



GRAND LODGE
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK

R.:W.:RICHARD T. SCHÜLZ
Grand Secretary

Grand Lodge, N.Y.
71 WEST 23RD STREET, 17TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10010-4149
TEL. BUS. : (212) 337-6644
TEL. CEL. : (917) 648-9859
FAX: (212) 727-2875
EMAIL: GrandSecretary@NYMasons.org

December 3, 2025

TO: ALL MASTERS & SECRETARIES OF LODGES CHARTERED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

cc: GM, DGM, Elected & Appointed Grand Line, PGMs, Permanent Members, Constitutions Committee, Jurisprudence Committee, All DDGMs, All GLSOs

Dear Brethren:

In compliance with Section 801 of the Constitutions, which reads "No amendment to these Constitutions, or to the Code of Procedure shall be made, or have any effect, until it shall have been proposed in Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication {May 5 & May 6, 2025}, and have been adopted by the Grand Lodge at the same Communication, and then again adopted in like manner by the Grand Lodge at the next succeeding Annual Communication {May 4 & May 5, 2026}, or, in addition to the adoption thereof at one such Annual Communication {May 5 & May 6, 2025}, it shall, during the next year succeeding, and before the next Annual Communication {May 4 & May 5, 2026} thereafter, be adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Lodges within this Jurisdiction {March 28, 2026}, to take effect as soon as such consent is promulgated by the Grand Master."

"If any such amendment be adopted it shall be appended to the published Proceedings at the end, under the caption 'Proposed Amendments to the Constitutions,' or 'Code of Procedure,' as the case may be, and sent with the printed Proceedings to all the Lodges in the Jurisdiction. Provided that Section 601 of the Constitutions shall only be amended as therein specified."

Further, Section 601 of the Constitutions reads "No new charge shall hereafter be imposed upon the Lodges or their members for the benefit of the Masonic Hall and Asylum Fund {Masonic Hall and Home}, except by an amendment to these Constitutions, which shall not be valid until it shall have been submitted to, and adopted by, three-fourths of all the Lodges entitled to be represented in the Grand Lodge pursuant to Section 324 of these Constitutions, and this Subdivision shall in no wise be amended except by the vote of the same number of Lodges similarly entitled to be represented in the Grand Lodge."

Further, Section 324 of the *Constitutions* reads in part “...A Lodge failing to pay its dues shall not be entitled to be represented in the Grand Lodge.”

Further, Section 103 of the *Constitutions* reads in part “...Special Communications may be called by the Grand Master, but no legislation affecting the general interest of the Craft shall be made, repealed, or changed at a Special Communication except upon at least thirty days’ notice by the Grand Master to all Lodges under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge stating the proposed legislation.”

Each and every Lodge within this Jurisdiction and Chartered by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, is hereby and hereon directed by order of the Most Worshipful Steven Adam Rubin, the Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, to cast a single vote clearly and succinctly upon the color coded SUMMATION PAGE indicating the Lodge’s “**approval**” or “**disapproval**” of each proposed amendment delineated below and on the SUMMATION PAGE that has been previously approved and adopted at the “First Reading” of the said proposed amendments at the last Annual Communication in May 2025. The said color-coded SUMMATION PAGE must be endorsed with the Worshipful Master’s signature and the Secretary’s signature together with the impressed or printed Seal of the submitting Lodge.

The Lodge must hold a formal meeting by SUMMONS to consider these proposals, and for the purpose of voting on these proposals the vote may be held on each proposal by a show of hands of all members present of the Lodge. The number approving and the number disapproving SHOULD BE RECORDED IN THE MINUTES of the Communication.

To approve a proposal a majority {50% plus 1} of the members VOTING must vote to approve; likewise the same distinction applies to disapprove of a proposal. The suggested Form of Summons to Act on and Vote to Approve or Disapprove these proposals should read as follows:

Brethren: {S A M P L E}

You are hereby notified and summoned to attend the Stated Communication of ABC Lodge No. 19XX, to be held in its Lodge-room at Your Town, NY on the XX day of MONTH 2026, at X:XX PM, for the purpose of acting on and voting on the propositions approved on the First Reading at the 243rd Annual Communication of Grand Lodge in May 2025.

By order of _____, Master

{Lodge Seal} Signed: _____, Secretary

NO other, additional and/or electronic or digital SUMMATION PAGE may be substituted in lieu of the color-coded hard-copy SUMMATION PAGE for the purpose of casting your Lodge's vote. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SUMMATION PAGE AND RETURN ENVELOPE WILL ONLY BE MAILED TO THE LODGE SECRETARY.

In a concerted effort to maintain and preserve the integrity of the vote of the Lodges and to eliminate any impropriety, ALL votes of the Lodges MUST be submitted via U.S. Postal Service Mail directly to the independent auditors retained by the Grand Lodge at the following address and be post marked on or before March 16, 2026. Any and all votes {SUMMATION PAGES} that are received and post marked after the deadline of March 16, 2026, and/or are submitted using a facsimile, duplicate, electronic, digital, altered or different SUMMATION PAGE, or mailed to the Grand Lodge or other address that is different than the independent auditors' address provided shall be rendered null and void.

Further, a colored envelope pre-addressed to the auditor has been enclosed for the LODGE SECRETARY ONLY to return the SUMMATION PAGES. The address of the independent auditors to which ALL valid votes {SUMMATION PAGES} are to be mailed is:

**Ron Schneider, CPA
Lipsky Goodkin & Co. P.C.
120 West 45th Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10036**

The independent auditor will provide under secure cover to the Grand Secretary with an exact copy under separate secure cover to the Grand Master, a summation count of all the valid votes cast for each proposal requiring a Second Vote as listed below delineated as **"APPROVED" or **"DISAPPROVED"** prior to the Special Communication scheduled for Saturday, March 28, 2026. The total number of Lodges voting will be recorded together with the total number of Lodges voting to approve each proposal and the total number of Lodges voting to disapprove each proposal, which shall be appended to the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge.**

The Grand Master will call upon the Grand Secretary to read and announce to the Grand Lodge at the Special Communication the results of the votes {SUMMATION PAGES} received by the independent auditors. The number of Lodges with "approved" votes must be greater than half of the total number of Lodges within this Jurisdiction as of the March 16, 2026 deadline, for the Proposal to Pass.

The following proposals were presented and adopted as approved for the First Reading at the Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge in May 2025, as presented in the original "Be It Known Summation Letter" dated May 27, 2025, and are now presented to ALL of the Lodges for their respective vote for those requiring a Second Vote as

“approved” or “disapproved” by placing an “X” in the square next to the appropriate response on the SUMMATION PAGE:

(1) AMEND SECTION 600.8: TO INCREASE THE ANNUAL GRAND LODGE PER CAPITA DUES

The Deputy Grand Master, R.:W.:Robert L. Hogan, Jr., Proposed And Recommended the passage of the following Amendment to the *Constitutions*:

Section 600.8: To increase the Annual Grand Lodge Per Capita Dues by \$2.00 per year per member over the next five (5) consecutive years taking effect on January 1, 2027, for a total five-year accumulated increase of \$10.00 per member. A Second Vote is Required.

(2) REPEAL & RENUMBER 117. 6 CONSTITUTIONS AS THE GRAND LODGE IS COVERED BY THE ERRORS & OMISSIONS

THE GRAND LODGE COMMITTEE ON *CONSTITUTIONS* recommended the passage of the following proposed amendments to the *Constitutions*:

Repeal 117. 6 as the Grand Lodge is covered by the Errors & Omissions fiduciary liability insurance policy, which covers all fiduciary Officers and employees of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Proposal Renumbering:

7. 6. At the expiration of his term of office well and truly to account for and pay and deliver to his successor, or as the Grand Lodge shall direct, all moneys, books, writings and property of the Grand Lodge in his possession or under his control, or that shall have come into his hands as such Grand Treasurer and remain unexpended, with all proper assignments thereof. A Second Vote is Required.

(3) AMEND & REPEAL §163 (B) GRAND OFFICERS PAGE 46 (OPINIONS, STATUTES ETC MASONIC LAW)

§163 (B) Of Grand Treasurer. It is the duty of the Grand Master to approve the amount, form and sureties required to be filed by the Grand Treasurer.

§163 (B) Repealed: *All fiduciaries of Grand Lodge of the State of New York are covered by the Errors & Omissions fiduciary insurance policy. This Opinion is covered under Section 117 of the Constitutions and DOES NOT require a Second Vote.*

(4) AMEND & REPEAL § 183 (XXXII) GRAND OFFICERS PAGE 49 (OPINIONS, STATUTES ETC MASONIC LAW)

[§183] (XXXII) Extending Time for Filing Official Bond. The Grand Master may extend the time within which the Grand Treasurer or Grand Secretary is required to file his official bond.

§ 183 (XXXII) *Repealed: All fiduciaries of Grand Lodge of the State of New York are covered by the Errors & Omissions fiduciary insurance policy. This Opinion is covered under Section 117 of the Constitutions and DOES NOT require a Second Vote.*

(5) AMEND & REPEAL [§252] B. BOND GRAND OFFICERS PAGE 61 (OPINIONS, STATUTES ETC MASONIC LAW)

[§252] b. Bond – (I) Required of Grand Treasurer. At the commencement of each term of office the Grand Treasurer must execute and file with the Grand Secretary an official bond in an amount and form and with sureties to be approved by the Grand Master.

[§252] b. Bond – (I). *Repealed: All fiduciaries of Grand Lodge of the State of New York are covered by the Errors & Omissions fiduciary insurance policy This Opinion is covered under Section 117 of the Constitutions and DOES NOT require a Second Vote.*

(6) AMEND & REPEAL [§253] (II) GRAND OFFICERS PAGE 62 (OPINIONS, STATUTES ETC MASONIC LAW)

[§253] (II) Form of Grand Treasurer’s Bond. The Grand Treasurer’s Bond is conditioned that he will pay and deliver on demand to the Grand Lodge or to the “Trustees of the Masonic Hall and Asylum Fund,” either in its corporate capacity or to its members as Trustees of the Permanent Fund, as the case may be, or as otherwise required by these *Constitutions* or the Grand Lodge, all funds and property that shall come into his hands as such Grand treasurer, and that upon the expiration of his term of office he will well and truly account for and pay and deliver to his successor, or as the Grand Lodge shall direct, all moneys, books, writings and property of the Grand Lodge in his possession or under his control, or that shall have come into his hands as such Grand Treasurer and remain unexpended, with all proper assignments. This Opinion is covered under Section 117 of the Constitutions and DOES NOT require a Second Vote.

[§253] (II) *Repealed: Form of Grand Treasurer’s Insurance.* The Grand Treasurer’s fiduciary insurance is conditioned that he will pay and deliver on demand to the Grand Lodge or to the “Trustees of the Masonic Hall and Asylum Fund,” either in its corporate capacity or to its members as Trustees of the Permanent Fund, as the case may be, or as otherwise required by these *Constitutions* or the Grand Lodge, all funds and property that shall come into his hands as such Grand Treasurer, and that upon the expiration of his term of office he will well and truly account for and pay and deliver to his successor, or as the Grand Lodge shall direct, all moneys, books, writings and property of the Grand Lodge in his possession or under his control, or that shall

have come into his hands as such Grand Treasurer and remain unexpended, with all proper assignments. This Opinion is covered under Section 117 of the Constitutions and DOES NOT require a Second Vote.

(7) AMEND & REPEAL [§254] (III) GRAND OFFICERS PAGE 62 (OPINIONS, STATUTES ETC MASONIC LAW)

[§254] (III) Failure Effect of Grand Treasurer's Failure to Give Bond. Failure of the Grand Treasurer to give the required bond within thirty days after election shall be deemed a declination of the office unless the time therefore has been extended by the Grand Master.

[§254] (III) *Repealed: All fiduciaries of Grand Lodge of the State of New York are covered by the Errors & Omissions fiduciary insurance policy. This Opinion is covered under Section 117 of the Constitutions and DOES NOT require a Second Vote.*

(8) AMEND SEC. 118 #14 PG. 9 CONSTITUTIONS PERTAINING TO OFFICIAL BOND

THE GRAND LODGE COMMITTEE ON *CONSTITUTIONS* recommended the passage of the following proposed amendment to the Constitutions:

Sec.118 #14 Pg. 9

~~14. At the commencement of each term of office to execute and file with the Grand Master an official bond in an amount and form and with sureties to be approved by the Grand Master, conditioned that he will To pay over promptly to the Grand Treasurer all moneys of the Grand Lodge received by him and, that he will at the expiration of his term, deliver to his successor in office, or such person as shall be designated by the Grand Lodge, all books, writings and property of the Grand Lodge under his control with proper assignments. Failure to give such bond within thirty days after election shall be deemed a declination of the office unless the time therefore be extended by the Grand Master. A Second Vote is Required.~~

(9) AMEND SEC. 361, 362 & 364 CONSTITUTIONS ON DISPENSATIONS

THE GRAND LODGE COMMITTEE ON *CONSTITUTIONS* recommended the passage of the following proposed amendments to the Constitutions:

Sec 361.

Except upon dispensation from the Grand Master *or District Deputy Grand Master (in his District)* providing otherwise, no Lodge shall confer any degree on more than five (5) candidates at a time. A Second Vote is Required.

Remove Current 362 and replace it with the following:

Sec 362. Except upon dispensation from the Grand Master (ONLY) no Lodge shall confer more than one degree within any seven (7) consecutive days, or the Second Degree or the Third Degree on the same candidate at a less interval than two weeks from the time of conferring the preceding degree, or the First Degree on any candidate who has not petitioned it for initiation and membership. Except on similar dispensation, no Lodge shall receive any petition for initiation or affiliation unless it shall have been completed and signed by the petitioner in his own handwriting. A Second Vote is Required.

Sec. 364. An officer or other member of a Lodge shall not be permitted *to procure the Initiation of a candidate in any other Lodge than that having jurisdiction over such candidate. For Advancement of a Brother in another Lodge, it can be procured by direction of the Lodge in writing, and over its seal,* for such conferral within the District, the District Deputy Grand Master may give approval. He shall itemize such approvals in his annual report, and list the individuals involved and the dates on which the degrees were conferred. *Both Lodges must request dispensation. When such degree is outside the District both District Deputies must also give approval.* A Second Vote is Required.

(10) AMEND SECTIONS 638 & 803 CONSTITUTIONS

THE GRAND LODGE COMMITTEE ON *CONSTITUTIONS* recommended the passage of the following proposed amendments to the Constitutions:

Proposal: PARTICULAR LODGE Pg. 165, 166

[§638] (D) Number of. Candidates at One Time---(1) Rule Stated.

Except upon dispensation from the Grand Master *or the District Deputy Grand Master in his district* no Lodge shall confer any degree on more than five candidates at a time. This Opinion is covered under Section 361 of the Constitutions and DOES NOT require a Second Vote.

(11) AMEND SECTIONS 638 & 803 CONSTITUTIONS

Proposal: PARTICULAR LODGE Pg. 204

[§803] (XLVII) Processions: The brethren of a Lodge may, at will, collectively join in civic processions, but Masonic clothing and insignia can be used, carried and/or worn only when engaged in Masonic duties. *The District Deputy Grand Master however may grant written permission to Lodges to wear Masonic regalia on suitable public occasions that are in keeping with proper Masonic dignity.* {Please note that there is no allowance to wear a Masonic Apron except when engaged in Masonic duties.} A Second Vote is Required.

(12) **REWRITTEN CODE OF PROCEDURE IN IT'S ENTIRETY**

THE GRAND LODGE COMMITTEE ON *CONSTITUTIONS* recommended the passage of the Complete and Rewritten *Code of Procedure* in its entirety, which had been previously promulgated as an addendum to the April 7, 2025, Call Letter and posted to the Grand Secretary's Website Portal. **A Second Vote is Required.**

To access the Proposals and the *Code of Procedure* on the Web portal, go to <https://nymasons.org/grand-secretary/> navigate to the bottom of the page and click on the link for ANNUAL REPORTS. The Password is GLProc2021 which is case sensitive, then click on Proceedings, and 2025 Annual Reports. The *Code of Procedure* is labeled "Amended and Restated *Code of Procedure* May 2025". Additional information regarding all the Proposals can be found in this file.

Further, under separate cover and mailing, the complete printed hard-copy of the proposed *Code of Procedure* has been mailed via the U.S. Postal Service to each Lodge Secretary. If the *Code of Procedure* has not been received within seven days after the receipt of this letter, please notify the Grand Secretary using his e-mail address at GrandSecretary@nymasons.org.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE OF PROCEDURE AS DISTRIBUTED IN THE 2025 "BE IT KNOWN SUMMATION LETTER" DATED MAY 27, 2025 WERE APPROVED ON THE FIRST READING BY THE VOTE OF GRAND LODGE TOGETHER WITH THE APPROVAL OF THIS ADDED CAVEAT PROPOSED BY R.: W.: STUART W. CARD, A DELEGATE AND SENIOR WARDEN OF NEWPORT LODGE NO. 455 AND AMICABLE LODGE NO. 664, CHARGING THE WORDING OF SECTION 60 TO BE MODIFIED TO READ: "Securing testimony of witnesses not physically before the Commission. Any witness desired by a party to the Commission may testify by means of an audio-visual technology accepted as adequately secure by the Trial Commission, witness and parties, in lieu of physical appearance before the Commission (a "remote witness"). When a witness is to be examined in such manner, the chairman shall provide at least five days' notice to the parties of his intention so to do before the date set for the proceedings of the Trial Commission." This proposal having been Approved and Adopted on the First Reading at the 243rd Annual Communication, now AWAITS A SECOND AND FINAL READING AT THE NEXT ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

(13) **SPECIAL RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO RESTORATIONS**

A Proposed Special Resolution proffered by the Grand Master was presented for a vote and passed at the Annual Communication in May 2025 as follows:

Resolved that for one year from the passage of this resolution, at the direction of the Grand Master, Brothers who are unaffiliated for a period of less than five years, upon payment of \$100.00 to his Lodge and/or Lodges, shall be restored as a non-affiliated Mason, in full satisfaction of back dues and upon payment and a positive vote of the Lodge, shall be restored to membership.

It Is Further Resolved, that the said restored member shall be responsible for the full payment of dues in the year in which he has been so restored.

It Is Further Resolved, that for the failure of the restored brother to pay full dues for the year in which he is restored, the Brother is subject to Un-Affiliation.

The above Resolution under item (13) remains full and in effect throughout the term of the Grand Master unless and until the next Grand Master and/or Grand Lodge elects to continue the practice. This Resolution does NOT require a second vote and it is provided for information only.

In conclusion, we remind each Lodge that they have a Masonic Duty to read the entire contents of this document at a SUMMONED COMMUNICATION for the benefit of all of their respective members. Further, it is the Masonic Duty of each Lodge to determine by a vote of their respective members present how to respond to each of the proposed amendments contained herein and mark that decision upon the “SUMMATION PAGE”. Further, it is the Masonic Duty of each Lodge to cause the completed and signed “SUMMATION PAGE” to be mailed directly to the independent auditors using the enclosed colored envelope as directed herewith.

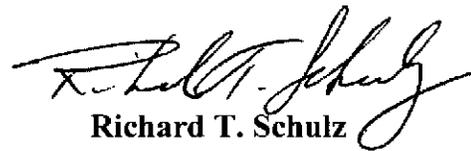
Lastly, in ATTESTATION that the votes indicated within the “SUMMATION PAGE” are both true and valid, the Worshipful Master and Secretary of the Lodge have dated and AFFIXED their signatures and the Seal of the Lodge to the said “SUMMATION PAGE”.

As a reminder, in accordance with Section 103 of the Constitutions, the 244th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, which will convene on Monday, May 4, 2026 and continue on Tuesday, May 5, 2026.

We are cognizant that the March 28, 2026 Special Communication and its agenda is a novel development and although we earnestly are trying to anticipate and provide answers to your questions, please rest assured that my office is open and available to assist you as much as possible.



Given under my hand and Seal of the Grand Lodge of New York, this Third Day of December 2025, A.L. 6025.


Richard T. Schulz
Grand Secretary