

**The Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas**  
**Office of the Grand Commander**  
**Lufkin, Texas**  
**April 19, 2021**

**GENERAL ORDER NO. 1, SERIES 2020-2021**

Subject: District Appointments, District Conclaves, Schools of Instruction, Annual Visitation, Blanket Dispensations, Grand Commandery Committee Meetings, Drill and Ritual Competition and the Annual Grand Conclave.

To: The Grand Officers, Past Grand Commanders, Officers and Members of the Constituent Commanderies of Texas.

Greetings, Sir Knights:

In accordance with the provisions of the Statutes and Regulations of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas, the following conditions will be observed during the 2021-2022 Templar year. **These conditions are subject to change contingent on the state of the COVID pandemic and its effects on public safety.**

**TEMPLAR DISTRICTS:**

In order to better facilitate annual visitations, in accordance with Article 108, of the Statues and Regulations of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas, the Templar Districts in Texas shall be reassigned as follows:

<b>DISTRICT 1</b>	<b>DISTRICT 2</b>	<b>DISTRICT 3</b>	<b>DISTRICT 4</b>
Dallas #6	Palestine #3	San Felipe de Austin #1	San Antonio #7
Indivisible Friends #13	Bertrand de Guesclin #14	Ruthven #2	Brownwood #22
DeMolay #20	Ascension #25	Beaumont #38	San Marcos #56
McKinney #34	Taylor #85	Kenedy #61	Corpus Christi #57
Tancred #82	Piney Woods #88	Port Arthur #73	Hidalgo #94
A.C. Garrett #103	East Texas #104	Fort Bend #74	St. John #101
Terrell #115	SouthEast Texas #112	Park Place #106	
		Melrose #109	
Ralph Royall	Gary Rock	Chance Chapman	Tommy Chapman
<b>DISTRICT 5</b>	<b>DISTRICT 6</b>	<b>DISTRICT 7</b>	<b>DISTRICT 8</b>
Ivanhoe #8	Cleburne #12	Colorado #4	Vernon #33
Waco #10	Worth #19	El Paso #18	Amarillo #48
Brenham #15	Denton #45	San Angelo #28	High Plains #53
Temple #41	Weatherford #51	Llano #54	Wichita Falls #59
Houston #95	Southside #83	Stamford #75	Lubbock# 60
Lone Star #114	Stephenville #100	Midland #84	Borger #96
Mexia UD #116	Arlington #107	Burnet #113	
Jason Lesikar	Justin Bauer		Ricky Cox
<b>DISTRICT 9</b>			
Texas Holding UD #200	Ric Jernigan		

## **DISTRICT APPOINTMENTS:**

I am proud to present the following Grand Officers, who will serve as the Personal Representatives of the Grand Commander in the following Districts:

District No. 1: Ralph Royall, Eminent Grand Standard Bearer  
District No. 2: Gary E. Rock Jr, Eminent Grand Junior Warden  
District No. 3: Tommy Chance Chapman, Eminent Grand Generalissimo  
District No. 4: Tommy Frank Chapman, Eminent Grand Warden  
District No. 5: Jason L. Lesikar, Eminent Grand Senior Warden  
District No. 6: Justin C. Bauer, Eminent Grand Captain General  
**District No. 7: John Doe, Eminent Grand Sentinel**  
District No. 8: Ricky D. Cox, Eminent Grand Sword Bearer  
District No. 9: Ric R. Jernigan, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander

## **DISTRICT CONCLAVES AND SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION:**

The District Schools of Instruction will be held during the months of June, July, and August 2021, on a date and time agreed upon by the Grand Officer assigned to the District and the host Commandery. The Grand Officers are to be respectful of Blue Lodge and Eastern Star installations when setting a date and time for the School. A formal or informal District Conclave should be held to discuss any upcoming events in the District, and to disseminate the most current information on our operations during pandemic restrictions.

The Grand Officer assigned to the District will notify the Commander and the Recorder of each Commandery in the District of the format, time and place of the School. Each Commandery, in the announcement of the School, will be reminded of **Article 113 of the Statutes and Regulations** that reads: ***“At such Schools of Instruction it shall be the duty of all the officers of each Commandery situated in such District to attend at the time and place designated, and to participate in the work of such School.”***

## **ANNUAL INSPECTION AND OFFICIAL VISITATION:**

The District Grand Officers will schedule the dates of the Official Visitations to be made in September, October, and November of 2021. Commanderies are reminded that our **Statutes and Regulations require them**, as a condition of being a Commandery, not only **to be able to Open and Close the Commandery in full ritualistic form or the alternate nine man opening ritual as adopted at the 165<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Conclave (April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014)**, but also **to confer the Order of the Temple in accordance with the 1979 Ritual of The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, as amended by Knight Templar Drill Regulations and Manual of Asylum Ceremonies of The Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas (1987)**. Although authorized by **Article 110 of the Statutes and Regulations**, while inspections may be held in the same location on the same day, joint conclaves for the purpose of inspection will not be permitted, as each commandery is required to perform its own inspection.

**All Commanderies are subject to the following regulations. No penalty points will be assessed at this year’s Annual Inspection.**

**Bonus points will be awarded as follows:**

### **Opening and Closing:**

- By Statute, currently only those commanderies in a district who perform the Full Form (18 man) Opening during inspection are eligible to compete for the J.C. Kidd Plaque, excepting if every commandery in a district performs the Alternate Nine Man Opening at their inspection, then every district commandery competes for the J.C. Kidd Plaque. In order to meet this requirement, **ALL 18 Sir Knights must be members of the inspected commandery, to be confirmed by the Inspecting Officer at roll call.**
- A Ten (10) point bonus will be awarded for each officer filling his installed station at the Annual Inspection of the commandery.
- Commanderies will receive a Fifty (50) point bonus if ALL installed officers are in attendance and filling their installed stations in the Opening and Closing Rituals.
- Commanderies performing the Full Form (18 man) Opening and Closing ritual will receive a Fifty (50) point bonus **only if ALL 18 Sir Knights are members of said Commandery.**

### **Order of the Temple:**

- A Ten (10) point bonus will be awarded for each officer filling his installed station at the Annual Inspection of the commandery.
- Commanderies will receive a Fifty (50) point bonus if ALL installed officers are in attendance and filling their installed stations in the Order of the Temple.
- Commanderies will receive a Twenty (20) point bonus for having an actual candidate at the Annual Inspection of the Commandery.
- Any member of the Commandery being inspected may give the Remaining Attributes; however, if the installed Commander or Generalissimo of the Commandery being inspected gives the Remaining Attributes, a twenty (20) point bonus will be awarded.

At the next Stated Conclave following receipt of this General Order, each Commander shall read aloud or cause to be read aloud **Chapter 56, Article 344, 345, and 346 of the Statutes and Regulations**, regarding Merit Awards and Service Medals, and the Recorder shall note this event in the minutes.

Commanders are reminded that **Article 111 of the Statutes and Regulations** requires that the Commander of each Commandery “***...cause the members of his Commandery to be notified to attend the visitation of the Grand Officer. All Sir Knights are strongly encouraged to visit other Commanderies, especially during the Official Visitation of the Grand Officer.***”

### **SALUTE TO THE TEXAS FLAG:**

Each Commandery shall give the Salute to the Texas Flag immediately following the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag at all stated and called Conclaves, as required in **Article 350 of the Statutes and Regulations**.

### **BLANKET DISPENSATIONS:**

**Where not prohibited by law, regulation or edict, and provided current social distancing and public safety guidelines are strictly adhered to**, a Blanket Dispensation is granted for Sir Knights to appear in public in uniform at:

I. Community events such as parades, dedications, leveling cornerstones, and ceremonies in connection with Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Veterans Day and any dignified public function where Templar Masonry will be promoted.

II. Church services as a Commandery.

III. Flag presentation ceremonies for any Masonic-related organization or for public events to promote Masonry, the Eye Foundation, the Holy Land Pilgrimage, or the Educational Foundation.

### **169<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONCLAVE:**

Assuming that the COVID-19 pandemic is contained and all restrictions have been lifted, the 169<sup>th</sup> Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas will be held in Waco, Texas, April 7 - 10, 2022, at the Grand Lodge Of Texas. Information regarding the 169<sup>th</sup> Annual Conclave will be made available on our website.

Registration will open at Noon on Thursday, April 7, 2022, at the Grand Lodge Building. The business session of the Grand Commandery of Texas will be held on Friday, April 8, 2022, beginning at 8:30 am.

Field Drill Competition will be at a yet to be determined location held on the morning of Saturday, April 9, 2022, using the most recent revised drill manual for Class A, B, C, and D teams, which are available on the Grand Encampment website. Entries should be sent to the Chairman of the Field Drill Committee (see Bulletin #1) ahead of time; however, entries will be accepted for the competition up to the Drill Captains meeting time on Thursday, April 7, 2022.

Ritualistic Competition will be held on the afternoon of Saturday, April 9, 2022, in the Order of Malta. The parts for the competition will be: Prior, Chaplain, Marshal, 3<sup>rd</sup> Banner, 5<sup>th</sup> Banner, and candidate. The exact portion of the Order for competition will be presented and demonstrated to the Sir Knights by the Templar Instruction Committee on Thursday evening, April 7, 2022, following the committee meeting. Entries should be sent to the Chairman of the Templar Instruction Committee (See Bulletin #1) ahead of time; however, entries will be accepted for the competition up to the meeting time on Thursday, April 7, 2022.

The Annual Banquet will be held on the evening of Saturday, April 9, 2022. The Annual Conclave will conclude on Sunday, April 10, 2022, with the Divine/Memorial Service at 8:30 am, followed by the Installation of the 2022-2023 Grand Commandery officers.

### **COMMITTEES:**

The Chairman of each Committee shall notify the Grand Officers of all meetings of their Committee as soon as they are scheduled, at least two weeks in advance. If possible, it is requested that any such meetings be held on a Saturday or Sunday, to facilitate the attendance of the Grand Officers at the Committee's meeting. Committees will submit their preliminary reports in writing to the Grand Recorder by March 1, 2022.

The address, telephone numbers and email address of the Grand Recorder are:

Jerry N. Kirby  
445 Saguaro Dr.  
Haslet, Texas 76052-1405  
Home and Cell: (817) 517-3000  
Office Phone: (682) 708-7735  
Office Fax: (682) 708-7666  
email: tx4star@gmail.com  
email: tx3star@att.net

The address, telephone numbers and email address of the Grand Commander are:

Ronnie Wilson  
248 Fredonia Ave  
Lufkin, TX 75904  
Cell: (936) 404-9441  
Email: Ronnie.wilson@gapac.com

This General Order is to be read aloud at the next Stated Conclave following its receipt, and the action noted by the Recorder in the minutes with a copy attached thereto.

Fraternally,

*Ronnie W. Wilson*

Ronnie W. Wilson  
Grand Commander

Attest:

*Jerry N. Kirby*

Jerry N. Kirby  
Grand Recorder

