



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

Sir Knight S. Wesley Lindsey  
*Eminent Grand Recorder*

**May 13, 2020**

*To all constituent Commanderies within the Jurisdiction of, and holding allegiance to, the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar and the Appendant Orders of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, WE SENDETH GREETINGS:*

**GENERAL ORDER, NO. 9**

This General Order is issued to give guidance to the various Commanderies and their Officers under the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island in light of General Order No. 8(b) and the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment's General Order No. 12.

It is hereby ordered, in correspondence to Grand Master Nelson's General Order No. 12, where he specifically permitted teleconference meetings, that any Commandery under the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island may meet by teleconference or webcast. Since the use of ritual has been forbidden by the Grand Master, the Commander should declare the Commandery open for the dispatch of business. Then after a prayer, the meeting may proceed to the business of the Commandery.

Grand Master Nelson, an attorney, knowing the particular legal jargon, has stated that "No ritual shall be performed, and no Orders be conferred during any such telephonic or webcast Conclave." Since Grand Master Nelson did not caveat that statement to include, for instance, "among other things", it is to be assumed that he meant to allow any other business of the Commandery to continue by teleconference or webcast.

It is therefore hereby ordered that any business of the Commandery, except the conferral of the Orders, including, but not limited to, the paying of bills and the election and

installation of officers may be done during such teleconferenced meeting. No ritual shall be performed which is not by its terms public ritual e.g., Installation of Officers ritual.

Any such Conclave remains subject to the provisions of Section 65 and 66 of the Constitution and statutes etc. of the Grand Encampment and the provisions of Article 16 of the Constitution of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, Inc. Please note that the quorum for transacting business in the Constitution of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, Inc. published on the mayorkrite.org site has been amended to reduce the same to five (5), although there must still be nine (9) Knights Templar present to open.

The recorder of the conclave must keep a record of the Sir Knights attending such virtual Conclave and a record of the actions taken at such Conclave. There is no need to ratify such actions at an in-person conclave.

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Given under my hand and seal of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar and the Appendant Orders of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, at Boston, Massachusetts, on this, the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2020, A.O. 902.



George L. Herbolzheimer, IV  
GRAND COMMANDER

ATTEST:



S. Wesley Lindsey  
GRAND RECORDER

