

**PRINCE HALL GRAND CHAPTER  
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR  
AND  
RITE OF ADOPTION  
For the  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
AND  
JURISDICTION**



**CONSTITUTION**

**ADOPTED JUNE 1911**

**REVISED**  
AUGUST 1920, 1927, 1946, 1960, 1968,  
1984, 1985, 1988, 1992, 1996, 2012

## THE LANDMARKS PRINCE HALL RITE OF ADOPTION

1. The Eastern Star is the basis of the Degrees of the Rite of Adoption; the name and character of the Rite are unchangeable.
2. Its lessons are Scriptural, its teachings are moral, and its purposes are beneficent.
3. A belief in the existence of a Supreme Being, Who will punish the violation of a solemn pledge.
4. Its obligations are based upon the honor of the female sex who obtains its ceremonies that are framed upon the principles that whatever benefits are due by the Masonic Fraternity to the wives, mothers, widows, daughters, and sisters of Masons, corresponding benefits are due from them to the Brotherhood.
5. The modes of recognition, which are peculiar secrets of the Rite, which cannot, without destroying the foundation of the system, be changed.
6. That a covenant of secrecy, voluntarily assumed, is perpetual; from the force of such obligations there is no release.
7. The control of the Rite lies in the body styled **Prince Hall Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star and Rite of Adoption for the State of South Carolina and Jurisdiction**, or in the prerogatives of the Grand Worthy Matron, or executive officer, when the Grand Chapter is not in session.
8. That the ballot for membership must be unanimous and must be kept inviolably secret.
9. The right of every Chapter to be the judge of who shall be admitted to its membership and to select its own officers, but in no case can the ceremonies of the Rite be conferred unless a Master Mason, in good standing in the Masonic Fraternity and a member of the Chapter, presides.
10. Every member is amenable to the laws and regulations of the Rite, and may be tried for offenses, through permanently or temporarily residing within the Jurisdiction of another Chapter.
11. The right of every member to appeal from the decision of the Subordinate Chapter to the Grand Chapter or the Grand Worthy Matron.
12. The prerogative of the Grand Worthy Matron to preside over every assembly of the Rite wherever she may visit and to grant dispensations for the formation of new Chapters within the territorial Jurisdiction.
13. That every Chapter has the right to dispense the light of the Adoptive Rite and to administer its own private affairs.
14. That every Chapter should elect and install its officers annually.
15. The right of every member to visit and sit in every regular Chapter, except when such visitors may disturb the harmony or interrupt the business of the chapter.

## CONSTITUTION

### Preamble

Whereas, every Grand Chapter possesses the inherent power to form a constitution as the fundamental law of its perpetual action, and to enact such By-laws from ~~time to time~~ **as it deems** necessary for its own government, and to make such rules, and prescribe such regulations for administration of its, subordinate chapters as will insure the prosperity thereof, and promote the general good of the order; provided, always, that the landmarks of the order are held inviolate;

Therefore, in accordance with these principles, **Prince Hall Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star and Rite of Adoption for the State of South Carolina and Jurisdiction** does hereby ordain and establish the following Constitution.

## ARTICLE I *Style and Title*

Section 1. This Grand Chapter shall be known by the name and style of Prince Hall Grand Chapter ~~of the Order of the Eastern Star and Rite of Adoption for the State of South Carolina and Jurisdiction~~.

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ARTICLE II  
Officers

Section 1 The Grand Officers' ranks shall be styled as follows:

- Grand Worthy Matron
- Grand Worthy Patron
- Grand Associate Matron
- Grand Associate Patron
- Grand Treasurer
- Grand Secretary
- Grand Conductress
- Grand Associate Conductress
- Grand Trustees (3)
- Grand Warder
- Grand Marshal, East
- Grand Marshal, West
- Grand Christian Flag Bearer
- Grand United States Flag Bearer
- Grand Order of the Eastern Star Flag Bearer
- Grand Musician
- Grand Adah
- Grand Ruth
- Grand Esther
- Grand Martha
- Grand Electa
- Grand Chaplain
- Grand Sentinel
- Grand C.C.F.C.
- Grand Supervising Deputies
- Grand Associate Deputies

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. "The membership of this Grand Chapter is defined as all financial members of the subordinate chapters within the jurisdiction of South Carolina.

~~Membership~~ Voting Delegation

Section 1. The voting membership of this Grand Chapter shall be the Worthy Matrons, Worthy Patrons, Associate Matrons, and Associate Patrons, or their proxies, regularly appointed by the Chartered Chapters under this Jurisdiction, and such Past Grand Matrons, Past Grand Patrons, ~~Past Grand Associate Matrons, Past Grand Associate Patrons,~~ and all Past Matrons and Past Patrons, as shall be present who shall have been regularly elected having presided over a duly constituted Subordinate Chapter under this Jurisdiction.

Section 2. The foregoing officers and members shall be the only voters in this Grand Chapter. They shall have but one vote each on any question; the Presiding Officer, in case of a tie, may give the casting vote.

ARTICLE IV

Qualification for Office

Section 1. No Sister or Brother shall be eligible for office in this Grand Chapter, by election or appointment, unless at time of such appointment she or he is currently serving as Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron or is a Past Matron or Past Patron and at the time of such election or appointment she or he is in ~~regular~~ good financial standing in one of its Subordinate Chapters.

ARTICLE V

Power

Section 1. This Grand Chapter, being supreme in matters appertaining to its internal affairs, has the right to superintend and govern all Chapters of the Order of the Eastern Star within its Jurisdiction. It has the power to grant dispensations and warrants for forming and holding Chapters of the Order of the Eastern Star and to revoke or suspend the same; to enact rules and regulations; to issue edicts and to amend and repeal the

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same; to censure, ~~fine, or suspend, or erase Chapters; to suspend or expel individual members;~~ to discipline Chapters for willful violation of its Constitution, Laws, Regulations and Edicts; to decide all appeals from Subordinate Chapters; and to exercise every right of sovereignty within the limits of its Jurisdiction, subject to the provisions of its own Constitution. All powers not specifically delegated to the Subordinate Chapters are inherent in and reserved to the Grand Chapter.

## ARTICLE VI

### Meetings

*Section 1.* There shall be one regular meeting of this Grand Chapter in each year, which shall be held on the third Tuesday in July, beginning at such time as the Grand Worthy Matron may direct, at the place designated by the Grand Chapter at its Annual Communications ~~from time to time~~, unless otherwise ordered.

*Section 2.* Special Meetings may be ordered by the Grand Worthy Matron, at such time and place as, in her opinion, the interests of the Order require: *Provided* that every Chapter in the Jurisdiction shall be notified at least thirty days prior to such meeting and that no business ~~except~~ that specified in the summons be transacted at the meeting.

~~*Section 3.* No subordinate Chapter or District may hold any meetings or events on the day of the Mid-Year Meeting.~~

~~*Section 4.* No subordinate Chapter or District may hold any meetings or events during the entire month of July.~~

~~*Section 5.* No subordinate Chapter or District may hold any meetings or events during the Annual Communication of Prince Hall Grand Lodge.~~

~~*Section 6.* No subordinate Chapter or District may hold any~~

~~meetings or events during special meetings called by the Grand Worthy Matron which require the attendance of the Worthy Matron and/or other officers of the Chapter.~~

## ARTICLE VII

### Quorum for Business

*Section 1.* ~~A quorum is necessary for the transaction of business. A quorum is established when at least 50% of all subordinate Chapters under of the Jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter are present. Representatives or proxies regularly appointed of not less than fifty Subordinate Chapters under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.~~

## ARTICLE VIII

### Representatives and Proxies

*Section 1.* It shall be the duty of the Worthy Matrons, Associate Matrons, Worthy Patrons, and Associate Patrons, in the order named, to attend all meetings of the Grand Chapter. A proxy of equal rank may be appointed to represent a chapter if ~~neither~~ none of the legal delegates can attend; but such proxy must be a member of the Subordinate Chapter represented and shall present to the Grand Chapter ~~a certificate~~ documentation of such appointment duly authenticated.

## ARTICLE IX

### Powers and Duties of the Grand Worthy Matron

*Section 1.* The Grand Worthy Matron ~~or her proxy~~ shall preside at the meetings of the Grand Chapter; shall appoint all committees; shall see that the rules and regulations of the order are strictly enforced; shall see that the officers faithfully perform their respective duties. She has power to convene

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any chapter within the Jurisdiction; to preside therein; to inspect their proceedings; and to require conformity to the laws of the Order. She shall have power to examine all the books and property of the Subordinate Chapters; to require the attendance of and information from any Grand Officer representing her or his office; to delegate authority to confer the degrees at sight upon a sufficient number of worthy persons for the purpose of organizing a new Chapter; to call special meetings of the Grand Chapter, to decide all questions of law or usage submitted to her, subject, however, to an appeal to the Grand Chapter, and until such decision on opinions are reversed by the Grand Chapter. They shall be binding between the parties and give in her annual report such instructions and recommendations as the good of the Order may require during the vacation of the Grand Chapter to exercise all of its executive powers.

The Grand Worthy Matron is to be installed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the retiring Grand Worthy Matron or Past Grand Matron.

It is the duty of the Grand Worthy Matron to visit annually in person, or by Deputy, every Chapter under her Jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter. She shall have the power to arrest the warrants of all Subordinate Chapters and suspend their operations until the next ensuing Communication. She is the ex-officio chairman of any committee she may think proper to attend.

Section 2. The installation of the officers shall take place on the second day of the Annual Communication.

In case of the death, disability, resignation or expulsion of the Grand Worthy Matron, the Grand Associate Matron will assume the position until filled at her present donation. ~~shall carry on the duties of the~~

~~Grand Worthy Matron at her present donation until a successor has been elected the election at the Grand Chapter.~~

## ARTICLE X

### *Powers and Duties of the Grand Worthy Patron*

Section 1. The Grand Worthy Patron shall assist and advise the Grand Worthy Matron at her discretion when requested to do so.

He shall make an annual report of his work to the Grand Chapter, making such recommendations as he may deem right and proper for the good of the Order. In case of the Grand Patron's death, disability, resignation or expulsion, the Grand Worthy Matron may request the services of the Grand Associate Patron at his present donation until a successor is elected at the Annual Communication.

## ARTICLE XI

### *Powers and Duties of the Grand Associate Matron*

Section 1. In the absence of the Grand Worthy Matron, the Grand Associate Matron shall act as Grand Worthy Matron; at all other times, she shall perform such duties as may be assigned to her by the Grand Worthy Matron. If the office of the Grand Worthy Matron becomes vacant, she shall perform the duties of the Grand Worthy Matron until the election at the Annual Communication ~~Grand Chapter.~~

## ARTICLE XII

### *Powers and Duties of the Grand Associate Patron*

Section 1. The powers and duties of the Grand Associate Patron shall be to perform the duties of the Grand Worthy Patron in his absence. He shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Grand Worthy Matron. ~~If the office of the~~

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Deleted: in the establishment of Districts and in the appointment of Deputies. He shall have the power to convene Chapters; to preside therein; to inspect their work; and to grant dispensations with the consent of the Grand Worthy Matron.at her discretion when requ

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Grand Worthy Patron becomes vacant, he shall perform the duties of the Grand Worthy Patron until the election at the Grand Chapter Annual Communication.

### ARTICLE XIII

#### Grand Treasurer and Funds

*Section 1.* The Grand Treasurer shall attend all communications of the Grand Chapter; keep accurate account of all receipts and expenditures passing through her hands; carefully number and file vouchers; and, annually, unless more often required by the Grand Worthy Matron or the Grand Chapter, make in writing a full statement of the same together with the balance, if any, remaining in her hands, submitting at the same time her books and vouchers for examination by the Grand Chapter through a committee appointed for that purpose; pay out no money except on order drawn by the Grand Secretary on order of the Grand Worthy Matron. The Grand Treasurer shall give a good and sufficient bond to be approved by the Grand Worthy Matron, ~~Grand Worthy Patron, and the Grand Secretary.~~

At the installation of her successor, the Grand Treasurer shall deliver into the hands of the new Grand Treasurer all papers and other property of the Grand Chapter which may be in her custody.

*Section 2.* All funds of the Grand Chapter must be deposited into a regular incorporated ~~bank~~ or banks by the Grand Treasurer before the Annual Meeting.

*Section 3.* All money must ~~be~~ paid by check and signed by the Grand Secretary, the Grand Treasurer, and the ~~Grand Worthy Matron.~~

*Section 4.* The Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer are bonded in the name of the Grand Chapter.

### ARTICLE XIV

#### Duties of the Grand Secretary

*Section 1.* It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to attend all Communications, regular and special, of the Grand Chapter; and with her books and papers, when required; she shall furnish appropriate committees with any papers in her possession for the purpose of investigating any matter which may be entrusted to them. She shall keep a correct record of the transactions of the Grand Chapter, which are proper to be written; shall collect the moneys due the Grand Chapter from Subordinate Chapters and pay the same over to the Grand Treasurer, taking a receipt for the same; shall make an annual report in writing of the amount collected and how expended; shall keep a correct record of all returns of Subordinate Chapters; shall preserve all petitions, appeals, applications, and other documents which may come into her possession; shall keep the Official Seal of the Grand Chapter and affix same to such documents and writings emanating from the Grand Chapter; and shall deliver to the successor in office all books and other property of the Grand Chapter in her possession, when said successor is installed. She shall give a good and sufficient bond to be approved by the Grand Worthy Matron, ~~Grand Worthy Patron, and the Grand Treasurer.~~

### ARTICLE XV

#### Remaining Officers

*Section 1.* The other officers are to perform such duties as are appropriate to their several stations or as may be assigned them from time to time by the Grand ~~Worthy Matron Chapter.~~

### ARTICLE XVI

#### Elective Officers

*Section 1.* The elective officers are the Grand Worthy Matron, the Grand Worthy Patron, the Grand Associate Matron,

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the Grand Associate Patron, the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Secretary, the Grand Conductress, and the Grand Associate Conductress. They shall be elected annually by ballot, which election shall take place on the second day of the Communication and not contrariwise. A majority of all votes cast (50% +1) shall be necessary for a choice.

Section 2. In order to be elected Grand Worthy Matron, one must have served in one of the following stations: Grand Associate Matron, Grand Conductress, or Grand Associate Conductress.

Section 3. In order to be elected Grand Worthy Patron, one must ~~be a Past Master not currently serving and has served in one of the follow positions, Grand Associate Patron, District Worthy Patron, or District Associate Patron.~~ Grand Associate Patron.

Section 4. Tenure for the Grand Worthy Matron and Grand Worthy Patron shall be four (4) consecutive years.

Section 5. Tenure for Grand Treasurer shall be eight (8) consecutive years.

Section 6. Tenure for Grand Secretary shall be eight (8) consecutive years.

### ARTICLE XVII Appointive Officers

Section 1. The appointed officers of the Grand Chapter shall be appointed by the Grand Worthy Matron. The Appointed officers are: three (3) Grand Trustees (with one serving as Chairman), Grand Warder, Grand Sentinel, Grand Marshall in the East, Grand Marshall in the West, Grand Adah, Grand Ruth, Grand Esther, Grand Martha, Grand Electa, Grand Christian Flag Bearer, Grand United States Flag Bearer, Grand Order of the Eastern Star Flag Bearer, Grand Chaplain.

Grand Musician and Grand CCFC who may hold office ~~respectively for the term of two (2) years or at the discretion will~~ of the Grand Worthy Matron.

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Section 2. Grand Supervising Deputies and Grand Associate Deputies for each district are appointed by the Grand Worthy Matron and installed at a time designated by the Grand Worthy Matron, and who may hold office at the will of the Grand Worthy Matron.

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Section 3. All other appointed officers serve at the will of the Grand Worthy Matron and do not have any tenure.

### ARTICLE XVIII Dissolution

Section 1. In the event of dissolution, the residual assets of this organization will be turned over to one or more organizations which themselves are exempt as organizations described in Sections 501 (c) (3) and 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or corresponding sections of any prior or future Internal Revenue Code, or the Federal, State, or Local Government for exclusive public purpose.

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Section 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, this organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by (A) a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law, or (B) a corporation whose contributions are deductible under section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or any corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

### ARTICLE XIX



*Amendments*

*Section 1.* All laws, rules, regulations, and resolutions inconsistent with this Constitution and By-laws are hereby declared null and void.

*Section 2.* In all cases of conflict between the Constitution and the Ritual, **the Constitution shall be supreme.**

*Section 3.* No amendment to this Constitution shall be made or have any effect until it shall have been proposed in the Grand Chapter at its Annual Communication and adopted by ~~three-fourths~~ two-thirds vote of the Grand Chapter at the next succeeding Annual Communication or a special meeting called by the Grand Worthy Matron.

The foregoing revision of the Constitution was adopted by the Prince Hall Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star and Rite of Adoption for the State of South Carolina and Jurisdiction at its Regular Communication held in Columbia, South Carolina, on July 18, 2012

**Committee on Revision**

Juanita D. Edwards  
Herman L. Rivers  
Joyce M. Durant  
Fred Herriott  
Valerie V. Williams  
Linda O. Neal  
Mary Ennis  
Sheila Bush Danforth  
Lewis H. Nelson  
Jeanette P. Singleton  
Arthur L. Sellers  
Robert Johnson  
Terry B. Law  
Ruth E. Jordan

**Attest: *Jenette V. Wright, Grand Secretary***

**ARTICLE XX**

*Effective Date*

Revised and approved this eighteenth day of July 2012

Juanita D. Edwards  
Grand Worthy Matron

*Attest: Jenette V Wright, Grand Secretary*

**PRINCE HALL GRAND CHAPTER  
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR  
AND**

**RITE OF ADOPTION**

for the

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**AND**

**JURISDICTION**



**BY-LAWS**

**ADOPTED JUNE 1911**

**REVISED**

AUGUST 1920, 1927, 1946, 1960, 1968,  
1984, 1985, 1988, 1992, 1996, 2012

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## BY-LAWS

### Preamble

Whereas, every Grand Chapter possesses the inherent power to enact such By-laws from time to time as it may deem necessary for its own government and to make such rules and prescribe such regulations for administration of the Subordinate Chapters as will insure the prosperity thereof and promote the general good of the Order; *provided, always*, that the Landmarks of the Order are held inviolate:

Therefore, in accordance with these principles of Prince Hall Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star and Rite of Adoption for the State of South Carolina and Jurisdiction does hereby ordain and establish the following By-laws, Rules and Regulations for the future government and the government of the Chapters under its jurisdiction.

## ARTICLE I

### Relief Fund

Section 1. The Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, and the Grand Worthy Matron ~~shall constitute commission who~~ shall have general supervision of the Grand Chapter Relief Fund under such rules as may be prescribed. This fund shall be set apart for the legal heirs or representatives of such deceased members as were reported in good ~~and~~ regular financial standing in their Chapters at the Session of the Grand Chapter prior to their death. Within sixty (60) days of having received satisfactory proof of the death of a member lawfully reported in good standing at the previous Annual Session of the Grand Chapter and in good standing in her or his Subordinate Chapter at the time of death, the committee shall donate to the ~~legal heirs or the legal representative~~ designated beneficiary for the member as follows: *(These donations are subject to change.)*

1 — 3 years .....	\$ 65.00
4 — 7 years .....	\$115.00
8 - 11 years .....	\$175.00
12 – 15 years.....	\$200.00
16--19 years .....	\$ 225.00
20--23 years .....	\$ 250.00
24 – 27 years.....	\$ 275.00
28 - 31 years .....	\$ 300.00
32 – 35 years.....	\$325.00
36 or more years .....	\$350.00

In determining to whom this donation shall be paid as above provided, the committee shall be governed by the report of the Worthy Matron and the Secretary with the Seal of the Chapter of the deceased Members; but in the absence in such report, due effort to secure the same having failed, the committee shall not donate same except to such one as may be satisfactory or who has qualified legally as an administrator.

The Grand Secretary shall furnish blanks on which reports of death shall be made. No requests for Relief Funds shall be honored unless signed by the Grand Worthy Matron, Grand Treasurer (added treasurer), and the Grand Secretary. (Last sentence added to this paragraph instead of a separate one.)

A check for the amount due shall be made out to and in the name of the ~~legal heirs or representatives listed on the Prince Hall Grand Chapter Beneficiary form~~, if any, or to a qualified individual as determined by the Grand Worthy Matron. Said check must be signed by the Grand Worthy Matron, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary with the seal of the Grand Chapter affixed hereto.

## ARTICLE II

### Revenue and Expense

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Section 1. The revenue of this Grand Chapter shall be received from the following sources:

- For every Charter: not less than \$10.00.
- Every member must pay not less than ~~\$20.00~~ \$25.00 Grand Chapter dues before July 1.
- Any other sources or projects deemed necessary by the Grand Chapter.

**ARTICLE III**  
**Annual Returns and Donations**

Section 1. Each Subordinate Chapter shall make out and forward to the Grand Secretary an annual report. This report shall include the names of the officers; members initiated, affiliated, withdrawn, suspended, expelled, or died; names of all financial members; and amount due the Grand Chapter. Chapters failing to make returns and pay dues for two consecutive years, without satisfactory reasons to the Grand Chapter, shall have their charters revoked.

Section 2. A Chapter may forfeit its warrant or dispensation by disobedience to the authority of the Grand Worthy Matron or presiding Grand Officer or the Grand Chapter, ceasing to meet for one (1) year; and neglecting to make returns and pay dues for two (2) years.

Section 3. The annual donations of the Grand Officers shall be as follows:

Grand Worthy Matron .....	\$1500.00
Grand Worthy Patron .....	\$ 800.00
Grand Associate Matron .....	\$ 500.00
Grand Associate Patron .....	\$ 500.00
Grand Treasurer .....	\$1000.00
Grand Secretary .....	\$1500.00
Grand Conductress .....	\$ 400.00
Grand Associate Conductress .....	\$ 400.00

Grand Appointed Officers.... each ..... \$ 50.00  
Past elected officers will receive an annual donation in proportion to their annual donation; that is if they have served the Grand Chapter as an elected officer for eight (8) years or more.

Section 4. The Grand Worthy Matron, the Grand Worthy Patron, the Grand Associate Matron, the Grand Associate Patron, the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Secretary, the Grand Conductress, the Grand Associate Conductress shall be paid room and board, and actual traveling expenses, by the most direct route, when attending the Annual Communication and Grand Lodge Annual Session if not otherwise provided for in this Constitution.

Section 5. Past Grand elected officers shall be paid room and board, and actual traveling expenses, by the most direct route, when attending the Annual Communication of Prince Hall Grand Chapter in July.

Section 6. When the Worthy Matron, the Associate Matron, the Worthy Patron, or the Associate Patron of a Chapter is sent to the Annual Communication of the Grand Chapter, a donation for travel expenses and board must will be paid given by the Subordinate Chapter when funds are available.

**ARTICLE IV**  
**Rules for Government of the Grand Chapter**

Rule 1. In the absence of the Grand Worthy Matron, the Grand Associate Matron presides; in the absence of the Grand Worthy Patron, the Grand Associate Patron presides; but in the absence of all the above-named officers, the Past Grand Matron may preside.

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*Rule 2.* The Grand Chapter is opened in ample form when the Grand Worthy Matron presides and in due form when the Grand Associate Matron presides, ~~Grand Worthy Patron, the Past Grand Matron, or the Past Grand Patron presides~~ In the absence of the Grand Worthy Matron and the Grand Associate Matron, a Past Grand Matron will preside; and at all other times in form only, yet with the same authority.

*Rule 3.* In the absence of any Grand Officer, the presiding officer shall supply her or his place with such members as she or he thinks proper.

*Rule 4.* At the stroke of the Grand Worthy Matron's gavel, there shall be a general silence; at the second stroke of her gavel, all officers shall rise; at the third stroke of her gavel, all shall rise.

*Rule 5.* All members and visitors shall keep the seats assigned to them except the Grand Marshal and officers whose duties may call them about the Chapter.

*Rule 6.* All resolutions shall be submitted in writing before there shall be any debate upon them, as shall all motions if the presiding officer or any member so desires.

*Rule 7.* Each member shall vote on all questions except those in which she or he is personally interested unless excused by the Grand Chapter.

*Rule 8.* No member shall speak more than twice to the same question, unless in explanation, without the permission of the presiding officer of the Grand Chapter.

*Rule 9.* Every member who speaks shall rise and remain standing, addressing herself or himself to the Grand Worthy Matron or presiding officer until recognized.

*Rule 10.* When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except to amend, commit, lay upon the table, or adjourn. The presiding officer shall determine all questions of order using Roberts Rules of Order as a guide.

*Rule 11.* No member, except one of the majority which decided the question, shall be allowed to move for reconsideration.

*Rule 12.* After a motion is stated by the Grand Worthy Matron, it shall be deemed to be in possession of the Grand Chapter; but it may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before decision or amendment.

*Rule 13.* There shall be no debate upon any question after it is declared by the Grand Worthy Matron.

*Rule 14.* All motions and reports may be committed at the pleasure of the Grand Chapter.

*Rule 15.* No member shall leave the Grand Chapter during the Session without permission from the Grand Worthy Matron or designated officer.

*Rule 16.* The opinion or votes of the membership shall be signified by the ballot box or by the sign of the Eastern Star, which shall be counted by the Grand Worthy Matron or tellers.

*Rule 17.* All reports of officers and committees shall ~~he~~ be in writing and properly signed.

*Rule 18.* Any member persisting in violating these rules, after being called to order by the presiding officer, may be reprimanded, suspended, or expelled from the Grand Chapter at its discretion.

*Rule 19.* All of the committees appointed shall be discharged with the closing of the Grand Chapter Session except the Committees on Auditing and Jurisprudence and Foreign Correspondence, whose terms of office shall expire with the

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beginning of the Annual Session.

*Rule 20.* No member may attend official meetings of the Grand Chapter unless properly dressed. (**Official Dress Code on inside back cover.**)

## ARTICLE V

### *Order of Business for the Grand Chapter*

*Section 1.* The business of the Grand Chapter shall be taken up in this order:

1. Roll Call of Grand Officers.
2. Roll Call of Subordinate Chapters.
3. Minutes of the Last Communication.
4. Committee Appointments:
  - Administrative Degree
  - Music
  - Health
  - 50-Year Membership
  - ~~Planning Committee~~ Registration Committee
  - Souvenir Journal Committee
  - Education
  - Charity
  - Subordinate Chapter By-Laws
  - Charter
5. Grand Officers' Reports:
6. Grand Worthy Matron
7. Grand Worthy Patron
8. Report of
  - Grand CCFC
  - Mary B. Thomas
9. Report of Committees (Those Appointed in #4)
10. Report of Grand Secretary
11. Report of Grand Treasurer

12. Unfinished Business

13. New Business

14. Election of Grand Officers.

15. Installation of Grand Officers

## ARTICLE VI

### *Subordinate Chapters*

*Section 1.* Every Subordinate Chapter in the Jurisdiction must have a dispensation with the Official Seal and signature of the Grand Worthy Matron or a charter from the Grand Chapter signed by the Grand Worthy Matron and the Grand Worthy Patron and attested by the Grand Secretary with the seal of the Grand Chapter attached; no Chapter will be deemed legal or regular without such dispensation or warrant. All communications, public or private, are hereby forbidden between any Chapters under this Jurisdiction, and any Chapter illegally formed, open or holden, or any person initiated in such illegal Chapters.

No Chapter shall under any circumstances loan out Chapter funds for any purpose.

Visitors unknown to the Worthy Matron are admitted into Subordinate Chapters only after a scrutinizing examination or having been properly vouched for by some member who has sat with her or him in a regularly constituted Chapter and not contrariwise.

### **Officers of Authorized Under Dispensation Chapters**

*Section 1.* The officers of a Chapter under dispensation shall be the same as named in the Ritual of the Eastern Star Degree.

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Section 2.

Chapters working under dispensation of the Grand Worthy Matron cannot be represented in the Grand Chapter; cannot have a Seal; nor can they elect to install officers; nor make By-laws; but they must be governed by the General Rules and Regulations of the Order as set forth by this Constitution of this Grand Chapter.

**Officers of Chartered Chapters**

Section 1.

The elective officers of a chapter shall consist of Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Associate Matron, Associate Patron, Treasurer, Secretary, Conductress, and Associate Conductress. Said officers shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the members present at the regular meeting held in May of every year, ~~and not contrariwise unless approved in writing by the Grand Worthy Matron.~~ The elected officers shall be installed at the same meeting or at the next regular meeting.

The appointed officers are: three (3) Trustees, Marshal, Adah, Ruth, Esther, Martha, Electa, Warder, and Sentinel; and the optional officers are Flag bearers, Musician, and Chaplain, who shall be appointed by the Worthy Matron.

**Vacancies in Office**

Section 1.

Vacancies in the elective offices, except those of Matron, Associate Matron, Patron, and Associate Patron, may be filled by ballot at a meeting, the members having been summoned for that purpose. Vacancies in the appointed offices may be filled by the Matron at a stated meeting to open and transact business. **Vacancies of Matron, Patron, and Associate Matron can be filled at the regular election meeting in May only.**

Section 2.

The presence of the charter, ~~one of the first four officers the Worthy Matron, Associate Matron, or Past Matron,~~ and six members, ~~five of which must be female to cover the star points~~ are indispensable to open a Chapter for the transaction of business. ~~The seventh member will serve as warder.~~

**Membership**

Section 1.

No person shall be admitted as a member of any Subordinate Chapter within this Jurisdiction by initiation or affiliation but Free and Accepted Prince Hall Master Masons in good standing, their wives, widows, mothers, sisters, and daughter (the two latter, if unmarried, must have attained the age of eighteen years), and shall have been regularly proposed at one regular meeting and balloted for at the next regular meeting of the Chapter.

Section 2. Former Mary B. Thomas Girls may apply for membership within a subordinate chapter once they have submitted the appropriate information which verifies three years of membership in the Mary B. Thomas Girls Youth Circle and have been approved by the Grand Worthy Matron. Once approval is made by the Grand Worthy Matron, they must meet all qualifications for entering a subordinate Chapter including a proper investigation and balloting.

Section 3.

If a member loses her or his membership, she or he may re-instate within three (3) years by paying all Local, District, and Grand Chapter dues. After losing membership for three (3) or more years, ~~application to the same Chapter can be made for acceptance as a new member. However, the applicant must be balloted for (the same as for any new member)~~ a petition for reinstatement may be made to the Grand Chapter accompanied by a fee determined by the Grand Worthy Matron. If accepted, such applicant need not be re-initiated, ~~however they do not retain their years of service or title and begin at year one of membership.~~

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### Initiation Fee

Section 1. The Chapter shall confer degrees of the Eastern Star, Queen of the South and Amaranth for a sum total amount of \$25.00. This initiation fee covers the cost of all degrees. All petitions for membership must give name, residence, and occupation and shall be accompanied with not less than half of the initiation fee, the remainder being due at initiation. This fee only covers the cost of initiation and other fees may be applied by the Chapter as designated by the Chapter's By-laws.

A candidate shall not receive more than one degree at the same Communication, or subsequent degree at an interval of less than one month from the reception of a former degree, without a dispensation from the Grand Worthy Matron.

### Committee on Applicants for Membership

Section 1. All petitions for initiation or affiliation shall be recommended and vouched for by a member of the Chapter and shall be placed in the hands of a committee consisting of three (3) female members and Worthy Patron or Associate Patron, to be appointed by the Worthy Matron, whose duty it shall be to investigate and make the report thereon at the next regular meeting; nor shall such petitions be acted upon by the Chapter until satisfactory evidence be obtained of the applicant's worthiness or unworthiness. If the chapter does not have a Worthy Patron or Associate Patron, a Past Patron may serve on the committee. In the event a Worthy Patron, Associate Patron, or Past Patron is not available, the District Worthy Patron must be contacted.

In addition to the Constitutional requirements of membership each applicant must be worthy as an individual.

### Rejected Petitions

Section 1. A ballot of one Black Ball is necessary to reject a petition; and an adverse report of a committee is not sufficient for that purpose. Rejected petitioners may re-apply to the same Chapter or to another Chapter after 30 days, again in the same Chapter after three (3) months.

Any ~~rejected candidate~~ petitioner who fails to furnish information of her or his rejection on making application for membership in another Chapter shall be deemed guilty of deception; and if the petition has been acted upon favorably, the whole action shall be declared null and void when the deception shall have been duly established.

All funds accompanying a petition for membership shall be refunded to the candidate if the petition is rejected.

### Powers of Subordinate Chapters to Make By-laws

Section 1. Subordinate Chapters within this Jurisdiction shall have the power to make By-laws and Regulations for their own government; provided, always, that such By-laws and Regulations shall be in conformity with the Landmarks of the Order and the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Chapter; and provided, further, that the proposed Bylaws and Regulations shall first receive the approval of the Grand Chapter before the same shall go into effect.

Subordinate Chapters may observe annual celebration days.

No member of the Order shall print or publish or cause to be printed or published any work or discourse relative to Adoptive Masonry without the approbation of

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the Grand Chapter.

### Duties and Powers of the Worthy Matron

Section 1. It is the special duty of the Worthy Matron to enforce the observance of the By-laws of her Chapter and of the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Chapter; to see that the Associate Matron, Worthy Patron, and Associate Patron discharge their duties faithfully; to see that true and exact minutes are kept of all the Chapter's proceedings by the Secretary; to see that the Treasurer keeps and renders true and just accounts at the stated times, according to the By-laws, and that the property and funds of the Chapter be justly managed and spent.

Section 2. It is the duty of the Worthy Matron and that of her Associate Matron, Worthy Patron and Associate Patron, in the order named, to attend all Communications of the Grand Chapter. The Worthy Matron is empowered to call a meeting of her own Chapter at her pleasure. She has special charge of the Charter, which must always be in the Chapter when it is opened and during its labors; to her belongs the appointment of all officers of the Chapter not elective.

Section 3. There can be no appeal from the decision of the Worthy Matron except to the Grand Chapter or to the Grand Worthy Matron.

Section 4. The Worthy Matron shall preside at the meetings of the Chapter except when the degrees are being conferred. She shall open the Chapter promptly at the hour of opening, if a quorum be present, or as soon thereafter as a quorum shall be present.

Section 5. A meeting of the Chapter for any business, except conferring the degree, may be opened and held by seven members, the Worthy Matron, or the Associate Matron, or Past Matron being one of the members. A chapter can confer degrees only if nine members are

present: Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, 5 Star Points, Warder, Conductress or Associate Conductress.

Section 6. After installation, the Worthy Matron shall appoint ~~two (2)~~ three (3) standing committees: one on audit, one on investigations, and one on sickness and distress.

### Duties of Associate Matron

Section 1. The Associate Matron shall perform the duties appertaining to her office and, in the absence of the Worthy Matron, assume that position, prerogatives and duties. However, in order for the Associate Matron to assume the position of the Worthy Matron and preside over the Chapter in the absence of the Worthy Matron, the Associate Matron must have the Administrative Degree.

### Duties of Worthy Patron

Section 1. The Worthy Patron must be a Master Mason and a contributing member of a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. His duties shall be to have a general supervision of the affairs of the Chapter; to advise and assist the officers; to preside at the time of conferring degrees and to assist in the same and at no other time unless called to the chair by the Worthy Matron or, in her absence, by the Associate Matron.

### Proxies of Subordinate Chapters

Section 1. The Worthy Matron, the Associate Matron, the Worthy Patron, and the Associate Patron, when unable to attend the Communications of the Grand Chapter, may nominate and send their proxies, with their jewels, to represent them in the Grand Chapter: the Worthy Matron sending a Past Matron; ~~the Associate Matron, a Past Associate Matron;~~ and the Worthy Patron, a Past Patron; ~~the Associate Patron, a Past Associate Patron.~~

### Duties of the Treasurer

Section 1. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all moneys received from the hands of the Secretary; shall

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keep regular entries of her receipts and expenditures; and shall have her books always ready for examination at such periods as the law requires or whenever called upon by the Worthy Matron of the Chapter.

**Section 2** She shall give a sufficient bond, the amount to be determined by the Chapter, for the faithful performance of her duty.

**Section 3** She shall pay out the funds by vote of the Chapter on a voucher signed by the Worthy Matron and the Secretary with Seal and not otherwise. She shall deliver to her successor, when duly installed, all moneys, papers or properties of the Chapter in her possession after her accounts have been duly examined and approved by a Finance Committee of the Chapter.

#### Duties of the Secretary

**Section 1** The Secretary shall keep a register of all the proceedings of the Chapter that are proper to be written, that they must be submitted to the Grand Chapter when required; shall keep a list of the members of the Chapter, the date of their initiations into the Eastern Star, Queen of the South and Amaranth, admission, withdrawals, suspensions, expulsions, restoration, deaths, and rejections and send a copy of same to the Grand Secretary at least thirty (30) days before the Annual Communication of the Grand Chapter.

**Section 2** She shall immediately after every annual election transmit a certificate to the Grand Secretary stating the result of the election; shall affix the Seal of the Chapter to all documents and certificates of election. For the faithful discharge of her duties she shall be exempted from the payment of all monthly dues.

#### Duties of Other Officers

**Section 1** The other officers shall perform the duties indicated by their titles, stations, and direction of the Chapter.

#### Responsibilities of Subordinate Chapters

**Section 1** ~~Chapters are expected to meet monthly~~ and shall not alter its name without the ~~approbation permission~~ of the Grand chapter.

**Section 2** The Worthy Matron shall open the chartered chapter on the Eastern Star degree to transact all business appertaining to the chapter.

#### **Seal**

**Section 3** Every warranted subordinate chapter shall have a seal with the name, number, and location of the chapter, with such devices as may be properly engraved thereon; and no document from any chapter will be received or deemed authentic without such Seal being affixed thereto. ~~The seal must remain in the possession of the Worthy Matron at all times.~~ A chapter will be allowed one (1) year after being established to procure a seal.

**Section 4** The Worthy Matron of every chapter shall have one vote on all questions and, in the case of a tie, the casting vote; and shall be the chairman of all committees she appoints if she chooses to attend.

**Section 5** Every chapter shall be solemnly constituted and dedicated by the Grand Worthy Matron with her officers or, in the absence of the Grand Worthy Matron, a Deputy.

**Section 6** A chapter shall have power to levy an assessment when necessary to meet its legitimate obligations.

**Section 7** ~~The monthly dues shall not be less than fifty cents. Every chapter may give sick and death donations to its members.~~ ~~Dues are determined and assessed by the Chapter.~~

**Section 8** One blow of the gavel commands silence and seats the Chapter when standing; two blows of the gavel call up the officers; three blows of the gavel call up the Chapter.

#### **Order of Business for Subordinate Chapters**

**Section 1** The order of business for Subordinate Chapters shall

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be:

1. Opening Ceremony.
2. Roll Call of Elected Officers
3. Reading the Minutes for Information.
4. Reports of Committees.
5. Unfinished Business.
6. Receiving Petitions.
7. Balloting for Candidates.
8. Conferring Degrees.
9. New Business.
10. Remarks for the Benefit of the Order.
11. Reading and Adopting the Minutes.
12. Closing Ceremony.

### To Hear and Determine Matters of Difference

*Section 1.* Every Chapter shall have power to hear and determine all matters of difference between its own members and to censure, reprimand, suspend, or expel with the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present; in case of suspension, two-thirds may restore; in case of expulsion, a unanimous vote shall be required.

*Section 2.* All complaints or charges against a member of a Chapter must be presented in writing at a regular meeting and referred to a committee of five for investigation, who shall report the testimony and make recommendations to the Chapter before definite action is taken thereon. The accused shall be given a copy of the charges and, after being summoned for trial, shall be tried in her or his absence upon failure to appear.

*Section 3.* After the committee has reported, the Chapter shall hear the counsel on either side, if there be any, then proceed to ballot on the innocence or guilt of the accused. If a majority finds her or him guilty as charged the Chapter shall then vote by ballot on expulsion, suspension, censure, or reprimand, in the order named. A two-thirds vote expels; a majority suspends, censures, or reprimands. Both the accused and the accusers may have counsel who must be members of a Chapter of this Jurisdiction.

### Section 4: A chain of command must be followed.

#### Appeals

*Section 1.* Any member feeling aggrieved by the decision of the Chapter or presiding officer may appeal to the Grand Worthy Matron or to the Grand Chapter within three (3) months of the alleged grievance. Notice shall be given to

the Chapter and to the Grand Chapter of the appeal in writing at least twenty (20) days prior to the hearing of the case.

*Section 2.* All appeals to the Grand Chapter must be in the hands of the Grand Secretary at least thirty (30) days before the Annual Communication of the Grand Chapter.

*Section 3.* The Grand Chapter, upon receipt of an appeal and evidence, shall proceed to examine and try the same upon evidence so transmitted without other testimony and decide the matter finally. Should the appeal be presented to the Grand Worthy Matron and she is unable to satisfactorily arrange the matter upon her own investigation, it shall be her duty to refer the whole matter to the Grand Chapter.

#### Chapters Legally Formed

*Section 1.* No Chapter or organization of the Order of the Eastern, Star which shall hereafter be formed in this Jurisdiction shall be deemed legal without sanction of the Grand Chapter.

#### Trials

A trial is the judicial examination of the issues arising on complaint for offenses before the Chapter or Committee, whether they be issues of Law or Fact.

*Section 1.* Offenses which subject the individual offender to trial and punishment are: violations of her or his obligation or the

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established law, usage and customs of the Order; and every violation of the municipal law involving moral turpitude or conduct unbecoming a lady or gentleman. The penalties which may be inflicted upon a member for an offense are described in the Constitution.

Section 2. Offenses may also be committed by a Chapter in the particulars defined by the Constitution, and not otherwise, and which are: *first*, contumacy to the Grand Worthy Matron or to the Grand Chapter; *second*, departure from the Landmarks of the Order; *third*, disobedience to the Constitution and By-laws of the Grand Chapter of the Jurisdiction; and *fourth*, neglecting to meet as a Chapter for one year or more.

Section 3. Charges: Every individual member and every Chapter accused of an offense must be proceeded against by written charges called "**A Complaint and Notice Thereof**," and each is entitled to a speedy and impartial trial.

Section 4. "A Complaint and Notice Thereof" must be written and must contain all orderly statement of the facts constituting an offense and should be brief but comprehensive, avoiding repetitions, and clearly defining the offense charged, with accurate specifications of the time, place, and circumstances of the alleged commission.

Section 5. "A Complaint and Notice Thereof" must be presented in open Chapter at stated meetings, and a motion should be made and adopted that the complaint be received and a committee be appointed before further proceeding can be had thereon.

Section 6. "A Complaint and Notice Thereof" need not be copied into the minutes, but its nature must be entered with the fact of its reception and reference and of the committee appointed by the Worthy Matron. It is the duty of the Secretary of the Chapter immediately to serve on the accused a copy of the complaint. The good standing of the accused is not affected until after sentence. She or he is presumed to be innocent until proven guilty and may at all times before sentence vote upon all matters not involved in the charges or specifications pending against her

or him.

Section 7. The attendance of witnesses on either side when they are members of the Chapter may be enforced by summons, which may be issued by the Worthy Matron of a Chapter. The attendance of witnesses other than members is voluntary only. No testimony shall be taken or received upon any trial when the accused appears in person or by counsel at the trial except in the presence of the accused and her or his counsel and an opportunity given to them for cross-examination.

Section 8. When the accused fails to appear or answer, testimony must be taken in the same manner as if she or he had appeared and defended and with even more technical accuracy, fullness, and certainty; and it is recommended and enjoined that, in such cases, some competent member be designated and required to appear for the accused and to take care that she or he has a fair and impartial trial.

#### Appeals

An appeal is a proceeding before the Grand Chapter or the Grand Worthy Matron by which the acts and decisions of a Chapter or a committee upon trial, or upon first appeal, are reviewed in order to arrest errors of law or facts alleged to have been made by a Chapter officer or committee from whose decision and judgment the appeal is taken so that justice may be done to all parties concerned; and such appeal may be brought by any party alleging her or him aggrieved thereby.

Section 1. Notice of an Appeal: The Constitution of the Grand Chapter provides that appeals from the decisions of a Chapter or a committee may be made within three (3) months; but it is advisable that when a party is intending to appeal, she or he should give notice of it immediately. Upon receiving notice of an appeal, the Secretary of the Chapter will transmit to the officers or the body to whom the appeal is taken a copy of all papers in the case from the complaint to the Notice of Appeal, both inclusive, duly attested. When the appeal is brought it shall contain minutely and in detail the grounds of appeal, and unless such grounds are specified it shall not be regarded as an appeal.

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**Section 2. Decision on Appeal:** The Grand Chapter or the Grand Worthy Matron to whom appeal is made will, with all convenient dispatch, make a decision; and if made by a Grand Officer, such decision should be immediately filed by her.

### Restoration

Restoration is the bringing back of a suspended or expelled member to her or his former condition in the Order, in whole or in part. It is the grand crowning act by which an erring but repentant member regains a title to possession of all her or his former rights and privileges.

**Section 1.** Restoration, being a voluntary act on the part of the Chapter or Grand Chapter, cannot be claimed as a matter of right and, therefore, can never be compelled or enforced. As the penalties or reprimand and suspension are only temporary in their effects, a member becomes fully restored to all former rights and privileges when she or he has suffered the penalty for such offenses; restoration applies only to those who have been expelled, except in case of suspension from the roll for non-payment of dues. A reversal of the judgment of a Chapter restores a member to the rights and privileges of the Order and also to a membership in the Chapter. Restoration follows as the result of one of three causes: *first*, Act of Law; *second*, Act of Chapter; and *third*, Act of the Grand Chapter.

**Section 2.** Restoration by Act of the Grand Chapter does not restore to membership in the Subordinate Chapter which can only be done by action of the Chapter to which she or he was a member. The Grand Chapter may restore a member after the lapse of one year from the time of expulsion, but in such case the member remains unaffiliated until restored to membership by her or his Chapter. Restoration from suspension in the Grand Chapter requires a vote of the majority of the members present at a regular meeting. Restoration from expulsion requires previous proposal and unanimous vote of all members present at a regular meeting. A petition for restoration must be in writing.

### Deaths

**Section 1.** The Secretary of each Subordinate Chapter shall, upon the death of one of its members, immediately notify the Grand Secretary of the fact, by way of the Relief Commission, if any. ~~The Secretary shall also request at once from the Grand Secretary a blank on which to make a legal report if said member is entitled to the benefits of the Relief Fund.~~ A Relief Commission form will be completed and submitted to the Grand Secretary within 60 days of the date of death accompanied by a Prince Hall Grand Chapter Beneficiary form. ~~The same shall be promptly and properly filed and returned to the Grand Secretary.~~

## ARTICLE VII

### Amendments

- Section 1.** All laws, rules, regulations, and resolutions inconsistent with this Constitution and ~~By-laws are hereby declared null and void.~~
- Section 2.** In all cases of conflict between the Constitution and the Ritual, the Constitution shall be supreme.
- Section 3.** No amendment to this Constitution shall be made or have any effect until it shall have been proposed in the Grand Chapter at its Annual Communication and adopted by two-thirds vote of the Grand Chapter at the next succeeding Annual Communication.

The foregoing revision of the By-laws was adopted by the Prince Hall Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star and Rite of Adoption for the State of South Carolina and Jurisdiction at its Regular Communication held in Columbia, South Carolina, on July 18, 2012

### Committee on Revision

Juanita D. Edwards

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Herman L. Rivers  
Joyce M. Durant  
Fred Herriott  
Valerie V. Williams  
Linda O. Neal  
Mary Ennis  
Sheila Bush Danforth  
Lewis H. Nelson  
Jeanette P. Singleton  
Arthur L. Sellers  
Robert Johnson  
Terry B. Law  
Ruth E. Jordan

Attest: Jenette V. Wright, Grand Secretary

### **Grand Supervising Deputy**

The Grand Chapter shall be organized into Districts. Each District shall have a Supervising Deputy. Each Deputy shall have Associate Deputies to assist in the work of the District.

The Districts may recommend a person to be their Supervising Deputy to the Grand Worthy Matron who has the authority to appoint All Supervising Deputies, ~~assisted by the Grand Worthy Patron~~. The Grand Worthy Matron has the power to accept or reject such recommendation; if rejected, shall appoint someone whom she thinks is better prepared for the job.

Each Supervising Deputy shall submit annually a written report to the Grand Chapter of their work during the year.

The Associate Deputies shall work under the supervision of the Supervising Deputy and the Grand Worthy Matron.

The Associate Deputies shall make a written report to their Supervising Deputy regularly and to the District at its Annual Meeting.

## **REGULATIONS**

### **Article I**

#### **Section I**

### **Order of the Eastern Star of South Carolina**

**Whereas**, Prince Hall Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star and Rite of Adoption for the State of South Carolina and Jurisdiction, formally known as the Order of the Eastern Star of South Carolina, Prince Hall Affiliate, formerly known as the Order of the Eastern Star, of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of South Carolina, and formerly known as the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons of South Carolina, since 1909.

**Whereas**, it is the intent of this Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge to approve, adopt, and ratify all previous actions taken by it in granting and authorizing the establishment of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star of South Carolina, heretofore known as the Order of the Eastern Star.

**Now, therefore**, be it ordained that the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of South Carolina, in its Annual Session at Columbia, South Carolina, by the inherent powers upon it conferred, do ordain that pursuant to the characteristic of chivalry as exemplified by all Masons, said degrees must be conferred upon the wives, mothers, widows, daughters, and/or sisters of all Master Masons degrees by the nearest and dearest ties bestowed upon the female that assistance and protection due from all Master Masons to them; and, for that purpose, we hereby acknowledge the establishment and existence of a Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, now known as Prince Hall Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star and Rite of Adoption for the State of South Carolina and Jurisdiction, as an auxiliary body of the wives, mothers, widows, daughters and sisters of the Master Mason, third degree, under the Jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of South Carolina.

The Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star to take rank, duties, and obligation from their date of inception, 1909; and the same is hereby adopted and confirmed, including but not limited to

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their current officers, their successors and associates, together with constitutional numbers of Eastern Stars from time to time and at all times hereinafter, to open and hold a Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star and to hold Annual Sessions at a time and place to be designated by its Grand Body; and to elect and install its officers at such Annual Sessions.

And we do hereby give, grant and/or confirm said Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star full power to elect and install its officers annually; to organize, establish and charter Subordinate Chapters of the Eastern Star; to make laws for the governing of itself and Subordinate Chapters, which said laws shall not be conflicted with the General Laws of this Grand Lodge or of our Masonic Landmarks.

And, further, we do hereby invest said Prince Hall Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star and Rite of Adoption for the State of South Carolina and Jurisdiction with full powers and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing appertaining to a Grand Body, not inconsistent with the laws of this Grand Lodge, which ought to be done for the furthering of the highest and best interest of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star and the Subordinate Chapters thereof; recognizing and acknowledging the Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of South Carolina as the Supreme Head and Authority of the Order with full power to supervise the affairs of the said Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star; otherwise, this Charter and all powers granted to cease and be no further in effect.

Recognizing the Prince Hall Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star and Rite of Adoption for the State of South Carolina and Jurisdiction as an independent entity, therefore, the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Mason for the Jurisdiction of South Carolina is in no wise responsible for any illegal act or financial obligation of said Grand Chapter.

Past Grand Master Nathaniel Durant, Jr., 33°  
Grand Worthy Matron Juanita D. Edwards  
Grand Worthy Patron Herman Rivers  
Grand Associate Matron Joyce M. Durant  
Grand Associate Patron Fred Herriott

Grand Treasurer Valerie Williams  
Grand Conductress Linda Owens Neal  
Grand Associate Conductress Mary Ennis  
Immediate Past Grand Matron Shelia B. Danforth  
Immediate Past Grand Patron Lewis H. Nelson  
Past Grand Patron Terry B. Law  
Past Grand Matron Jeanette Singleton  
Past Grand Patron Robert Johnson  
Past Grand Patron Arthur L. Sellers  
Past Grand Treasurer Ruth B. Jordan

*Attested by: Jenette V. Wright, Grand Secretary*

**The foregoing Revision of the Constitution was adopted by the Prince Hall Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star and Rite of Adoption for the State of South Carolina and Jurisdiction at its regular Annual Communication held in Columbia, South Carolina, on July 18, 2012**

*Committee on Revision*

**Juanita D. Edwards, Grand Worthy Matron**  
**Herman L. Rivers, Grand Worthy Patron**  
**Joyce M. Durant, Grand Associate Matron**  
**Fred Herriott, Grand Associate Patron**  
**Valerie V. Williams, Grand Treasurer**  
**Linda O. Neal, Grand Conductress**  
**Mary Ennis, Grand Associate Conductress**  
**Sheila Bush Danforth, Immediate Past Grand matron**  
**Lewis H. Nelson, Immediate Past Grand Patron**  
**Jeanette P. Singleton, Past Grand Matron**  
**Arthur L. Sellers, Past Grand Patron**  
**Robert Johnson, Past Grand Patron**  
**Terry B. Law, Past Grand Patron**  
**Ruth E. Jordan, Past Grand Treasurer**

*Attest:* Jenette V. Wright, Grand Secretary