

# **The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar And the appendant Orders of Massachusetts and Rhode Island**

Sir Knight George L. Herbolsheimer, IV  
*Right Eminent Grand Commander*

Sir Knight S. Wesley Lindsey  
*Eminent Grand Recorder*

**April 24, 2020**

*To all constituent Commanderies with the Jurisdiction of, and holding allegnaince to, the Grand Commandery of Kngiths Templar and the Appendant Orders of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.*

## **GENERAL ORDER NO. 8-A**

As it has become apparent in the days since the declaration of the State of Emergency issued by the Governor of Massachusetts, the Honorable Charles. D. Baker, Jr., that the pandemic facing the country is not yet subsiding, I hereby order General Order No. 7 to be extended until the end of April, 2020.

## **GENERAL ORDER NO. 8-B**

It is with a heavy heart on this Patriot's Day, the day when our forefathers stood up and risked their lives for our liberty, but with the health and safety of the Templars of Massachusetts and Rhode Island foremost in my mind, that I issue this General Order.

It is hereby ordered that all Templar activities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State of Rhode island continue to be suspended until May 31, 2020. Should circumstances change, I will review this General Order.

Please continue with your "zoom" gatherings and continue to reach out to your Fraters to ensure they are safe.

While I hope to be able to reopen Templary in some fashion in June, I am also taking the following steps to reintroduce our fraters to Templary:

- I hereby grant a blanket dispensation to any Commandery, within the jurisdiction of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, to meet during the months of July and August, upon proper notice to its members and the York Rite Office.

- I further order that the requirement for any elections and installations, hereafter, in a Commandery's By-laws are hereby suspended and such elections and installations may be held at any scheduled future conclave; elections and installations may be held at the same conclave, all to be completed by the Annual Session of the Grand Commandery in October.
- I hereby waive any requirement to meet at the location of stationing (or of any notice of such removal) of any Commandery, if a nearby substitute location with reasonable amenities, namely air conditioning, is available, again on proper notice being sent to its members and to the York Rite Office.

I hope that these actions may allow the Commanderies in this jurisdiction to begin to meet again over the summer and that we come into the next Masonic year reinvigorated and ready to pursue the great tenets of Templary.

With my Knightly greetings,

ATTEST:



S. Wesley Lindsey  
GRAND RECORDER



George L. Herbolsheimer, IV  
GRAND COMMANDER

