

**Constitution & Regulations**  
*of the*  
**Grand Commandery of Knights Templar**  
*of the*  
**District of Columbia**



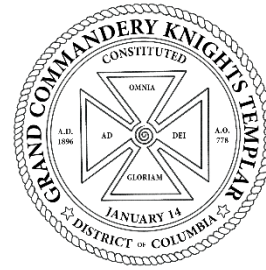
Adopted January 19, 1948  
Amended May 10, 1975  
Amended March 18, 1989  
Amended March 19, 1993  
Amended September 25, 2010  
Amended March 16, 2019  
Amended March 16, 2020  
Amended April 21, 2025  
Amended September 25, 2025

**PREAMBLE**

This Grand Commandery shall be governed by the Constitution, Statutes, and Rituals of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, and by the following Constitution and Regulations.

Approved under my hand and the seal of the Grand Commandery,

Elijah C. Mills, KTCH  
Grand Commander



## **Section 1. Name**

This body shall be designated and known as “The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the District of Columbia”, by virtue of a charter granted by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, from which it derives all its powers and privileges, and to whose Constitution, Statues and Rituals, implicit respect and obedience shall ever be paid by its Officers and members.

## **Section 2. Membership**

The members of this Grand Commandery shall be those specified in Section 35 of the *Constitution, Statues, Disciplinary Rules, Standing Resolutions, Ceremonies, Forms and Approved Decisions of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America*, henceforth referred to as the “Grand Encampment Constitution”.

## **Section 3. Definitions**

The official documents of this Grand Commandery are, in addition to this Constitution, the “Officer’s Handbook” and “Asylum Tactics.” Amendments of the Officer’s Handbook or Asylum Tactics shall require a simple majority vote at the Semi-Annual or Annual Conclave. This Constitution shall supersede the Officer’s Handbook and Asylum Tactics if a conflict between documents should arise.

## **Section 4. Conclaves**

- (a) The Annual Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery shall be held on the third Saturday or Friday immediately preceding the third Saturday of the month at such a time and place in the District of Columbia as may be designated by the Grand Commander
- (b) The Semi-Annual Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery shall be held six months after the Annual Conclave, within 45 days before or after the date for the purpose of reviewing and updating Grand Commandery procedures, election of officers, and any other appropriate legal business.
- (c) The Grand Visitation by the Grand Commander to a constituent Commandery shall consist of the Inspection of Sir Knights, Inspection of the Recorders’ and Treasurers’ Books, and receipt of each Commanders’ Reports.

Conclaves shall additionally conform to Section 36 of the Grand Encampment Constitution.

## **Section 5. Conduct of Conclaves & Voting Therein**

- (a) A qualified voting member present, in person or by proxy, shall be entitled to vote in accordance with the provisions of Section 38 of the Grand Encampment Constitution.

## **Section 6. Officers**

This Grand Commandery shall have the powers and duties enumerated in Section 41 of the Grand Encampment Constitution. The Officers of this Grand Commandery shall be:

- (a) Those who shall be elected at the Semi-Annual Conclave
  - The Grand Commander
  - The Deputy Grand Commander
  - The Grand Generalissimo
  - The Grand Captain General
  - The Grand Senior Warden
  - The Grand Junior Warden

The Grand Treasurer  
The Grand Recorder

- (b) Those to be appointed by the Grand Commander at the Annual Conclave, or as soon as possible after his election:

The Grand Prelate  
The Grand Standard Bearer  
The Grand Sword Bearer  
The Grand Warder  
The Grand Sentinel  
The Inspector General  
The Instructor General of the Work

### **Section 7. Duties of Officers**

- (a) The Duties of the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, and Grand Captain General shall reflect those enumerated in the Grand Encampment Constitution Sections 48-50 inclusive.
- (b) The Grand Commander, the Deputy Grand Commander, the Grand Recorder, the Grand Generalissimo, and the Grand Captain General, shall, in person or by proxy, attend all Conclaves of the Grand Encampment and Department Conferences.

### **Section 8. The Grand Treasurer**

The duties of the Grand Treasurer shall reflect those enumerated in the Grand Encampment Constitution Section 51, in addition to:

- (a) Make investments, from time to time, upon the recommendation(s) of the Committee on Finance, in such manner(s) as the Grand Commandery may direct, all monies which may come to his hands, belonging and attributable to the Grand Commandery.
- (b) Render to the Grand Commandery, at the Annual Conclave, a true account of his transactions, together with an account of all monies received, investments, and any accrued earnings thereof and any amounts disbursed by him during the Templar year, and shall submit his books for inspection by the Committee on Finance no later than five (5) days preceding each Annual Conclave. He shall transmit a summary of his accounts to the Grand Commander by the first day in March of each year. He may pay monies only under the authority of the Grand Commandery and/or upon the warrant or order of the Grand Commander, attested by the Grand Recorder.
- (c) Examine the books of the Treasurer of each Commandery at the Commandery's annual visitation and report to the Grand Commander the financial condition of the Commandery for the year ending December 31.
- (d) He shall receive an annual honorarium for his services, payable at the end of the Templar year, the amount shall be determined by the Grand Commandery, upon the recommendation of the Committee on Finance.
- (e) The Grand Treasurer, the Grand Recorder, and the Finance Committee shall establish and maintain an accounts inventory, with elements of expense and income, whereby all incomes and expenses shall be identified and categorized. They shall use the ledger generated by these elements to build a Grand Commandery Budget, using the calendar-year (CY) as its period.

This Grand Commandery CY Budget will be presented and approved at the Semi-Annual Grand Conclave for the forthcoming year.

### **Section 9. The Grand Recorder**

The duties of the Grand Recorder shall reflect those enumerated in the Grand Encampment Constitution Section 52, in addition to:

- (a) Issue a notice to the members of the Grand Commandery, at least ten (10) days prior to the date of regular and Special Conclaves; in the notice for Special Conclaves, The Grand Recorder shall specify the business to be brought before the Grand Commandery; and shall issue the summons directed by the Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery.
- (b) The Grand Recorder shall keep accurate minutes of the transactions of the Grand Commandery, edit material for inclusion in the printed proceedings, and publish the proceedings.
- (c) The Grand Recorder shall collect and receive monies and promptly pay to the Grand Treasurer revenues of the Grand Commandery. The Grand Recorder shall submit the books for Inspection by the Committee on Finance not later than five (5) days preceding the Annual Conclave.
- (d) The Grand Recorder shall examine the books of the Recorder of each Commandery for the year ending December 31, and report to the Grand Commander, at the annual visitation, the number of members Knighted, affiliated and reinstated; the number lost by death, dismissal, and suspension; the number on the Commandery's roll at the end of the year.
- (e) The Grand Recorder shall receive for his services an annual honorarium for his services, the amount of which shall be determined by the Grand Commandery, upon the recommendation of the Committee on Finance.
- (f) The Grand Recorder shall serve as custodian of Past Grand Commander's jewels. The Grand Recorder shall issue a Past Grand Commander Jewel to each new Past Grand Commander and register said Jewel within the Proceedings of the Grand Commandery, pending availability. The Grand Recorder must conduct an annual inventory of Past Grand Commander Jewels in his possession. This report shall be presented at the Annual Conclave. The Grand Recorder will have each new Past Grand Commander sign a receipt for the Past Grand Commander's Jewel. This receipt shall be presented to the PGC's beneficiary for return of the PGC's Jewel to this Grand Commandery.
- (g) The Grand Treasurer, the Grand Recorder, and the Committee on Finance shall establish and maintain an accounts inventory, with elements of expense and income, whereby all incomes and expenses shall be identified and categorized. They shall use the ledger generated by these elements to build a Grand Commandery Budget, using the calendar-year (CY) as its period. This Grand Commandery CY Budget will be presented and approved at the Semi-Annual Grand Conclave for the forthcoming year.

### **Section 10. Qualifications of Grand Officers**

- (a) Elected Grand Commandery Officers must be Past Commanders of a District of Columbia (DC) Commandery. Appointed Grand Commandery Officers must be a Past or Current Commander of a DC Commandery.

The Grand Commandery Officers shall be elected to a progressive line from a nomination slate beginning at the Grand Junior Warden's station. However, the Grand Commander shall retain the option to accept nominations from the floor for any individual Grand Officer station should one or more Grand Officers choose not to accept their nomination.

### **Section 11. Revenues & Finances**

- (a) The fee for a Charter for a Constituent Commandery shall be five hundred dollars (\$500.00).
- (b) A constituent Commandery shall pay a sum of forty dollars (\$40.00) for each Sir Knight returned as a member thereof to the Grand Commandery in annual dues.

### **Section 12. Petitions**

Petitions for the Orders and affiliation membership may be received and balloted upon at the Stated or Special Conclave at which they are read in the Commandery, without dispensation from the Grand Commander.

### **Section 13. Constituent Commanderies**

The Constituent Commanderies of this Jurisdiction shall be governed by Section 57 to 84, inclusive of the Grand Encampment Constitution. A quorum consists of five (5) Sir Knights entitled to vote therein and shall conform to the Grand Encampment Constitution Section 66.

### **Section 14. Amendments**

The Grand Commandery, upon concurrence of three-fourths of its members present at any Special or Stated Conclave, may revise, amend or alter this Constitution, and by a two-thirds votes of its members present, may revise, amend or alter the Regulations; provided however, that a written copy of the motion so as to revise, amend or alter shall be signed by at least three (3) members of the Grand Commandery and shall be filed with the Grand Recorder at least one (1) month before the Conclave at which such motion is to be considered, and a copy thereof shall be inserted in the notice of the Conclave issued by the Grand Recorder; provided that, the proposed amendment may be modified in any manner by the Grand Commandery while it is under consideration.

### **Section 15. Repealing Clause**

All constitutional provisions and amendments heretofore approved and not included in this Constitution are hereby repealed.

### **Section 16. Trustees**

There shall be three (3) Trustees, one of whom shall be elected by ballot at each Annual Conclave for a term of three (3) years.

- (a) They shall have custody of the securities in such depository(ies) as designed by the Grand Commandery, collect interest due on the same, and pay it over to the Grand Recorder, make a report in writing at each Annual Conclave of the securities under their custody.
- (b) They shall have custody of the valuable property, with the exception of Section 9(f) of this document, as designated by the Grand Commandery make a report in writing at each Annual Conclave of the property under their custody.

### **Section 17. Duties of Appointed Officers**

- (a) The Inspector General shall attend the inspections of the Constituent Commanderies, examine uniforms and see that they conform to the regulations of the Grand Commandery,

note the proficiency and bearing of the several Commanderies, make a record of the number present at each inspection, and the number present on all occasions. The Inspector General shall submit a report of his official acts and observations to the Grand Commandery at the Annual Conclave. It shall be the responsibility of the Inspector General to formally inspect each constituent Commandery once per year and report the results to the Grand Commander for his disposition.

- (b) The Instructor General of the Work shall conduct such schools of instruction as he, with the concurrence of the Grand Commander, may decide is necessary for the instruction of the Officers of the constituent Commanderies in the ritualistic and floor work of the several Orders as determined by the Grand Encampment and this Grand Commandery; inspect the ritualistic work of the Orders including the full Form Opening by the Officers of the constituent Commanderies; pass upon the ritualistic proficiency of the Officers. If Officers are determined by him to be proficient, the Instructor General of the Work shall issue certificates of proficiency in the ritual to the officers and report on his official acts and observations at the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery.

### **Section 18. Standing Committees**

The Standing Committees of the Grand Commandery shall be:

- (a) Templar Jurisprudence, Bylaws, Grievances, Charters and Dispensations
- (b) Ritualistic Work, Asylum Tactics, Religious Services, Uniforms and Patriotic Activities
- (c) Correspondence, Knight Templar Magazine
- (d) Membership, Leadership
- (e) Awards
- (f) Finance, Knight Templar Eye Foundation, Holy Land Pilgrimage
- (g) Knight Templar Education Foundation
- (h) Joint Committee on York Rite Cooperation
- (i) Strategic Planning and Implementation

The Standing Committees shall be appointed by the Grand Commander and shall serve until the close of the Annual Conclave, or at the pleasure of the Grand Commander.

### **Section 19. Duties of Committees**

- (a) The Committee on Templar Jurisprudence, By-Laws, Grievances, and Charters & Dispensations shall consist of three (3) members. It shall:
  - i. Consider decisions on questions of Templar law and usage reported by the Grand Commander and such other matters as may be referred by him or the Grand Commandery. The Committees' conclusions and recommendations shall be reported to the Grand Commandery. It shall report upon all proposed amendments of the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Commandery, and all proposed amendments of the bylaws of the Constituent Commanderies.
  - ii. Examine cases of grievances and appeal referred to it by the Grand Commandery or the Grand Commander and report thereon as early as possible.

- iii. Carefully examine Commanderies working under dispensation and all groups requesting charters as Commanderies and report to the Grand Commandery its observations and recommendations.
- (b) The Committee on Ritualistic Work, Asylum Tactics, Religious Services, and Patriotic Activities shall consist of three (3) members. It shall
  - i. Investigate changes in asylum tactics, or, on its own initiative, recommend such changes, and shall submit its recommendations of any proposed changes of asylum tactics to the Grand Commandery at its Annual Conclave. It shall be charged with such other duties in connection with ritual and tactics as may be delegated to it by the Grand Commander.
  - ii. Arrange and oversee religious services conducted by the Grand Commandery.
  - iii. Consider all proposed amendments to the Regulations pertaining to specifications for uniforms and report thereon to the Grand Commandery.
- (c) The Committee on Correspondence and Knight Templar Magazine shall consist of three (3) members. It shall.
  - i. Examine the correspondence of the Grand Commandery referred to it and report thereon.
  - ii. Solicit articles from Sir Knights of the constituent Commanderies for consideration in future publications.
  - iii. Liaise with the magazine publication team on all matters.
- (d) The Committee on Membership and Leadership shall consist of three (3) members, and it shall:
  - i. Annually determine membership goals in accordance with the Grand Encampment regulations and aims.
  - ii. Promote the York Rite Leadership program and assist Sir Knights in attendance.
  - iii. Promote the Officer's Handbook adopted by this Grand Commandery.
- (e) The Committee on Awards shall consist of five (5) members, and it shall: annually review the Commandery year-end report from the "Officer's Handbook" and make a recommendation to the Grand Commander of the awards therein, namely: Commander of the Year; Commandery of the Year; Order of Merit; and Meritorious Service Medal.
- (f) The Committee on Finance, Knight Templar Eye Foundation, and the Holy Land Pilgrimage shall consist of five (5) members. It shall:
  - i. Audit the books, accounts, and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Recorder, the Education Foundation Committee, and such other committees, officers, and members of the Grand Commandery as required. It shall report its findings and recommendations at both the Semi-Annual and Grand Annual Conclaves.
  - ii. Recommend bond amounts for the Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, and such other officers or members as necessary, and review the sufficiency of sureties provided.
  - iii. Report on any proposed investments of Grand Commandery funds. No investment shall be made without the committee's review and report. In emergencies, the committee shall have authority to act in the best financial interest of the Grand

- Commandery, subject to subsequent review by the Grand Commander and Grand Commandery at the next Conclave.
- iv. Submit a proposed annual budget for approval at the Semi-Annual Grand Conclave.
  - v. Provide all reports required by the Grand Encampment in accordance with its regulations.
  - vi. Fulfill any additional duties as outlined in Sections 8(e) and 9(g), in cooperation with the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder.
- (g) The Committee on the York Rite Cooperation shall consist of the four (4) Dais Officers, namely, the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, and Grand Captain General; as well as the Grand Recorder, and the Grand Treasurer. It shall represent this Grand Commandery on the Joint Committee on York Rite Cooperation.
- (h) The Grand Commandery's Education Foundation Committee shall consist of five (5) members, each serving a five-year term, with one term expiring annually. The incoming Grand Commander shall appoint one new member each year during the Annual Conclave. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term by appointment of the Grand Commander, who may also remove any member for cause. The Committee shall:
- i. Meet at least annually, following the close of the Annual Conclave, to elect a Chairman under the direction of the Grand Commander.
  - ii. The Grand Recorder shall serve as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee, and he shall serve as a non-voting member.
  - iii. The Chairman of the Committee may recommend to the incoming Grand Commander, a member or Sir Knight from any Commandery to serve as the Grand Commandery's representative to the Knights Templar Education Foundation for the ensuing year.
  - iv. The Committee shall adhere to all provisions and requirements stipulated in the most current version of the Grand Encampment's Knights Templar Education Committee Rules.
  - v. Report all award recipients and program information as required by the Knights Templar Education Foundation.
  - vi. Present reports detailing its activities, financial transactions, and fiscal condition year-to-date at the Semi-Annual Grand Conclave, and provide a full annual report at the Grand Annual Conclave of this Grand Commandery.
- (i) A Committee on Strategic Planning and Implementation shall be established, consisting of nine (9) members. The Deputy Grand Commander shall serve as chairman. The committee shall include the Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, and at least one (1) elected dais officer from each Constituent Commandery. Past Commanders and Past Grand Commanders shall be eligible to serve. The Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer shall serve as ex officio members. The Grand Trustees shall provide any records reasonably requested by this committee.

The Committee shall:

- i. Meet no fewer than twice each year and submit its recommendations to the Grand Commander and Grand Recorder no less than sixty (60) days prior to the Semi-Annual Grand Conclave;
- ii. Conduct a thorough assessment of the state of Templar Masonry in the District of Columbia;

- iii. Develop and annually review a rolling five (5) year Strategic Implementation Plan that identifies goals, objectives, strengths, weaknesses, and mitigation strategies;
- iv. Establish measurable outcomes and evaluate progress regularly to ensure continuous improvement and sustained vitality of the Craft.

## **Section 20. Affiliate Membership**

Affiliate membership may be held:

- (a) In Commanderies under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, and
- (b) In Commanderies under the Jurisdiction of any other Grand Commandery whose laws so provide.

Affiliation Fees are to be set by the constituent Commanderies but must include thirty U.S. dollars (\$30.00) for Life Sponsorship in the Knights Templar Eye Foundation (KTEF).

## **Section 21. Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year shall be:

- (a) For the Grand Commandery, from 01 January to 31 December. Books are reconciled and reports are issued by 31 January.
- (b) For Constituent Commanderies, from 01 January to 31 December. Books are reconciled and reports issued by 15 January.

## **Section 22. Minimum Fee for the Orders**

A Commandery shall confer the Orders for a sum no less than one-hundred fifty U.S. dollars (\$150.00) and thirty U.S. dollars (\$30.00) for Life Sponsorship in the KTEF, for a sum no less than one-hundred eighty U.S. dollars (\$180.00), and such fee shall accompany the petition. For each Petition, the Grand Commandery will receive a fee of forty dollars (\$40).

## **Section 23. Qualifications of Officers**

The Commander-elect, the Generalissimo-elect, and the Captain General-elect of each Constituent Commandery shall be able to administer the ritualistic work and tactics, as well as possess the required uniform for their respective offices, in order to be eligible for installation. If these officers-elect fail to meet the eligibility requirements for installation, the Grand Commander, at his discretion, may declare the office vacant and order a special election in the Commandery to fill said vacancy or appoint the sitting Commander to another term.

## **Section 24. Annual Election of Officers**

Each Commandery shall hold its annual election of Officers at a Special or Stated Conclave in December, January, or February. The Officers chosen shall be installed before the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery; provided however, that whenever from unavoidable causes, a Commandery is prevented from installing any of its Officers within the time prescribed, the Grand Commander may issue a dispensation for installing such Officers at another time.

## **Section 25. Awards**

- (a) Grand Commander Challenge Coin
  - i. Given by the Grand Commander to those individuals performing excellent and inspiring work. Given to a Sir Knight who has been knighted in the past two (2) years. Otherwise, this award is entirely in the gift of the Grand Commander.

- (b) Commandery of the Year
  - i. A pennant given to one constituent Commandery per year based on the highest score among the constituent Commanderies taken from the “Commandery Annual Report” found in the Officer’s Handbook.
- (c) Commander of the Year
  - i. Award for one Commander of a constituent Commandery per year using both specific evidences found in the “Commandery Annual Report” as well as any extraneous evidence, at the Grand Commander’s discretion.
- (d) Meritorious Service Medal
  - i. The Grand Commander may select one Sir Knight per constituent Commandery per year for this award for excellent service. The fee to a constituent Commandery if this is awarded is \$150. The medal shall be provided by the Grand Commandery to each awardee.
  - ii. The qualities looked for in an awardee: has been knighted for less than two (2) years, has a visible spirit of support for Templary, 100% participation in Commandery business meetings, at least 50% attendance at Grand Commandery meetings, visits other Commanderies, participates in the conferrals of the Orders, attends the Easter Sunrise Service, supports KTEF, and/or supports the Holy Land Pilgrimage.
- (e) Order of Merit
  - i. The highest award this Grand Commandery can present, the Order of Merit is given to one (1) Sir Knight per year who has not been elected as Grand Commander and who has shown significant contributions to all phases of Commandery activities. The fee to a constituent Commandery if this is awarded is \$150. The medal shall be provided by the Grand Commandery to each awardee.
  - ii. The qualities looked for in an awardee: Number of scheduled meetings attended for their Commandery meetings over the year; number of Commandery Orders worked (all Commanderies); elected or appointed office held in a constituent Commandery; attended Year One of the York Rite Leadership Conference; and attended the Grand Commandery’s Semi-Annual Conclave.

**Section 26. Full-Dress Uniform**

The full-dress uniform of a Knight Templar shall consist of a dress coat, cap, shirt, tie, trousers, shoes, gloves, sword sling, sword, and appropriate Insignia.

- (a) **Dress Coat**
  - a. CLOTH shall be dark navy blue or black (tropical worsted, all wool, polyester-gabardine, and double-knit). U.S. Naval Service dress blue uniform is appropriate to use.  
  
Double breasted sack coat, three (3) buttons down each forepart, to close with 3 buttons, seam back, no vent, semi-fitting.
  - b. LENGTH shall not exceed over two (2) inches below crotch line and no shorter than crotch line. Coat will have a roll collar with peak lapels, three inches wide at peak.
  - c. POCKETS have two (2) outside pockets, one (1) on each side, all to be made with welts no flaps. The 2 side pockets are to be 6-1/2 to 7 inches wide and the welt 1-1/2 inches deep, and the pockets 7-1/2 to 8 inches deep. There will be a left breast false pocket (sewn shut) with a welt 1 inch deep. The welt will be about 5 inches in length.

There shall be inside breast pockets having a horizontal opening 6 inches wide and a depth of 6-1/2 inches. Outside pockets shall be sewn shut or stayed to prevent sagging.

- d. **CUFFS, SLEEVES AND SHOULDERS** Cuffs shall be closed and without buttons. There will be Velcro on each sleeve, 2 inches in height and be placed 2 inches above the bottom of the sleeve and centered. There will be Velcro centered on top of each shoulder and as close to the arm seam as possible. Sleeve insignia appropriate to rank attached to the Velcro. Alternatively, the sleeve patches may be sewn on.
- e. **LINING** The coat shall be lined with dark material.
- f. **BUTTONS** There will be three (3) black buttons on each forepart 5 inches from the edge. Top button approximately 3-1/2 inches below the breast line; bottom button in a line with center of the welt on hop pockets. Middle button to be midway between top and bottom buttons. Buttons will have KT Logo on surface.
- g. **SWORD SLIT** There shall be a horizontal slit approximately four (4) inches long over the left side pocket to allow the sword to be hooked outside; sword slit to be at top of pocket welt. The slit shall be fitted with a zipper to cover the opening when not in use. This will allow sword belt chains or slings to be worn on concealed belt or on trouser waist belt.
- h. Reference Grand Encampment Chapter XIX, Sec 250 (A2).

(b) **Cap**

a. **Chapeau**

- i. **General** On the left side of the Chapeau shall be a black satin pleated rosette, oval in shape, and 5 inches high by 4 inches wide with 33 single points 3/8 inches long extending around the edge of the oval. Overlaying the rosette shall be a black silk velvet oval, 4 inches long by 3 inches.
- ii. **Sir Knights** In the center of the velvet oval there shall be a Silver Passion Cross filled with bright red silk velvet. The Chapeau to be surmounted by a white ostrich plume.
- iii. **Past Commanders** In the center of the velvet oval there shall be a Gold Passion Cross with Rays filled with bright red silk velvet. The Chapeau to be surmounted by a white ostrich plume.
- iv. **Grand Commandery Officers (elected line only)** In the center of the velvet oval there shall be a bright Red Templar Cross, square in shape, bordered with Gold. The Chapeau to be surmounted by a white ostrich plume.
- v. **Grand Commanders** In the center of the velvet oval there shall be a bright Red Templar Cross, square in shape, bordered with Gold, the Chapeau to be surmounted by a white ostrich plume.
- vi. **Past Grand Commanders** In the center of the velvet oval there shall be a bright Purple Templar Cross, square in shape, bordered with Gold. On each side of the Chapeau will be 2 slashes extending diagonally from the center at the rim each way toward the top and end of the Chapeau. These slashes to be 1-3/4 wide, gold wire lace bullion. At the front of the Chapeau will be a 3/4

inch flat old bullion tassel, 2-1/2 inches long attached to the base of the plume by 2 gold bullion cords. The white ostrich plume shall be 8 inches wide.

**b. Bell Crown Cap**

- i. **General.** The cap shall be a bell crown cap of black silk with three welts: Visor to be of black patent leather one and three-fourths inches deep at the center to droop at an angle of forty-five degrees. Front strap to be flat and to have gold wire lace with two vellums stitched on leather with two loops of the same pattern of lace; strap attached at the corners of the visor by gold cross and crown Knights Templar buttons. Between the lower welts of the cap, a band of gold wire lace and on front of cap to be a badge appropriate to rank.
  - ii. **Sir Knights** Silver Passion Cross two inches in height without rays.
  - iii. **Past Commanders** Gold Passion Cross two inches in height with rays.
  - iv. **Grand Commandery Officers (elected line only)** Gold and Red Templar Cross two inches in height.
  - v. **Past Grand Commanders** Gold and Purple Templar Cross two inches in height.
- (c) **SHIRT.** The shirt shall be white in color, no epaulets, and long sleeve with buttons.
- (d) **TIE.** Black tie, to be tied in a 4 in hand manner. No ornamentation visible.
- (e) **TROUSERS.** The trousers shall be black, straight legged with no cuff.
- (f) **SHOES.** The shoes will be Military Style Low Quarters or plain toe Oxfords and worn with black socks.
- (g) **GLOVES.** Gloves are buff in color, either fabric or leather, without decoration.
- (h) **SWORD SLING.** Sword sling is to be worn over the shoulder under the coat or suspended from a belt worn under the coat. Hooks to secure sword are hanging through the zipper sword slit on the left side of the coat.
- (i) **SWORDS**
- a. **SIR KNIGHTS.** Swords shall have:
    - i. A silver scabbard.
    - ii. A silver hilt.
    - iii. A black grip.
  - b. **PAST COMMANDERS AND ABOVE.** Swords will have:
    - i. A gold scabbard.
    - ii. A gold hilt.
    - iii. A white/ivory grip.
- (j) **INSIGNIA**
- a. **ALL SIR KNIGHTS**

- i. Each Sir Knight will wear the Cross of Malta centered over the left breast pocket.
- ii. Each Sir Knight will wear the Red Cross to the left of the Cross of Malta. Medals will be centered over the left breast pocket.
- iii. Each Sir Knight may wear a metal ribbon bar representing Military Service just above the medals on left breast.
- iv. In lieu of 26(j)(a)(ii), each Sir Knight may wear a metal ribbon bar representing the Orders, centered above the left breast pocket and positioned as close as reasonably possible to the top of the pocket
- v. Each Sir Knight may wear a metal ribbon bar representing the Knights of the York Cross of Honour (KYCH) just above the medals on the left breast.
- vi. Each Sir Knight will wear a brightly polished brass name bar on the coat right breast level with the left breast pocket.
- vii. Grand Encampment Insignia, including but not limited to the Crusader's Cross, will be worn below the name bar on the right side. Additionally, the Grand Encampment Triennial Patch Award shall be worn as prescribed by the Grand Encampment. The patch shall be centered on the left sleeve with the bottom edge of the first patch affixed four-and-a-half (4.5) inches above the cuff. Subsequent awards shall be affixed immediately above the previous patch, for a maximum of four (4) in a single column. Upon the awarding of a fifth patch, a second column may be added in like manner to the right of the first.
- viii. Lapel Pins will be placed  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch above the notch of the lapel (as worn), properly centered, with base parallel to notch.
- ix. Knight Preceptor Pin may be worn on the ribbon of the Malta or Red Cross jewel. Pin is provided by the local Preceptory to members.
- x. Sir Knights awarded the Knight Commander of the Temple (KCT) may wear the neck jewel around the neck and above the tie. Knight Templar Cross of Honor recipients may either wear the neck jewel, in lieu of the KCT, or the breast jewel on the right side directly below the name badge.

**b. SIR KNIGHTS**

- i. Will wear a two (2) inch Silver Embroidered Passion Cross on each sleeve.
- ii. Will wear a  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch gold metal D.C. pin on right lapel.
- iii. Will wear a  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch gold metal numeral pin reflecting their constituent Commandery on left lapel.

**c. COMMANDERY OFFICERS (ELECTED LINE ONLY)**

- i. Will wear appropriate Shoulder Straps, Commandery supplied.
- ii. Will wear appropriate Officers Jewel to the right of existing jewels. Commandery supplied.

**d. PAST COMMANDERS**

- i. Will wear a two (2) inch Gold Embroidered Passion Cross with Sunburst on each sleeve.
  - ii. Will wear a ½ inch gold metal D.C. pin on right lapel.
  - iii. Will wear a ½ inch gold metal numeral pin reflecting their constituent Commandery on left lapel.
  - iv. Will wear Shoulder Straps of a Past Commander.
  - v. May wear an appropriate Jewel of a Past Commander. Jewel to be worn to the right of other Jewels.
- e. **GRAND COMMANDERY OFFICERS (ELECTED LINE ONLY)**
- i. Will wear a two (2) inch Embroidered Red Templar Cross on each sleeve.
  - ii. Will wear a ½ inch gold metal D.C. pins on right and left lapels.
  - iii. Will wear appropriate Shoulder Straps.
  - iv. Grand Officers Jewel will be worn to the right of other Jewels. Grand Commandery supplied.
  - v. Grand Commanders Jewel will be suspended from a red cord and worn around the neck. Grand Commandery supplied.
- f. **PAST GRAND COMMANDERS**
- i. Will wear a two (2) inch Embroidered Purple Templar Cross on each sleeve.
  - ii. Will wear a ½ inch gold metal K.T. pins on right and left lapels.
  - iii. Will wear appropriate Shoulder Boards.
  - iv. Past Grand Commanders Jewel will be suspended from a Purple Cord and worn around the neck.

**Section 27. Cap and Mantle.**

The uniform described by the Grand Encampment Constitution in Section 258. Cap and Mantle is hereby authorized.

**Section 28. Apron.**

A Traditional Templar Apron shall conform substantially in design to the images below. It shall be trimmed in gold for Sir Knights of the rank of Commander or Past Commander and above, and in



silver for Sir Knights below the rank of Commander. Each Constituent Commandery may adopt regulations governing the wear of the Templar Apron in addition to their regular uniform, with the requirement that during the Order of the Temple all the cast in uniform must be attired with or without the apron.

### **Section 29. Summer Uniform**

The summer uniform is authorized for wear from 01 June through 30 September of each calendar year, unless otherwise authorized by order of the Grand Commander. The Summer Uniform is **NOT** authorized for wear:

- (a) During the execution of any Knight Templar Orders,
- (b) During the Annual or Semi-Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery, and
- (c) During any Grand Encampment or Department assembly.

The Summer Uniform shall conform to Section 259 of the Grand Encampment Constitution.

### **STANDING RESOLUTION**

It is the sense of this Grand Commandery that it shall be within the discretion of each Grand Commander to designate by General Orders some day during his term, for the holding of an Annual Inspection and Drill, the time and place for said event to be determined by the Grand Commander. (Adopted May 9, 1905)