



## GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Bulletin No. 1 Hamblin

May 12, 2026

### Synopsis of the Grand Conclave April 25, 2026

The following is a synopsis of the Grand Conclave that was held on April 25, 2025. This Bulletin shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 15th day of May, A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

Fraternally, Yours in His Name,

ATTESTED:

Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder



## Synopsis of Grand Conclave

Crawfordsville Commandery#25 Open their Commandery in short form at 8:00 on April 25, 2026. After the Opening the following Grand Commandery Officers were received and introduced after which they took their proper places.

### Grand Commandery Officers:

Joseph L. Sparks REGC

Dominic J. Hamblin VEDGC

Jon McCracken EGG

Dathan Reed EGCG

Scott Sacek EGSW

Mark Edler EGJW

John C. Jones, II EGP

Randy J. Darling EGT PGC

Lawrence J. Williams EGR PGC

Jeffery Prairie EGStB

John R. Freeland EGSdB

Lawrence Myers EGW

Andrew Bowman EGS

### The Past Indiana Grand Commanders present were then introduced:

Ronald D. Simpson

Paul Friend

Robert Frazer

George Ingles, Jr.

Michael Robbins

Phillip Whisner

Edward Fodrea

Randal P. Ellington

### Deputy Battalion Commanders and Aides were introduced:

Robert H. Kendall

Scott Pike

James Jarvis

Jordan McCracken

Mitchel Rohrbaugh

Gary Pasche

Bruce Bush

Joseph Korschot

Dan Patterson

### The Following Distinguished Guest were Received & Introduced:

#### Grand Chapter:

Timothy R. Brinkmeyer MEGHP

Graig A. Hiber REGK

Sean Jones REGSCH

Joseph Pask EGPS

Brent L. Arnold GM 2<sup>nd</sup> Veil

Michael R. Stewart GM of the 1<sup>st</sup> Veil

Eric Anderson Grand Chaplin

Brain Bates Grand Marshall

Steven Snyder RAD District "A"

Russell Sthrome RAD

Paul Roark RAD District "H"

Joseph H. Villarreal MEPGHP

Jason Miller MEPGHP

#### Grand Council:

W. Keith Stiner MIGM

Frank E. Capler MIDGM

Michael Doxsee RIGPW

Max Maupin PMIGM GT

Ronald Ross RIGCC

Stephen Roberts GS

Barry Clouser Grand Chaplin  
David Noble Arch 1 Officer  
Russell Sthrome Arch 3 Officer  
Rodney McGillvary Arch 2 Officer  
Kent Holiday Arch 4 Officer

Larry Gardner Arch 6 Officer  
Michael Stoner PMINGM PGRP of  
Amaranth  
James Davis PMIGM

**Junior Officers of Grand Ledge:**

David J. Hosler Junior Grand Deacon

**Junior Officers of of other Grand Commanderies:**

James W. Ryan Grand Generalissimo of KY  
Greg Raque Grand Captain General of KY  
Timothy O. Ralston Grand Captain General  
OH  
James D. Rutherford VEDGC MI  
Michael Hicks Grand Generalissimo MI  
James W. Moss PH Grand Commandery

David Heise Grand Captain General MI  
David D. Hutton Grand Senior Warden MI  
James Omlor Grand Standard Bearer MI  
Timothy R. Monroe Grand Warder MI  
Larry Rentz VEDGC OH

**Past Grand Commanders of other Jurisdictions:**

Richard L. Ganoin OH  
Vernon Barnhart MI

Rick Sears KY  
Jamie A. Emery IL

**Right Eminent Grand Commanders of other Jurisdictions:**

Sean P. McBride IL  
Bruce Von Dwingelo KY

Adam Wygant MI

**Prince Hall Grand Commandery of Indiana:**

Clarence Thomas, Jr. MEGC

**Grand Encampment Officers:**

Jon S. Spann Aide De Camp to the Grand  
Master

Jay Kennedy ECDC  
Jeffery A. Bolstad REDGM

**Grand Lodge of Indiana:**

Steven A. Bates Senior Grand Warden - Personal Reprehensive of the Grand Master Randolph L.  
Seipel

Following the introductions Jurisprudence made a motion to receive the preprinted reports with  
some exceptions. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> and passed

**Grand Commander:** The Grand Commander then presented his allocation. Jurisprudence then moved to accept the report and be placed in Divisions and References.

**Grand Representative:**

- **Roll Call was made:**
  - 37 – Present
  - 13 – Absent
  - 1 - Open

**Grand Recorder's  
2026 Final Report**

To REGC Joseph Sparks  
Grand Commandery Officers, Past Grand Commanders, and Sir Knights All,  
Subject: Grand Recorder's Grand Conclave Report.  
All the Commanderies have paid their Re-Caps for the year of 2025.

I am happy to report that for the most part there are some very competent Recorders in the State of Indiana. I have received very few questions from them and the few that I have received were because of confusion on their part as to what to do. And a few have kindly pointed out more than a few mistakes that I have made in my posting. Thank you for your help. You know who you are.

I ask that the local Recorders be more timely in updating their records of the knighting, deaths demits and suspensions. This is because it allows the Sir Knights that are Topline Signers to receive their awards in a timely manner. It is also because, in the long range, by not reporting deaths, demits and suspensions, this will cost their Commanderies funds on their annual Re-Cap Statements by not removing those who for whatever reason have left.

The Recorders should also keep track of their 50-year members. This is because they should be recognized for their service and also the commandery is losing a dues paying member.

**SYNOPSIS OF MEMBERSHIP**

Here is an overview of the membership numbers since our last Grand Conclave:

While compiling the Re-Cap Statement for 2025, I discovered something worth highlighting. Between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025:

1. We began the year with 2,366 members
  - We ended the year with 2,258 members
    - Reflecting a 4.56% decrease
2. 10 Commanderies experienced membership decline
3. 5 saw growth—with one Commandery seeing growth solely due to the closure and consolidation of another Commandery
4. 3 held steady
5. 72 Knightings recorded from January through December
6. 67 Affiliations
7. 14 Reinstatements
8. 102 Demits
9. 73 Suspensions

## 10. 86 Deaths

As you can see from the above figures, if we can cut the Demits and Suspension in half we would have had a positive year for growth, However it is the same conversation we have been having for years. We must identify why members leave through demits or suspensions.

If possible, ask departing members about their reasons for leaving.

- Is it insufficient activity within the York Rite?
- Is it lack of support for new ideas?
- Are there too many meetings each week or month?
- Do they feel pressured to memorize ritual parts?
- Is the uniform cost prohibitive?
- Or are there are other factors?

There is a Commandery in northern Indiana that hosts round table discussions after completing the Orders, allowing members to reflect on and discuss their impression of the Orders and symbolism and what they received from them.

It appears that this approach has fostered growth and helped retain membership.

Use these insights to address underlying issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC

Grand Recorder

## **Grand Treasurer's Report:**

**Profit and Loss - copy**  
**Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana**  
April 1, 2025-March 31, 2026

	TOTAL
<b>Income</b>	
4000 Contributed support	36,742.00
4030 Individual Contributions to HL	36,742.00
<b>Total for 4000 Contributed support</b>	<b>\$36,742.00</b>
5000 Earned revenues	\$200.00
5200 Per Capita Assessments	46,906.75
5407 Postage on Rituals	516.32
5408 Rituals	329.83
5409 DSA Income	450.00
5450 Grand Conclave Income	6,900.00
<b>Total for 5000 Earned revenues</b>	<b>\$55,302.90</b>
5480 Newby Avery Vaught Banquet	5,000.00
Unapplied Cash Payment Income	1,000.00
<b>Total for Income</b>	<b>\$98,044.90</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	
	<b>\$98,044.90</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
7200 Salaries & related expenses	414.60
7300 Non-Discretionary Accounts	
7320 Triennial Expense	\$750.00
7322 Officer Expenses	2,250.00
<b>Total for 7320 Triennial Expense</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>
<b>Total for 7300 Non-Discretionary Accounts</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>
7400 Discretionary Accounts	
7410 Officer Expenses	\$750.00
7412 Grand Recorder's Expense	325.27
7416 Grand Officer's Expense	3,000.00
<b>Total for 7410 Officer Expenses</b>	<b>\$4,075.27</b>
7500 Operating Expenses	\$250.00
7501 Operations	
7570 Insurance - Recorders Bond	1,147.00
<b>Total for 7501 Operations</b>	<b>\$1,147.00</b>
7601 Operating Supplies	
7620 Rituals and Tactics	2,699.94
7625 Uniform Supplies	11,824.52
<b>Total for 7601 Operating Supplies</b>	<b>\$14,524.46</b>
7650 Awards and Jewels	\$316.75
7700 Awards	
7710 Ribbons, Plaques, Trophies	600.00
<b>Total for 7700 Awards</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>
<b>Total for 7650 Awards and Jewels</b>	<b>\$916.75</b>
7900 Donations to other programs	-\$35.00
7970 Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund	343.73

## **Trustee's Report 2026**

Right Eminent Grand Commander, Officers of the Grand Commandery and Sir Knights of Indiana.

The Grand Commandery Permanent Fund balance as of March 31, 2026 was \$910,179.00 Up from March 31, 2025 of \$810,130.62

We have no further business to report at this time.

Respectfully submitted by:

Edward E. Fodrea, PGC Michael F., Robbins, PGC Pill Whisner, PGC Lawrence J. Williams, Grand Recorder, PGC Randy Darling, Grand Treasurer, PGC

**Budget:**

**GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA  
APPROVED Budget 2026-2027**

Accounting	Total	Budget \$12.50
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Per Capita Dues - Indiana 2258 members	\$	28,225.00
Per Capita Dues - Grand Encampment	\$	20,322.00
Transfer from Life Membership Funds 5061.25	\$	4,769.00
K. T. Eye Foundation Assessment	\$	1,275.00
Knighting Fees	\$	1,280.00
<b>Total Per Capita Assessments</b> 5200	\$	<b>55,871.00</b>
Interest earned 5310	\$	-
Permanent Fund / Newby/Avery Donations 4050	\$	5,000.00
Transfer from Permanent Fund 5407	\$	17,000.00
DSA Payments 5409	\$	1,000.00
Grand Conclave Banquet Income 5459	\$	15,000.00
ITA 5422	\$	-
Miscellaneous 5490	\$	200.00
DeMolay Sword 4041	\$	-
Easter Sunrise trip 4040	\$	-
Newby Avery Banquet 5480	\$	-
<b>Income Total</b>	\$	<b>94,071.00</b>

**DISBURSEMENTS**

**NON-DISCRETIONARY AND SPECIAL ACCOUNTS - 7300**

Grand Encampment Per Capita	\$	20,322.00
K.T. Eye Foundation	\$	1,275.00
Grand Encampment Per-Capita Total 7310	\$	<b>21,597.00</b>
Refund of Per Capita 7315	\$	-
Triennial 7320	\$	2,000.00
Triennial Drill Team Travel 7321	\$	250.00

**DISCRETIONARY**

Officers Expenses 7410	\$	-
Grand Commander 7411	\$	6,750.00
Grand Recorder 7412	\$	5,000.00
Grand Recorder 7413	\$	5,000.00
KT Supplement 7414	\$	250.00
GIG Expenses 7415	\$	1,500.00
Grand Officers 7416	\$	6,750.00
Grand Commander's Contingency 7417	\$	500.00
web master 7418	\$	250.00
Awards 50 year Postage 8140	\$	50.00
Accounting (Audit) / Taxes 7510	\$	2,000.00
Funeral Expenses 7524	\$	250.00

**Travel & Meeting expenses 7550**

Travel / Misc. Grand Conclave Expenses 7551	\$	950.00
Grand Conclave 7559	\$	10,000.00
Grand Conclave Banquet	\$	15,000.00
Proceedings - Advanced 8171	\$	600.00
Proceedings - Annual 8172	\$	2,000.00
Drills/Ritual Competition Rental 7553	\$	-
Competition Awards 7554	\$	1,000.00
Newby/Avery 7555	\$	-
BOND Insurance - Grand Recorder 7570	\$	1,000.00
Checks 7580	\$	-
Operation Supplies 7601	\$	-
Rituals & Shipping 7620	\$	400.00
Uniform 7625	\$	500.00
PGC Jewels New & Repairs 7651	\$	500.00
Jewels New & Repairs 7652	\$	500.00
Awards Newby/Avery Plaques / Pins 7555	\$	500.00
Ribbons, Plaques, Trophies 7710	\$	500.00
	\$	7705
Membership Development /Publicity Expense 7800	\$	1,000.00
Youth Job's Daughters 7920	\$	250.00
Youth Rainbow 7930	\$	250.00
Youth DeMolay 7940	\$	250.00
Youth DeMolay Sword 7941	\$	-
ITA Supplies 7855	\$	500.00
Grand Recorder Office Expenses 8100	\$	-
Office Supplies 8110	\$	750.00
Telephone 8120	\$	500.00
Automatic Calling Service 8121	\$	25.00
Internet 8130	\$	500.00
Outside Computer Services Web Host 8131	\$	750.00
Computer Software 8135	\$	750.00
Computer Hardware 8136	\$	1,500.00
Office Equip Repair / Replace 8137	\$	-
Postage 8138	\$	300.00
Shipping & Postage 8139	\$	350.00
Office Printing & Copying 8170	\$	400.00
Red Book 8175	\$	250.00
Misc. 9510	\$	-
<b>Expense Total</b>	\$	<b>93,922.00</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	\$	<b>149.00</b>

## Necrology Report

### April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Grand Commandery Officers, and Sir Knights:

It is with a heavy heart that I submit this report of our dearly departed sir knights. To their friends and relatives we tender our heartfelt sympathy and affirm our faith that He who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb looks down with the infinite compassion upon the widow and the fatherless in their hour of desolation; and that the same benevolent Savior who wept tears of sympathy over the grave at Bethany, will support and comfort all those who put their trust and faith in Him.

<b>Commandery</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Birth</b>	<b>Passing</b>
<b>Raper #1</b>	Larry D. Jefferson	11/27/1938	05/31/2025
	Terry L. Turner	11/22/1955	07/31/2025
<b>Baldwin #2</b>	Steven J. Barton	12/10/1944	01/30/2026
<b>Fort Wayne #4</b>	Max L. Poorman	07/12/1923	04/13/2025
	Thomas J. Smith	08/10/1960	01/01/1900
	Donald R. Rush	06/23/1936	03/20/2026
<b>New Albany #5</b>	Jerry Melton	05/04/1942	01/01/1900
	Jack L. Windell	03/17/1934	01/01/1900
<b>Richmond #8</b>	Thomas C. Francis	04/11/1938	12/07/2025
<b>LaPorte #12</b>	August K. Eckert	03/07/1956	06/24/2024
	Paul J. Erickson	09/16/1935	06/07/2025
	John E. Bauer	05/19/1936	10/17/2024
<b>Columbus #14</b>	David S. Graham	04/25/1947	04/12/2025
	Thomas D. Cook	06/30/1934	02/16/2025
	Harold Greene Jr.	08/08/1937	08/26/2023
	David V. Koss	09/04/1940	07/27/2025
	Paul M. Rynerson	02/01/1957	07/18/2022
	Samuel E. Shearer	07/14/1935	01/06/2021
	Gary Trowbridge	10/16/1953	03/08/2023
	Stephen W. Walters	03/19/1939	07/30/2023
	Charles W. Robbins	04/23/1937	08/05/2022
	Charles B. Roark	02/23/1947	06/11/2025
	Jesse C. James	05/15/1937	12/20/2024
	James R. Harrison	10/24/1941	01/26/2026
William R. Riche	08/22/1949	12/08/2025	
Patrick L. Garrett	04/09/1947	10/15/2024	
<b>La Valette #15</b>	Thomas D. West	09/25/1948	05/27/2025
	Robin R. Holder	11/08/1939	12/24/2024
	Timothy R. Hermes	07/23/1942	02/08/2026

<b>Terre Haute #16</b>	Harold W. Hopley	03/20/1940	05/04/2025
	Jack Thomas	05/29/1942	08/26/2025
	Marvin L. Williams	08/08/1936	10/15/2025
	Randy Porter	07/16/1946	02/14/2026
<b>Apollo #19</b>	Stephen J. Williams	03/01/1940	12/05/2025
	Thomas R. Smith	06/15/1961	02/08/2024
	Eldred Glass	07/18/1932	12/23/2025
<b>Vincennes #20</b>	Herbert G. Roach	02/04/1930	05/10/2025
	Philip C. Grounds	09/23/1951	03/23/2023
<b>Grant County #21</b>	Phillip W. Wood	08/13/1943	05/17/2025
	James A. Bozell	10/21/1949	07/30/2025
<b>Crawfordsville #25</b>	Michael S. Morrison	03/26/1944	09/24/2025
<b>Valparaiso #28</b>	James Dimitri	06/14/1929	04/11/2025
	John M. Webster	10/10/1933	01/12/2025
	William, I. Smiley, Sr.	08/25/1930	11/06/2023
	Jeffery J. Oesterle	06/14/1954	08/25/2025
	James C. Barnett	10/18/1939	04/05/2025
	Joseph L. Beverly, Sr.	02/27/1938	11/28/2025
	Gordan C. Hall	10/23/1949	03/18/2026
<b>Frankfort #29</b>	Russell M. Sheets	11/16/1927	07/29/2025
	Drew C. Godby	09/10/1989	08/09/2025
	Alan W. Kaufman	12/23/1941	08/01/2025
	Charles Jones	02/13/1925	06/08/2021
	Paul E. Anderson	04/01/1956	02/26/2025
	Veron L. Patchett	10/13/1946	12/07/2025
	Gary C. Steinhardt	09/13/1944	12/12/2025
	John V. Stevens	10/30/1940	09/19/2023
<b>Elkhart #31</b>	<b>NONE REPORTED</b>		
<b>Anderson #32</b>	Donald R. Phillippe	04/09/1933	06/01/2025
	Dale M. Adams	10/17/1956	07/08/2025
	Roger A. Glasby	08/24/1932	10/20/2024
	Janes E. Hummel	06/18/1931	05/03/2025
<b>Kokomo #36</b>	Alan W. Kaufman	12/23/1941	08/01/2025
	Merrill C. Quarles	05/27/1933	10/05/2021
	Charles L. Pennington	12/26/1940	07/29/2025
<b>Greenfield #39</b>	William T. Grover	02/12/1960	02/12/2016
	Scott A. Barton	02/21/1968	07/04/2025
	Robert E. Leonard	10/08/1929	08/15/2025
	David A. Hoover	03/30/1947	06/22/2025
	Steven J. Barton	12/10/1944	01/30/2026

	James C. Talbott	12/14/1924	09/02/2022
	James R. Wortman	09/29/1931	02/16/2026
<b>Bedford #42</b>	<b>NONE REPORTED</b>		
<b>Angola #45</b>	Ronald V. Sullins	09/02/1944	12/23/2025
<b>Noblesville #61</b>	David A. Metsker	12/16/1946	04/07/2025
	Neil B. McConnell	08/08/1938	08/12/2025
	Curtis D. Munden	03/07/1940	08/18/2025
<b>Prather #62</b>	Gregory L. McConaughey	10/25/1963	08/04/2025
	William B. Lacefield	10/10/1934	12/25/2024
<b>Bloomington #63</b>	Larry G. Huffman	10/07/1952	04/26/2025
	Verle A. Kersey Sr.	02/21/1954	03/15/2020
	Richard L. Sexton	11/02/1941	08/02/2024
	Phillip W. Hudson	03/15/1948	04/26/2025
	Jerome P. Murphy	07/17/1939	03/08/2026
<b>Wright #64</b>	Dennis M. Reed	06/15/1947	03/03/2026
<b>Wm. G. Bray #65</b>	David C. Willoughby	11/16/1940	05/20/2025
	Joseph L. Scott	09/27/1930	06/13/2025
<b>Greene County #68</b>	Jack Thomas	05/29/1942	08/26/2025
<b>Lawrence Kaminski</b>	Dale M. Adams	10/17/1956	07/08/2025
	David V. Koss	09/04/1940	07/27/2025
	Michael S. Morrison	03/26/1944	09/24/2025
	Steven J. Barton	12/10/1944	01/30/2026
	Randy Porter	07/16/1946	02/14/2026

*Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live." John 11:25*

Respectfully Submitted

John C. Jones II, MDiv., Grand Prelate  
Randal Ellington, PGC, KCT, GPE  
Dan Patterson, GPE



**Obituary  
of  
John Vincent Stevens  
October 30, 1940 – September 18, 2023**

John Vincent Stevens, age 82 of Indianapolis IN, passed away on Tuesday September 19th, 2023. He was born on October 30th, 1940, in Silver Lake IN to John B and Dorothy L Stevens.

Sir Knight John Stevens was raised as a Master Mason on March 10th, 1975, in Lodge #637 in Swansea, Indiana and served as Worshipful Master in 1982.

He received his York Rite Degrees and Orders in 1976 and served as High Priest at Kokomo Chapter #104 in 1981, Illustrious Master of Kokomo Council #60, in 1981 and Eminent Commander of Kokomo Commandery in 1980. Served as secretary/recorder for Kokomo York Rite 1982 through 1985. Received his Distinguished Service Award in

1982 and was commissioned as a Grand Representative to Arizona near the Grand Commandery of Indiana in 1986.

He was a member of the Past Commanders Association of Wisconsin, Ohio, Arizona, Indiana, and Illinois. Royal Order of Scotland, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Valley of Indianapolis, Knight Masons and has received several honorary memberships in Indiana and have the jurisdiction. He has served as a member of Indiana priority #8 KYCH York Rite Sovereign College #133 where he was Charter Member. Sir Knight John served as Grand Commander in 1989. He also was a long time Grand Recorder for the Grand Commandery of Indiana,

He attended Taylor University and worked at Chrysler as a tool and die maker until his retirement

He and Rebecca Sue Parish were married on June 6th, 1961.

He is survived by his wife of 11 years Mary Jane Stevens, children Brenda R Evans, Michael B Stevens, Matthew Stephens, Bonnie M Joyner, Jason Stevens, and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

John is preceded in death by his parents and first wife Rebecca and his son-in-law and William Evans.

**Obituary**  
**of**  
**Herbert G. Roach, PGC**  
**February 4, 1930 – May 10, 2025**



Herbert G. Roach, 95, of Odon, IN passed away May 10, 2025. He was born in Vincennes, IN on February 4, 1930, to the late Raymond W. and Anna P. (Taylor) Roach. Herbert attended Lincoln High School and graduated in the 1948 class. He married the love of his life, Loretta Jones, on November 26, 1950, and they were blessed with 74 years together. Herbert proudly served his country in the United State Navy for 20 years. Herbert also worked as an Industrial Tech for Crane Naval Base for many years. He was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, VFW, and was a Past Master of the Vincennes Masonic Lodge #1. Herbert also is a Past Grand Commander, Indiana Knights Templar 1985/86, Knight of York Cross of Honor, an honorary Kentucky Colonel, and lifetime NRA member.

In his early years he enjoyed traveling with his family, hunting, fishing, and spending time at the Vincennes Gun Club. Herbert was a Master Referee for the ATA in San Antonio and the NSSA for both skeet and trap shooting. In his later years, Herbert enjoyed genealogy, solving crossword puzzles, and reading. He will be deeply missed by all.

He is preceded in death by his parents Raymond and Anna Roach; granddaughter Bobbie Jo Jones; daughter in law Sherron Roach; siblings Raymond Roach Jr., Betty Lett, Donald Roach, Verda Robinson, and Alfred Roach.

Herbert is survived by his wife Loretta Roach; children Mike (Susie) Roach, Dale (Ramona) Roach, Debbie (Tim) Gunnoe; grandchildren Season (Kevin) Stalcup, Nathan (Crystal) Roach, Chad (Meredith) Roach, Sean (Katrina) Roach, Mandy (TJ) Price; 10 great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews, and friends.

Sir Kinght Roach's visitation was held Sunday, May 18, 2025, at Goodwin-Sievers. With the services of Eastern Star, Templar Memorial Service and Masonic Services. His burial was on Monday May 20, 2025 at Memorial Park immediately following Military Honors.

**Obituary  
for  
Steven Jack Barton**

**December 10, 1944 – January 30, 2026**



Steven Jack Barton, age 81, of Hancock County, passed away surrounded by the love of his family. Steve was a man known for steady leadership, quiet strength, and a lifelong commitment to caring for others—especially his family.

Steve was born in Indianapolis, Indiana on December 10, 1944, the eldest child of Branson C. “Bill” Barton and Doris Ruth (Poer) Barton. He grew up in Charlottesville, Indiana, where he learned early the values that would define his life: hard work, responsibility, and service to others. He graduated from Charlottesville High School in 1963.

Steve married Sherry Freeman in 1966, beginning a partnership that shaped the rest of his life. Together they built a family that became the center of Steve’s world. He was the proud father of Tammy, Scott, and Adam, and a devoted grandfather and great-grandfather to a growing family who brought him constant joy. To his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, he was lovingly known as “Pado.” Steve and Sherry created a home that was always open—a place of support, laughter, snacks in the drawer, and unconditional love.

From his early teen years through college, Steve worked alongside his father at Bill Barton and Sons Service Station in Charlottesville. Steve earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry and Biology from Ball State University in 1970. He spent his professional career with Eli Lilly and Company, beginning as a laboratory technician and later serving as an analytical chemist and senior systems analyst. Over 35 years, he became known for his integrity, problem-solving ability, and leadership, eventually traveling the world on a global laboratory chromatography project before retiring in 2002.

Leadership and service were defining parts of Steve’s life. He devoted decades to Freemasonry and York Rite, serving in numerous local, state, and national leadership roles. He served twice as Worshipful Master, led commandery drill teams for decades, and was elected Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana. He later served three years as Department Commander for the East Central United States, overseeing multiple states. Steve was also appointed to the national Drill Regulations Committee of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar, serving multiple terms as Chairman, helping shape drill standards at the national level. While his titles and honors were many, Steve valued

most the friendships, mentorship, and sense of purpose that came from serving something larger than himself.

After retirement, Steve poured his energy into family and community. He volunteered at Hancock Regional Hospital, worked with Eastern Hancock schools in lawn maintenance and as a bus aide, and took on what he jokingly called “30 years of catching up on housework.” He loved time on the water, sitting in boats across the Midwest—especially in Michigan—enjoying the quiet, the challenge of fishing, and the stories that came with it.

More than anything, Steve was a family man. He and Sherry provided a loving second home for their grandchildren and great-grandchildren—offering rides, babysitting, guidance, and a steady example of kindness and dependability. To his family, he wasn’t just Pado; he was a safe place, a helper, and a role model.

Steve was a man of faith and service. He and Sherry were longtime members of Charlottesville United Methodist Church, where Steve served in leadership roles, and later attended Wilkinson Church of Christ.

Steve was preceded in death by his wife, Sherry Barton; his parents, Bill and Doris Barton; his son, Scott Barton and his sister, Carol Ann.

He is survived by his children, Tammy (Chris) Stunda of Wilkinson and Adam (Julie) Barton of Markleville; brother, Tom (Janice) Barton of Knightstown, daughter-in-law, Jane Barton of Greenfield, his beloved grandchildren, Steven Stunda, Jordan (Jameson) Supan, Carly (Chandler) Guion, Tom (Callie) Barton, Kyle (Mackenzie) Barton, Maddy (Patrik) Seal, Jake (Haley) Barton and great-grandchildren, Marcella Stunda, Kaydence Supan, Luka Barton, Eden Seal, Gloriana Guion, Katherine Stunda, Lucy Supan, Tate Seal, Hudson Barton, Carmi Guion and one on the way. Also, his mother-in-law, Marcella Freeman; sisters-in-law, Rebecca (Candy) Freeman and Deborah (Kevin) Shipp; and many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

### **Dispensations and Charter Committee Report**

May 2, 2025, Sir Knight Dathan Reed, Grand Captain General was appointed to oversee the consolidation of Huntington Commandery No. 35 with Apolo Commandery No. 19. Huntington No. 35 consolidated with Apollo No. 19 and the members were transferred on July 8, 2025. All assets of Huntington No. 35 were transferred to Apollo No. 19 at that time.

This concludes the committee report at this time.

Fraternally,

George A. Ingles, Jr., PGC, KCT, for the committee  
Donald Olvey, PGC, KCT

## **Grievance & Appeals**

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Commandery officers, Past Grand Commanders, and Sir Knights all

There were no issues brought to this Committees attention.

George A. Ingles, Jr., PGC, KCT, for the committee

## **Election of Officers of the Grand Commandery**

### **The following Officers were Elected**

Dominic Hamblin, KCT – Right Eminent Grand Commander  
Jon McCracken, KCT – Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander  
Dathan Reed, KCT – Eminent Grand Generalissimo  
Scott Sacek – Eminent Grand Captain General  
Mark Elder – Eminent Grand Senior Warden  
John Freeland – Eminent Grand Junior Warden  
Randy Darling, PGC, KCT – Eminent Grand Treasurer  
Lawrence Williams, PGC, KCT – Eminent Grand Recorder  
Michael Robbins, PGC, KCT – Elected as 3-year Trustee

## **Appointment to the Grand Line & Other Offices**

Benton Davis – Eminent Grand Prelate  
Lawrence (Rocky) Myers – Eminent Grand Standard Bearer  
Andrew Bowman – Eminent Grand Sword Bearer  
Jordan McCracken – Eminent Grand Warder  
John C. Jones, II, GPE - Eminent Grand Sentinel  
Matthew Doss – Eminent Grand Marshall  
Bruce Scott – Grand Photographer  
Barry Clouser, GPE – Grand Organist  
Michael F. Robbins, PGC, KCT – Grand Inspector General  
Lucas Pacukovski – Webmaster  
Joe Barker – Aide to the REGC  
Dan Patterson, KTCH, GPE – Aide to the REGC  
Chrstopher Prentice - Aide to the REGC

**26-01 PROPOSED AMENDMENT**  
**LAWS OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF**  
**INDIANA**

**Current Statute**

**CHAPEAU**

**SECTION 940:** For Sir Knights, the chapeau shall be black regulation style for Knights Templar. There shall be placed on the left side of the chapeau a rosette of silk velvet and silk ribbon, with an embroidered silver bullion or Mylar passion cross, with or without rays. The color of the filling of the cross shall be red. The chapeau to be trimmed with two black plumes and one duplex white top plume, to extend three inches beyond the rear peak of the chapeau and to be not less than six and three-quarters inches in width. For Commanders and Past Commanders, the same except that on the rosette there shall be an embroidered raised gold bullion or gold Mylar passion cross with rays. The color of the filling of the cross shall be red. There shall be gold slashing one and one-half inches in width on both sides, front and back and gold tassel or front peak. For Grand and Past Grand Officers, the same as for Commanders except that the rosette shall be an embroidered gold bullion or gold Mylar Templar cross with filling color of red or purple appropriate to rank.

In lieu of the chapeau, the Grand Commandery of Indiana adopts a military Pershing style black dress cap.

A military Pershing style black dress cap shall be of the following description:

For Past Grand Commanders: military Pershing style dress cap with black top, black band, and black visor with one row of gold oak leaves and acorns, purple Templar Cross 2 ¼ inches square, fixed to the front of the black band and a gold chin strap attached with gold buttons.

For Grand Commander: Same as above except red Templar Cross.

For Grand Commandery officers: Same as above except plain black visor.

For Commanders and Past Commanders: Same as above except with a 1 3/8 x 2-inch red Passion Cross trimmed in gold with rays.

For all other Sir Knights: Same as above except using a red Passion Cross trimmed in silver with a silver chin strap attached with silver buttons.

Those Knights who wish to continue use the traditional head covering may do so and are not required to purchase the new style of head covering. (4/28/2018)

**Change to read:**

**CHAPEAU**

**SECTION 940:** For Sir Knights, the chapeau shall be black regulation style for Knights Templar. There shall be placed on the left side of the chapeau a rosette of silk velvet and silk ribbon, with an embroidered silver bullion or Mylar passion cross, with or without rays. The color of the filling of the cross shall be red. The chapeau to be trimmed with two black plumes and one duplex white top plume, to extend three inches beyond the rear peak of the chapeau and to be not less than six and three-quarters inches in width. For Commanders and Past Commanders, the same except that on the rosette there shall be an embroidered raised gold bullion or gold Mylar passion cross with rays. The color of the filling of the cross shall be red.

There shall be gold slashing one and one-half inches in width on both sides, front and back and gold tassel or front peak. For Grand and Past Grand Officers, the same as for Commanders except that the rosette shall be an embroidered gold bullion or gold Mylar Templar cross with filling color of red or purple appropriate to rank.

~~In lieu of the chapeau, the Grand Commandery of Indiana adopts a military Pershing style black dress cap.~~

**The Grand Commandery of Indiana adopts a military Pershing style black dress cap, which may be worn in lieu of the chapeau.**

A military Pershing style black dress cap shall be of the following description:

For Past Grand Commanders: military Pershing style dress cap with black top, black band, and black visor with one row of gold oak leaves and acorns, purple Templar Cross 2 ¼ inches square, fixed to the front of the black band and a gold chin strap attached with gold buttons.

For Grand Commander: Same as above except red Templar Cross.

For Grand Commandery officers: Same as above except plain black visor.

For Commanders and Past Commanders: Same as above except with a 1 3/8 x 2-inch red Passion Cross trimmed in gold with rays.

For all other Sir Knights: Same as above except using a red Passion Cross trimmed in silver with a silver chin strap attached with silver buttons.

~~Those Knights who wish to continue use the traditional head covering may do so and are not required to purchase the new style of head covering. (4/28/2018)~~

**The decision to wear either a chapeau or the military style Pershing cap shall be made by each Knight and not dictated by any Commandery in the state of Indiana.**

### **Reasoning for change**

“In lieu” means “instead of” or “in place of” (sources: Cornell Law School Legal Information Institute, Merriam-Webster Dictionary). The use of the phrase “in lieu of” in the current statute indicates that all Knights in the state of Indiana shall wear the Pershing cap instead of a chapeau. The proposed changes clarifies that Knights may choose to wear either a chapeau or a Pershing cap.

Submitted by:

Phil Whisner, PGC, KCT, KTCH

**This proposed change was properly made, seconded and approved vote of those present.**

## **Proposed Law Change to the Education Foundation Committee**

### **As Written**

#### **EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION COMMITTEE**

**SECTION 780:** The Educational Foundation Committee shall consist of five members to serve five-year terms of which one will expire each year, one member to be appointed each year at the time of Annual Conclave by the incoming

Grand Commander. The Grand Commander serving will make appointments to fill any vacancies for the unexpired portion of the term and may replace any member of the Committee but shall not be a member of the Committee. It shall be the duty of this Committee to administer the business of the Educational Foundation in accordance with the rules and regulations established by the Grand Encampment Educational Foundation, and under the direction of the Grand Commandery.

Committee shall review applications for Scholarship grants for students attending an Indiana Credible College/University and request a distribution of the funds from the Grand Encampment. Student applicants must be a Daughter, Son, Granddaughter, Grandson of an Active Indiana Knight Templar. Applications are to be provided online and filled out and mailed to Committee Secretary by March 1st yearly. Stepchildren also fall into the qualified applicants. The Committee Chairman will report all actions to the Grand Conclave each year. *(April 2022)*

### **Proposed Changes**

#### **EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION COMMITTEE**

**SECTION 780:** The Educational Foundation Committee shall consist of five members, each serving a five-year term, with one term expiring annually. One member shall be appointed each year at the Annual Grand Conclave by the incoming Grand Commander. The Grand Commander may appoint members to fill unexpired terms and may remove a member for cause but shall not serve as a member of the Committee.

The Committee shall administer the affairs of the Educational Foundation in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Grand Encampment Educational Foundation and under the direction of the Grand Commandery. The Committee shall review scholarship applications from eligible students attending an Indiana-accredited college, university, or trade school and shall request the appropriate distribution of funds from the Grand Encampment.

Eligible applicants shall be children, stepchildren, grandchildren, or step-grandchildren of an Active Indiana Knight Templar. Applications shall be made available online and must be submitted to the Committee Secretary no later than March 1 each year. The Committee Chair shall report all Committee actions annually to the Grand Conclave. The report shall include the number of scholarships awarded and the amount of the scholarship.

The Committee will also make an annual report on the status of our portion of the funds that are held by the Grand Encampment Investment Account. The report shall include starting and ending balances and any income/loss derived for the year, less expenses or fees to maintain the account.

The committee will not request more than 95% of the income for scholarships. The balance of income not used will be put into the permanent portion of the Scholarship Fund for the growth of the funds to offset inflation and to pay the maintenance fees of the account.

The rationale for the above changes to clear up some of the verbiage and to see that the fund not only maintains its current status but that it continues to grow for future generations.

Respectfully Submitted

Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder

**Since this was a re-write of Section 780: it was necessary to have 2/3 of the votes to approve the changes. The total vote was 38 to approve and 35 against. This Resolution will be held over until next year.**

## **Awards:**

### **Star Recorder**

- Robert Hendrix – Wright Commandery #64

### **J. Rufus Hinshasw Award**

- New Albany #5 – 10.26% Increase

### **Grand Commander's Award**

- Valparaiso #28 – 13 Knightings

### **Activity Awards (Ribbons)**

- **Battalion #1**
  - Blue Ribbon – Valparaiso #28 – 9705 Points
  - Red Ribbon – La Porte #12 – 6220 Points
- **Battalion #2**
  - Blue Ribbon – Angola #45 – 6829 Points
  - Red Ribbon – Fort Wayne #4 – 57827 Points
- **Battalion #3**
  - Blue Ribbon – Grant County #21 – 7015 Points
  - Red Ribbon – Anderson #32 – 5950 Points

- **Battalion #4**
  - Blue Ribbon – Crawfordsville #25 -8325 Points
  - Red Ribbon – Frankfort #29 – 4898 Points
- **Battalion #5**
  - Blue Ribbon – Greenfield #39 – 6509 Points
  - Red Ribbon – Prather #62 – 4686 Points
- **Battalion #6**
  - Blue Ribbon – Baldwin #2 – 1251 Points
  - Red Ribbon – Raper #1 – 6380 Points
- **Battalion #7**
  - Blue Ribbon – Bedford #42 – 8595 Points
  - Red Ribbon – Columbus #14 – 4900 Points
- **Battalion #8**
  - Blue Ribbon – LaVette #15 – 3747 Points
  - Red Ribbon – Wright #64 – 3112 Points

#### **Grand Commandery Guidon**

- Valparaiso #28 – Ritual Score 515

#### **Battalion Guidons**

- **Battalion #1** – Valparaiso #28 – Ritual Score 515
- **Battalion #2** – Fort Wayne #4 - Ritual Score 443
- **Battalion #3** – Grant County #21 – Ritual Score 498
- **Battalion #4** – Crawfordsville #25 – Ritual Score 461
- **Battalion #5** – Greenfield #39 – Ritual Score 506
- **Battalion #6** – Richmond #8 – Ritual Score 457
- **Battalion #7** – Bedford #40 – Ritual Score – 498
- **Battalion #8** – Greene County #68 – Ritual Score 375

#### **Eminent Commander Certificate of Merit**

- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| ● Earl Hopkins         | ● Issac R. Williams      |
| ● Matthew McLaughlin   | ● Russell Sthrome        |
| ● Michael Arford       | ● Jon Carpenter          |
| ● Timothy Lawson       | ● Michael Anderson       |
| ● David E. Lee         | ● Konstantino Tsimerakis |
| ● Christopher Prentice | ● Wayne Patmore          |

## **Knight Templar Cross of Honor**

- Christopher Steel

## **Knight Commander of the Temple**

- Dathan Reed
- Jon McCracken

## **Companion of the Temple**

- Tracy Sparks

## **Battalion Structure**

**2026 / 2027**

### **Battalion #1**

- **Scott Sacek – Battalion Commander**
  - Dion Diakis – Deputy Battalion Commander
  - Jon Carpenter – Deputy Battalion Commander
  - Ron Ross – Deputy Battalion Commander
    - La Porte #12
    - Valparaiso #28
    - Elkhart #31

### **Battalion #2**

- **Dathan Reed, KCT – Battalion Commander**
  - Charles Brindle – Deputy Battalion Commander
  - Michael Arford – Deputy Battalion Commander
    - Fort Wayne #4
    - Apollo #19
    - Angola #45

### **Battalion #3**

- **Andrew Bowman – Battalion Commander**
  - Robert Kendall – Deputy Battalion Commander
  - Paul Jarboe – Deputy Battalion Commander
  - Barry Clouser, GPE – Deputy Battalion Commander
    - Grand County #21
    - Anderson #32
    - Kokomo #36
    - Noblesville #61

#### **Battalion #4**

- **John Freeland – Battalion Commander**
  - Scott Pike – Deputy Battalion Commander
  - Ian Shaw – Deputy Battalion Commander
  - Shannon Farnsley – Deputy Battalion Commander
  - Michael Isenhower – Deputy Battalion Commander
    - Terre Haute #16
    - Crawfordsville #25
    - Frankfort #29

#### **Battalion #5**

- **John C. Jones, II, GPE – Battalion Commander**
  - Vance Brewer – Deputy Battalion Commander
  - Joseph Korschot – Deputy Battalion Commander
    - Raper #1
    - Prather #62
    - Wm. G. Bray #65

#### **Battalion #6**

- **Mark Elder – Battalion Commander**
  - Derek Cheek – Deputy Battalion Commander
  - Brian Hooten – Deputy Battalion Commander
  - Nathan Ratterman – Deputy Battalion Commander
    - Greenfield #39
    - Baldwin #2
    - Richmond #8

#### **Battalion #7**

- **Lawrence (Ricky) Myers – Battalion Commander**
  - James Jarvis – Deputy Battalion Commander
  - Todd Smith – Deputy Battalion Commander
    - New Albany #5
    - Columbus #14
    - Bedford #42
    - Bloomington #63

#### **Battalion #8**

- **Jordan McCracken – Battalion Commander**
  - Robert Hendrix – Deputy Battalion Commander

- Shelby Olvey – Deputy Battalion Commander
  - Lavalette #15
  - Vincennes #20
  - Wright #64
  - Greene County #68

### **Committees and Chairman:**

**Appeals & Grievances** – George Ingles, KCT, PGC  
**By-Laws** – Jonathan McCracken, KCT, VEDGC  
**Competitive Drills** – Randy Darling, KCT, PGC  
**Credentials** – John Freeland  
**Dispensation & Charters** – George Ingles, KCT, PGC  
**Easter Sunrise Trip** – Dominic Hamblin, KCT, REGC  
**Education Foundation** – Phillip Whisner, KTCH, KCT, PGC  
**Finance/Budget** – Edward Fodrea, KCT, PGC  
**Grand Inspector General** – Michael Robbins, KCT, PGC  
**Holyland Pilgrimage** – Randal Ellington, GPE, KCT, PGC  
**Jurisprudence** – Edward Fodrea, KCT, PGC  
**Knight Templar Honor Guard** – Randy Darling, KCT, PGC  
**Executive Committee** – Dominic Hamblin, KCT, REGC  
**Lawrence V. Kaminski UD** – Nathan Ratterman, PEC  
**Leadership (ITA)** – Dathan Reed, EGG  
**Long-Range Planning** – Jonathan McCracken, KCT, VEDGC  
**Masonic Youth** – Randal Ellington, GPE, KCT, PGC  
**Membership** – Scott Sacek, EGCG  
**Lanyard Cord Program**, Randy Darling,  
 KCT, PGC  
**Necrology** – Benton David, GP  
**Next Conclave** – Dominic Hamblin, KCT, REGC  
**Patriotic Activities** – Andrew Bowman, EGSwB  
**Publicity & Public Relations** – Scott Sacek, EGCG  
**Ritual Competition** – Mark Elder, EGSW  
**Ritual & Tactics**- Dathan Reed, KCT, EGG  
**State Eye Foundation** – Jeffery Prairie, EPC  
**Tellers** – Phillip Whisner, KTCH, KCT, PGC  
**Templar Uniform** – Lawrence Myers, EGStB  
**Triennial 2027** – Edward Fodrea, KCT, PGC  
**Demits & Suspensions** – Joseph Sparks, KCT, PGC

**Potential Officer** – Joseph Sparks, KCT, PGC  
**Trustees** – Edward Fodrea, KCT, PGC  
**Unfinished Business** – Jonathan McCracken, KCT, VEDGC  
**Visiting Sir Knights** – Jordan McCracken, EGW  
**York Rite Coordination** – Dominic Hamblin, KCT, REGC  
**York Rite Unity** – Dominic Hamblin, KCT, REGC  
**Dignified Flag Retirement** – Andrew Bowman, EGSwB

## **General Orders**



## GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

General Order No. 1 Hamblin

April 26, 2026

### Annual Inspections and Receptions of Constituent Commandery(s)

Sir Knights of Indiana:

In pursuant to the provisions of Section 851 and 852 of the Laws of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Indiana, it is hereby ordered that the Constituent Commanderies of the Jurisdiction be inspected.

All Commanderies will be Inspected on the Short Form Opening with Rehearsal of Duties. The Inspection on an Order is preferred on a Saturday, or on the Stated Conclave of the Commandery, unless prior permission has been given by the Right Eminent Grand Commander or the Grand Inspector General to hold the Inspection or Opening on a separate date. The Right Eminent Grand Commander would like to hold these inspections and receptions on a Saturday to allow our families to attend and be more involved in the family of Templary.

If a cancellation or date modification happens for any reason, a written request to the Right Eminent Grand Commander and the Grand Inspector General must be received at least two weeks prior to the Original Inspection Date. This written request must be received with reason from the Eminent Commander of the Host Commandery and must include a new date with a two-to-three-week advance notice that will require approval of the Right Eminent Grand Commander and the Grand Inspector General before it is rescheduled. (We all have schedules to work with; please plan for the date you set.) In case of an Emergency, we will follow the Next Sir Knight Up Philosophy, so you should think of re-casting prior to the Cancellation or Change of Date of the Inspection or Order

1. The Battalion Commander shall inspect each Commandery within his Battalion with the following exceptions:
  - The Grand Inspector General or a Deputy Grand Inspector General will be required to inspect the designated primary Commandery of each elected Grand Commandery Officer, excluding the Commandery of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder unless an additional Grand Officer(s) are members of that Commandery.
  - A fellow Grand Line Officer/Battalion Commander will inspect the designated primary Commandery of each appointed Grand Officer if it is within the Battalion of the latter. Only the Right Eminent Grand Commander may authorize other exceptions or substitutions.
  - Deputy Battalion Commander(s) are suggested to assist in the grading of the Inspections and the Inspection of the Books and Records.
  - Deputy Battalion Commander(s) are also required to get all distinguished guests information added to introduction cards and ensure cards are in the correct order. The Battalion Commander will then preview the cards for accuracy and have ready for the Right Eminent Grand Commander or his designee.

2. Each Inspecting Officer will send a “Notice of Inspection” courtesy letter (email or mailed) to the Eminent Commander and Recorder at least 30 days prior to the Inspection if the letter is mailed, then an email copy is also to be sent to the Eminent Commander and Recorder and Cc’d to the Grand Inspector General and the Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander. This letter is found on the Grand Commandery Website and will confirm the date, time, and location of the Inspection with the Inspecting Officer’s time of arrival and will also include a copy of the blank reports to be filled out by the Recorder prior to the inspection. The requested completed reports will be provided to the Inspecting Officer upon his arrival (Activities Sheet, Recorder’s Questionnaire, cast list for the Order, cast list for the Opening)
3. The records Inspected will be detailed on the Recorder’s Questionnaire will include but not limited to:
  - A report on the membership efforts.
  - Examination of the Recorder’s and Treasurer’s books, records, and accounts.
  - Examination of the paraphernalia and property of the Commandery.
  - Activity sheet.
  - Current 990-N Filed Tax Form.
  - Current copy of the By-Laws dated by the Grand Commandery.
4. No Inspection will be deemed complete until the Inspecting Officer has reviewed all books and financial records of both the Recorder and Treasurer. If they are not presented at the Inspection, it shall be the duty of the Officer responsible (Treasurer or Recorder) to deliver the needed items to be inspected to the Inspecting Officer by or at the next stated Conclave of that Commandery or upon an agreeable date prior to the end of the Inspection Year. If further time is needed, it may be granted but only with approval of the Right Eminent Grand Commander. Failure to comply may cause the Commandery to be placed on probation until the obligation has been fulfilled.

**\* The Battalion Commander will leave the Inspection or Reception with ALL paperwork pertaining to the Inspection or Reception.**

5. Each Inspection will start promptly on the date(s) and time(s) mutually agreed upon with the respective Inspecting Officer.
6. The Inspection will be on the conferral of the Illustrious Order of Red Cross, Order of Malta, or the Order of the Temple in Full Form. All Inspections must be completed by December 5, 2026.

**\* All Commanderies should do their best to have a candidate for the Inspection if possible. If there is not going to be a candidate, the Battalion Commander should advise the Inspecting Officer and the Right Eminent Grand Commander in advance of the Inspection.**

7. It is preferred that the regularly elected and appointed officers of the Commandery fill their respective stations during the Opening for the Rehearsal of Duties, Reception and Order conferral. If necessary, officers and members may assume other stations, particularly during the Order. Commanderies are encouraged to collaborate with each other to provide any needed assistance. If an actual candidate is present, the quality of the work is of prime importance.

8. Inspections may consist of up to two (2) Commanderies participating together for an Official Inspection with a minimum of 6 members of each Commandery present. Inspections may consist of up to three (3) Commanderies with prior authorization granted by the Right Eminent Grand Commander or the Grand Inspector General, also requiring a minimum of 6 members of each Commandery present. If less than 6 members are present from a Commandery a percentage of the points may be awarded (subject to review by the Battalion Commander and the Right Eminent Grand Commander). Failure of any Commandery to participate in an inspection may result in Suspension.
9. The Inspection will consist of the following:
  - Short Form Opening with Rehearsal of Duties
  - One of the Following Order's: Illustrious Order of Red Cross, Order of Malta, or Order of the Temple in Full Form
  - Flag Presentation
  - Closing

\*\*Inspection of The Order and Opening can be completed separately.

10. The Battalion Commander shall complete and forward his inspection report (Tally Sheet Landscape) of each Commandery to the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Inspector General, the Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, as well as the Eminent Commander and the Recorder of the inspected Commandery within fourteen (14) days following the completion of the inspection. All other required paperwork will be maintained by the Battalion Commander and made immediately available upon request. A full report of the Inspections may be discussed at the winter meeting and appropriate recognition will be made at the Annual Conclave.
11. The Battalion Guidon will be awarded to the Commandery in each Battalion who has the highest ritualistic score. The ritualistic score shall be the combined score of the Short Form Opening with Rehearsal of Duties, one of the following Order's (Illustrious Order of Red Cross, the Order of Malta, or the Order of the Temple), Flag Presentation and Closing. All Commanderies will be graded according to the forms and procedures adopted for that purpose.
12. The Commandery, with the highest Activity Score in each Battalion will receive a blue ribbon and the second highest Activity score in each Battalion will receive a red ribbon, presented at the Grand Commandery Session. The Commandery with the highest activity score in the state will receive the Grand Commandery Guidon for the coming year.
13. A Commandery(s) using an exemplar in place of an actual candidate will confer the Order as if they had an actual candidate and scored as such by the Inspecting Officer. (Hermits and Guards may be limited to one of each)

### **Instructional**

An Instructional may be held in lieu of an Inspection on the Order of the Temple when the Inspecting Officer, with the concurrence of the Grand Inspector General and approval of the Right Eminent Grand Commander deems that change to be in the best interests of the Commandery(s).

- The Commandery(s) that is conducting an Instructional, will receive a ZERO score on the Inspection Tally Worksheet.

### **Scoring Inspection**

- If a Sir Knight is participating in his first Order or Opening and has been Knighted within 1 year of said Opening or Order and is using a Ritual, he will not be penalized on the Inspection Sheet.
- Scores will be equally given to the Commandery(s) participating in the Order based on the number of members participating in the Order (If less than 6 members are present from a Commandery a percentage of the points may be awarded). The inspection of the Order may occur any time after June 1, 2026, and prior December 5, 2026.
- All books from the Recorder and Treasure must be inspected by December 5, 2026.
- If 5 members are present 50% of the ritualistic score may be given, if 4 members are present 40% of the ritualistic score may be given, if 3 are members present 30% of the ritualistic score may be given, if 2 are members present 20% of the ritualistic score may be given, if 1 member is present 10% of the ritualistic score may be given.
- Inspection scores will be separated by officer ranking only. All members or officers of the participating Inspected Commandery(s) will receive an officer score of 1-20.

### **Reception of the Eminent Commander**

Each Battalion will hold a Public Opening for the Reception of the Eminent Commanders. Commanderies will use either the Ten Man or Twelve Man Open Reception in accordance with the most recent official interpretation of the Ritual and official Indiana Asylum Tactics (Revised 4/29/2022) as posted on the Grand Commandery website. The reception should include the Presentation of the United States Flag. (If less than 6 members are present from a Commandery at a Battalion reception a percentage of the points may be awarded. Any Commandery may choose to hold their own Reception. Points for the reception will be awarded on the Activity Sheet.

A Uniform Inspection of each Sir Knight will take place during the Inspection of the Lines portion of the reception. One point for each deficiency will be deducted and added to the Activity Worksheet. (If a Sir Knight belongs to two or more Commandery(s) being Inspected, points will be awarded to only one Commandery at the Sir Knights request).

### **Instructions following the Inspection of the Order or Reception, prior to Closing**

Upon completion of each Inspection and prior to Closing, the Eminent Commander shall give his remarks first, followed by the Inspecting Officer. The Right Eminent Grand Commander, if present, will follow with his remarks. Whenever he is not present, the Inspecting Officer, acting as the Right Eminent Grand Commander's Official Representative, shall be accorded with all the honors and courtesies due to him as such. If the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Indiana is present, he will speak after the Right Eminent Grand Commander; otherwise, the Right Eminent Grand Commander is the final speaker.

Thank You all the Sir Knights of Indiana for your dedication to Templary!

This Order shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at their first Stated Conclave after its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

Courteously,



Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

ATTESTED:



Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder





# GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

General Order No. 2 Hamblin

April 26, 2026

## Special Dispensations

Sir Knights of Indiana where so ever dispersed:

By Order of the Grand Commander, the following information is hereby disseminated:

ITEM NO. 1, Dispensation is hereby granted to all Constituent Commanderies to appear in uniform at any and all Patriotic Activities, such as, (but not limited to) Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, and Veterans Day.

ITEM NO. 2, Dispensation is hereby granted to all Constituent Commanderies to move their Charter and to appear in uniform at any time to portray the Orders of Templary or to assist in any ceremonies at the Indiana Masonic Home at Compass Park with their approval

ITEM NO. 3, Constituent Recorders are hereby requested, prior to requesting a Dispensation for any purpose, to first read the following Sections of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar 214, 215, 48(f)3, 177, 76, 145, and 48(f)1.

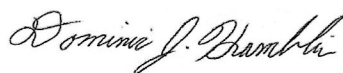
ITEM NO. 4, Constituent Commanderies are strongly urged to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag prior to the opening of each Stated and Called Conclaves.

ITEM NO. 5, A Constituent Commandery is not required to obtain special permission in order to meet and conduct business jointly with Chapter and/or Council. Such authority is found in Section 65(c) of the Laws of the Grand Encampment.


This Order shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at their first Stated Conclave after its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

Courteously,

  
Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

ATTESTED:

  
Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder





# GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

General Order No. 3 Hamblin

April 26, 2026

## Mentoring New Members and Junior Officers

Sir Knights of Indiana where so ever dispersed:

Maintaining interest in new Sir Knights and preparing Junior Officers for future leadership are important issues in the life of any Commandery. An active mentoring program can achieve these goals, and the following program is directed for implementation and monitoring by each Commandery.

- Upon Knighting, each Sir Knight should be assigned a Mentor whose responsibility it will be to assist the new Sir Knight to remain an active member by inviting him to all functions personally, helping him become involved in the Commandery to the extent that the new Sir Knight is able, and answering all questions that he and his family pose.
- The Recorder is responsible for providing a “New Member Packet” to the new Sir Knight containing information about the Commandery and Templary. This may include a calendar, newsletter, Commandery history, philanthropies, and information on Conclaves, activities, and officers.
- Each new officer in the line will also be assigned a mentor, preferably a Past Commander or Dais Officer, to provide guidance and encouragement to the new officer and to instruct and answer questions he will have as he advances.
- The officer’s mentor shall make certain that the new officer has the proper ritual, tactics, officer’s handbook bylaws, and other information he needs to succeed. The mentor shall assist the new officer in preparing his uniform and equipment and assist him with proficiency in protocols and practices.

The Recorder will record the name of the mentors in the Notes Section in MMS and the Generalissimo will be assigned to administer and monitor the mentorship program and to oversee the development of new Sir Knights and officers. I have requested the Battalion Commanders and Deputies to assist you, the Eminent Commander, in implementing the program.

This Order shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at their first Stated Conclave after its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 28th day of April, A.D. 2024 A.O. 906.

Courteously,

Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

ATTESTED:

Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder





# GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

General Order No. 4 Hamblin

April 26, 2026

## Libations for Candidates under the Age of 21

Sir Knights of Indiana where so ever dispersed:

During the Order of the Temple, any candidate who is under 21 years of age **Must** only receive non-alcoholic libations.

This Order shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at their first Stated Conclave after its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

Courteously,

Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

ATTESTED:

Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder





# GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

General Order No. 5 Hamblin

April 26, 2026

## R. Frank Williams Award Program

Sir Knights of Indiana where so ever dispersed:

Sir Knight R. Frank Williams, KCT, PGC, HPDC and GPE who passed July 2, 2014, was instrumental in the National Holy Land Pilgrimage Program for over 25 years. He was the spearhead in getting Indiana involved in this great work.

Therefore, an award, being established in 2015 and will be continued in his honor. This Indiana Award will be given to the Commandery that contributes the most money to the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund each year. Whether you pay the full price of a minister to go to the Holy Land or just donate money to help send a minister, everything that is donated from your Commandery will count toward your Commandery's annual donation. The year will run from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. Nominations of ministers to go to the Holy Land may be submitted to the Holy Land Committee, who will then select the minister to go based upon the funds available. Your Commandery may pay and select a minister of your choice by paying the complete cost of the trip.

The R. Frank Williams Award, a traveling trophy, will be presented at the Grand Conclave the following year for that Commandery to display for the year. A plaque will be placed on the award with your Commandery's name and year in which the award was presented.

It is the goal of the Grand Commandery of Indiana that sufficient funds each year are raised through the R. Frank Williams Award to send at least one minister to the Holy Land. The Grand Commandery is asking that each Commandery in the State of Indiana set a goal to donate at least \$100.00 to the Holy Land fund each year. Those Commanderies that donate at \$100.00 or more will receive a certificate showing the amount of their donation. With the continued funding, we will be able to meet our goal of sending at least one minister to the Holy Land from the State of Indiana each year.

This Order shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at their first Stated Conclave after its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

Courteously,

Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

ATTESTED:

Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder



## **Bulletins**



# GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Bulletin No. 2 Hamblin

April 26, 2026

## Eminent Commander's Certificate of Merit Award

To honor the Eminent Commanders of Indiana who have completed a full term in 2026 and who have demonstrated that they are effective leaders will be eligible to receive a Certificate of Merit based upon the following criteria at the 2027 Grand Conclave.

- An Officer mentoring program is functioning in the Commandery.
- The Commandery had the required number of Sir Knights at their Inspection.
- The Commandery was represented at the 2026 Grand Conclave by Required Sir Knights or their Proxy's.
- The Commandery has knighted at least 1 candidate in the 2026/2027 Templar Year.
- The Commandery has accumulated at least 750 activity points on the Activities Sheet.

**All Battalion Commanders will recommend eligible Eminent Commanders in their Battalion's at the Winter Meeting of the Grand Commandery in January 2027.**

This Bulletin shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

Fraternally, Yours in His Name,

ATTESTED:

Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder





# GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Bulletin No. 3 Hamblin

April 26, 2026

## Distinguished Service Award for Sir Knights and Friends of the Commandery

In 1977, The Grand Commandery of Indiana established an award known as the “Distinguished Service Award.” This award may be presented by the Right Eminent Grand Commander upon the recommendation of the Commander and dais officers of the Constituent Commandery to a Sir Knight who has given outstanding, loyal and devoted service to the Commandery. A lady or non-member may also receive this award as a “DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FOR FRIENDS.”

Each Indiana Commandery may nominate two (2) Sir Knights and/or (2) “Friends” per year upon the recommendation of its three dais officers. Nominations are made using the enclosed forms. The cost of the jewel, certificate and any engraving is borne by the Commandery nominating the individual and a check accompanying the nomination form will be sent to the Grand Recorder. The Grand Commandery furnishes a certificate. Full details of the award can be found in Permanent Resolution No. 3, Section 920 (a) of the Indiana Grand Laws. Further questions may be addressed to the Grand Commander or Grand Recorder.

Each Commander is urged to take advantage of this opportunity to recognize outstanding service to Templary on a local basis. We have many Sir Knights who attend meetings, give a helping hand, do the little things in conferring the Orders, or support the activities of the officers year after year. Any Sir Knight is eligible and there are no restrictions other than he is in good standing.

This Bulletin shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

ATTESTED:



Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder

# **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FOR SIR KNIGHTS**

## **Rules and Regulations**

An award to be known as the "**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**" (for Sir Knights) was established by the Grand Commandery of Indiana on May 6, 1977, at the 123rd Annual Conclave. It is to be conferred upon members, who, by distinguished service to Templary are worthy of such an award. The recipients are to be selected and the award to be presented as follows:

1. The recipient must be a member in good standing of a Commandery.
2. The Eminent Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General, will acting together, present the nomination for the award as suggested by members of their Commandery. The nomination shall be on forms provided by the Grand Recorder. **Said nomination shall be forwarded to the Right Eminent Grand Commander.** The Grand Commandery may appoint the Grand Recorder to assist him in the selection of recipients.
3. Those chosen to receive the award shall be made known by the Right Eminent Grand Commander at the Grand Commandery Conclave each year. The names of the nominees to receive the award shall be kept strictly confidential until announced by the Commander.
4. The award shall be limited to two (2) members from each Commandery in Indiana each year starting with the year 1977.
5. The award is to be presented to the recipient by the Eminent Commander of the recipient's Commandery, such presentation to be at a Stated or Called Conclave. It is strongly recommended that such presentation be open to the public, visitors and friends and is performed with proper ceremony with Sir Knights present wearing full Templar uniforms.
6. The award shall consist of a jewel engraved with the words "DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD, Grand Commandery of Indiana" In addition thereto an appropriate certificate of the award shall be prepared and signed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander, attested by the Grand Recorder. Also, the signature of the Eminent Commander and attested by the Recorder of the Commandery. The jewel and certificate shall be the same for all Commanderies and under the control of the Grand Commandery of Indiana.
7. The cost of the jewel, certificate and any additional engraving shall be borne by each Commandery presenting a nomination. Each Commandery will be send a check to the Grand Recorder accompanying the nomination form for the cost. If a check is not received, then the nomination form will be returned to the Recorder of requesting Commandery.

**NOMINATION FORM**

**FOR A SIR KNIGHT  
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander:

It is the unanimous recommendation of the Eminent Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No.,

stationed at \_\_\_\_\_ that the following Sir Knight, a member of said Commandery, be and hereby is nominated to receive the Distinguished Service Award for the Templar year

1. His full name is: \_\_\_\_\_

2. His residence is \_\_\_\_\_

3. The following facts are submitted as a justification for his nomination:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(If further space is required, continue on backside or attach a separate sheet.)

Approved this: \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eminent Commander  
-----

Approved: Grand Commander \_\_\_\_\_

Attest: Grand Recorder \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FOR FRIENDS**

## **Rules and Regulations**

An award to be known as the "**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FOR FRIENDS**" was established by the Grand Commandery of Indiana on April 25, 1998. It is to be awarded to a Friend who has given service to the Grand Commandery, or a Constituent Commandery of Indiana, above that which can be expected of a non-member. The recipients to be selected and the award to be presented as follows:

1. The Eminent Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General, will acting together, present the nomination for the award as suggested by members of their Commandery. The nomination shall be made on forms provided by the Grand Recorder. Commander may appoint the Grand Recorder and the Special Activities Committee to assist him in the selection of the recipients.
2. Those chosen to receive the award shall be made known by the Right Eminent Grand Commander at the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery each year. The names of the nominees to receive the award shall be kept strictly confidential until announced by the Commander.
3. The award shall be limited to two (2) nominations from each Commandery in Indiana each year starting with the year 1998.
4. The award is to be presented to the recipient by the Eminent Commander of the nominating Commandery, such presentation to be at a Called Conclave. Such presentation shall be open to the public, visitors and friends and be performed with proper ceremony with Sir Knights present wearing full Templar Uniforms.
5. The award shall consist of a jewel with suitable fastener on back to be worn by a Lady or a lapel pin for a Gentleman. In addition, thereto, an appropriate certificate of the award shall be prepared and signed by the Right Eminent. Grand Commander, attested to by the Grand Recorder. Also, the signature of the Eminent Commander and attested to by the Recorder of the Commandery. The jewel and certificate shall be the same for all Commanderies and under the control of the Grand Commandery of Indiana.
6. The cost of the jewel and certificate shall be borne by each Commandery presenting a nomination. Each Commandery will send a check to the Grand Recorder accompanying the nomination form for the cost. If a check is not received, then the nomination form will be returned to the Recorder of requesting Commandery.

## **NOMINATION FORM**

### **FOR A "FRIENDS" DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander:

It is the unanimous recommendation of the Eminent Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_, stationed at \_\_\_\_\_ that the following Friend of said Commandery, be and hereby is nominated to receive the Distinguished Service Award for Friends the Templaryear \_\_\_\_\_.

4. His/Her full name is: \_\_\_\_\_

5. His/Her residence is: \_\_\_\_\_

6. The following facts are submitted as a justification for His/Her nomination:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(If further space is required, continue on backside or attach a separate sheet.)

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eminent Commander  
.....

Approved: Grand Commander \_\_\_\_\_

Attest: Grand Recorder \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

This Bulletin shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

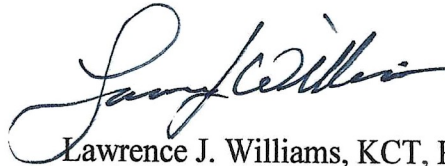
Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

Fraternally, Yours in His Name,

ATTESTED:



Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander



Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder





## GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Bulletin No. 4 Hamblin

April 26, 2026

### Knights Templar Cross of Honor

In accordance with the provisions of Section 237 (b) of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, USA, a meritorious award known as the Knights Templar Cross of Honor may be conferred by the Grand Master upon a deserving Sir Knight (or Knights, depending on Grand Commandery membership counts) of each Grand Commandery once each year.

Each Constituent Commandery of Indiana is invited to submit a nomination for the award. It is to be noted that this award is to be made only for exceptional and meritorious service rendered to the Order of Knights Templar far beyond the call of duty, and beyond the service usually expected of an Officer or Member. No Elected Grand Commandery or Grand Encampment Officer, past or present, is eligible to receive the award. This honor is for the Sir Knight of your Commandery who you consider has been, or is, outstanding in his Chivalric laborers.

1. Should your Commandery desire to make a nomination for this award, you will use the following procedure.
2. Pass a resolution in your Commandery, naming the Sir Knight to be nominated.
3. Send the completed nomination form to the Right Eminent Grand Commander for approval.

**Read the instructions on the reverse side of the form. Fill it out and forward it directly to Sir Knight Dominic J. Hamblin, REGC, KCT. 9536 Acacia Psge., Fort Wayne IN 46835.**

The nomination form must be in the hands of the Grand Commander prior to February 1, 2027. Incomplete forms and those received after this date will not be considered. Your Commandery should reconsider those Sir Knights who have been nominated previously but who have never received the award.

This Bulletin shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

Fraternally Yours in His Name

Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

ATTESTED:

Lawrence J. Williams, PGC, KCT  
Grand Recorder



## "KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR" RULES AND REGULATIONS

- (1) In accordance with the provisions of Section 237 (b) of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment, as amended at the 50th Triennial Conclave, the meritorious Award known as the **KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR**, shall be conferred by the Grand Master on behalf of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar to deserving Sir Knights of Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies upon certain conditions hereinafter set forth.
- (2) The **KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR** shall be awarded "only for exceptional and meritorious service rendered to the Order, far beyond the call of duty, and beyond the service usually expected of an officer or member." In deciding upon the award, precedents shall be entirely ignored, and each case shall be decided upon its own unusual merits. No posthumous award shall be made, and no present or past elected Grand Officer of a Grand Commandery shall be eligible for the award.
- (3) Only one nomination may be made from a Grand Commandery membership of 5,000 or less, plus one additional nomination may be made by a Grand Commandery for each additional 5,000 of its members, or major fraction thereof, during any one year. Only one nomination may be made from the total of the Subordinate Commanderies for one year.
- (4) The procedure to be followed for making nominations for this Award shall be as follows:
  - a. Any Constituent Commandery desiring to make a nomination shall first adopt a formal resolution, setting forth the full name of its nominees, and the nature of the meritorious service upon which such nomination is based.
  - b. The Commander of such Constituent Commandery shall thereupon cause to be filled-in a nomination form to be supplied by the Grand Recorder of his Grand Commandery, giving the date, full name of the nominee, address, and Templar rank, name of his Commandery and a statement of the nature of the meritorious service upon.
  - c. Such Nomination Form shall be signed by the Commander of such Constituent Commandery and shall be forwarded by him to the Grand Commander of his jurisdiction for consideration.
  - d. Such Grand Commander shall consider nominations made Constituent Commanderies of his Grand Commandery upon Nomination Forms and shall select only one nominee (more where qualified) in anyone year; upon making such selection, the Grand Commander shall affix his written approval to such Nomination Form and shall thereupon send the name to the Grand Master.
  - e. Any Subordinate Commandery desiring to make a nomination for this Award shall follow the same procedure as is set forth above for Constituent Commanderies, except that such Subordinate Commandery desiring to make a nomination, shall forward the Nomination Form to be supplied by the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, and the same shall bear the written approval of the Commander of such Subordinate Commandery before being sent by to the Grand Master.
- (5) The **KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR** medal shall consist of a round, gold-finished medal, the outer circle of which shall bear the words "KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR," showing through in black enamel, and in the center shall appear the Patriarchal Cross of the Grand Encampment in purple enamel. Such medal shall be suspended from a gold-finished bar by two small chain links on either side; upon the face of the bar shall be engraved the name of the Sir Knight who shall be the recipient thereof. The **KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR** Medal may be worn upon the uniform by the recipient upon all occasions.
- (6) A suitable Certificate of Award, issued by the Grand Encampment, signed by the Grand Master and the Grand Recorder, and bearing the seal of the Grand Encampment thereon, shall accompany the medal. The Certificate shall contain a summary of the Citation upon which such Award is based.
- (7) It shall be the responsibility of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar to provide the medals, the Certificates of Award for the **KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR**, without any cost to the recipient or to his Constituent or Grand Commandery, or his Subordinate Commandery. Presentation of the **KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR** Medals, Certificates shall be made at an appropriate ceremony by Grand Commanderies and Subordinate Commanderies, and a report thereof sent by the respective Recorder to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment within thirty days thereafter.

**NOMINATION FOR THE AWARD  
"KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR"**

\_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No. \_\_\_\_ Knights Templar of Indiana  
Stationed at \_\_\_\_\_, Indiana this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year of  
\_\_\_\_\_ adopted a motion to nominate the following Sir Knight, one of its own  
members to be awarded the "Knights Templar Cross of Honor" for the Templar Year  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Full name:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Street Address) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Highest templar rank: \_\_\_\_\_

The following facts are submitted as a justification of his nomination:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ by Sir Knight  
\_\_\_\_\_ Eminent Commander of  
\_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ by Sir Knight  
\_\_\_\_\_ Right Eminent Grand Commander,  
Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ by Sir Knight  
\_\_\_\_\_ Most Eminent Grand Master, Knights Templar of  
the United States of America.

Important: Please follow instructions for filling in the form for the Nomination of the Award for the Knights Templar Cross of Honor and the criterion for its awarding is found in Section 237(b) of the Grand Encampment Constitution, Statutes, Disciplinary Rules, Standing Resolutions, Ceremonies, Forms and Approved Decisions which are on the back of this page.



# GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Bulletin No. 5 Hamblin

April 26, 2026

## Ritual Award Program

The Ritual Awards Program has been revised and is currently on the Grand Commandery website. The scoring system has been altered slightly.

At the Grand Conclave in April 2026, if a Sir Knight competes in the Prelate’s Address, Junior Warden’s Address, or Ode to the Skull at the Ritual Competition Program and gives a Credible Performance the Sir Knight will be able to add those points toward the Ritual Awards Program score sheet.

The Ritual Award Bar is approved for Standard Class “A” Uniform wear. Please read the attached form for information regarding the program.

This Bulletin shall be read at the first Stated Conclave of each Constituent Commandery following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

ATTESTED:

Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder



### Order of the Red Cross

Sovereign Master	120	_____
Prince Chancellor	30	_____
Prince Master of the Palace	30	_____
Master of Cavalry	30	_____
Master of Infantry	100	_____
Excellent High Priest	70	_____
Master of Finance	5	_____
Master of Dispatches	5	_____
Warder	35	_____
Jewish Guard	5	_____
Persian Guard	15	_____
Vow	45	_____
Sash	10	_____
Sword	10	_____
Means of Recognition	30	_____
Banner of the Order	20	_____
Historical Lecture	90	_____

5

### Order of the Temple

Commander	205	_____
Generalissimo	15	_____
Captain General	50	_____
Senior Warden	55	_____
Junior Warden	90	_____
Prelate	160	_____
Standard Bearer	5	_____
Sword Bearer	10	_____
Warder	40	_____
Hermit	15	_____
Prelate's Escort	15	_____
Guards	10	_____
Ode to the Skull	25	_____
Sword	25	_____
Baldric	10	_____
Spur	5	_____
Chapeau	10	_____

<b>Jewish Council</b>		
Jerimiah	15	_____
Isiah	15	_____
Haggai	15	_____
Hosea	15	_____
Obadiah	15	_____
Amos		_____
<b>Mediterranean Pass</b>		
Prior	60	_____
Chaplain	5	_____
Marshall	15	_____
Captain of the Outpost	15	_____
<b>Order of Malta</b>		
Prior	170	_____
Lieutenant Commander	5	_____
Captain General	5	_____
Chaplain	5	_____
Marshall	75	_____
Captain of the Outpost	15	_____
Birth Banner	30	_____
Life Banner	30	_____
Death Banner	30	_____
Resurrection Banner	30	_____
Ascension Banner	30	_____
Table in the West	50	_____
St. John Banner	20	_____
Malta Banner	5	_____

Remaining Attributes	45	_____
Banners	20	_____
Flag Lecture	25	_____
Explanatory Lecture	80	_____

**Procedure to submit form for award:**

Review the list of parts and lectures. Initial the points by the parts that you have given from Memory twice during the Orders. Add-up the total points.

Enter the total number of points here:

**PLEASE PRINT:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Commandery Name & #: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana Ritual Award Program

As a way of increasing the interest and participation in the ritual work at the local level, the Grand Commandery of the State of Indiana has instituted a "Ritual Award Program."

The program is based on the three Orders conferred in the Commandery. The award is a Bar that is able to be worn Uniform in accordance with the Uniform Regulations. Each Ritual part must have been performed at least twice (2) for credit. All work is to be done from memory and in full form unless performed at a Ritual Tournament. You are expected to do a creditable job in the part you are exemplifying. This implies not just memorization but also correct tactics, vocal emphasis, gestures, etc. appropriate to the part.

Credit for previous exemplifications will be accepted on your honor as a Knight Templar.

There are four levels of proficiency for the Program:

Level 1: Pilgrim – 150 points



Level 2: Warrior – 400 points



Level 3: Knight – 800 points



Level 4: Commander – 1,200 points  
*Same bar as Knight with a diamond chip in the center*



## THE CHALLENGE

As a Knight Templar, you are challenged to select and perform from the various parts and lectures from the rituals of the three Orders that make up the Commandery. This provides you with an opportunity to play an active role within your Commandery. By taking part in this program, you will be making YOURSELF a dedicated Ritualist and your Commandery stronger. This Program is a Honor System and is a Voluntary, Self-Recognition Program where you are Awarded Ritual Bars based upon your own merits and participation in this program.

On the reverse side of this form are the point values for the different parts. Please keep a personal record of the point value for the parts you have done that way you have an accurate point total to achieve the next level for your records. Once you have accumulated the necessary number of points to receive a Ritual Bar for the appropriate Level, you may purchase it directly from The Masters Craft.

If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact the Grand Recorder for further information.



## GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Bulletin No. 6 Hamblin

April 26, 2026

### Battalion Commander and Deputy Battalion Commander Visits

It is the expectation that each Battalion Commander will provide support to the Commandery's for which they are responsible for, by visiting those Commandery's on a regular basis. If available, it is now permissible for Battalion Commanders to attend the meetings of their respective Commandery's virtually (via Zoom, Webex, etc.) if the officers of the Visiting Commandery are agreeable and have the capability to do so. Whatever platform or technology that is chosen to allow the Battalion Commander to attend virtually, it must be secure to prevent attendance by any unauthorized participants.

Battalion Commanders are still expected to be in-person with their respective Commanderies and DBC's are encouraged to attend the following events:

- Receptions within your Battalion and attend other Receptions when available.
- Inspections within your Battalion and attend other Inspections when available.
- Inspection of the books and records of the Commandery's in your Battalion.
- Be present at Templar Orders and York Rite Classes within your Battalions and outside of your Battalion when available.
- A Visitation Report is to be filled out and sent to the VEDGC within 7 days of your visit.
- If a DBC Makes a Visit without the Battalion Commander present, he will be required to file a report with his Battalion Commander so he may include that in his reports.
- DBC's are encouraged to assist the Battalion Commanders and take part in the grading of the inspections and the inspection of the books and records.
- Be present at Grand Commandery Functions when required or requested such as Grand Conclave, East Central Department Meeting, Summer and Winter Meetings etc.)

This Bulletin shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

ATTESTED:

Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

Lawrence J Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder





## GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Bulletin No. 7 Hamblin

April 26, 2026

### Holy Land Pilgrimage 2026

To the officers and members of the constituent Commanderies of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana

We are pleased to announce the 2026 Holy Land Pilgrimage. The Pilgrimages will depart from EWR in Newark NJ. The Pilgrimes will depart November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026, and return November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

The itinerary will cover the major Holy Land sites. The pilgrim ministers chosen will have their entire roundtrip air fare paid from Indianapolis, IN to EWR, Newark NJ then to Tel Aviv, Israel. As a guest of the Knights Templar, they will also receive three meals per day while in the Holy Land, lodging in a quality hotel, all admission fees to the various inspirational sites, gratuities for driver and guide, departure tax on return from Israel. Subject to release by the *Grand Master of the Grand Encampment*. **Please see all attached letters and forms.**

This will be a most exciting experience and is one which every Knight Templar in Indiana can be proud to support. The Knights Templar of Indiana has sent over 200 ministers to Israel thus far. The number of ministers to be selected will depend on the amount of funds raised. The cost of sending a minister is \$5000.00 from EWR, Newark, NJ to Tel Aviv, Israel. To the work, Sir Knights, draw your swords in defense of the Christian Religion.

**Send your nominations by August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, to the Grand Commandery of Indiana on the enclosed**

**Holy Land Pilgrimage form. Mail the form along with contributions to: Randal P. Ellington, PGC, KCT, 5531 S 800 W Edinburgh, IN 46124-9669. Checks should be payable to: Holy Land Pilgrimage.**

This Bulletin shall be read in all constituent Commanderies at the first stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

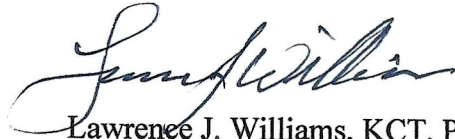
Fraternally Yours in His Name,

ATTESTED:





Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander



Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder

# Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage

## GUIDELINES FOR THE SELECTION OF MINISTERS

The following are the selection criteria suggested for use in choosing ministers for the Knight Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage. Please carefully consider these guidelines before inviting ministers to apply.

Ministers to be considered should:

- Have **never traveled to the Holy Land** before.
- Be in **good physical health** (if the idea of walking a brisk mile or more – uphill, non-stop, with steps - is a concern, this may not be the program from which this person would benefit). This is a physically rigorous program. We average 5 – 7 miles of walking each day. Many surfaces are uneven, unpaved, with steps and some steep inclines. This is an important consideration. A person who is unable to fully participate will miss valuable parts of this experience. *(We do offer a Senior Pilgrimage in the Fall of even years for those with mild mobility issues.)*
- Be serving in some form of **Credentialed Ministry** (Ordained, Certified, Licensed, etc.) A copy of the minister's credentials (certificate or letter) is to accompany the nomination form.
- Be currently serving in a **leadership ministry**, with regular preaching responsibility. This means that they are employed by the church in a leadership role and that ministry is considered their primary source of income.
- Be mindful of the value of including **women and minority pastors** for consideration.
- Have **served at least one year** in full time ministry in a primary leadership role as pastor / minister.
- Have **at least ten years of full time service** remaining in their active ministry. This opportunity is intended to enhance the ongoing preaching, teaching and overall biblical understanding of the participant, and in turn, benefit those they serve.

- Be willing to travel with an **ecumenical group** of other ministers from many denominations and religious groups, both male and female ministers, and maintain a professional and courteous attitude toward all.
- Be willing to travel in a program sponsored by the **Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the USA**, an appendant organization of **Freemasonry**.
- Be willing to travel **without their spouse**. This is non-negotiable.
- Have the understanding that this is a **strenuous educational and spiritual study seminar / historical & cultural immersion experience** and not a vacation trip.



EMMETT MILLS. P.G.C.  
CUAEWM@AOL.COM  
1713 Betrillo Ct.  
The Villages, FL 32162

April 1, 2024

(248) 217-7132 Cell  
(248) 541-1757 Fax

**Our Mission:** To send Ordained Christian Ministers on a Biblical study and historical / cultural immersion experience who would not have the opportunity otherwise.

**Our Goal:** To send 60 Ordained Christian Ministers on the 42nd Holy Land Pilgrimage in November 2026

**TO: Grand Recorders and Grand Commandery Holy Land Pilgrimage Chairmen**

Gate 1 Travel Agency has reserved places for two (2) groups of 25+ people for the 2024 Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage. The dates are:

**November 9<sup>th</sup> – November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026.**

- Travel date will be honored on a first come, first served basis There will be 2 groups, A & B.
- The cost this year has increased and is **\$5,000.00** from EWR in Newark NJ to Tel Aviv, Israel. This includes three meals daily, entrance fees, standard tipping, and travel insurance. (Also included: fuel surcharge and the airport tax.) **This fee does not include domestic flights from your area to EWR (which are the responsibility of either the Grand Commandery Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund or The Sponsoring Commandery).** Each state is encouraged to make their domestic flight arrangements to coordinate flight schedules.
- In order to expedite communications, please send your email addressed to [cuaewm@aol.com](mailto:cuaewm@aol.com).

Enclosed is a copy of the **Nomination Form** to be filled out for each pilgrim minister you select. (It would be useful for you to use this form for all ministers nominated in your state.) Also included in this mailing are the **Guidelines for Selection of Ministers, and a new Certification form**. When you

submit the materials for your pilgrim ministers, you will need to include three items: Certification Form (signed by the Grand Recorder and the State Holy Land Pilgrimage Chairman), the Nomination Form (filled out completely by the pilgrim minister), and the full fee (check made out to **HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE, INC**). All of these items are due by August 10<sup>th</sup>.

Please note that this program is for ministers who might not otherwise have this opportunity. Any minister who has previously traveled to the Holy Land would not meet this criterion. The Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage is intended for **first time pilgrims**, those who have not been to the Holy Land before. This pilgrimage is an 11 day program that covers as much ground as possible in the touring days (we average 5 – 7 miles of walking many days, often uphill or up steps and on uneven surfaces). Make sure your pilgrims are physically capable of fully participating in this trip. In view of the hostilities, we see in Israel/Gaza/West Bank, we may need to alter our plans. Our program is well ordered, and arrangements are in place. We are working with a 7-month window of preparation to make and fulfill necessary arrangements with airlines and other details. Tentative dates are already in place. The Pilgrimes will leave Monday November 9<sup>th</sup> to Thursday November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Thank you so much for your continued prayerful support of this very important Christian Knights Templar program.

In His Holy Name,

*Emmett W. Mills, Jr.* S. K. Emmett Mills, KCT, PGC,  
Chairman Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage, Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, USA



## KNIGHTS TEMPLAR HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

### QUESTIONNAIRE FOR MINISTERS / NOMINATION FORM 2026

1. FULL FIRST MIDDLE & LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

2. HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

3. TELEPHONE: area code (\_\_\_\_\_) home: \_\_\_\_\_ work \_\_\_\_\_ mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

4. AGE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Spouse's name, if married: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of years married: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Children's name(s) and age(s), if any: \_\_\_\_\_

7. HIGHER EDUCATION - give name of school, years attended, and degrees achieved: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Type of ordination and name of body conferring ordination (*please attach a copy of your ordination certificate*):

9. Name of Church you currently serve and its complete address (including city, state & zip) and **office phone**:

10. Number of years in **full time** ordained ministry: \_\_\_\_\_

11. List other churches, years served and positions held:

12. Have you ever been to the Holy Land? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, give the date(s) and the single most inspiring site visited:

13a. Why would you like to travel to the Holy Land? \_\_\_\_\_

13b. Upon your return, how might this experience affect your ministry? \_\_\_\_\_

14. Masonic affiliation, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

15. Why did you elect to become a minister? \_\_\_\_\_

16. **Please obtain a signature** from the Chair of your Personnel Committee, Church Board, District or Regional Supervisor, etc. If selected to be a Pilgrim Minister on the Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage, this pastor will be granted leave to participate.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name and Contact information: \_\_\_\_\_

17. Are you willing to travel to the Holy Land as a guest of the Knights Templar? \_\_\_\_\_

18. Are you willing to travel to the Holy Land WITHOUT your spouse (this is not negotiable)? \_\_\_\_\_

19. Are you willing to be a part of a traveling group made up of members of many other denominations? \_\_\_\_\_

20. Do you know of any Knights Templar in your church? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, please list name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

21. Are you aware of any health problems which would prevent or limit your participation in this strenuous trip?

22. Do you require medication? \_\_\_\_\_

23. What is the size of your congregation? \_\_\_\_\_

24. Number of ministers serving the congregation: \_\_\_\_\_

25. Do you hold a valid passport for travel to Israel? \_\_\_\_\_  
If not, do you foresee any difficulty in obtaining one? \_\_\_\_\_

26. If chosen, will you be able to travel on the dates, **November 9th – November 19th, 2026.**

27. Has your name ever been submitted as a Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage nominee in the past?

**I understand that this pilgrimage is an 11-day program that covers as much ground as possible in the touring days (we average 5 – 7 miles of walking many days, often uphill or up steps and on uneven surfaces) and I am physically able to fully participate.**

**I commit to clearing my personal calendar and making the necessary arrangements with the church to facilitate my full participation and travel with the Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage if selected.**

Minister's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**I recommend this individual for participation in the Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage and attest that they are fully informed of the necessary time and physical fitness requirements of this program.**

29. Recommending Commander's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

28. Recommending Commandery: \_\_\_\_\_ Commandery No. \_\_\_\_\_

30. Recommending Commandery– Local contact person for info, details, and arrangements (name, address, phones, & email):  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PILGRIM CERTIFICATION – Due with Fees and Nomination Form by August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026 to  
Emmett Mills, PGC; 1713 Bextrillo Ct.; The Villages, FL 32162      CUAEWM@aol.com**



**This is to confirm that the Grand Commandery of \_\_\_\_\_ (state)  
is certifying the following pilgrim minister as their selection to fully fund for participation in the  
upcoming Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage.**

Pilgrim Minister's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Church served by this pastor: \_\_\_\_\_

- It is understood that the full fee for the current year must accompany this form and the nomination form (**QUESTIONNAIRE FOR MINISTERS / NOMINATION FORM**) (for 2026 - \$5,000.00, check made out to "**HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE, INC.**")
- It is understood that fees may not be transferable, so that if your pilgrim does not travel at the reserved time, the sponsoring Grand Commandery may lose any money already spent on travel reservations and arrangements or there may be additional fees.
- It is understood that the pilgrim minister has cleared travel on this Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage with their denomination and local congregation (if necessary).
- It is understood that the pilgrim minister and the local congregation served by the pilgrim minister have made necessary contingency plans so that participation in the Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage will not be impeded.
- In certifying this individual for participation in the Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage we attest that they are fully informed of the necessary time and physical fitness requirements of this program.

Signature of Grand Recorder: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone and email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature / State Holy Land Pilgrimage Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone and email: \_\_\_\_\_



# GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR of INDIANA

Bulletin No. 8 Hamblin

April 26, 2026

## UPDATING COMMANDERY MASONIC MEMBERSHIP SOLUTIONS INFORMATION

After checking the Masonic Membership Solutions (MMS) website, I have observed that many Commandery's in the State of Indiana have not updated their records for several months or years. We must have accurate records of this information. **ALL Sir Knight Recorders WILL** review and update their Commandery Recorders on MMS by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026. And again, by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2027, due to the new Commandery year and Officers that will be installed.

This Bulletin Shall be read in all Constituent Commandery's at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt of this bulletin after the Conclave in April 2026 and again in the Stated Conclave of January 2027 after all new officers are installed and made part of the minutes of that Stated Conclave of both.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th Day of April , A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

Courteously,

Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

ATTESTED:

Lawrence J. Williams, PGC, KCT  
Grand Recorder

# Dispensations



## GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Dispensation No. 1 Hamblin

April 26, 2026

### Special Dispensation Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research U.D.

Sir Knights of Indiana where so ever dispersed:

By the Order of the Grand Commander, the following information is hereby disseminated.

Dispensation is hereby granted to the Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research U.D. to operate in accordance with Section 48C of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America and is authorized to continue Under Dispensation until the close of the 2024 Grand Conclave. Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research U.D. shall continue in accordance with the Rules of Chapter VII of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research U.D. will be required to hold at least 4 "Stated Conclaves" must consist of at least 2 in person and 2 virtual Conclaves.

I am appointing the following officers of this Commandery of Research: Sir Knight Carson Smith as Eminent Commander, Sir Knight John Freeland as Generalissimo, Sir Knight, Shamus Driver as Captain General and Sir Knight Joseph Sparks as Treasurer/Recorder.

All Dues Notices, Records and Minutes and archival records of the presentations are the responsibility of the Recorder, with the Presentations made available to all the Sir Knights of Indiana.

This Dispensation shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

Courteously,

Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

ATTESTED:

Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder





**GRAND COMMANDERY  
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA**

**Dispensation No. 1.2 Hamblin (Revised)**

**April 28, 2026**

**Special Dispensation  
Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research U.D.**

Sir Knights of Indiana where so ever dispersed:

By the Order of the Grand Commander, the following information is hereby disseminated.

Dispensation is hereby granted to the Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research U.D. to operate in accordance with Section 48C of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America and is authorized to continue Under Dispensation until the close of the 2024 Grand Conclave. Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research U.D. shall continue in accordance with the Rules of Chapter VII of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research U.D. will be required to hold at least 4 "Stated Conclaves" must consist of at least 2 in person and 2 virtual Conclaves.

I am appointing the following officers of this Commandery of Research: Sir Knight Nathan Ratterman as Eminent Commander, Sir Knight Randy Darling as Generalissimo, Sir Knight Charles Brindle as Captain General and Sir Knight Joseph Sparks as Treasurer/Recorder.

All Dues Notices, Records and Minutes and archival records of the presentations are the responsibility of the Recorder, with the Presentations made available to all the Sir Knights of Indiana.

This Dispensation shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

Courteously,

*Dominic J. Hamblin*

Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

ATTESTED:

*Lawrence J. Williams*

Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder





# GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Dispensation No. 2 Hamblin

May 4, 2026

## Special Dispensations

Sir Knights of Indiana where so ever dispersed:

Permission is hereby given to Valparaiso Commandery #28 to use period dress for the conferral of the Order of the Temple.

This Commandery shall also conform to Section 260 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America and use as its official uniform, ceremonial robes conforming to and consistent with the historical traditions and practices of Templary.

This Dispensation shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at their first Stated Conclave after its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 4th day of May, A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

Courteously,

Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

ATTESTED:

Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder





# GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Dispensation No. 3 Hamblin Levant Preceptory

May 11, 2026

## Special Dispensation Levant Preceptory

Sir Knights of Indiana where so ever dispersed:

By order of the Grand Commander, the following information is hereby disseminated.

Dispensation is hereby granted to Levant Preceptory to operate as a "Craft Club" under the Charter of Raper Commandery #1.

This Preceptory shall also conform to Section 260 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America and use as its official uniform, ceremonial robes conforming to and consistent with the historical traditions and practices of Templary.

This Dispensation shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 11th day of May, A.D. 2026 A.O. 908.

Courteously,

Dominic J. Hamblin, KCT  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

ATTESTED:

Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC  
Grand Recorder

