

**AMENDED AND RESTATED  
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS  
OF  
THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS  
TEMPLAR OF HAWAII  
2025**



## **CONSTITUTION OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII**

**Preamble.** The Grand Commandery of the State of Hawaii assembled in Stated Conclave, acknowledging allegiance to the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, does hereby ordain and establish this Constitution for the government of this Grand Commandery and its Constituent Commanderies.

**Section 1 Name, terminology.** This body shall be designated and known as the “GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII” (hereinafter “Grand Commandery”). The term “Grand Encampment” used hereinafter, shall mean the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America. The term “Constituent Commandery” shall mean any constituent Commandery of this Grand Commandery.

**Section 2 Seal.** (Reserved)

**Section 3 Powers of Grand Commandery.** In addition to the powers and duties prescribed for Grand Commanderies by the Constitution of the Grand Encampment, this Grand Commandery has the following powers:

- (a) to adopt such Constitution, Laws, Rules, and Regulations as are not inconsistent with the Laws of the Grand Encampment and as this Grand Commandery may deem necessary and appropriate;
- (b) the exclusive power, with or without the consent of existing Commanderies, to form new Commanderies and fix the fee therefor;
- (c) to fix the territorial limits of its Constituent Commanderies and settle all controversies that may arise among them, prescribe Laws and Regulations for the its own government and the government of its Constituent Commanderies
- (d) to revoke any Charter; and order the relocation or consolidation of any of its Constituent Commanderies;
- (e) to require its Constituent Commanderies to pay to the Grand Commandery such portions as it may deem proper, of the sums received by them for conferring the Orders, and in addition such money annually from each member of such Constituent Commanderies as it may deem necessary for the support of the Grand Commandery and its programs, and to deny any Constituent Commandery representation in Grand Commandery whose Annual Returns and per capita dues and assessments have not been properly submitted to the Grand Recorder at least ten (10) days prior to the Annual Stated Conclave of the Grand Commandery;
- (f) to prescribe such Templar Uniform as it may deem proper for its Constituent Commanderies, and change the same from time to time.

provided, that, the enumeration of the foregoing powers shall not be construed as a limitation thereof, and all powers not specifically delegated to the Constituent Commanderies are inherent in, and reserved to the Grand Commandery.

**Section 4 Members.** The members of this Grand Commandery shall consist of voting and non-voting members, as follows:

**4.1 Voting members.** The following shall constitute the voting members of this Grand Commandery:

- (a) all incumbent elected officers of this Grand Commandery shall have one (1) vote each;
- (b) all Past Grand Commanders who are also current members of a Constituent Commandery, shall have one (1) vote each;
- (c) all incumbent Commanders, Generalissimos, and Captains General of a Constituent Commandery shall have one (1) vote each;
- (d) all Past Commanders of a Constituent Commandery who are members of that Constituent Commandery, shall have one (1) vote each.

*provided, however,* that none of the foregoing persons shall have more than one (1) vote, regardless of the number of titles or ranks he may hold, except that proxies (if allowed) shall count as the vote of the grantor of the proxy, and the Grand Commander, or other presiding officer shall have one (1) additional vote to break a tie.

**4.2 Non-voting members.** All Knights Templar who are members of a Constituent Commandery shall be non-voting members of this Grand Commandery, and may hold any office for which he is qualified, serve on any committee and speak at any meeting of this Grand Commandery, to the extent allowed by the constitution, laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Encampment.

**Section 5 Conclaves.** This Grand Commandery shall hold an Annual Conclave on the last Thursday of February of each year in the city of Honolulu, State of Hawaii, at such time as the Grand Commander or the Grand Commandery may determine. There may be Special Conclaves during the year as the Grand Commander or Grand Commandery deems necessary or appropriate, provided, that notice of any Special Conclave shall be given at least fifteen (15) days prior to such meeting. The location of any conclave shall be in the State of Hawaii, at such convenient place as may be determined by the Grand Commander.

**5.1 Quorum.** No business may be transacted at any Annual or Special Conclave unless a quorum is present. A quorum shall consist of at least nine (9) voting members, in person or by proxy. No meeting may be adjourned and continued to another date unless a quorum is present at the time of adjournment.

**5.2 Proxies for ranking elected officers.** The incumbent Commander, Generalissimo or Captain General of any Constituent Commandery may give his proxy to any of said three elected officers. If all said three officers cannot attend the conclave, the Commander may appoint any Past Commander who is also a member of his Constituent Commandery, as the proxy holder for all three

of said officers. All proxies must be in writing, signed by the grantor, must name the proxy holder and specify the meeting at which the proxy will be effective. The proxy will be effective only for one meeting, must be exercised in person, and may be revoked by the grantor at any time prior to or during the meeting, in person or by a writing signed by him. A proxy holder shall be entitled his own vote or votes (if any), in addition to the number of proxies he holds.

**5.3 Joint meetings with Grand Chapter and Grand Council.** The Annual Conclave and any Special Conclave may be combined with any similar meeting called by the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Hawaii and/or the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of Hawaii, provided that such combined meeting complies with all the applicable laws, rules and regulations of all affected Grand Bodies (and their governing bodies) and the agenda of such combined meetings is mutually agreed upon by such bodies.

**Section 6 Officers.** The Officers of this Grand Commandery and their precedence of rank, shall be as follows:

- A Grand Commander
- A Deputy Grand Commander
- A Grand Generalissimo
- A Grand Captain General
- A Grand Senior Warden
- A Grand Junior Warden
- A Grand Treasurer
- A Grand Recorder and an Assistant Grand Recorder (MMS)
- A Grand Prelate
- A Grand Standard Bearer
- A Grand Sword Bearer
- A Grand Warder
- A Grand Sentinel
- A Grand Ritual Advisor

The Past Grand Commanders shall have precedence according to seniority of service, immediately after the Grand Captain General.

The Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder and Grand Lecturer shall be elected. The remaining Grand Officers shall be appointed by the Grand Commander.

**6.1 Elections.** The regular election of officers shall be held at the Annual Conclave. Special elections may be held at any Special Conclave called for the purpose.

**6.2 Terms.** Elected Grand Officers shall hold office until their successors shall have been duly installed, or until they have been removed from office. Appointed Grand Officers shall serve at the pleasure of the Grand Commander, until their successors are appointed.

**6.3 Automatic succession.** In case of the death, permanent relocation from the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery, or permanent disability of the Grand Commander, the powers and duties of his station shall devolve upon the Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, and Grand Captain General in the order named, who shall succeed to the next higher office and be regularly installed, if willing and able to serve. In case of the death, inability, or unwillingness to act, of all four principal Grand Commandery Officers, the Junior Past Grand Commander of this jurisdiction who is a member in good standing of the Grand Commandery and who is willing and able to serve shall in like manner assume the powers and duties of the Grand Commander.

**6.4 Vacancy.** Any vacancy in an elective office which cannot be filled by automatic succession shall be filled by election at a Special Conclave called for the purpose as soon as practicable after the vacancy occurs. Any vacant offices shall be filled by appointment of the ranking officer of the Grand Commandery until the installation of the appropriate successor in office.

**6.5 Powers and duties of officers.** The powers and duties of the Officers of the Grand Commandery shall be such as appertain to their respective stations, conforming as nearly as possible those of the corresponding Officers of the Grand Encampment. Every officer may be assigned such other duties as the Grand Commandery may deem appropriate, to the extent not inconsistent with the duties assigned to such corresponding office in the Grand Encampment. The Grand Commander may also assign to his subordinate Officers, duties conformable to Templar Law and usage. It is the duty of the four ranking Officers to attend, either in person or by proxy, all Conclaves of the Grand Encampment.

**Section 7 Standing committees.** This Grand Commandery shall have the following Standing Committees:

**7.1 Executive Committee.** The Executive Committee shall consist of the incumbent elected officers and the Junior Past Grand Commander, and shall advise the Grand Commander with respect to all matters of governance, although the committee shall not possess any legislative, executive or judicial powers.

**7.2 Jurisprudence Committee.** The Jurisprudence Committee shall consist of three or more members who are knowledgeable and skilled in the laws, rules and regulations applicable to the Knights Templar in general, and this Grand Commandery in particular.

**7.3 Ritual Committee.** The Ritual Committee shall consist of the Grand Lecturer, who shall serve as chairman, and the directors of the Templar degrees, who shall be appointed by the Grand

Lecturer. This Committee shall serve as custodian of the Ritual – assuring its uniformity, correctness and proper performance at all times.

**7.4 Long-range Planning Committee.** The Long-range Planning Committee shall consist of the Grand Commander (who shall serve as chairman), Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General, and the Jr. Past Grand Commander. This committee shall annually prepare and update the mission and vision statements, as well as the annual goals and critical success factors (measurements of success) of this Grand Commandery.

**7.5 Finance and Budget Committee.** The Finance and Budget Committee shall consist of the Grand Generalissimo, Grand Captain General and the incumbent Generalissimos and Captains General of the several Constituent Commanderies. At least ten (10) days preceding each Annual Convocation, this committee shall prepare and distribute to the voting members a budget for the ensuing Templar year, and shall present at the Annual Convocation a financial report for the prior calendar year showing the assets at the beginning and ending of the year and a statement of the budgeted and actual income and expenses. This committee shall also perform such other financial duties as may be assigned to it by the Grand Commander and the Grand Commandery.

**7.6 Credentials Committee.** At each Annual or Special Conclave the Credentials Committee shall determine who is entitled to vote, under the provisions of this Constitution and other laws, rules and regulations affecting this Grand Commandery.

**Section 8 Constituent Commanderies.** The membership, officers, their powers and duties and the conclaves of the Constituent Commanderies, together with the necessary quorum to transact business at said Conclaves, shall be as prescribed by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, and as added to by this Grand Commandery from time to time.

**8.1 Concurrent jurisdiction.** Except as provided by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, all Constituent Commanderies shall have concurrent jurisdiction over petitioners for the Orders of Knighthood within the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery.


**8.2 Multiple membership.** “Plural membership” is defined by and may be held in two or more Constituent Commanderies. “Dual membership” is defined as and may be held in one or more Constituent Commanderies and one or more Commanderies in other jurisdictions if the same be allowed by the laws of such other jurisdictions.

**Section 9 Amendments.** This Constitution may be altered or amended by vote of two-thirds of the members present at any Annual Conclave or any Special Conclave called for the purpose. Notice of any proposed amendment must be presented in writing at any duly-called conclave at least ninety (90) days prior to voting on the proposed amendment. The proposed amendment must be reviewed first, by the Jurisprudence Committee and reported on to the Grand Commander within thirty (30) days after proposal, and then reviewed by the Executive Committee within thirty (30) days thereafter.

The Jurisprudence Committee and/or Executive Committee may make any changes to the proposed legislation, with the consent of the proponent. The proposed amendment shall then be distributed to the voting members of this Grand Commandery and to the Recorders of each Constituent Commandery (to be read to their respective members at its next stated conclave) at least thirty (30) days prior to the conclave at which the proposal shall be voted on. If there is any failure to meet the deadlines imposed in this Section, the delay shall be tacked onto the next deadline, and may not be voted on unless: (a) the meeting date for the Special Conclave is moved to comply with this Section; or (b) the voting members at the conclave by a two-thirds vote waive the deadlines described herein; provided, that under no circumstances shall the date and time of the Annual Conclave be moved for purposes of complying with this Section.


BASED ON THE APPROVED 2013 CONSTITUTION.

Reviewed and Reconfirmed:

  
Grand Commander

February 22, 2025

ATTESTED:

  
Grand Recorder



## **BYLAWS OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII**

These Bylaws are intended to supplement the Constitution (“**Constitution**”) of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Hawaii (“**Grand Commandery**”).

### **ARTICLE I: GENERAL**

**Section 1.1 Effectiveness.** These Bylaws shall apply to the Grand Commandery and to all constituent Commanderies within the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery. These Bylaws shall at all times be subject and subordinate to the Constitution and the Laws and Regulations (“**Grand Encampment Laws**”) of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States (“**Grand Encampment**”), and if there is any conflict or inconsistency between these Bylaws and the Constitution and Grand Encampment Laws, the latter shall control.

**Section 1.2 Powers of the Grand Commandery.** Pursuant to its Charter, the Grand Commandery has executive, legislative and judicial authority and power over all Constituent Commanderies in the State of Hawaii, subject only to the authority and power of the Grand Encampment.

**Section 1.2a Legislative power.** The legislative authority of the Grand Commandery shall include without limitation the right to adopt and promulgate at its own convenience, and to amend or repeal at its own pleasure all laws, rules and regulations applicable to and binding upon itself and all Constituent Commanderies, until so amended or repealed.

**Section 1.2b Executive power.** The Grand Commandery may exercise generally all such authority and power as may be necessary to carry out and effectuate its own legislation and that of the Grand Encampment, to the extent applicable. Among other things, it may grant dispensations and charters to establish and perpetuate Constituent Commanderies within the State of Hawaii, and revoke or suspend the same, and may issue special dispensations for all purposes permitted by any of the provisions of the Constitution and these Bylaws.

**Section 1.2c Judicial power.** The Grand Commandery shall have a fundamental right and power to adjudicate all violations by any Constituent Commandery, by any member thereof, and by any Knight Templar in the State of Hawaii, any of the laws, rules and regulations under the Constitution, these Bylaws or the Grand Encampment Laws. This power and authority may be delegated to any Constituent Commandery. The Grand Commandery may also decide and adjudicate any dispute between its Constituent Commanderies, or between a member and the Constituent Commandery of which he is a member, or between individual Knights Templar subject to its jurisdiction.

**Section 1.3 Definitions.** As used in these Bylaws, a “**in good standing**” means being current in all membership requirements of an organization of which one is a member (e.g., dues fully

paid) and who has not been suspended or expelled from such organization. A **“Knight Templar”** is a Royal Arch Mason upon whom the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, Order of Malta and Order of the Temple have been conferred by an organization recognized by the Grand Encampment as having authority to confer the same. A **“Constituent Commandery”** is a Commandery in the State of Hawaii operating under the jurisdiction, authority and supervision of the Grand Commandery of Hawaii.

## ARTICLE II: CONCLAVES

**Section 2.1 Business to be conducted at conclaves.** All business of the Grand Commandery shall be conducted at the Annual Conclave or at such Special Conclaves held at the times and subject to the notice requirements, if any, as may be specified in the Constitution or these Bylaws; provided, that any proposed action to be taken at a Special Conclave must be specified in the notice of the meeting.

**Section 2.2 Joint conclaves.** The Annual Conclave and any Special Conclave may be combined with any similar meeting called by the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Hawaii (**“Grand Chapter”**) and/or the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of Hawaii (**“Grand Council”**), provided that such combined meeting complies with all the applicable laws, rules and regulations of all affected Grand Bodies (and their governing bodies) and the agenda of such combined meetings is mutually agreed upon by such bodies; and provided, further, that any agreement to hold a joint or combined meeting shall allow any Grand body to withdraw from any such joint meeting at any time upon prior notice of at least six (6) months. Representatives from the Grand Commandery, Grand Chapter and Grand Council shall meet sufficiently in advance of the relevant joint meeting to decide on said agenda, the manner of opening, closing and conducting business, etc., and to give proper notice to their respective members and constituent bodies.

**Section 2.3 Notices.** All notices shall be transmitted by the Grand Recorder (or by such other person as may be designated by the Grand Commander), and may be sent by email, facsimile or similar electronic transmission, unless: (a) the intended recipient requests written notice, or it is known he does not have the means of receiving electronic transmission of notices; (b) the notice concerns any matter which may result in imminent suspension or expulsion from membership, in which case notice must be sent by certified mail; or (c) written notice is required by the Constitution or Grand Encampment Laws.

**Section 2.4 Waiver of time requirements.** Any and all deadlines and other time requirements concerning the introduction and review of legislation, notice of meetings and the like may be waived upon the vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members present at any meeting, provided that such waiver does not violate any provision of the Constitution and Grand Encampment Laws, other than said deadlines and time requirements.

**Section 2.5 Order of business.** At the Annual Conclave, the following shall be the order of business, unless determined otherwise by the Executive Committee:

1. Opening
2. Reception of visiting dignitaries
3. Report of the Credentials Committee
4. Memorials
5. Approval of minutes
6. Official communications
7. Financial (Treasurer's) report
8. Approval of bills and other payables
9. Grand Commander's report
10. Committee reports
11. Old business
12. New business
13. Election of officers
14. Announcement of appointments
15. Installation of officers
16. Adjournment

The order of business at any Special Conclave shall be similar to the Annual Conclave, excluding such matters which will not ordinarily be on the agenda (e.g., Reception of dignitaries, election). Minutes may be read or distributed in writing. No business shall occur after the election of officers.

**Section 2.6 Quorum.** A quorum at any Annual or Special Conclave shall consist of at least nine (9) voting members, in person or by proxy. No business may be transacted at any Conclave unless a quorum is present, and no meeting may be adjourned and continued to another date unless a quorum is present at the time of adjournment.

**Section 2.7 Voting.** Each of the following members of the Grand Commandery shall have one (1) vote each:

- (a) each incumbent elected officer;
- (b) each Past Grand Commander who is also a current member of a Constituent Commandery;
- (c) each incumbent Commander, Generalissimo, and Captain General of a Constituent Commandery;
- (d) each Past Commander of a Constituent Commandery who is also a member of that Constituent Commandery.

*provided, however,* that none of the foregoing persons shall have more than one (1) vote, regardless of the number of titles or ranks he may hold, except that proxies (if allowed) shall count as the vote of the grantor of the proxy, and the Grand Commander, or other presiding officer shall have one (1) additional vote to break a tie.

**Section 2.8 Eligibility to vote.** At any Conclave the Credentials Committee (and in their absence, the Grand Recorder) shall determine the eligibility of any voting member to vote. To be entitled to vote, it must be clearly established that the member holds one of the offices, ranks or titles described in Section 2.7, and is a Knight Templar in good standing. If there is any dispute concerning the eligibility of a member to vote, such dispute may be decided in good faith by the Grand Commander, whose decision shall be final.

**Section 2.9 Attendance.** Any Knight Templar in good standing may attend any Conclave, whether or not he is entitled to vote.

**Section 2.9. Procedure at meetings.** The Grand Commander or other presiding officer shall be in charge of all conduct at a Conclave, and may order any member to be removed from a meeting if he disrupts or fails to act in an orderly manner. All votes may be by voice, a showing of hands or by ballot, as the presiding officer desires in his discretion; provided, however, that all contested elections shall be by secret ballot, counted by three unbiased tellers appointed by the presiding officer; provided, further, that upon the request of at least three (3) members, a showing of hands or a secret ballot shall be required. Robert's Rules of Order and similar treatises are guidelines only, and while they should be considered, are not binding upon any Conclave; the final arbiter of parliamentary procedure at any Conclave is the presiding officer, whose decision is final and may not be appealed.

**Section 2.10 Presentation of business.** All business to be considered at any Conclave must be submitted in writing to the Grand Recorder at least ninety (90) days prior to the relevant meeting, and shall be signed by its proponent, and shall be reviewed by the Grand Commander and other Committees, if required under the Constitution and these Bylaws.

**Section 2.11 Installation.** The elected and appointed officers shall be installed before the close of the Annual Conclave and shall hold their respective offices until their successors are installed. The installation may be public or private at the option of the incoming Grand Commander. If an officer is unable to be present for good reason, he may be installed by the Grand Commander at an appropriate place with such ceremony as the Grand Commander deems appropriate, as soon as practicable following the close of the Annual Conclave, not to exceed sixty (60) days. If an elected officer is not installed within said sixty (60) days, the office shall be declared vacant and the Grand Commander may appoint any qualified member of the Grand Commandery to fill the vacant office for the remainder of his term or until another officer is elected and installed to fill the vacancy.

### ARTICLE III. OFFICERS

**Section 3.1 Qualifications.** An elected officer+ of the Grand Commandery must be: (a) a Knight Templar in good standing; (b) who is also a member of a Constituent Commandery in this jurisdiction; and (c) is also either a Past Commander of a Constituent Commandery or a Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery; provided, that the Grand Treasurer or Grand Recorder need not be a Past Commander or Past Grand Commander.

**Section 3.2 Powers and duties of the Grand Commander.** The Grand Commander possesses all executive and judicial powers of the Grand Commandery during intervals when the Grand Commandery is not in session, except the granting of charters; provided, that the exercise of such powers shall be subject to reversal or modification by the Grand Commandery; and provided, further, that the Grand Commander may not reverse or modify any legislation, rule or law prescribed by these Bylaws, the Constitution or the Grand Encampment Laws. Among such powers, the Grand Commander shall have the power without limitation; (a) to grant dispensations to form new Constituent Commanderies; (b) to supervise, suspend and/or take over the operations of any Constituent Commandery; (c) to suspend any officer of a Constituent Commandery for good cause; (d) to delegate and transfer any trial of a Constituent Commandery or Knight Templar; (e) to supervise the Grand Commandery officers; (f) to preside at all Conclaves; (g) to appoint representatives of the Grand Commandery for any purpose; (h) to fill vacancies in office in accordance with these Bylaws and the Constitution; and (i) generally to supervise all Knights Templar in this jurisdiction. It shall be the Grand Commander's duty to carry out all executive functions common to the office and within the power and authority of the Grand Commander.

**Section 3.3 Powers and duties of the Deputy Grand Commander.** It shall be the duty of the Deputy Grand Commander to assist the Grand Commander in the discharge of his duties generally and at all the Conclaves, and in his absence, death, resignation or inability from any cause to perform the functions of his office, to preside. In the case of succession as provided under the Constitution, the Deputy Grand Commander shall be charged with all powers and duties of the Grand Commander.

**Section 3.4 Powers and duties of Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General.** It shall be the duty of the Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General to assist the Grand Commander in the discharge of his duties generally and at all the Conclaves, and in case the Grand Commander or Deputy Grand Commander is unable to perform because of death, resignation or inability from any cause, the Grand Generalissimo and Grand Captain General shall preside, in order of their rank. In the case of succession as provided under the Constitution, they shall be charged with all powers and duties of the Grand Commander.

**Section 3.5 Duties of Grand Treasurer.** The Grand Treasurer shall receive from the Grand Recorder and give a receipt for all monies belonging to Grand Commandery, keep proper books of account thereof, and, immediately upon the receipt of said monies, deposit the same to the credit of Grand Commandery in a bank or banks selected by the Grand Treasurer with the approval of the Grand Commander. Funds on deposit shall be withdrawn upon the signatures of both the Grand Treasurer and Grand Commander. If either of said officers is unavailable, the signature of the Grand Recorder may be substituted for the Grand Treasurer, and the Deputy Grand Commander for the Grand Commander. The Grand Treasurer shall attend all Conclaves, and at the Annual Conclave shall render a complete and detailed accounting for the funds received and disbursed in the twelve months preceding the Annual Conclave.

**Section 3.6 Duties of the Grand Recorder.** The Grand Recorder shall: (a) record and distribute when appropriate all transactions (including without limitation minutes) of the Grand Commandery proper to be written; (b) receive, duly file, and safely keep all papers and documents addressed or belonging to the Grand Commandery; (c) present all communications to the Grand Commandery or any representative of the Grand Commandery as may require action at any meeting or Conclave, or which may be of interest or concern to such assembly; (d) keep the Seal of the Grand Commandery, if any, and affix the same to any of its official acts or that of the Grand Commander; (e) collect all monies due or paid to the Grand Commandery, keep a correct account thereof, pay the same over to the Grand Treasurer and take his receipt therefor; (f) report, at each Annual Conclave, a detailed account of all monies received and disbursed during the twelve months preceding the Annual Conclave, clearly showing the source of receipts and to whom disbursements were made; (g) report to the Executive Committee on a current basis the failure of any Constituent Commandery to pay any amounts or submit such reports as are due to the Grand Commandery; (h) receive and send correspondence on behalf of the Grand Commandery, including without limitation all reports to the Grand Encampment and all announcements and notices to the members of Grand Commandery and its Constituent Commanderies; (i) keep all books, papers and archives of the Grand Commandery, including without limitation all lists and records pertaining to membership and activities of its members and Constituent Commanderies; and (j) generally, to perform similar acts as may be subject to the will and pleasure of the Grand Commander.

**Section 3.7 Trustees.** The Grand Commandery may adopt a standing resolution to elect such Trustees as may be deemed advisable to take custody of and invest its funds. Such Trustees shall be elected to staggered terms and any vacancy in a trusteeship shall not be filled by appointment, but by special election.

**Section 3.8 Examination of accounts.** At least thirty (30) days before any Annual Conclave, the Grand Commander shall appoint an Audit Committee of at least three (3) qualified individuals to perform an informal “audit” or examination of the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, who shall, at the Annual Conclave report on the propriety of the same and make recommendations, if any, as the Committee may deem advisable.

**Section 3.9 Duties of Grand Lecturer.** The Grand Lecturer shall serve as the custodian and supervisor of the Ritual for this jurisdiction, shall hold such schools of instruction as may be necessary or advisable to teach the Ritual to the various Constituent Lodges, and shall otherwise be the chief arbiter and resource for Ritual used by Commanderies in the State of Hawaii.

**Section 3.10 Duties of appointed officers.** The appointed officers of the Grand Commandery shall have such duties as are usually associated with such offices in the Constituent Commanderies, and all of them shall serve at the pleasure of the Grand Commander.

**Section 3.11 Manner of address.** The Grand Commander shall be addressed as “Right Eminent Grand Commander”; the Deputy Grand Commander “Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander”; the remaining officers of the Grand Commandery “Eminent (title of office)”. When

introducing or referring to an Officer, the honorary title shall immediately follow his the name, e.g., “Sir Knight John Doe, Right Eminent Grand Commander.” The official title shall be used by an officer only when necessary to designate his rank or official station, e.g., “I am Sir Knight John Doe, Grand Commander”, not “I am Sir Knight John Doe, *Right Eminent* Grand Commander”.

**Section 3.12. Oath of office.** Each officer shall take the following vow before being installed, in accordance with the installation ceremonies prescribed by the Grand Encampment:

“I, (Name), do promise and vow that I will support and maintain the Constitution, Statutes and Rituals of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, and the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of this Grand Commandery, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office to which I have been chosen, to the best of my ability.”

#### **ARTICLE IV GRAND COMMANDERY FUNDS**

**Section 4.1 Revenue.** The revenue of the Grand Commandery may be derived from the following sources: (a) per capita tax levied upon the Constituent Commanderies, which shall always be equal and uniform, in proportion to their membership, and taking into account similar fees payable to the Grand Encampment; (b) fees and assessments charged for dispensations, charters, diplomas and other documents issued under its authority, and generally to defray expenses and support programs of the Grand Commandery; (c) funds, dues, and proceeds of all property of dissolved Constituent Commanderies within its jurisdiction; (d) voluntary gifts or bequests; (e) fund-raising benefits and programs. At each Annual Conclave the Grand Commandery shall issue a schedule of fees, assessments, per capita taxes to be charged each Constituent Commandery for the following year, which shall be voted upon and approved by the Conclave.

**Section 4.2 Budget.** At each Annual Conclave the Finance Committee shall prepare and present a budget for the twelve (12) months following such Annual Conclave, which shall take into account all anticipated expenditures and revenue.

#### **ARTICLE V CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES**

**Section 5.1 Formation.** A Constituent Commandery in this jurisdiction is formed during the recess of the Grand Commandery under letters of dispensation from the Grand Commander, or it may exist by virtue of a dispensation or charter issued by the Grand Commandery. It possesses only those powers and rights which are delegated to it by authority under which it is formed or held. No dispensation for a new Commandery shall be issued, except upon the petition of nine or more Knights Templar in good standing, who need not demit from the Constituent Commandery of which they are then a member. No Constituent Commandery can be constituted until it is provided with a suitable asylum, properly furnished. No dispensation shall issue until full payment of all fees required by the Grand Commandery.

**Section 5.2 Powers and duties of Constituent Commanderies under dispensation.** A Constituent Commandery under dispensation has the same jurisdiction and the same rights and powers as a Chartered Constituent Commandery, except that its officers cannot be elected or installed, nor can it be represented in Grand Commandery until it has been chartered. Knights created in a Constituent Commandery under dispensation are members thereof and sustain the same relation to it and to other Knights Templar as those Knighted in Chartered Commanderies. All Constituent Commanderies under dispensation shall return said dispensation and all books, papers and reports to the Grand Commandery at the next succeeding Annual Conclave and after returning said dispensation, shall not meet or conclave for any purpose or action until after such Constituent Commandery shall have been duly constituted and its Charter delivered. A Constituent Commandery under dispensation shall pay no dues or assessments to the Grand Commandery until after it has been constituted.

**Section 5.3 Organization.** As soon as convenient after the Grand Commandery shall have granted a Charter, the Grand Commander, or his proxy, shall convene the Knights of the new Commandery, open the same and preside at an election of officers. Immediately thereafter, he shall install the officers chosen, giving them such instructions as he deems needful and proper and shall require the Recorder forthwith to return to the Grand Commander a roster of the elected officers, with the time of the Stated Conclave.

**Section 5.4 Powers and duties of Chartered Constituent Commanderies.** A Constituent Commandery consists of at least three Knights Templar from at least three separate Commanderies and acting under a lawful warrant, or at least nine Knights Templar acting under a lawful dispensation or charter. Every Constituent Commandery has the right to receive petitions from those within its jurisdiction who possess the necessary qualifications for membership, to elect petitioners by unanimous vote only and to confer the Orders upon them.

**Section 5.5 Consolidation.** The consolidation of Constituent Commanderies is governed by the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, 9, 46, Chap. 9, Section 169.

**Section 5.6. Quorum.** A quorum for conducting business in a Commandery, constituted by the Grand Commandery Knights Templar 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. Nine Sir Knights constitute a Commandery and are required to establish a Commandery. (2022).

**Section 5.7. Uniforms.** All Knights Templar in this Jurisdiction shall have the option in picking the appropriate uniform as approved by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar. Provided that the Commander of each subordinate Commandery may pick the required uniform to be worn by his officers, and all officers must be in the same uniform. This is to include the full Class A uniform, the Cap & Mantle or the Summer Uniform as prescribed in sections 250-260 of the Constitutions of the Grand Encampment. (2022).

### **Section 5.7.1 Decorations on Uniform.**

On the Class A uniform, on the left side above the pocket welt, may be worn a total of 3-rows of bars/ribbons. Each row would have a bar holder that would hold 2-3 bars each depending on what the Sir Knight is qualified to wear. Listed below is a total of 8 bars, if you qualified to wear all 8 they would be displayed as a top row of 2-bars followed below by two rows of 3 bars, and it is recommended to use an appropriate bar holder designed to keep all these ribbons/bars in a neat straight line. The Bars/ Ribbons would be worn as follows in order of precedence, left to right and top to bottom.

1. Military
  2. MSA
  3. DSA
  4. Past Commander Assoc.
  5. Ritual
  6. Mentor
  7. Holy land
  8. HTA
- See Descriptions of each below

If you only have one bar you would center that above the pocket welt. Two bars also one row centered above the pocket welt. Three bars all centered above the pocket welt, four bars one on top centered three below the one centered above the pocket welt, and so forth.

#### **Uniform Bar Descriptions**

**MILITARY SERVICE:** The United States Armed Forces Service Bar shall be a striped bar with the colors being 3 equal stripes on the left of Red, White and Blue (red at the outermost edge), three center stripes of equal size and slightly larger of White, Black, White, and 3 equal stripes on the left of Red, White and Blue (red at the outermost edge). If a Sir Knight has presided over a Grand York Rite Body, he is entitled to wear a Bar with a Star in the placed in the color representing that Body.

**MASONIC SERVICE AWARD (MSA):** The Masonic Service Award, shall be similar in size and design to the United States Armed Forces Service Bar. It will have four vertical-colored stripes; blue, red, purple and white, in that order from the wearers left to right, thus placing the white stripe closest to the center of the coat. A Sir Knight that has presided over a Grand Body may place a Gold Star on the color representing that body.

The Masonic Service Award may be worn to signify diligent and dedicated support and service to Templary, together with similar support and service to those York Rite bodies prerequisite and necessary to Templar Membership by having presided over each of those bodies.

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE (DSA)**: The DSA bar is a service bar of white bearing a gold star thereon.

**PAST COMMANDERS ASSOCIATION**: The accepted member's jewel/bar or past knight commander's jewel/bar of that organization is authorized to be worn on the standard dress uniform. The members' bar shall be red, having in its center a black cross pâté surmounted by a burgundy shield bearing a gold cross. The Past Knight Commander Bar is the same, with the addition of a gold star on both the left and the right.

**RITUAL AWARD**: The Ritual Award Bar is available in 4 levels. The entry level (pilgrim) is a White bar divided into 3 sections by gold stripes. The mid-level (warrior) is a black bar with a white shield in its center bearing a black maltese cross. The 3rd level (Knight) is an evenly divided black (right side) and white (left side) bar, with an equal armed red cross in its center. The highest level (commander) is the same as the 3rd level with the addition of a diamond chip in its center.

**MENTOR AWARD**: The Mentor Award bar is a Black Bar, with a red and purple stripe on either side, and a pair of gold wings in the center.

**HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE**: The Holy Land Pilgrimage is available in 3 levels. The lowest level is a Black Bar, divided into 3 sections, each containing a Gold Cross. The mid-level is the same, but the bar is white. The top level is the same, but the bar is red.

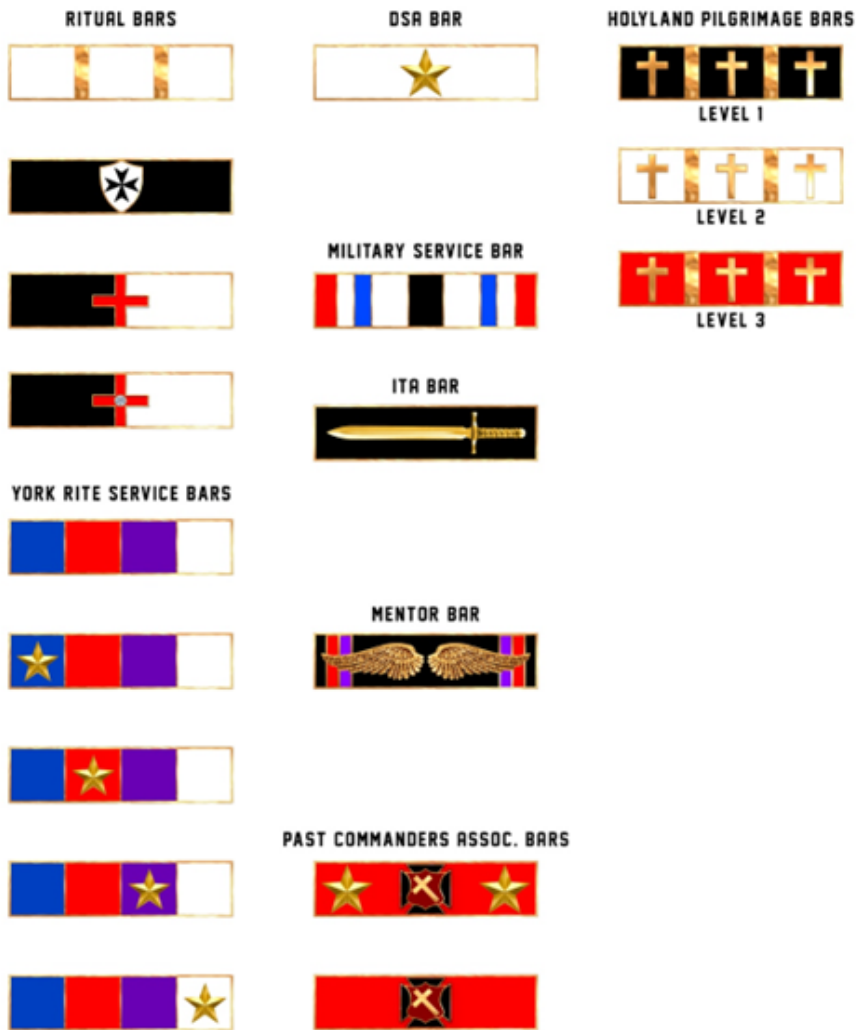
**HAWAII TEMPLAR ACADEMY (HTA)**: The HTA Bar is black, with a Gold Sword pointing to the right (inside).

**JEWELS**:

On the pocket welt you are allowed to wear 4-jewels, they must be centered on the welt. If you have a bar/ribbon that corresponds with a jewel you should not wear both. You should decide which one you want to wear, either as a bar or jewel. Some of the jewels you available to wear are as follows:

1. Malta
2. Officer Jewel
3. Past Commander
4. DSA
5. KTCH
6. Holy Land Pilgrimage
7. Past Commander Assoc.

Visual of the Various bars:



Sample of Bars in order, in a Holder



**Section 5.8 Aprons.** All Knights Templar in this Jurisdiction shall have the option of wearing an approved Knights Templar Apron only during tiled conclave, provided that the Commander of the subordinate Commandery approves its usage, and all officers are wearing the same apron. The Knights Templar Apron shall not be worn in public, unless by a special dispensation granted in writing by the Grand Commander. (2022).

## **ARTICLE VI ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD**

**Section 6.1 Qualifications for the Orders.** A Constituent Commandery is authorized to confer the following three degrees of the Commandery: (a) the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross may be conferred only upon a Royal Arch Mason in good standing; (b) the Order of Malta only upon a Knight of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross in good standing; and (c) the Order of the Temple only upon a Knight of the Order of Malta in good standing, who professes a belief in Christianity. There is no residency requirement. Until said three Orders of Knighthood have been conferred upon an applicant he is not a member of the Constituent Commandery and is therefore not required to pay dues.

**Section 6.2 Petitions.** Petitions for the Orders shall be made on printed forms furnished by the Grand Commandery and shall state: (a) all Masonic lodges of which the petitioner is a current member in good standing; (b) the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of which he is a member in good standing; (c) the Commandery to which he is applying; (d) his full name, date of birth, residence and occupation; (e) a declaration that the petitioner is a firm believer in the Christian religion; and (d) that the petitioner has read and fully affirms the statements contained in the petition and has personally signed the same. The petition must be signed by two members of the Commandery to which the applicant is petitioning, who shall vouch for the good character and Masonic standing of the petitioner and that they recommend favorable action. Unless a candidate elected to receive the Orders shall present himself within twenty-four (24) months after receiving notice of his election, the petition shall be void and he shall forfeit the fee unless the Commandery shall otherwise direct.

**Section 6.3 Election to membership.** Election to receive the Orders of Knighthood must be by unanimous vote, and at the discretion of the Commander, may be by voice vote; provided, that upon request of at least three (3) Knights present in the Asylum, the vote shall be by secret ballot. Every member present when a ballot on a petition is taken is required to vote unless excused by the Commander of the Constituent Commandery before the balloting has commenced. The Commander may order one re-ballot before the result has been announced and before any member of the Commandery has left the Asylum. A vote that is not unanimous shall be considered a rejection of the application.

**Section 6.3.1 - Life Membership K.T.E.F.** Upon election in a Commandery, the new Sir Knight shall have the sum of a Life Sponsorship of the Knight Templar Eye Foundation (KTEF) as part of their initiation fees, and a Life Sponsorship of the KTEF shall be purchased in his name by his Commandery. (2025)

**Section 6.4 Objections before voting.** When an objection is made either in open Commandery, or to the Commander individually, the application cannot be voted upon, and if within sixty (60) days after the objection, it is not withdrawn, the application shall be deemed rejected. The fact of the objection and not the name of the objector shall be entered upon the minutes and shall be equivalent to a rejection by ballot.

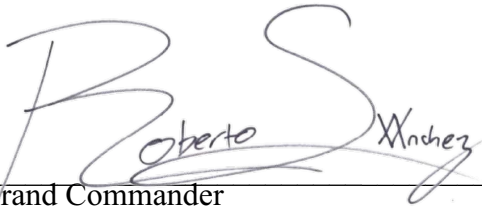
**Section 6.5 Objections after election.** Objections to an application after election are embarrassing to the applicant and to the Constituent Commandery, and should be discouraged unless the objector can show substantial validity for his objection. The Commander shall appoint qualified Knights to investigate such validity, and only upon substantiation of the reason for the objection, shall the applicant be deemed rejected.

**Section 6.6 Renewal of rejected application.** The petition of a rejected applicant cannot be renewed until the expiration of at least six (6) months after such rejection. If a rejected petitioner applies to any other Constituent Commandery, his petition cannot be acted upon at any time within six (6) months after his rejection, without the unanimous ballot of the Constituent Commandery where he was rejected.

## ARTICLE VII AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be altered or amended by vote of two-thirds of the members present at any Annual Conclave or any Special Conclave called for the purpose. Notice of any proposed amendment must be presented in writing at any duly-called conclave at least ninety (90) days prior to voting on the proposed amendment. The proposed amendment must be reviewed first, by the Jurisprudence Committee and reported on to the Grand Commander within thirty (30) days after proposal, and then reviewed by the Executive Committee within thirty (30) days thereafter. The Jurisprudence Committee and/or Executive Committee may make any changes to the proposed legislation, with the consent of the proponent. The proposed amendment shall then be distributed to the voting members of this Grand Commandery and to the Recorders of each Constituent Commandery (to be read to their respective members at its next stated conclave) at least thirty (30) days prior to the conclave at which the proposal shall be voted on. If there is any failure to meet the deadlines imposed in this Section, the delay shall be tacked onto the next deadline, and may not be voted on unless: (a) the meeting date for the Special Conclave is moved to comply with this Section; or (b) the voting members at the conclave by a two-thirds vote waive the deadlines described herein; provided, that under no circumstances shall the date and time of the Annual Conclave be moved for purposes of complying with this Section.

DULY ADOPTED DURING 2013, REVIEWED AND APPROVED ON FEBRUARY 22, 2025

  
Grand Commander February 22, 2025

Reviewed and confirmed:

ATTEST:



Grand Recorder

