

THE  
GRAND  
LODGE

of Ancient, Free and  
Accepted Masons  
of North Carolina



R. DAVID WICKER, JR.  
GRAND MASTER 2021

[dwicker@glnc.us](mailto:dwicker@glnc.us)

The Grand Lodge of  
Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons  
of North Carolina

\*\*\*\*\*  
GRAND MASTER'S ORDER NO.: 14  
\*\*\*\*\*

**THAT WHEREAS**, on Thursday, June 17, 2021, the Grand Master of Masons held a District Meeting at Hiram Lodge No. 98 in Clinton, NC, wherein approximately 50 brethren were present and the ladies of the Order of the Eastern were kind enough to prepare and serve dinner to those in attendance;

**AND WHEREAS**, on Friday, June 18, 2021, a brother began to experience symptoms of COVID-19, said brother having been at dinner with the Craft and ladies of the Order of the Eastern Star and thereafter attended the above referenced District Meeting, at all times without having been vaccinated and without wearing a cloth face covering in compliance with the Order of the Governor;

**AND WHEREAS**, on Sunday, June 20, 2021, said brother tested positive for COVID-19;

**AND WHEREAS**, the implementation of the COVID-19 vaccinations have been successful in greatly reducing risk of contracting COVID-19, but said risk has not been entirely eliminated as many members of society have failed or refused to receive the vaccine;

**AND WHEREAS**, the exposure of COVID-19 to the Craft and to the ladies of the Order of the Eastern Star makes it apparent that, for the safety of the Craft, additional measures and protocols are required to be put in place;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the following safety protocols shall be put in place and are to be strictly adhered to by all Masonic Lodges within this Grand Jurisdiction, as well as each and every appendant body or other Masonic organizations in this Grand Jurisdiction, unless or until amended, modified or rescinded by further order of the Grand Master:

1. The Master of the Lodge, or presiding officer of any appendant Masonic body, shall ensure that his lodge or body has an adequate amount of disinfectant, cleaning supplies, and hand sanitizer available in the lodge prior to each meeting;
2. Prior to entry into a lodge building, meeting hall, or lodge room, **ALL** members shall use hand sanitizer.
3. To ensure that notice can be given to everyone in attendance should someone later test positive for COVID-19, prior to entry into a lodge building or meeting hall, **ALL** members and other attendees shall submit to and sign a health questionnaire. Each questionnaire shall be maintained by the Secretary for not less than 45 days;
4. The Master of the Lodge, or presiding officer of any appendant Masonic body, shall have the discretion to require all in attendance to properly wear a cloth face covering during any Masonic function, regardless of whether or not the individual has been fully vaccinated. Those who are in attendance shall comply with the order of the Master or presiding officer with this regard;
5. Any member or other attendee shall have the right to wear a cloth face covering during a Masonic Function, even if not required to do so by the Master of the Lodge or presiding officer of any appendant Masonic body;
6. Any member or attendee who **HAS NOT** been fully vaccinated **SHALL** properly wear a cloth face covering at all times during a Masonic function or any function of any appendant Masonic body;
7. Unless ordered to do so by the Master of the Lodge, or presiding officer of any appendant Masonic body, any member or attendee who **HAS** been fully vaccinated shall have the right to forego the wearing of a cloth face covering during a Masonic function or any function of any appendant Masonic body;
8. In the event that a meal is being served, any member or attendee who has not been fully vaccinated may remove their cloth face covering while eating or drinking. However, they may do so **ONLY** if they are otherwise observing proper social distancing from others in attendance.
9. In the event that a meal is being served, no buffet lines shall be permitted wherein each member or attendee present is required to touch the same serving utensils. Buffet lines are permitted **ONLY** if food and drink are served by someone wearing gloves and a cloth face covering. Otherwise, meals must be prepackaged for service to those in attendance.

10. Anyone exhibiting the physical symptoms of, or having tested positive for, COVID-19 within the last ten (10) days shall not attend any Masonic event or any event of any appendant Masonic body;
11. Any Masonic Lodge or any appendant Masonic body that has a confirmed COVID-19 exposure shall (1) immediately notify all members present at the time of the exposure per the information contained on the health questionnaire, (2) immediately contact the District Deputy Grand Master or the proper District Officer for any appendant Masonic body, who shall in turn contact the Grand Lodge Office or their respective governing body and (3) see that the Lodge or meeting hall is properly cleaned and sanitized prior to any future use;

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Grand Presiding Officer of each and every appendant body or other Masonic organization in this Grand Jurisdiction shall require their respective bodies and organizations to adhere to the conditions and protocols set out in this Order;

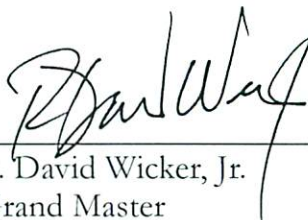
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that all prior Covid Orders currently in place and not inconsistent with this Order shall remain in full force and effect;

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this Order shall become effective immediately upon execution by the Grand Master and shall remain in effect unless and until amended or modified by subsequent order of the Grand Master;

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that any violation of this Order of the Grand Master shall be a serious Masonic Offense.

Given under my hand and seal in the City of Oxford, North Carolina, on this the 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2021.



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
R. David Wicker, Jr.  
Grand Master