

THE GRAND LODGE

of Ancient, Free and
Accepted Masons
of North Carolina

TO: Constituent Lodges of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free
& Accepted Masons of North Carolina

FROM: Grand Secretary T. Walton Clapp III

RE: Proposed amendments to *The Code*.

Brothers:

The following changes to *The Code* of the Grand Lodge
have been offered for consideration at our next Annual
Communication, September 19–20, 2007.



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Amendment Group 1

This amendment group would eliminate the requirement to read the minutes of emergent communications at the next stated communication.

REG. 45-23 RULES OF ORDER IN LODGE.

The following rules of order are for the government of subordinate lodges at their communications.

1. The lodge shall meet at the time and place specified in its by-laws, or in the call for the communication. After it has been opened, if the communication is stated, the record of its proceedings at the last stated and all intervening communications shall be read, the former to bring forward unfinished business and all of them as information to the members present. [45-21.1].

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Submitted by Charles M. Setzer Lodge No. 693

Amendment Group 2

This amendment group would allow a lodge upon dispensation from the Grand Master and upon meeting liability requirements to allow alcohol to be served at a non-Masonic function for which the building was rented.

REG. 43-3 LIMITATIONS.

Some, but not all, of the limitations of powers and authority of a subordinate lodge are as follows. [4-2; 4-6].

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3. A lodge shall not, by any pretext, or for any purpose, or by any subterfuge introduce intoxicating liquors or beverages, or permit their use as a beverage on any of its premises, during, or as a part of any Masonic function. Nor shall it rent any of its premises to any one who thereon sells or serves intoxicating liquors with the exception of a pharmacist without a dispensation from the Grand Master as provided in this section. [43-7; 86-2.30; 86-2.31].
4. No lodge shall authorize, sponsor, sanction, hold, conduct or permit to be held in the name of Masonry any Masonic related meeting or gathering, for business, social or any other purpose where alcoholic beverages are permitted, served or consumed as a part of such meetings or gatherings. Lodges may permit rental of their facilities provided a Dispensation from the Grand

Master is obtained prior to the event. The request for Dispensation is to be sent to the Grand Secretary and must be accompanied by:

- a. A copy of the rental agreement. Each lodge is free to develop its own agreement; however every agreement must contain indemnity language in a form lease as provided by the Grand Secretary.
- b. A copy of the Certificate of General Liability of the Lessor naming the individual Lodge and the Grand Lodge of North Carolina as an additional insured with such limits as shall be from time to time provided by the Grand Secretary.
- c. A copy of the Certificate of Alcohol Liability Insurance Coverage of the Lessor naming the individual Lodge and the Grand Lodge of North Carolina as additional insured, with such limits of coverage as shall be from time to time provided by the Grand Secretary.

All such requests for Dispensation must be made to allow ample time to review the request and permit action thereon. Any Lodge that allows the serving of alcohol without first obtaining the proper dispensation is in violation of the Code and members thereto risk suspension or expulsion.

Submitted by Hiram Lodge No. 40

Amendment Group 3

This amendment group would forgive per capita tax for a member judicially determined incompetent and would also forgive that person's lodge dues and would change all Code references from "insane" or "mentally disqualified" to "mentally incompetent."

REG. 20-1 ESTABLISHED.

Each lodge, including lodges under dispensation, shall pay annually to the Grand Secretary, for the use of the Grand Lodge, the sums hereinafter specified.

1. The sum of fifteen dollars and for each member of the lodge at low twelve on December thirty-first. A lodge shall be exempt from the payment of the annual assessment to the Grand Lodge for any member who has received either the Fifty-Year or Sixty-Year Service Award and any member of a lodge whose dues have been remitted under Reg. 77-14.2. [5-1.1; 20-1; 81-1; 81-7].

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Submitted by Joppa Lodge No. 401

REG. 67-4 REPORT.

The Committee of Investigation shall make its report in writing as favorable or unfavorable unless they should find that the petitioner or applicant is not eligible or qualified as to territorial or personal jurisdiction or as to his physical condition, or other cause, except as to his moral qualifications, in which case they may make such further report as will enable the Master to decide upon the proper action to take on the petition or application under Regulation [67-6](#). [[59-2.48](#); [62-2.3](#); [62-2.4](#); [66-2](#); Official Form 19].

7. When a petitioner for the degrees dies, or becomes insane mentally incompetent or otherwise disqualified before the ballot is taken, the fact shall be noted on the minutes of the lodge, and no further action shall be taken except to return the fee paid. [[68-9](#); [71-5](#)].

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REG. 75-1 RIGHT TO APPLY FOR AFFILIATION.

The right of every Master Mason in good standing to apply for membership in any regular lodge of his choice, wherever it may be located, shall be absolute. An application for affiliation may be received by a lodge regardless of the period or place of residence, whether in or outside of North Carolina, of the applicant at the time the application is filed. [[42-12](#); [68-7](#); [76-3.6](#)].

1. The right shall not apply to one who is insane mentally incompetent.

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REG. 71-7 DISABILITY SUBSEQUENT TO INITIATION.

If an Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft shall suffer a physical impairment after receiving the degree, which could have disqualified him under Regulation 66-1.9 from receiving the first degree, he may be eligible for advancement if and when authorized by the Grand Master. He is not eligible for advancement if he becomes mentally disqualified. incompetent.

REG. 75-8 RECEIPT OF AN APPLICATION.

No application for affiliation shall be received except at a stated communication, and not then unless the applicant shall have satisfied the Master that he is a Master Mason by the methods required for visitation. [[42-12](#); [45-3.4.C](#); [75-2](#); [75-9](#); [76-3.6](#); [Chapter 51](#)].

2. If an applicant for affiliation shall die or become insane mentally incompetent before he is elected, no further action shall be taken except to note the fact in the minutes of the lodge, which action will end the proceedings. [[59-2.12](#); [67-3.1](#); [68-2](#); [75-8](#); [75-11.1](#); [75-11.2](#); [75-11.3](#); [75-11.4](#); [75-11.5](#)].

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REG. 76-3 REQUIREMENTS.

A member may be granted an absolute demit when the following requirements are met.

6. An insane mentally incompetent brother shall not be granted a demit. [[49-4.4](#); [75-1](#); [75-8](#); [76-2](#); [76-2.1](#); [76-3.7](#)].

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REG. 77-14 BROTHER UNABLE TO PAY.

A lodge should not exclude a member for nonpayment of dues when

his failure to pay dues is wholly on account of his pecuniary inability, but it may do so.

2. An insane or mentally incompetent member of a lodge shall not be excluded for nonpayment of dues. No dues shall be charged by a lodge against a member who is, in the opinion of the Master and Wardens, insane incompetent. [[77-13](#)].

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REG. 82-2 WHO MAY RECEIVE MASONIC RITES.

Only a Master Mason who at the time of his death was a member in good standing in a regular lodge and under no charges, shall be buried with Masonic rites. [[59-2.43](#); [82-4](#); [87-5](#)].

3. A lodge may hold a Masonic burial service over the remains of a brother who was insane mentally incompetent. [[82-5](#)].

A brother who died insane and who was a member of a lodge that is defunct, and who was insane mentally incompetent at the time the lodge became defunct may be given Masonic burial.

Submitted by Code Commission

Amendment Group 4

This amendment group would eliminate the requirement for two annual schools of instruction. This is in light of the recent addition by the Board of Custodians of compulsory Lodge Lecture Service every other year.

REG. 29-9 DUTIES OF DISTRICT LECTURERS.

The duties of a District Deputy Grand Lecturer shall be as follows.

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5. To arrange for and conduct Schools of Instruction in the ritualistic work in his district as may be prescribed from time to time by the Board of Custodians. Each lodge in the district shall actively participate in at least two Schools of Instruction each calendar year. Ritualistic work done in or by one lodge only shall not constitute a School of Instruction.

Submitted by Board of Custodians

Amendment Group 5

This amendment would allow a local lodge to modify its by-laws to require disclosure of the reasons for two or fewer black cubes.

REG. 44-7 UNIFORM BY-LAWS.

Article 19

(Fourth Alternative Form)

SECTION __ If two or fewer black cubes are found on the examination of the ballot, the Master shall require the members casting the black cubes to rise and state their reasons. Once their reasons are stated, the Master shall inquire of the lodge whether the reasons stated are valid. The lodge, by show of hands, shall vote on the validity of the reasons stated. If a majority member present find the reasons valid, the ballot shall stand. (Royal White Hart Law of 1765).

REG. 68-3 PROCEDURE.

After the reports of the Grand Secretary and the Committee of

Investigation have been received the ballot shall be taken as follows.

12. If the Master finds that the ballot is clear, or that there is more than one black cube, he shall ask the Wardens how they find the ballot and not until then, shall he proclaim the result. (If a lodge has enacted the “Royal White Hart Law of 1765” under special local provision Article 19 of lodge bylaws, pursuant to Chapter 44, that procedure shall be supplemented after and/or in place of the procedure set forth here.)

13. In case only one black cube appears, the Master shall not then declare the result but immediately at the same communication order a rebalot without discussion on the part of the members or any intervening act or business, the result of the rebalot shall be declared, and it shall be final except as provided in Regulation 68-8. [63-5.4; 68-8.2]. (If a lodge has enacted the “Royal White Hart Law of 1765” under special local provision Article 19 of lodge bylaws, pursuant to Chapter 44, that procedure shall be supplemented after and/or in place of the procedure set forth here.)

15. In any secret ballot white balls are affirmative votes and black cubes are negative votes. A unanimously favorable ballot of white balls shall be required to elect a petitioner or an applicant, or to adopt any proposition submitted to the secret ballot. (If a lodge has enacted the “Royal White Hart law of 1761” under special local provision Article 19 of lodge bylaws, pursuant to Chapter 44, that procedure shall be supplemented after and/or in place of the procedure set forth here.)[42-9; 65-1; 75-11.2; 75-11.3; 75-11.4; 75-11.5].

REG. 86-2 SPECIFIC MASONIC OFFENSES.

The following are specific Masonic offenses and, in certain instances, the penalty is specified. These shall not be construed as excluding any other Masonic offenses or un-Masonic conduct or penalties not specifically described or enumerated in this chapter or in other chapters of *The Code*.

6. To make known, declare, intimate, or indicate in any way the kind of ballot cast by oneself or by a brother, or to declare or indicate the number of favorable white balls, or unfavorable black cubes, ballots cast in a secret ballot on a petition or application, or purposely seeking to learn the kind of ballot cast by another, except if the lodge of which the Mason is a member has enacted the Royal White Hart Law of 1765 as part of its by-laws. Under this regulation it is obvious that it would be a Masonic offense to permit any statement or evidence to be offered at a trial as to the kind of ballot cast by a brother or the number of black cubes or white balls cast. The offense is the publication of his ballot. Penalty expulsion. [68-5].

Submitted by Jefferson Penn Lodge 384

Amendment Group 6

This amendment would set the per capita tax payable in January as a part of the budget adopted at the Annual Communication the preceding September and subject to any changes under Amendment Group 3.

REG. 20-1 ESTABLISHED.

Each lodge, including lodges under dispensation, shall pay annually to the grand secretary, for the use of the Grand Lodge, the sums hereinafter specified.

1. The amount established by the Grand Lodge as the per capita tax ~~The sum of fifteen dollars~~ for each member of the lodge at low twelve on December thirty-first for the ensuing year shall be based on the budget approved at the preceding annual communication. A lodge shall be exempt from the payment of the annual assessment to the Grand Lodge for any member who has received either the Fifty-Year or Sixty-Year Service Award. [5-1.1; 20-1; 81-1; 81-7].

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Submitted by Finance Committee

Amendment Group 7

This amendment would raise per capita tax from fifteen to seventeen dollars and would be subject to any changes under Amendment Group 3

REG. 20-1 ESTABLISHED.

Each lodge, including lodges under dispensation, shall pay annually to the Grand Secretary, for the use of the Grand Lodge, the sums hereinafter specified.

1. The sum of ~~fifteen~~ seventeen dollars and for each member of the lodge at low twelve on December thirty-first. A lodge shall be exempt from the payment of the annual assessment to the Grand Lodge for any member who has received either the Fifty-Year or Sixty-Year Service Award. [5-1.1; 20-1; 81-1; 81-7]. (This subsection amended, effective 9/25/2004)

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Submitted by Finance Committee

Amendment Group 8

This amendment group would allow lodges at the discretion of the master to conduct business on any degree. Entered apprentices and fellow-craft would pay dues. This is a return to ancient custom.

REG. 45-8 QUORUM.

Seven Master Masons, members of the lodge, one of whom shall be authorized to open the lodge and preside, shall constitute a quorum to open the lodge on any degree and for the transaction of any business that may lawfully come before a Master Mason's lodge. The Tyler, if a member of the lodge, may be one of the seven. [38-2; 39-11; 74-1; 87-3].

REG. 45-9 DEGREE ON WHICH LODGE OPENED.

All business shall be transacted in a Master Mason's Lodge, except proficiency examinations and degree work in the first and second degrees, or the discipline of Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts as provided in Chapter 100. Business may be conducted in a lodge opened on the first, second, or third degree at the discretion of the

Master of the lodge.

1. ~~A subordinate lodge shall be opened and closed on the degree of Master Mason in Due Form and on the first and second degrees in Form, except when the Grand Master opens and presides, then they shall be opened and closed in Ample Form. Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts may attend business meetings of the lodge provided the lodge is not opened on a degree higher than that which they have attained and provided that the Entered Apprentices or Fellow Crafts are not in default (Reference Reg. 73-6).~~

A. Only Master Masons shall be entitled to vote on a petition for the degrees, an application for affiliation, or an application for restoration.

B. An Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft shall not be appointed or installed to any office.

2. Stated Communications conducted on the first or second degree shall be opened for the dispatch of business and closed until the next stated communication, unless sooner convened.

3. A subordinate lodge shall be opened and closed on the degree of Master Mason in Due Form and on the first and second degrees in Form, except when the Grand Master opens and presides, then they shall be opened and closed in Ample Form.

~~2. 4. The representatives of the three Lesser Lights shall be lighted at all times when a lodge is open on the Degree of Entered Apprentice. It shall be optional whether they be lighted at any other time when the lodge is open. Their places shall be in a triangular position near the altar.~~

REG. 45-18 MASTER MASON'S LODGE CLOSED.

Every Master Mason's lodge shall be closed until the next stated communication unless sooner convened. Lodges of Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft Masons shall be closed without date except as specified in REG. 45-9.2.

REG. 63-5 SECRET BALLOT.

Secret ballot shall be taken as follows. [87-17].

1. Wherever the term secret ballot is used in The Code, it shall mean the use of white balls and black cubes but not black balls, and with a ballot box so arranged that the character of an individual ballot shall not become known. [Chapter 68].

2. A motion to reconsider a secret ballot is illegal and shall not be entertained.

3. A written ballot is not a secret ballot.

4. A secret ballot when once commenced must be completed without interval or postponement.

5. Only Master Masons may vote in a secret ballot. [68-3.9; 68-3.13; 68-3.17; 68-3.18; 68-3.19].

REG. 64-3 FEE AND ONE YEAR'S DUES MUST ACCOMPANY PETITION.

No lodge shall receive any petition for the degrees unless the prescribed fee and dues for one year shall have been actually paid in full, in money, to the proper officer. No written or verbal promise to pay the same be received in lieu thereof.

REG. 68-1 RESTRICTIONS ON BALLOT.

No ballot shall be taken on a petition for the degrees, an application for affiliation, or an application for restoration at any other than a stated communication.

1. No ballot shall be taken in less than twenty-eight days from the time the petition or application was received by the lodge.

2. No ballot shall be taken until the report of the Grand Secretary has been received by the lodge.

3. No ballot shall be taken until a Committee of Investigation shall have reported thereon unless otherwise provided by law.

4. A secret ballot on any subject taken in violation of the law of this Grand Lodge is illegal and void.

5. Another secret ballot on the same subject shall not be taken until it has been authorized by the Grand Master, and then only at a stated communication.

6. Only Master Masons may vote in a secret ballot. [43-3.7; 45-3.4; 45-3.4.B; 45-3.4.C; 45-3.4.D; 59-2.12; 65-1; ~~63-5.5~~; 65-8; 65-9; 68-8; 68-11; 68-8.2; 73-3; 75-11.1; 78-2.2; 78-2.2.D; 78-2.2.E; 81-2; 101-6].

REG. 77-4 ~~ONLY MASTER MASON'S ALL MEMBERS PAY DUES.~~

~~Only Master Masons~~ All members shall be liable for dues and subject to discipline for nonpayment thereof. The payment of dues is a specific obligation of each member.

REG. 82-2 WHO MAY RECEIVE MASONIC RITES.

~~Only a Master Mason who at the time of his death was a member in good standing in a regular lodge and under no charges, shall be buried with Masonic rites.~~ [59-2.43; 82-4; 87-5].

Submitted by Blackmer Lodge 127 and Wilkerson College Lodge 760

Amendment Group 9

This amendment group eliminates redundancy in the requirements of the fifty and sixty year awards and allows discretion of pin design

REG. 80-3 FIFTY YEAR SERVICE AWARD.

The Grand Lodge has established a medal or emblem to be known

as the Grand Lodge of North Carolina Veterans' Emblem to be presented to Master Masons, members of lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge who have been Master Masons in good standing for a total of at least fifty years or more preceding the date of the award. The cost of this medal, together with a suitable certificate, to be presented in the name of the Grand Lodge shall be borne by the Grand Lodge.

- ~~1. The cost of this medal, together with a suitable certificate, to be presented in the name of the Grand Lodge shall be borne by the Grand Lodge.~~
- ~~2. To entitle a brother to the Veterans' Emblem, he must have been a Master Mason in good standing for a total of at least fifty years.~~
- ~~3. In the event he has been deprived of all the rights and privileges of a Master Mason because of demission, exclusion, suspension or expulsion, the time he was non-affiliated shall be eliminated in counting the years to arrive at the membership for fifty years. [~~87-5; 89-11~~].~~
- ~~4. The Grand Lodge of North Carolina Veteran's Emblem shall be made of gold. The design shall be as shown in Regulation 89-11.~~

REG. 80-2 SIXTY YEAR SERVICE AWARD.

The Grand Lodge has established a Medal or Emblem to be known as the Grand Lodge of North Carolina Diamond Jubilee Veteran's Emblem to be presented to Master Masons, members of lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, who have been Master Masons in good standing for a total of at least sixty years or more preceding the date of the award. This medal together with a suitable certificate shall be presented in the name of the Grand Lodge and the cost thereof to be borne by the Grand Lodge.

1. This medal together with a suitable certificate shall be presented in the name of the Grand Lodge and the cost thereof to be borne by the Grand Lodge.
2. The Emblem to be of the same design as the North Carolina Veteran's Emblem, except that the Emblem shall be platinum and if that metal is not available, white gold may be used, and the figures shall be 60 instead of 50. [~~13-1.2; 89-11~~].

Submitted by Grand Secretary

Amendment Group 10

This amendment group would require lodges to remit \$15.00 to the Grand Secretary for any restored member upon receiving payment of dues.

REG. 20-1 ESTABLISHED.

Each lodge, including lodges under dispensation, shall pay annually to the Grand Secretary, for the use of the Grand Lodge, the sums hereinafter specified.

3. The sum of fifteen dollars for each member restored after exclusion for NPD by the lodge.

Submitted by Grand Secretary

Amendment Group 11

This amendment would eliminate unneeded language from apron description.

REG. 89-2 MASONIC APRON.

The proper Masonic apron to be used in this Grand Jurisdiction shall be plain white without decorations of any kind, not larger than 15 x 17 inches made of lambskin, leather, or cloth. ~~with white tie-cords.~~

1. If the apron is lined, the lining shall be white. [~~89-3; 89-4; 89-6.2~~].
2. The apron to be presented to a candidate may be inscribed under the flap with his name, the dates he received the degrees, and the signatures of the Master and the Secretary.

Submitted by Grand Secretary

Amendment Group 12

This amendment would remove 86-2.31 as Obsolete because it is covered under 86-2.30

REG. 86-2 SPECIFIC MASONIC OFFENSES.

The following are specific Masonic offenses and, in certain instances, the penalty is specified. These shall not be construed as excluding any other Masonic offenses or un-Masonic conduct or penalties not specifically described or enumerated in this chapter or in other chapters of *The Code*.

30. To manufacture, transport, sell, or possess intoxicating liquor in violation of the laws of the State of North Carolina or of the United States of America. Penalty expulsion. [~~43-3.3~~].

31. ~~To own or keep what is commonly known as a liquor saloon, or to attend bar in a liquor saloon. A liquor saloon is defined under this section as a place where the main business is the sale of intoxicating liquors to be consumed on the premises; provided, it shall not be considered a Masonic Offense to operate a dining facility pursuant to the laws of the State of North Carolina where spirituous or intoxicating liquors are sold in strict conformity with the laws of the State of North Carolina. Penalty expulsion. Obsolete. [43-3.3].~~
(print 86-2.30)

Submitted by Grand Secretary

Amendment Group 13

Lodge Annual Meeting Clarification

This amendment group would clarify the date of a lodge's annual meeting with a change to the lodge uniform by-laws.

REG. 54-1 ANNUAL ELECTION.

Each chartered lodge, annually ~~at the first stated communication either in November or December, as provided in its by-laws under Article 8 Section 2,~~ shall elect without nomination by written ballot from its members the elective officers. The lodge shall not elect officers by acclamation. [~~44-2.1; 44-7(Art.8); 45-2; 45-6; 45-3.4.A; 53-1; 53-1.1; 53-2; 54-3.1~~].

ARTICLE 8

SECTION 2. The annual communication of this lodge shall be held on the first stated communication in _____.

(The lodge shall select November or December for its annual meeting to elect its officers.)

SECTION 2-3. By a majority vote at a stated communication the lodge may dispense with stated communications during either or all of the months of June, July, and August, and those falling on legal holidays, except the annual communication which shall be governed by *The Code*. [45-2].

Submitted by Grand Secretary

Amendment Group 14

This amendment group would allow for objection to initiation in extreme cases, by reference to the Grand Master.

Reg. 73-3 OBJECTION TO INITIATION. ~~Obsolete.~~ In the event any Master Mason in good standing shall believe he has good reason to object to the initiation of an Entered Apprentice, including reasons of moral turpitude, he shall make written petition to the Grand Master prior to the scheduled initiation, stating his reasons, with a copy to the Master of the Lodge. Action on the same shall be entirely in the discretion of the Grand Master.

REG. 13-4 RESTRICTIONS ON POWERS.

The Grand Master has no authority to:

- 10. Interfere with or set aside an objection to initiation: ~~Obsolete~~

Submitted by the Code Commission

Amendment Group 15

This is a housekeeping measure. When concurrent jurisdiction was introduced several years ago, this regulation was overlooked.

REG. 86-2 SPECIFIC MASONIC OFFENSES.

The following are specific Masonic offenses and, in certain instances, the penalty is specified. These shall not be construed as excluding any other Masonic offenses or un-Masonic conduct or penalties not specifically described or enumerated in this chapter or in other chapters of *The Code*.

- 24. For a lodge to accept a petition of one who has been rejected within six months preceding the date of petition. ~~and, in case of concurrent jurisdiction, to accept the petition of one who has been rejected by another lodge in the same concurrent jurisdiction within one year preceding the date of the petition.~~ [70-1.2; 70-2].

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Submitted by Grand Secretary

Resolution of Mutual Recognition of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina and Its Jurisdictions, Inc. by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina

WHEREAS, The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina (hereinafter The Grand Lodge) desires to insure a continuing harmonious relationship between it and the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina and its Jurisdictions, Inc. (hereinafter The Prince Hall Grand Lodge); to provide for the successful coexistence of both Grand Lodges and to promote Masonry in general among all peoples; AND

WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge, for all the reasons set out in Brother James G. Martin's statement to The Grand Lodge dated September 29, 2001, believes that it is altogether right and proper and in the best interests of Masonry everywhere and particularly in North Carolina that these two Grand Lodges exercising Masonic jurisdiction in this state mutually recognize each other while each retains its own autonomy and jurisdiction hereafter as heretofore; AND

WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge is satisfied that The Prince Hall Grand Lodge meets all Masonic requirements for recognition; AND

WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge desires to remain autonomous within its jurisdiction and to operate hereafter as heretofore with its own Grand Master and other Grand Lodge Officers, Constitution, By-Laws, Ritual, Rules and Regulations, and to retain its absolute and supreme sovereignty over its own Subordinate Lodges and Membership; AND

WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge is advised that The Prince Hall Grand Lodge entertains the same desires and possesses the same satisfaction with regard to recognition by it of The Grand Lodge and desires that both Grand Lodges mutually recognize each other as duly constituted Masonic Grand Lodges; AND

WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge is advised that The Prince Hall Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication in 2004 passed a resolution extending fraternal recognition to The Grand Lodge in the same manner and on the same terms as the present resolution,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF NORTH CAROLINA THAT:

1. It hereby extends fraternal recognition to The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina and Its Jurisdictions, Inc., as a duly constituted Masonic Grand Lodge;
2. It will remain autonomous within its jurisdiction and will operate hereafter as heretofore with its own Grand Master and other Grand Lodge Officers, Constitution, ByLaws, Ritual, Rules and Regulations and will retain its absolute and supreme sovereignty over its own Subordinate Lodges and Membership.