

LIST of ABBREVIATIONS USED

B.L.	By-Laws
Const.	Constitution
D.G.M.	Deputy Grand Master
D. of G.M.	Deputy of the Grand Master
E.A.	Entered Apprentice
F.C.	Fellowcraft
G.L.	Grand Lodge
G.M.	Grand Master
Gr. Sec.	Grand Secretary
J.G.W.	Junior Grand Warden
J.W.	Junior Warden
L.	Lodge
Mas.	Masonic
MRC.	Masonic Retirement Center
M.M.	Master Mason
M.W.	Most Worshipful
N.P.D.	Non Payment of Dues
Para.	Paragraph
P.G.M.	Past Grand Master
Rev.	Revised
R.W.	Right Worshipful
Sec.	Section in Code
S.G.W.	Senior Grand Warden
S.W.	Senior Warden
U.D.	Under Dispensation
V.W.	Very Worshipful
W.M.	Worshipful Master
W.M.C.	Washington Masonic Code

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Part 1 – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 1 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

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- Sec. 1.03 Const. – [Members](#)
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[Rev. 2009]

Part I -- Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 1.01 Const.

Style and Title of Grand Lodge. The style and title of this Grand Lodge is and shall be: “The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington.”

Sec. 1.02 Const.

Supreme Jurisdiction. This Grand Lodge has Supreme Jurisdiction over all matters of Ancient Craft Masonry within the territorial limits of the State of Washington; and like Jurisdiction over such Lodges as it has established and hereafter shall establish in open territory belonging to the United States of America, except for the shared and independent Jurisdiction of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Washington and Jurisdiction, which it exercises over its Lodges, members and Ancient Craft Masonry within this State.

With the foregoing single exception, this Grand Lodge does not recognize or admit the existence of any coordinate or superior Masonic authority, however styled, and it has the inherent power, not including Prince Hall Masons, to investigate and determine all Masonic matters relating to the Craft in general, to particular Lodges, and to individual Brethren, either directly or by its delegated authority, and its authority cannot be called into question. **Rev. 1997**

Sec. 1.03 Const.

Members. Members of the Grand Lodge shall consist of the following:

1. Past Masters of Chartered Lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction, while members therein,
2. Masters and Wardens, or their duly appointed proxies, of the Chartered and duly constituted Lodges of this Jurisdiction; and
3. Members of Lodges of this Jurisdiction who are Past Masters of any other Jurisdiction which is in fraternal communication with the Grand Lodge of Washington. **Rev. 1990**

Sec. 1.04 Const.

Powers. The powers of the Grand Lodge are legislative, executive, and judicial, and are limited only by its own Constitution and Laws and by the Ancient Landmarks of Masonry.

1. **Legislative:** The **legislative powers** extend to every case of legislation not immemorially inherent in the Constituent Lodges. The Grand Lodge Constitution, By-Laws and regulations are binding on all Lodges and Masons of this Jurisdiction.
2. **Executive:** The **executive powers** include, but are not limited to:
 - A. Granting dispensations and Charters for Lodges within this Jurisdiction and in open territory,
 - B. Revoking or suspending dispensations and Charters for cause,
 - C. Issuing special dispensations provided by the Constitution; and
 - D. Exercising such authority as may be necessary to put its legislation into effect.
3. **Judicial:** The **judicial powers** are of two kinds: Original and Appellate.
 - A. Original judicial power includes:
 - a. Resolution of all controversies between Lodges, between a Lodge and a member or members of another Lodge, or between members of different Lodges; and
 - b. Enforcement of discipline upon Lodges under its Jurisdiction; and **Rev. 2009**

[Rev. 2009]

- c. Disposition of all charges of Un-Masonic Conduct accepted by a Lodge against any Mason within this Jurisdiction; and **Rev. 2009**
 - d. Disposition of all charges preferred against the Master of a Lodge during his incumbency or against a Past Master for official misconduct during his term of office.
- B. Appellate power embraces the review and disposition of all matters of controversy proper for Masonic investigation that have arisen in any of the Lodges or the result of the action of a Grand Master's Trial Committee. **Rev. 2009**

Sec. 1.05 Const.

Divisions of Masonic Law. The action of Freemasons in the Grand Lodge and in their Lodges and in their individual capacity is regulated and controlled by the Masonic Law consisting of:

1. The moral law - our obligations, charges and rituals.
2. The common law of Masonry, which is the Immemorial Law and includes the Ancient Landmarks.
3. The written law of Masonry, which includes:
 - A. Constitutions; and
 - B. General and specific laws, rules, edicts, resolutions and By-Laws enacted by competent authority.
4. Usages and customs of Masonry:
 - A. Usages which are those practices and modes of behavior of Brethren, individually and collectively, in Grand Lodge and in Lodges and toward each other, long observed in this Jurisdiction by voluntary assent; and
 - B. Customs that are usages of such universality and antiquity as to have acquired the force and effect of law.

Sec. 1.06 Const.

Constitutions. Constitutions are those written compacts or laws enacted by Freemasons for the government of Grand Lodge and Lodges and their members - including fundamental provisions, constitutionally adopted, that are intended to be permanent in their character.

Sec. 1.07 Const.

Grand Lodge By-Laws. By-Laws are those enactments adopted by the Grand Lodge for the regulation of its internal affairs and its dealings with other Jurisdictions, and for the government of its members.

Sec. 1.08 B.L.

Washington Masonic Code. The codification of the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of Washington shall be known as the Washington Masonic Code.

Sec. 1.09 B.L.

Recognition of Foreign Grand Lodges. The basis of recognition for a foreign Grand Lodge shall be that such Grand Body:

1. Shall have been legally formed by at least three regularly Constituted Lodges, or chartered by some legally authorized body of Masons to act as a Grand Lodge,
2. Is self-governing, responsible and independent, with undisputed authority over its Symbolic Lodges conferring the first three Degrees of Freemasonry; and not subject to or holding divided Jurisdiction with a Supreme Council or any other claiming to have ritualistic control over the Symbolic Degrees,
3. Requires that the membership of the Symbolic Lodges under its Jurisdiction shall be composed of men only,
4. Requires that each candidate for the Degrees of Masonry, shall express a belief in a Supreme Being,
5. Requires of its Constituent Lodges a strict adherence to the Ancient Landmarks, Customs and Usages of the Craft, as set forth in the Constitution adopted by the Grand Lodge of England in 1723, except insofar as they have been modified since that date by the United Grand Lodge of England or by this Grand Body,
6. Shall have no Masonic relations of any kind with mixed Lodges or Bodies which admit women to membership,
7. Obligates its initiates on a book of Sacred Law,
8. Prohibits the discussion within the Lodge Room of any and all religious or sectarian doctrines, or any political subjects; and
9. Requires that when at work, in either Grand or Constituent Lodges, there shall be displayed the Three Great Lights of Masonry.

Sec. 1.10 B.L.

Seal. The seal of the Grand Lodge shall be as follows:



(W.M.C. 1913. Sec. 41.)

[REV. 2003]

Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 3 – POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- Sec. 3.01 Const. - [Grand Master's Powers](#) Rev. 2009
- Sec. 3.02 Const. – [Grand Master's Duties](#)
- Sec. 3.03 Const. – [Deputy Grand Master's Duties](#)
- Sec. 3.04 Const. – [Grand Wardens' Duties](#)
- Sec. 3.05 Const. – [Grand Secretary's Duties](#)
- Sec. 3.06 Const. – [Grand Chaplain's Duties](#)
- Sec. 3.07 Const. – [Grand Lecturer's Duties](#)
- Sec. 3.08 Const. – [Grand Orator's Duties](#)
- Sec. 3.09 Const. - [Grand Historian's Duties](#)
- Sec. 3.10 Const. – [Other Grand Officers' Duties](#)

[Rev. 2004]

Part I - Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 3 - POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Sec. 3.01 Const.

Grand Master's Powers. The Grand Master has power to:

1. Convene any Lodge within the Jurisdiction, preside therein, inspect its proceedings, and require its conformity to Masonic rules,
2. Depose any officer of a Lodge from the functions of his office for just cause and to arrest the charter of any Lodge for dereliction of duty or other Un-Masonic conduct, until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, when he shall present in writing the reasons for such deposition or arrest,
3. Suspend, for a definite or indefinite time, any Brother from the rights and privileges of Masonry for Un-Masonic Conduct. **Rev. 2009**
4. Grant dispensations:
 - A. To a Lodge for an election to fill the three vacancies when the offices of the Master and Wardens become vacant all at the same time,
 - B. For a Lodge to elect its officers when the Lodge shall have failed to hold its election at the proper time,
 - C. For a new Lodge, under the restrictions of the Constitution; and
 - D. For other purposes as may be requested in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.
5. Appoint such officers and committees as may be authorized under the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge. He may act as ex-officio chairman of any committee so appointed,
6. Require the attendance of and information from any Grand Officer respecting his office,
7. Authorize Grand Lodge Committees to meet while Grand Lodge is actually in session,
8. Appoint Representatives of this Grand Lodge near other Grand Lodges and to receive and accredit Representatives of other recognized Grand Lodges near this Grand Lodge,
9. Sell, convey, or relinquish interest in and to real property and manage the Grand Lodge assets in cooperation with the Grand Secretary and with approval of the Committee on Finance,
10. Draw from the Charity Fund, in cooperation with the Committee on Charity, for the relief of worthy applicants and for the emergency relief of distressed Masons following an extraordinary calamity,
11. Do such other things as are inherent in and pertain to his office, in accordance with Ancient Usage and not in conflict with this Constitution; and
12. To call a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of allowing a Constituent Lodge or Lodges to complete unfinished Degree work or to confer Degrees as provided in Sec.20.01 (5). **Rev.2000**

Sec. 3.02 Const.

Grand Master's Duties. It is the duty of the Grand Master to:

1. Preside in the Grand Lodge,
2. Present at each Annual Communication a written message, setting forth his official acts during the year, exhibiting the general condition of Masonry within the Jurisdiction, and recommending such legislation as he may deem necessary or expedient for the welfare of the fraternity,

[Rev. 2009]

Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 4 – DISTRICTS AND DEPUTIES

- Sec. 4.01 Const. – [Deputies of the Grand Master](#)
- Sec. 4.02 B.L. – [Deputy Appointment and Title](#)
- Sec. 4.03 B.L. – [Deputy Eligibility](#)
- Sec. 4.04 B.L. – [Deputy’s Power and Duties](#)
- Sec. 4.05 B.L. – [Deputy Removal and Vacancy in Office](#)
- Sec. 4.06 B.L. - [Retention of Title](#)
- Sec. 4.07 B.L. – [Assignment of Lodges U.D. to Districts](#) Rev. 2008
- Sec. 4.08 B.L. – [Districts](#) Rev. 2009

[Rev. 2009]

Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 4 – DISTRICTS AND DEPUTIES

Sec. 4.01 Const.

Deputies of the Grand Master. The Grand Lodge, having provided in its By-Laws for the designation of districts, may authorize the appointment of a Deputy of the Grand Master to represent the Grand Master in each district.

Sec. 4.02 B.L.

Deputy Appointment and Title. The Grand Master shall appoint at each Annual Communication, or as soon thereafter as possible, a Deputy of the Grand Master for each of the districts. The jurisdiction of each Deputy shall extend only to the Lodges within the district to which he is assigned.

The Deputy shall be known as the "Deputy of the Grand Master in District No. _____," and shall bear the title "Very Worshipful." He shall receive a warrant for his appointment signed by the Grand Master and attested by the Grand Secretary under the seal of the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 4.03 B.L.

Deputy Eligibility. Every Deputy of the Grand Master shall be well skilled in the Standard Work and Lectures of this Jurisdiction and in the Customs of the Craft. He shall be a Master or a Past Master and a member in good standing of a Lodge in the district for which he is appointed. No one shall be eligible to hold the office of Deputy of the Grand Master for more than two successive terms but shall be eligible for reappointment after a lapse of one year.

Sec. 4.04 B.L.

Deputy's Powers and Duties. The powers and duties of a Deputy of the Grand Master are:

1. Visit every Lodge within his district officially at least once each year and at such other times as requested by the Worshipful Master of the Lodge. The Grand Master may grant Deputies permission to forego a visit to a Lodge or Lodges if weather conditions, illness or financial hardships prevail,
2. Report to the Grand Master after each visit, on forms to be furnished by the Grand Secretary, the general and/or particular condition of the Lodge visited and his official acts in relation thereto,
3. Each District Deputy shall sign for a copy of the Standard Work at the Annual Communication in which he is installed, or such other times when a Deputy is installed, and he shall return such copy upon the termination of his tenure as Deputy of the Grand Master. While assigned to him, the Deputy will not allow the Standard Work to leave his personal supervision. He shall disseminate the Standard Work and Lectures to officers and members of each Lodge within his district, and give them such general instructions as they may require concerning their duties. For this purpose the Deputy shall receive instructions from the Grand Master, **Rev. 2002**
4. Examine such books and records of each Lodge within his district as the Grand Master may direct; and
5. Perform such other duties as the Grand Master may direct.

[Rev. 2006]

Sec. 4.05 B.L.

Deputy Removal and Vacancy in Office. The Grand Master may remove any Deputy of the Grand Master from office.

The Grand Master shall fill any vacancy in the office of Deputy of the Grand Master with an appointment for the un-expired term.

Sec. 4.06 B.L.

Retention of Title. A Deputy of the Grand Master shall retain permanently the title of "Very Worshipful."

Sec. 4.07 B.L.

Assignment of Lodges U.D. to Districts. The Grand Master, upon issuing a dispensation for a new Lodge, shall assign the Lodge initially to the district in which it is situated. The assignment shall become permanent upon the granting of a charter to the Lodge, unless the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master shall order otherwise. Historic Lodges shall not be assigned to a district.

Rev. 2008

Sec. 4.08 B.L.

Districts. The Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall be divided into geographical districts and every chartered Lodge shall be assigned to a district.

The Grand Master shall have the authority to make such rearrangements of the districts as he may deem advisable, if he shall determine that a change will facilitate the operation of the system. The rearrangement shall be effective until the next Annual Communication when the Grand Master shall report his action to the Grand Lodge for its approval.

District No. 2 Ashler, No. 121, Bothell; Edmonds, No. 165, Edmonds; Richmond-Haller Lake, No. 248, Shoreline; Yancey C. Blalock, No. 265, Seattle; Genesis, No. 305, Edmonds; LuzViMinda, No. 317, Seattle. **Rev. 2009**

District No. 3 Mount Moriah, No. 11, Valley Junction; Union City, No. 27, Valley Junction; Port Orchard, No. 98, Port Orchard; John Paul Jones, No. 271, Gig Harbor; Hood Canal, No. 288, Belfair. **Rev. 2005**

District No. 4 Occidental, No. 72, Seattle; Doric, No. 92, Seattle; Green Lake, No. 149, Seattle; Rainier, No. 189, Seattle; Maritime, No. 239, Seattle; Greenwood, No. 253, Seattle; Walter F. Meier Lodge of Research, No. 281, Seattle. **Rev. 2007**

District No. 5 St. John's, No. 9, Seattle; Eureka, No. 20, Seattle; University No. 141, Seattle; Daylight, No. 232, Seattle; Lafayette No. 241, Seattle; Queen Anne, No. 242, Seattle; Alba, No. 315, Seattle; Esoterika, No. 316, Seattle. **Rev. 2007**

District No. 6 St. Andrew's, No. 35, Renton; South Gate, No. 100, Burien; Ark, No. 126, Tukwila; Alki, No. 152, Seattle; Delta-White Center, No. 172, Tukwila; Mark P. Waterman, No. 177, Burton. **Rev. 2009**

District No. 7 Falls City, No. 66, Fall City; Myrtle, No. 108, Issaquah; West Gate, No. 128, Kirkland; Kirkland, No. 150, Kirkland; Unity, No. 198, North Bend; Lakeside, No. 258, Bellevue; Mercer Island, No. 297, Mercer Island; Renaissance, No. 312, Redmond.

District No. 8 Centennial, No. 25 Snohomish; Peninsular, No. 95, Everett; Crystal, No. 122, Marysville; Arlington, No. 129, Arlington; Everett, No. 137, Everett; Sultan-Monroe, No. 160, Monroe; Damascus, No. 199, Granite Falls; Alpha, No. 212, Everett; Robert Burns, No. 243, Everett; Skykomish, No. 259, Skykomish. **Rev. 2005**

[Rev. 2009]

District No. 9 Whidby Island, No. 15, Coupeville; Camanio, No. 19, Stanwood; Mount Baker, No. 36, Mt. Vernon; Garfield, No. 41, LaConner; Fidalgo, No. 77, Anacortes; Burlington-United, No. 93, Sedro Woolley; Langley, No. 218, Langley.

District No. 10 Bellingham Bay, No. 44, Bellingham; Lynden, No. 56, Ferndale; Fairhaven, No. 73, Bellingham; Nooksack Valley, No. 105, Nooksack; Whatcom, No. 151, Bellingham; San Juan, No. 175, Friday Harbor; Kulshan International, No. 186, Ferndale; Ferndale, No. 264, Ferndale. **Rev. 2008**

District No. 11 Port Townsend, No. 6, Port Townsend; Port Angeles, No. 69, Port Angeles; Quilcene-Jefferson, No. 107, Quilcene; Sequim, No. 213, Sequim; Mt. Olympus, No. 298, Forks. **Rev. 2002**

District No. 12 Franklin, No. 5, Port Gamble; Renton, No. 29, Winslow; Bremerton, No. 117, Bremerton; William H. Upton Naval & Military, No. 206, Bremerton; Steadfast, No. 216, Bremerton; Warren G. Harding, No. 260, Poulsbo; Silverdale, No. 311, Silverdale. **Rev. 2006**

District No. 13 Verity, No. 59, Kent; King Solomon, No. 60, Auburn; Western Cascade, No. 61, Enumclaw; Diamond, No. 83, Black Diamond; Crescent, No. 109, Enumclaw; Des Moines, No. 245, Des Moines; Thornton F. McElroy, No. 302, Federal Way; Frank S. Land No. 313, Des Moines. **Rev. 2008**

District No. 14 Defiance No. 22, Tacoma; Evergreen State, No. 68, University Place; Fern Hill, No. 80, Tacoma; Fairweather, No. 82, Tacoma; Joseph Warren, No. 235, Tacoma; Horace W. Tyler, No. 290, University Place. **Rev. 2008**

District No. 15 Steilacoom, No. 2, Tacoma; Corinthian, No. 38, Puyallup; Valley, No. 71 Orting; Phoenix, No. 154, Sumner; Mt. Tahoma, No. 190, Ashford; Terrestrial-Mt. View, No. 228, Eatonville; Yelm, No. 244, Yelm; Henry A. Greene, No. 250, Lakewood; Parkland-Lakewood, No. 299, Parkland; Krucible, No. 318. **Rev. 2006**

District No. 16 Wynooche, No. 43, Montesano; Gavel, No. 48, Raymond; Grays Harbor, No. 52, Hoquiam; Occident, No. 99, Ilwaco. **Rev. 2004**

District No. 17 Olympia, No. 1, Tumwater; Harmony, No. 18, Tumwater; Chehalis, No. 28, Chehalis; Winlock, No. 47, Winlock; Centralia, No. 63, Centralia; Tenino, No. 86, Tenino; Robert Morris, No. 97, Silver Creek; Morton, No. 209, Morton.

District No. 18 Woodland-Kalama, No. 17, Woodland; Castle Rock, No. 62, Castle Rock; Kelso, No. 94, Kelso; Little Falls, No. 176, Vader; Longview, No. 263, Longview;

District No. 19 Washington, No. 4, Vancouver; Mount Hood, No. 32, Vancouver; White Salmon, No. 163, White Salmon; Twin Falls, No. 180, Yacolt; North Bank, No. 182, Washougal; Ridgefield Daylight, No. 237, Vancouver; Silver Star, No. 286, Battle Ground.

District No. 20 Yakima-Compass, No. 24, Naches; Goldendale, No. 31, Goldendale; Ellensburg, No. 39, Ellensburg; Cle Elum-St. Thomas, No. 139, Cle Elum; Toppenish-Meridian, No. 178, Toppenish; Naches, No. 211, Naches; Mount Adams, No. 227, Yakima. **Rev. 2008**

District No. 21 Badger Mountain, No. 57, Waterville; Riverside, No. 112, Wenatchee; Chelan Valley, No. 118, Chelan; Zarthan, No. 148, Leavenworth; William H. Jett, No. 285, Wenatchee; Hermanos del Arte, No. 314, Brewster. **Rev. 2005**

District No. 22 Okanogan, No. 169, Okanogan; Aurora, No. 201, Oroville; Palestine, No. 214, Omak; Methow Valley, No. 240, Twisp.

District No. 23 Euclid, No. 125, Prosser; Sunnyside, No. 138, Sunnyside; Kennewick, No. 153, Kennewick; Pasco, No. 173, Pasco; Grandview, No. 191, Grandview; Benton, No. 277, Benton City; Richland, No. 283, Richland.

[Rev. 2008]

District No. 24 Walla Walla, No. 7, Walla Walla; Blue Mountain, No. 13, Walla Walla; Waitsburg, No. 16, Waitsburg; Dayton, No. 26, Dayton; Evening Star, No. 30, Pomeroy.

District No. 25 Hiram, No. 21, Colfax; Whitman, No. 49, Pullman; Oakesdale, No. 55, Oakesdale; Clarkston, No. 143, Clarkston; Nitosa, No. 204, Asotin. **Rev. 2008**

District No. 26 Rosalia, No. 84, Rosalia; Spangle, No. 131, Spangle; Malden, No. 188, Malden; Waverly, No. 231, Waverly. **Rev. 2008**

District No. 27 Spokane, No. 34, Spokane; Temple, No. 42, Cheney; Oriental, No. 74, Spokane; Medical Lake, No. 102, Medical Lake; Orchard, No. 200, Millwood; North Hill, No. 210, Spokane; Manito, No. 246, Spokane; Concordia, No. 249, Millwood; Audubon Park, No. 272, Spokane; Eastern Washington Lodge of Research, No. 310, Spokane. **Rev. 2008**

District No. 28 Quincy, No. 161, Quincy; Ephrata, No. 167, Ephrata; Moses Lake, No. 174, Moses Lake; Paul Revere, No. 205, Othello.

District No. 29 Acacia, No. 58, Davenport; Grand Coulee Dam, No. 120, Coulee Dam; Almira, No. 127, Almira; Reardan, No. 146, Reardan; Odessa, No. 156, Odessa.

District No. 30 Colville, No. 50, Colville; Kettle Falls, No. 130, Kettle Falls; Deer Park, No. 134, Deer Park; Chewelah, No. 135, Chewelah; Newport, No. 144, Newport; Hunters, No. 236, Hunters.

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Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 7 – FINANCE AND REVENUE

- Sec. 7.01 Const. – [Sources](#)
- Sec. 7.02 Const. – [Financial Procedures](#)
- Sec. 7.03 B.L. – [Revenue for the General Fund](#) Rev. 2009
- Sec. 7.04 B.L. – [Revenue for the Charity Fund](#)
- Sec. 7.05 B.L. – [Revenue for the Masonic Home Fund](#)
- Sec. 7.06 B.L. – [Dues for N.P.D. Reinstatements](#)
- Sec. 7.07 B.L. – [Powers to Sell and Convey Securities and Real Estate](#)
- Sec. 7.08 B.L. – [Fund Management](#)
- Sec. 7.09 B.L. – [Charity Fund](#)
- Sec. 7.10 B.L. – [Masonic Home Fund](#)
- Sec. 7.11 B.L. – [Masonic Home Endowment Fund](#)
- Sec. 7.12 B.L. – [Masonic Loan Fund](#)
- Sec. 7.13 B.L. – [Masonic Scholarship Endowment Fund](#) Rev. 2008
- Sec. 7.14 B.L. – [Endowed Life Membership Fund](#)
- Sec. 7.15 B.L. – [Grand Lodge Endowment Fund](#)
- Sec. 7.16 B.L. – [Grand Lodge Self Insurance Fund](#)
- Sec. 7.17 B.L. – [Grand Lodge Capital Fund](#)

[Rev. 2009]

Part I Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 7 – FINANCE AND REVENUE

Sec. 7.01 Const.

Sources. Revenue of the Grand Lodge shall be derived from the following sources:

1. Fees charged for dispensations, Charters, diplomas and other documents issued under the Grand Lodge authority,
2. Dues and contributions, paid by the Lodges, in an equal and uniform manner,
3. Assessments voted by the Grand Lodge for special purposes and paid by the Lodges in an equal and uniform manner,
4. Assets of dissolved Lodges, subject to all legal and equitable rights of creditors of such Lodges,
5. Proceeds from investments, loans and other transactions made by the Grand Lodge;
6. Earnings from various Grand Lodge funds,
7. Penalties for late returns and late payments; and
8. Penalties for Charter reinstatements.

Sec. 7.02 Const.

Financial Procedures. Methods for levying and collecting revenues and for the management and disbursement of funds of the Grand Lodge shall be regulated by the By-Laws.

Sec. 7.03 B.L.

Revenue for the General Fund.

1. Every Lodge shall pay into the treasury of the Grand Lodge in support of Grand Lodge general activities the following:
 - A. Ten dollars (\$10.00) for a Charter granted to a new Lodge,
 - B. Twenty dollars (\$20.00) for each petition approved for conferral of the degrees;
 - C. One dollar (\$1.00) for each degree conferred during the year,
 - D. One dollar (\$1.00) for each member enrolled during the year by affiliation, in Lodges charging an affiliation fee,
 - E. Ten dollars (\$10.00) for each petition for affiliation from a member of some other Jurisdiction, unless the petitioner, through prior membership, has contributed to the Masonic Home Fund, Masonic Home Endowment Fund or General Fund of this Jurisdiction; and
 - F. A sum to be set annually by the Grand Lodge [but not to exceed fifteen dollars and no cents (\$15.00)] for each enrolled Master Mason, except those whose dues are remitted or not required for any reason. One Dollar of this amount shall be designated for the official publication of the Grand Lodge, one dollar shall be designated for Masonic Public Relations, and one dollar shall be designated for contribution to the George Washington Masonic Memorial Association. The exceptions are: **Rev. 2009**
 - a. A Mason who is supported at the expense of the Lodge or Grand Lodge,
 - b. A Mason whose dues are permanently waived by the Lodge because of inability to pay the same,
 - c. An honorary member who is not also an active member and who resides outside this Jurisdiction,
 - d. An honorary member for whom any other Lodge of this Jurisdiction is liable for Grand Lodge dues,

[Rev. 2009]

Part I – Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 8 – COMMITTEES, FOUNDATIONS AND THEIR DUTIES

Committees

- Sec. 8.01 B.L. – [Standing Committees](#) Rev. 2009
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[Rev. 2009]

Part I - Grand Lodge

CHAPTER 8 - COMMITTEES, FOUNDATIONS AND THEIR DUTIES

Sec. 8.01 B.L.

Standing Committees. The newly-installed Grand Master shall appoint, before the close of the Annual Communication, the following Standing Committees to serve until the close of the next Annual Communication. The number of Committee members shall be no less than the number stipulated.

1. By-Laws, three members
2. Charity, three members
3. Children Identification Programs (CHIPS), ten members
4. Code Commission, five members
5. Correspondence, one member
6. Credentials, ten members
7. Endowment for the Masonic Home Fund, five members
8. Finance, five members
9. Grievances and Appeals, three members
10. Jurisprudence, five members
11. Leadership Training, five members (**New 2009**)
12. Library and Museum, five members
13. Long Range Planning, ten members
14. Masonic Public Relations, three members
15. Masonic Research and Education, five members
16. Masonic Tribune, one member
17. Membership Development, seven members
18. Military Recognition, seven members
19. Public Schools Outreach, ten members
20. Technology, five members
21. Youth, six members

The Committees on Jurisprudence, Finance, and Credentials shall meet on the day immediately preceding the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.

Sec. 8.02 B.L.

By-Laws. The Committee shall:

1. Receive from the Grand Secretary all By-Laws or By-Law amendments submitted by the Lodges for approval, review the same and forward promptly to the Grand Master with a recommendation of approval or disapproval; and
2. Report to the Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication a list of the By-Laws and By-Law amendments submitted for consideration.

Sec. 8.03 B.L.

Charity. The Committee shall investigate and report upon all applications for assistance, and may report upon the necessities of any worthy Brother whose condition may claim the attention of the Grand Lodge.

[Rev. 2009]

Requests for charity will be on forms provided by Grand Lodge. It is the duty of the Chairman to develop and implement a process for review and approval of charitable funds with the approval of the Grand Master. The Charity Committee is authorized to approve charity requests of \$500.00 or less. **Rev.2007**

Sec. 8.04 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Children Identification Programs (CHIPS). The Committee shall be responsible for and implement the CHIPS program, throughout the Jurisdiction, and report to the Grand Lodge at each Annual Communication the results of its efforts.

Sec. 8.05 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Code Commission. The Commission shall:

1. Compile and maintain a continuing review of the Washington Masonic Code. Where such review reveals misspelled words, extra, missing, or misplaced punctuation, or similar errors, whether related to grammar, syntax, agreement in number, gender or sentence structure, the Code Commission, with the concurrence of the Committee on Jurisprudence, may jointly authorize publication of such changes, which action shall be reported to the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge for its approval,
2. Receive from the Grand Secretary each Resolution proposing an addition or an amendment to the Code; review, and, when necessary, restructure and/or rewrite the proposal, with the concurrence of the sponsors, to preserve the desired qualities of the Code; approve or revise the proposed placement in the Code,
3. Receive from the Grand Secretary all enactments of Grand Lodge affecting the Code, confirm the placement in the Code and the indexing for each item, and file a report of the same with the Grand Secretary, and
4. Perform a systematic review and upgrading of the Constitution and By-Laws as deemed necessary. The upgrading shall include the restructuring and/or rewriting of portions of the Code when necessary for clarification. Extreme care shall be exercised during this procedure to avoid changing or obscuring the original intent of the legislation. Proposed amendments to the Constitution or By-Laws shall be reported to the Grand Lodge for consideration at the Annual Communication following the completion of the clarification project.
5. Perform a systematic review and upgrading of the Rulings and Decisions as deemed necessary. Clarification, removal or relocation of Rulings and Decisions shall be discussed with the Committee on Jurisprudence and the conclusions shall be reported in the form of a joint report to the Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication for their approval or disapproval and any relevant decisions to be included in the Rulings and Decisions will be forwarded to the Grand Secretary by the Code Commission in the proper format and added to the Grand Master's Rulings and Decisions Document.

Sec. 8.06 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Correspondence. The Committee shall examine the printed or written proceedings or other documents emanating from other Grand Lodges, and report, at each Annual Communication, whatever may seem of sufficient importance and interest to the Craft. He shall deliver his report to the Grand Secretary before the meeting of the Grand Lodge.

[Rev. 2009]

Sec. 8.07 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Credentials. The Committee shall:

1. Verify the credentials of all Masons claiming the right of membership in the Grand Lodge,
2. List, for the record, at each Annual Communication:
 - A. The names of Grand Officers and other members of the Grand Lodge in attendance,
 - B. Names and numbers of Lodges represented,
 - C. Names of Masters, Wardens and Past Masters present; and
 - D. Names of proxies present.
3. Report to the Grand Lodge, after the call to order and before the ceremonial opening of the Annual Communication, that the required number of Lodges are present to provide a quorum for the transaction of business; and
4. Conduct the annual election of officers at the direction of the Grand Master, and report the results to the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 8.08 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Endowment for the Masonic Home. The Committee shall foster, promote, increase and develop the objectives of the Masonic Home Endowment Fund as set forth in the Washington Masonic Code.

Its members shall work under the direction of the Grand Master. The members shall visit the Lodges, dispense information, provide speakers, encourage interest, develop programs, prepare and distribute literature, prepare talks, make an annual report to the Grand Lodge and, in conjunction with the Trustees of the Masonic Retirement Center, engage in such further activities as will promote and further the soundness and growth of the Endowment Fund.

Sec. 8.09 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Finance. The Committee shall:

1. Examine and report on all matters concerning the finances of the Grand Lodge, not otherwise provided for; and upon all subjects involving an appropriation of its funds. Without such report no appropriation shall be made,
2. Examine and compare the books, papers, vouchers and accounts of the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary, and make detailed reports thereon and submit the same to the Grand Lodge before the close of each Annual Communication; and report the financial condition of the Grand Lodge,
3. Present, before the close of each Annual Communication, an estimate of the probable expenses of the ensuing year (giving each class of expenditure under its proper heading), and recommend the appropriation of such sums as it shall deem necessary,
4. Oversee and approve management and disposition of all real and personal property not assigned to another committee, including any held in trust for the benefit of any charitable activity,
5. Consider for approval the recommendations made by the Grand Master and the Grand Secretary for investment of monies from the various Funds that the Grand Lodge has authorized
6. Provide knowledgeable oversight on all Grand Lodge Insurance matters including:
 - A. Review and audit all Grand Lodge property and casualty insurance policies to maximize amounts of insurance coverage for the premiums paid, seek methods to eliminate gaps or omissions in coverage and improve coverage while reducing cost.

- B. Review insurance coverage of Constituent Lodges, Temple Corporations or Associations, and recommend improvements in coverage.
 - C. Act as liaison between insurance providers and Grand Lodge to resolve complaints within this Jurisdiction, and resolve questions regarding Constituent Lodge, Temple Corporation or Association coverage.
 - D. Make report of audit findings and provide recommendations for change when deemed advisable and as provided in Chapter 11.06 B.L. **Rev. 2008**
7. Review all matters that affect the affairs of the 401(k) pension program for employees of the Grand Lodge Office and the Masonic Retirement Center including but not limited to:
- A. Oversee the investment policy of the fund
 - B. Assure the 401(k) program and actions taken on its behalf are within the rules of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and its amendments and any future laws that govern this type of retirement plan.
8. May engage Certified Public Accountants and such other professional assistance as may be required to assist and report to the Committee as to the details of the financial, property and insurance, or other matters pertaining thereto, and subject to the approval of the Grand Master. **Rev. 2008**

Sec. 8.10. B.L. Renumbered 2009

Grievances and Appeals. The Committee shall consider, report upon, and make such recommendations as it may deem proper on the following matters:

- 1. Any complaint or grievance appertaining to Masonic discipline,
- 2. All appeals from the judgment of a Grand Master’s Trial Committee or discipline administered by the Grand Master; and
- 3. All petitions for restoration.

Matters contained in the report of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals shall be mentioned in our Proceedings only by titles of the cases and statements of action taken. No details of the case shall be mentioned.

Sec. 8.11 B.L.

Jurisprudence. The Committee shall consider and report upon all questions, documents, papers, decisions on Masonic Law and Usage, and proposed amendments to the Constitution, By-Laws, and Regulations.

Sec. 8.12 B.L. (New 2009)

Leadership Training. The Committee shall develop leadership training material and assist in the structuring of training forums to help promote leadership development throughout the Jurisdiction.

Sec. 8.13 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Library and Museum. The Committee shall be responsible for the daily administration and operation of the Washington Masonic Library and Museum, preserving the artifacts of Masonic history in and for this Grand Jurisdiction and perform such archival functions as may be necessary and proper.

The Committee shall also act as a fund raising committee for the Washington Masonic Library and Museum Foundation.

Sec. 8.14 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Long Range Planning. The Committee will be custodians of the Washington Grand Lodge Long Range Plans, incorporating and implementing changes necessitated by evolving circumstances within the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 8.15 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Masonic Public Relations. The Committee shall assist Grand Lodge and its Constituent Lodges with information and news releases on Masonic matters, including Grand Lodge communications, cornerstone laying, dedications and similar matters.

Sec. 8.16 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Masonic Research and Education. The Committee shall:

1. On request, furnish speakers on Masonic and kindred subjects for Lodges and for community meetings held under the auspices of Lodges,
2. Select for printing and circulation such Masonic addresses proper and suitable for circulation,
3. Invite and conduct correspondence with Lodges, or members thereof, concerning Masonic subjects; and
4. Have power to expend in its work such funds as may have been appropriated for its use by the Grand Lodge

Sec. 8.17 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Masonic Tribune. The Committee shall be responsible for publication of the official publication of the Grand Lodge on a regular basis as directed by the Grand Master. **Rev. 1999**

Sec. 8.18 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Membership Development. The Committee shall research, develop and promote programs to enhance and increase Masonic membership among the constituent Lodges. To assist the Lodges in creating interesting and viable programs for its meetings and activities to promote and create an interesting Masonic environment for greater attendance and participation among its enrolled membership; and shall make an annual report and recommendations to Grand Lodge concerning its activities and findings.

Sec. 8.19 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Military Recognition. The Committee shall provide for the annual recognition of one active duty military Person of the Year from each of the four branches of the active duty military service (Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force), and the Coast Guard and all activated Reserve and National Guard components stationed in the State of Washington, as directed by the Grand Master. **Rev. 2009**

Sec. 8.20 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Public Schools Outreach.

The Committee shall:

1. Be responsible for all Grand Lodge programs involving the tax-supported Schools including development of long range planning.
2. Recommend and develop programs available to Lodges that promote the Public Schools and enhance public awareness of improved educational opportunities for students.
3. Investigate and support worthwhile Public School recognition programs developed by individual Lodges, and communicate this information throughout the Jurisdiction.

[Rev. 2009]

Sec. 8.26 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Bill P. Horn Memorial Masonic Medal Foundation. The Bill P. Horn Memorial Masonic Medal Foundation is constituted in order to recognize a Mason of note on the world scene who has quietly contributed in a significant way to the improvement of society. A Board of Trustees appointed by the Grand Master shall manage the affairs and operation of the Foundation.

1. The Board of Trustees shall consist of five members, each of whom shall serve a term of five years so arranged that one Trustee shall be appointed or reappointed each year in June following the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge,
2. The Board of Trustees shall develop and establish operating procedures for the award of the Bill P. Horn Memorial Masonic Medal,
3. The Board of Trustees may create and administer a trust fund to support this activity; and The Trustees shall report annually to the Grand Lodge on the income, expenses, and activities, including the name or names of the recipients of this award. **Rev. 1999**

Sec. 8.27 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Children's Identification Programs Foundation. The Foundation is a separately incorporated not for profit corporation governed under laws of the State of Washington and organized appropriately according to the regulations pertaining to tax exempt public charities. The Grand Lodge of Washington is the Sole Member of this Corporation and the Board of Trustees are elected by the Sole Member annually.

1. The board of trustees will consist of a minimum of 7 trustees, who will be elected by the Sole Member. The trustees shall be Master Masons of this jurisdiction. The elected Grand Lodge officers will be voting members ex officio of the board,
2. The term of the board members will be 3 years, staggered in time, for an orderly change on the board; and
3. The board members, as terms expire or for other reasons, will be replaced by others appointed/elected by the Sole Member.

Sec. 8.28 B.L. Renumbered 2009

Washington Masonic Library and Museum Foundation. The Foundation is a separately incorporated not for profit corporation chartered under the laws of the State of Washington and organized appropriately according to regulations pertaining to tax exempt charitable, educational and philanthropic organizations.

The Washington Masonic Library and Museum Foundation consists of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Secretary, Grand Historian, Chairman of the Library and Museum Committee and two Trustees by virtue of their election or appointment, and then only for the term of their service. Their duties shall be to acquire and take possession of all assets, donations and revenues of the Foundation, oversee all expenditures, employ such paid and volunteer assistance as they deem appropriate, provide oversight to the Library and Museum Committee, and set policy.

The Grand Master shall serve as Chairman of the Board of Trustees and the Grand Secretary as Secretary of the Board and other functions of administration shall be established by the corporation By-laws.

[Rev. 2008]

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 13 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 13.01 Const. – [Authority to Hold Lodge](#)
- Sec. 13.02 B.L. – [Lodge Membership](#)
- Sec. 13.03 B.L. – [Sunday Labor](#)
- Sec. 13.04 B.L. – [Proper Time for Business](#)
- Sec. 13.05 B.L. – [Off-Session](#)
- Sec. 13.06 B.L. – [Voting Members](#)
- Sec. 13.07 B.L. – [Change of Meeting Place](#)
- Sec. 13.08 B.L. – [Public Appearance as Masons](#) Rev. 2008
- Sec. 13.09 B.L. – [Grand Honors](#)
- Sec. 13.10 B.L. – [Admitting Visitors](#)
- Sec. 13.11 B.L. – [Objection to Visitor](#)
- Sec. 13.12 B.L. – [Inspection of Charter by Visitor](#)
- Sec. 13.13 B.L. – [Examination for Masonic Fraternal Relations](#)
- Sec. 13.14 B.L. – [Inclement Weather and Cancellation of Stated Communication](#)
Adopted 2009

Part III - Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 13- GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 13.01 Const.

Authority to Hold Lodge. Every Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction is and shall be held by virtue of a charter from the Grand Lodge or under a dispensation issued by the Grand Master.

Sec. 13.02 B.L.

Lodge Membership: A Lodge shall be composed of those who retain membership after having been:

1. Named in the warrant of dispensation,
2. Raised and enrolled as a member,
3. Admitted to the Lodge by affiliation; or
4. A member of a Lodge which consolidates with another.

Sec. 13.03 B.L.

Sunday Labor. No Lodge shall meet on the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday, for Masonic Labor other than the burial of an Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, or Master Mason.

Rev. 1986

Sec. 13.04 B.L.

Proper Time for Business. Except as provided in Section 15.08 B.L., a Lodge may transact its business and conduct its balloting when at labor on any Degree at a Stated Communication.

When one or more Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft Degree Masons desire to attend, the Worshipful Master, at his discretion, may open Lodge on the appropriate Degree. **Rev. 2004**

A Lodge at labor on any Degree for other than business shall be limited to such proceedings as pertain respectively to the Degree on which it is open:

1. The Work and Lectures,
2. Testimony upon Masonic charges; and
3. Programs or ceremonies permitting attendance of E. A's or F. C's.

Sec. 13.05 B.L.

Off-Session. A Worshipful Master may call a Lodge to Off-Session only for the purpose of a public ceremony and/or the admission of non-Masons into the Lodge room while the Lodge is at Labor. Off-Session is a condition with the Three Great Lights, Lesser Lights and other Jewels displayed in the usual and customary manner. While a Lodge is Off-Session the esoteric work will not be used nor is Off-Session to be used in lieu of calling to Refreshment as part of normal business. Prior to a Lodge being called back On-Session the Worshipful Master will have the Lodge purged. **Adopted 2004**

Sec. 13.06 B.L.

Voting Members. All Master Masons present who are members, unless excused by unanimous consent must ballot on the following questions:

1. A petition for the Degrees or for Affiliation,
2. The acceptance or rejection of charges for a Masonic Trial,
3. The expulsion or suspension of a member; and
4. A proposal for consolidation of Lodges.

A vote of all members present is not required on other business matters.

[Rev. 2006]

Sec.13.12 B.L.

Inspection of Charter by Visitor. Inspection of the Charter of a Lodge by one seeking admittance as a visitor is a privilege that the Master may grant or withhold at his discretion. It is not an absolute right.

Sec. 13.13 B.L.

Examination for Masonic Fraternal Relations. Masonic Communications shall be held with Masons only. Whenever it becomes necessary for one Brother to prove another, he may do so in any secure place, after first taking the precaution of administering the Test Oath. When by strict trial each is fully satisfied, the two may converse Masonically, but one cannot vouch for the other for purpose of visitation.

Sec. 13.14 B.L. Adopted 2009

Inclement Wether and Cancellation of Stated Communication. The Worshipful Master of a Lodge may cancel a Lodge Stated Communication when inclement weather is hazardous to the safety of the Brethren.

[Rev. 2009]

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Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 14 – LODGE POWERS AND DUTIES

- Sec. 14.01 Const. – [Powers and Duties](#)
- Sec. 14.02 Const. – [Powers of a Lodge](#) Rev. 2009
- Sec. 14.03 Const. – [By-Laws](#)
- Sec. 14.04 B.L. – [Communications](#)
- Sec. 14.05 B.L. – [Lodge Seal](#)
- Sec. 14.06 B.L. – [Books](#)
- Sec. 14.07 B.L. – [Minutes](#)
- Sec. 14.08 B.L. – [Annual Reports](#) Rev. 2008
- Sec. 14.09 B.L. – [Lodge Representation in Grand Lodge](#)
- Sec. 14.10 B.L. – [Lodge Communications During Grand Lodge](#)
- Sec. 14.11 B.L. – [Audit Committee](#) Rev. 2008
- Sec. 14.12 B.L. – [Welcome Sign](#)
- Sec. 14.13 B.L. – [Lodges May Sponsor Youth Groups](#)

[Rev. 2009]

Part III - Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 14- LODGE POWERS AND DUTIES

Sec. 14.01 Const.

Powers and Duties. The powers and duties are those prescribed and determined by the Immemorial Laws and Usage of the Fraternity, and which have not been delegated to the Grand Lodge or expressly modified by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge or by the terms of the Lodge dispensation or Charter.

Sec.14.02 Const.

Powers of a Lodge. The powers of a Lodge are executive, legislative, judicial and educational, and include the following:

1. **Executive.** The performance of its proper work under control of its Master and in accordance with the law,
2. **Legislative.** The enactment of legislation relative to its own affairs, not in conflict with the Constitution or By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, or with the Immemorial Customs and Usages of the Fraternity,
3. **Judicial.** The right to determine if charges of Un-Masonic conduct, if proved, constitute a Masonic Offense. **Rev. 2009**
4. **Educational.** The education of deserving persons is a Masonic purpose, and Lodges have power, individually or collectively, to disburse Lodge funds to, or for the benefit of, deserving persons for their education; and
5. **Charitable.** The contribution of funds for the relief of the poor and distressed, whether members in good standing or not, is a Masonic purpose, and Lodges have power, individually or collectively to disburse Lodge funds for the relief of deserving persons in time of emergency or need. **Rev. 1985**

Sec. 14.03 Const.

By-Laws.

1. A Lodge has full power and authority to enact, for its own government, By-Laws not in conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge or with the principles of Masonry,
2. By-Laws can be amended after adoption only at a Stated Communication and after written notice, either by mail or electronic media, of the proposed amendment has been sent to each member of the Lodge at least ten days before such Stated Communication, **Rev. 2006**
3. The Lodge, after adopting its By-Laws or an amendment thereto, shall transmit to the Grand Secretary four copies or on four copies of Form 28 provided without charge by the Grand Lodge. The Grand Secretary shall transmit the copies to the Committee on By-Laws who, after review, shall forward the forms to the Grand Master with a recommendation of approval or disapproval,

[Rev. 2009]

Sec. 15.16 B.L.

Absence of Master. The Master shall not designate anyone to open the Lodge in his absence, to the exclusion of a Warden present. The Lodge shall not be opened for any purpose, in the absence of the Master and both Wardens, except by the Grand Master or by his special deputy.

Sec. 15.17 B.L.

Vacancy in Master's Office. In case of the death, absence or inability of the Master, or of a vacancy in his office, the Senior Warden and the Junior Warden shall in that order succeed to his prerogatives and duties for all purposes, except such as pertain to the installation of officers.

Sec. 15.18 B.L.

Appeal From Master's Decision. The only appeal from a decision of the Master, or of a Warden presiding in the absence of the Master, shall be to the Grand Master or to the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 15.19 B.L.

Immediate Relief. The Master, on application for assistance or relief when the Lodge is not in session, may draw upon the general funds of the Lodge for that purpose. The By-Laws shall specify the maximum permissible for such relief.

Sec. 15.20 B.L.

Treasurer's Duties. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to:

1. Receive from the Secretary all monies paid into the Lodge,
2. Keep just and regular accounts thereof,
3. Pay them out by order of the Master and consent of the Lodge; and
4. Submit a financial report annually to the Lodge and transmit a copy thereof to the Grand Lodge, when requested and on such forms and in such manner as prescribed by the Grand Secretary.

Sec. 15.21 B.L.

Secretary's Duties. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to:

1. Record, under the direction of the Master, all proceedings of the Lodge proper to be written at each communication and submit the same to the Lodge as provided in Sec. 14.07 B.L.,
2. Receive all monies paid into the Lodge and promptly pay the same to the Treasurer,
3. Attest the signature of the Master to all Masonic documents, when necessary,
4. Report to the Grand Secretary on the monthly report all suspensions and expulsions, and their causes and all information pertaining to plural members being elected, granted dimits, suspended, expelled or dropped N.P.D.,
5. Prepare and send to the Grand Secretary:
 - A. A monthly return showing the dates of those elected, initiated, passed, raised, and enrolled new Masons, affiliations, reinstatements, and those dropped by death, expulsion, suspension and by N.P.D.,
 - B. A monthly return containing such other matters as may be required by the Grand Secretary; and
 - C. A year end return on a form provided by the Grand Lodge,

6. Transmit to the Grand Secretary, immediately after every election, a certificate of the names and addresses of the officers to be installed,
7. Certify all returns and the certificates of election made to the Grand Lodge,
8. Purchase from the Grand Secretary the requisite blank forms for petitions, dimits, certificates and diplomas; and

Sec. 15.22 B.L.

Secretary-Treasurer's Duties. When a Secretary-Treasurer is elected, it shall be his duty to perform all the duties of the Treasurer (Sec. 15.20 B.L.) and the Secretary (Sec. 15.21 B.L.).

Sec. 15.23 B.L.

Secretary's Books and Accounts. The Secretary shall keep the following books:

1. Minute and record books,
2. A Membership Register which shall contain the By-Laws and in which:
 - A. Each member shall sign his name, in the order of his admittance,
 - B. The Secretary shall record in alphabetical order, for each member of the Lodge:
 - a. Full name or names,
 - b. Present post office address,
 - c. Birthplace and Date of Birth,
 - d. Dates of initiation, passing, raising, and Master Mason proficiency, or the date of affiliation together with the name, number and location of Lodge of previous enrollment,
 - e. Age and occupation when received,
 - f. Name, number and location of any other Lodge or Lodges in which a member may also hold membership,
 - g. Dates of withdrawal, dropping from the roll, expulsion, suspension, restoration or death,
 - h. The full names of those expelled, suspended or restored; and
 - i. Member's identification number of Grand Lodge and Endowed Life Membership certificate.
3. An attendance Register, to be kept in the Tyler's Room, in which all members shall record their names, and all visitors shall record their names along with the names, numbers and locations of their respective Lodges, before entering the Lodge,
4. Account books as may be necessary to present clearly:
 - A. The account of each member of the Lodge,
 - B. The receipts of the Secretary,
 - C. The Secretary's payments to the Treasurer,
5. An updated copy of the Washington Masonic Code; and
6. All Proceedings of the Annual Communications of the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 15.24 B.L.

Other Officers' Duties. The appointive officers of a Lodge shall perform such duties as may be directed by the Master and Wardens. These duties shall not be in conflict with the By-Laws of the Lodge, the Washington Masonic Code or the Usages and General Regulations of Masonry. The appointive officers shall, in all things relating to their official duties, be subject to the direction of the Master or acting Master.

[Rev. 2009]

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 16 – FORMATION OF NEW LODGES

- Sec. 16.01 B.L. – [Application for Dispensation](#)
- Sec. 16.02 B.L. – [Notice to Lodges](#)
- Sec. 16.03 B.L. – [Officers of a Lodge U.D.](#)
- Sec. 16.04 B.L. – [Permanent Lodge Records](#)
- Sec. 16.05 B.L. – [Members](#)
- Sec. 16.06 B.L. – [Powers of a Lodge U.D.](#)
- Sec. 16.07 B.L. – [Grand Lodge Dues](#)
- Sec. 16.08 B.L. – [By-Laws](#)
- Sec. 16.09 B.L. – [Discipline](#)
- Sec. 16.10 B.L. – [Master Not Subject to Lodge Discipline](#)
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- Sec. 16.12 B.L. – [Charter Requirements](#)
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- Sec. 16.17 B.L. – [Precedence on Grand Lodge Roll](#)
- Sec. 16.18 B.L. – [Historic Lodges](#) Rev. 2009

Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 16- FORMATION OF NEW LODGES

Sec. 16.01 B.L.

Application for Dispensation. A new Lodge may be formed within this Jurisdiction, or in foreign territory where no Sovereign Grand Lodge exists, upon the petition of fifteen or more Master Masons, a recommendation by the nearest or most convenient Chartered Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons and granting of a dispensation by the Grand Master.

The petition shall be accompanied by proposed By-Laws for the new Lodge fixing the place and dates for stated communications, fees for Degrees, annual dues, and such other matters as deemed necessary. The By-Laws shall become effective upon the Grand Master granting a dispensation.

The petitioners shall be residents of this Grand Jurisdiction and each shall provide a dimit, or a certificate of good standing or the equivalent, to accompany the petition.

The recommending Lodge shall certify that the Master and Wardens named in the petition are fully competent to confer the Three Degrees of Masonry and that all of the petitioners are in good Masonic standing.

The Grand Master shall in every case satisfy himself through an examination, conducted either by himself or by a Deputy specially authorized, that the petitioners are fully competent to confer the Three Degrees of Masonry according to the Standard Work of Washington. **Rev. 2005**

Sec. 16.02 B.L.

Notice to Lodges. The Grand Master, before acting upon a petition for a new Lodge, shall report the receipt of the application to each Lodge which might be affected by the new Lodge and notify the Lodges of the district assignment of the new Lodge. **Rev. 2005**

Sec. 16.03 B.L.

Officers of a Lodge U.D. The officers named in the dispensation for a new Lodge shall hold their offices at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master until the expiration of the dispensation.

Sec. 16.04 B.L.

Permanent Lodge Records. The dispensation shall be copied at length upon the records of a new Lodge. The Charter, when issued, shall be recorded in like manner.

Sec. 16.05 B.L.

Members. The members of a Lodge Under Dispensation shall consist of those Brethren who:

1. Are named in the dispensation,
2. Formally affiliate with the Lodge; and
3. Receive the Third Degree therein and qualify for enrollment.

Brethren who become members of a Lodge U.D. by affiliation or by receiving the Third Degree therein are members in the full sense of the term and entitled to vote and participate in the transaction of business in common with those named in the dispensation.

[Rev. 2005]

5. A dimit or request for dimit shall not be received or issued by a Historic Lodge.
6. A petition for dispensation to form a Lodge U.D. shall not be required providing an application is submitted to the Grand Master to Charter a Historic Lodge which is signed by 15 or more Master Masons in good standing and who are members of a Washington Lodge. A Charter shall be issued without charge following a 2/3 favorable vote at a Grand Lodge Annual Communication granting the issuance of a Charter. A Charter may not be granted for a Historical Lodge until 100 years has elapsed from the date its original Charter was surrendered.
7. A Historic Lodge, once Chartered, shall adopt By-Laws for its own government. The By-Laws, once adopted or amended by a unanimous vote of the Officers of the Lodge and approved by the Committee on By-Laws and the Grand Master shall be immediately effective. **Rev. 2009**
8. A Charter may be revoked at any time by the Grand Lodge upon the recommendation of the Grand Master.
9. Stated meetings shall be held once annually and its meetings may be held anywhere in the Jurisdiction upon such notice as their By-Laws may provide.
10. The name of a Historic Lodge shall read: (name) Historical Lodge, No. (#) The number shall not be the same as the number of any active lodge in this Jurisdiction;
11. Historic Lodges shall be exempt from payment of all Grand Lodge revenue and assessments.
12. A Historic Lodge shall not have the power to:
 - A. Confer any of the Degrees, or
 - B. Exercise discipline over its members.
13. In the case of the surrendering or revocation of the Charter of a Historic Lodge, all assets of the Lodge shall become the property of the Grand Lodge.
14. A regularly Chartered Lodge, or any other Historic Lodge, shall not consolidate with a Historic Lodge. **Adopted 2008**

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Part III – Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 18 – PETITIONERS FOR DEGREES

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[Rev. 2009]

Part III Constituent Lodges

CHAPTER 18- PETITIONERS FOR DEGREES

Sec. 18.01 B.L

Prerequisite to Initiation. A Lodge shall not initiate any man unless it shall have received a petition from him.

Sec. 18.02 B.L.

Qualifications. Every petitioner in order to be eligible for the degrees of Masonry must:

1. Be at least eighteen years of age,
2. Have the senses of a man, especially those of Hearing, Seeing and Feeling;
3. Be a believer in a Supreme Being,
4. Be capable of Reading and Writing; and
5. Possess no disability in his body that would render him incapable of conforming reasonably what the Degrees respectively require of him.

No provision of this Section shall be set aside, dispensed with or suspended by the Grand Master or by the Grand Lodge. **Rev. 1994**

Sec. 18.03 B.L.

Sole Test. The Lodge shall itself determine a petitioner's physical qualifications by the sole test of whether any disability in his body renders him incapable of conforming reasonably to what the several degrees require of him.

Sec. 18.04 B.L.

Statewide (Concurrent) Jurisdiction. A qualified petitioner residing anywhere within this Grand Jurisdiction may petition any Lodge within the Jurisdiction.

Sec. 18.05 B.L.

Residence Requirement. A Lodge shall not knowingly receive a petition unless the petitioner shall have been an actual resident within this Jurisdiction for at least six months preceding the date of his petition. Such Masonic residence shall mean the permanent or continuous abiding place or home of the petitioner. Legal or voting residence is not the test. The Grand Master shall not by his dispensation authorize a Lodge to disregard the residence requirement of a petitioner.

Rev. 1995

Sec. 18.06 B.L.

Lodge May Require Longer Residence. A Lodge may, by its By-Laws, require residence longer than six months. **Rev. 1995**

Sec. 18.07 B. L.

Settled Abode Necessary. A person without a settled abode, but moving from one place to another in the pursuit of his business, is not eligible as a petitioner for the Degrees.

[Rev. 2003]

Sec. 18.08 B. L.

Exception to Half-Year Residence. The requirement of a half-year's residence before petitioning a Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction shall not apply to:

1. A seafaring man whose home is on board ship. Such a person must petition a Lodge situated in a regular port of call for his ship,
2. A person who is, and for six months next preceding the date of petition has been, in the United States military,
3. A person otherwise eligible, entering the Armed Services of the United States, he being considered temporarily absent from home,
4. A person who for six months next preceding the date of his petition has been in the Armed Services and has maintained his continuous abiding place and home within the Grand Jurisdiction, and
5. An actual resident of this Grand Jurisdiction who is in attendance as a student at any College, School or University.

Sec. 18.09. B.L.

Petition. Every petitioner for the Degrees or for affiliation shall complete in its entirety an appropriate form which the Lodge shall obtain from the Grand Lodge.

Each petition shall be signed by three Master Masons who are members of the Lodge or if the petitioner is recent to the area, but well known in another area of the state, then the petition may be signed by members of a Lodge in that area. The petition shall be accompanied by the required fees. A petition can be presented only at a Stated Communication and the acceptance shall be noted in the minutes. **Rev. 1991**

Sec. 18.10 B L.

Misrepresentation. It shall be a Masonic offense if a Mason shall be found to have made any misrepresentation to the Lodge in which he shall have been initiated or to a Committee of Investigation appointed by such Lodge. **Rev. 2009**

Sec. 18.11 B.L.

Fees.

1. Fees for the **Degrees** shall include:
 - A. The amount fixed by the By-Laws of the Lodge but in no case less than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00),
 - B. A contribution of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) to the Grand Lodge General Fund,
 - C. A contribution of Five Dollars (\$5.00) to the Endowment Fund of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association,
 - D. A contribution of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) to the Charity Fund; and
 - E. A contribution of Five Dollars (\$5.00) to the Masonic Scholarship Endowment Fund.
2. Fees for **Affiliation** shall include:
 - A The amount fixed by the By-Laws of the Lodge; and
 - B A contribution of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) to the Grand Lodge General Fund when the affiliation is from a foreign Jurisdiction, unless the petitioner has, through previous membership, already contributed to the Masonic Home Fund, the Masonic Home Endowment Fund or the General Fund of the Grand Lodge of Washington.

[Rev. 2009]

Sec. 18.12 B.L.

Date of Petition. The date a petition shall be considered received and presented shall be the first time it is read at a Stated Communication of the Lodge regardless of the date which may appear upon its face. **Rev. 1993**

Sec. 18.13 B.L.

When Jurisdiction Acquired. Jurisdiction over a petitioner is acquired at the time the petition is presented and accepted.

Sec. 18.14 B.L.

Waiver to Another Grand Jurisdiction. A Lodge receiving an application for a waiver to allow a resident to petition a Lodge of another Grand Jurisdiction shall process the application for waiver exactly as a petition for the Degrees.

Sec. 18.15 B.L.

Waiver to Complete the Degrees. A Mason who has received the First Degree, or the First and Second Degrees, in a Lodge in this or any other Jurisdiction, and has obtained from such Lodge a waiver of Jurisdiction may petition any Lodge of this Jurisdiction, pay the required fee and be considered a petitioner for the Degrees. His election and subsequent raising shall entitle him to become an enrolled member of that Lodge.

Sec. 18.16 B.L.

Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft of Extinct Chartered Lodge. An Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft who received his Degree or Degrees in a Lodge which later ceased to exist in this Jurisdiction, or in any Jurisdiction in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge, shall be entitled to petition a Lodge in this Jurisdiction for the remaining Degree or Degrees.

The petition shall be accompanied by:

1. A certificate from the Grand Secretary of the Jurisdiction in which the candidate was initiated or passed, confirming that the Lodge no longer exists; and
2. The fees required for the remaining Degree or Degrees by the Lodge receiving the petition.

Sec. 18.17 B.L.

Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft of Extinct Lodge Under Dispensation. An Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft made by a Lodge Under Dispensation which shall have ceased to exist, may petition any Lodge within this Jurisdiction for the remaining Degree or Degrees; and, if elected therein, he becomes a member of such Lodge on receiving the Third Degree and becoming enrolled. **Rev. 1988**

[Rev. 2003]

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CHAPTER 26 – CHARGES AND PRETRIAL PROCEDURE

- Sec. 26.01 Const. – [Masonic Conduct](#)**
- Sec. 26.02 Const. – [Classes of Masonic Offenses](#)**
- Sec. 26.03 B.L. – [Preferring Charges](#)**
- Sec. 26.04 B.L. – [Flagrant Offense](#)**
- Sec. 26.05 B.L. – [Further Charges Against Suspended Mason](#)**
- Sec. 26.06 B.L. – [E.A. and F.C. Must Stand Trial](#)**
- Sec. 26.07 B.L. – [Misrepresentation by Petitioner or Candidate](#)**
- Sec. 26.08 B.L. – [Disposition of Charges](#)**
- Sec. 26.09 B.L. – [Lodge to Relinquish Jurisdiction](#)**
- Sec. 26.10 B.L. – [Invoking Grand Lodge Jurisdiction](#)**

Part IV – Disciplinary Code

Chapter 26 –PREFERRAL OF CHARGES

Sec. 26.01 Const.

Masonic Conduct. A Mason's conduct is subject to discipline as provided in the Washington Masonic Code.

Sec. 26.02 Const.

Classes of Masonic Offenses. Masonic offenses are of two classes:

1. Those acts which are morally wrong in themselves; and
2. Those acts which are wrongful only because they are expressly prohibited or enjoined.

Sec. 26.03 B.L.

Preferring Charges

1. Charges of Un-Masonic conduct may be preferred against a Mason, including any unaffiliated Mason who is residing or sojourning within the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, by:
 - A. Any member of a Chartered Lodge; or
 - B. Any Chartered Lodge; or
 - C. The Junior Warden when directed by the Worshipful Master; or
 - D. The Junior Warden when no other Brother has preferred charges of Un-Masonic Conduct.

In the event that the Junior Warden is unable or unwilling to prefer charges, that duty shall devolve to the Senior Warden; however, the Worshipful Master may direct any member of the Lodge to prefer charges of Un-Masonic conduct for and on behalf of the Lodge.
2. Charges of Un-Masonic conduct may not be preferred:
 - A. By an unaffiliated Mason and shall not be received nor shall any action be taken on such charges; nor
 - B. Against a Brother involving private wrongs or private legal rights, monetary or otherwise, unless the allegation clearly shows fraud; nor
 - C. Against a Brother involving matters of political or sectarian character; nor
 - D. Against a sitting Grand Master or Worshipful Master for official acts as Grand Master or Worshipful Master; nor
 - E. Against a Past Grand Master or Past Worshipful Master for official acts performed while serving as Grand Master or Worshipful Master.
3. Charges of Un-Masonic conduct shall be first submitted to the Worshipful Master, except when the Worshipful Master has directed a Brother to prefer charges of Un-Masonic conduct.
4. Charges of Un-Masonic conduct shall be in writing and signed by the Brother(s) preferring them using the approved form maintained by the Grand Secretary or in a writing substantially similar to said form. Charges of Un-Masonic conduct shall specify with reasonable certainty the character of the alleged offense and the time and place where the offense occurred.

Sec. 26.04 B.L.

Flagrant Offense. The Master of a Lodge, when a Mason present has committed a flagrant offense while the Lodge is in session, may dispense with the provisions of Masonic law requiring formal charges, and may order the offending Brother to show cause instantly why he should not be charged with Un-Masonic conduct.

Sec. 26.05 B.L.

Further Charges Against Suspended Mason. A suspended Mason may be charged with Un-Masonic conduct not included within the charge or charges for which he was suspended. If such conduct is proved and would justify a further punishment or a punishment greater than that which he is undergoing, then he may be arraigned for trial and, if found guilty, may suffer additional penalty.

Sec. 26.06 B.L.

E.A. and F.C. Must Stand Trial. The names of Entered Apprentices or Fellowcrafts shall not be dropped from the roll, nor shall they be suspended or expelled without charges, notice, trial and judgment.

Sec. 26.07 B.L.

Misrepresentation by Petitioner or Candidate. If a Mason shall be charged at any time with having made any misrepresentation to the Lodge in which he was initiated or to a Committee of Investigation appointed by such Lodge, or that he used any concealment or deceit in relation to his initiation, the charge shall be filed with the Grand Secretary for trial.

Sec. 26.08 B.L.

Disposition of Charges.

1. All charges shall be filed with the Secretary of the Lodge,
2. The Secretary shall present and read the charges to the Lodge at the first Stated Communication following the filing of the charges with him.
3. The Lodge shall, at the Stated Communication when the charges are presented and read, vote upon the question of whether or not the charges, if proved, constitute a Masonic offense. If a majority of the members present vote that the charges, if proved, constitute a Masonic offense, the charges shall be deemed accepted by the Lodge. In the event that the charges are not accepted, any Mason feeling aggrieved thereby, may appeal from the decision of the Lodge to the Grand Master, solely upon the question of whether or not the charges as drawn, if proved, constitutes a Masonic offense.

The Grand Master having received an appeal from an aggrieved Mason under the provisions of this section and having determined that the charges, if proved, constitute a Masonic offence, shall appoint a Grand Master's Trial Committee to try the accused upon the charges. If the charges are not found to constitute a Masonic offense, the Grand Master shall notify the Lodge and the aggrieved Mason of his decision; and

4. When the Lodge accepts charges they shall not be withdrawn except for cause shown and by a favorable vote of two-thirds of the members present at a Stated Communication.

Sec. 26.09 B.L.

Lodge to Relinquish Jurisdiction. Upon the Lodge accepting the charges the Lodge shall be without Jurisdiction to proceed further in the matter. The Secretary of the Lodge shall thereupon request the appointment of a Grand Master's Trial Committee and transmit to the Grand Secretary for delivery to the Grand Master:

1. A certified copy of the charges; and
2. The minutes of the Stated Communication at which the charges were accepted.

Nothing in this Section shall deprive the Lodge, up to the time of submission to Grand Lodge, of its power to withdraw the charges.

Sec. 26.10 B.L.

Invoking Grand Lodge Jurisdiction. Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge may be directly invoked by the filing of charges with the Grand Secretary, who shall notify the Grand Master. The Grand Master, upon determining the charges, if proved, against a Brother constitute a Masonic offense, shall order the accused to appear and answer the same before a Grand Master's Trial Committee. If the Grand Master finds that the charges, if proved, would not constitute a Masonic offense, the Grand Master shall notify the accuser and the accused of his decision.

Part IV – Disciplinary Code

CHAPTER 27 – DISCIPLINARY POWER OF A LODGE

- Sec. 27.01 B.L. – [Appointment of Grand Master’s Trial Committee](#)
- Sec. 27.02 B.L. – [Jurisdiction of Grand Master’s Trial Committee](#)
- Sec. 27.03 B.L. – [Convening of Grand Master’s Trial Committee](#)
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- Sec. 27.05 B.L. – [Service](#)
- Sec. 27.06 B.L. – [Return of Service](#)
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- Sec. 27.08 B.L. – [Procedure After Judgment](#)

[Rev. 2009]

Part IV – Disciplinary Code

Chapter 27 – GRAND MASTER’S TRIAL COMMITTEE

Sec. 27.01 B.L.

Appointment of Grand Master's Trial Committee. The Grand Master, upon receiving the files of a case from the Grand Secretary, shall appoint a Grand Master's Trial Committee to try the accused upon the charges. The Committee shall consist of five Past Masters, members of Lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction other than the one of which the accused is a member, and designate one as the Chairman of the Committee.

The Grand Master shall direct the Grand Secretary to notify the members of their appointment and of the designation of the Committee Chairman, and to transmit to the Chairman the files received from the Secretary of the Lodge.

The Grand Master shall fill all vacancies occurring on a Grand Master's Trial Committee.

Sec. 27.02 B.L.

Jurisdiction of Grand Master's Trial Committee. A Grand Master's Trial Committee shall have the judicial powers of, and be charged with all the duties prescribed by Masonic law for a trial of the charges filed.

Sec. 27.03 B.L.

Convening of Grand Master's Trial Committee. The Grand Master's Trial Committee shall select a committee member other than the Chairman to be Secretary and it shall be his duty to keep a true and complete record of all the proceedings and an audio recording of all testimony.

The Chairman of the Committee shall designate the time and place of the trial and instruct the Secretary to cite the accused to appear and answer the charges.

Sec. 27.04 B.L.

Citation. The citation served by the Committee Secretary shall include:

1. A copy of the charges,
2. The time and place assigned for the trial; and
3. A summons for the accused to appear and answer the charges.

Sec. 27.05 B.L.

Service. Due service of the citation shall be deemed complete when made by either of the following procedures:

1. **Personal Service.**
 - A. Delivering a copy of the citation directly to the accused; or
 - B. Leaving a sealed envelope addressed to the accused, containing a copy of the citation, at the accused's usual place of abode with a person of suitable age and discretion residing therein.
2. **Postal Service.** Depositing the citation in a postage pre-paid envelope in a U. S. Post Office within the Grand Jurisdiction, addressed to the accused at his last known post office address. Service of the citation by Postal Service shall be deemed complete 5 business days after deposit in a U. S. Post Office. Mail shall be by certified mail, return receipt requested.

[Rev. 2009]

A minimum of twenty days shall have expired following date of service of the citation before the trial shall commence.

Sec. 27.06 B.L.

Return of Service. Service of the citation shall be certified in writing by the Secretary of the Grand Masters Trial Committee. The record shall show how the citation was served and the date on which it was served.

Sec. 27.07 B.L.

Judgment. The Grand Master's Trial Committee shall, at the close of the testimony and the reading of depositions taken by a commission, and following argument of counsel for the respective parties, decide as to the guilt or innocence of the accused by secret written ballot. Each member of the Grand Master's Trial Committee shall vote and indicate either guilty or not guilty as charged.

If the accused is found guilty, the Committee shall decide the penalty to be imposed and shall render judgment accordingly.

A majority of the Committee shall constitute a quorum necessary for the conduct of the trial; but the verdict of the Committee as to the guilt or innocence of the accused and its judgment as to the penalty to be imposed shall require a majority of the full Committee in favor of such verdict and judgment.

Sec. 27.08 B.L.

Procedure After Judgment. The Grand Master's Trial Committee, as soon as practicable, shall transmit:

1. A copy of its judgment, certified by its Chairman and the Secretary, to the Grand Master, the Secretary of the Lodge in which the charges originated, and all parties to the charges, and
2. A statement of the right to appeal to all parties of the charges.

Upon receipt of a copy of judgment from a Grand Master's Trial Committee, the Secretary of a Lodge shall enter the judgment upon the minutes of the Lodge at its next Stated Communication. The Secretary of the Lodge, having entered the judgment upon the records of the Lodge, shall communicate the date of such entry in writing to the Chairman of the Grand Master's Trial Committee and the Grand Secretary.

Within thirty days after the date of entry of judgment upon the records of the Lodge, the Grand Master's Trial Committee shall transmit to the Grand Secretary the original record of its proceedings together with all depositions offered and/or received in evidence and the audio recording of all testimony.

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CHAPTER 28 – TRIAL PROVISIONS

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Part IV – Disciplinary Code

CHAPTER 28 – TRIAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 28.01 B.L.

Appearance of Accused. The appearance of the accused at proceedings upon charges of un-Masonic conduct shall be in one of the following manners:

1. By his personal appearance at the time and place fixed for trial of which he shall be notified,
2. By the authorized appearance for him of any Master Mason in good standing, as counsel, at such time and place; or
3. By his written communication, or that of his counsel on his behalf, filed with the Secretary of the Grand Master's Trial Committee. The filing must be at or before the designated time and in it he may state his objections to the charges, plead guilty or not guilty, or set forth any matter in extenuation of the offense charged.

Sec. 28.02 B.L.

Failure of the Accused to Appear. The accused may by his own voluntary absence waive his right to attend.

A trial shall proceed, in the absence of the accused, upon proof of the due service upon him of citation together with a copy of the charges and notice of the time and place of the trial.

Sec. 28.03 B.L.

Plea of the Accused. At the time fixed by the Grand Master's Trial Committee for the trial, the charges shall be read and the accused or his counsel, if present, shall enter his plea, or answer thereto. Both the charges and plea, or answer, shall be entered upon the records of the proceedings.

If the accused pleads guilty to the charges or any part thereof, a verdict ballot shall not be spread on such charges or part thereof and the Grand Master's Trial Committee shall determine only the punishment to be imposed.

If the accused pleads innocent to part or all of the charges, the trial must proceed and evidence shall be taken upon all charges to which the plea of not guilty applies.

Sec. 28.04 B.L.

Timely Notice of Hearings. The accuser and the accused shall have timely written notice and opportunity to attend in person or by counsel, and examine and cross-examine all witnesses at all hearings including the taking of all depositions under commission.

Sec. 28.05 B.L.

Testimony to be Recorded. An audio recording shall be made of all testimony given before a Grand Master's Trial Committee.

[Rev. 2009]

Sec. 28.06 B.L.

Testimony by Honor or by Oath. Testimony given by a Mason shall be given upon his honor as a Mason. Testimony by a Non-Mason shall be upon an oath administered by:

1. A member of the Grand Master's Trial Committee who is authorized by civil law to administer oaths, or
2. The Chairman of the Grand Master's Trial Committee.

Sec. 28.07 B.L.

Witnesses. The Secretary of the Grand Master's Trial Committee shall, at the request of any of the parties to the charges, issue summons for the attendance of witnesses and he may cause the summons to be served through the Master of the Lodge nearest the residence of each witness.

Commissions shall be issued for the taking of depositions of witnesses who are Non-Masons or are unable to attend the trial. A Commission for the taking of a deposition should be issued to a member of the Fraternity, if practicable, or to a discreet person authorized by civil law to administer oaths.

Sec. 28.08 B.L.

Visitors. There shall be no visitors permitted at a Trial. Only the accuser, the accused, their respective counsel and witnesses while testifying, shall be present during Trial.

Sec. 28.09 B.L.

Verdict in Criminal Proceeding. A guilty verdict in a criminal proceeding is, on the face of it, evidence of fact that a crime has been committed. Nothing herein shall prevent or restrain the Grand Master from determining that certain convictions, if proved, inherently give rise to a finding of Un-Masonic conduct and authorize the Grand Master to order a Masonic Trial. Proof of a conviction in a criminal proceeding which is specified as a portion of the charges of Un-Masonic conduct on the part of the accused may be entered as evidence in a Grand Master's Trial Committee hearing. All evidence must be subject to the determination of relevance and significance by members of the Committee.

Sec. 28.10 B.L.

Withdrawal of Accuser and Accused. The accuser and the accused with their respective counsel, at the closing of taking testimony and when argument of counsel is concluded, shall withdraw from the Grand Master's Trial Committee during the determination of verdict and judgment.

Sec. 28.11 B.L.

Penalties. The penalties that may be imposed for violation of Masonic Law shall be:

1. Expulsion,
2. Suspension from all rights and privileges of Masonry which shall be for:
 - A. A time definite or indefinite; and/or
 - B. Subject to specified conditions relevant to the violation, or
3. Reprimand or censure.

While under judgment of suspension, definite, or indefinite, the offending Brother shall be deprived of all Lodge and Grand Lodge privileges. He shall have no rights except the right of appeal.

[Rev. 2009]

Sec. 28.12 B.L.

Expense of Trial. The expense incurred in conducting a Masonic Trial shall be paid in the first instance by Grand Lodge, but may be assessed as costs against one or both parties to the controversy, as determined by the Grand Master's Trial Committee. Such costs shall not be assessed against an acquitted Brother.

Sec. 28.13 B.L.

New Trial. A Grand Master's Trial Committee may set aside its judgment and grant a new trial when the accused has been convicted of the charges if: within thirty days of the date of entry of judgment upon the records of the Lodge the accused applies for a new trial; the Grand Master's Trial Committee finds an error at the trial prejudicial to the accused; or for other good cause.

Sec. 28.14 B.L.

Judgment of Expulsion. All judgments of expulsion, if appealed, shall be referred, along with a transcript of the proceedings to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals for its report and recommendation to the Grand Lodge in session for its final action.

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CHAPTER 29 – APPEALS

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[Rev. 2009]

Part IV – Disciplinary Code

CHAPTER 29 – APPEALS

Sec. 29.01 B.L.

Right of Appeal. The accused and the accuser may within thirty days after the date of entry of judgment of the Grand Master’s Trial Committee upon the records of the Lodge(s), appeal to the Grand Lodge by filing a Notice of Appeal of the judgment with the Grand Secretary, who shall notify all parties of such appeal.

When suspension is administered by the Grand Master, for either a definite or indefinite time, the accused may, within thirty days after the date of the action, appeal to the Grand Lodge by filing a Notice of Appeal of the action with the Grand Secretary, who shall notify appropriate parties of such appeal.

Within sixty days after the filing of a Notice of Appeal, the appellant shall file a written memorandum with the Grand Secretary stating briefly and informally the reasons for the appeal and the points upon which appellant relies.

If no appeal is filed with the Grand Secretary within thirty days of the entry of judgment of the Grand Master’s Trial Committee upon the records of the Lodge(s), neither the accused nor the accuser shall have standing for further appeal to Grand Lodge and the judgment of the Grand Master’s Trial Committee shall be deemed final.

Sec. 29.02 B.L.

Jurisdiction. Whenever an appeal shall be taken from a judgment of a Grand Master’s Trial Committee, or suspension by the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge may upon investigation:

1. Dismiss the appeal, approve the findings or affirm the action appealed from,
2. Modify or change the action or impose a penalty, or
3. Set aside the action for error or informality and remand the case for further proceedings by a Grand Master’s Trial Committee or the Grand Master.

Sec. 29.03 B.L.

Referral After an Appeal. In case of an appeal, the record of the proceedings of the Grand Master’s Trial Committee, or suspension by the Grand Master, shall be referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals who shall report the facts with their recommendation to the Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication for its action.

All recorded testimony shall be transcribed and certified by the Chairman and Secretary of the Grand Master’s Trial Committee.

Sec. 29.04 B.L.

Hearings. Hearings by the Committee on Grievances and Appeals shall be held at such day, time, and location as determined by the Chairman of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals provided that:

1. The accused, the accuser, and all witnesses at the trial shall each receive written notice of the date, time, and place at least 30 days in advance of the hearing,
2. The Grand Lodge shall post a notice of the hearing, including the date, time, and place, on its website at least 30 days prior to the hearing,

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3. The place of the hearing shall be either within 100 miles of the place the Grand Master's Trial Committee held its proceedings or, if the hearing is held on the day immediately preceding the opening of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge at the place of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge for the current year; and
4. No hearing will be scheduled prior to 90 days after service of the notice of appeals.

Sec. 29.05 B.L.

No New Evidence on Appeal. The Committee on Grievances and Appeals shall not receive or consider any evidence other than is in the proceedings filed by the Grand Master's Trial Committee or that which is contained in the order of suspension by the Grand Master.

Sec. 29.06 B.L.

Judgment. Whenever the Grand Lodge shall affirm, modify or change the judgment appealed from, such action by the Grand Lodge shall be final, and upon receipt of notice thereof the Lodge(s) shall cause the same to be entered into its minutes at its (their) next Stated Communication.

Sec. 29.07 B.L.

Failure to Affirm Original Judgment. When the Grand Lodge, on review of a judgment of expulsion or suspension, reverses or annuls the judgment, or fails to approve a judgment of expulsion, or modifies the same, the accused shall be thereby restored to membership in the Lodge(s) in which he was a member.

When a case is remanded for a new trial, no amendment to the original charges and specifications shall be made without giving the accused due and timely notice thereof.

Sec. 29.08 B.L.

Final Record. The Proceedings of the Annual Communication are the official announcements of Grand Lodge judgments, of which the parties in interest have constructive notice. These Proceedings shall constitute the final record except in case of remanding for a new Grand Master's Trial Committee.

Sec. 29.09 B.L.

Status During Appeal. In case of appeal from a judgment of suspension or expulsion, the accused shall not be permitted to exercise any Masonic Rights (except the right of appeal from such judgment); provided, that the Grand Master may, in his discretion, permit the exercise of such Masonic Rights by the accused as the Grand Master may determine. Any such permission shall be communicated in writing by the Grand Master to the Secretary of the Lodge(s) in which judgment was entered, and such permission shall be entered into the minutes of such Lodge(s) at the next Stated Communication.

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Part IV – Disciplinary Code

CHAPTER 30 – RESTORATION

- Sec. 30.01 B.L. – [Restoration from Definite Suspension](#)**
- Sec. 30.02 B.L. – [Restoration from Indefinite Suspension](#)**
- Sec. 30.03 B.L. – [Restoration from Expulsion](#)**
- Sec. 30.04 B.L. – [Restoration from Expulsion by Grand Lodge](#)**
- Sec. 30.05 B.L. – [Referral to Committee](#)**
- Sec. 30.06 B.L. – [Interval Between Petitions for Restoration](#)**

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Part IV – Disciplinary Code

CHAPTER 30 – RESTORATION

Sec. 30.01 B.L.

Restoration from Definite Suspension. Definite suspension shall expire by limitation. A Mason who was suspended for a definite period shall become restored to membership in the Lodge or Lodges from which he was suspended at the expiration of the time defined in the judgment of suspension, without vote or other action on the part of the Lodge or Lodges.

1. A Mason who was suspended subject to a condition(s) shall become restored to membership in the Lodges from which he was suspended upon the Grand Master certifying that the conditions have been satisfied.
2. A Mason who was suspended for both a period of time and subject to a condition(s) shall become restored to membership in the Lodge(s) from which he was suspended upon the latter of:
 - A. The expiration of the time defined in the judgment of suspension, without vote or other action on the part of the Lodges, or
 - B. The Grand Master's certification that the condition(s) has been satisfied.

If the Lodges from which he was suspended have, in the meantime, ceased to exist, he may, at the expiration of the period of suspension and/or certification from the Grand Master that the conditions have been met, petition for Fraternal restoration in any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction which may restore him to membership, or to the Grand Lodge, either of which may reinstate him to good standing in the Fraternity.

A Mason under definite suspension and seeking restoration prior to the termination of his suspension shall petition in writing to all Lodges of which he is a member or, if those Lodges have ceased to exist, he may apply for restoration to any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction or to the Grand Lodge. He shall be restored to membership in the Lodges upon favorable votes of two-thirds of the members present at a Stated Communication of each Lodge, following the giving of notice at the preceding Stated Communications, and approval of the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge by a two thirds favorable vote at the next Annual Communication. If application is made to the Grand Lodge, said application shall be referred to the Grand Secretary at least ten days prior to an Annual Communication. The Brother shall be restored to the status of a Non-Affiliated Mason, upon a favorable vote of two thirds of the members present at the Annual Communication.

Sec. 30.02 B.L.

Restoration from Indefinite Suspension. A Mason, whose suspension was for an indefinite time and who seeks restoration, shall petition in writing to all the Lodges of which he was a member at the time of his suspension. He shall be restored to membership in the Lodges upon favorable votes of two-thirds of the members present at a Stated Communication of each Lodge, following the giving of due notice in each Lodge at the Lodge's preceding Stated Communication. He must receive approval for restoration in each Lodge and if any Lodge of which he was a member at the time of his suspension fails to vote for restoration by a two thirds majority, he may not be restored in any of his former Lodges. His restoration is not complete until it receives the approval of the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge by a two thirds favorable vote at the next Annual Communication.

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If the Lodges from which the Brother was suspended have ceased to exist, the petition for restoration may be made to any Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, which may restore him to its membership, or to the Grand Lodge, which may restore him to a status of a Non-Affiliated Mason, by a two thirds favorable vote.

Sec. 30.03 B.L.

Restoration from Expulsion. A Mason expelled, who seeks restoration to the rights of Masonry without Lodge membership, shall petition the Lodge from which he was expelled, and to all other Lodges of which he is a member, for restoration. Upon notice of his petition having been given at a Stated Communication, each Lodge, at a Stated Communication, by a two-thirds vote of the members present, and approval of the Grand Master, or the Grand Lodge by two-thirds favorable vote at the next Annual Communication, may restore him to such rights. A Brother so restored shall be entitled to a certificate of that fact from the Secretary that shall serve in lieu of a regular dimit in case of a petition for membership.

In case the Lodges shall become extinct, the petition may be made directly to the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 30.04 B.L.

Restoration from Expulsion by Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge may consider a direct petition for restoration of an expelled Mason without any petition to the Lodges which expelled him. The Grand Lodge, by a two-thirds vote, may restore the Brother to good standing as a Non-Affiliate but not to membership in the Lodges. A Brother so restored shall be entitled to a certificate of that fact from the Grand Secretary, which shall serve in lieu of a regular dimit.

Sec. 30.05 B.L.

Referral to Committee. All petitions for restoration coming before the Grand Lodge shall be referred to the Committee on Grievances and Appeals for its report and recommendation to the Grand Lodge.

Sec. 30.06 B.L.

Interval Between Petitions for Restoration. After petitions asking a Brother's Lodges for restoration have once been read in the Lodges, any other such petitions cannot be accepted by the Lodges from the same party until expiration of one year from the date of such reading, regardless of whether the petitions were rejected or withdrawn.

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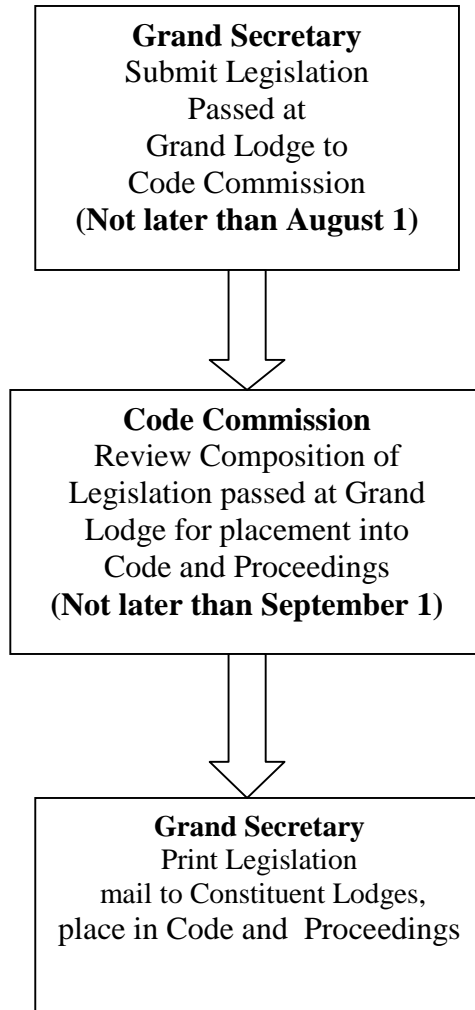
<u>New 2003 No.</u>	<u>Old 1983 No.</u>	<u>New 2003 No.</u>	<u>Old 1983 No.</u>
25.01	26.01	29.10	27.10
25.02	26.02		
25.03	26.03	30.01	31.01
25.04	26.04	30.02	31.02
25.05	26.05	30.03	31.03
25.06	26.06	30.04	31.04
		30.05	31.05
		30.06	31.06
26.01	29.01		
26.02	29.02		
26.03	29.03	31.01	32.02
26.04	29.04	31.02	32.03
26.05	29.05	31.03	32.04
26.06	29.06	31.04	32.05
		31.05	31.07
		31.06	32.06
27.01	28.03		
27.02	28.04		
27.03	28.01	32.01	33.01
27.04	28.02	32.02	33.02
27.05	28.05	32.03	33.03
27.06	28.06	32.04	33.04
27.07	28.07	32.05	33.05
27.08	28.08	32.06	33.06
27.09	28.09	32.07	33.07
27.10	28.10	32.08	33.08
27.11	32.01	32.09	33.09
28.01	30.01	33.01	34.01
28.02	30.02	33.02	34.02
28.03	30.03	33.03	34.03
28.04	30.04	33.04	34.04
28.05	30.05	33.05	34.05
28.06	30.06	33.06	34.06
28.07	30.07	33.07	34.07
28.08	30.08	33.08	34.08
28.09	30.09		
28.10	30.10		
28.11	30.11		
28.12	30.12		
28.13	30.13		
28.14	30.14		
28.15	30.15		
28.16	30.16		
28.17	30.17		
29.01	27.01		
29.02	27.02		
29.03	27.03		
29.04	27.04		
29.05	27.05		
29.06	27.06		
29.07	27.07		
29.08	27.08		
29.09	27.09		

APPENDIX A-1

<u>New 2009 No.</u>	<u>Old 2003 No.</u>	<u>New 2009 No.</u>	<u>Old 2003 No.</u>	SECTIONS NOW OBSOLETE ARCHIVED AT GRAND LODGE OFFICE
26.01	27.01	29.01	32.01	
26.02	27.02	29.02	32.02	
26.03	27.03	29.03	32.03	
26.04	27.07	29.04	32.04	
26.05	27.08	29.05	32.05	27.04
26.06	27.09	29.06	32.06	27.05
26.07	27.10	29.07	32.07	27.06
26.08	26.03	29.08	32.08	28.01
26.09	27.11	29.09	32.09	28.08
26.10	29.01			28.14
<hr/>				
		30.01	33.01	29.05
27.01	31.01	30.02	33.02	29.06
27.02	31.02	30.03	33.04	29.07
27.03	31.03	30.04	33.06	29.08
27.04	26.04	30.05	33.07	29.09
27.05	26.05	30.06	33.08	29.10
27.06	26.06			30.01
27.07	31.04			30.02
27.08	31.06			30.03
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28.01	28.02			30.04
28.02	28.04			30.05
28.03	28.03			30.06
28.04	28.05			31.05
28.05	28.06			33.03
28.06	28.07			33.05
28.07	29.04			
28.08	28.09			
28.09	28.10			
28.10	28.11			
28.11	28.12			
28.12	28.13			
28.13	28.15			
28.14	28.16			

APPENDIX C

Flow Chart-Legislation Passed



Outline of a Proper Format of a Proposed Resolution shall be as follows:

Resolution [year] -- ____

To Amend Sec. _____ and _____

Statement of Purpose: Describe what this Resolution will provide or accomplish.

Resolution: Give statement as to the existing law, the problem or your concern and how this resolution would enhance and or make it more desirable with the proposed change.

Whereas, give example justification for the proposed Resolution, and

Whereas, give example justification for the proposed Resolution, and

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that (give Section __#__, Subsection _#_,) be amended to read as follows:

[Instruction: ensure all sections to be amended in the code are covered in Resolution.]
(~~All wording to be changed shall be in Brackets and lined through.~~)
All wording to be inserted or added shall be underlined.

[Example:]

**Sec. 15.04 B.L.
Holding Two Offices.**

1. No Brother shall hold two offices in a Lodge at the same time except that (~~in~~) a Lodge may at its discretion elect one Brother to (~~of less than 100 members~~) the combined offices of Secretary and Treasurer. (~~may be held by one Brother.~~)
2. (No Change)

Respectfully Submitted,

_____ **Lodge No.** _____

_____, **Worshipful Master**

_____, **Secretary**

_____, **Author***

_____, **Phone Number**

* Note: The name and phone number of the author of the Resolution, if not the Worshipful Master, is needed by the Code Commission to resolve any questions concerning intent and Code accuracy. The name will not be published in the Grand Lodge Resolution Booklet.

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