and ceremonials.
8. To notify any member of the Lodge who may have been suspended, expelled or reinstated, immediately after the action of the Lodge.
9. To study the rules and forms prescribed by the Grand Lodge, and keep records, books and other papers in accordance therewith.
10. To file a bond, when required to do so by a vote of the Lodge, conditioned in the manner and form as the bond of the Treasurer.
11. To furnish to the Grand Lodge Office immediately after installation the names of the officers elected and installed, which list shall be authenticated by the seal of the constituent Lodge. (Amended 1998)
12. To perform these duties and such other duties as may be required of him, not inconsistent herewith, as the Master of the Lodge may, in his discretion, direct.
13. To keep secure the roll of members of the Lodge and not divulge the names of such members, or furnish a list of such members to any person or organization, for any non-Masonic purpose.

Section 4.28: Other Officers' Duties

All other officers of a Lodge shall perform such duties therein as may be directed by the Master and Wardens, not conflicting with the By-Laws of the Lodge, the Laws and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, and the usage's and general regulations of Masonry.

Section 4.29: Jewels

The jewels of the constituent Lodges shall be as follows:

- Master, the Square;
- Senior Warden, the Level;
- Junior Warden, the Plumb;
- Treasurer, the Crossed Keys;
- Secretary, the Crossed Pens;
- Chaplain, the Bible;
- Senior Deacon, Square and Extended Compasses enclosing a Blazing Sun;
- Junior Deacon, Square and Extended Compasses enclosing a Crescent Moon;
- Stewards, Cornucopia;
- Marshal, Baton;
- Tyler, Sword.

The jewels shall be of silver and the decorations shall be of blue.

The jewel of a Past Master shall be a pair of golden Compasses extended to 60 degrees on a quadrant and enclosing a Blazing Sun.

Section 4.30: Vacancies in Office

1. In the event of the death or the absence from the jurisdiction either temporarily or permanently, of the Master, or of his inability for any reason to serve, or of a vacancy from any other cause in his office, the Senior Warden and Junior Warden, in order, will succeed to his duties and prerogatives, except to install officers.
2. An officer entitled to preside may call any well informed Master Mason to his chair and allow him to preside and confer Degrees in his presence.
3. Any officer pro tem shall subscribe himself, when necessary, by his proper official title and add thereto the words, "Acting Master."

Section 4.31: How Vacancies Occur

A vacancy in a Lodge office occurs:

1. By death;

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2. By resignation or demission, except that the Masters and Wardens cannot resign or demit;
3. By failure or refusal of an officer to be installed;
4. By the election and installation into another office of an officer, other than the Master or a Warden;
5. By removal of any officer from office, upon trial; and
6. By expulsion, or by suspension beyond the end of his term.

Section 4.32: Non-member for Secretary or Tyler

In cities or towns having two or more Lodges, it is not necessary that either the Secretary or Tyler be a member of the Lodge for which he is installed.

Section 4.33: Master or Warden Cannot Resign

Neither the Master nor the Warden of a constituent Lodge can resign during his official term, but the resignation of any other elective officer may be accepted by the Lodge. All vacancies in such offices shall be filled by special election, held under authority of a dispensation from the Grand Master.

Section 4.34: Appointed Officers May Resign

Resignations of appointed officers may, for good cause, be received. The Master shall appoint and install officer to fill the vacancies.

Section 4.35: Ineligible for Office

No Brother shall be eligible to the office of Master in any chartered Lodge unless he is an actual member thereof, and not until he shall have been duly elected and regularly installed as a Master or a Warden of some legally chartered Lodge; provided that in case of emergency the Lodge may elect any member not so qualified, but no Brother so elected can be installed except by dispensation from the Grand Master, applied for by a duly authenticated petition of the Lodge, signed by the Master.

Section 4.36: Eligibility for Office

Any member of a Lodge qualified to vote in the election of officers shall be eligible to any office in the Lodge except as provided in Sections 4.35 and 4.32.

Section 4.37: Time of Election

Each constituent Lodge shall at a stated communication choose the following elective officers (including Trustees, if provided for in its By-Laws); annually, by paper ballot, with or without nomination at the last Stated Meeting in May or the first Stated Meeting in June of each year, namely: a Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Secretary. (Approved 2007)

Section 4.38: Majority

A majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary to a choice, and blanks shall not be counted as votes.

Section 4.39: Dispensation for Failure to Elect Officers

In case any Lodge shall fail to elect its officers as prescribed in Section 4.37, it shall forthwith apply to the Grand Master for a dispensation to hold an election as soon thereafter as may be practicable.

Section 4.40: Master or Past Master to Install

No Brother is Masonically qualified to install officers of a Lodge except one who has been duly elected and installed as Master of a chartered Lodge working under the jurisdiction of some recognized Grand Lodge, and who is at the time of exercising such official authority, an actual member in good standing of some regular Lodge.

Section 4.41: Installation of the Master

The Worshipful Master of each Lodge must be installed at or before his Lodge's first Stated Meeting after the Grand Lodge Annual Communication immediately following his election, starting in 1990, provided, that if a Lodge fails to so install for unavoidable reasons, it may petition the Grand Master for a dispensation to install its Worshipful Master after that date. A Worshipful Master may install the subordinate officers at his convenience, without dispensation therefore.

Section 4.42: Proxy

No officer of a Lodge can be installed by proxy.

Section 4.43: Install Each Election

Officers of a constituent Lodge must be installed as often as re-elected.

Section 4.44: Divisions of Jurisdiction

Every constituent Lodge shall have certain personal and territorial jurisdiction.

Section 4.45: Personal Jurisdiction

The personal jurisdiction of a Lodge shall extend over all its members (except its Master, or the Grand Master, if a member thereof) wherever they may reside; and over its unfinished work, wherever dispersed.

Section 4.46: Territorial Jurisdiction

The territorial jurisdiction of a Lodge extends in each direction to the boundaries of the State, except as provided in the next section.

Section 4.47: Concurrent—Adjoining Grand Lodges:

1. The Grand Lodge of South Dakota grants to adjoining Grand Jurisdictions concurrent jurisdiction over all persons residing within the State of South Dakota, but near the boundary of this State, and whose residence is nearer and more accessible to a Lodge in either of said adjoining States than to any Lodge in South Dakota;
2. Provided, that in case any petition shall be presented to a Lodge of an adjoining State by a resident of South Dakota, the Lodge within whose territorial jurisdiction the petitioner shall reside, and take no further action for thirty days from such notification; and if the petitioner shall have been rejected by the Lodge so notified, no action shall be taken upon such petition without the consent of such Lodge; and
3. Provided further, that this regulation shall take effect and be in force only upon, and after receipt of, official information from the adjoining Grand Jurisdiction that a similar regulation has been adopted by it as to residents thereof, permitting them to apply for the Degrees in neighboring Lodges located in South Dakota.

Section 4.48: Exclusive Jurisdiction

Every Lodge has jurisdiction over all candidates for the mysteries of Masonry residing in its territory, and penal jurisdiction over all Masons, unaffiliated as well as affiliated, within its territorial jurisdiction, for any violation of moral or Masonic law.

Section 4.49: Concurrent Jurisdiction (A)

When two or more Lodges are located in the same village, town, or city, they shall have concurrent territorial jurisdiction and concurrent original jurisdiction over candidates, as well as Masons not members of such Lodges.

Section 4.50: Concurrent Jurisdiction (B)

When Lodges have concurrent jurisdiction because located in the same village, town or city, they shall each and all be deemed to be located in the same building and in the same apartments for the purpose of ascertaining in any case which is the nearest Lodge.

Section 4.51: Applications and Jurisdictions (A)

If an application is required to be made, or any act performed by the nearest Lodge, it shall be sufficient if the application is made to, or the act performed by any Lodge located in the same village, town or city, having concurrent jurisdiction as defined in this Title.

Section 4.52: Applications and Jurisdictions (B)

When Lodges have concurrent jurisdiction they shall have exclusive original jurisdiction over all candidates for the mysteries of Masonry residing within the corporate limits of the village, town or city, where the Lodges are located. The exclusive original jurisdiction of Lodges having concurrent jurisdiction over all candidates for the mysteries of Masonry, and their penal jurisdiction, shall extend in each direction to such boundary line as shall be equidistant between the corporate limits of the village, town or city in which the Lodges are located and the corporate limits of the village, town or city in which the nearest Lodge in that direction is located.

Section 4.53: Waiver of Jurisdiction

Application for waiver of jurisdiction must be made by the Lodge desiring to receive the petition and if granted the jurisdiction passes to the particular Lodge to whom it has been voted and no other Lodge, not even one possessing concurrent jurisdiction can exercise it.

Section 4.54: Lodges Report To Each Other

Each Lodge having concurrent jurisdiction with another Lodge, shall at once, by mail, notify such other Lodge or Lodges, of any application for the Degrees of Masonry it may receive, and shall include in the notice the full name, residence and occupation of the applicant.

Section 4.55: Masonic Residence

By the Masonic residence of an applicant is meant the permanent, settled domicile or fixed abode from choice, and as a rule is identical with his legal residence.

Section 4.56: Membership

Membership in a Lodge may be acquired:

1. By having regularly received the Degree of Master Mason therein.
2. By a Master Mason elected to membership by affiliation.
3. By having been named in a charter issued to a Lodge Under Dispensation.

Section 4.57: Duties of Master Masons

It is the duty of every Master Mason to be a member of some regular Lodge.

Section 4.58: Membership Termination

Membership in a constituent Lodge can only be terminated:

1. By dissolution of the Lodge.
2. By voluntary formal demission there from.
3. By suspension or expulsion.

Section 4.59: Petitions for Degrees

No petition for the Degrees of Masonry shall be received or considered by any Lodge if the applicant shall have been previously rejected by a Lodge of Master Masons, without the consent of the Lodge which rejected the applicant.

Section 4.60: Written Petitions, Contents

All petitions for the Degrees shall be in writing, signed by the applicant, with his name in full, giving date and place of his birth, present residence, and occupation, and if employed by another the name and business of employer; residence during five years immediately preceding; and show the qualifications prescribed in Section

Section 4.81: Recommended in Writing

Every petition shall be recommended in writing by two members of the Lodge, and be presented at a Stated or Special Communication, and record thereof made. (Amended 2001)

Section 4.61: Referred—Duties of Committee

Every petition for the Degrees shall be referred to a committee on investigation, appointed by the Master, consisting of three members of the Lodge, who shall diligently inquire into the moral, mental, and physical qualifications of the applicant, and examine him and ascertain whether he is and has been an actual resident within the jurisdiction of South Dakota for six months immediately preceding the presentation of his petition, and not disqualified by Section 4.59, and report thereon.

Section 4.62: Disqualified—Withdrawn

If the committee finds the applicant disqualified, they shall make a special written report thereon, in which case the Master may direct the withdrawal of the petition, and such withdrawal shall stand as a rejection, provided that if the disqualification found by the committee is none other than insufficient residence or physical disability, the applicant may be withdrawn and the fee returned.

Section 4.63: Persons in U.S. Service

No dispensation shall be issued to a Lodge to receive and act upon the petition for Degrees of a person in the service of the United States who has not the qualification of residence unless the application for dispensation by the Grand Master be made by the Lodge by a unanimous ballot, and if the dispensation be issued the petition shall take the usual course of reference and ballot.

Section 4.64: Committee—Reason Not Demanded

No one may demand from the committee or any member thereof reasons for the report and conclusions of the committee or the facts on which the same were based. Members of a Lodge who recommend the applicant must not be appointed on the investigating committee.

Section 4.65: Advancement

A petition by an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, residing in this State, for membership and advancement shall state the name, number and location of the Lodge in which he received such Degrees, and the name of the Grand Lodge under which said Lodge was working. Such petition shall be accompanied by a duly authenticated certificate or waiver of jurisdiction from the Lodge in which the applicant has received such degrees; provided, that no Lodge can receive such petition unless the applicant has resided within its jurisdiction six months immediately preceding the presentation of the petition.

Section 4.66: Affiliation on Demit

1. Any Master Mason, duly demitted from a regularly constituted Lodge of Master Masons, may apply at any time to any Lodge in South Dakota for affiliation as a member thereof. The petition for affiliation shall specify:

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- a. The Lodge of which he was last a member, with its name, number and location, and the Grand Lodge under which the same is or was holden;
 - b. The name of the applicant, his age, birthplace, residence, occupation and the like, in like detail as in a petition for the Degrees;
 - c. The name, number and location of the Lodge in which the several Degrees in Masonry were received; and,
 - d. Any Masonic rank, office or honors held.
2. Such petition, with the recommendation of two members of the Lodge petitioned, and with the petitioner's demit attached, shall be presented to the Lodge at a Stated or Special Meeting, and shall be received, referred for investigation, reported upon and balloted upon, on the same terms and in the same manner as a petition for the Degrees. On a unanimously favorable ballot, the petitioner shall be declared elected to membership; such election shall be effective from the moment of its declaration by the Master. The demit and petition of the petitioner elected shall be filed in the archives of the Lodge. (Amended 2001)
3. In case any petitioner for affiliation is rejected, his demit shall at once be returned to him with notice of his rejection. He may apply at any time thereafter, for affiliation in the same or any other Lodge in South Dakota, and the rejection of his application for affiliation shall in no wise abridge any right he previously held.

Section 4.67: Plural Membership

The Grand Lodge grants to members of its Lodges the right of membership in more than one Lodge, under the following conditions:

1. Any member of one Lodge in this State may retain such membership and affiliate with any one or more other Lodges under this Grand Lodge, on a proper showing of good standing, with all dues fully paid, in any and all other Lodges of which he is a member.
2. A member of a Lodge in any other Grand Jurisdiction which allows such Plural Membership may, if a resident of South Dakota, affiliate with any Lodge under this Grand Lodge, on the same showing, while yet retaining membership in the other Grand Jurisdiction.
3. A member of a Lodge of South Dakota residing in the Jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge which allows Plural Membership may affiliate with a Lodge of that Jurisdiction while retaining his membership in South Dakota, subject, however, to all the requirements and restrictions of the other Grand Lodge.
4. Any Master Mason eligible to Plural Membership in South Dakota, as set out in paragraphs 1 and 2, above, may join in the petition for Dispensation for a new Lodge, and may present in lieu of a demit, such credentials as are required to accompany an application for affiliation.
5. The petition for affiliation as a Plural Member shall be presented to the Lodge of affiliation, read in open Lodge, and immediately balloted upon, and, when elected, the Secretary shall at once notify every

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other Lodge in which the affiliate holds membership, and shall also immediately notify the Grand Lodge Office. (Approved 1993) (Amended 1998)

6. Every member of a Lodge in South Dakota who is a member of more than one Lodge shall have the same rights and privileges in, and the same duty to, each Lodge of South Dakota of which he is a member as though he were a member of that Lodge only, except that the purchasing of a Life Membership need only be to one Lodge. (Approved 1991)
7. Whenever any Master Mason, a member of more than one Lodge, shall be expelled or suspended from any one of them, he shall stand under the same disability in every Lodge of which he is a member, so far as the authority of this Grand Lodge extends. Any Lodge imposing such a penalty shall at once notify every other Lodge in which membership is known to be held, and shall notify the Grand Lodge Office immediately. (Amended 1998)
8. A Plural Membership may be restored to good standing in Masonry by the Lodge which originally suspended him or by any other Lodge of which he was a member, but such action shall not be taken until it shall appear that the suspended member has fully paid all indebtedness to every Lodge of which he was a member at the time of his suspension.
9. Restoration of a Plural Membership after suspension for un-Masonic conduct shall be granted only by the Grand Lodge or Constituent Lodge whichever originally suspended him, subject to the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge under which it works, but such restoration shall not be valid and effective in South Dakota except after similar restoration or formal approval of every Lodge in which membership was held; provided, that Grand Lodge may restore such a member to good standing in Masonry, but not to membership in any Lodge, as provided for in Section 5.48. (Amended 2001)
10. Restoration of a Plural Member after expulsion shall be done only by the Grand Lodge, as in the case of any other member. Previous notice of request for restoration shall be given to the Lodge in which trial was held. The action of Grand Lodge shall be only to restore the member to the status of a demitted Mason.

Section 4.68: Certificate of Good Standing

If a member entitled to such demits desires to transfer his membership to another Lodge, he may do so without first terminating his membership in his own Lodge. He shall make a written application to his Lodge for a demit, stating his intention to affiliate with another Lodge, stating the name, number and location of the Lodge with which he desires to affiliate. If he is not under charges and is clear on the books, his Lodge shall grant him a Certificate of Good Standing, addressed to the Lodge selected by him for affiliation, as shown by such application. Such certificate shall be attached to the petition of the Lodge with which he desires to affiliate. The petition shall take the usual course of petitions for affiliation, and the Lodge receiving it shall within ten days after the ballot thereon is taken, certify the result thereof to the Lodge which issued the certificate. If the petitioner is elected, the Lodge issuing the certificate shall at once forward a demit of such petitioner to the Lodge electing him, which demit shall bear the date of the Certificate of Good Standing. If such certificate be not used by such member, within three months of the date thereof, it shall become null and void.

Section 4.69: Non-Affiliated Master Mason

A non-affiliated Master Mason residing in the State of South Dakota may petition for affiliation, any Lodge, at any time as provided in Section 4.66.

Section 4.70: Affiliation Rejected—May Be Renewed

Any Brother whose application for affiliation shall have been rejected may renew his application to the same, or to any other Lodge in this State, and is not limited as to time or restricted in his choice of location of the Lodge. The rejection of the petition of a Brother for affiliation shall not affect his Masonic standing.

Section 4.71: Advancement—Rejected—Petition May Be Renewed

Any Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft whose petition for advancement shall have been rejected may renew his petition at any time to the Lodge which rejected him, or, upon the waiver of the rejecting Lodge, to any other Lodge, after residing within its jurisdiction for one year.

Section 4.72: Notice to Rejected Petitioner

When any candidate is declared rejected, notice thereof shall be communicated to him by the Secretary forthwith, and the fee shall be returned to him with the communication.

Section 4.73: Affiliation—Petition Withdrawn

The petition of a Brother Master Mason applying for membership may be withdrawn or returned prior to the committee's report, upon written application therefore and the concurrence of a majority of the members present at a Stated Communication of the Lodge. Section 4.74. Courtesy Degrees: A Lodge, on the duly authenticated request of another Lodge of this or of another Grand Jurisdiction, may confer any or all of the Degrees of Masonry upon a candidate of the requesting Lodge; provided, that such Degree or Degrees shall not be conferred for a Lodge of another Grand Jurisdiction upon any candidate who for any reason other than the residence qualification would be eligible to receive it as a candidate in a South Dakota Lodge.

Section 4.75: If Not Initiated, Fee Returned

If any candidate, Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, fails to present himself for advancement within a period of one year, he shall be dropped from the rolls and the Lodge shall return the fees of such candidate, but he may be reinstated upon his petition therefore and the payment of an amount equal to the original fees. The petition in such cases shall conform to the requirements for a petition for affiliation so far as the same are applicable, and shall be received, considered and disposed of by the Lodge in the same manner in which it would dispose of an application for affiliation. The Lodge may grant waiver of jurisdiction to one so reinstated.

Section 4.76: Affiliation—Petition

No Lodge shall receive an application for affiliation unless it be accompanied by a certificate of standing or proper demit from a Lodge of which the applicant was last a member, or satisfactory explanation in writing of the inability of the applicant to furnish a certificate or demit.

Section 4.77: Rejected Petitioner

No Lodge shall receive the petition of a candidate for the Degrees of Masonry who has been rejected by another Lodge without first obtaining the consent of the Lodge which rejected him. (Approved 1991)

Section 4.78: Affiliation—No Fees

No Lodge shall charge any fee for affiliation. A contribution of five dollars for the George Washington Masonic National Memorial shall be payable upon affiliations except in cases where such contributions shall have been previously made.

Section 4.79: General Fees

The fees for the three Degrees of Masonry shall not be less than forty-five dollars. In addition to the regular fees required by constituent Lodges, each Mason raised shall contribute five dollars for the George Washington Masonic National Memorial.

Section 4.80: No Credit

No Lodge shall confer any Degree on credit or refund or rebate any part of the fees.

Section 4.81: Qualifications of Candidates

Every candidate for the Degree of Masonry must:

1. Be a man free-born.
2. Have the senses of man, especially those of hearing, seeing, and feeling.
3. Be a believer in the Grand Architect of the Universe.
4. Be of mental worth and have a record of a moral and upright life.
5. Be able to pay the fees in cash from his own funds.
6. Possess the ability to earn a livelihood.

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- 7A. The requirements of the Landmarks, that a petitioner must be a man of mature age, of good report, hale and sound, not deformed or dismembered, may be deemed to be complied with if the petitioner is eighteen years of age when elected, of good character, physically and mentally sound and if no physical defects exist which will disable him as a candidate from conforming to and meeting with requirements of the rites and ceremonies of all the Degrees without assistance. Provided, that the possession of an artificial limb, or part under practical control of a candidate, which enables him to take all of the positions and steps required in any of the Degrees, shall not be considered a dismemberment. Any impairment of the foregoing requirements occurring after a Candidate's initiation shall not bar his advancement. (Amended 1998)
- 7B. No ruling of a Master of a Lodge can warrant any departure from the regulations of this section except that the Grand Master may grant a dispensation to waive the physical requirements defined in subsections 2 and 7 of this section. The Lodge can vote to accept the petition of a man lacking any of these physical requirements and, if favorable, request a dispensation from the Grand Master. The request shall be in writing under the seal of the Lodge and be accompanied by the petition and an account of the nature and extent of the petitioner's disability and, if applicable, how it will be handled in the rites and ceremonies of the Degrees. If the dispensation is granted, the Lodge can process the petition in the usual manner and, if the petitioner is elected, confer the Degrees.
8. Have resided within the jurisdiction of South Dakota for six months immediately preceding the presentation of the petition, provided that a person in the service of the United States not qualified by residence for six months may present a petition, if the Grand Master grants a dispensation to the Lodge to receive and consider it.
9. Not having been rejected by any Lodge during the six months immediately preceding the presentation of his petition, or as provided in Section 4.77.
10. Be able to read and write in English.
11. Not be under sentence or judgment for violation of any law of the land involving moral turpitude.

Section 4.82: Annual Dues in Advance

A Lodge may by its By-Laws, fix the annual dues of its members, which shall be due and payable in advance on January first; provided, that the dues of a newly raised or admitted members shall begin at the date of raising or admission, or at such time as may be fixed by the By-Law of the Lodge.

Section 4.83: Notice of Delinquency

In January of each year, the Secretary shall mail to each member of the Lodge in arrears for nonpayment of dues, a notice of delinquency, setting forth the amount of dues then owing by him and notifying him that at the first Stated Communication in the following November, the matter of his delinquency will be considered by the Lodge unless the amount of such dues shall have been paid before said Stated Communication, and that in the absence of such payment or unless said dues shall be remitted by action of his Lodge, he may be suspended for nonpayment of such dues without further notice.

Section 4.84: Suspension

1. At the first Stated Communication in November, upon the report of the Secretary of notice given as the preceding section required, the matter of delinquency shall be considered by the Lodge. Any member whose dues shall not have been paid at least to the beginning of the current year, or remitted by the Lodge, may be suspended by a majority vote of the members present.
2. In no case shall a Lodge carry a delinquent member for more than two years.
3. In case of Suspension for Nonpayment of Dues, payment of the dues owing at the time of suspension, shall restore a Brother to membership; provided, that after one year from the date of suspension, an application for reinstatement must be made in the same manner as provided for in Section 4.66; affiliation on demit, requiring the same form, investigation, ballot, etc.

Section 4.85: Remission

Upon the application of a member of a Lodge, if it appears that he is unable to pay his annual dues for the current year, the Lodge may, at any regular Communication, by a majority vote of the members present, relieve the Brother from the payment of such dues. In case of such remission of dues, no Grand Lodge dues shall be exacted on account of the Brother thus relieved during the period for which the Lodge has excused him from the payment of dues. Remission of dues may only be accomplished as provided in this Section.

Section 4.86: Life Membership

Any member in good standing of a constituent Lodge may purchase a Life Membership, if he so desires.

Section 4.87: Memorial Life Memberships

A Memorial Life Membership may be purchased by any person for a deceased Master Mason.

Section 4.88: Fee

The Life Membership fee shall be equal to 17 times the amount of the annual dues of his Lodge at the time of the purchase, or \$500.00, whichever is greater. Additionally, his annual dues must be paid one year in advance. (Amended 2007)

Section 4.89: Fee Paid to Secretary

The Life Membership fee shall be paid to the Secretary of the constituent Lodge, who will make a record thereof and forward the fee to the Grand Lodge. The Life Membership fee may be paid on an installment payment option, subject to the following rules:

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1. Any Master Mason in good standing in the Grand Jurisdiction of South Dakota may choose payments by installment, and a contract to that intent must be made with his Lodge and the Grand Lodge office. The time frame of installment payment shall not exceed three years. The member may opt for a shorter period of time of making the contract if he wishes. No extension of time for completion of the contract will be allowed.
2. The contract original is to be forwarded to the Grand Lodge office accompanied by the first installment. One copy of the contract will be retained in the originating Lodge files and one copy will be given to the participating member.
3. The member must remain current in his Lodge annual dues while under contract of installment payments for Life Membership in Perpetuity. The member must also pay one year of annual dues in advance to his Lodge at the completion of the installment contract.
4. Any member under contract who removes from the South Dakota Grand Jurisdiction during his contract may continue to fulfill the contract or, by written request of his Lodge, may have all monies paid in towards a Life Membership returned to him except for the interest earned thereon thus voiding the contract.
5. Constituent Lodges shall forward installment payments in the name of the member to the Grand Lodge as such payments are received and the Grand Lodge shall issue the appropriate receipts therefore on a semiannual basis. (Approved 1995).

Section 4.90: Membership Cards

The Grand Lodge will issue permanent Life Membership cards to each life member.

Section 4.91: Transfer, Consolidation, Surrender of Charter

Any transfer of a life member to another constituent Lodge within the State of South Dakota shall have his Life Membership account transferred to his new Lodge, with the new Lodge accepting the Life Membership as previously paid. If a Lodge consolidates, surrenders its Charter or has its Charter arrested, the funds credited to that Lodge in the Life Membership Fund shall follow the members according to the relevant Sections of these By-Laws dealing with consolidations, surrenders, and arrests of Charters. Annual dues, in accordance with Section 2.48 herein, of deceased life members whose Lodge subsequently surrenders its Charter, for whatever reason, or has its Charter arrested, and does not consolidate shall become the property of the Grand Lodge.

Section 4.92: Plural Memberships

A Brother desiring to purchase a Life Membership and who holds plural membership within this Grand Jurisdiction may purchase a Life Membership in any of the Lodges in which he holds membership. (Approved 1991)

Section 4.93: Expulsion of Member

A life member who becomes expelled in accordance with the Grand Lodge By-Laws shall be required to surrender his Life Membership card to the Grand Treasurer-Secretary and the funds he has paid in to Life Membership shall be transferred from the Life Membership Fund to the Grand Lodge General Fund Endowment. No funds shall be returned to the expelled member or to his constituent Lodge.

Section 4.94: Prospective Changes

Any change, modification, or amendment to any provision of these By-Laws relating to the Life Membership in Perpetuity Program shall be prospective only and shall have no effect on any Life Membership in Perpetuity in effect at the time of such change.

Section 4.95: Balloting at Stated Meeting

No ballot shall be taken upon a petition for any Degree or for affiliation at any other than a Stated Communication.

Section 4.96: Two Weeks after Reference

No ballot shall be taken upon a petition for the Degrees, or for affiliation in less period than two weeks from the time the petition of the applicant was referred to the Committee on Investigation. (Amended 2001)

Section 4.97: Ballot

Upon receipt of the report of the Committee on Investigation, a ballot on the petition shall be had with all members present voting. If two black balls/cubes appear in the ballot box, the Master, without declaring a rejection, shall at once order a second ballot for the purpose of correcting a possible mistake, which shall be the last; but in no case after one ballot has been had, shall any discussion be permitted in the Lodge before the second is taken, nor shall the second ballot be postponed to another communication. It shall require at least two black balls/cubes to reject. One ballot elects the candidate for the three Degrees. (Approved 1993)

Section 4.98: Balloting on Each Petition

In balloting upon petitions for the Degrees or for affiliation, each petition shall be acted upon separately, and every member of the Lodge present must vote.

Section 4.99: Result Recorded

After the ballot has been taken as provided herein and duly examined, first by the Wardens and finally by the Master, the result shall in all cases be final and conclusive, and shall be then and there so declared by the

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Master. The result only, namely, “elected” or “rejected,” shall be made known and recorded, and such result cannot be set aside by the Lodge, the Master, the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge.

Section 4.100: Objections before Initiation

Two or more members of the Lodge, whether they were present or absent when the ballot was taken on a petition, may file objection to the initiation of an elected candidate, at any time before he has been initiated. Such objection may be made orally or privately, to the Master or to a Warden acting as Master, and when made shall be reported by the Master in open Lodge and a record thereof entered upon the record of the proceedings without the name of the objectors. The objectors need not disclose the reason for their objection; if they should do so, the matter shall remain private with the Master. It shall be un-Masonic for the Master or Warden acting as Master to disclose the name of such objectors. Any objection so filed shall act as a bar to the initiation of the elected candidate for a period of six months, unless earlier withdrawn. Should the objection be renewed it shall then be treated in the same manner as an objection to advancement. (Amended 1999)

Section 4.101: To Advancement

Whenever two or more Master Masons in good standing and being members of a Lodge in this State, shall express in writing to the Master of their Lodge any objection to the advancement of a Brother in the Lodge governed by such Master, to the second or third Degree, the reason therefore must be made known to the Lodge, and the matter shall be referred to a committee of three members. The Master shall appoint such committee and it shall have power and it shall be its duty to inquire into such reasons and report thereon to the Lodge as soon as possible. Upon the reception of the report the Lodge shall proceed to consider the same. If the reasons assigned, in the opinion and judgment of a majority of the members of the Lodge present be insufficient, the Lodge may confer the Degree in the same manner in which it would have proceeded if the objection had not been made; but if the reason assigned shall be deemed sufficient to stay the Degree, the candidate shall be entitled to a trial upon the objections alleged. If upon such trial the objections are sustained, the candidate shall not be entitled to receive the Degree. (Amended 1999)

Section 4.102: Transfers

All applications for certificates of standing or transfers of membership and demits, shall be made by written application presented at a Stated Communication of the Lodge.

Section 4.103: Demit

A member of a Lodge, who is in good standing, whose dues are paid, and who has complied with Section 4.124, may apply in writing to the Lodge for a demit, which shall be granted him if no charges are pending against him and such demit shall date and membership cease from the Lodge when the same was granted.

Section 4.104: Lost/Duplicate Certificate

If any Brother shall lose the certificate of his demission, the Secretary of the Lodge shall, upon request and satisfactory proof of such loss, furnish him duplicate certificate with the original date, and the fact of reissuance shall be entered upon the record.

Section 4.105: Certificate—Waiver, E.A., F.C.

An Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft shall not be granted a demit, but a Lodge may grant to either of them a certificate setting forth his status in the Lodge, with a waiver of jurisdiction.

Section 4.106: Non-Affiliated—Right of Visitation

All non-affiliated Masons in this State shall have the privilege of visiting Lodges for a period of one year; but such non-affiliates should petition some Lodge within thirty days thereafter for membership, and if rejected shall contribute to some chartered Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction its regular dues, and in case of non-compliance shall be debarred from all Masonic rights and privileges as follows:

1. They shall not be allowed to visit any Lodge.
2. They shall not be allowed to appear in any Masonic procession.
3. They shall not be entitled to Masonic charity.

Section 4.107: Non-Affiliated—Subject to Discipline

Non-affiliated Masons shall be subject to the discipline of the Lodge in whose jurisdiction they may reside for any violation of moral or Masonic law. (Amended 2001)

Section 4.108: Visiting Master Mason

It is the privilege of every Master Mason in good standing to visit and sit in every regular Lodge.

Section 4.109: Visiting Master Mason—Vouched For

No visitor shall be admitted to any Lodge unless lawfully vouched for as a Master Mason in good standing. Documentary evidence alone shall not be sufficient to justify avouchment.

Section 4.110: Certificate

In addition to strict trial and due examination of his knowledge of Masonry, every Lodge or committee shall require a strange visitor to produce a certificate under the seal of his Lodge that he is a member of such Lodge

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in good standing, which certificate shall also be fortified by a certificate under seal of the Grand Lodge of the jurisdiction under which the same be held, that the Lodge issuing the certificate is a regular Lodge in good standing in the said jurisdiction.

Section 4.111: Public Appearance

Appearance by a Lodge in public procession shall be authorized in advance by action of the Lodge taken at a stated communication. (Amended 1998)

Section 4.112: Candidates, Advancement:

1. No Lodge shall advance an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft to a higher Degree until upon examination in open Lodge, by a Committee consisting of the Worshipful Master and not less than three members of the Lodge appointed by the Worshipful Master, or at the option of the Master, he shall have completed a course of instruction as provided by the Grand Lodge, or, in case of a one-day conferral, as provided in Section 4.137 of these By-Laws. (Amended 2001)
2. The Master of the Lodge shall determine the content required for examination for advancement of a candidate to a higher Degree for purposes of Sections 4.112.1, 4.123, and 4.124. (Approved 1992)

Section 4.113: Time between Degrees

Conferral of the three Degrees (EA, FC, MM,) in one day shall require prior approval of the Grand Master At all other times, no Lodge shall confer more than one Degree upon the same candidate in fewer than seven days. (Amended 2000)

Section 4.114: Visitors

No Lodge shall admit as visitors or treat in any manner as true and lawful brethren any persons hailing from Lodges that deny or ignore the existence of God.

Section 4.115: Courtesy Work

No Lodge shall, upon waiver and request of another Lodge, confer any Degree upon any persons from another State during the temporary or permanent residence of the applicant in this State while the applicant is engaged in an occupation prohibited to Masons by our penal code, notwithstanding the restriction does not exist in the State from which the applicant hails.

Section 4.116: Degree in Full

No Lodge shall confer less than a full Degree on any candidate at any communication.

Section 4.117: Masonic Clothing

Appearance by any Mason in this jurisdiction clothed in Masonic apparel or regalia at any non-Masonic event shall only be done under the auspices of some regular Lodge. Such participation shall only be authorized by action of the Lodge taken at a stated communication. (Amended 1998)

Section 4.118: Ritual/Monitor

The Grand Lodge has adopted and authorized a Ritual/Monitor, and the teaching or rendering of any other in the ceremonies of the Order is forbidden. (Amended 1998)

“Any amendment, modification or alteration to the Ritual/Monitor will not be effective until proposed to and approved by the Grand Lodge in the same manner as amendments to these By-Laws, as provided for in Section 1.09.” (Amended 2001)

Section 4.119: [This Section reserved.]

Section 4.120: Private Grand Honors

The Private Grand Honors are the dueguards and signs of the three Degrees, to be used only on five occasions: When a Masonic Hall is to be consecrated, a new Lodge to be constituted, a Master-elect to be installed, a Grand Master-elect to be installed, or a Grand Master, or his Deputy, to be received on an official visitation to a Lodge.

Section 4.121: Public Grand Honors

The Public Grand Honors shall be given as follows:

1. A battery of three times three executed by striking the palms of the hands together: First, strike the palm of the left hand three times with the palm of the right; second, strike the palm of the right hand three times with the palm of the left; third, strike the palm of the left hand three times with the palm of the right. In all cases the forearm of the hand being struck will be extended straight to the front.
2. These Public Grand Honors are to be used instead of the Private Grand Honors in all Masonic ceremonies except funerals, when any one not a Master Mason is or may be present. The Public Grand Honors may also be extended to Grand Officers of subordinate rank, to Past Grand Masters, District Masters and other distinguished guests of a Lodge or to the assembled Past Masters of a Lodge at a meeting held in their honor.

Section 4.122: Funeral Honors

The Funeral Honors are to be given as follows:

- The Brethren standing at the grave will extend their hands towards the grave, palms up, while the Master will say: “We consign his body to the earth.”
- Then cross the arms on the breast, the left uppermost, the open palms of the hands resting on the shoulders. The Master will then say: “We cherish his memory here.”
- The Brethren will then raise their hands above their heads, looking upwards, when the Master will say: “We commend his spirit to God who gave it.”

Section 4.123: Controls Work

The Master controls the work of his Lodge and ultimately decides whether a candidate for advancement has shown himself proficient in the preceding Degree, by examination in open Lodge, by a Committee consisting of the Worshipful Master and not less than three members of the Lodge appointed by the Worshipful Master, or by completing a course of instruction as provided by the Grand Lodge. Or, in case of a one-day conferral, as provided in Section 4.137 of these By-Laws. It is the duty of the Master to never permit advancement unless personally satisfied, from the examination, or from the report of the presenter of the course of instruction, that the candidate thoroughly understands the meaning and application of the preceding Degree. (Amended 2001)

Section 4.124: Examination, Third Degree

Each Master Mason raised in any Lodge in this State shall, after the date of receiving the Master Mason Degree, present himself for examination in open Lodge, before a committee, as provided in Section 4.112, or complete a course of instruction on the Master Mason Degree as provided by the Grand Lodge, or, in case of a one-day conferral, as provided in Section 4.137 of these By-Laws; It shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master to so advise the candidate at the time of his raising. Until such examination shall have been held, or course of instruction completed, and the fact recorded in the minutes of the Lodge and on the individual Masonic record of the Brother, he shall not be entitled to a demit or to petition any dependent body of Masonry for membership. (Amended 2001)

Section 4.125: Entitled to Masonic Honors

The following are entitled to be buried with Masonic honors: Entered Apprentice Masons, Fellowcraft Masons, Master Masons who, at the time of death were not under penalty of expulsion or suspension for un-Masonic conduct. (Amended 2000)

Section 4.126: Masonic Burials by Lodge or Grand Lodge

All Masonic Burials must be by the Grand Lodge or a Lodge of Master Masons. (Amended 2001)

Section 4.127: Authorized Service

The burial of a deceased Brother is Masonic work. To constitute burial with Masonic honors the funeral service authorized by the Grand Lodge must be used. The Lodge may be opened in due form in the Lodge room, or the Master may call the members together at the place designated for the funeral, there put on the proper regalia and conduct the funeral without the necessity of a formal opening of the Lodge, in which case the Secretary will note in the minutes of the next Stated Meeting the fact that the funeral has been conducted by the Lodge.

Section 4.128: Position at Grave

When the Lodge has formed in order around the grave none can be admitted within it save the fraternity, the clergy, the mourners and pallbearers.

Section 4.129: Lodge Only at Masonic

No Lodge shall attend or participate in funeral rites unless the same are Masonic.

Section 4.130: White Gloves, Aprons, Acacia

On funeral occasions white gloves and aprons with the usual badge of mourning and the spring of Acacia shall be worn by all Master Masons.

The Officers of the Lodge should wear their respective jewels. Grand Officers and Past Officers of Grand or Constituent Lodges may also wear their official jewels. (Amended 2007)

Section 4.131: Clandestine Lodges

No Lodge shall hold Masonic communication with any Lodge or body which has been declared illegal by the Grand Lodge, or the Grand Master, or with any person who is a member of any such Lodge or body.

Section 4.132: Regular Lodges

No Lodge shall recognize any body purporting to be a Masonic body that is not recognized by the Grand Lodge.

Section 4.133: Cannot Suspend By-Laws

No Lodge shall suspend the operation of a By-Law to meet special or emergency cases.

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Section 4.134: Loans to Members

No Lodge shall lend money to a member thereof.

Section 4.135: Financial Appeals

1. No Lodge, individual or organization shall make or circulate within this Grand Jurisdiction any Masonic appeal for financial aid for any purpose unless such appeal be authorized by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master.
2. No Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, or officer or member thereof, shall give any certificate or recommendation to enable a mason in an itinerant manner to apply to Lodges for relief.

Section 4.136: Name

No Lodge shall be permitted to assume the name of any person during his life.

Section 4.137: One Day Conferral

The conferring of the three degrees (E.A., F.C., M.M.) within less than a seven day period requires a special dispensation from the Grand Master (see Section 4.113.) When the three degrees are conferred in one day the following minimum standards must be met.

1. Each Candidate who is receiving courtesy work (not a candidate of the Host Lodge) must be accompanied by a member of his Lodge and a letter from his Lodge, over the signature of the Worshipful Master and the seal of the Lodge, clearly stating that the Candidate had submitted a petition which had been received, referred to committee, reported on and balloted on, all in compliance with Sections 4.60, 4.61, and 4.95 through 4.99 of these laws. The letter must also request courtesy work of the Host Lodge.
2. After the conferral of the Entered Apprentice Degree the candidate(s) will be taken into a private room and instructed by an instructor and as many assistant instructors as the Worshipful Master appoints. The candidate(s) will be instructed how to give the Step, Due-Guard, Sign, Grip and Word of an Entered Apprentice. He (they) will then return to the Lodge Room and under the direction of the instructor perform this instruction as a minimum and if the Worshipful Master is satisfied he will declare him (them) proficient on the Entered Apprentice Degree.
3. Following the conferral of the Fellowcraft Degree the candidate(s) will be instructed in the same manner as in 2 above how to give the Step, Due-Guard, Sign, Pass Grip, Password, Grip and Word of a Fellowcraft. The candidate(s) will be returned to the Lodge Room and under the direction of the instructor perform this examination as a minimum and if the Worshipful Master is satisfied he will declare him (them) proficient on the Fellowcraft Degree.
4. Following the conferral of the Master Mason Degree the candidate(s) will be instructed in the same manner as in 2. Above how to give the Step, Duegard, Sign, Grand Hailing Sign of Distress, Pass

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Grip, Password, Strong grip or Lion's Paw. The Five Points of Fellowship, The Substitute Word and Grand Masonic Word. The candidate(s) will then be returned to the Lodge Room and under the direction of the instructor perform this examination as a minimum and if the Worshipful Master is satisfied he will declare him (them) proficient on the Master Mason Degree.

5. A 3x5 Membership File Card will be completed on each candidate, to include his name, the name of his Lodge, the date of the conferral of the Degrees, that a satisfactory examination of his proficiency was completed, and the name and location of the Lodge conferring the Degrees.
6. The Host Lodge will record the proceedings of the conferral, including names of the Brethren taking the various offices in each Degree, and the names and Lodge of each candidate.
7. The Host Lodge, within no more than thirty days following the conferral of the Degrees, shall transmit to the Lodge of each new Master Mason the membership file card (paragraph 5, above) and a copy of the minutes of the meeting. (Paragraph 6, above) (Amended 2001)

Section Five: Penal Jurisdiction

Section 5.01: Lotteries

Permitted: It shall be permissible for a Lodge to hold a lottery (raffle) under the following conditions. That all raffles comply with the South Dakota Judicial Code Section 22:25-24. **See special dispensation request form.** (Amended 2000)

Definition: The term “lottery” shall be construed as a “raffle.” Raffle defined: a method of raising funds for a charitable purpose by the sale of tickets or chances from which the winning ticket or tickets will be selected and the pre-determined prize or prizes awarded to the holder or holders of the winning ticket or tickets.

1. That a raffle will be for the purpose of raising funds for only approved Masonic Charities.
2. That no individual Mason will benefit or make a profit from any raffle.
3. Lodge not to lose money: if any raffle fails to raise the necessary funds to cover the expense of the raffle, the members of the Lodge shall, from personal funds, pay that portion not covered by the sale of raffle tickets.
4. The motion to hold a raffle must be seconded and passed by a 2/3 majority of the members present.
5. The Lodge must then submit a special “RAFFLE DISPENSATION” request form to the Grand Master for approval.
6. Prohibitions: Any form of “chance enterprise” other than a raffle as herein defined, shall be strictly prohibited. No Lodge and /or no Mason shall give or attempt to give the aid or countenance of Masonry, in organized or individual form, to any other form of chance enterprise. (Amended 2000)

Section 5.02 Penal Jurisdiction

As it is from the original powers of the Grand Lodge that all power is derived, the Grand Lodge retains for itself all powers not herein specifically delegated and holds for itself the right to take any and all actions it grants to its Constituent Lodges. If a Constituent Lodge fails to act, within a reasonable length of time as determined by the Grand Master, upon an alleged violation that would come under the penal jurisdiction, the Grand Lodge will, under direction of the Grand Master, exercise full control and jurisdiction in the matter. (Amended 2001)

Section 5.03: Unmasonic Conduct

Unmasonic conduct cannot and shall not be fully defined; it is sufficient that the same be felt and known in the hearts and minds of all good Masons.

Section 5.04: Unmasonic Conduct Procedure

Any Mason may be accused of unmasonic conduct by any member of any constituent lodge or officer of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota. Such accusation must be made in writing and with specificity and the same shall be submitted to the accused's constituent lodge or to the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of South Dakota. Charges against the master of any constituent lodge will be submitted to the Grand Master. If the Grand Master of South Dakota shall stand accused, the accusation shall be submitted to the Deputy Grand Master of South Dakota who shall assume the duties of the Grand Master in the proceedings. If the accusation is submitted to the constituent lodge, proceedings thereupon shall be had in the lodge within 90 days of its submission with the verdict reported forthwith, along with detailed documentation of the proceedings, to the Grand Lodge of South Dakota within 20 days thereafter for appropriate action, if any. If the accusation shall have been submitted to the Grand Lodge of South Dakota, proceedings thereupon shall be had in any constituent lodge of which the accused shall be a member or within the Grand Lodge of South Dakota as ordered by the Grand Master within 90 days of its submission.

Wherever such proceedings shall be had, the accused shall stand convicted of unmasonic conduct and be subject of punishment only:

- a. If proceedings are had in a constituent lodge, by a vote of three-fourths of the constituent lodge membership present for conviction. Such vote shall be by secret ballot, or
- b. If proceedings are had in the Grand Lodge of South Dakota and a Grand Master appointed four-man commission named as trier of fact therein shall vote by three-fourths majority for conviction, and in either case the accused shall have been afforded the opportunity to exercise all constitutionally protected rights afforded a criminal defendant in the criminal courts of the State of South Dakota and the trial proceedings and any attendant proceedings shall have been conducted in accordance with the rules of criminal procedure as the same shall be codified in South Dakota law. Proceedings in constituent lodges will be held in a tiled meeting called for that purpose. Confidentiality of the proceedings will be maintained. No public disclosure of any portion of the proceedings will be allowed.

Section 5.05: Appeals

A Mason convicted of unmasonic conduct in a constituent lodge may appeal to the Grand Master for a review of the punishment imposed. The Grand Master shall appoint a four-man commission to review the record of the trial and render a final judgment within sixty (60) days of its receipt of the appeal. Punishment for unmasonic conduct by Grand Lodge Commission is not eligible for appeal.

Section 5.06: Punishments

Punishments:

1. Expulsion after proceedings for unmasonic conduct

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2. Reprimand
3. Suspension for a specified term

Expulsion for unmasonic conduct after conviction is permanent. The same may be imposed by the trier of fact, be it a constituent lodge or a Grand Master-appointed commission, upon a three-fourths majority vote. Such vote shall be by secret ballot.

Reprimands for unmasonic conduct after conviction may be made by the trier of fact, be it a constituent lodge or a Grand Master-appointed commission, upon a three-fourths majority vote. Such vote shall be by secret ballot.

Suspensions of membership for a specified term upon a conviction for unmasonic conduct may be imposed by the trier of fact, be it a constituent lodge or a Grand Master- appointed commission, upon a three-fourths majority vote. Such vote shall be by secret ballot. At the conclusion of the term of suspension, if it be the wish of the suspended Mason to be fully reinstated as a member of his lodge, he shall first request such restoration in writing and to his constituent lodge and shall submit, along with said request for restoration of membership, a letter of apology. The membership of the constituent lodge shall in all cases pass upon the appropriateness and sufficiency of every such apology by submitting the question of its acceptance to a vote of the constituent lodge's membership. A three-fourths majority vote for approval of restoration of membership and acceptance of apology must be obtained before membership shall be restored.

Section 5.07: Grand Master Commission Unmasonic Conduct

Adjudication and Punishment:

1. A four-man commission appointed by the Grand Master shall serve as trier of fact. One member of said commission shall serve as the elected referee thereof.
2. The referee shall determine an appropriate time and place for all trial proceedings.
3. Accuser(s) shall present his evidence consisting of testimony and/or documentary materials. Testimony will not be received unless provided under oath as follows: "I swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help me God."
4. The accused shall be given the opportunity to cross-examine all witnesses against him.
5. The accused shall not be made to testify against himself and/or his interest(s).
6. The referee shall settle all evidentiary and procedural issues.
7. At the conclusion of the accuser's case the accused may present his evidence and the same shall consist of sworn testimony and/or documentary materials.

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8. Both the accuser(s) and the accused may present closing arguments. Said arguments shall not exceed 30 minutes in length.
9. Upon conclusion of the closing arguments, if any, the commission shall undertake secret deliberations after which verdict may issue. Conviction shall require a three-fourths majority.
10. If conviction results, the commission shall forthwith conduct additional secret balloting upon the question of punishment, which punishment may be imposed only upon a three-fourths majority vote therefore and the same reported to the Grand Master of South Dakota for imposition.
11. The elected referee is empowered to cast a vote during in both the adjudicatory and punishments phases of any proceedings.
12. The accused shall not be tried more than once for the same offense.
13. A full and complete accounting of all penal proceedings conducted by a Grand Master Commission shall be provided to the Grand Lodge of South Dakota within 20 days of the conclusion of said proceedings.

Section 5.08 Constituent Lodge Unmasonic Conduct

Adjudication and punishment:

1. The worshipful master or his appointed representative shall serve as referee in all such proceedings whenever the accused denies the allegations of unmasonic conduct. This section concerning a trial is not applicable to Masons who have committed a felony and who are subject to administrative expulsion or to those Masons who have been provided actual notice of the proceedings and fail to appear for such without good cause. The accused shall be afforded at least thirty days' notice of the allegations against him so that he has adequate time to defend himself. It is in the discretion of the referee to allow an additional reasonable amount of time at the request of either the accused or the accuser. The accuser shall be appointed by either the Worshipful Master or the Grand Master to try the case.
2. Accusation(s) shall be read aloud.
3. Accusers shall present evidence in the form of testimony and/or documentary materials. Testimony shall not be received of any party unless the same shall have been offered under oath which oath shall consist of the following: "I swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help me God."
4. The accused shall be given the opportunity to cross-examine all witnesses who shall have testified against him.
5. The accused shall not be required to testify against himself and/or his interests, but may be cross-examined by the accuser in the event the accused elects to testify on his own behalf.

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6. If it be his desire, the accused may present his evidence at the conclusion of the accuser's case. The accused's evidence shall consist of sworn testimony and/or documentary materials.
7. Both the accuser(s) and the accused may present closing arguments to the trier of fact. Neither shall exceed thirty minutes in length.
8. Upon the conclusion of closing arguments offered, if any, the case shall be immediately submitted to the trier of fact and judgment shall be rendered thereon.
9. Deliberations shall not be had in the presence of the accuser(s) or the accused and no record of such deliberations shall be made. However, the result of the secret balloting shall be recorded and the same provided all interested persons.
10. If conviction is made, the referee shall advise the trier of fact of all possible punishments and shall allow for as much deliberation in the matter as he shall deem advisable. At the conclusion of deliberations, the referee shall conduct additional secret balloting to obtain a three-fourths majority vote for the imposition of a given punishment.
11. The referee shall determine the admissibility of any and all proposed evidence. The referee shall determine all matters concerning procedure not addressed herein.

The accused shall not be tried twice for the same offense.

Section 5.09: Alcoholic Beverages

It shall be deemed un-Masonic conduct to introduce any wine or liquor of any alcoholic content into any Lodge room or any room adjacent thereto used for ritual purposes, with the following exceptions:

- (a) Wine may be used as part of a ritual so long as an alternative Non-alcoholic liquid is available;
- (b) At social functions not held in the Lodge Room itself. If the facility includes no meeting room other than the Lodge Room, this exception is satisfied if the alter is removed and covered.
- (c) For the purpose of this section, the words "adjacent thereto" shall mean a room with a doorway connecting directly into the Lodge Room. Amended 2007

Appendix

Mackey's Masonic Jurisprudence of Freemasonry, Chapter IV

Rules of Order

In all well regulated societies, it is absolutely necessary that there should be certain rules, not only for the government of the presiding officer, but for that of the members over whom he presides. It is not so material what these rules are, as that they should be well known and strictly observed. The parliamentary Law, or that system of regulation which has been adopted for the government of legislative bodies in England and America, and which constitutes the basis of the rules for conducting business in all organized societies, whether public or private, in these countries, is, in many of its details, inapplicable to a Masonic Lodge, whose Rules of Order are of a nature peculiar to itself.

Still, the Masonic rule is, as it has been judiciously expressed by Brother French, “that where well-settled Parliamentary principles can be properly applied to the action of Masonic bodies, they should always govern; but they should never be introduced where they in any way interfere with the established system of Landmarks of Freemasonry, or with the high prerogatives of the Master.”

In the discussion of this subject, it is not proposed, in the present chapter, to give anything more than a mere outline of the usage to be pursued in conducting the business of a Lodge; for many of the most important regulations to be observed will be found under appropriate heads, interspersed throughout this work.

Order of Business

1. After a Lodge has been opened according to the formalities of the order, the first thing to be done is the reading of the Minutes of the preceding Communication. These are then to be corrected and confirmed by a vote of the Lodge.
2. But, to this rule there is a qualification, that the Minutes of a Regular or Stated Communication cannot be altered or amended at a Special one.
3. The Lodge being opened and the Minutes read, it may then proceed to business, which will generally commence with the consideration of the unfinished business left over from the last meeting. But the order of business is strictly under the direction of the Master, who may exercise his own discretion in the selection of the matters which are to come before the Lodge, subject, of course, for an arbitrary or oppressive control of the business to an appeal to the Grand Lodge.
4. No alarms should be attended to at the door, nor members or visitors admitted during the time of opening or closing the Lodge, or reading the Minutes, or conferring a Degree.
5. All votes, except in the election of the candidates, members or officers, must be taken by a show of hands, and the Senior Deacon will count and report to the Master, who declares the result.
6. No Lodge can be resolved into a “Committee of the Whole,” which is a Parliamentary proceeding, utterly unknown to Freemasonry.

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7. The Minutes of a meeting should be read at its close, that errors may at once be corrected and omissions supplied by the suggestion of those who were present during the transaction; but these Minutes are not to be finally confirmed until the next Regular Communication.
8. Masonic decorum requires that during the transaction of business, the brethren shall not entertain any private discourse, nor in any way disturb the harmony of the Lodge.

Rules of Debate

9. No Brother can speak more than once on any subject without permission of the Chair.
10. Every Brother must address the Chair standing; he must confine himself to the question under debate, and avoid personality.
11. Any Brother who transgresses this rule may be called to order, in which case the Presiding Officer shall immediately decide the point of order, from which decision there can be no appeal to the Lodge.
12. When two or more Brothers rise at one in a debate, the Master shall name the Brother who is first to speak.
13. No motion can be put unless it is seconded, and if required, it must be reduced in writing.
14. Before the question is put on any motion, it should be distinctly stated by the Chair.
15. When a question is under debate, no motion can be received but to lie on the table; to postpone to a certain time; to commit; to amend; or to postpone indefinitely, which several motions, by Parliamentary usage, have precedence in the order in which they are arranged; and no motion to postpone to a certain time, to commit, or to postpone indefinitely, being decided is again allowed at the same Communication.
16. When motions are made to refer a subject to different committees, the question must be taken in the order in which the motions were made.
17. When a motion has been once made and carried in the affirmative or negative, it is in order for any member who voted in the majority to move for a reconsideration thereof at the same Communication.
18. When an amendment is proposed, a member who has already spoken to the main question may again speak to the amendment.
19. Amendments may be made so as totally to alter the nature of the proposition, and a new resolution may be engrafted, by way of amendment, on the word "resolved."
20. When a blank is to be filled, and various propositions have been made, the question must be taken first on the highest sum or the latest time proposed.
21. Any member may call for a division of a question, which division will take place if a majority of the members consent.
22. A motion to lie on the Table is not debatable, nor is one in the Grand Lodge to close the session on a given day.

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23. A motion for adjournment is un-Masonic, and cannot be entertained.
24. No motion for the “previous question” can be admitted.

Committees

25. All Committees must be appointed by the Chair, unless otherwise specifically provided for, and the first one named on the Committee will act as Chairman; but no one should be appointed on a Committee who is opposed to the matter that is referred.
26. A Committee may meet when and where it pleases, if the Lodge has not specified a time and place. But a Committee can only act when together, and not by separate consultation and consent.
27. The report of a Committee may be read by the Chairman, or other member in his place, or by the Secretary of the Lodge.
28. A majority of a Committee constitutes a quorum for business.
29. When a report has been read, if no objections are made, it is considered as accepted; but if objections are made, the question must be put on its acceptance.
30. If the report contains nothing which requires action, but ends with resolutions, the question must be on agreeing to the resolutions.
31. If the report embodies matters of legislation, the question must be on adopting the report, and agreeing to the resolutions, if resolutions are appended; but if there is no action recommended by the report, and no resolutions are appended to it, the acceptance of the report, either tacitly or by vote, disposes of it.
32. Reports may be re-committed at any time before final action has been taken on them.

Elections

33. The election of candidates for initiation, or of Freemasons for affiliation, must be conducted with white and black balls, and the result will be declared by the Junior and Senior Wardens and Master, in rotation, after inspection.
34. When the report of a Committee on a petition for initiation or affiliation is unfavorable, it is unnecessary to proceed to a ballot; for, as the vote must be unanimous, the unfavorable opinion already expressed of at least two members of the Committee is in itself a rejection. It is not to be presumed that the Committee would report against and vote for the candidate. Of course it is to be understood in these cases that an unfavorable report by a Committee is equivalent to a rejection. Some Grand Lodges have said that a ballot must be taken in all cases, and this, though not the general usage, is no violation of a Landmark.
35. On election of officers, two tellers are to be appointed to receive and count the votes, and the result must be declared by the Master.

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36. Nominations of candidates for office are in order, and according to ancient usage, but if a member is elected who has not been nominated, the election will still be valid; for a nomination, though permitted, is not absolutely essential.

37. Where the By-Laws of a Lodge do not provide otherwise, the election of an officer may be taken by a show of hands, if there be no opposing candidate.

In conclusion, to borrow the language of Brother French, from the able article already quoted, “let me say that no general rules can be laid down that will meet all special cases; and proper consideration and good judgment will almost always lead a properly qualified Master to decide right.”