

**AMENDED AND RESTATED
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
OF
THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS
OF HAWAII**

2022



Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter of R.A.M.H.

PREAMBLE

Whereas, this Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons is Affiliated with the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International, and is organized not for profit. It is a Fraternal Order founded upon the basic principle of the Brotherhood of Man and its aims and objectives are charitable and educational. Monies received from Constituent Chapters and otherwise are to pay the operating expenses and to promote and to perpetuate the existence of Royal Arch Masonry in the State of Hawaii.

And whereas, each Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons possesses the inherent power to form a constitution as the fundamental law of its actions; and to regulate and control the actions of all Royal Arch Masons, as such, under its jurisdiction, which power is derived from its Constituent Chapters through their legally-constituted representatives.

Therefore, upon these principles, Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Hawaii does hereby ordain, establish, and promulgate the following Constitution and By-Laws, for the government of itself and all Royal Arch Chapters and all Royal Arch Masons under its jurisdiction.

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
OF
THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS
OF HAWAII**

**ARTICLE I
NAME AND TITLE**

100.00 This Body shall be known and designated as "The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Hawaii", and hereafter referred to as "the Grand Chapter."

**ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP**

200.00 The membership of the Grand Chapter shall consist of the following:

200.01 OFFICERS:

Most Excellent Grand High Priest;
Right Excellent Grand King;
Right Excellent Grand Scribe;
Right Excellent Grand Treasurer;
Right Excellent Grand Secretary
Excellent Grand Lecturer;
Excellent Grand Captain of the Host;
Excellent Grand Principal Sojourner;
Excellent Grand Royal Arch Captain;
Excellent Grand Master of the Third Veil;
Excellent Grand Master of the Second Veil;
Excellent Grand Master of the First Veil;
Excellent Grand Chaplain;
Excellent Grand Sentinel.

200.02 Past Grand High Priests, Past Grand Kings and Past Grand Scribes of the Grand Chapter,

200.03 Past High Priests of Subordinate Chapters, and High Priests, Kings, and Scribes, for the time being, of Subordinate Chapters or their legally appointed proxies, each of whom shall be entitled to one vote.

201.00 ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP:

201.01 To be an officer or a member of the Grand Chapter, a Companion must be a member in good standing with a Subordinate Chapter, and in a good standing with the Grand Chapter.

201.02 To hold the office of Grand High Priest, a companion must be a past presiding officer of a regular and duly constituted Chapter of Royal Arch, or a present presiding officer of a Subordinate Chapter.

202.00 DEFINITION OF "GOOD STANDING," as used through this Constitution:

202.01 A Companion is in "Good standing" with a Chapter of R.A.M. if his Lodge of F. & A.M. and Chapter of R.A.M. dues are current and he has not been suspended or expelled from any Lodge of F&A.M., or Chapter of R.A.M. of which he is, or was a member.

202.02 A Companion is in "Good standing" with the Grand Chapter, if he is in a good standing with a Subordinate Chapter, and full regular annual return of this Subordinate Chapter has been delivered to the Grand Secretary on or before January 31st.

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**ARTICLE III
FEES AND DUES**

300.00 The Grand Chapter shall from time to time set the amount of money to be remitted to the Grand Chapter for per capita and assessments from the Subordinate Chapters.

**ARTICLE IV
CONVOCATIONS**

400.00 Annual: The Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Hawaii shall be held at such time and place as the Grand High Priest might recommend, or as designated by a resolution adopted at the preceding Annual Grand Convocation.

400.01 Special: Special Convocations of the Grand Chapter may be held upon call of the Grand High Priest, at such times and places and for such purposes as he may designate with due and timely notice to all its Subordinate Chapters; provided, that he may call a special convocation for the purpose of ceremony only without giving such notice

400.03 If any time and date of a convocation, it shall appear to the Grand High Priest that there exists a danger to life or health, from sickness or other local causes, he may change the time and place of that particular Convocation. The Grand Secretary shall immediately give notice to all officers and members of the Grand Chapter in such manner as may be appropriate to the occasion.

**ARTICLE V
POWERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER**

500.00 JURISDICTION: The Grand Chapter acknowledges allegiance to the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International. The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Hawaii is a Body of Royal Arch Masons in which is inalienably vested the sole government and superintendence of Royal Arch Masonry within the territorial limits of the State of Hawaii, and within which it is the supreme power and authority in Royal Arch Masonry, possessing all the attributes of sovereignty and government—legislative, executive, and judicial—limited only by the ancient landmarks of Freemasonry, and by the provisions of its own Constitution or the By-Laws enacted there under.

501.00 It may grant charters or dispensations for holding regular charters of Royal Arch Masons, with the right to confirm therein the several degrees of Freemasonry denominated Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason, and when deemed and for good cause may annul, revoke or amend such charter or dispensation, or any preexisting charter or dispensation

501.01 It may assign the limits of each chapter under its jurisdiction, and settle all controversies that may arise between them; it has the final decision and determination of all matters of controversy and grievance that may be brought up by appeal or otherwise.

501.02 It may reprimand, suspend or expel any members from its own body for a violation of this Constitution an By-Laws of the Grand Chapter, for conduct unbecoming a Capitular Mason, and to suspend or expel any accused person upon trial, or by appeal.

501.03 It may assess and collect from the several Chapters under its jurisdiction such sums of money annually, as may from time to time be found necessarily for the support and maintenance of the Grand Chapter.

501.04 It shall, at each Annual Convocation, consider and review the reports and doings of the Grand Officers for the preceding year, as well as those several Subordinate Chapters.

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- 501.04** It may consider and do whatever it may regard as necessary or appertaining to the wellbeing and perpetuity of Royal Arch Masonry in the State of Hawaii.
- 502.00** All powers herein expressed either general or special, shall not limit or control any power or function expressed, but each clause shall be construed in furtherance, and not limitation of all powers anciently or otherwise exercised.
- 503.00** **DECISION OF QUESTIONS:** Except as otherwise, all questions coming before the Grand Chapter shall be decided by the Grand High Priest, unless he wishes to defer to a majority vote of its members, or their legally appointed proxies present and voting.

**ARTICLE VI
PROXIES**

- 600.00** It shall be the duty of the High Priest, King, and Scribe of each Subordinate Chapter to attend all convocations of the Grand Chapter, and they shall be the legal representatives of their Chapters
- 600.01** The High Priest, King, and Scribe of a Subordinate Chapter may appoint in writing any member in good standing of his own Chapter to represent him as his proxy in any convocation of the Grand Chapter. Proxies issued by the Chapter must be certified by the Secretary under the seal of the Chapter. No other proxies shall be recognized

**ARTICLE VII
VOTING**

- 700.00** In order to cast a vote a companion must be in a good standing in the Grand Chapter, as well as his own Chapter.
- 700.01** Each member of the Grand Chapter, or their duly empowered proxy, shall be entitled to one vote in election or on any question before the Grand Chapter. No member shall be entitled to more than one vote.
- 700.02** In all elections and all questions before the Grand Chapter, the majority of the total votes cast shall govern, unless herein otherwise provided.
- 701.00** **METHOD OF VOTING:** Except as otherwise provided by the Constitution or By-Laws of the Grand Chapter, the method of voting shall be by a show of hands, unless three or more members demand a secret ballot, in which case a ballot shall be taken.
- 701.01** **VOTING BY SHOW OF HANDS:** When the method of voting is by show of hands, the individual members and holders of proxies of members of the Grand Chapter shall each be entitled to one vote; and each such individual, so voting, shall be counted as one vote.
- 701.02** **VOTING BY BALLOT:** When a vote is by secret ballot, each member of the Grand Chapter present shall be entitled to one vote, in his own right and in one capacity only; and each individual present who holds the proxy of a representative of his Chapter shall be entitled to one vote for each such proxy that he holds; provided, that one who is a member of the Grand Chapter by virtue of his being an officer, a permanent member or a member of a standing or special committee thereof, and who is also present as a representative or proxy of a representative of his Chapter, may cast one additional vote as a representative of his Chapter, and one additional vote for each representative whose proxy he holds; and, provided further, that if any representative of a Chapter is not present in person, or represented by a proxy, his vote may be cast by the ranking representative of his Chapter present or if no actual representative be present by the proxy of the ranking representative present.

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701.03 TIE-DETERMINING VOTE: If there is ever a tie vote, whether by secret ballot or show of hands, then Grand Master shall have the deciding vote in addition to his regular vote.

**ARTICLE VIII
ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS**

800.00 At each Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter the following officers shall be elected from among the constitutionally eligible: a Grand High Priest, a Grand King, a Grand Scribe, a Grand Treasurer, and a Grand Secretary.

800.01 The elected officers shall be elected by either a show of hands, or secret ballot. If there is only one nomination, a show of hands may be appropriate; otherwise a secret ballot would be appropriate. A majority of the total votes cast is necessary for election.

800.02 All other officers of the Grand Chapter shall then be appointed by the Grand High Priest.

801.00 No one shall be eligible for election or appointment to, or continue to hold any office in the Grand Chapter, who is not a member in good standing of a Chapter under this jurisdiction;

801.01 No one shall be eligible for election to the office of Grand High Priest, who has not been duly elected and installed a High Priest of a regular and duly constituted Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

802.00 INSTALLATION: The officers of the Grand Chapter shall be installed annually, in person, by the Grand High Priest or his duly authorized deputy, at the Annual Convocation at which they are elected or appointed, unless the Grand High Priest shall otherwise order; and they shall perform the duties of their respective offices until their successors are duly elected, or appointed, and installed.

803.00 SUCCESSION: In the case of death or disability of the Grand High Priest, the Grand King, and the Grand Scribe shall, in the order named, succeed to the prerogative, and duties of the office of Grand High Priest for all purposes; provided, that if such vacancy occurs within the first half of the term of the Grand High Priest, the succeeding officer shall become in fact, by operation of law, Grand High Priest; in all other cases he shall be merely acting Grand High Priest

803.01 In case of death or disability of all three of the principal officers of the Grand Chapter, the junior Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter shall be empowered to call a special convocation of the Grand Chapter for the election of a Grand High Priest.

803.02 In the absence of the Grand High Priest from any convocation of the Grand Chapter, the Grand King, and the Grand Scribe shall, in succession, be empowered to preside;

803.03 There is no succession to any other office of the Grand Chapter than that of the Grand High Priest.

804.00 VACANCIES: If any office of the Grand Chapter other than that of Grand High Priest shall become vacant by the death, resignation, permanent removal from the jurisdiction or disability of the incumbent, that vacancy in any office or in any committee of the Grand Chapter shall be filled by appointment by the Grand High Priest.

**ARTICLE IX
POWERS AND DUTIES OF GRAND OFFICERS**

900.00 THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST

901.00 POWERS: The Grand High Priest shall have and enjoy all the rights and prerogatives conferred upon him by the established usages of Royal Arch Masonry, and by the Constitution, and By-Laws of this Grand Chapter. His powers shall include but not be limited to the following:

901.02 To preside at all convocations of the Grand Chapter.

901.03 To exercise and discharge all the executive and judicial functions of the Grand Chapter when it is not in session; and his official decisions and edicts shall have all the force of law until the installation of his successor.

901.04 To command at any time all other officers of the Grand Chapter, touching the duties and administration of their several officers or for advice and assistance in all business relative to the Grand Chapter.

901.05 To constitute new Chapters Subordinate by the Grand Chapter, either in person or by deputy.

901.06 To convene any Chapter, and in person or by deputy to preside therein, inspect its proceedings, and require its conformity to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter.

901.07 To grant or refuse dispensations for the formation of new Chapters, and such other dispensations as are in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter.

901.08 To arrest the charter of any Chapter, or to suspend the High Priest or any elective officer of any Chapter from the function of his office.

901.09 To appoint representatives of this Grand Chapter near other recognized Grand Chapters, and to receive and accredit representatives from such Grand Chapters.

902.00 DUTIES: The Grand High Priest shall perform all the duties imposed upon him by the established usages of Royal Arch Masonry, and by the Constitution, and By-Laws of this Grand Chapter, to which usages, laws, and regulations he shall require a strict conformity by all Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter.

902.01 He shall present at each Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter a written address setting forth all his official acts, and such other matters as he may deem necessary for the consideration of the Grand Chapter, with such recommendations for action as may seem desirable.

903.00 GRAND KING AND GRAND SCRIBE: The Grand King and Grand Scribe shall assist the Grand High Priest in the convocations of the Grand Chapter, and perform such other duties as traditionally appertain to their respective offices.

904.00 GRAND TREASURER: The Grand Treasurer shall have charge of all the funds and securities belonging to the Grand Chapter.

904.01 He shall give his receipt for all moneys received from the Grand Secretary, and shall deposit all funds under his control as Grand Treasurer in the Grand Chapter Bank account

904.02 He shall not loan out any of the funds of the Grand Chapter in his possession.

904.03 He shall pay all warrants drawn on him by authority of the Grand High Priest, which warrants he shall cancel when paid.

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- 904.04** He shall keep a just and accurate account of all his receipts and disbursements as Grand Treasurer; and shall attend upon the Grand Chapter, and upon the Grand High Priest, or any committee of the Grand Chapter whose duty it may be to act in relation to its fiscal concerns, with the books and documents relating to his office.
- 904.05** He shall at each Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter submit an accurate report of his receipts and disbursements as Grand Treasurer, in such form as the Grand Chapter may require, which shall be accompanied by the vouchers for all moneys paid out by him during the year, and satisfactory evidence that the cash balance as shown by such report is deposited in the bank account of the Grand Chapter and that the securities representing the invested funds of the Grand Chapter are in his possession.
- 904.06** Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and by order of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, he may invest and reinvest such funds in financial instruments or securities consistent with the Standards for Investments
- 904.07** He shall pay and deliver to his successor in office, or to such person as may be designated by the Grand Chapter, or Grand High Priest, all funds, securities, evidences of debt, books, writings, and property of the Grand Chapter, under his control, making all proper assignments when necessary.
- 905.00 GRAND SECRETARY:** The Grand Secretary shall attend the convocations of the Grand Chapter and duly record its proceedings. He shall receive all moneys due to the Grand Chapter from every source, keep a correct account thereof, and pay them over promptly to the Grand Treasurer, taking his receipt therefore.
- 905.01** He shall at each Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, submit a faithful report of the moneys received by him, together with a statement of any other facts that may be proper for the information or action of the Grand Chapter.
- 905.02** He shall receive and preserve all petitions, applications, appeals, returns of Chapters, and all other documents addressed or belonging to the Grand Chapter.
- 905.03** He shall keep a register of all Chapters and of their members, of all charters and dispensations for Chapters, and the returns of Chapters.
- 905.04** He shall conduct the correspondence of the Grand Chapter, under the direction of the Grand High Priest. He shall keep the seal of the Grand Chapter, and shall sign, certify, and seal all official documents emanating from that body.
- 905.05** He shall have made and printed any books or blanks, which the Grand Chapter may require the Chapters to obtain from him, and any other books and publications ordered by the Grand Chapter, which shall be paid for by warrant of the Grand Chapter.
- 905.06** He shall have charge of all such books and blanks, and the printed copies of the Constitution, and other publications of the Grand Chapter, and shall dispose of them for the Grand Chapter at such prices and upon such terms, as it shall prescribe.
- 905.07** He shall compile a list of all suspensions, expulsions, and reinstatements of members of Chapters, which shall have been reported to him by the several Constituent Chapters, together with any information that may be of value or interest to the officers or members of Chapters.
- 906.00 GRAND LECTURER:** The Grand Lecturer shall impart to the officers and members of Chapters, the work, lectures, forms, and ceremonies as adopted by the Grand Chapter.

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- 906.01** He shall require from all Chapters and their officers a strict conformity to the established standard work of the Grand Chapter; and may convene any Chapter or Chapters for the purpose of giving instruction in regard thereto.
- 906.02** The Grand Lecturer shall inspect the condition of any Chapter, and examine its records, books, and accounts with a view of ascertaining whether such Chapter is complying with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter, and shall report the facts to the Grand High Priest in such form and detail and at such times as the Grand High Priest may direct.
- 906.03** The Grand Lecturer shall be under the direction and control of the Grand High Priest and shall make a detailed report of his acts and expenses to the Grand Chapter at its Annual Convocation.
- 906.04** He shall furnish a copy of such report to the Grand High Priest at least 60 days before the Annual Convocation.
- 907.00** **OTHER OFFICERS:** All other officers of the Grand Chapter shall perform such duties as by tradition or established customs appertain to their respective offices, or as may be assigned to them by the Grand High Priest.

ARTICLE X SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS

- 1000.00** **AUTHORITY:** Every Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in this jurisdiction shall be held by virtue of either a charter from this Grand Chapter or a dispensation to hold a Charter issued by the Grand Chapter or Grand High Priest.
- 1000.01** All Chapters in the State shall have concurrent jurisdiction over the territory included in the boundaries of the State of Hawaii.
- 1000.02** The sole authority for fixing or changing the jurisdictional limits of a Chapter is vested in the Grand Chapter
- 1001.00** **CONSTITUTION OF CHAPTER.** Every chartered Chapter shall be duly constituted and its officers shall be installed by the Grand High Priest or his duly appointed deputy, before proceeding to work or to transact any business.
- 1002.00** **MEMBERSHIP OF CHARTERED CHAPTER:** A chartered Chapter shall be composed of those Royal Arch Masons to whom the charter is granted, and such Royal Arch Masons as such Chapter shall thereafter admit to membership by regular affiliation; together with those who, having been duly elected therein to receive the degree of Royal Arch Mason, shall be exalted to that degree by the authority of such Chapter; each of whom shall, by the virtue of any one of such procedures, become a member of such Chapter, and who shall remain a member, entitled to all the rights and benefits as such, until his membership shall be terminated either by his death, or by the dissolution of such Chapter, or by his voluntary withdrawal from, or by his suspension or expulsion from membership.
- 1002.01** It shall be the duty of every Royal Arch Mason to be a member of some Chapter. No non-affiliated Royal Arch Mason who has continued as such for twelve months, without petitioning some Chapter for affiliation, shall be permitted to visit any Chapter in this jurisdiction, except for the purpose of qualifying himself for petitioning for affiliation therewith; nor shall he be entitled to any of the rights or benefits of Royal Arch Masonry.

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- 1002.02** The elected officers of each Chapter consist of a High Priest, a King, a Scribe, a Treasurer, a Secretary, and an appointed Captain of the Host, a Principal Sojourner, a Royal Arch Captain, a Master of the Third Veil, a Master of the Second Veil, a Master of the First Veil, and a Sentinel. The title of the High Priest shall be "Excellent", and that of every other officer "Companion".
- 1002.03 DUAL MEMNBERSHP:** A member of a Chapter who is in good standing, in a Jurisdiction legally recognized by the Grand Chapter, may be admitted to Dual Membership in any Chapter in this Jurisdiction. The petition for membership must be accompanied by a Certificate of Good Standing issued by the Chapter in which the petitioner is currently a member and shall be acted upon in the manner prescribed in the By-Laws of the Chapter being petitioned. When elected, he shall have all the rights and privileges, and be subject to all the rules and regulations, of the Chapter.
- 1002.04 PLURAL MEMBERSHIP.** A member of a Chapter, who is in good standing, may be admitted to Plural Membership in any other Chapter in this Jurisdiction. The petition must be accompanied by documentation of good standing from the Chapter in which the petitioner is currently a member and shall be acted upon in the manner prescribed in the By-Laws of the Chapter being petitioned. When elected, he shall have all the rights and privileges, and be subject to all the rules and regulations, of each Chapter, except he shall not be eligible to hold the office of High Priest in more than one Chapter at the same time.
- 1003.00 CHAPTER UNDER DISPENSATION:** A Chapter under dispensation shall be composed of those Royal Arch Masons to whom such dispensation is granted, together with those who, having been duly elected therein to receive the degree of Royal Arch Mason, shall be exalted to that degree by the authority of such Chapter; each of whom shall be entitled to vote in such Chapter and participate in its transactions.
- 1003.01** The territorial and personal jurisdiction, of a Chapter Under Dispensation shall be that of a chartered Chapter.
- 1004.00 DISPENSATION FOR NEW CHAPTER:** A dispensation for the formation of a new Chapter may be granted by the Grand Chapter or the Grand High Priest, upon the petition of at least nine Royal Arch Masons in good standing, each of whom shall be a resident within the territorial jurisdiction of the proposed Chapter.
- 1004.01 COMMUNICATION OF DEGREES:** Whenever it may appear that there is insufficient number of Royal Arch Masons for the purpose of organizing a Chapter subordinate to the Grand Chapter, The Grand High Priest, or some Companion specifically deputized by him, may communicate the Capitular Degrees and obligate a sufficient number of Companions to establish a Chapter.
- 1004.02 INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS BY PROXY:** Whenever it shall be inconvenient for the Grand High Priest to attend in person, to constitute a new Subordinate Chapter and install the officers, he shall have the power and authority to appoint some worthy High Priest, or Past High Priest to perform the necessary ceremonies.
- 1005.00 PETITION FOR DISPENSATION:** The petition for dispensation for a new Chapter shall be in the form required by the Grand Chapter or Grand High Priest. Each petitioner shall sign his full name to the petition, and state the name of the Chapter of which he is a member or from which he holds a demit, and the name, number, and jurisdiction of the Lodge of F.&A.M. of which he is a member.

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- 1005.01** Any member, not an officer, of a Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, may join in a petition for a dispensation for a new Chapter, without withdrawing from membership in his Chapter; and in lieu of a demit may furnish a certificate from his Chapter that he is in good standing with his dues paid up to at least the next annual convocation of the Grand Chapter.
- 1006.00 GOVERNMENT:** A Chapter under dispensation shall be governed by the provisions of the dispensation under whose authority it is held, and by the laws of the Grand Chapter pertaining to Chapters, except as otherwise provided herein. No election of officers shall be held by a Chapter under dispensation, nor shall its officers be installed, nor shall it make any By-Laws for its government. No petition for affiliation shall be received or acted upon by such a Chapter, nor shall it demit or discipline any of the Royal Arch Masons who compose it, or any of its unfinished material. If discipline becomes necessary, the charges shall be preferred in and tried by such Chapter as the Grand High Priest shall designate.
- 1006.01 RETURNS:** On or before the thirty first day of January a Chapter under dispensation shall forward to the Grand Secretary its dispensation, returns of work, books of record, and per capita for each Royal Arch Mason made by the authority of such Chapter; and if a Charter is desired it shall at the same time present a petition for a Charter, in the form provided by the Grand Chapter, accompanied by three copies of its proposed code of By-Laws, and a Charter fee sufficient to cover the cost of issuing such Charter.
- 1007.00 TERMINATION OF DISPENSATION:** The dispensation for a new Chapter shall remain in force until the date as charter is granted, unless sooner revoked by the Grand High Priest.
- 1007.01** If the dispensation for a new Chapter shall be revoked, or if the Grand Chapter shall refuse to grant a charter to a Chapter under dispensation, the demits or certificates of good standing which accompanied the petition for a dispensation shall be returned by the Grand Secretary to those who submitted them;
- 1007.02** Each Brother or Companion in good standing, and against whom no charges are known to be pending, who may have received any degree or degrees by the authority of such Chapter while working under dispensation, shall be entitled to a certificate of the fact from the Grand Chapter, upon application in writing to the Grand Secretary, which certificate shall have the force and effect of a demit.
- 1007.03** Any companion in good standing, and against whom no charges are known to be pending, who was exalted to the Royal Arch degree by the authority of a Chapter under dispensation, and who failed or refused to sign the petition for a charter for such Chapter, or whose name was omitted from the charter, shall upon like application be entitled to a similar certificate.
- 1008.00 PETITION FOR CHARTER:** A charter for a new Chapter shall be granted only by the Grand Chapter at an annual convocation, and upon the written petition of at least three-fourths of the total number of Royal Arch Masons composing the Chapter under dispensation the number required for such petition in no event to be less than twelve; provided the Chapter shall have worked under dispensation to the satisfaction of the Grand Chapter.
- 1008.01** Only those to whom the dispensation for a new Chapter was issued and those exalted by its authority shall be eligible to sign the petition for a charter. The petition for a charter shall be signed by the petitioners with their names in full, and shall propose a name for the Chapter and the names of those recommended for appointment as High Priest, King and Scribe; but the Grand Chapter may substitute another name for the Chapter or other names for appointment as officers. Any one of the Royal Arch Masons to whom the charter is granted may be appointed and installed as High Priest of a newly chartered Chapter.

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- 1009.00 GRANTING CHARTER:** A charter for a new Chapter shall be granted only to those who signed the petition for the charter and were eligible to do so; provided, that the Grand Chapter may refuse to include in the charter the name or the names of any such petitioner or petitioners; and that the number to whom a charter may be granted shall not be less than twelve.
- 1010.00 OFFICERS UNDER CHARTER:** The charter shall name the High Priest, King and Scribe of the new Chapter, and before such Chapter is constituted the High Priest so named shall appoint the remaining officers; and all the officers shall be installed by the Grand High Priest, or his duty appointed deputy, at the time of constituting the Chapter.
- 1011.00 CHARTERED CHAPTERS RELATION WITH GRAND CHAPTER:** Every Chapter shall make annually full returns to the Grand Chapter, showing all changes in membership; all work done; and such other facts as the Grand Chapter may require; for the year ending December 31st.
- 1011.01** The returns of each Chapter shall be made on blanks furnished by the Grand Secretary. Such returns shall show the names of the officers and number of members of the Chapter as of December 31st; and shall also show the full names of all those who received any degree by the authority of such Chapter, the names of those admitted to membership by affiliation or reinstatement, also the names of those whose membership was terminated by death, demission, suspension, or expulsion, with the dates of the respective facts, for each Capitular Year ending December 31; together with a list of the stated and special convocations held by the Chapter for the same period.
- 1011.02** The annual returns shall be signed by the High Priest and attested by the Secretary, under the seal of the Chapter, and shall be delivered to the Grand Secretary on or before January 31st.
- 1011.03** Each charter Chapter shall pay annually to the Grand Chapter dues, for each member reported in the annual returns; and the further sum of ten dollars, as fees for each Companion exalted to the Royal Arch Degree by the authority of such Chapter during the year. Dues and fees shall be paid to the Grand Secretary on or before January 31st.
- 1012.00 CONSOLIDATION OF CHAPTERS:** Two or more Chapters may, with the consent of the Grand High Priest and subject to the approval of the Grand Chapter, consolidate and form one Chapter, if two-thirds of the members of each Chapter present at a convocation, after at least thirty days notice to all members, shall vote to do so, and there are less than nine dissenting votes in each Chapter. Such consolidation may be either under the Charter of one of the Chapters, or under such charter with amendment as to name or number or both name and number.
- 1013.00 DUPLICATE CHARTER:** When the Charter of a Chapter shall have been destroyed, stolen, or surreptitiously taken or detained, or shall have become defaced or illegible, rendering unfit for use, the Grand High Priest may order a duplicate charter to be issued by the Grand Secretary, for a fee sufficient to cover the cost of issuing a new charter, which duplicate will show on its margin the reason why it was issued.
- 1014.00 ARREST OF CHARTER:** The Charter of a Chapter may be arrested or suspended by the Grand High Priest or Grand Chapter at any time should the interests of Royal Arch Masonry require it. When the charter of a Chapter has been arrested by the Grand High Priest, the rights, and privileges of the Chapter, and the Chapter standing of its members remain in abeyance until the Grand Chapter passes upon the arrest. Immediately upon the arrest of a charter the person or persons having in custody the property of such Chapter shall forward to the Grand Secretary the funds, books of record and account, papers, seal and jewels of the Chapter, and hold all other property of the Chapter subject to his order.

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- 1015.00 REVOCATION OF CHARTER:** The Grand Chapter may revoke the charter of a Chapter for disobedience to the Grand Chapter Constitution, By-Laws, rules, edicts and orders; or whenever in the judgment of the Grand Chapter the condition of the Chapter as to discipline or otherwise is such that its longer existence is detrimental to the interests of Royal Arch Masonry. If a chapter shall fail to make its annual returns, or to pay its dues and fees to the Grand Chapter at the time specified in these By-Laws; or if it shall fail to meet for twelve consecutive months, or if for two consecutive years it shall fail to be represented in the annual convocations of the Grand Chapter, its charter shall be subject to arrest and revocation.
- 1016.00 SURRENDER OF CHARTER:** A Chapter may surrender its Charter; provided, that at a stated convocation, after at least thirty days notice to all its members, a majority of the members present vote to do so, and there are less than nine negative votes.
- 1017.00 DISSOLUTION OF CHAPTER:** A Chapter can be dissolved only by the surrender or revocation of its charter, which shall be conclusive upon the Chapter; and its members shall therefore become non-affiliated; and all property of the Chapter shall thereupon become the property of the Grand Chapter subject to its absolute disposal, and must on demand be surrendered to the Grand Chapter, or its authorized agent, by the person or persons having it in its custody. The Grand Chapter shall in no case be liable for any indebtedness of a defunct Chapter beyond the net amount received from the sale of the property of the Chapter, and from the unpaid dues collected, after paying all expenses attending the settlement of the affairs of such Chapter.
- 1018.00 CERTIFICATES OF STANDING:** Immediately upon the surrender or revocation of the charter of a Chapter its Secretary shall forward to the Grand Secretary a certified list of all the members and unfinished material of such Chapter in good standing at the time, with a statement of the amount of dues owing by each. Any Companion or Brother so reported as in good standing at the time the Chapter ceased to exist shall, upon application in writing to the Grand Secretary, be entitled to a certificate from the Grand Chapter setting forth the facts in relation to the dissolution of the Chapter and his standing; provided, that his dues to the Chapter have been paid up to the date of surrender or revocation of the charter or provided that he pay such dues to the Grand Secretary, which certificate shall have the force and effect of a demit. One who was suspended from membership in such a Chapter prior to its dissolution shall be restored to the standing of a nonaffiliated Royal Arch Mason only by the action of the Grand Chapter, upon his written application, accompanied by a recommendation of the Chapter within whose jurisdiction he is residing.
- 1019.00 DUTIES AND POWERS OF A HIGH PRIEST OF A SUBORDINATE CHAPTER:** The High Priest of a Chapter shall be responsible to the Grand Chapter for the government of his Chapter and for the transactions thereof and it shall be his duty to declare out of order any motion or resolution which, if carried, would violate the Constitution, By-Laws or regulations of the Grand Chapter; the By-Laws of his Chapter; or any edict or order of the Grand High Priest.
- 1019.01** It shall be the duty of the High Priest to suspend from office any appointed officer of his Chapter for cause or unmasonic conduct, pending charges and trial for such conduct. From the decision of the High Priest there shall be no appeal to the Chapter; but an appeal may be taken to the Grand High Priest.
- 1019.02** It is the duty of the High Priest that all the subordinate officers of his Chapter perform the duties of their respective stations faithfully, and are examples of diligence and industry to their companions; and

Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter of R.A.M.H.

- 1019.03** That preparation for and conferrals of the Capitular Degrees are properly coordinated.
- 1020.00 WHO MAY PRESIDE:** When the High Priest of a Chapter is absent, or in the case of his inability to act, his powers and prerogatives shall vest in the King and Scribe, in succession.
- 1021.00 DUTIES OF OFFICERS.** The duties of the officers of a Chapter are as set forth at their installation; and as required by the established usages of Royal Arch Masonry, and prescribed by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter.
- 1022.00 INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS:** All officers of a Chapter, elected or appointed, shall be installed in person and as soon as practicable after the annual election, unless by special dispensation of the Grand High Priest. None but a present or Past High Priest shall be qualified to install the officers of a Chapter. The installation may be "open" by invitation at the discretion of the newly elected High Priest.
- 1022.01** An installation which is open by invitation at the discretion of the newly elected High Priest must conform to the rules and be conducted in a form and manner as prescribed by the Grand Chapter.
- 1023.00 TERM OF OFFICE:** The officers of a Chapter are elected or appointed to serve for a term of twelve months, except when chosen to fill vacancies; and in all cases they shall hold their offices, unless vacated by resignation or disability, until their successors are regularly elected or appointed, and installed.
- 1023.01 VACANCIES IN OFFICE:** Any officer of a Chapter, other than the High Priest, King or Scribe, may resign his office; and the permanent removal of any officer from the State shall vacate his office. The High Priest shall have the power to remove any appointive officer for cause, and thereby create a vacancy. A vacancy at any office may be filled at any time by the High Priest.
- 1024.00 TRANSACTIONS:** Every Chapter shall be governed by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter, and by its own By-Laws; no Chapter shall do any work or transact any business contrary thereto, except by the authority of the Grand High Priest, through his special dispensation issued in case of emergency
- 1024.01 PROHIBITED TRANSACTIONS:** In all discussions or debate in Chapter personal reflections and all allusions to political or sectarian topics are strictly prohibited. A Chapter, as such, shall not present a petition to the civil authorities, or take part in municipal, state, or national affairs; nor shall any Royal Arch Mason do so in an official Masonic capacity. No Royal Arch Mason shall circulate in any Chapter or in the rooms adjacent to where a Chapter is being held, any petition concerning any matter not strictly Masonic. No Chapter shall sponsor or endorse any organization not strictly Masonic. A Chapter shall not conduct or engage in any entertainment or form of amusement for profit, or for which a charge is made; nor shall it endorse any public entertainment for the purpose of influencing public patronage. No Chapter shall issue, or officially endorse, any letter or document to any person or organization, to be used for business purposes; unless authorized to do so by the Grand Chapter or Grand High Priest.
- 1025.00 Quorum:** A quorum for conducting business in a Chapter, constituted by the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Hawaii, can be less than nine but not less than five. One of the number must include an officer authorized to open the same. (2022)

**ARTICLE XI
SEAL**

1100.00 SEAL: The Grand Chapter shall have a seal bearing such devise and inscription as by it may have been heretofore, or may be hereafter, determined, which shall be affixed to all instruments issued by its authority.

**ARTICLE XII
AMENDMENTS**

1200.00 This Constitution, and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter may be amended at any Annual Convocation, or Special Convocation specifically convened for such purpose. Amendments rule acceptable by the Jurisprudence Committee must receive a two thirds vote of the members present before they can be declared adopted.

1201.00 Any proposed amendment should be filed in writing with Grand Secretary in writing at least (90) days prior to the Annual or Special Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

1202.00 All proposed amendments must indicate how the Constitution and By-Laws currently reads in its entirety. The proposed amendment must be read in its entirety.

1203.00 All amendments must be signed by at least two or more companions of this Grand Chapter.

1204.00 The Grand High Priest may propose amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws for Adoption at the next Annual Convocation, or Special Convocation called for that purpose, provided that notice of such amendments is provided to the members of the Grand Chapter.

1205.00 REFERENCE: The Grand Secretary shall submit all proposed amendments to the By-Law committee for review, who will in turn submit them to the Jurisprudence Committee for its examination.

1206.00 The Grand secretary shall send copies of amendments and provide written notification to the members of the Grand Chapter at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Convocation if specially called for that purpose.

1207.00 A communication, conveying information of the business to be transacted at the convocation for which said communication is needed shall be sent to the last known e-mail or mailing address of the member, and shall constitute due notice.

1208.00 If the Grand Secretary fails to give such notice, as provided in **1206.00** above, the proposed amendments may be called up by the three-fourths of the members present and acted upon as if such notice had been given.

1209.00 EMERGENCY LEGISLATION: At a special Convocation of the Grand Chapter, or in a regular Annual Convocation, emergency legislation, by unanimous consent, may be proposed, considered, and acted upon.

Date February 26, 2022

Grand High Priest R.A.M. Hawaii


Anthony Escasa



Grand Secretary R.A.M. Hawaii


Dustin T. Verity, PGHP

APPENDIX I

Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter of R.A.M.H.

DEFINITIONS

Good standing (202.00, 202.01, 202.02)

- with Chapter:** A Companion has his Lodge of F.&A.M. and Chapter R.A.M. dues current, and he has not been suspended or expelled from any Lodge, or Chapter of which he is, or was a member.

- with Grand Chapter:** A Companion is in a good standing with a Subordinate Chapter, and full regular annual return of this Subordinate Chapter has been delivered to the Grand Secretary on, or before January 31st.