

**CONSTITUTION
AND
BY-LAWS
OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF NORTH CAROLINA**



**ADOPTED MAY 9, 1906
WITH AMENDMENTS TO MARCH 2016
APPROVED BY JURISPRUDENCE NOVEMBER 1, 2016**

FOREWORD

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina revised its Constitution and Bylaws, March 8, 1966. The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina revised its Constitution, General Regulations and Standing Resolutions, May 8, 1965. The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of North Carolina revised its Statutes and Regulations, March 23, 1964.

Pursuant to the action of these Grand York Rite Bodies of North Carolina, the basic law of each is printed in loose-leaf form and incorporated in one binder. We feel this to be a further evidence of the unity, which permeates the York Rite of Freemasonry in North Carolina.

The Committees on Jurisprudence have carefully edited all revisions since the last printing in 1972, through the year 1982. A Joint Resolution of the Grand York Rite Bodies transferred annual revisions thereafter to the Office of the Grand Secretary-Recorder in conjunction with and assisted by the Committees on Jurisprudence.

The office of the Grand Secretary-Recorder carefully edited all revisions since the transfer of responsibility of maintaining each Constitution. In 2006 the Constitutions were updated with all revisions through 2006 and distributed to the membership. In 2016 the Constitutions were updated with all revisions through 2016 and were made available to the membership on the North Carolina York Rite Bodies website.

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**CONSTITUTION OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER**

CHAPTER 1

HOW CONSTITUTED

SEC. 1-01. This Grand Chapter shall be known by the name and style of "**The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina.**" (1934.)

SEC. 1-02. This Grand Chapter shall consist of the following officers:

- A. The Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Captain of the Host, Grand Principal Sojourner, Grand Royal Arch Captain, Grand Master of the Third Veil, Grand Master of the Second Veil, Grand Master of the First Veil, Grand Sentinel, Grand Chaplain, Grand Lecturer and District High Priests. (2009)
- B. Past Grand High Priests, Past Grand Kings, Past Grand Scribes of this Grand Chapter, so long as they remain members of Chapters under this Grand Chapter.
- C. High Priest, King and Scribe of each Chartered Chapter working under this Grand Chapter.
- D. All Past High Priests of Chapters working under this Grand Chapter, so long as they remain members of Chapters in this jurisdiction. (1931)
- E. Past Presiding Officers of Chapters whose jurisdiction is recognized by this Grand Chapter, who have affiliated with one of its Chapters and have been elected to membership in this Grand Chapter, so long as they remain members of a Chapter in this jurisdiction. (1980)
- F. Honorary Members who have been elected by Grand Chapter, but such honorary membership is without the privilege of voting or holding office. (1980)

CHAPTER 2

PROXIES

SEC. 2-01. The High Priest, King, or Scribe of any Chapter, or either of them, may appoint any member of his own Chapter as his proxy to represent him in the Grand Chapter. Such proxy shall be in writing and signed by the officer appointing him.

CHAPTER 3

ANNUAL CONVOCATION

SEC. 3-01. This Grand Chapter shall hold Annual Convocation at such time and place as shall be provided in the Bylaws.

CHAPTER 4

OFFICERS

SEC. 4-01. The elective officers of this Grand Chapter shall severally be elected by ballot, and by a majority of the votes cast for that purpose, at each Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter.

SEC. 4-02. The appointive officers of this Grand Chapter shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest immediately preceding his installation.

CHAPTER 5

VOTING

SEC. 5-01. In all questions in the Grand Chapter, each member has one vote and no more. (1992)

SEC. 5-02. If a High Priest, King or Scribe of a chapter is not present in person, his vote may be cast by any member of said chapter holding his proxy. (1992)

CHAPTER 6

POWERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER

SEC. 6-01. The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina is the highest source of authority in Royal Arch Masonry within said State. It claims, and of right enjoys, the sole government and superintendence of all Chapters of Royal Arch Masons within said Jurisdiction. (1934)

SEC. 6-02. It may grant Charters and Dispensations for holding regular Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, with the right to confer therein the several degrees of Masonry, denominated Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason, and when deemed expedient and for good cause may annul, revoke or amend such Charter or Dispensation, or any preexisting Charter or Dispensation.

SEC. 6-03. It may assign the limits of each Chapter under its jurisdiction, and settle all controversies that may arise between them; and it has final decision and determination of all matters of controversy and grievances that may be brought up by appeal or otherwise.

SEC. 6-04. It may reprimand, suspend, or expel from its own body any member for a violation of this Constitution or the Bylaws and Regulations of the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 6-05. It may assess and collect from the several Chapters under its jurisdiction such sums of money, annually, as may from time to time be found necessary for the support and maintenance of the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 6-06. It may supervise the state and condition of its own finances and adopt such measures in relation thereto as may be for the good of the Order.

SEC. 6-07. It may make and adopt laws and general regulations for the government of the Chapters under its jurisdiction, and at pleasure alter, amend, or repeal the same.

SEC. 6-08. It shall, at each Annual Convocation, consider and review the reports of the doings of the Grand Officers for the preceding year, as well as those of the several Chapters under its jurisdiction.

SEC. 6-09. It may consider and do all, whatsoever it may regard as necessary or appertaining to the well-being and perpetuity of Royal Arch Masonry in the State of North Carolina.

CHAPTER 7

ALTERATION OR AMENDMENT

SEC. 7-01. Any alteration or amendment of this Constitution shall be proposed in writing, at an Annual Convocation, shall lie over until the next Annual Convocation and be published in the proceedings; when, if adopted by an affirmative vote of not less than two thirds of the votes cast, the same shall become a part of this Constitution, and not otherwise.

**BYLAWS OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF
NORTH CAROLINA**

CHAPTER 8

CONVOICATIONS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER

ANNUAL CONVOICATIONS

SEC. 8-01. The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter may be held at such times and at such places as the Grand High Priest may designate, due notice thereof having been given to each Chapter and to each officer of the Grand Chapter; but no business shall be transacted at a Special Convocation except that specified in the original notice or call. (1931; 1935)

SPECIAL CONVOICATIONS

SEC. 8-02. Special Convocations of the Grand Chapter may be held at such times and at such places as the Grand High Priest may designate, due notice thereof having been given to each Chapter and to each officer of the Grand Chapter; but no business shall be transacted at a Special Convocation except that specified in the original notice or call.

QUORUM

SEC. 8-03. At any Annual or Special Convocation of this Grand Chapter, it shall require the representatives of not less than three Chapters to be present to form a quorum for the transaction of business.

ABSENCE OF FIRST THREE OFFICERS

SEC. 8-04. At any Convocation or session of the Grand Chapter, should all of the first three elective Grand Officers be absent, the Junior Past Grand High Priest shall be empowered to open and preside; and in the event that no Past Grand High Priest qualified to preside be present, the High Priest of the senior Chapter present shall take the chair as acting Grand High Priest. (1932)

FISCAL YEAR

SEC. 8-05. The fiscal year of Grand Chapter shall be the same as the calendar year and the books and accounts of Grand Chapter shall be closed and balanced as of December 31 of each year. (1947)

CHAPTER 9

**GRAND OFFICERS
WHO ARE ELIGIBLE**

SEC. 9-01. No Companion shall be eligible for elective or appointive office in this Grand Chapter who is not a resident of the State of North Carolina, and a member in good standing in a subordinate Chapter in this jurisdiction; and Provided, no Companion shall be eligible for election as Grand High Priest, Grand King, or Grand Scribe who has not been qualified as a member of this Grand Chapter under section 1-02(4.5). (1989) No member of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter or subordinate Chapter shall hold more than one office at a time. (1966)

NOT TO SERVE AS OFFICERS OF A CHAPTER

SEC. 9-02. Neither the Grand High Priest, Grand King nor Grand Scribe, while in office, shall serve as High Priest, King or Scribe of a Subordinate Chapter. (1932; 1947; 1949)

ELECTIONS

SEC. 9-03. The Officers of this Grand Chapter, with the exception of the Grand Chaplain, Grand Sentinel and Grand Lecturer shall be elected at each Annual Convocation by a majority ballot, except the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, who shall be elected by a two-thirds majority ballot.

ELECTION OFFICERS

SEC. 9-04. The elective officers of this Grand Chapter shall be a Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Captain of the Host, Grand Principal Sojourner, Grand Royal Arch Captain, Grand Master of the Third Veil, Grand Master of the Second Veil and the Grand Master of the First Veil (1931)

APPOINTIVE OFFICERS

SEC. 9-05. The appointive officers of this Grand Chapter shall be Grand Sentinel, Grand Chaplain, Grand Lecturer and District High Priest. (2009)

SEC. 9-06. The title of the Grand High Priest is "Most Excellent," that of the remaining officers, both elective and appointive, "Right Excellent." (1933)

INSTALLATION

SEC. 9-07. The officers of Grand Chapter shall be installed in joint installation with the Grand Council and Grand Commandery Officers-elect, at a time selected by the three elected Presiding officers, immediately following the annual Convocation, other than the reading of committee appointments and reading and approval of minutes.

SEC. 9-08. When a Companion is elected and installed Grand High Priest and dies in office, he shall be designated a Past Grand High Priest.

1. In the event of the death of the Grand High Priest during his term of office, the Grand King shall assume the duties of Grand High Priest. If death occurs with six months of the term remaining, the Grand King shall be installed Grand High Priest. At the end of the Capitular year, he shall be entitled to the title of Past Grand High Priest, when his successor has been elected and installed. If death occurs with less than six months of the term remaining, the Grand King shall assume the title of Acting Grand High Priest and perform the duties of the office until the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter. Grand Chapter will then elect a Grand High Priest.

CHAPTER 10

POWERS AND DUTIES OF GRAND OFFICERS

GRAND HIGH PRIEST--GENERAL DUTIES

SEC. 10-01. The Grand High Priest by virtue of his office has a watchful care and supervision over the Chapters in this jurisdiction and it is his duty to see that the Constitution. Laws and Edicts of the Grand Chapter are strictly and promptly obeyed.

DISPENSATIONS

SEC. 10-02. He has authority during the recess of the Grand Chapter to grant Letters of Dispensation to a competent number of petitioners residing in this jurisdiction and possessing the legal qualifications empowering them to form a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons; such Dispensation to be in force until the next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, unless by him revoked for good cause: Provided, No dispensation shall be issued within three months prior to the Annual Convocation.

SEC. 10-03. The Grand High Priest may grant such other Special Dispensations as may be expedient, but in no case

shall such dispensation be to perform any action that may be contrary to the law of Grand Chapter. (1947)

INSTITUTE NEW CHAPTERS

SEC. 10-04. He shall, either in person or by proxy, by him commissioned for the purpose, institute and set to work all Chapters under Dispensation.

CONVENE CHAPTERS

SEC. 10-05. He may convene Chapters at pleasure, preside therein, inspect their books, records and work, and give such instructions relative to the same as may be necessary to insure a strict conformity to the Constitution, Laws, and Edicts of this Grand Chapter.

OFFICIAL DECISIONS

SEC. 10-06. He may render official decisions, which shall be binding only until the next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

ARREST CHARTER

SEC. 10-07. He has the power, for good cause, to suspend the labors of a Chapter, and if he deems it necessary, to arrest its Charter until the next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

APPOINTMENTS

SEC. 10-08. He shall select the appointive officers and designate the personnel of all standing and special committees whose appointment is not otherwise specified, said appointments to be at his will and pleasure and subject to replacement during his tenure of office. Should a vacancy occur by death or otherwise among the elective or appointive officers, or committee Chairmen, he shall appoint a member of this Grand Chapter to act in such vacancy until the next Annual Convocation.

REPRESENTATIVES

SEC. 10-09. He may appoint Representatives of this Grand Chapter near other Grand Chapters and may receive and accredit Representatives of other Grand Chapters near this Grand Chapter.

SUSPEND GRAND OFFICER

SEC. 10-10. He may, for good cause, and with the written concurrence of the Grand King, and Grand Scribe, or either of them, suspend from office any officer of the Grand Chapter until the next Annual Convocation. (1931; 1932)

SUSPEND OFFICER OF CHAPTER

SEC. 10-11. He may suspend from office any officer of a Chapter subject to the decision of the Grand Chapter at its Annual Convocation, to which he shall report his action, with the reasons thereof, and a detailed statement of the facts.

ANNUAL ADDRESS

SEC. 10-12. At the opening of each Annual Convocation he shall make a written report to the Grand Chapter of his official acts and doings, and such other matters, as he may deem necessary for the consideration of the Grand Chapter.

OTHER DUTIES

SEC. 10-13. He shall perform other such duties as the nature of his station may require, or the ceremonies and ritual of the Royal Craft may impose.

GRAND KING AND GRAND SCRIBE

DUTIES

SEC. 10-14. In the event of the inability of their representative superiors to perform their duties, the Grand King and Grand Scribe shall severally, in order, according to rank, perform the duties of Grand High Priest. At all other times they shall perform such duties as may be assigned them by the Grand High Priest, or such as are traditionally appropriate to their respective stations.

MAY PRESIDE IN CHAPTERS

SEC. 10-15. The Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe, severally, have the right to preside in any Chapter in this jurisdiction, and to give such instructions and directions as the good of the Order may demand, taking care always to adhere to the Constitution, Laws, and Edicts of this Grand Chapter. (1931.)

GRAND TREASURER

SEC. 10-16. It is the duty of the Grand Treasurer to receive all moneys from the hands of the Grand Secretary, and give his receipt thereof, being careful to make due entries of the same in a book to be kept for that purpose. He shall pay all orders drawn on him by the Grand Secretary. He shall, at the first session of each Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, report in writing a full account of all moneys received and paid out by him during the past year, stating the balance remaining on hand.

BOND

SEC. 10-17. He shall annually execute a bond in some surety company to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina, to be approved by the Grand Chapter, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his duties, in such amount as the Grand High Priest fixes: the premium of such bond to be paid by the Grand Chapter.

SHALL DELIVER TO HIS SUCCESSOR

SEC. 10-18. At the expiration of his term of office he shall deliver over to his successor all moneys, books, papers and other property belonging to the Grand Chapter that may be in his hands or under his control as such Grand Treasurer.

GRAND SECRETARY DUTIES

SEC. 10-19.

(1) It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to attend all Convocations of Grand Chapter and

- a. To keep a true and faithful record of all its transactions and to record such things as are proper to be written in the permanent minute book of Grand Chapter.
- b. To cause to be printed such proceedings as are proper to be published as soon as practicable after the close of each Annual Convocation and only after review by both the outgoing and incoming Grand High Priest and the Committee on History and Publication.

(2) To keep a book of Dispensations and Charters in which he shall faithfully record all dispensations and charters granted for the formation of new Chapters in this Jurisdiction and a faithful record of all arrests, surrenders and revocations of charters.

(3) To receive all monies due Grand Chapter, keep a full and accurate account of all receipts and to pay them over to the Grand Treasurer, taking his receipt thereof.

(4) To draw and sign all warrants on the Grand Treasurer for the disbursement of funds, keeping a full and accurate account thereof.

(5) To keep the Seal of Grand Chapter and to affix the Seal to all Charters Dispensations, Official Communications, Records and Other Documents proper to be sealed and certified.

(6) To transmit to the General Secretary of the General Grand Chapter and to the Grand Secretaries of the several Grand Chapters with whom Grand Chapter is in fraternal communication and to the subordinate Chapters of this jurisdiction, one copy of each printed proceedings of this Grand Chapter and one copy each to the General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter, to each officer of this Grand Chapter, to each Grand Representative to and from this Grand Chapter, and to such Masonic Libraries and Masonic periodicals as in his judgment may be proper recipients thereof.

(7) To furnish each Subordinate Chapter duplicate blanks for annual returns, which blanks shall embrace all such items as are necessary to compile the statistics of Grand Chapter; to require both blanks to be filled in, one to be returned to Grand Secretary, the other to be retained in the permanent files of the Subordinate Chapter; to receive the returns and make settlement annually with the Subordinate Chapters.

(8) To present to each Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter a report containing

- a. A clear and complete statement of all monies received and paid to Grand Treasurer and all warrants drawn on Grand Treasurer:
- b. An itemized statement of amounts due by each Subordinate Chapter, amounts paid during the year and balance not paid:
- c. Length of time any Subordinate Chapter may not have been represented at the Annual Convocations of Grand Chapter.
- d. Statistical tables showing gains and losses and net membership of each Subordinate Chapter during the preceding year.
- e. Such other items as in his judgment should be reported to Grand Chapter.

(9) To execute a surety bond to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina to be approved by the Grand Chapter, conditioned on the faithful performance of his duties, and in such amount as the Grand High Priest may deem sufficient; the premium of said bond to be paid by Grand Chapter.

(10) To perform such other duties as may pertain to his office as Grand Secretary, together with such as may be assigned to him by the Grand High Priest and such as are traditionally appropriate to his station, and at the expiration of his term of office to deliver to his successor all books, papers, the seal and all other property of Grand Chapter which may be in his custody. (1947)

(11) To inform the subordinate Chapters in writing not less than thirty days before the Annual Convocation of any proposed additions, deletions or revisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of Grand Chapter, stating the current provision and the proposed amendment. Should such amendment be approved as provided in Sec. 28-01 or 28-03, he shall distribute the revised section as provided in Sec. 28-02. (1973)

GRAND CAPITULAR LECTURER

SEC. 10-20. The Grand Capitular Lecturer shall be appointed, in accordance with Section 12-04, by the Grand High Priest and commissioned under the seal of the Grand Chapter. Attested by the Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT HIGH PRIESTS

SEC. 10-21. The Grand High Priest, with the consent of the Grand King and Grand Scribe, shall divide the State into such districts as in their judgment will best serve the interest of the Craft, and over each district there shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest a District High Priest, who shall serve during the will and pleasure of the Grand High Priest.

SEC. 10-22. Every District High Priest shall be skilled in the standard work of Capitular Masonry, and in the customs and usages of the Craft, he shall be a High Priest or a Past High Priest, and a member in good standing of some chapter in the District for which he is appointed, and shall receive a warrant of his appointment, signed by the Grand High Priest and attested by the Grand Secretary. (1931 as amended 1966)

SEC 10-23. Each District High Priest shall have power and it shall be his duty:

- (1) To visit officially every Chapter in his district at least once during his term, if practicable.
- (2) To preside in each Chapter upon the occasion of his official visit; to examine its books and records, and see if they are properly kept; to inform himself of the number of members, and the punctuality of their attendance; to ascertain the state and condition of the Chapter in all respects; to point out any errors he may ascertain in their conduct and mode of working; and to instruct them in any particular wherein he shall find they may require or may desire information, and particularly to recommend attention to the moral and benevolent principles of Masonry, and caution in the admission of candidates, and to confer with them concerning nonaffiliated and demitted Companions and if he discovers in his district any Masonic error or evil, to endeavor to immediately correct the same by Masonic means, and if he judge it expedient, to especially report the same to the Grand High Priest.
- (3) To take possession of the funds and property of any dormant or extinct Chapter in his district and transfer the same to the Grand Secretary.
- (4) To prepare a report as of January 1st, on the general conditions of Capitular Masonry in his district and of his acts therein, with such particulars as he may deem necessary, including the name and numbers of the Chapters in his district, not visited by him, together with the reasons thereof, and transmit such report to the Grand High Priest on or before the first day of March. (1931)

REMAINING GRAND OFFICERS

DUTIES

SEC 10-24. The duties of all other Grand Officers shall be such as are traditionally appropriate to their respective stations, and such as may be allotted to them from time to time by order of the Grand High Priest or the Grand Chapter.

CHAPTER 11

REVENUES OF GRAND CHAPTER

SEC 11-01. The fixed revenues of Grand Chapter shall be derived from the following sources and in the amounts set forth:

- A. Fee for each dispensation to form and open a Royal Arch Chapter, which shall be in full for both Warrant and Chapter \$50.00
- B. Fee for each demit issued by Grand Secretary to member of extinct or dormant Chapter.....\$2.00

C. Fee for each Companion exalted 7.00

D. Per capita tax on each Companion borne on the roll of each subordinate Chapter on the 31st day of December, unless specially exempted by Grand Chapter, in the amount of seventeen dollars and no cents, plus the amount of any increase in per capita that may hereafter be levied by the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for membership therein. (2014)

E. A Subordinate Chapter of Royal Arch Masons shall not be required to pay per capita tax on members whose dues have been remitted by the Chapter upon certification of the full record of the action by the Chapter and the reason thereof to the Grand Secretary. The names of the Companions whose dues are remitted by the Chapter, and the reason thereof must be set out in the Annual Returns to Grand Chapter if waiver of per capita tax is request. (1963)

F. The following will be considered good and sufficient reasons for waiver of per capita tax by this Grand Chapter.

1. By reason of age or permanent disability the member is not employed and does not have sufficient means to pay his Chapter dues.
2. By reason of protracted illness or other disability during the year, or the severe illness of any of his dependents, causing unusual expense or loss of income the member does not have sufficient income to pay his Chapter dues.
3. By reason of inability to find employment, though he will be well, able and willing and has made every effort to do so, the member of a Chapter does not have sufficient means to support himself and family properly and to pay his Chapter dues. (1963)

SEC. 11-02. Each Subordinate Chapter shall make its returns and pay all fees and dues to the Grand Secretary on or before the first day of February of each year, and any Chapter failing to do so shall pay a penalty of ten per cent of the correct amount of dues accruing to Grand Chapter, which penalty shall not be remitted by the Grand Secretary. (1955)

SEC. 11-03. The fiscal year of each Subordinate Chapter shall be the same as the calendar year.

SEC. 11-04. A Subordinate Chapter, which fails to make its annual returns or to pay all fees and dues accruing to Grand Chapter, shall be cited to show cause to the Grand High Priest or to the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter why its charter should not be forfeited or arrested. (1923; 1947; 1949)

CHAPTER 12

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

SEC. 12-01. The following Boards and Committees shall be appointed or elected as hereinafter set forth:

BOARDS

1. Board of General Purposes.
2. Board of Trustees.
3. Board of Lectureship.

STANDING COMMITTEES

1. Credentials.
2. Unfinished Business.

3. Finance.
4. Jurisprudence.
5. Necrology.
6. Appeals and Grievances.
7. Charters and Dispensations.
8. History and Publication.
9. Charity and Masonic Relief.
10. Time and Place of Next Annual Convocation.
11. York Rite Unity.

SELECTION OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES, THEIR DUTIES

SEC. 12-02. Board of General Purposes:

1. The Board of General Purposes shall consist of five members, each of whom shall be a Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina.
2. The first members of the Board shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest to serve for terms of one, two, three, four, and five years respectively. Annually thereafter the Grand High Priest shall appoint one member to serve for a term of five years. In case of vacancy on the Board by death or otherwise, the Grand High Priest shall appoint a member to fill such vacancy for the unexpired term.
3. The powers and duties of the Board of General Purposes shall be as follows:
 - a. Advisory to the Grand High Priest.
 - b. To review the address or report of the Grand High Priest, which shall be referred to the Board without motion; make distribution of matter contained therein to proper committees for the attention of Grand Chapter and to make such comment or recommendation in connection with such address or report, as it may deem expedient or advisable.
 - c. When, in the judgment of the Board of General Purposes, such action becomes necessary or advisable for the good of Capitular Masonry, the Board of General Purposes shall have the power to summons the Grand High Priest or other officer of Grand Chapter to appear before the Board and show cause why he should not be removed from office, and to remove such officer from office if such action is deemed necessary or advisable for the good of Capitular Masonry. Such summons shall be in writing and shall clearly state the facts which cause such action and shall be mailed or delivered in person to such officer at least twenty days prior to date of appearance.
 - d. The Board of General Purposes shall have the authority, on its own motion, to present to Grand Chapter any comment or recommendations concerning the doings of Grand Chapter or its Officers; suggested programs of activities of Grand Chapter and on any and all matters when deemed expedient or advisable by the Board.
 - e. The Board of General Purposes shall meet during the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter or immediately prior thereto and at such other times as may be advisable, upon the call of the Grand High Priest, the Chairman of the Board or upon call of any two members of the Board.
 - f. The Chairman of the Board of General Purposes shall be selected by the members of the Board in such manner as the Board may determine.

SEC. 12-03. Board of Trustees of the Permanent Fund.

1. The Board of Trustees of the Permanent Fund shall consist of three members, each of whom shall be a member of this Grand Chapter.
2. One member of the Board of Trustees of the Permanent Fund shall be elected annually by Grand Chapter to serve for a term of three years. In case of a vacancy by death or otherwise, the Grand High Priest shall appoint a member to fill the vacancy until the next Annual Convocation, at which time a successor shall be elected to fill the unexpired term.
3. The Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Permanent Fund shall be selected by the members of the Board in such manner as the Board may determine.
4. The Board of Trustees of the Permanent Fund shall have supervision over the Permanent Fund of Grand Chapter, its investment and reinvestment and shall designate two custodian of the securities and cash of the Permanent Fund.

SEC. 12-04. Board of Capitular Lectureship:

1. The Board of Lectureship shall consist of seven members each of whom shall be a member of this Grand Chapter. (1970)
2. The first members of the Board of Capitular Lectureship shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest for terms of one, two, three, four, five, six and seven years respectively. Annually thereafter, the Grand High Priest shall appoint one member to the Board of Lectureship to serve for a term of seven years. In case of a vacancy, by death or otherwise, the Grand High Priest shall appoint a Companion to fill the unexpired term. (1970.)
3. The powers and duties of the Board of Capitular Lectureship shall be as follows:
 - a. To preserve the ritual adopted by this Grand Chapter as its official ritual, and to make official interpretations of the ritual for the instruction of the craft.
 - b. To formulate a plan or program of instruction in the ritual for the approval of Grand Chapter, whereby there shall be continuous instruction of officers of Subordinate Chapters and whereby all Chapters will exemplify the same forms and ceremonies in conferring the several degrees.
 - c. To prepare and disseminate by lectures or the printed word, material of an informative nature concerning the history and symbolism of the Chapter degrees.
 - d. To examine any number of Companions as to their proficiency in the Capitular ritual, which is the official work of this Grand Chapter, and to certify as Capitular Lecturers such Companions as may fulfill the requirements of the Board. The Certifications shall be for a term of five years, but may be terminated for just cause at any time by the Board of Capitular Lectureship. A Certified Capitular Lecturer is authorized to instruct any subordinate Chapter in this jurisdiction in ritualistic matters in accordance with the provisions of this section and such rules and regulations as may be from time to time promulgated by the Board of Capitular Lectureship. (1958)
 - e. The Chairman of the Board of Capitular Lectureship shall be selected by the members of the Board in such manner as the Board may determine.

SEC. 12-04.4. Grand Capitular Lecturer:

- A. The Grand Capitular Lecturer shall be a Certified Capitular Lecturer well versed in the Law, Ritual and Customs of Grand Chapter.

B. He shall be nominated by the Board of Capitular Lectureship and appointed by the Grand High Priest, but he need not be installed; his term of office shall expire with that of the Grand High Priest appointing him.

C. Duties of the Grand Capitular Lecturer:

- (1) He shall visit the Subordinate Chapters, inspect their ritualistic work and shall, or through designated representatives, advise and instruct them therein, and see that they properly practice the Authorized Work of Grand Chapter, correct their errors, and generally supervise and direct, advance and promote qualifications as Certified Capitular Lecturers among the members in this jurisdiction.
- (2) He shall be subject to such directions as the Board of Capitular Lectureship may from time to time promulgate. (1961)

SEC. 12-04.5. District Capitular Lecturer:

a. The District Capitular Lecturer shall be a Companion well versed in the Laws, Ritual and Customs of a Grand Chapter, an appointee not already a Certified Capitular Lecturer, shall be required to become "certified" by the date of the next Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter. (1963)

b. He shall be nominated by the Grand Capitular Lecturer and appointed by the Board of Capitular Lectureship, but he shall not become a member or an officer of Grand Chapter by virtue of his appointment hereunder; and provided no appointment shall extend beyond the next annual convocation of Grand Chapter. No such District Capitular lecturer shall be installed or compensated for his services.

c. Not more than two Grand Chapter Districts shall be assigned to a District Capitular Lecturer. He need not reside in any District assigned to him.

d. Duties of the District Capitular Lecturer:

(1) To promote qualification as Certified Capitular Lecturers by the members of the Chapters in his District. As an initial effort it is recommended that he urge each Chapter to provide:

- a. A member to qualify as a lecturer in the Mark Master Degree.
- b. A member to qualify as a lecturer in the Past Master Degree.
- c. A member to qualify as a lecturer in the Most Excellent Master Degree.
- d. A member to qualify as a lecturer in the Royal Arch Degree, with the idea that each will eventually become a Certified Capitular Lecturer.

(2) To visit the Subordinate Chapters, inspect their ritualistic work, advise and instruct them therein, see that they properly practice the Authorized Work of Grand Chapter, correct their errors, and generally supervise, direct, advance and promote qualifications as Certified Capitular Lecturers among the members of his District.

(3) To arrange for and conduct District Schools of Instruction in the ritualistic work in his District as may be prescribed by the Board of Capitular Lectureship. In a School of Instruction each Chapter in the District must be required to exemplify a part of the ritualistic work. Each Chapter in the District must participate in at least two such schools each year. The work should be equally divided as far as possible among the Chapters participating in the School of Instruction. Ritualistic work done in or by one Chapter only shall not constitute a School of Instruction.

(4) To cooperate fully with the District High Priest of any District assigned to him.

(5) To file a written report with the Grand Capitular Lecturer and with the District High Priest on the ritualistic

work of each Chapter in his District, with such recommendations as he may consider proper. This report shall be filed before January 15th of each year.

(6) Upon a proposal by the Board of Capitular Lectureship, approved by the Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter, by a majority vote, may grant the honorary title Past Capitular Lecturer to a Companion who has heretofore served, or may hereafter serve, three appointments as District Capitular Lecturer. (1961)

SEC. 12-04.6 Lecture Service to Subordinate Chapters:

a. If, and when, in the opinion of the Board of Capitular Lectureship, there are enough Certified Capitular Lecturers to properly perform adequate Lecture Service, such a program be adopted by Grand Chapter. (1961)

STANDING COMMITTEES

SEC. 12-05. The Standing Committees shall consist of three members unless otherwise provided, and shall be appointed and the chairman of each be designated by the Grand High Priest annually to perform duties as set forth in the following and/or other duties that may be designated by the Grand High Priest.

A. The Committee on **Credentials** shall consist of three members who shall be in attendance at Grand Chapter a sufficient time prior to the Annual Convocation to enable it to examine and pass upon the credentials of representatives and members of Grand Chapter and to report the name and rank of individuals and the Chapter represented. The members of this committee shall receive such compensation for their services as may be authorized by Grand Chapter.

B. The Committee on **Unfinished Business** shall examine the proceedings of previous Convocations of Grand Chapter and present a report placing before Grand Chapter for action any business that remains unfinished from previous Convocations.

C. (1) The Committee on Finance shall examine the financial records of Grand Chapter, the official financial records of its several Officers and Boards and Committees and report to Grand Chapter a complete record of income and expenditure by classes or projects and by funds showing a comparison with income anticipated at the beginning of the year and with appropriations made by Grand Chapter for that year.

C. (2) All recommendations and requests for expenditures or appropriations by Grand Chapter shall be referred to the Finance Committee for its study and recommendations. The Committee will prepare and recommend to Grand Chapter for adoption income and expenditure for the current year for each fund of Grand Chapter.

C. (3) The Committee on Finance shall cause the financial records of Grand Chapter, its officers and Boards and Committees, to be audited annually as provided in Sec. 25-06 of these Bylaws, and shall include the report of the Auditor as a part of its report.

C. (4) For the period from January 1st through March 31st of each year, one fourth of the amounts named in the budget for the preceding year shall be deemed to apply for such expenses as salaries, rent, insurance, office expenses, office supplies, travel expenses, and other fixed charges for operating expenses which fall due during that period, the payment thereof shall be deemed authorized by Grand Chapter, unless otherwise provided. (1964) The Committee on Finance shall meet with the incoming Grand High Priest for suggestions before compiling a budget for the ensuing year.

C. (5) Triennial Fund allocation. The total monies deposited in the Triennial Fund for the expenses of delegates to a Triennial of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, International, shall equal the minimum round trip air fare, tourist class from North Carolina to the host city, plus a per diem allowance of \$50.00 each day the Triennial is in session, for National Committeemen and Past Grand High Priests. The Dais Officers and the Grand

Secretary shall receive per diem equal to their actual subsistence cost. The tourist class airfare shall be computed by averaging the fares between the host city and the North Carolina cities of Charlotte and Greensboro. Delegates are declared to be the Dais Officers, the Grand Secretary, National Officers of Committeemen, and such Past Grand High Priests as may desire to attend. (Adopted 1989).

Travel allowance for a registered delegate to attend a Triennial of General Grand Chapter shall be the lesser of the following:

- a) Tourist class air fare as computed in the preceding paragraph, or:
- b) If travel is by automobile the sum of \$100.00 plus 30 Cents per mile one way from the home of the delegate to the host city. (1997)

C. (6) The Finance Committee shall authorize transfer to the Triennial Fund a sum equal to one third of the total amount required for the delegates each calendar year of the Triennium. The said total amount shall be determined when the location of the next Triennium is announced, and shall not be affected by changes in travel or accommodation cost in the interval.

C. (7) No disbursements from the Triennial Fund for delegate expenses shall be made until a signed Voucher is filed with the Grand Secretary, listing the number of hours of each Triennial Business Session the delegate attended. Three quarters of the total number of hours of the Triennial business session listed in the Official Program must be attended to qualify for reimbursement for travel and/or per diem allowance.

C. (8) Delegates who receive travel allowance or per diem from the General Grand Chapter shall not be entitled to further allowance from this Grand Chapter unless the allowance received from the General Grand Chapter is less than that authorized in this section. Special cases may be evaluated and adjusted. (1973)

D. (1) The **Committee on Jurisprudence** shall consider and report on all questions of Masonic or Capitular Law and usages.

D. (2) All recommendations, resolutions or motions having reference to matters pertaining to Masonic or Capitular Law and Usage or the addition or alteration or repeal of any portions of the Constitution and Bylaws of this Grand Chapter shall be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence. The Committee shall examine all matters referred to it and shall prepare such matter in proper form for presentation to Grand Chapter, making its recommendation as to approval or disapproval by Grand Chapter.

D. (3) The Committee on Jurisprudence shall examine the record of all dispensations and decisions of the Grand High Priest and shall recommend approval or disapproval by Grand Chapter.

D. (4) The Committee on its own motion may present to Grand Chapter for consideration any recommendation or resolution pertaining to Capitular Law or the Constitution and Bylaws of Grand Chapter it deems expedient or advisable to present.

E. The **Committee on Necrology** shall make report of deceased companions of this and other jurisdictions and present to Grand Chapter suitable memorials to be received by Grand Chapter and printed in its proceedings.

F. The **Committee on Appeals and Grievances** shall consider all appeals and grievances referred to it and shall make such recommendations to Grand Chapter as may be deemed expedient or advisable.

G. The **Committee on Charters and Dispensations** shall examine and report on the books, work and methods of Chapters under Dispensation and make appropriate recommendations. It shall also consider and report on the issue and reissue of charters, and the arrest, suspension, or revocation of charters.

H. The **Committee on History and Publications** shall consist of the Grand Secretary and two companions of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina, appointed by the Grand High Priest, two companions of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina, appointed by the Most Illustrious Grand Master, and two Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, appointed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander. The Grand Secretary-Recorder shall be the Secretary of the Committee. The initial appointments shall be for terms of one and two years and thereafter at each Annual Convocation, one companion shall be appointed to serve on the Committee for a term of two years by the Grand High Priest. The duties of the Committee on History and Publication shall be as follows:

1. To compile a history of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina and to cause this history to be published when and as directed by the Grand Chapter.
2. To compile the current history of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter at such intervals as may be deemed expedient.
3. To publish, after careful proofreading, such transactions as may properly be published.
4. The Grand High Priest appoints the chairman of the committee.

I. The **Committee on Charity and Masonic Relief** shall consider all requests for donations or contributions or other charitable acts on the part of Grand Chapter and shall review and recommend annual appropriations to the various charitable purposes. Between Annual Convocations the Committee shall make recommendations to the Grand High Priest on cases referred to it, which require immediate consideration, and the Grand High Priest shall have authority to make such contributions and donations, as he deems necessary or advisable when approved by this Committee. Extreme caution should be used by this Committee and the Grand High Priest to prevent embarrassment to any Companion who may be the recipient of relief under the provisions of this section.

J. The **Committee on Time and Place** shall consist of three members and shall be the same in Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery and shall elect its own chairman. The Committee shall consider invitations to host the Annual Meetings and shall present their recommendation to the Grand Bodies in joint session. An invitation to host the Annual Meetings shall include the following information:

1. Estimated cost per day of a room in the headquarters hotel.
2. Seating capacity of the meeting room and where the meetings would be held.
3. Cost of the meeting room.
4. Number of rooms available in the headquarters hotel.
5. Estimated cost per person for the Annual Banquet and where the Banquet would be held.
6. Where the Divine Service would be held.
7. Where the Grand Officers Reception would be held and estimated cost of the reception. (1994)

K. The **Committee on Leadership Training** shall provide proper training for District Officers and Grand Chapter Line Officers on duties and responsibilities, and expectations of what to do if problems arise from most situations that may occur during their tenure. The Grand High Priest shall appoint the Chairman.

1. The Committee on Leadership Training shall hold at least 2 (two) training sessions a year. Time and place to be at the discretion of the committee members. These meetings are to be for all District and Grand Line Officers.
2. Materials used should include the District Officers Training Manual and Leadership Training Seminar Manual that was developed by the Long Range/Strategic Planning Committee.

1. The **Committee on Strategic Planning** shall establish, under the direction of the Grand High Priest, a unified strategic plan to build in perpetual plan maintenance to keep the plan continuous and effective. The Grand High Priest shall appoint the Grand Chapter Chairman of this committee. All Grand Chapter Line Officers and Past Grand High Priests are members of this committee,

SEC. 12-06. **Special Committees** may be appointed by the Grand High Priest or by the Grand Chapter to perform special duties and when the purpose of the committee so appointed shall have been accomplished the committee shall be discharged. (1929; 1933; 1937; 1939; 1942; 1947)

CHAPTER 13

NEW CHAPTERS

CHAPTERS UNDER DISPENSATION

SEC. 13-01. Dispensations for forming and opening new Chapters may be issued by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest during recess of the Grand Chapter. Dispensations so issued shall be in force only until the succeeding Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter unless continued by vote thereof; Provided, That no Dispensation shall be issued within three months prior to the Annual Convocation or to a less number than twelve regular Royal Arch Masons; nor shall any new Chapter be formed without first obtaining the consent of the nearest Chapter. (1947)

OFFICERS

SEC. 13-02. The offices of High Priest, King and Scribe of a Chapter under Dispensation shall be filled by appointment of the Grand High Priest; and all other offices necessary for the work of the Chapter shall be filled by appointment of the High Priest. (1947)

U.D.--HOW SET TO WORK

SEC. 13-03. Chapters under dispensation shall be set to work by the Grand High Priest in person, or by some Companion duly authorized to perform that duty as the proxy of the Grand High Priest.

U.D.--POWERS OF

SEC. 13-04. Chapters under dispensation may do all things clearly expressed in the Letters of Dispensation creating them, such as electing candidates, conferring degrees and adopting by-laws. (1947)

SHALL FORWARD BOOKS, ETC.

SEC. 13-05. At least fifteen days before the first day of the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, the Chapters under dispensation shall forward to the Grand Secretary their books and records, showing everything done by authority of the Letters of Dispensation, together with the dispensation and a copy of their by-laws.

CONSTITUTION

SEC. 13-06. When a Charter is issued by order of the Grand Chapter (and it can be done only at its Annual Convocation), before any such Chapter can lawfully meet as such, the Companions forming the Chapter must assemble by and under authority of the Grand High Priest, their Chapter be duly constituted and the officers named in the charter be duly installed. (1947)

OFFICERS

SEC. 13-07. The High Priest, when duly installed, shall fill, by an appointment, all other offices necessary to the organization of the Chapter; and all officers will then serve as such until their successors are duly elected and installed at the time provided for in the by-laws of such Chapter.

CHAPTER 14

CHARTERED CHAPTERS SHALL CONSIST OF

SEC. 14-01. Every Chapter of Royal Arch Masons under this jurisdiction shall consist of a High Priest, King, Scribe, Treasurer, Secretary, Captain of the Host, Principal Sojourner, Royal Arch Captain Master of the Third Veil, Master of the Second Veil, Master of the First Veil, Sentinel and as many members as may be found convenient for work and good government. (1947)

BYLAWS

SEC.14-02. Every Chapter chartered by this Grand Chapter shall adopt by-laws for its government, which by-laws shall conform to the laws of Grand Chapter. Such Chapter shall, in its by-laws, fix the time of its stated meetings, the fees for the degrees, and the annual dues of members. Before the by-laws of a Subordinate Chapter shall be effective, they must be approved by the Jurisprudence Committee of this Grand Chapter and a true copy thereof filed in the office of the Grand Secretary. All Subordinate Chapters of Royal Arch Masons that do not have an approved copy of their by-laws on file in the Grand Secretary's office shall do so within 90 days after the passage of this amendment. (1963)

AMEND BYLAWS

SEC.14-03 A Chapter has the right to revise, alter or amend its by-laws in the manner provided in such by-laws. All amendments or alterations must be approved by the Chairman of the Committee on Jurisprudence before they will become effective. (1938)

CANNOT SUSPEND BY-LAWS

SEC.14-04. A Chapter cannot suspend its by-laws, or any of them.

MUST BE OPENED PROPERLY--QUORUM

SEC.14-05 No Chapter shall be opened unless there be present **nine** (9) regular Royal Arch Masons; for all purposes except opening and closing a Chapter and conferring degrees, nine members of the Chapter are necessary to constitute a quorum. Dependent Lodges shall not be opened until the Chapter is first opened and dispensed with; after the work of the dependent lodges is accomplished, they should be closed, and the Chapter resume labor and be closed in form.

CHARTER MUST BE PRESENT

SEC.14-06. At all Convocations of the Chapter when opened on any degree, the Charter or Dispensation must be present.

SEAL

SEC. 14-07. Every Chartered Chapter must have a seal, and all official papers issued by the Chapter must be attested by an impression of said seal. (1947)

STATED CONVOCATION

SEC.14-08. The Stated Convocations of a Chapter shall be held at the time specified in the by-laws, which should require a convocation at least once in each month, at which all regular business of the Chapters should be transacted; Provided, That a Chapter may provide in its by-laws for the omission of any convocation in the months of July and August.

SPECIAL CONVOCATIONS

SEC.14-09. Special Convocations of a Chapter may be held at such times and places as the High Priest or the

Chapter may direct, upon due notice to the membership; Provided, that the object of each Special Convocation shall be stated in the notice and provided, that no business shall be in order at such special convocation except that which they are called to transact. (1947)

MINUTES APPROVED

SEC.14-10. Minutes of a Chapter Convocation should contain a complete and correct record of the transactions of such Convocation and should be approved (not adopted) as a true record of the proceedings. They should be read before approval in order that errors or omissions in the record may be corrected. After official approval minutes may not be amended. Correction of errors at a subsequent Convocation can only be made by a vote of the Chapter on a resolution or motion, which becomes a part of the minutes of the current Convocation but this shall not be construed as giving authority to alter the minutes of any previous Convocation. (1947)

BUSINESS

SEC. 14-11. All business must be transacted in open Chapter, in the Royal Arch Degree, except the conferring of the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master, which must be done in the proper lodges respectively.

SUNDAY

SEC. 14-12. No Convocation shall be held on the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday, for any purpose other than the burial of a deceased Companion, or uniting with a Lodge, at its invitation, in funeral services: Provided, That a Chapter may convene for public worship on Sunday when authorized so to do by Dispensation from the Grand High Priest.

FEES

SEC. 14-13. No Chapter shall confer the degrees for a less sum than twenty dollars, which sum shall invariably accompany the petition when it is received by the Chapter. (1947)

NO APPEAL FROM THE HIGH PRIEST'S DECISION

SEC. 14-14. No appeal lies to a Chapter from a decision of the High Priest. His decision can be reviewed only by the Grand High Priest during the recess of the Grand Chapter, subject to final action by the Grand Chapter, or by appeal directly to the Grand Chapter.

SUBSTITUTES

SEC. 14-15. Chapters are directed in all cases where it is convenient; to have three candidates in the conferring of the Royal Arch Degree; but when it is not convenient, one or two substitutes may be used without violating the ritual or the installation charges delivered to a High Priest.

WORK

Sec.14-16.All Chapters under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina shall confer the degrees according to the ritual officially adopted as the ritual of this Grand Chapter and in the manner described and according to the official interpretation of the degrees by this Grand Chapter and no other. (1947)

SUMMONS

SEC. 14-17. The High Priest or the Chapter has the right to summons any member of the Chapter for any purpose within the scope of the business of Masonry. A summons must be written or printed, signed by the Secretary and under the seal of the Chapter, and need not contain anything beyond the summons to attend. (1947)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS

SEC. 14-18. A summons may be served by any Royal Arch Mason designated for that purpose by the High Priest by delivering a copy thereof in person to the party named in the summons. Or it may be mailed to him, by the

Secretary in a sealed envelope, addressed to him at his present or last known place of residence.

SUMMONS MUST BE OBEYED

SEC. 14-19. Every Royal Arch Mason is bound to obey a summons; and for failure without good and sufficient cause, shall be notified to appear before his Chapter at its next meeting; and, if a satisfactory excuse be not rendered, charges shall be preferred against him, upon trial; he may be punished, as the Chapter shall determine.

MARK

SEC. 14-20. No Chapter in this jurisdiction shall exalt a candidate to the Most Sublime Degree of Royal Arch Mason until he shall have selected and recorded his mark.

CHARTER FORFEITED

SEC. 14-21. Failure of a Chapter to hold a regular Convocation during a period of twelve months shall subject said Chapter to forfeiture of its charter in the discretion of Grand Chapter or the Grand High Priest. A charter may be restored after forfeiture by order of Grand Chapter or by order of the Grand High Priest. (1947)

CHARTER ARRESTED

SEC. 14-22. The Grand High Priest has the authority to arrest the charter of a Chapter when in his judgment such action is necessary or justified. Provided, however, That when the charter of a Chapter has been arrested by the Grand High Priest, the rights, privileges and jurisdiction of the Chapter are not destroyed, but remain in abeyance until the Grand Chapter passes upon the arrest. Justice to the Chapter requires that all rights should remain intact; therefore, it is improper for certificates to be granted to members of the Chapter, and illegal for any other Chapter to receive a petition for the degrees from one living within the jurisdiction of the Chapter whose charter has been arrested, until such action is confirmed by the Grand Chapter. (1947)

CHAPTER PROPERTY

SEC. 14-23. Chapters ceasing to exist, from any cause, forfeit to the Grand Chapter all of their property and effects, and the last High Priest, Treasurer or Secretary of a Chapter extinct from any cause, shall forward to the Grand Secretary all the books, papers, jewels, funds, charter and seal of said Chapter, and hold all other property of the same subject to his order.

DUES FROM MEMBERS OF EXTINCT CHAPTERS

SEC. 14-24. A member of an extinct Chapter is not liable for dues after the Chapter becomes extinct. But the Grand Chapter has the right to collect from members all dues chargeable against them up to the time it became extinct, and to discipline all those who refuse or neglect to pay the same.

MEMBERS OF EXTINCT CHAPTERS

SEC. 14-25. When a Chapter has ceased to exist, any member thereof may join another Chapter upon petition and certificate from the Grand Secretary that his standing therein was good when such Chapter ceased to exist, and that all dues and other liabilities have been paid.

RETURNS AND REPORTS

SEC. 14-26. It shall be the duty of each Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, in each and every year to make and transmit by mail or express to the Grand Secretary an annual report, according to the form to be furnished by the Grand Secretary. (1990)

The Secretary of each Constituent Chapter shall forward to the Grand Secretary on the 25th day of each month, on a form prescribed by the Grand Secretary, a report listing the change of address of any member together with the name, address and the date of any additions to or deletions from the membership roster.

The Grand Secretary shall on the 10th day of the following month report to the Grand High Priest the name of any Constituent Chapter that has not filed the monthly membership report.

CHAPTER 15

OFFICERS

SEC. 15-01. The officers of a Chapter shall be High Priest, King, Scribe, Treasurer, Secretary, Captain of the Host, Principal Sojourner, Royal Arch Captain, Master of the Third Veil, Master of the Second Veil, Master of the First Veil and Sentinel.

CHAPTER PROPERTY

SEC. 15-02. All officers of a subordinate Chapter shall be elected or appointed at the stated Convocation as fixed in its Bylaws for the election of officers, which Convocation shall be no later than the first stated Convocation in December each year, and shall hold and discharge the duties of their respective offices until their successors are elected or appointed and installed. The installation of officers may take place at the same or at a subsequent Convocation as soon thereafter as practicable. (1974)

OFFICERS' RANK IN CHAPTERS

SEC. 15-03. In the preliminary degrees the officers of the Chapter shall take rank as follows:

The High Priest as R. W. Master
The King as Senior Warden
The Scribe (except in the M. E. Master's degree) as Junior Warden
The Captain of the Host as Marshal
The Principal Sojourner as Senior Deacon
The Royal Arch Captain as Junior Deacon
The Sentinel as Tyler

and in the Mark Master's Degree
the Master of the Third Veil as Master Overseer
the Master of the Second Veil as Senior Overseer
the Master of the First Veil as Junior Overseer.

PRESIDING OFFICERS

SEC. 15-04. In the absence of the High Priest from any Convocation of the Chapter, the King shall preside, if present; in the absence of both the Scribe shall preside; in the absence of all three of the Principal officers, the Junior Past High Priest present shall preside.

SUCCESSION

SEC. 15-05. In case of the death or disability of the High Priest, the King and Scribe will, in succession, assume his prerogatives and duties for all purposes, except such as pertain to the installation of officers.

VACANCY IN PRINCIPAL STATIONS

SEC. 15-06. Should the stations of High Priest, King, and Scribe of a Chapter become vacant by death or otherwise, the Grand High Priest may grant a Dispensation for an election to fill such vacancy. He shall appoint some qualified Companion to call a Convocation of such Chapter, for the purpose of holding the election, preside at the same and install the officers when elected, or he may himself call such Convocation and preside there at the Election of Officers.

SEC. 15-07. In all elections of officers in a Chapter, a majority of votes cast shall be necessary to a choice. Blank

ballots shall not be counted.

ELIGIBILITY OF OFFICERS

SEC. 15-08. Every member in good standing shall be eligible to any office in the Chapter.

SPECIAL ELECTION

SEC. 15-09. The Grand High Priest has the power to grant Dispensations to hold special elections for officers, in case of a failure to elect at the time specified in the bylaws.

OFFICERS--LENGTH OF SERVICE

SEC. 15-10. The officers of a Chapter are elected to serve for a term of twelve months, and in all cases shall hold their offices until their successors are elected and installed.

RESIGNATIONS

SEC. 15-11. Neither the High Priest, King or Scribe of a Chapter may resign without the consent of the Chapter and the approval of the Grand High Priest but any other officer may do so. Whenever a High Priest resigns, he shall not be entitled to past rank unless he shall have previously completed a term of office as such.

INSTALLED OFFICER CANNOT DEMIT

SEC. 15-12. An installed officer cannot demit while in office.

CHAPTERS MUST BE OPENED FOR INSTALLATION

SEC. 15-13. An installation of the officers cannot be held, either in public or in private, without first opening the Chapter. The records of the Chapter must show the installation of its officers, and records should only be made of business transactions while the Chapter is in session.

INSTALLING OFFICERS

SEC. 15-14. The Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Present or Past High Priests are qualified to install the officers of a Chapter. (1931)

OFFICERS RE-ELECTED

SEC. 15-15. An officer of the Chapter, re-elected or re-appointed, need not be reinstalled.

TRUSTEES

SEC. 15-16. "Each Chapter shall have not less than three nor more than five Trustees, whose duties and powers shall be as follows:

(a) To take and hold in trust for the Chapter, the legal title to property of every nature and kind belonging to the Chapter which may be committed by the Chapter to their care; and to have the care and management of the real and personal property belonging to the Chapter when committed to them, and to hold the same in trust solely for the use and benefit of the Chapter, but the management and control thereof shall always be subject to the by-laws, rules and orders of the Chapter.

(b) To negotiate all investments for the Chapter at its order.

(c) To make purchases, sales or mortgages of property of any nature or kind at the direction of the Chapter.

(d) To insure, and keep insured, all Chapter property, when and as directed by the Chapter.

(e) To do all other legitimate and proper acts that the Chapter may direct.

(f) A majority of the Trustees shall constitute a quorum for transaction of their business.

Such Trustees may be elected by the Chapter annually or for a period of years not exceeding that of the number of Trustees, such election or elections to be held at the regular convocation for the election of Chapter officers; and in the event that a Chapter shall fail to provide for the election of Trustees in its by-laws, then the High Priest, King and Scribe of the Chapter shall be the Trustees of such Chapter. (1947)

CHAPTER 16

PETITIONS

SEC. 16-01. All applications for the degrees or membership shall be signed by the Applicant in person and by two members of the Chapter. Applications for the degrees or membership may be received and balloted on at the Stated or Special Convocation at which such application or applications are read in the Chapter. (1992)

MEMBERSHIP BY SELECTION OR INVITATION

SEC. 16-02. A Chapter may by suitable by-laws provide that candidates for the capitular degrees may be received only upon invitation from the Chapter. Unless a Chapter shall in its by-laws so provide, then the provision respecting petitions for degrees shall prevail.

SEC. 16-03. Such provisions for degrees by invitation shall comply with the following:

1. Proposals for invitation to receive the degrees shall be made only at Regular Convocation, and the ballot on such proposed person shall not be had until the next succeeding Regular Convocation after such proposal.
2. The proposed person shall be a Master Mason in good standing and shall have resided in the State for twelve months, six of which shall have been within the jurisdiction of the Chapter; Provided, that a member of the armed forces or revenue service of the United States of America may be invited to receive the degree if he is, at the time of the invitation, stationed in this Grand Jurisdiction, said invitation to be extended by the Chapter nearest the place at which he is stationed. (1937)

SUGGESTED BYLAWS FOR MEMBERSHIP BY INVITATION

SEC. 16-03.5. The following provisions are suggested for those Chapters who select their membership by invitation:

MEMBERSHIP

SEC. 1: Membership in this Chapter may be granted to a Master Mason only upon an invitation from the Chapter, as hereinafter provided, and by his having thereafter received the degrees herein; and to a Royal Arch Mason as provided for in the laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 2: Any Master Mason qualified to receive the degrees in this Chapter, under the laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Chapter, may be proposed for the degrees herein at any stated convocation, by a proposition in writing which shall state the full name, the date and place of birth, the residence and the occupation of the person proposed, the name, number and location of the Symbolic Lodge of Masonry with which he is then affiliated, and whether or not he has been previously rejected by any Chapter.

Such proposal shall be signed by at least two members of this Chapter and shall be subject to the laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Chapter pertaining to petitions for the degrees as far as they can be made to apply for proposals for degrees.

SEC. 3: If a Master Mason is proposed and is elected, he shall be subject to the laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Chapter pertaining to candidates for the degrees.

The High Priest shall appoint a special committee to extend to him an invitation, either in person or in writing, to receive the degrees in this Chapter.

The required fees shall be paid before the degrees are conferred. (1938)

COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION

SEC. 16-04. Every petition for the degrees or membership or proposals for invitation to receive the degrees shall be referred by the High Priest to a committee of investigation, to consist of three members, who shall diligently investigate the character, standing and qualifications of the applicant and report to the Chapter in writing at the Stated Convocation succeeding their appointment, by at least a majority of its members although all should report, if possible. (1947)

NEW COMMITTEE

SEC. 16-05. Should the committee of investigation fail, owing to absence or other cause, to report at the proper time, the High Priest may, in his discretion, appoint a new committee; but such new committee shall not be allowed to report forthwith, but must have a lawful time for investigation before reporting.

CANDIDATE TOTALLY DISQUALIFIED

SEC. 16-06. If a committee of investigation finds a candidate totally disqualified, owing to non-residence, physical disqualifications, or other sufficient cause, the fact shall be reported by the committee, entered on the record and the fee returned, and no further action be taken in the case.

PHYSICAL DISQUALIFICATIONS

SEC. 16-07. No Chapter in this jurisdiction shall confer any of the degrees of Capitular Masonry upon any person whose physical defects are such as to prevent him from receiving and imparting the ceremonies of the several degrees: Provided, that nothing herein contained shall be construed as to render anyone ineligible to the privileges of Capitular Masonry, who, can, by the aid of artificial means, comply with the necessary ceremonies, and Provided further, that the Grand High Priest shall have the right to waive the physical qualification of a candidate for the degrees whenever, in his judgment, he shall deem it advisable to do so. (1947)

FAILURE OF A CANDIDATE TO PRESENT HIMSELF

SEC. 16-08. A petitioner for the degrees who fails to present himself for the degrees within six months after he shall have been duly notified of his election, shall forfeit the fee paid: Provided, He does not give reasons for his failure to appear, and of the sufficiency of his reasons the majority of the members present must judge; and, Provided further, If the time exceed one year the previous election shall be void; but if such candidate make such satisfactory excuse to the Chapter he may regularly petition again without payment of the fee.

PETITION FROM EXTINCT CHAPTER

SEC. 16-09. A Mark Master, Past Master, or Most Excellent Master, whose Chapter is extinct, may present his petition, accompanied with proper documentary evidence of his good standing, to the Chapter in whose jurisdiction he resides, to affiliate as such, stating in his petition the name, number and location of his Chapter, when in existence; and the status of such petitioner in the Chapter, if elected, shall be that of a Mason of like advancement who has been initiated therein; Provided, That no such petition shall be received until the Chapter is satisfied by examination or lawful information that said petitioner is a Mark Master, Past Master or Most Excellent Master, as the case may be.

AFTER REJECTION

SEC. 16-10. A petitioner for the degrees, who has been rejected, may, after the lapse of six months, again petition the Chapter, which rejected him.

RESIDENCE

SEC. 16-11. No petition for the degrees shall be entertained in any Chapter in this jurisdiction unless the petitioner shall have resided six months in the State. (2003)

DEGREES CONFERRED ON AFFILIATED

MASTER MASONS ONLY--FEES

SEC. 16-12. No Chapter under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter shall receive a petition from or confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason upon anyone who is not at the time a Master Mason and a member of a Lodge in good and regular standing as such. (1947)

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP MUST BE

ACCOMPANIED BY DEMIT

SEC. 16-13. No Chapter in this jurisdiction shall entertain a petition for membership unless the same is accompanied by a demit or some other documentary evidence of the good standing of the applicant and his release from membership in his former Chapter: Provided, that no fee for affiliation shall be charged by any Chapter in this jurisdiction.

REQUISITES OF PETITION

SEC. 16-14. A petition for the degrees shall be made in writing and signed by the applicant, shall state the age, date and place of birth, residence and occupation of the petitioner, and that the petitioner has not been rejected by any Chapter. It shall also state the Lodge in which the petitioner received the degrees, and also the Lodge with which he was then affiliated.

RECOMMENDATION

SEC. 16-15. No petition for the degrees or for membership shall be received unless recommended by two members of the Chapter, in good standing, whose names shall appear on the record.

REJECTED CANDIDATE

SEC. 16-16. In case of the rejection of a candidate, it is the duty of the Secretary to return his fee and to inform him of the rejection of his petition.

CHAPTER 17

BALLOTING

SEC. 17-01. No ballots for the degrees or membership shall be taken except at a stated **or Special** convocation of a Chapter, and the ballot must be unanimous or the candidate shall be declared rejected. In balloting, all members of the Chapter present must vote.

BALLOTS FREE AND SECRET

SEC. 17-02. The ballot must be free and secret, and no member shall be required to give his reasons for the ballot, which he has deposited; nor shall any Companion disclose the manner in which he voted, unless provided for in Section 17.10. (2013)

BALLOT, WHEN TAKEN

SEC. 17-03. A Chapter may receive and ballot upon a petition for the degrees or membership at the **Stated or Special** Convocation, provided, a committee of three members can, through personal knowledge or examination,

testify to his qualification for membership. (1969)

MASTER FROM ANOTHER CHAPTER

SEC. 17-04. A Mark Master, Past Master or Most Excellent Master from another Chapter may petition for affiliation as such, upon a proper certificate of Dismissing from his Chapter, and a clear ballot shall elect to membership, and entitle the petitioner to the remaining degree or degrees.

MUST BALLOT

SEC. 17-05. All petitions for the degrees or affiliation must be balloted upon, whether the committee reports favorably or unfavorable except as provided in Sec. 1606.

REPORT ON PETITIONS

SEC. 17-06. A ballot cannot be had on a petition for the degrees or membership until a majority of the committee shall have reported either favorably or unfavorably.

POSTPONE BALLOT

SEC. 17-07. After the report of the committee of investigation on an application for the degrees or membership, the High Priest may, on request in writing of a member who is unavoidable absent or for other good cause postpone the ballot thereon until the next stated convocation, but no longer. But the ballot when once commenced cannot be postponed, but must be completed, and the result thereof declared.

EXAMINATION OF BALLOT

SEC. 17-08. After the ballot has been taken and examined by the High Priest, King and Scribe, the result shall be declared by the High Priest, unless only one negative vote appears, in which case he shall order a second trial of the ballot, which shall, in all cases, be final.

DEBATE PENDING BALLOT NOT ALLOWED

SEC. 17-09. No debate shall be allowed after ballot is ordered, and no inquiry permitted as to who may have cast a negative vote.

SEC. 17-10. A Chapter may adopt this alternative form to ballot Petitions for the Degrees, Applications for Affiliation, Honorary or Life Memberships.

When voting upon issues requiring the use of the ballot box (Petitions for the Degrees, Applications for Affiliation, Honorary or Life Memberships), if one black cube is found on the examination of the ballot, the High Priest shall destroy the ballot and require the members to ballot again, cautioning them that white balls elect, and black cubes reject and reminding them to vote for the good of masonry. If a single black cube is found after the second ballot, the High Priest shall not immediately announce the result, but shall require the person casting the black cube to communicate his reason for the negative vote to the High Priest, who shall keep the identity of the person making the objection in strictest confidence. At the next stated convocation, the High Priest shall reveal the reason given for the negative vote, but not the identity of the member casting the black cube. The High Priest will then ask the Chapter to vote, by a show of hands, on the validity of the reason for the black cube. The majority vote shall govern whether the candidate is elected.

If the companion casting the black cube does not present his reasons to the High Priest within one week, the High Priest shall, at the next stated convocation, declare the candidate elected and the chapter shall proceed as if there had been no black cube cast. (2013)

CHAPTER 18

MEMBERSHIP

SEC. 18-01. A Royal Arch Mason exalted in this jurisdiction shall be *ipso facto* a member of the Chapter, which exalted him, without further ballot; except where the work has been done for another Chapter; then the Companion will be a member of the Chapter, which made the request.

PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP

SEC. 18-02. A petition for membership shall state the age, date and place of birth, residence and occupation of the petitioner, and the name, number and location and jurisdiction of the Lodge with which he is affiliated, and the name, number and jurisdiction of the Chapter in which he was formerly, or is now, a member.

1. A Royal Arch Mason exalted in a foreign jurisdiction, recognized by this Grand Chapter, which does not confer all of the degrees of this Grand Chapter as a prerequisite for the Royal Arch Degree, desiring to affiliate with a Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, must file a petition for such prerequisite degrees and for membership, together with a demit or its equivalent from such foreign jurisdiction. If elected, the demit or its equivalent shall be retained by the Chapter, and such prerequisite degrees shall be conferred before the petitioner is admitted to membership. If rejected, the demit or its equivalent shall be returned to the petitioner.

The Chapter petitioned may by its by-laws fix a fee for conferring the prerequisite degrees on said petitioner. (1960.)

PETITIONER VOUCHER FOR

SEC. 18-03. The committee of investigation on the character of any applicant for membership is charged with the duty, among others, of making such examination and inquiry as to be able to report whether or not they find the applicant to be a Royal Arch Mason. No ballot shall be spread for membership without satisfactory evidence of such fact.

CHARGES AGAINST PETITIONER

SEC. 18-04. Should charges be preferred against a Royal Arch Mason, in Lodge or Chapter, after the reception and reference of his petition for affiliation, no report from the committee of investigation upon such petition shall be received, nor a ballot taken thereon, until the charges have been finally disposed of by the Lodge or Chapter.

RENEWAL OF APPLICATION

SEC. 18-05. When a Royal Arch Mason is rejected for affiliation, he may apply at any subsequent stated meeting by a new petition, in regular form, and a committee of investigation must be appointed and the applicant in all respects treated as though he had not previously petitioned the Chapter.

DEMIT BELONGS TO CHAPTER

SEC. 18-06. The demit of a petitioner who is elected a member of a Chapter belongs to the Chapter and must remain in its custody, and the date of his affiliation must be endorsed thereon.

DUAL MEMBERSHIP

SEC. 18-07. A member of a Chapter in this jurisdiction may hold membership in another Chapter within this jurisdiction, or in a Chapter within another jurisdiction, which authorizes dual membership.

STATUS OF A ROYAL ARCH MASON UNDER CHARGES

SEC. 18-08. The status of a Royal Arch Mason under charges is not affected by such charges, except that he cannot demit. He is presumed to be innocent until his guilt is proved.

CHAPTER 19

DUES

SEC. 19-01. The dues of any member of a Chapter may be remitted, in whole or in part, for good cause, upon proper application in person or in writing; or upon a statement of facts by a Companion justifying such action.

REMISSION OF DUES CANNOT BE RECONSIDERED

SEC. 19-02. A Chapter, having upon proper motion remitted the dues of a member; no reconsideration at a subsequent meeting is admissible. If imposition has been practiced in obtaining the remission of dues, the Companion guilty of the imposition should be disciplined.

ASSESSMENT FORBIDDEN

SEC. 19-03. Chapters shall not assess members, except in the way of dues, the amount of which shall be fixed by the by-laws.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

SEC. 19-04. 1. A Chapter may by its by-laws provide for the election to life membership and exemption of Chapter dues of any of its members. However, a Chapter may make a member a life member only for outstanding meritorious service to Capitular Masonry and the Chapter shall not be exempt from the payment of dues and assessments to Grand Chapter on life members. A proposal for life membership shall be in writing and recommended by at least three members of the Chapter and read at a Stated Convocation of the Chapter. Election to life membership shall be by unanimous ballot at a stated convocation. (1977)

2. A Chapter, after due reference to committee and by unanimous ballot at a subsequent Stated Convocation, may elect as an Honorary Life Member a member of another Chapter, but such election does not confer the right to vote, nor does it create any liability for dues or per capita tax.

3. A Chapter may provide in its By-Laws for the purchase of a Life Membership by any of its members. Any such law must include: (1) A requirement for continuous affiliation in any prerequisite body; (2) A requirement for payment of a minimum non-refundable Fee based on age as follows: Ages twenty-one to forty inclusive, the sum of \$135.00, ages forty-one to sixty inclusive, the sum of \$130.00, ages sixty-one and over, the sum of \$120.00. Proceeds from the purchase of Life Memberships shall be placed in an interest-producing Trust Fund separate from the operating funds of the Chapter, only the annual income from which may be added to the operating funds thereof. Should death or other cause terminate a Life Membership, any amount used to establish the Life Membership shall be retained in the Trust Fund.

4. When a Chapter adopts a By-Law allowing the purchase of Life Memberships it may, if it so desires, accept installment payments therefore, PROVIDED, however, that for any year in which an installment payment is made the member must pay the regular annual dues in addition thereto. (1985)

ANNUAL DUES

SEC. 19-05. Each Chapter under this jurisdiction has the right, and it is its duty, to assess and collect from its members, in the manner provided by its by-laws, such annual dues as may be deemed necessary to defray the proper expenses of the Chapter.

TWENTY FIVE YEAR MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE

SEC. 19-06. The Grand Chapter shall provide a suitable certificate to be known as The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina Twenty Five Year Continuous Membership Certificate to be presented to Royal Arch Masons, members of chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter, who have been Royal Arch Masons continuously for twenty-five years or more, immediately preceding the date of the award. (1977)

FIFTY YEAR MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE

SEC. 19-07. The Grand Chapter shall provide a suitable certificate to be known as The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina Fifty Year Membership Certificate, to be presented to Royal Arch Masons, members of a Chapter under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter, who have been Royal Arch Masons in good standing in a Chapter for a total of at least fifty years or more proceeding the date of the award. The membership need not be continuous to entitle a companion to receive the award. (1977)

SIXTY YEAR MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE

SEC. 19-08. The Grand Chapter shall provide a suitable certificate to be known as the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina Sixty Year Membership Certificate, to be presented to Royal Arch Masons, members of a Chapter under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter, who have been Royal Arch Masons in good standing in a Chapter for a total of at least sixty years or more preceding the date of the award. The membership need not be continuous to entitle a companion to receive the award. (1984)

CHAPTER 20

DEMIT

SEC. 20-01. No. Chapter shall grant a demit to any of its members until all dues are paid or remitted, nor to one who is under charges, nor to one who has, in his official capacity, become indebted to the Chapter, so long as such indebtedness remains.

Whenever a member whose dues are fully paid, and who is under no charges, shall apply~ in writing, at a stated meeting, for his demit, his application shall, unless objections are made, be immediately granted, and the fact entered of record. No objections shall be entertained, unless the objecting Companion shall prefer charges against the applicant for demit or give notice that he will do so at the next stated convocation at which time if no charges are preferred by the objector the demit shall be granted. If the charges are preferred, they shall take the course prescribed by law. If, on trial, the accused is acquitted, his demit shall be granted. Should the accused be suspended and the expiration of his suspension still desire a demit, a new application must be presented; Provided, That in case the Chapter fails to meet for six consecutive months after a written request for a demit has been filed with the High Priest or the Secretary, the High Priest shall have authority, with the consent of the Grand High Priest, to order the Secretary to issue the demit, if the Companion requesting it is clear on the books and is under no charges, and it shall be the duty of the Secretary, in such case, to report the issuing of said demit, together with the date thereof, at the next stated convocation of the Chapter and to enter same on the minutes. (1933)

DATE OF

Sec.20-02.A Royal Arch Mason ceases to be a member of the Chapter at the time the demit is granted, as shown by the Chapter record, notwithstanding he may fail to take or receive his certificate of Dismission.

DEMITTS FOR CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP

SEC. 20-03. If a Companion wishes to change his membership and be continuously affiliated, he may file his petition with a Chapter having jurisdiction, and with it a receipt under seal from the Secretary of the Chapter of which he is a member, showing that his dues have been paid for three months in advance, also a written application to his Chapter for a demit. If elected to membership in the Chapter petitioned, the Secretary thereof shall immediately forward said application for demit to the Companion's Chapter and when the demit is received, shall file the petition and enter the Companion's name as a member of the Chapter petitioned as of even date with the certificate of demit. If the petitioner be rejected the aforesaid receipt for dues and the application for demit shall be returned to him and his standing in the mother Chapter shall not be affected.

CERTIFICATES

SEC. 20-04. When a Chapter ceases to exist by the arrest of its Chapter, the Grand Secretary shall, on application of its members, and on receiving satisfactory proof that they were in good standing, and have paid all dues to date of arrest, not exceeding however the amount of two dollars, issue certificates to them; Provided, That such certificates shall not issue to members of a Chapter whose Chapter has been arrested by the Grand High Priest until his action in arresting the same shall be approved by the Grand Chapter, (1933)

CHAPTER 21

JURISDICTION REQUEST COMING FROM ANOTHER GRAND JURISDICTION TO CONFER DEGREES

SEC. 21-01. A Chapter within this jurisdiction may, at the request of a Chapter under the jurisdiction of another Grand Chapter, confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch, or either of them, upon a candidate of said Chapter: Provided, The requesting Chapter furnish a certificate under its seal that the candidate has been duly elected to receive the degree or degrees. The Chapter, before conferring a degree upon one who has already received one or more degrees, should be satisfied by proper examination or lawful information, that the candidate has regularly received the preceding degree or degrees.

CONFERRING DEGREES BY REQUEST

SEC. 21-02. When a Chapter shall have elected a candidate to take the degrees, and shall have conferred one or more degrees upon him, such Chapter may request any Chapter in whose jurisdiction such candidate may be residing or sojourning to confer the remaining degree or degrees. And when a Chapter does confer the degrees at the request of another Chapter, it does not thereby acquire jurisdiction, and the fee belongs to the requesting Chapter, unless it shall see fit to relinquish it.

REMOVAL OF CANDIDATE

SEC. 21-03. When a party residing within the jurisdiction of a Chapter petitions for the degrees, and his petition is received and referred to a committee of investigation, the Chapter has obtained lawful jurisdiction of the same, and the subsequent removal of the candidate into the territory of another Chapter does not deprive the first Chapter of its jurisdiction.

BALLOTING ON REQUEST NOT ALLOWED

SEC. 21-04. It is not competent for any Chapter to ballot upon a candidate upon a request from another Chapter. A Chapter may confer any degree for the Chapter making the request, but the requesting Chapter must have elected such candidate before making such request, and the candidate remains affiliated with and under the control of the requesting Chapter.

WORK FOR ANOTHER CHAPTER

SEC. 21-05. No Chapter can confer any degree for another Chapter if any member of the requesting Chapter shall object. Such objection shall have the same effect as if the degrees were about to be conferred in his own Chapter.

TERRITORY

SEC. 21-06. The territorial jurisdiction of each Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in this State is limited to the territory within the State. (2003)

PETITIONER FROM ANOTHER CHAPTER

Sec.21-09. Any Chapter in adjoining State working under a Charter from a Grand Chapter in correspondence with the Grand Chapter of North Carolina may entertain the application of citizens of this State residing nearer by the usual mode of traveling to such Chapter in this State, and may confer the degrees upon such applicants and may admit them to membership, as if such was duly chartered by the Grand Chapter of North Carolina. Provided, that its

own Grand Chapter concedes the same privileges under like circumstances to Chapters in North Carolina.

CHAPTER 22

NON-AFFILIATES

SEC. 22-01. A Royal Arch Mason becomes a non affiliate whenever he Demits from his Chapter or ceases to be a member thereof by any means other than suspension or expulsion.

No non affiliated Royal Arch Mason shall be permitted to visit any Chapter in this jurisdiction, nor shall he appear in any procession of Royal Arch Masons nor shall he be entitled to receive Chapter relief or have Chapter burial. (1984)

MEMBERS OF EXTINGUISHED CHAPTERS

SEC. 22-02. Members of extinct Chapters who fail to obtain Grand Chapter Certificates of good standing within one year after the session of the Grand Chapter confirming the arrest of the Charter, occupy the same position as demitted Royal Arch Masons who have neglected to affiliate with some Chapter within one year after date of their demits.

VOLUNTARY NON-AFFILIATION

SEC. 22-03. A Royal Arch Mason, member of a Chapter, failing to procure a demit issued by authority of the Grand Chapter, for one year after such Chapter shall, from any cause cease to exist, shall be deemed a voluntary non-affiliate, and to have forfeited his privileges as a Royal Arch Mason; nor can such forfeited rights be regained except by procuring such demit and affiliating with some regular Royal Arch Chapter.

CHAPTER 23

EXCLUSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

SEC. 23-01. Dues are payable as provided in the Bylaws of each Chapter.

SEC. 23-02. On or before the first day of November each year the Secretary shall forward to each member who then owes any amount of dues a notice of delinquency, by first class mail to his present or last known address, informing him of the amount of dues then unpaid, and notifying him that unless the same is paid by the first Stated Convocation in December, or unless he shows cause why he should not be excluded for non-payment of dues, the Chapter will at that time take action on his delinquency.

SEC. 23-03. At the first Stated Convocation in December the Secretary shall report the name of each delinquent member and the Chapter shall take action thereon as follows:

- (a.) For good cause, of which the Chapter shall be the Judge, it may remit all or any part of the dues of such member.
- (b.) Or, it may exclude him for nonpayment of dues;
- (c.) Or, it may grant an extension of time, but in no event may an extension of time be given beyond the date of the first Stated Convocation in December next following. No further extension of time to make payment may be granted to a member who, at the first Convocation in December, owes dues for the preceding plus the current year's dues.

SEC. 23-04. If within two years from the date of his exclusion a companion pays the amount of dues owed at the time of exclusion plus the current year's dues, or if the Chapter by unanimous vote remits the same, he shall, if not

under Masonic Charges, be automatically restored to membership as of the date of payment of remission of dues.

SEC. 23-05. If payment or remission of dues are not made in full within two years from the date of exclusion, a companion wishing to be restored to membership may submit a properly signed Application for Restoration to the Chapter from which he was excluded accompanied by payment in full the amount owed at the date of his exclusion plus the current year's dues. Such application shall be treated in the same manner as a Petition for the Degrees of membership. (1981)

CHAPTER 24

OFFENSES

SEC. 24-01. Whatever is a breach of good morals, or a violation of the laws of the State, is an offense against the precepts of Masonry, and must be dealt with promptly and efficiently.

WHEN THE HIGH PRIEST MAY EXCLUDE A ROYAL ARCH MASON

SEC. 24-02. The High Priest has a right and it is his duty, to exclude from the Chapter a Royal Arch Mason who, by his perverseness or contumacy, may interfere with the proper workings of the Chapter and disturb its harmony.

PENALTIES, ENUMERATION OF

SEC. 24-03. The only penalties for offenses against Masonic law and propriety are three, viz.:

1. Reprimand.
2. Suspension for a definite period.
3. Expulsion.

Each of which must be inflicted according to the nature and degree of the offense committed.

SUSPENDED COMPANION--STATUS AT EXPIRATION OF TIME OF

SEC. 24-04. The expiration of the time for which a Companion may have been suspended fully restores him without further action of the Chapter, except that the Secretary must note the fact upon the records and immediately announce the same to the Chapter.

SUSPENDED MEMBER--DUES NOT CHARGEABLE TO

SEC. 24-05. A member suspended for any cause is not chargeable with dues during such suspension.

SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION BY CHAPTER

SEC. 24-06. A sentence of suspension or expulsion by a Chapter will be in force from and after the passage thereof, until removed by the Chapter pronouncing the same, or by Grand Chapter.

SHALL NOT BE PUBLISHED BY CHAPTER

SEC. 24-07. In no case shall a Chapter publish the suspension or expulsion of any of its members.

BY LODGE, EFFECT OF

SEC. 24-08. A suspension or expulsion for any cause by a Lodge of Master Masons is effectually a suspension or expulsion from a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

CHAPTER 25

ALLOWANCES AND SALARY

SEC. 25-01. The expenses of the Grand High Priest, the Grand Secretary, the Grand Treasurer, and the Chairman of the Finance Committee in attending the convocations of this Grand Chapter shall be paid.

SEC. 25-02. The Grand Secretary shall receive such salary as may be determined by the Grand Chapter, and it shall be payable in equal monthly installments. (1933.)

SEC. 25-03. Deleted 1990

SEC. 25-04. The Grand Treasurer and the Finance Committee shall receive such remunerations as may be determined by the Grand Chapter. (1933.)

SEC. 25-05. Obsolete.

SEC. 25-06. The financial records of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer and other financial records of the Grand Chapter shall be audited annually by the Chairman of the Finance Committee or by such other person or committee as may be designated by the Grand High Priest, or by Grand Chapter. Such auditor should be competent to perform this task and may or may not be a Royal Arch Mason, The salary or fee for such service shall be such as may be determined by Grand Chapter. (1933; 1947.)

SEC. 25-07 Deleted March 25. 1985.

CHAPTER 26

TRIALS

OFFENSES

SEC. 26-01. A Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master or Royal Arch Mason may be proceeded against by trial, as hereinafter provided, for violation of the moral and Masonic law.

PENAL JURISDICTION

SEC. 26-02. A Chapter has penal jurisdiction over all its members, and over all its Mark Masters. Past Masters. and Most Excellent Masters, wheresoever residing, and overall Mark Masters, Past Masters. and Most Excellent Masters. and overall Royal Arch Masons, affiliated or unaffiliated, residing or sojourning within its territorial jurisdiction.

A Chapter has jurisdiction to try any Mark Master. Past Master, Most Excellent Master or Royal Arch Mason, affiliated or un-affiliated, for offenses within its territorial jurisdiction, but such Chapter shall notify the Chapter, if known, of which the accused is a member, of the pendency of the charge, and, if requested to do so, within thirty days after such notice, may, and by the direction of the Grand High Priest, shall transfer the case to such Chapter for trial and the case shall there proceed as though begun in that Chapter. If no such request be made, then the Chapter first receiving the charge shall proceed with the trial.

No Chapter can entertain charges against the High Priest of any Chapter during his term of office, as exclusive jurisdiction to arraign and try him, while he is High Priest, belongs to the Grand Chapter, but after the expiration of the term of office of the High Priest, he may be presented for any offense committee by him while High Priest, except for official misconduct.

WHO MAY PREFER CHARGES

SEC. 26-03. Any Royal Arch Mason in good standing may prefer charges in any Chapter having jurisdiction, as above stated. When the High Priest or the Chapter directs a charge to be preferred, it must be done by the Scribe.

CHARGE

SEC. 26-04. A charge must be in writing, and contain an orderly statement of the facts, constituting the offense. It should be brief, should avoid repetition, and clearly define the offense and contain an accurate statement of the time, place and circumstances of its commission. For convenience, such writing (including the specifications) is designated in these laws as a charge.

FORM

SEC. 26-05. A charge may be substantially in the following form; more than one specification may be embraced in one charge:

To the High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of
Chapter. No. R. A. Masons:

I hereby charge Companion _____ member
of _____ Chapter No. . R.A.M. (or Mark Master, Past Master,
Most Excellent Master. or non-affiliate. or a Companion whose Chapter membership is
unknown to me), with unmasonic conduct, as follows:

SPECIFICATION--That Companion _____, on or about the day of _____, 19____, at the town (or city) of
in _____ county, did (set forth the facts constituting the offense as, with just cause, wrongfully strike Companion
, etc.) in violation of his duty as a Royal Arch Mason, and to the scandal and disgrace of the Masonic Fraternity.

If either of the offenses be a continuous one, as habitual drunkenness, say: Specification--That the said Companion
on or about

the day of _____, 19____ at the town (or city) of _____, in _____ County, and on

other days and times, did become and was intoxicated, in violation of his duty as a Royal Arch Mason, and to the
scandal and disgrace of the Masonic Fraternity.

And I declare upon my honor as a Royal Arch Mason, that I make this charge for the general good of Masonry and in defense of the interests of the fraternity.

Fraternally submitted,

A R

, 19

Scribe

The following witnesses in the case:

BY WHOM PROSECUTED

SEC. 26-06. The Scribe shall conduct the prosecution unless some other Royal Arch Mason in good standing is appointed by the High Priest to prosecute the case.

WHEN PRESENTED

SEC. 26-07. The charge must be presented in open Chapter, at a stated Convocation, and entered in full upon the records which must show the disposition made of it.

WHAT CHARGES NOT ENTERTAINED

SEC. 26-08. No Chapter shall entertain a charge against a member for the purpose of adjusting mere legal rights, pecuniary or otherwise, unless such charge specifies fraud on the part of the alleged offender, or involves moral turpitude.

TIME AND NOTICE OF TRIAL

SEC. 26-09. When a charge is thus preferred, the High Priest shall appoint the time of trial, and shall cause the accused to be notified, as hereinafter provided; and he shall cause all members residing in the territorial jurisdiction of the Chapter to be notified of the time of the trial. Such notice shall be either printed or written and signed by the Secretary, and shall be substantially as follows:

To Companion _____, You are hereby notified that at a stated convocation of _____ Chapter, No. _____ R.A.M. of _____ North Carolina, held _____ 19 _____ a charge of unmasonic conduct was preferred against you, a true copy of which is hereto annexed; and you are requested to answer the same within ten days from the date of service of this notice, by placing on file with the Secretary of said Chapter any objection you may have to the sufficiency of such charge, or if you have no objections thereto, then you will plead to the allegations thereof with one of the following pleas:

- (1) That you are guilty of the offense charged.
- (2) That you are not guilty of the offense charged.

And you are further notified that at a meeting of said Chapter, to be held on _____ evening, 19 _____, commencing at _____ o'clock, a trial of said charge will be had. You are further notified to appear in person, or by any Royal Arch Mason, in good standing, as counsel for you, or by your written communication, and defend such charge, if you so desire.

Secretary

SERVICE

SEC. 26-10. The Secretary shall deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the accused, by a Royal Arch Mason, or mail to him, in a sealed envelope, addressed to him at his present or last known residence, a copy of such charge at least fifteen days before the time appointed for the trial.

If the residence of the accused be not within the territorial jurisdiction of said Chapter, then the said Secretary shall cause a copy of said notice and charge to be deposited in the mail at least twenty days before the time appointed for trial, addressed to the accused at his present or last known place of residence, which shall be good service of such notice.

PROOF OF SERVICE

SEC. 26-11. The proof of service of such notice shall be as follows: By endorsing on the back of said notice one of the following certificates, as may state the facts:

I hereby certify that I did, on _____, 19____, deliver to Companion _____ a true copy of the within notice, together with a copy of the charge therein referred to.

Secretary, or Royal Arch Mason

Or:

I hereby certify that on _____, 19____, I deposited in the post office at _____ a true copy of the within notice, together with a copy of the charge therein referred to, addressed to Companion _____ at his present or last known place of residence.

(Signed) A _____ Secretary

TRIAL WITHOUT SERVICE

SEC. 26-12. If the residence of the accused be unknown, the trial may be had without service of notice.

APPEARANCE

SEC. 26-13. The accused may answer such charge within the time specified in the notice, by his written communication, or that of his counsel, who shall be a Royal Arch Mason in good standing, in which he may present his plea to the charge, which shall be either objection to the sufficiency of the charge, pleas of guilty or not guilty, and any matter in explanation or extenuation of the offense charged.

SEC. 26-14. A plea to the charge is a statement in writing, signed by the accused, or by his counsel, in one of the following forms:

"Now comes the accused and says that, admitting the statements of the charge and specifications to be true, they do not constitute a Masonic offense"; or "Now comes the accused and says that he is guilty as charged"; or "Now comes the accused and says that he is not guilty, as stated in the charge and specification."

PLEA OF GUILT

SEC. 26-15. If a plea of guilty be entered, no trial shall be necessary, but the Chapter at the time appointed for the trial shall inflict punishment, and may hear evidence to determine the nature thereof.

SUFFICIENCY OF CHARGE

SEC. 26-16. If the plea be that the facts in the charge and specifications, if true, do not constitute a Masonic offense, the question shall be determined by the High Priest.

TRIAL

Sec.26-17.If a plea of not guilty be entered, the trial shall proceed at the time fixed in the notice, unless continued to

a later date for a cause.

SEC. 26-18. The testimony of all resident Masons who can attend the Chapter shall be given orally in open Chapter at the trial.

The High Priest shall, upon the request of the accuser, or of the accused, appoint a committee of three Royal Arch Masons, who are impartial and not interested in the result of the said trial, whose duty it shall be to take the testimony of the Master Masons or profanes, and also of all Royal Arch Masons residing within the territorial jurisdiction of the Chapter, who are unable, by reason of physical disability or otherwise, to attend the Chapter.

The High Priest may appoint the same or another committee to take the testimony of the Master Masons or profanes or of Royal Arch Masons residing without the jurisdiction of the Chapter.

NOTICE OF TAKING SAME

SEC. 26-19. The persons so appointed to take evidence shall give reasonable notice to the accused and the accuser, or their counsel, respectively, if known, when and where such testimony will be taken by them.

HOW TAKEN

SEC. 26-20. The testimony of Masons shall be upon their Masonic honor, written down and subscribed by them. The testimony of profanes shall be written, subscribed and sworn to before any civil officer authorized to administer oaths.

WITNESSES

SEC. 26-21. The witness in all trials, whether Masons or not, shall be persons who have use of their reason, and such religious belief as to feel the obligation of an oath. In the trial of any Royal Arch Mason the accused may testify in his own behalf, and shall be subject to cross-examination the same as other witnesses.

WIFE AS WITNESS

SEC. 26-22. The wife of the accused shall be a competent witness either for or against him.

RECORD EVIDENCE

SEC. 26-23. The record of a court of competent jurisdiction, duly certified, showing indictment, arraignment, conviction and sentence of the accused, according to forms of law, for the same offense for which he is being tried by the Chapter, is legal and competent evidence against the accused, and shall be admitted at the trial.

Where the pleadings in a civil suit, to which a Royal Arch Mason is a party, and in which he has the right as well as the opportunity to appear, present the sole issue as to his guilt or innocence of a crime, the judgment or decree therein is competent evidence in a Masonic trial for the same offense.

SUMMONS

SEC. 26-24. The High Priest may, at the request of either the accused or the accuser, order a summons to be issued to any Royal Arch Masons residing within the jurisdiction of the Chapter, to attend at the time set for the trial, for the purpose of giving evidence in the case.

TRIALS

SEC. 26-25. All trials shall be in the highest degree to which the accused has attained, and both the accused and the accuser shall have the right to be present in person, or by counsel, during the trial.

ARGUMENT

SEC. 26-26. After the hearing of the testimony, the accuser and the accused, or their respective counsel, shall be

Second

Appellant.

TIME FOR APPEAL

SEC. 26-34. Such appeal shall be filed with the Secretary of the Chapter within sixty days after the trial and judgment, and not afterwards.

NOTICE OF APPEAL

SEC. 26-35. The appellant shall, at the time he files said appeal with the Secretary, give notice in writing to the opposite party that he has appealed to the Grand Chapter, which notice shall be served as other notices, and the notice, with the return of service endorsed thereon, shall be filed with the Secretary. The said notice shall be substantially in the following form:

To

You are hereby notified that I have taken an appeal to the Grand Chapter of North Carolina from the decision and judgment of Chapter No. R.A.M., rendered on 19 in the matter of the) by charge against me (or against Comp. , and which was heard and tried at that date. Appellant.

PERFECTING AND TRANSMITTING RECORD

SEC. 26-36. The Secretary shall endorse on such appeal and notice the day of their filing in his office, and if the appeal was filed with him within 60 days after the judgment was rendered, and notice thereof was served, as provided in the last section then the Secretary shall immediately make out and send to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter a true copy of all record entries in said cause, and of the charge and specifications, together with all the evidence in the case and the appeal and notice thereof served on the opposite party: Provided, That both parties to said cause shall have the privilege of examining and noting objections to said transcript before the same is sent up.

OBJECTIONS TO TRANSCRIPT

SEC. 26-37. If the parties fail or refuse to examine said transcript and note the errors in it before it is sent up, they shall not be allowed to object to its correctness after it reaches the Grand Chapter.

APPEAL IN GRAND CHAPTER

SEC. 26-38. On receipt of the transcript, evidence, appeal and notice by the Grand Secretary, the Grand Chapter shall be possessed of the case and shall determine the same on the record and evidence so transmitted.

JUDGMENT OF GRAND CHAPTER

SEC. 26-39. The judgment of the Grand Chapter shall be either that the judgment below be affirmed, or that it be reversed and the cause be dismissed, or the Grand Chapter may disregard the proceedings of the Chapter and pronounce judgment upon the record and evidence set up.

EFFECT OF GRAND CHAPTER JUDGMENT

SEC. 26-40. If the accused has been expelled or suspended by the Chapter, and its judgment is reversed, and the cause dismissed by the Grand Chapter, he will thereby be restored to whatever Chapter standing and membership he held when the charge was preferred against him; if the judgment be reversed and the cause be remanded for a new trial, and such new trial result in his acquittal, he is thereby restored to his former Chapter membership and

standing.

STATUS OF THE ACCUSED PENDING APPEAL

SEC. 26-41. If the accused was acquitted by the Chapter, his status, pending the appeal in the Grand Chapter, is that of a member, with charges pending against him; if he was suspended or expelled by the Chapter, he shall so remain until the suspension or expulsion shall be removed by the Grand Chapter, when he shall be restored to his former Chapter membership.

PROMULGATIONS OF JUDGMENTS

SEC. 26-42. The printed proceedings of the Grand Chapter are the official announcements of its judgments, and when they show a new trial has been ordered, or other proceedings had in any case, it is the duty of the Chapter to act accordingly.

RESTORATION

SEC. 26-43. A suspended or expelled Royal Arch Mason, wishing to be restored, must petition the Chapter, which suspended or expelled him. His petition shall be presented at a stated Convocation of such Chapter, and lie over to the next stated meeting thereof, but need not be referred to a committee, and the members of such Chapter shall be notified that said petition had been presented and would be acted upon at the next state Convocation of the Chapter; at such meeting, the vote shall be taken by paper ballot, and if it be unanimous for restoration, he shall be restored to his original membership and standing. If he receives less than a unanimous vote for restoration, he may then petition the Grand Chapter to be restored, setting out in his petition the fact that he had applied to, and been rejected by, the Chapter.

The Grand Chapter has the right to restore an expelled Royal Arch Mason to good Masonic standing, but not to membership.

If the Chapter in which the original proceedings were had be not in existence; then he may petition the Grand Chapter, originally, but should accompany his petition with a recommendation from the Chapter in whose jurisdiction he resides.

Petition for restoration to the Grand Chapter, originally, can only be made when the judgment was inflicted by the Grand Chapter, except when the Chapter is not in existence, as provided in the preceding section.

CHARGES AGAINST THE HIGH PRIEST OF A CHAPTER

SEC. 26-44. Whenever a charge shall be presented to the Grand High Priest in vacation, against the High Priest of a Chapter, charging him with official misconduct or with un-Masonic or immoral conduct, the Grand High Priest, on receipt of the same, shall cause a true copy to be served on the accused, and if, after investigation, he believes the charge to be without sufficient foundation, he shall report accordingly to the next Grand Chapter, but if the Grand High Priest believes the charge to be well founded, he shall forthwith suspend the accused from office, and notify him to appear before the Grand Chapter at its next Annual Convocation, to answer the charge presented against him.

CHAPTER 27

MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 27-01. No Chapter in this jurisdiction shall issue or furnish letters or documents to any person whatever, to be used for begging purposes.

CIRCULAR LETTERS

SEC. 27-02. The issuance and sending of circular applications for charity, or for donations of money for any

purpose whatever, by Chapters in this jurisdiction, is prohibited, unless authorized by the Grand Chapter or the Grand High Priest; nor shall any Chapter in this jurisdiction entertain begging circulars from foreign Chapters, which have not the approval of the Grand High Priest of this jurisdiction.

OFFENSES COMMITTED BEFORE APPLICATION

SEC. 27-03. A Royal Arch Mason cannot be tried for offenses committed before he applied for the degrees. If, however, he purposely withheld from the Chapter or the committee of investigation matters that would have resulted in his rejection if known at the time of his election, then he has received the degrees through fraudulent imposition for which offense he may be subjected to Masonic discipline.

CLOTHING OF THE OFFICERS WHEN CONFERRING THE R. A. DEGREE

SEC. 27-04. The High Priest is clothed in a robe of blue, purple, scarlet and white and is decorated with a breastplate and mitre.

The King is clothed in a scarlet robe, with a crown on his head and a scepter in his hand.

The Scribe is clothed in a purple robe, and wears a turban of the same color.

The Captain of the Host wears a coat of mail and helmet, and is armed with a sword.

The Principal Sojourner wears a dark or drab-colored robe, with a rose-colored border, and a slouched hat and carries a pilgrim's staff.

The Royal Arch Captain wears a white robe and cap or helmet, and is armed with a sword, and bears a white banner.

The Master of the Third Veil wears a scarlet robe and turban, the Master of the Second Veil wears a purple robe and turban, Master of the First Veil wears a blue robe and turban. Each is armed with a sword, and bears a banner of the same color as his robe.

JEWELS OF OFFICERS

SEC. 27-05. The jewel of the officers of Chapters shall be of gold or yellow metal, suspended within a triangle of the same metal, and as follows:

High Priest--Mitre.

King--A level surmounted by a crown.

Scribe--A plumb surmounted by a turban.

Captain of the Host--A triangular plate on which an armed soldier is engraved.

Principal Sojourner--A triangular plate on which a pilgrim is engraved.

Royal Arch Captain and the three Masters of Veils--A Sword.

Treasurer--Crossed keys.

Secretary--Crossed pens.

Sentinel--Crossed swords.

APRONS

SEC. 27-06. The apron of a Royal Arch Mason is white lambskin or muslin bound with scarlet. It should be fourteen inches wide and thirteen inches deep, square at the corners with a triangular flap, on which should be placed a triple tau, within the triangle, and all within a circle.

ELECTIONEERING FOR OFFICE

SEC. 27-07. Electioneering for office in the Grand Chapter, or in any Chapter, is hereby declared to be contrary to Masonic usage, and is prohibited.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

SEC. 27-08.

1. Opening in ample form.
2. Report of Committee on Credentials.
3. Reception of distinguished guests.
4. Roll Call.
5. Appointment of Committees.
6. Grand High Priest's Address.
7. Report of Board of General Purposes.
8. Unfinished business.
9. Report of Grand Treasurer.
10. Report of Grand Secretary.
11. Report of Special Committees.
12. Report of Standing Committees.
13. Miscellaneous Business.
14. Election of Grand Officers.
15. Installation of Grand Officers.
16. Closing in ample form.

SEC. 27-09. Grand High Priest may rearrange the order of business for the expediency of the Convocation.

SEC. 27-10. In case a Royal Arch Mason in good standing who has been exalted in a foreign jurisdiction, recognized by this Grand Chapter, which does not confer all of the degrees of this Grand Chapter as a necessary prerequisite for the Royal Arch Degree, applies for permission to visit any Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, such Royal Arch Mason cannot be allowed to visit until such prerequisite degrees have been communicated to him. Such degrees may be communicated by the High Priest or a Past High Priest of the Chapter proposed to be visited. (1960.)

CHAPTER 28

AMENDMENTS

SEC. 28-01. These by-laws may be revised or amended at any Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter by an affirmative vote of two thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting, Provided: (1) That if they shall have been revised by order of Grand Chapter~ the revisions may be adopted by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members present and voting, Seriatim, then the whole by a two thirds (2/3) vote, (2) That any proposed amendment(s) shall be submitted in writing, stating the current by-law(s) and the proposed by-law(s) and/or addition(s) to the Grand Secretary's Office not less than ninety days (90) before the Annual Convocation, (3) That

the Grand Secretary shall inform the Subordinate Chapters, in writing, not less than thirty days (30) before the Annual Convocation, stating the current by-law(s) and the proposed amendment(s), and (4) That such amendment(s) shall have been read in Annual Convocation, referred to and reported on by the Jurisprudence Committee. (1971.)

SEC. 28-02. When an amendment or alteration of the Constitution or Bylaws shall have been made by Grand Chapter, the Grand Secretary shall cause the amended section to be printed and shall distribute printed copies of such amended section to all Chapters and others who officially have copies of the Grand Chapter Law and shall insert such amended section in all copies of the Grand Chapter Law which may be held in his office. (1947.)

SEC. 28-03. Standing Resolutions (Chapter 30) may be adopted, amended, or deleted by a majority vote of the members present and voting at any Annual Convocation after such shall have been referred to and reported on by the Jurisprudence Committee. (1971.)

CHAPTER 29

FORMS

PETITION FOR THE DEGREES

SEC. 29-01.

To the High Priest, King, Scribe, and Companions of Chapter No. , R.A.M.:

The undersigned represents that he was regularly initiated an Entered Apprentice, passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft, and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, in _____ Lodge No. _____ located at _____, working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of _____ that having the good of the Craft at heart, and being desirous of obtaining more light in Masonry, he fraternally offers himself as a candidate for the degrees conferred in your Chapter. Should his petition be granted, he promises a faithful compliance with all the rules, regulations and usages of Royal Arch Masonry.

The petitioner further represents that he has not been rejected by any Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. He was born the _____ day of _____ 19____ at _____ @ his occupation is _____ ; his residence is _____ his place of business is _____

. 19

Recommended by _____ (Sign name in full.)

PETITION FOR AFFILIATION

SEC. 29-02.

To the High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of Chapter No. R.A.M.:

The undersigned fraternally represents that he is a Royal Arch Mason in good standing and late a member of Chapter No. _____ under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of _____ and having been regularly discharged from membership in said Chapter, presents his demit herewith, and is desirous of affiliating with your Chapter, if found worthy, promising a cheerful compliance with the by-laws of the Chapter and the usage of the fraternity.

He is a member of _____ Lodge No located at _____, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge

of

He was born on the day of _____, 19____
at _____; his occupation is _____ and his residence
is _____

Recommended by _____, 19____ (Sign name in full.)

CERTIFICATE OF PROXY

SEC. 29-03. To the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina:

BE IT KNOWN: That pursuant to the authority given me by the Grand Chapter, I do hereby appoint Companion _____ a member of this Chapter, my Proxy, to represent me at the Convocation of the Grand Chapter, to be holden in the City of _____, on the day of _____ 19____

of _____ Chapter No. _____
. 19____

WAIVER OF JURISDICTION IN FAVOR OF ANOTHER CHAPTER

SEC. 29-04.

Hall of _____ Chapter No. _____, R.A.M.,

_____, 19____
Chapter No. _____

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the request of _____
at _____, asking this Chapter to waive jurisdiction over
Brother _____, a resident in our jurisdiction, so that said Chapter may
receive and act on his petition, was presented to his Chapter at a stated Convocation held
on the_ day of _____, 19____, and said request
was

By Order of the Chapter.
(Seal.) _____ Secretary.

REQUEST TO ANOTHER CHAPTER TO CONFER DEGREES

SEC. 29-05.

Hall of _____ Chapter, No. _____ R.A.M.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that at a stated Convocation of this Chapter, held _____, 19____ upon application of Bro. _____
a _____ of this Chapter, it was ordered that
Chapter No. _____, at _____, jurisdiction of _____ be
requested to confer the degrees of _____ upon the said
Brother, _____, he being now within the jurisdiction of said Chapter,
and I further certify that Bro. _____ was duly elected by this Chapter to
receive said degrees at a stated Convocation held on _____ 19____

And it was further ordered that said Chapter be requested to certify its action had in the premises to this Chapter.
By order of the Chapter.

(Seal.) _____ Secretary.

PETITION TO CHAPTER FOR RESTORATION

SEC. 29-06.

To the High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of
Chapter No. R. A. Masons:

The undersigned respectfully represents that he was (suspended for
years, or expelled, as the case may be) by your Chapter, at a Convocation held on the day of _____, 19____ He now
petitions

your Chapter to restore him to the rights and privileges of which he was deprived by the said trial and sentence, for
the following reasons:
(Here insert reasons.)

PETITION TO GRAND CHAPTER FOR RESTORATION
SEC. 29-07.

_____ N. C., _____, 19____

To the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina:

The undersigned most respectfully represents that at a Convocation of _____ Chapter No _____, Royal Arch Masons, held
on the day of _____, 19____, he was (suspended for _____ years, or expelled, as the case may be) on a charge of _____
and said Chapter is not now in existence. He therefore petitions the Grand Chapter to restore him to his rights and
privileges as a Royal Arch Mason for the following reasons:
(Here insert reasons.)

CHAPTER 30

STANDING RESOLUTIONS
SEC. 30-01.

OFFICIAL DATE OF FORMATION OF GRAND CHAPTER

Whereas, there has never been but one Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina and that fact should be
stressed,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina do now (1)
recognize and authorize the official date of the formation of this Body to be June 21, 1822, and no other date shall
hereafter be used; (2) aver that there has never been but one sovereign body of the Royal Arch in North Carolina,
that being the Grand Royal Arch Chapter; (3) authorize any dates heretofore used to be altered so as to conform
with the date of the formation of this Grand Chapter; (4) authorize the necessary and proper changes to be made in
our Proceedings, whereby the proper dates will be used; (5) designate this Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter as
the one hundred and eleventh Annual Convocation and all subsequent Convocations to take this seriation as a
precedent; (6) authorize the changing of the date on any seals, insignia, stationery, documents, or any other
instruments pertaining to this Grand Chapter, and (7) authorize any necessary changes to be made to the
Constitution and Bylaws of this Grand Chapter in order to bring such dates into conformity with this resolution.
(1933)

(The above recommendation was adopted by the Grand Chapter.)

OFFICIAL RITUAL
SEC.30-02.

Resolved, that the official Ritual of this Grand Jurisdiction be the official Ritual of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International, with such interpretations as the Committee on Ritual of this Grand Chapter may deem to be to the best interest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina, and that this resolution shall replace any former law of this Body relative to Ritual. (1933)

MASONIC LOAN FUND COMMITTEE

SEC.30-03. Obsolete.

CONSOLIDATION OF CHAPTERS

SEC.30-04. There being no Capitular law governing the consolidation of Chapters, we recommend that this Grand Chapter follow the law of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, A. F. & A. M., until such time as this Grand Chapter may adopt such a law. (1936)

OFFICERS' BONDS

SEC.30-05. The Secretary and Treasurer of each Chapter shall give surety bond for the faithful performance of their duties in such sum and upon such conditions as the Chapter may require. The premium for said bond is to be Paid by the Chapter. (1980.)

THE NORTH CAROLINA ROYAL ARCH MEDAL

SEC.30-06.

Resolved, that there be and there is established, and shall be struck a medal to be awarded for meritorious service to Freemasonry through the York Rite and Royal Arch, said medal to be known as "The North Carolina Royal Arch Medal."

That said medal may be awarded by the Grand High Priest to not more than three persons in any one Capitular year. (1944; 1948)

COMMISSION ON YORK RITE UNITY

SEC. 30-07. Be it Resolved, That the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina join in the establishment of a Commission on York Rite Unity, by authorizing the appointment of a committee of three members by the Grand High Priest, to unite with three members each from the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of North Carolina and the Grand Council of Royal and Select Master of North Carolina.

Provided Further, That the Commission on York Rite Unity shall elect its own chairman, prepare plans for the closer union of the three York Rite Bodies, and recommend any necessary action that will enlarge and improve the development of York Rite Masonry in North Carolina. (1965.)

RETIREMENT PLAN

SEC. 30-08. Obsolete. (1972.)

YORK RITE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

SEC. 30-09. BE IT RESOLVED, That a York Rite Scholarship Fund be established by the three York Rite Bodies of North Carolina; the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina, hereafter referred to as Grand Chapter, the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina, hereafter referred to as Grand Council; and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of North Carolina, hereafter referred to as the Grand Commandery.

That the Fund be known as the North Carolina Grand York Rite Scholarship Fund, hereafter referred to as the Scholarship Fund.

That this Scholarship Fund be created for the purpose of assisting selected graduates of the Masonic Home for Children, Oxford, North Carolina to continue their education beyond the High School level.

That the sense and purpose of this Resolution is to help worthy High School graduates of the Masonic Home for Children to acquire a College Education; but that nothing herein contained or stated shall preclude the Scholarship Fund Committee from awarding pursuits other than strictly College Training; and that it would be preferable to allocate funds to one student in an amount to be sufficient and meaningful, rather than to spread the funds over several students and not achieve an effective aid and purpose for any one student.

That a Scholarship Fund Committee, hereafter referred to as the Committee, consisting of five members be selected to administer the Scholarship Fund; one each to be elected from the Grand Chapter, the Grand Council, and the Grand Commandery; and that the first member elected shall serve for a term of three years; the second member elected shall serve for a term of two years; and the third member elected shall serve for a term of one year; and that each year thereafter, one member shall be elected by the respective Grand Body for a period of three years.

That the Chairman of the Finance Committee and the Grand Treasurer of the Grand York Rite Bodies shall be ex-officio members of the Committee.

That these two persons, together with the three elected members shall constitute the entire Committee.

That within ninety days after adoption of this Resolution the Committee shall assemble, elect their own Chairman, and other officers which it deems necessary, promulgate rules, policies and guidelines for the effective conduct of its business consistent with this Resolution.

That the Committee shall have the power to receive contributions, invest same, and otherwise manage and administer this Scholarship Fund.

That contributions may be accepted from any donor but contributions may be solicited only from the membership and organizations of the York Rite of Freemasonry.

That contributions made to this Scholarship Fund, together with accrued earnings thereto. shall constitute the entire Scholarship Fund.

That only the earnings from contributions made shall be used to assist graduates of Oxford Orphanage to continue their education.

That when in the opinion of the Committee, earnings accruing to the Scholarship Fund are of sufficient amount, the Committee shall request the Administrative Officers of Oxford Orphanage to furnish a list of not less than three worthy graduates, from which list the Committee shall interview and select one or more worthy students to whom it may award scholarships in such amounts, and for such periods of time, as the Committee shall determine.

That the Committee shall, annually, render a report of its activities, and the status of the Scholarship Fund, to the Grand Chapter, the Grand Council and the Grand Commandery.

The Grand Secretary-Recorder's Office render such clerical help and other assistance as may be necessary to the proper conduct of the Committee's business. (1971)

YORK RITE STUDY COMMITTEE
SEC. 30-10. NEVER USED, OBSOLETE (2009)

DUES CARDS

SEC. 30-11. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Grand Commandery, the Grand Council, and the Grand Chapter unite in the adoption of a joint or single dues card which will certify to the holder's membership in all three York Rite Bodies, to be used only at those locations which have all three Bodies and have the same person as Secretary-Recorder. (1968.)

GREAT SMOKIES ASSEMBLY OF YORK RITE MASONS SUMMER ASSEMBLY

SEC. 30-12. WHEREAS, The Grand Council has promoted a program of Summer Assemblies for more than 37 years, such programs in the beginning being strictly Council Programs, but more recently have become subjects of interest to Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery, and

WHEREAS, Grand Council has had the responsibility of promoting and financing these Summer Assemblies through the years, and

WHEREAS, Grand Chapter, Grand Council, and Grand Commandery have for the last several years joined in the promotion of the principle of York Rite Unity in this Grand Jurisdiction to the extent, which has grown to be admired throughout the Nation, now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery enter into a rotating sponsorship of the Great Smokies Assembly of York Rite Masons, beginning with Grand Commandery sponsorship in 1974, by Grand Chapter sponsorship in 1975, and by Grand Council sponsorship in 1976, and continuing thereafter in that succession. HOWEVER, sponsorship does not mean that the "Summer Assembly" is to be conducted as a Convocation of Grand Chapter, an Assembly of Grand Council, or a Conclave of Grand Commandery. At the appointed hour the presiding officer of the sponsoring Body shall call the Meeting to order and proceed with the regular order of business or program. (1981)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the finances for the year be shared equally by the three Grand Bodies, including the cost of any repairs or additions to the Masonic Marker and at Black Camp Gap. (1995)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED. that the rotation of responsibility for these Summer Assemblies shall in no way change the general format of these Summer Assemblies. It shall continue to be held in the Waynesville area of the Great Smoky Mountains; the program shall begin on the second Sunday in July and continue through the following Monday and Tuesday; it shall include a pilgrimage to the Masonic Marker at Black Camp Gap; its programs shall promote York Rite Masonic Unity in this Jurisdiction, but more especially be designed to encourage and invite participation by other states to the end that the Summer Assembly may enjoy a vast concourse of Masonic scholars where ideas may be shared and genuine fellowship experienced by everyone. The above format of the Summer Assembly may be changed only by resolution proposed at an Annual Meeting of these Grand Bodies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the direct responsibility of the Summer Assembly Programs be invested in a Summer Assembly Committee consisting of four members the Grand Secretary-Recorder. plus one appointee by the Grand High Priest, one appointee by the Illustrious Grand Master, and one by the Grand Commander. Chairman of the committee shall be invested in the appointee of the sponsoring body for the year involved. Also the Grand Presiding Officer of the sponsoring body shall be exofficio chairman. (1973)

"THE WORD"

SEC. 30-13. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina not approve the ritual known as "THE WORD" for the conferring of the Degrees of Capitular Masonry in North Carolina at this time. And be it further resolved that we continue to use the approved ritual as provided in the Constitution and Bylaws in

Section 30-02 of this Grand Chapter, as may be amended by the Board of Capitular Lectureship and approved by the Grand Chapter (1973.)

AUTHORITY TO SELL AND/OR ASSIGN SECURITIES

SEC. 30-14.

At the Annual Convocation of The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina duly called and held in Asheville, North Carolina on the 4th day of March, 1974, Quorum being present, it was on motion:

RESOLVED: That the following officers, namely, the Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, the Chairman of the Finance Committee and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Permanent Fund, acting jointly, be and hereby authorized and empowered to sell, assign and transfer any and all stocks, bonds, evidences of interest and/or indebtedness, rights, and options to acquire or to sell same, and all other securities, Corporate or otherwise, standing in the name of, or belonging to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina in any capacity. Adopted.

CANDIDATES FOR GRAND LINE OFFICES

SEC. 30-15. Constituent Chapters desiring to offer the name of a member for election to a Grand line office shall submit an outline of the qualifications of their candidate to the office of the Grand Secretary-Recorder no later than December 15 prior to the Annual Meetings of the Grand York Rite Bodies of the year involved, provided: the candidate shall have been endorsed by his constituent Chapter at a stated convocation in advance of the proposal. The outline shall be prepared upon forms furnished by the Grand Secretary-Recorder, who shall distribute copies to all constituent Chapters no later than one lunar month before the Annual Meetings of the Grand York Rite Bodies. The Secretary-Recorder of the constituent Body shall bring the proposal before its membership no later than the stated meeting immediately preceding the Annual Meetings of the Grand York Rite Bodies.

This Resolution shall not be considered as electioneering for office, which is prohibited. It is to assist selection of qualified officers. Further, in case of a vacancy by death or otherwise in any Grand Line in the interval between December 15 and the Annual Meetings of the Grand York Rite Bodies, the Resolution shall not apply to filling such vacancy.

EXPLANATION

The purpose of this Resolution is to allow voting delegates to the Annual Meetings of the Grand York Rite Bodies ample time to study the qualifications and Masonic background of candidates proposed.

NORTH CAROLINA YORK RITE AWARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE

Sec. 30-17. DUPLICATE, OBSOLETE (2009)

PER CAPITA INCREASE

SEC. 30-18. Per Capita Tax on each Companion borne on the roll of each subordinate Chapter on the 31st day of December, unless specifically exempted by Grand Chapter, shall be in the amount of seventeen dollars and no cents, plus the amount of any increase in per capita that may hereafter be levied by the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for membership therein. (The payment of this amount of per capita is effective for the year 2015, payable in January, 2016. (2014)