

<u>Page</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Para</u>	<u>Comment or Change effect</u>	<u>Change Source</u>
			Unmasonic Conduct or expulsion	
64	U 301		Annual dues changes shall not be effective Until January 1 of year printed on lodge dues Notice, as prepared by Grand Lodge	Resolution 1
79	U 420	D. 4	Changes Annual distribution of Perpetual Fund	Resolution 5
106	T 407		Requires Grand Secretary to notify any lodges and other recognized bodies listed in Article VIII of the Constitution and Laws of which a brother is a member after validation by Grand Lodge	Resolution 6B

Above completes the Change Record for 2014  
 Constitution and Code Committee M.: W.: Bobby L. Laws, PGM, Chairman

#### **Change Record for 2015**

<u>Page</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Para</u>	<u>Comment or Change effect</u>	<u>Change Source</u>
45	608	B.	Changes requirement for Monthly Reports to Quarterly if there is no membership activity.	Resolution 5
72	U 401		Change time a petition must lay over before a vote may be take.	Resolution 2

Above completes the Change Record for 2015  
 Constitution and Code Committee M.: W.: Glenn E. Almy, PGM, Chairman

#### **Change Record for 2016**

<u>Page</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Para</u>	<u>Comment or Change effect</u>	<u>Change Source</u>
32	301	A.	Change opening day of Grand Lodge Annual Communications to Saturday	Resolution 7
58	U206		Requires a valid dues card for the ensuing year to be installed in an elected or appointed office.	Resolution 10A
62	U221		Allows the most recent immediate Past	Resolution 8C

Page	Section	Para	Comment or Change effect	Change Source
			Worshipful Master available to preside.	
67	U308		Allows the Worshipful Master to open Lodge and do business in any degree.	Resolution 3
75	U415	2	Change time an Application for Advancement must lay over before a vote may be taken.	Resolution 1
76	U418	D	Allows a Brother to serve as Junior Warden or Senior Warden in more than one lodge at the same time.	Resolution 8A
76	U418	E	A Brother may carry voting credentials only from the lodge he serves as a delegate.	Resolution 8B
87	U602		Change time an Application for Reinstatement must lay over before a vote may be taken	Resolution 2

Above completes the Change Record for 2016  
 Constitution and Code Committee M.: W.: Randall L. Rogers, PGM, Chairman

Note 1. Changes for next year will be continued on this page to avoid lodges unknowingly missing a year.

Note 2. Should Grand Lodge approve no changes for a given year, the Change Page will be annotated with:

‘NO CHANGES APPROVED BY GRAND LODGE FOR YEAR XXXX’  
 will be recorded below the previous change year.

## Constitution and Laws- Grand Lodge Communications

### ARTICLE III - GRAND LODGE COMMUNICATIONS

#### SECTION 301. GRAND LODGE COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. ANNUAL:** An annual communication of this Grand Lodge shall be held each year, beginning at 8:30 a.m. on the second Saturday of November and closing that day. The Grand Master may call an open meeting in the afternoon on the Friday preceding Grand Lodge, where he may hold education programs, present recognitions to individual or lodges, receive guests, speeches, make remarks or other ceremonial activities. All voting on officers, resolutions, budgets, changes in the esoteric work and any other binding issue shall be conducted on Saturday.
- B. ANNUAL COMMUNICATION IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:** Whenever the existence of a state or national emergency shall render it impossible or impractical to hold the annual communication of this Grand Lodge as prescribed by our laws, the Grand Master, by and with the advice and consent of the other elective Grand Lodge Officers, shall order by resolution that such annual communication be cancelled and stating in such resolution the reasons therefore. A separate resolution, with the reasons therefore, shall be passed with respect to each annual communication so cancelled.

During the year or years for which it is necessary to omit the regular annual communication, all duties and powers exercised by the Grand Master, the other elective Grand Lodge Officers, the committee on Finance and Appropriations and the Committee on Jurisprudence shall be of like force and effect as if done by the members in regular communication.

The above named officers and committees shall have the power and authority to adopt an annual budget and make appropriations in such sums as may be necessary to meet the current expenses of the Grand Lodge for the ensuing year. All such sums so budgeted for such expenses are hereby appropriated; however, no budget shall be adopted as herein provided for unless it shall first be submitted to the committee on Finance and Appropriations.

The above named officers and committees shall have power and authority to elect all Grand Lodge Officers for a period of one year except the Junior Grand Warden. The office of Junior Grand Warden shall remain vacant until the next regular annual communication when it shall be filled as now provided by our laws. In the event the power to elect officers, as above provided, is exercised for more than one year, an additional office at the end of the regular line shall be left vacant for each year the regular annual communication is cancelled. Such offices are to be filled by regular election at the next annual communication.

In addition to the foregoing, the above named officers, in

## Constitution and Laws- Grand Lodge Communications

- the circumstances above stated, shall have and exercise the power and authority to do all things necessary or desirable to carry on the affairs of the Grand Lodge and properly protect and conserve its property and fraternal interest in any and all respects.
- C. **SPECIAL:** Special communications of the Grand Lodge may be ordered by the Grand Master whenever, in his judgment, the welfare of the fraternity may require. A written notice shall be mailed to all constituent lodges, at least 30 (thirty) days previous to any such special meeting, notifying them of the time and place of the holding thereof and its purposes.
  - D. **EMERGENT:** Emergent communications of the Grand Lodge may be convened by the Grand Master or his duly authorized deputy at such times and places as the Grand Master may desire.
  - E. **WHO SHALL PRESIDE:** The Grand Master, or in his absence the Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden or Junior Grand Warden, in the order named, shall preside over all communications. In the absence of all of the above named officers, the Junior Past Grand Master present shall preside.
  - F. **PLACE OF MEETING:** The Grand Lodge shall choose by vote the place for holding its annual communications. When a place has been selected, all annual communications shall continue to be held at such place until another one is selected. In case of an epidemic or other cause dangerous to the health or comfort of the members of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master may change such place of meeting.
  - G. **QUORUM:** To constitute a quorum to legally transact business at an annual or special communication of the Grand Lodge there must be present representatives of a majority of the constituted lodges of the Grand Jurisdiction. On occasions of ceremony only, the Grand Master or his duly authorized representative, with a sufficient number of brethren to fill the stations and places, may open the Grand Lodge and perform the ceremonies for which it was convened.
  - H. **DELEGATES:** The delegates of the Grand Lodge shall be those members as specified in Section 104 of this Constitution and Laws.
  - I. **PROXIES:** The Master and Wardens of the duly chartered lodges, may be represented in Grand Lodge by proxy. The proxy must be a member of the same lodge as the Master or Warden giving it. Such proxies must be provided with

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the office of Worshipful Master. To be eligible to the office of Worshipful Master, he must have been previously elected and served as a Warden of a regular Oklahoma lodge; provided, that the Master of a lodge under dispensation and the first Master of a lodge under charter need not have served as a Warden of a lodge.

**SECTION U 205. ELECTIONEERING FOR OFFICE:** Electioneering for office in any constituent lodge is hereby declared to be unmasonic and is prohibited. Any Mason found guilty of electioneering for office shall be disciplined.

**SECTION U 206. INSTALLATION:** All officers shall be installed on or before St. John's day, December 27th. At the time of installation each officer shall be in possession of a valid dues card for the ensuing year for which he has been elected/appointed. Should the lodge fail to install its officers on or before that date, a special dispensation must be obtained from the Grand Master for such purpose. If the officers are elected and the Master has been installed by that date he may himself, or have some Past Master acting for him, afterwards install the other officers without such dispensation.

**SECTION U 207. REPORT OF ELECTIONS:** Each lodge shall within ten (10) days after the annual installation of its officers transmit to the Grand Master and Grand Secretary a duly certified list of the names of the newly installed officers, the date of their election and installation, and the name and title of the installing officer.

**SECTION U 208. DUTIES OF OFFICERS:** In addition to those duties which appertain to every individual Mason and those which are purely traditional and therefore unwritten, the duties of the officers of a lodge are as outlined in Sections U 209 through U 217.

**SECTION U 209. MASTER:** The duties of the Master of the lodge are:

- A. To open and preside over the lodge.
- B. In a Tiled meeting the Worshipful Master must wear a hat, as it represents the crown of King Solomon and also the tradition of covering the head as a symbol of reverence for the Deity. Therefore, in an attitude of formality and respect, the Worshipful Master should choose a hat in the shape of a Crown, (usually purchased from a Masonic supply house) or a hat which shows respect - usually constructed with a brim. Religious or academic head coverings are also appropriate. Hats or caps associated with sports or leisure are not appropriate, because they do not suggest respect or formality.
- C. To preserve the Charter of the lodge and to deliver it to his successor in office.
- D. To see that the Constitution and Laws, the Uniform Code and the Trial Code of the Grand Lodge and the Ancient Charges and Landmarks of Freemasonry are duly understood, respected and obeyed by its members.
- E. To supervise the officers and to claim of them at any time advice and assistance on any business relative to the Craft.
- F. To represent the lodge at the annual communications of the Grand Lodge.

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- G. To see that the proper officers collect and keep a proper accounting of the monies of the lodge.
- H. To see that the furniture and other valuables are not wasted, damaged or lost, and in the event the charter of the lodge should be forfeited or surrendered to preserve such property subject to the order of the Grand Lodge.
- I. To sign all orders drawn upon the Treasurer, but not without the consent of the lodge except as provided in Section U 223 C of this code.
- J. To appoint all committees except as otherwise provided.
- K. To see that all unmasonic conduct that comes to his knowledge be faithfully dealt with according to the laws of the jurisdiction.
- L. To guarantee any brother charged with unmasonic conduct a fair trial and an appeal to the Grand Lodge if demanded.
- M. To preside at the burial services of deceased Master Masons in his jurisdiction, provided that he may call upon any Master Mason to preside.
- N. To fill vacant offices by pro tempore appointment.
- O. To convene the lodge in special and emergent meetings, whenever there shall appear to him a necessity therefore.
- P. To install or cause to be installed all officers of the lodge.
- Q. To serve as a member of all committees.
- R. To cause all communications from the Grand Master or Grand Secretary to be read in open lodge at the next stated meeting after their receipt.
- S. To cast only one (1) vote, even in case of a tie.
- T. To decide all questions of order.
- U. To see that the annual returns to the Grand Lodge are properly prepared and forwarded to the Grand Secretary within the time required by the Grand Lodge.
- V. To perform all other duties pertaining to his office.
- W. To exclude from the lodge any Mason who by his perverseness or contumacy may interfere with the proper working of

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**SECTION U 215. THE JUNIOR DEACON:** It shall be the duty of the Junior Deacon:

- A. To convey messages of the Senior Warden in the active duties of the lodge.
- B. To have special care as to the security of the lodge.

**SECTION U 216. THE STEWARDS:** It shall be the duty of the Stewards:

- A. To have charge, subject to the direct order of the Master, of the furniture, jewels and other paraphernalia of the lodge.
- B. To give special care to the cleanliness of the hall and anterooms.

**SECTION U 217. THE TYLER:** It shall be the duty of the Tyler:

- A. To tyle the lodge, subject to the direct order of the Master.
- B. To serve notices, summons, citations, etc. issued under the authority of the Master and the lodge.

**SECTION U 218. OFFICERS RESPONSIBLE TO THE MASTER:** Each officer of the lodge shall be held personally responsible to the Master and, through him, to the lodge and the Grand Lodge.

**SECTION U 219. MASTER'S DECISION:** An appeal does not lie within a lodge from the decisions of the Master. His decision can be reviewed only by the Grand Master during the recess of the Grand Lodge or by appeal directly to the Grand Lodge.

**SECTION U 220. TRIAL OF MASTER:** A Master cannot be tried by his lodge after his term of office has expired for an official offense committed while in office. He should be tried while in office pursuant to Section T 108.

**SECTION U 221. SUCCESSION:** In case of the death, removal from the jurisdiction or any other cause the Master becomes incapable of performing the duties of his office, notwithstanding the provisions of U418D, the Senior Warden succeeds to all powers, duties and responsibilities of the Master. The Senior Warden's place in the West must be filled by pro-tempore appointment from time to time. If from any of the like causes the Master and Senior Warden should both be rendered incapable of performing the duties of Master, notwithstanding the provisions of U418D the Junior Warden succeeds to all the powers, duties and responsibilities of the Master and the South and West must be filled from time to time by pro-tempore



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appointment. In the case of both the Senior and Junior Warden being ineligible for advancement, the most recent immediate Past Worshipful Master available will preside.

**SECTION U 222. RESIGNATIONS:** No elected officer except the Treasurer, Secretary and elected Trustee can resign or transfer his membership during his term of office. The Treasurer, Secretary, elected Trustee and all appointive officers may resign by submitting a resignation to the lodge. The vacancy thus caused or otherwise caused may be filled by the Master by appointment. That appointee shall serve until the next annual election of officers.

### **SECTION U 223. COMMITTEES:**

- A. BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** The Master, Senior and Junior Wardens of the lodge shall be the Board of Trustees of a Constituent Lodge except that the lodge may at its option elect a Board of Trustees of not less than three (3) and not more than five (5) members who shall be nominated from the floor of the lodge and elected, by secret ballot, by a majority vote. One member shall be elected each year to fill the office held by the senior member of the Board.

The duty of the Board of Trustees shall be to hold the title to all real estate and other property not including monetary funds of the lodge and to have general care and supervision thereof.

This board shall have the power to convey any property upon resolution duly adopted by the lodge.

- B. FINANCE COMMITTEE:** The Master, Senior and Junior Wardens of the lodge shall be the committee on finance.
- C. CHARITY COMMITTEE:** The Master, Senior and Junior Wardens of the lodge shall be the committee on charity.

This committee shall be authorized to expend a sum not to exceed the amount provided in the lodge's Bylaws for emergency relief without a vote of the lodge.



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**SECTION U 304. UNITED STATES FLAG:** This Grand Lodge and each of its constituent lodges shall have a United States Flag of convenient size which shall be displayed on a staff in the lodge room.

**SECTION U 305. RULES OF ORDER:** The following rules are for the government of lodges at their respective meetings:

- A. The lodge shall meet at the time specified in these laws or provided by it. After it has been duly opened, the minutes of its last stated and all intervening special meetings shall be read, approved and signed by the presiding officer and secretary.
- B. When a brother rises to speak, he shall respectfully address the Master as Worshipful Master. If he transgresses the rules of the lodge in speaking or otherwise, the Master shall call him to order. He shall immediately sit down unless permitted to explain.
- C. No brother shall be permitted to speak more than twice on any question without permission, and not more than once until every brother wishing to speak has spoken. When two (2) or more rise at the same time to speak the Master shall name the brother who shall speak first.
- D. While the Master is addressing the lodge or putting a question, or a brother is speaking, no brother shall engage in any private discussion or discourse, or pass between the speaker and the chair.
- E. There shall be no debate after the Master has put the question.
- F. Every brother present, when a question is put, shall be required to vote unless excused by the Master.
- G. When a motion is made and seconded it shall be stated by the Master, or if in writing shall be read aloud by the secretary, before being debated.
- H. Every motion shall be reduced to writing if any member desires it.
- I. After a motion is stated by the Master or read aloud by the secretary it shall be considered in possession of the lodge and cannot be withdrawn except by permission of the lodge.
- J. When a motion is under debate no motion shall be entertained except to amend it, to commit it or to postpone final decision until a further meeting.
- K. The debate shall cease at the will and pleasure of the Master.
- L. Any member may call for a division of the question where the sense will permit it.
- M. Motions and reports may be referred to committees at the discretion of the Master.
- N. A motion for amendments, until decided, shall preclude all other amendments of the main question.
- O. No new motion which totally changes the subject matter on which the original motion was intended to operate shall be submitted, under color

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of amendment, as a substitute for the motion under debate.

- P. No member except one of the majority which decided a question shall be permitted to move for a reconsideration of such question.

**SECTION U 306. QUORUM** The number required to open any lodge of Entered Apprentices, Fellow Crafts or Master Masons, whether stated, special or emergent, is as follows:

- A. Seven (7) Master Masons if the lodge membership is 100 or more. One (1) of whom must be the Master or Warden of that lodge.
- B. Five (5) Master Masons if the lodge membership is 50 to 99, one (1) of whom must be the Master or Warden of that lodge.
- C. Four (4) Master Masons if the lodge membership is less than (50) one (1) of whom must be the Master or Warden of that lodge.

**SECTION U 307. WHO MAY OPEN AND PRESIDE:** When a quorum is present an Entered Apprentice may act as an officer in a meeting opened for work in that degree and a Fellow Craft may act as an officer in a meeting opened for work in that degree or the previous degree.

It is the duty of the Master, or in his absence, the Senior Warden, the Junior Warden or the Junior Past Master present who is a member of that lodge, in the order named, to open and preside at all meetings of the lodge.

The presiding officer may call any Past Master, Master or Brother of this or any other recognized Grand Jurisdiction to the East to preside.

**SECTION U 308. ORDER OF BUSINESS:** The order of business at stated meetings shall be as follows:

- A. Reading of the minutes of the previous meetings and approving all unapproved minutes.
- B. Consideration of unfinished business.
- C. Receiving, reading, and referring petitions for degrees and applications for affiliation.
- D. Receiving and acting upon reports of committees.
- E. Reading of the Constitution and Laws, Uniform Code and Trial Code
- F. Balloting upon petitions for degrees and applications for affiliation.
- G. Considering miscellaneous business.
- H. Conferring degrees and giving lectures.

The lodge may be opened and business conducted in a lodge of Entered Apprentices, Fellowcrafts, or Master Masons, at the discretion of the Worshipful Master. Except that the conferring of a degree, the examination of candidates, voting on their proficiency, and the trial of an Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft or Master Mason shall be done in a lodge open on the appropriate degree. Only Master Masons may vote on matters coming before the lodge.

**SECTION U 309. READING OF MINUTES:** The object of reading the minutes is to

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correct any errors the secretary may have made, to supply omissions and to see that the minutes speak the truth. The question of reading them is not whether the lodge approves of all that was done at the meeting but to see that the minutes are a fair and correct account of what was done. After the minutes are regularly approved and signed by the presiding officer and secretary, they cannot be altered. If they are in error, the only remedy is an entry of amendment or correction by the Master or under his direction or by vote of the lodge.

**SECTION U 310. CONSTITUTION AND LAWS TO BE READ IN LODGE:** Each constituent lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction shall be provided with a copy of the Constitution and Laws and Uniform Code of this Grand Lodge for inspection by its members. The Master of each lodge shall cause said Constitution and Laws and Uniform Code to be frequently read in open lodge and as much time devoted to its study as time will permit.

**SECTION U 311. ADJOURNMENT:** There can be no adjournment of a lodge to another day, nor can it be called off beyond the same day or evening it was opened. The lodge must be regularly closed before the brethren disperse except when done in accordance with and solely for the purpose of compliance with Section U 302 C.

**SECTION U 312. CLOSING:** Neither the Grand Master nor the Master of a lodge should ever entertain a motion to close, as that is a matter over which the presiding officer has exclusive control. A lodge regularly closed cannot be reopened at the same meeting.

**SECTION U 313. VISITORS, AVOUCHMENT OR DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE REQUIRED:** Any person desiring to visit a lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction shall exhibit to the examining committee documentary evidence under seal, showing him to be a member in good standing of a lawfully constituted lodge of this or a Grand Jurisdiction in fraternal relationship with it. No lodge shall admit any visitor without avouchment or documentary evidence and due examination.

No Master shall allow any brother to vouch for another as a Mason whose knowledge of his being a Mason is not derived from having sat in open lodge with him, and from having knowledge of the brother's good and regular standing in his respective lodge, which means that he must have seen his dues card or a certificate of good standing during the current year, or from having examined him by authority and direction of the Master.

**SECTION U 314. VISITORS:** Secretaries should record upon the minutes the names of all officers, members, and visitors in attendance at any stated or called meeting, unless the same shall be kept upon a Tyler's register.

**SECTION U 315. PROOF OF MASONIC STANDING:** Constituent lodges shall require all persons living or residing in their jurisdiction and asking recognition by such lodges as Master Masons to prove to the satisfaction of said lodges once in every 12 (twelve) months that they are Master Masons in good standing.

**SECTION U 316. RECORD BOOKS:** Each lodge shall keep a register of its members with their names in alphabetical order. The register must show date of birth, election, initiation, passing, raising, proficiencies, reinstatement, dismissal,

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suspension, expulsion, withdrawal and death of each member. Each lodge shall also keep the names of those rejected and the date of such rejection. These records may be kept electronically.

Each lodge shall also keep a secretary's cash book, a ledger, and a Treasurer's cash book which shall show a full and complete account of all lodge funds. These accounts may be kept electronically. Each lodge shall also keep a copy of the Constitution and Laws, Uniform Code, and Trial Code of the Grand Lodge and each member of the lodge shall be required to sign the bylaws when made a member, either by raising or affiliation.

**SECTION U 317. PROCEEDINGS OF GRAND LODGE:** Each constituent lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction shall be provided with a copy of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge and its minutes for inspection by its members. The published proceedings of the Grand Lodge shall be conclusive evidence of all matters contained therein.

**SECTION U 318. SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION:** Any lodge may hold a school of instruction. When it determines to do so it shall apply to the Grand Lecturer, who shall hold the same himself or direct one of his Deputy Grand Lecturers or a Certificate Lecturer to do so for him. Immediately after the close of such school the secretary of the lodge holding the school shall certify to the Grand Lecturer the number of days such school was held and the total cost of the same. The Grand Lecturer will certify the same to the Grand Secretary. Each lodge should hold a school of instruction at least once a year. The Grand Lecturer or Deputy Grand Lecturers or Certificate Lecturers shall receive such compensation and be paid in such way as shall be determined by the Grand Lodge.

**SECTION U 319. SUMMONS:** The Master or the lodge may, for any purpose within the scope and business of Masonry, summon any Mason within its jurisdiction. Such summons must be written or printed and under the seal of the lodge. Every Mason is bound to obey such summons unless unavoidably prevented from attending. If a satisfactory excuse be not rendered, charges may be preferred against him and, upon trial, he may be punished as the lodge may determine.

A summons may be served by any Master Mason designated for that purpose by the Master by delivering a copy thereof in person to the party named in the summons or by being placed in the United States mail, duly certified with a return card requested, addressed to the last known post office address of the person named in the summons.

**SECTION U 320. BUILDING ASSOCIATIONS:** Any Masonic Building Association, Foundation or other form of organization under whatever name or title it may operate, formed or organized to manage, purchase, build or otherwise acquire property for the use and benefit of any constituent lodge or lodges, shall submit the proposed articles of incorporation, constitution and Bylaws for the approval

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Investigation, whether it be favorable or unfavorable, a ballot shall be had. No member present shall be excused from voting. In no case after the ballot has been ordered shall there be any discussion thereof. As secrecy of the ballot is inviolate and each member is the sole judge of what his vote should be, no brother shall ever disclose how he voted nor how the ballot stood. No brother shall attempt to discover how any other brother voted. It shall require an unanimous ballot to elect to the degrees or for affiliation. The Master may order the ballot taken upon all or any number at one time and if no black ball appears all shall be duly elected. If one (1) or more black balls are cast, a separate ballot shall be taken on each petition and application voted upon at that time. When balloting separately, if only one (1) black ball appears, the second ballot shall be taken as provided in the next section.

**SECTION U 412. SECOND BALLOT:** In all balloting for the degrees, affiliation, reinstatement or advancement, if only one (1) black ball appears, the Master shall immediately and without inquiry or discussion, order a ballot prepared for the purpose of correcting a possible error. Said ballot shall be the last and under no circumstances shall it be reconsidered nor can it be set aside by the lodge, the Master, the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge, but shall be final.

**SECTION U 413 RENEWAL OF PETITION:** Rejected petitioners for the degrees of Masonry may, after one (1) year, petition any lodge in Oklahoma. No lodge shall accept the petition for the degrees of any person who within the previous 12 (twelve) months has been rejected by it or any other lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction. The petition of a person who has been rejected in another Grand Jurisdiction claiming jurisdiction for more than one (1) year may not be accepted unless a waiver has been secured through the Grand Secretary's office.

**SECTION U 414. TIME GOVERNING ADVANCEMENT:** No lodge shall advance an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft until the Brother has passed his proficiency. No lodge shall confer more than one (1) degree upon a candidate at a time except by special dispensation from the Grand Master. Pursuant to Landmark Eighth, the Grand Master cannot issue dispensations permitting a constituent lodge to confer more than two degrees upon the same candidate in one calendar day.

**SECTION U 415. NEW BALLOTS:** When a candidate has been elected to take any of the degrees and fails to present himself to receive the degree for a period of six (6) months after his election, initiation or passing and notifies the lodge of his desire to advance, the lodge shall again spread the ballot without requiring a new petition. If a period of one (1) year or more shall have elapsed from the time of election, initiation or passing the application for advancement shall be in writing on a form furnished by the Grand Lodge and shall be signed by the applicant's own hand using his full name and shall be subject to



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the same procedure as a petition for the degrees.

An Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft must pass the examination in open lodge as to his proficiency before the new ballot is spread. After the brother is declared proficient, the Lodge may receive and read an Application for Advancement. An investigating committee will be appointed and the Application will lay over at least until the next stated meeting. The report of the committee will then be received and the new ballot will be spread.

### **SECTION U 416. ENTERED APPRENTICES OR FELLOWCRAFTS DENIED ADVANCEMENT BY BALLOT**

**BOX:** An Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft who has been denied advancement by the ballot box may, after one (1) year, petition any lodge in Oklahoma. No lodge shall accept the petition for advancement of any person who within the last 12 (twelve) months has been rejected for advancement by it or any other lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction.

The petition of a member who has been denied advancement in another Grand Jurisdiction claiming jurisdiction for more than one (1) year may not be accepted unless a waiver has been secured through the Grand Secretary's office.

**SECTION U 417. AFFILIATION:** All applications for affiliation shall be in writing upon forms prescribed by the Grand Lodge and shall be signed by the applicant's own hand using his full name. He shall be recommended by at least two (2) members of the lodge. It shall be referred to a committee for investigation and action may be taken without regard to time. Such application shall be accompanied by a certificate of good standing from the lodge of which he is a member showing the applicant to be entitled to affiliation. No ballot shall be had upon the application for affiliation until the brother has visited the lodge or been properly vouched for. A brother may petition for affiliation with any lodge where he can make himself known as a Master Mason, or be properly vouched for, without regard to time or residence. A demit from another Grand Jurisdiction shall be considered a Certificate of Good Standing. Should the brother be rejected for affiliation, he may not apply to the lodge that rejected him for affiliation for a period of one (1) year after the rejection date.

### **SECTION U 418. PLURAL MEMBERSHIP:**

- A. **OKLAHOMA PLURAL MEMBERSHIP:** A Master Mason within or without this Grand Jurisdiction may become a plural member of this jurisdiction by conforming to the regulations governing plural membership in this Grand Jurisdiction. He may have plural membership in any constituent lodge within this state, and may become a dual or plural member in another Grand Jurisdiction with whom we are in fraternal relations, subject to the laws in that Grand Jurisdiction.
- B. **APPLICATION FOR PLURAL MEMBERSHIP:** Application for affiliation as a plural member must be made on an approved form accompanied by a certificate of good standing from an Oklahoma constituent lodge or by satisfactory document from any recognized Grand Jurisdiction and be subject to exactly the same procedure as outlined in Section U 417 of

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this Uniform Code.

- C. **CHARGES AND DUES:** Plural members shall pay dues to each lodge in which he is a member, the same as any other member of each lodge and each lodge shall pay per capita to the Grand Lodge on that member.
- D. **ELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE:** A plural member shall have all the rights and privileges and shall be subject to all duties and responsibilities of other members. He shall have the right to vote and hold office in any lodge of which he is a member, but he cannot hold the office of Master in more than one (1) lodge during the same year.
- E. **REPRESENTATION TO GRAND LODGE:** A plural member can represent only one (1) lodge as a delegate to Grand Lodge and may carry voting credentials only from the same lodge which he represents as a delegate.
- F. **SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION:** When a plural member is suspended for non-payment of dues in any lodge, it will not affect his standing in the other lodges.

When a plural member is expelled or suspended for any reason other than for non-payment of dues, he shall be automatically expelled or suspended in his other lodges.

- G. **WITHDRAWAL:** A plural member, against whom no charges are pending and whose dues and indebtedness to the lodge in which he intends to withdraw have been fully paid, may terminate his membership in that lodge by presenting a written application therefore at a stated meeting. The lodge shall thereupon grant the request of the brother by order of the Master and drop his name from the rolls. The withdrawal of membership in one lodge shall not affect his membership in any other lodge.
- H. **REINSTATEMENT OF PLURAL MEMBER:** Any plural member whose membership has been terminated under the provisions of Section U 418 F or U 418 G must follow the provisions of Section U 602, U 604 or the Trial Code, whichever is appropriate to his termination, in each lodge in which his membership has been terminated.
- I. **REFUSAL FOR PLURAL MEMBERSHIP:** Refusal of affiliation for plural membership by any lodge in no way affects a Master Mason's standing in any other lodge.

**SECTION U 419. FEES AND DUES:** Each constituent lodge shall fix the fees to be charged for the degrees. The fees for the three (3)

degrees shall not be less than \$60 (sixty dollars) in addition



## Uniform Code - Membership

to the Entered Apprentice contribution of \$15 (fifteen dollars); but it may, at its discretion, charge more. It may also fix the amount of annual dues to be charged its members, but said annual dues shall not be less than \$20 (twenty dollars).

The fee for initiation shall accompany the petition, otherwise it shall not be received by the lodge. The fee for passing shall be paid before initiation and the fee for raising shall be paid before the candidate is passed.

No fee shall be charged for affiliation.

The dues of a brother who has been raised or affiliated shall commence on the first day of the month of his membership.

Lodge dues shall be paid annually in advance on or before the first day of January.

A lodge shall not impose penalties upon its members for non-attendance at its meetings.

**SECTION U 420. ENDOWED MEMBERSHIPS:** Endowed Memberships are authorized in all lodges under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma, subject to the following terms and conditions:

**A. CLASSIFICATION AND ELIGIBILITY:** The following requirements of eligibility for each classification of endowed memberships shall be strictly adhered to:

**1. PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIP:** A living Master Mason may become a Perpetual Member in each lodge within the authority of this Grand Lodge in which he is a member. Such member must be in good standing and possess a current dues card from the lodge where the perpetual membership is being purchased. The obtaining of a Perpetual Membership in one lodge by a plural member shall have no effect on his membership in any other lodge to which he may belong.

**2. MEMORIAL PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIP:** A Memorial Perpetual Membership may be purchased in any lodge within this Grand Jurisdiction for a deceased Master Mason of any lodge recognized by the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma as long as such member was in good standing at the time of his death.

**B. FEES:**

**1. PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIP:** The fee for a Perpetual Membership shall be a minimum sum of 15 (fifteen) times the annual dues of the lodge in which it is purchased at the time of application

**2. MEMORIAL PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIP:** The fee for a

**Uniform Code - Degrees and Advancement**

No lodge shall ever confer any degree upon more than one (1) candidate at a time.

## Uniform Code - Suspension, Expulsion and Withdrawals

### ARTICLE VI - SUSPENSION, EXPULSION AND WITHDRAWALS

**SECTION U 601. SUSPENSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:** When a brother owes a year or more dues and the same has remained unpaid for 12 (twelve) months, he shall be subject to suspension for non-payment of dues. It shall be the duty of the secretary to inform the lodge of such delinquency. If the lodge wishes to suspend the brother for non-payment of dues, the Master must first appoint a committee of three (3) members to properly investigate and ascertain the financial condition of the brother. After such investigation, if the lodge is of the opinion that the brother should pay his dues or be suspended, the Master shall order the secretary to so inform the brother and give him proper notice that if his dues are not paid on or before a stated meeting designated (the date of which shall be given) his name will be presented to the lodge for action. Such notice shall be mailed to his last known post office address at least 10 (ten) days before the stated meeting at which the member's name is to be presented for suspension.

The secretary shall make a report to the lodge, on the stated meeting designated, of all members to whom he mailed such notice, who are still delinquent a year or more dues, giving the amount owing by each. The Master shall, without motion, submit the name of each member so reported to the lodge with the question, "shall the brother (naming him) be suspended for non-payment of dues?" If a majority present vote in the affirmative, the Master shall declare the member suspended and order the secretary to so record it. The secretary shall, as soon as practical thereafter, notify the suspended member at his last known post office address of such suspension and the procedure necessary for his reinstatement.

**SECTION U 602. REINSTATEMENT AFTER SUSPENSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:** When a member has been suspended for non-payment of dues he must make written request for reinstatement. The request shall be read in open lodge at its next stated meeting. The Master shall thereupon appoint an investigating committee as in the case of a petition for the degrees. The investigating committee shall investigate said applicant for reinstatement the same as in the case of a petitioner for the degrees, and shall report to the lodge within 28 (twenty-eight) days unless the Master extends the period of investigation. The application must lay over at least until the next stated meeting before any vote is taken on it. The Master may extend the period of investigation. It shall require a clear ballot of the members present to reinstate. In case of rejection, he may reapply to his lodge for reinstatement at a stated meeting not earlier than one (1) year from the date of rejection.

The lodge may, upon majority vote, remit any or all dues owing at the date of suspension.