

**PROPOSED LEGISLATION
2021 ANNUAL CONCLAVE
GRAND COMMANDERY OF MISSOURI**

(Deletions appear in strike-through, additions appear underlined)

Item No. 1A

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THE GRAND COMMANDER OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI READ AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE II - *The Grand Officers*

Section 27. *The Grand Commander.* The Grand Commander shall have the following specific powers and duties, but the enumeration shall not be deemed a limitation thereof:

M. Appoint an auditor examiner, who shall immediately prior to the annual conclave examine and audit review the accounts and vouchers of the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer and certify the facts as found, to the Grand Commandery. The Grand Commander shall perform such other duties as the nature of his station may require, or the ceremonies of the Grand Commandery may require. (*Amended ??/??/??*)

Q. In the event of disability of either the Grand Treasurer or Grand Recorder, he will direct the Finance Committee (*see Sec. 36(d)*) to retain a qualified auditor examiner not previously involved who shall expeditiously perform a complete audit examination of all pertinent records. (*Adopted 5/17/97, Amended ??/??/??*)

Item No. 1B

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THE GRAND COMMANDER OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI READ AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE VI - *Chartered Commanderies*

Section 117. *Annual Reports and Per Capita Payment.* On or before December 31 each year, Commandery Recorders will submit to the Grand Recorder a complete list of remissions for their Commandery to include the member's full name and type of remission in accordance with **Section 171. Members May Not be Exempted.** On or before February 1 each year the previous reporting year along with a per capita bill for the calculated fees due the Grand Commandery. The bill will include appropriate fees and credits. Fees shall consist of Knighting Fees, Per Capita and any outstanding balances from the previous year's return. Credits shall consist of approved Remissions and Endowed Memberships as verified by the Grand Recorder, along with any overpayments from the previous year's return. A Financial Report Form and an Annual

Audit Inquiry and Examination Committee Form (see **Section 119. Annual Audit examination of Commanderies.**) will also be included as part of the Annual Return. Each Commandery shall forward to the Grand Recorder on or before March 1st in each year all forms and a check or money order for the per capita payment, based on the annual statistical report and per capita bill provided by the Grand Recorder, and due from said Commandery, and a copy of the latest IRS Form 990 or a copy of the acceptance of the electronic submission of a Form 990N. The fiscal year of the Grand Commandery shall end May 31st of each year, and all accounts shall be closed on that date. A commandery failing to file a complete return as provided herein and to forward per capita payment by March 1st subjects itself to a fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00). Any Commandery that does not submit a complete annual return to the Grand Recorder's office not later than thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery shall forfeit all rights and privileges to representation and voting at the Annual Conclave. *(Amended 6/9/17, 6/9/18, ???/??/??)*

Item No. 1C

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THE GRAND COMMANDER OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI READ AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE VI - Chartered Commanderies

Section 119. Annual Audit Examination of Commanderies. Each commandery under the jurisdiction of this Grand Commandery shall on or before the 1st day of March of each year make, on standard forms furnished by the Grand Recorder, a financial report and an audit examination report of the books, finances and property of the commandery and transmit by mail a copy of same to the Grand Recorder. *(Amended 5/19/06, Repealed 6/9/17, Restored and Amended 6/9/18, Amended ???/??/??)*

Item No. 1D

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THE GRAND COMMANDER OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI READ AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE XX - Instruction, Inspection, and Regional Activities

Section 224. Authority of Inspection Officer. The Officer shall have authority to inspect (including audits Inquiries and Examinations, rituals, and investments) each commandery in his Region. Inspection should be made between the time officers of constituent commanderies are installed and the conclave of the Grand Commandery; provided that if for reason satisfactory to the Grand Commander, the proxy, preferably a Grand or Past Grand Officer, to act for said Inspecting Officer. *(Amended ???/??/??)*

On conclusion of the inspections the Inspecting Officer shall immediately prepare and forward to the Grand Commander a report upon the Region as a whole.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

These amendments have been submitted and recommended because the Internal Revenue Service of the United States of America, has in recent years determined and viewed that "Auditor" and "audit" can only be done by an authorized Certified Accountant or firm that handles such matters. This makes it risky and could inspire an unnecessary inquiry or examination of our fraternity by the federal government into our operations. This is to eliminate such an occurrence from happening.

Fraternally Submitted:

SK W. Larry Wilson, Past Commander, Ivanhoe Commandery No. 8
SK Michael S. Smith, Past Commander, Ivanhoe Commandery No. 8

Item No. 2

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THE GRAND COMMANDER OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI READ AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE XI - *Dues*

Section 176. *Non-Payment of Dues.* Commandery dues are payable in advance on ~~by~~ the first day of January in each year and become delinquent on the first day of July ~~March~~ following. [insert paragraph]

~~Whenever a member shall fail~~ fails to pay his dues at the time when the same become delinquent ~~on or before March 1 of each year~~ the Recorder ~~recorder~~ shall ~~must~~ notify him ~~the member in writing~~ of such ~~his~~ delinquency by delivering to him, or causing to be delivered by a Knight, a bill for such indebtedness, or by mailing the same in a sealed envelope addressed to him at his present or last known place of residence ~~on or before March 11~~. Should the delinquent refuse or fail ~~If, after notice, the member fails~~ to pay his dues within twenty days after the issuance of such notice, it shall be the duty of the Recorder to notify the Commander of such failure, who shall, at the next stated conclave of the commandery, order a notice to be given the delinquent by the Recorder, requiring him to appear at a specified subsequent stated conclave, to show cause why he should not be suspended for non-payments of dues ~~on or before April 1, he is~~ automatically suspended for non-payment of dues. The suspension should be recorded by the recorder in the minutes of the first meeting of the Commandery thereafter.

~~Such notice shall be served by the Recorder by delivering, or causing to be delivered by a Knight, to the delinquent a copy of the same, or by mailing it to him in a sealed envelope addressed to him at his present or last known place of residence at least ten days prior to the time he is to appear.~~

~~Should the delinquent fail to appear, his dues still remain unpaid, or the same be not remitted for good cause, or the time of payment extended, by a majority vote of the~~

~~members present, the Commander, upon proof of notice and the fact of arrearage, shall put the question: "Shall Sir _____ be suspended for non-payment of his dues?" which shall be determined by a paper ballot or vote of the commandery; and if a majority of those present vote "yes", the Commander shall declare the Knight suspended until his dues are paid. The delinquents may be balloted on or voted on by the commandery individually or collectively.~~
(Amended ??/??/??)

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

A Sir Knight's dues should be paid by December 31st of each year. The length of time a Sir Knight has to pay his dues is longer than necessary. Shortening the time to pay dues will make the Recorder's job easier, and give each Commandery better control over their finances and budgets, and matches Grand Lodge of Missouri dues payment bylaws. See Section 97. Dual Membership.

Fraternally Submitted:

SK Donald MacCormick, Past Commander, Kansas City Commandery No. 10