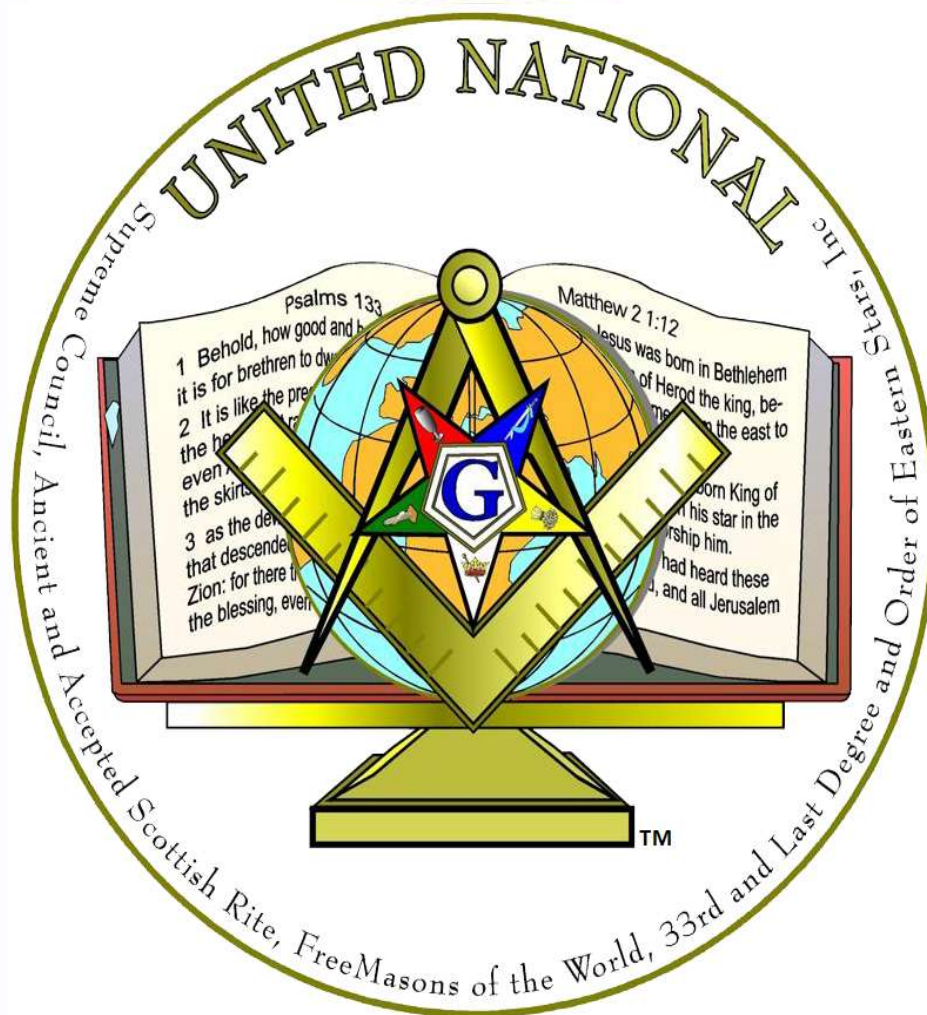


# UNITED NATIONAL SUPREME COUNCIL ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE FREEMASONS OF THE WORLD, THIRTY-THIRD AND LAST DEGREE AND ORDER OF EASTERN STAR, INC.



## CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

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**United National Supreme Council, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite,  
Freemasons of the World, Thirty-Third & Last Degree & Order of Eastern Star,  
Inc.**

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**CONSTITUTION  
OF  
UNITED NATIONAL SUPREME COUNCIL**

**ARTICLE 1 - NAME**

By virtue of the certificate of incorporation of the State of North Carolina, April 8, 1980 and the pertinent amendments thereto, the name of this organization shall be **United National Supreme Council, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Freemasons of the World, Thirty-Third & Last Degree and Order of Eastern Star, Inc.** and shall be known as United National Supreme Council.

**ARTICLE II - EMBLEM**

The emblem of this organization shall be: The name of the organization in a circle with a Holy Bible opened to Psalms 133 on the left page and Matthew 2:1-2 on the right page a compass and square with the Eastern Star overlain on top of the world. Under no circumstances will the names United National Supreme Council, United National Masons, or its logo be used without the expressed written permission of the Supreme Council or its designee. Any such use of the name and/or logo constitutes a violation of the Copyright Act.

**ARTICLE III - OBJECTIVE**

The objective of United National Supreme Council shall be to fraternally unite all healthy persons of any profession, business or occupation, in promoting a higher degree of fellowship in keeping with Masonic customs.

**ARTICLE IV – PURPOSE**

The purpose of United National Supreme Council is to function as a charitable, non-profit organization that operates for the mutual benefit of its members. To encourage, promote, recruit and supervise our membership throughout the world to cultivate friendly relationships while promoting mutual understandings and fostering the solidarity of masons and members of the Order of Eastern Star.

**ARTICLE V - POWERS AND AUTHORITY**

**DEPARTMENTS OF GOVERNMENT** - The power of governments shall be divided into three independent departments: Executive, Legislative, and Judicial.

**SECTION 1** - The absolute authority of this organization shall be vested in a Supreme Council, hereafter empowered to establish, or cause to be established, the Ashiqué Ladies Council, the General Congress, Grand Lodges, Grand Chapters, Subordinate Lodges and Chapters, Youth Departments, Higher Degree Departments, Investment Departments, and other departments, branches or associations that may best serve the interest of our members, provided they do not violate the laws of the states nor the countries in which they are registered, nor the Ancient Landmarks.

**SECTION 2** – The Executive powers of government shall be vested in the officers of the Supreme Council. They shall possess the power and authority to form a Constitution and enact such statutes from time to time for its administration. To amend, repeal, set aside, and to change this Constitution or statutes as

necessary for the government of United National Supreme Council provided that the Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry and the Order of Eastern Star are kept inviolate.

**SECTION 3** - The Legislative powers of government shall be vested in the General Congress.

**SECTION 4** - The Judicial powers of government shall be vested in the Supreme Council and the Ashiqué Ladies Council.

**SECTION 5** - No department or branch of membership other than the Supreme Council, the Ashiqué Ladies Council or the General Congress shall exercise any legislative, executive, or judicial power of government except concerning its own internal affairs; nor have jurisdiction over any other members or groups other than itself.

**SECTION 6** - All Grand Lodges, Grand Chapters, Subordinate lodges or chapters, and Higher Degree Department consistories, courts, and temples emanating from the United National Supreme Council shall have the authority to draft their own constitution and by-laws.

- A. All members have the right to submit amendments to the by-laws.
- B. Amendments or revisions to the by-laws must be presented to the entire body twice before being brought to a vote.
- C. All laws, rules and regulations adopted by a Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, Subordinate lodges or chapters, consistories, courts, temples or any subordinate entity must be submitted to the Supreme Council for final approval.

**SECTION 7** - The powers of government of the Higher Degree Departments are vested in the Local Higher Degree Departments and any other departments that may be organized by the Higher Degree Departments.

**SECTION 8** - Warranted Charters shall be issued by United National Supreme Council. The Supreme Council shall provide for the institution of Grand Lodges, Grand Chapters, Subordinate Lodges and Chapters, the Higher Degree Departments, the issuance of charters thereto, and the manner in which the same may be suspended and forfeited, and the laws by which the same shall be governed.

- A. Before a Warranted Charter may be issued, a petition and application fee must be remitted to the National Office:
  1. The Lodge or Chapter must have seven (7) members or more paying on the Monthly report.
  2. The petition must delegate the first two (2) officers, the Secretary and state the time and place of meeting
  3. The officers must be able to perform the ritual; the opening, the closing, and initiate its members, and must be able to conduct the Memorial Services.
  4. Lodge or Chapter must have a complete set of by-laws, which have been approved by the Supreme Council.
  5. Lodge or Chapter must have an account at a local bank, for disbursement two (2) or three (3) signatures are required.
- B. Warranted Lodges or Chapters with less than seven (7) dues paying members shall be placed on probation for ninety (90) days.

1. At the end of the ninety (90) days if the Lodge or Chapter does not have the seven (7) required members the Worshipful Master or Worthy Matron will send the Charter to the National Office and the remaining members will be added to the respective Member-at-Large Lodge or Chapter.
  2. Once the membership increases to seven or more, the original charter may be reinstated.
- C. A Grand Charter will be issued with the organization of three or more Warranted Subordinate Lodges or Chapters. A Grand Chapter must be connected to a Grand Lodge chartered under United National Supreme Council to receive a Grand Charter.
- D. Higher Degree Charters may be issued when in accordance with the number of officers required by the ritual.

**SECTION 9** – United National Supreme Council has the power to arrest a charter for:

- A. Not meeting financial obligations.
- B. Membership dropping below seven members.
- C. Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter falling below three subordinate lodges or chapters. If the Grand Lodge Charter is arrested, the Grand Chapter charter will also be arrested.
- D. Violation of the Constitution of United National Supreme Council.
- E. State Higher Degree Departments failing to pay their annual registration fee to their respective National Department by Roll Call at the National Convention.

**SECTION 10** –When a Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, Subordinate Lodge, Subordinate Chapter, Higher Degree Consistory or Higher Degree Court is suspended, the charter, real property, books, papers, jewels, emblems, regalia, and any effects necessary to conduct the ceremony of the ritual, shall become the property of United National Supreme Council.

**SECTION 11-** United National Supreme Council shall prescribe the paraphernalia, dress code and regalia, ritual, emblems, and jewels used by the Order.

- A. Paraphernalia:
  1. The Lodge must have a warranted charter and all paraphernalia as described by the ritual to operate.
  2. The Chapter must have a warranted charter and all paraphernalia as described by the ritual to operate.
- B. Dress Code and Regalia:
  1. Each Mason must own a dark suit, white shirt, black or blue bowtie or necktie. For summer dress: no jacket is required. They must also own the following regalia: apron & gloves.
  2. Each member of the Eastern Star must own a white dress or suit (with at least three-quarter length sleeves and must fall below the knees), white shoes, white hose, and small earrings (no dangles). They must also own the following regalia: sash, gloves, and white fez with tassel. The color of the tassel is prescribed by the Grand Chapter.

3. Lodge of Perfection & Royal Arch members shall wear a dark suit, white shirt, red bowtie or necktie.
  4. Knights of the Rose Croix members shall wear a dark suit, white shirt, red bowtie or necktie.
  5. Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret members shall wear a dark suit, white shirt, maroon bowtie or necktie.
  6. Nobles of the Mystic Shrine members shall wear a maroon jacket, black pants, maroon bowtie or necktie.
  7. Amaranth Court members shall wear a red dress or suit (with at least three-quarter length sleeves and must fall below the knees), red or white shoes, red or white hose. They must own the following regalia: red sash and white gloves.
  8. Heroines of Jericho members shall wear a red dress or gown with at least three-quarter length sleeves and must fall below the knees), gold shoes, red or white hose, and gold jewelry. They must own the following regalia: white gloves, white handkerchief, Heroines of Jericho crown (3-points), and Heroines of Jericho apron (optional)
  9. Daughters of Isis members shall wear long white gowns, white shoes and gold jewelry.
  10. Only Ashiqué Ladies Council members, National and Past Department Heads (Amaranth, Heroines of Jericho, and Daughters of Isis), Grand Matrons and Past Grand Matrons are permitted to wear Gold Chain Link collars.
- C. United National Supreme Council will utilize the following rituals: however per approval of the Supreme Council, each Grand Lodge & Grand Chapter shall have authority to prescribe the ritual for the state.

<b>Department</b>	<b>Ritual</b>
Master Masons	Duncan Ritual – Part I
Lodge of Perfection & Royal Arch	Scottish Rite Masonry Vol. I
Knight of the Rose Croix(18 <sup>th</sup> )	Scottish Rite Ritual, Vol. I and the Princes of Rose Croix of Herdomm of England
Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret (32 <sup>nd</sup> )	Scottish Rite Ritual, Vol II
Nobles of the Mystic Shrine	The Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine
Order of Eastern Star	Macoy Adoptive Rite Ritual
Amaranth	Amaranth Ritual
Heroines of Jericho	Book of the Scarlet Line
Daughters of Isis	Daughters of Isis (North & South America)

**SECTION 12** - Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters shall have power to enact and enforce all laws and regulations for its government. The power of government of the craft is vested in Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, Subordinate Lodges and Chapters, any other departments that are organized by the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter.

**SECTION 13** - The Grand Council shall legislate laws and create such auxiliaries as in their judgments are deemed necessary for the welfare of the State subject to the approval of the General Congress.

**SECTION 14** –The Grand Master or the Grand Matron shall be empowered to remove any elected or appointed officer for inefficiency, incapacity or conduct in violation of Masonic or Order of the Eastern Star principles.

**SECTION 15** – No lodge, chapter, or higher degree department shall be recognized as part of United National Supreme Council unless it has received a charter from the Supreme Council and they work in obedience to the landmarks, constitution, laws, rules and regulations of United National Supreme Council.

**SECTION 16-** Lodges or Chapters chartered under United National shall have the power to:

- A. Designate and change its time and place of meeting.
- B. Select a name for it.
- C. Initiate unlimited new members.
- D. Authority to write their own by-laws that do not conflict with the Constitution and by-laws of United National Supreme Council.
- E. Place on trial, for cause, its own members.
- F. Reject any applications for membership.
- G. Appeal to the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter, the General Congress, Ashiqué Ladies Council or Supreme Council.
- H. Have representation in all meetings of the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter.
- I. Election and Installation of its officers shall be under the jurisdiction of the Grand Department or a delegated representative.

## **ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP**

**SECTION 1 – Membership** in United National Supreme Council shall be granted to persons at least eighteen years of age.

- A. All applicants shall file application in writing. This application shall be passed on to the Lodge or Chapter in a manner prescribed in this Constitution for receiving member.
- B. Anyone found guilty of falsifying the membership application will forfeit all rights granted by this Constitution and will be immediately dismissed from United National Supreme Council.
- C. Any previous member may submit an application for healing (reinstatement).

### **SECTION 2 – Types of Membership**

**A. Regular Members** will pay dues to United National Supreme Council, will pay registration to all National conventions and events, and will be entitled to one vote.

**B. Exempt Members**

- 1. Exempt Officers will not pay dues to United National Supreme Council or registration fees; they must have the title of: The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, The Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander, Most Ancient Grand Worthy Matron, and Unique First Lieutenant. They will be entitled to one vote.
- 2. Exempt Members will not pay dues to United National Supreme Council and one-half (½) registration fee to all National conventions and events, and will be entitled to one vote.

- C. **Chartered Members** were on the roll at the conception of the organization and have accumulated twenty (20) years of service. They will not pay dues to United National Supreme Council and will receive a Life Membership Certificate, and are entitled to one vote, if they are a delegate to a convention. *(This does not affect assessments or registration fees).*
- D. **Honorary Members** will pay dues to United National Supreme Council in the amount specified in the by-laws *(This does not affect assessments or higher degree dues).* They will be entitled to one vote, if they are a delegate to any convention. You must meet the following criteria:
  - 1. Must be 65 years old or older **AND**
  - 2. Must be a member for five (5) years **AND**
  - 3. Must have paid dues consecutively for five (5) years
- E. **Field of Moral** is the youth group dedicated to promoting well-rounded youths in the areas of education, sports, and musical abilities.
  - 1. The youth must have a "C" grade point average to become and maintain members.
  - 2. Membership may be granted to girls ages (7-18) and boys ages (7-21).
  - 3. Each chapter must have three supervisors of which two are to be Eastern Stars and one a Master Mason who are to be members of the Chapter under which the Field shall work.

## **ARTICLE VII - ELIGIBILITY**

**SECTION 1-** Any member of United National Supreme Council in good standing in all departments (local, state, and national) is eligible for any office created by this Constitution; if they meet all eligibility criteria. Good Standing is defined as all dues to United National Supreme Council, assessments to subordinate lodge or chapter, and assessments to all departments are current.

**SECTION 2 –** A member of the Great Nine or Ashiqué Nine Council is not eligible to hold any elected or appointed office in any subordinate Lodge, Chapter or Higher Degree Department, with the exception of the positions of Grand Master & Grand Matron or when no one else is qualified for the position.

**SECTION 3 -** Any member of a warranted chartered Lodge or Chapter may be eligible to hold office in the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter.

**SECTION 4-** Any member, of United National Supreme Council, in good standing, is eligible for the following Positions, if they have attended one of the last two Quadrennial Sessions and the additional listed criterion is met:

- A. Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master who has served as a Worshipful Master, attended as a registered member of one of the last two Quadrennial Sessions and has attended at least one Grand Conclave meeting.
- B. Grand Matron or Associate Grand Matron who has served as a Worthy Matron, attended as a registered member of one of the last two Quadrennial Sessions and has attended at least one Grand Conclave meeting
- C. National Thrice Puissant Grand Master who has served as Worshipful Master and State Thrice Puissant Grand Master or State First Lieutenant Grand Master and has attended as a registered member of one of the last two Quadrennial Sessions.
- D. National High Priest who has served as Worshipful Master and State High Priest or State Senior Grand Warden and has attended as a registered member of one of the last two Quadrennial Sessions.

- E. National Most Wise and Perfect Master who has served as Worshipful Master and State Most Wise and Perfect Master or State Most Excellent and Perfect Senior Warden and has attended as a registered member of one of the last two Quadrennial Sessions.
- F. National Illustrious Commander in Chief who has served as Worshipful Master and State Illustrious Commander in Chief or State Illustrious Deputy Commander in Chief and has attended as a registered member of one of the last two Quadrennial Sessions.
- G. National Imperial Potentate who has served as Worshipful Master and State Imperial Potentate or State Chief Rabban and has attended as a registered member of one of the last two Quadrennial Sessions.
- H. National Royal Matron who has served as Worthy Matron and State Royal Matron or State Royal Associate Matron and has attended as a registered member of one of the last two Quadrennial Sessions.
- I. National Most Ancient Matron who has served as Worthy Matron and State Most Ancient Matron or State Worthy Vice Ancient and has attended as a registered member of one of the last two Quadrennial Sessions.
- J. National Imperial Commandress who has served as Worthy Matron and State Illustrious Commandress or State 1st Lieutenant Commandress and has attended as a registered member of one of the last two Quadrennial Sessions.
- K. State Thrice Puissant Grand Master, State High Priest, State Illustrious Commander in Chief, and State Imperial Potentate who has served as Worshipful Master and has attended as a registered member of one of the last two Quadrennial Session.
- L. State Royal Matron, State Most Ancient Worthy Matron, State Imperial Commandress who has served as Worthy Matron and has attended as a registered member of one of the last two Quadrennial Session.
- M. The exception being when no one else is qualified for the position.

## **ARTICLE VIII -NATIONAL & GRAND DEPARTMENTS & COMMITTEES**

**SECTION 1 – The SUPREME COUNCIL** officers shall be known as The Great Nine.

There titles are:

The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander

The Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander

The Illustrious Grand Orator and Minister of State

The Illustrious Grand Chancellor, Grand Secretary General of the H.E. and Keeper of the Seals and Archives

The Illustrious Grand Treasurer General of the H.E.

The Illustrious Grand Master General of Ceremonies

The Illustrious Grand Marshal General

The Illustrious Grand Standard Bearer

The Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guards

A. Membership to the Great Nine is perpetual; unless removed for non-payment of dues, lack of participation and not being proficient in their duties. The only exception being in the case of Ill. Windell Daniels, 33° and Ill. James Smith, 33° whose term as The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander is perpetual.

B. Vacancies in the Great Nine are selected from within at the Quadrennial Session.

C. The Great Nine shall meet at the Council of Deliberation and at the General Congress meeting. They may also have Special Meetings called by The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, as he deems necessary.

D. Six (6) voting members or two-thirds (2/3) of the Great Nine, of which one is: The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander or The Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander shall constitute a quorum.

**SECTION 2 - ASHIQUÉ LADIES COUNCIL:** The Ashiqué Nine are the officers of the Ashiqué Ladies Council. Their titles are:

Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron	Unique Advisor
Unique First Lieutenant	Unique Second Lieutenant
Unique Chancellor Secretary	Unique Treasurer
Unique Orator/Mistress of Ceremonies	Unique Chaplain
Unique Captain of the Guards	Unique Instructor of Degrees

A. Membership to the Ashiqué Nine is perpetual; unless removed for non-payment of dues, lack of participation and not being proficient in their duties.

B. The only exception to the above being in the case of the Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron and Unique First Lieutenant whom are appointed by the Great Nine at the Quadrennial Session.

C. The Ashiqué Nine shall meet at the Council of Deliberation and at the General Congress meeting. They may also have Special Meetings called by The Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron, as she deems necessary.

D. Six (6) voting members or two-thirds (2/3) of the Ashiqué Nine, of which one is: The Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron or the Unique First Lieutenant shall constitute a quorum.

**SECTION 3 – THE GENERAL CONGRESS** shall consist of Supreme Council members, Ashiqué Ladies Council members, Grand Masters, Grand Matrons, Grand Secretary, Immediate Past Grand Masters, Immediate Past Grand Matrons, National Higher Degree Department Heads, Immediate Past National Higher Degree Department Heads, and National Directors.

A. General Congress shall meet annually after the Supreme Council and Ashiqué Ladies Council adjourns and from time to time as The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander may deem necessary; to hear reports from the Grand Lodges, Grand Chapters, and Higher Degree Departments and to determine the state of the Order; to make recommendations for needed legislation; and to execute all actions within their authority in a manner designed to enhance the continued growth of United National Supreme Council. Any legislation enacted by the General Congress must be ratified by the Officers of the Supreme Council.

B. The General Congress shall meet the last full week of June each year. Every four years shall be called the Quadrennial Session. The location of the General Congress and Quadrennial Session shall be approved by the General Congress.

C. The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander shall be empowered to convene the General Congress or Quadrennial Session at an irregular time only if an emergency exists.

D. A quorum is two-thirds (2/3) of the General Congress body of which one must be The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander or The Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander.

E. The General Congress shall have the power to provide revenue for itself, to control its property, to appropriate its funds, and to act as Trustees of all funds raised or contributed

F. Registration Fees for the General Congress:

1. Each Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter must register the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter; Grand Master or Grand Matron; and the Grand Secretary by May 31<sup>st</sup>.
2. Each subordinate lodge must register the Lodge, Worshipful Master, Secretary, King Contest (Mr. United National) and Father Contest by May 31<sup>st</sup>.
3. Each subordinate chapter must register the Chapter, Worthy Matron, Secretary, the Queen Contest (Ms. United National) and Mother Contest by May 31<sup>st</sup>.
4. It is mandatory that all members of the General Congress pay Annual Dues and Assessments. They shall pay 50% by January 31<sup>st</sup> and the remaining 50% by May 31<sup>st</sup>.
5. All members must pay registration fees to the General Congress or they will not be eligible to hold any office created by this Constitution.
6. If Registration Fees are not paid by May 31<sup>st</sup> the following action will occur:
  - a. Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter, Subordinate Lodge or Subordinate Chapter, National or Local Higher Degree Departments will not be able to hold their election of officers.
  - b. General Congress members will be removed from the General Congress.

**SECTION 4 – NATIONAL STANDING COMMITTEES** are permanent committees with a National Director appointed by The Most Puissant Sovereign Commander. They shall serve at the will and pleasure of the appointee and their term shall commence immediately upon installation. The National Director must be approved at the Quadrennial Session of The General Congress and shall be a member of the General Congress while serving their term.

- A. National Real Property Acquisition Committee
- B. National Scholarship Committee
- C. National Hospitality Committee
- D. National Health Awareness Committee
- E. National Beautification Committee

**SECTION 5 - NATIONAL GRAND LODGE AND NATIONAL GRAND CHAPTER** shall be the lodge and chapter for members that reside in a state without a Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter and members that are not connected to a Subordinate Lodge or Chapter. The officers shall be appointed by The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander and The Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron and shall be Supreme Council and Ashiqué Ladies Council sub-council members. The appointments are four (4) years and must be approved at the Quadrennial Session of the General Congress.

- A. The National Grand Lodge shall be chartered as the Ill. Windell Daniels National Grand Lodge #1000 and the National Grand Chapter shall be chartered as the Unique Lady Gwendolyn Evans National Grand Chapter #1001.

1. Members that reside in a state without a Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter:
    - a. Dues will be paid through the Subordinate Lodge or Chapter
    - b. Assessments will be set by the Subordinate Lodge or Chapter
  2. Members that do not belong to a Subordinate Lodge or Chapter pay dues directly to United National Supreme Council.
- B. The National Grand Lodge and National Grand Chapter shall meet at least once during a fiscal year at the General Congress convention.
- C. The National Grand Chapter must have a National Grand Patron present at all times.
- D. The National Grand Lodge and National Grand Chapter Officers are:

<b>National Grand Lodge Officers:</b>		
National Grand Master	National Grand Senior Deacon	National Grand Sword Bearer
National Deputy Grand Master	National Grand Junior Deacon	National Grand Lecturer
National Grand Senior Warden	National Grand Senior Steward	National Grand Marshal
National Grand Junior Warden	National Grand Junior Steward	
National Grand Secretary	National Grand Chaplain	
National Grand Treasurer	National Grand Tyler	

<b>National Grand Chapter Officers:</b>		
National Grand Worthy Matron	National Grand Musician	National Grand Adah
National Grand Worthy Patron	National Grand Marshal	National Grand Ruth
National Grand Associate Matron	National Grand Chaplain	National Grand Esther
National Grand Associate Patron	National Grand Conductress	National Grand Martha
National Grand Secretary	National Grand Associate Conductress	National Grand Electa
National Grand Treasurer	National Grand Lecturer	National Grand Flag Bearers
National Grand Chairman of Trustees	National Grand Warder	
National Grand Trustees	National Grand Sentinel	

**SECTION 6 – GRAND LODGES AND GRAND CHAPTERS** are the governing bodies of the resident state and shall be constituted as follows: each Grand Lodge must consist of three (3) or more Warranted Subordinate Lodges; each Grand Chapter must consist of three (3) or more Warranted Subordinate Chapters. The term of each elected officer shall be two (2) years with the option to succeed themselves and shall commence immediately upon installation which shall be at the close of a Grand

Lodge or Grand Chapter meeting. The term of appointed officers shall be at the pleasure of the appointee.

- A. The Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter shall meet at least once during a fiscal year for their Grand Conclave to further the welfare of its jurisdiction and carry into effect the laws and programs of the Grand Body; to make recommendations to the General Congress and the Superintendence of the State.
- B. The Grand Chapter must have a Grand Patron present to conduct business.
- C. The Grand Master and Grand Matron must agree on the decision of the time and place of holding the meeting.
- D. The Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter Officers are:

<b>Grand Lodge Officers:</b>		
Grand Master	Grand Senior Deacon	Grand Sword Bearer
Deputy Grand Master	Grand Junior Deacon	Grand Lecturer
Grand Senior Warden	Grand Senior Steward	Grand Marshal
Grand Junior Warden	Grand Junior Steward	District Deputy
Grand Secretary	Grand Chaplain	
Grand Treasurer	Grand Tyler	

<b>Grand Chapter Officers:</b>		
Grand Worthy Matron		Grand Adah
Grand Worthy Patron	Grand Marshal	Grand Ruth
Grand Associate Matron	Grand Chaplain	Grand Esther
Grand Associate Patron	Grand Conductress	Grand Martha
Grand Secretary	Grand Associate Conductress	Grand Electa
Grand Treasurer	Grand Lecturer	Grand Flag Bearers
Grand Chairman of Trustees	Grand Warder	District Matron
Grand Trustees (2)	Grand Sentinel	

- E. Good Standing for a Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter is defined as having three (3) or more subordinate lodges or chapters with seven (7) or more members paying dues consecutively for ninety (90) days.

**SECTION 7 – GRAND COUNCIL** - All officers of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, elected or appointed, Worshipful Masters, Worthy Matrons and their secretaries compose the Grand Council.

- A. The Grand Council may transact business by mail. In such case, the Grand Master or Grand Matron shall send to each member of the council a memorandum of the business to be considered. Only replies received within fifteen days after date of mailing the memorandums shall be considered. A majority of the votes cast will decide the issue.
- B. The Grand Council shall elect five (5) of its members as trustees for property of the State. The trustees will coordinate their efforts with the Trustees of the Supreme Council.

- C. At least sixty days prior to the regular meeting of the State Grand Council a notice of the meeting containing an agenda of proposed business to be considered shall be sent to each member of the Council. Business other than that contained on this agenda may be transacted.

**SECTION 8– SUBORDINATE LODGES AND CHAPTERS** - The term of each elected officer shall be one (1) year with the option to succeed themselves and commences immediately upon installation which shall be at the close of the Annual Meeting held in December. The term of appointed officers shall be at the pleasure of the Appointee.

- A. Each subordinate lodge and chapter must meet at least once per month.
- B. The chapter must have a Worthy Patron present at all times.
- C. Each chapter should dedicate one meeting per fiscal year to the Queen of the South.
- D. The Lodge and Chapter Officers are:

<b>Lodge Officers:</b>		
Worshipful Master	Chaplain	Marshal
Senior Warden	Senior Deacon	Tyler
Junior Warden	Junior Deacon	Sword Bearer
Treasurer	Senior Steward	
Secretary	Junior Steward	

<b>Chapter Officers:</b>		
Worthy Matron	Musician	Adah
Worthy Patron	Marshal	Ruth
Associate Matron	Chaplain	Esther
Associate Patron	Conductress	Martha
Secretary	Associate Conductress	Electa
Treasurer	Warder	Flag Bearers
Chairman of Trustees	Sentinel	
Trustees (2)		

- E. Good Standing for a subordinate lodge or chapter is defined as having seven (7) or more members paying dues consecutively for ninety (90) days and paying the General Congress Registration Fee by May 31<sup>st</sup>.

**SECTION 9 - HIGHER DEGREE DEPARMENTS** (Scottish Rite) – The Higher Degree Department of United National Supreme Council shall consist of chapters, courts, consistories, and temples. The departments and titles have the same name with the word “State” preceding the name on the State Level or “National” preceding the name on the National Level.

<b>Departments - Male</b>	<b>Departments - Female</b>
Sir Windell Lodge of Perfection & Sir Daniels Royal Arch Chapter	Christina Royal Court ( <i>Amaranth</i> )
LaNovelle Jerusalem ( <i>Knights of the Rose Croix</i> )	
Wa’Set Consistory ( <i>Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret</i> )	Ladies of Wisdom Court ( <i>Heroines of Jericho</i> )
Hajji Temple ( <i>Nobles of the Mystic Shrine</i> )	Elmraa Azema Court ( <i>Daughters of Isis</i> )

- A. The term of each elected National officer shall be two (2) years with the option to succeed themselves and shall commence immediately upon installation which shall be at the close of the Annual Meeting. The term of appointed officers shall be at the pleasure of the appointee.
- B. Each National Higher Degree Department shall meet once each year to further the welfare of its jurisdiction and carry into effect the laws and programs of the department and to make recommendations to the General Congress. The Amaranth Court must have a Royal Patron present to conduct business. The Heroines of Jericho Court must have a Most Worthy Joshua present to conduct business.
- C. The term of each elected State officer shall be two (2) years with the option to succeed themselves and shall commence immediately upon installation which shall be at the close of the Annual Meeting held in December. The term of appointed officers shall be at the pleasure of the appointee.
- D. Each State Higher Degree Department shall meet a minimum of three (3) times per year, once for the purpose of elections, to further the welfare of its jurisdiction and carry into effect the laws and programs of the department. The Amaranth Court must have a Royal Patron present to conduct business. The Heroines of Jericho Court must have a Most Worthy Joshua present to conduct business.
- E. The Higher Degree Departments of United National Supreme Council are:

<b>SECTION 10 –</b>	<b>Lodge of Perfection</b>
<b>Elected Officers:</b>	<b>Appointed Officers:</b>
Thrice Puissant Grand Master	Grand Orator
Deputy Grand Master	Grand Master of Ceremonies
Senior Grand Warden	Grand Captain of the Guard
Junior Grand Warden	Grand Hospitable
Grand Keeper of the Seals	Grand Tyler
Grand Treasurer	Grand Organist
Grand Secretary	
<b>SECTION 11</b>	<b>Royal Arch</b>
<b>Elected Officers:</b>	<b>In Addition To:</b>
Excellent High Priest or Master (Joshua)	Tyler (Sentinel)
King or Sr. Grand Warden (Zerubbabel)	Treasurer
Scribe or Jr. Grand Warden (Haggai)	Secretary
Captain of the Host (Marshal or Master of Ceremonies) or Sr. Deacon	
Principal Sojourner (Jr. Deacon)	
Royal Arch Captain (Master Overseer)	
Grand Master of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Veil (Sr. Overseer)	
Grand Master of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Veil (Jr. Overseer)	
Grand Master of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Veil	

<b>SECTION 12</b>	<b>Knight of Rose Croix Officers</b>
The Most Wise & Perfect Master	Master of Ceremonies
Most Excellent & Perfect Sr. Warden	Most Excellent & Perfect Secretary
Most Excellent & Perfect Jr. Warden	Most Excellent & Perfect Treasurer
Captain of the Guards	Outer Guard
<b>SECTION 13</b>	<b>Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret Officers</b>
Illustrious Commander-in-Chief	Grand Keeper of Seals & Archives
Illustrious Deputy Commander-in-Chief	Grand Hospitality of Surgeon
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander	Grand Architect & Engineer
2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander	Grand Master of Ceremonies
Grand Minister of State	Grand Standard Bearer
Grand Chancellor	Grand Captain of the Guards
Grand Treasurer	Grand Tyler
Grand Secretary	Assistant Grand Tyler
<b>SECTION 14</b>	<b>Nobles of the Mystic Shrine Officers</b>
Imperial Potentate	Imperial Recorder
Chief Rabban	1 <sup>st</sup> Ceremonial Master
Assistant Rabban	Marshall
High Priest	Captain of the Guards
Oriental Guide	Outer Guard Keeper
Imperial Treasurer	
<b>SECTION 15</b>	<b>Amaranth Officers</b>
Royal Matron	Herald
Royal Patron	Marshal in the East
Associate Matron	Marshal in the West
Associate Patron (optional)	Truth
Conductress	Faith
Associate Conductress	Wisdom
Treasurer	Charity
Secretary	Warder
Chaplain (optional)	Sentinel
<b>SECTION 16</b>	<b>Heroines of Jericho Officers</b>
Most Ancient Matron	3 <sup>rd</sup> Court Directors
Most Worthy Joshua	Sr. Attendant
Worthy Vice Ancient	Jr. Attendant
Worthy Vice Joshua	1st Ark Bearers
Worthy Chaplain	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ark Bearers
Court Treasurer	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ark Bearers
Court Secretary	4 <sup>th</sup> Ark Bearers
1 <sup>st</sup> Court Directors	Organist
2 <sup>nd</sup> Court Directors	Inner Gate Keeper
	Outer Gate Keeper

<b>SECTION 17</b>	<b>Daughters of Isis Officers:</b>
Imperial Commandress	Imperial Treasurer
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Commandress	Imperial Recorder
2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commandress	Outside Spy
High Priestess	Inside Spy
1 <sup>st</sup> Ceremonial Daughter	Oriental Guide
2 <sup>nd</sup> Ceremonial Daughter	

**SECTION 18 – The NATIONAL HIGHER DEGREE DEPARTMENT HEAD TRAVEL POLICY**

- A. United National shall pay for the Registration and Lodging for the National Department Head to attend his or her convention.
- B. General Congress Convention: The National Department must pay for the package and lodging for the National Department Head. No transportation cost will be reimbursed.
- C. National Higher Degree Conventions, if funds are available, the National Department must pay for the package of the National Department Head. No lodging or transportation cost will be reimbursed.
- D. United National’s Anniversary, if funds are available, the National Department must pay for the anniversary package for the Department Head. No lodging or transportation cost will be reimbursed.

**SECTION 19 – THE OATH** is taken by the Officers at their installation and shall embrace the following: "I solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office to which I am elected or appointed, and I will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution and By-laws of United National Supreme Council, *insert the department elected or appointed to*, so help me God."

**ARTICLE IX  
ELECTIONS AND VOTING**

**SECTION 1 –** A member must be in good standing to vote or hold office. Good Standing is defined as all dues to United National, assessments to State Higher Degree Department(s) which you hold a degree, and assessments to the subordinate lodge or chapter you are a member are current prior to the roll call or elections.

**SECTION 2 -** All votes shall be cast in person. There shall be no write-in votes by proxy. No member, even though serving in more than one capacity, may cast more than one vote on any question.

**SECTION 3 - A** member serving in one of the following positions will not be eligible to hold any elected or appointed office in any subordinate Lodge, Chapter or Higher Degree Department. The exception being when no one else is qualified for the position.

Grand Lodge	Grand Master	Deputy Grand Master
Lodge of Perfection	National Thrice Puissant Grand Master	National Deputy Grand Master
Royal Arch	National High Priest	National Senior Grand Warden
Prince of the Rose Croix	National Most Wise & Perfect Master	National Most Excellent & Perfect Senior Warden
Sublime Prince of the Royal	National Illustrious	National Illustrious Deputy

Secret	Commander-in-Chief	Commander-in-Chief
Nobles of the Mystic Shrine	National Imperial Potentate	National Assistant Rabban
Grand Chapter	Grand Matron	Grand Associate Matron
Amaranth	National Royal Matron	National Associate Royal Matron
Heroines of Jericho	National Most Ancient Matron	National Vice Ancient
Daughters of Isis	National Imperial Commandress	National 1 <sup>st</sup> Lieutenant

**SECTION 4-** All officers shall be elected at the Annual Grand Conclave meeting. Any eligible member who shall receive the majority of all votes cast shall be declared elected. Nominations may be made from the floor.

**SECTION 5 –** The voting body of the Grand Conclave shall consist of:

- A.** All members of a Warranted Lodges and Chapters are eligible to vote and hold office in the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter.
- B.** Each lodge and chapter shall be represented by a minimum of seven (7) members at the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter Meeting.
- C.** Each auxiliary shall be entitled in one vote.

**SECTION 6 -** Elections in Subordinate Lodges and Chapters

- A.** Elections will be held annually the first meeting night in December of each year. The officers elected will be installed at this meeting or on or before the first of January of the ensuing year. Elected officers shall serve one year, from installation to installation. Appointed officers shall serve at the pleasure of the appointee.
- B.** A copy of the minutes of this meeting must be forwarded immediately to the Grand Secretary.
- C.** Masters Masons in good standing will be eligible for election to all positions except the Worshipful Master. A Master Mason must have served as Senior or Junior Warden to be eligible for election as Worshipful Master; if none qualifies then any brother in good standing shall be eligible to run for the position.
- D.** Members of the Eastern Star in good standing will be eligible for election to any office.
- E.** No member in arrears for dues or assessments shall vote at these elections.
- F.** In temporary or permanent absence of the Worshipful Master, the Senior Warden, or, in his absence, the Junior Warden succeeds to the chair. If the three top offices become vacant, the Grand Master will appoint a member to oversee the Lodge until the next election; or he may grant the Lodge permission to hold an election at an irregular time; or the Grand Master may serve as Worshipful Master of the Lodge. Any other office becoming vacant will be filled by appointment of the Worshipful Master.

- G. If the office of Worthy Matron of a Chapter becomes vacant then the Associate Matron will succeed the chair and she shall appoint an Acting Associate Matron. If the office of Worthy Matron and Associate Matron becomes vacant then the Worthy Patron shall appoint a successor. Where there is no Worthy Patron or the Worthy Patron refuses to act, the Grand Worthy Matron shall appoint a successor; or grant the Chapter permission to hold an election at an irregular time; or the Grand Worthy Matron may serve as Worthy Matron of the Chapter. Any other office becoming vacant will be filled by appointment of the Worthy Matron.
- H. A Lodge or Chapter cannot hold an election for a successor to any office until the Constitutional night of election (first meeting night in December), unless permission is granted by the Grand Master or Grand Worthy Matron, The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander or The Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron.
- I. All officers shall within sixty (60) days after their installation memorize those portions of the ritual assigned to their respective stations. Failure to do so shall cause forfeiture in office, which forfeiture shall be declared by a majority vote of the Lodge or Chapter at a regular session. The Worshipful Master or Worthy Matron shall appoint a qualified member who can exemplify the ritual.
- J. A Lodge or Chapter shall vacate the position of any elective or appointed officer who is absent from three (3) consecutive meetings without good cause. The Worshipful Master or Worthy Matron will appoint a qualified member to fill such position.
- K. The Lodge or Chapter shall have the power to impeach and remove from office, by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote, any officer, with the exception of the Worshipful Master or Worthy Matron, guilty of immoral conduct, abuses in office, or dishonorable practices of any kind. The Worshipful Master or Worthy Matron shall direct the Secretary to give each member on roll at least five (5) days notice of special meeting in writing, specifying the time and the circumstances. When proceedings are taken against the Secretary, the Worshipful Master or Worthy Matron shall give notice.
- L. Any officer holding an elected position (by appointment) but not elected by members of his Lodge or her Chapter shall be designated as pro tempore or acting (Example: acting Worthy Matron or Worshipful Master pro tempore)
- M. A Mason elected to the office of Worshipful Master or Eastern Star elected to the office of Worthy Matron at a constitutional election, and having been properly installed, and served until re-elected or a successor is elected and installed shall be designated as a "Master or Matron of Rite." Only a member so elected, installed, and served the full term shall be designated a "Past Master" or a "Past Matron of Rite" of United National.
- N. The procedure for members dropped from the roll during the year shall be:
1. The Secretary of the Lodge/Chapter sends all current and dropped members during the year a letter informing them of the date and time of the Annual Meeting. A copy of the letter and names of all persons to whom the correspondence is submitted to the National Office.
  2. Dropped members must pay all dues and assessments to be eligible to vote and hold office.

3. Dropped members who do not pay all dues and assessments at the Annual Meeting will be removed from the Subordinate Lodge or Chapter's roll by the National Office. They must submit a new application (healing) to reinstate membership.

#### **ARTICLE X - OFFICIAL FORMS**

All Official Forms must be submitted to the National Office and filled out in its entirety to be considered valid. The appropriate fee if applicable must also be remitted.

#### **ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS**

**SECTION 1** – This Constitution may be amended at the General Congress meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.

**SECTION 2** – Any proposed amendments must be sent, in writing, to the Chairperson of the Constitution and By-laws Committee and must be postmarked no later than sixty (60) days prior to the convening of the General Congress Meeting. The Chairperson shall acknowledge receipt of proposed changes immediately.

**SECTION 3** – Any changes voted on during the General Congress Meeting shall be ratified by the Officers of the Supreme Council and shall be effective at the end of the General Congress unless otherwise stipulated.

**SECTION 4** – The revised Constitution will be available on [www.unmasons.com](http://www.unmasons.com) at the beginning of each year.

#### **ARTICLE XII - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*, newly revised shall govern this organization in all cases to which they are applicable.

# BY-LAWS

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## **ARTICLE 1 - NAME**

By virtue of the certificate of incorporation of the State of North Carolina, April 8, 1980 and the pertinent amendments thereto, the name of this organization shall be **United National Supreme Council, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite Freemasons of the World, Thirty-Third & Last Degree and Order of Eastern Star, Inc.** and shall be known as United National Supreme Council.

## **ARTICLE II - EMBLEM**

The emblem of this organization shall be: The name of the organization in a circle with a Holy Bible opened to Psalms 133 on the left page and Matthew 2:1-2 on the right page with a compass and square with the Eastern Star overlain on top of the world. Under no circumstances will the names United National Supreme Council, United National Masons, or its logo be used without the expressed written permission of the Supreme Council or its designee. Any such use of the name and/or logo constitutes a violation of the Copyright Act.

## **ARTICLE III - OBJECTIVE**

The objective of United National Supreme Council shall be to fraternally unite all healthy persons of any profession, persons of any profession, business or occupation, in promoting a higher degree of fellowship in keeping with Masonic Customs.

## **ARTICLE IV – PURPOSE**

The purpose of United National Supreme Council is to function as a charitable, non-profit organization that operates for the mutual benefit of its members. To also encourage, promote, recruit and supervise our membership throughout the world to cultivate friendly relationships while promoting mutual understandings and fostering the solidarity of masons and members of the Order of Eastern Star.

## **ARTICLE V - SUPREME COUNCIL - DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **SECTION 1 - The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander**

- A. The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander is the Chief Executive Officer of United National Supreme Council, Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite Free Masons of the World, Thirty-Third & Last Degree and Order of Eastern Star, Inc. He shall preside not only over the ordinary, extraordinary and special meetings of the Supreme Council, but also over all Masonic reunions that he may favor with his presence. He shall not grant dispensations unless the applications are made in writing, showing cause, either in the event of a resolution taken by a Masonic Body of the jurisdiction or to the President of a Masonic Body, in an urgent case. The said applications shall be deposited in the Archives of the Supreme Council.
- B. He shall have the power to create and constitute in person or by proxy all new lodges and chapters and install their offices.
- C. He shall superintend the operation of the Masonic Order when the General Congress or Quadrennial Session is not in session. He shall preside at all meetings of the same, except when

charges are to be heard against him, in such case the presiding officers will be determined according to Masonic custom.

- D. He shall fill all vacancies caused by death or resignation in the Supreme Council and submit the same to the General Congress or the Quadrennial Session for approval.
- E. He shall have the power to appoint special deputies to assist in the operation of the Supreme Council. He shall superintend the establishment of Grand Lodges and conduct other business pertaining to the building of the Order.
- F. He shall appoint all standing committees and all special committees when the motion or resolution authorizing their appointment does not otherwise provide for in the Supreme Council.
- G. He shall have power to grant dispensations to organize Grand Lodges and Subordinate Lodges.
- H. All Executive Orders issued by The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander are final. Every member so affected thereby must obey same and/or until it is overruled by the General Congress or Quadrennial Session.
- I. He shall have power to convene a Grand Lodge or a Subordinate Lodge into a special session, in case of emergency, for protection of the Order. He shall in such cases, transmit to the Secretary of each Lodge a written order directing him to notify all members of the Lodge of the time of such meeting which shall not be less than five days from the date when the order should be received by the Secretary. Such order shall specify the matter to be considered. Upon the convening of this emergency Lodge, The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander (or his appointed deputy) may take up only the matter referred to.
- J. It shall be his duty to enforce the Constitution and laws of the Order, decrees, judgments, orders of the General Congress and to protect and defend the Order. He shall be vested with power necessary for the performance of such duty.
- K. He shall visit all Grand Lodges on behalf of the Supreme Council toward the welfare of the department visited.
- L. He shall sign all bills and documents that require his signature.
- M. He shall approve the by-laws of all Grand Lodges and National Higher Degree Departments to ensure that they do not conflict with the national Constitution annually.
- N. He shall issue proclamations convening the Supreme Council or General Congress when the need arises.

**SECTION 2 - The Puissant Lieutenant Grand Commander**, In the absence of The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, shall possess and exercise the same rights and privileges. In the case of death, resignation, or disqualification, he shall perform all duties of The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand

Commander until the next Quadrennial Session of the General Congress. He shall perform other duties as assigned.

**SECTION 3 - The Illustrious Grand Orator and Minister of State is the Keeper of the General Regulations and Laws** of the Supreme Council and is charged with the enforcement of Laws within the limits of the jurisdiction.

**SECTION 4 - The Illustrious Grand Chancellor, Grand Secretary General of the H.E. and Keeper of the Seals and Archives**

- A. He shall keep a record of all the works, deliberations and transactions. He shall faithfully transcribe them in a book kept for that purpose. He shall preserve an exact copy of all letters and communications emanating from the Supreme Council and shall attach his signature and the Seal of the Supreme Council to all orders, drafts, or acts decreed by this Illustrious Body. He shall likewise seal, sign, and cause to be signed by the Officers of the Supreme Council all diplomas, briefs or letters patent for all members of the Order, who shall have the right to the same and who have made application for these documents.
- B. It shall moreover be his duty to maintain in the name and by orders of the Supreme Council, and under the supervision of the Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander official correspondence with all Masonic Bodies, either of this jurisdiction or of foreign jurisdictions.
- C. All documents, dispatches, letters and envoys concerning the Supreme Council shall be addressed to him. He shall transmit the same immediately without unsealing to The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, who shall after taking cognizance of same; choose the time most opportune to communicate same to the Supreme Council.
- D. He shall receive a salary fixed by the Supreme Council, and fifty cents for each Diploma, Brief or Letters Patent issued.

**SECTION 5 -The Illustrious Grand Treasurer General of the H.E.**

- A. He shall receive from the custodian and the secretaries of the various bodies of the jurisdiction all sums collected by them in the name of the Supreme Council. He shall deposit the same in a bank, within forty-eight hours after having received same. The Supreme Council shall designate the bank and the first deposit shall be made in the presence of The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander. All amounts above the sum of five dollars shall be paid by check and certified money order.
- B. All drafts drawn by him must be by order of The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander.
- C. He shall pay all accounts due by the Supreme Council.
- D. He shall, annually, present a detailed report of the receipts and disbursements to the Supreme Council. This report after being audited by the Supreme Council and copies printed.

- E. He shall be required to enter a bond of security for the handling of such money. The amount of the bond shall be determined by the amount of the funds to be handled.

**SECTION 6 - The Illustrious Grand Master General of Ceremonies** shall direct the ceremonies and reunions presided over by the Supreme Council. He shall see that the members are suitably attired with the insignias of their grades.

**SECTION 7 - The Illustrious Grand Marshal General** shall have charge of the Supreme Council in all processions of the Order. With the assistance of the Grand Captain of the Guard, and by the order of The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander, he shall conduct the Officers of the Supreme Council to their stations of dignity and service, and perform such special duties as may be directed by The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander.

**SECTION 8 - The Illustrious Grand Standard Bearer** shall guard the Standard of the Order, near which he must always be placed, either in the midst of the Supreme Council, or in any place where the Supreme Council shall be sitting in a body.

**SECTION 9 - The Illustrious Grand Captain of Guards** is to exercise a strict oversight in and on the outside of the Valley.

#### **ARTICLE VI - ASHIQUÉ LADIES COUNCIL - DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

##### **SECTION 1 - Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron**

- A. She shall preside over the ordinary, extraordinary and special meetings of Ashiqué Ladies Council. She is to enforce a due regard and obedience to the Constitution of United National and the By-Laws of this auxiliary; to call special and/or called meetings; appoint all committees and perform such other duties as may be expressed in the By-laws.
- B. She shall superintend the operation of the Eastern Star when the General Congress or Quadrennial Session is not in session. She shall preside at all meetings of the same, except when charges are to be heard against her, in such case the presiding officers will be determined according to Eastern Star custom.
- C. She shall fill all vacancies caused by death or resignation in the Ashiqué Ladies Council with the exception of the Unique First Lieutenant and submit the same to the General Congress or the Quadrennial Session for approval.
- D. She shall have the power to appoint special deputies to assist in the operation of Ashiqué Ladies Council. She shall superintend the establishment of Grand Chapters and other business pertaining to the building of the Order.
- E. She shall appoint all standing committees and all special committees when the motion or resolution authorizing their appointment does not otherwise provide for in the Ashiqué Ladies Council.
- F. She shall have power to grant dispensations to organize Grand Chapters and Chapters.

- G. She shall have power to convene a Grand Chapter or a Subordinate Chapter into a special session in case of emergency for protection of the Order. She shall in such cases, transmit to the Secretary of each Chapter a written order directing her forthwith to notify all members of the Chapter of the time of such meeting which shall not be less than five days from the date when the order should be received by the Secretary in ordinary course of mail. Such order shall specify the matter to be considered. Upon the convening of this emergency Chapter, The Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron (or her appointed deputy) may take up only the matter referred to.
- H. Her duties are also to enforce the Constitution, laws of the Order, decrees, judgments, orders of the General Congress, and protect and defend the Order. She shall be vested with power necessary for the performance of such duty.
- I. She shall visit all Grand Chapters and Higher Degree Departments on behalf of the Ashiqué Ladies Council toward the welfare of the department visited.
- J. She shall sign all bills and documents that require her signature.
- K. She shall approve the by-laws of all Grand Chapters and Higher Degree Departments to insure that they do not conflict with the national constitution annually.
- L. She shall issue proclamations convening the Ashiqué Ladies Council or General Congress when the need arises.

**SECTION 2 – Unique Advisor** shall act as the advisor the Ashiqué Nine, exercise a general supervision over the affairs of the Ashiqué Ladies Council, attend all business meetings, and make a report to the Great Nine. He shall appoint an Assistant to perform his duties in his absence.

**SECTION 3 - Unique First Lieutenant** shall assist the Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron by her presence, advise, and counsel and in her absence assume her responsibilities and shall exercise the same rights and privileges.

**SECTION 4 - Unique Second Lieutenant** shall assist the Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron and Unique First Lieutenant, advise and counsel and in their absence assume responsibilities and exercise the same rights and privileges.

**SECTION 5 - Unique Chancellor Secretary** shall record all proceedings and transactions as proper to be written, keep a proper record of all monies and valuables, Seal and Archives belonging to Ashiqué Ladies Council. She shall preserve an exact copy of all letters and communications.

**SECTION 6 - Unique Treasurer** shall receive all monies, deposit the same in this auxiliaries account within forty-eight hours after having received same, keep an accurate account thereof, and pay out the same by the order of the Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron, Unique Chancellor Secretary, and the consent of this auxiliary. She shall report all receipts/expenditures at each meeting. She shall be required to enter a bond of security for the handling of such money. The amount of the bond shall be determined by the amount of the funds to be handled.

**SECTION 7 - Unique Orator/Mistress of Ceremonies** shall be the keeper of the General Regulations and Laws of the Ashiqué Ladies Council and is charged with the enforcement of Laws with the limits of the jurisdiction. She shall direct the ceremonies on all occasions, and see that all members are suitably attired.

**SECTION 8 - Unique Chaplain** shall offer up prayer and adoration to the Deity for the prosperity of this auxiliary, and implore the divine blessings of Providence to guide these members in the future, to the haven of promise. She is to perform the religious services at the opening and closing of this auxiliary meeting.

**SECTION 9 - Unique Captain of the Guards** shall guard all avenues against intrusion of improper person. She is to keep all paraphernalia in a safe place and have it at all meetings.

**SECTION 10 - Unique Instructor of Degrees** shall be proficient in all of the degrees of the Order of Eastern Star, Queen of the South, Amaranth, Heroines of Jericho, and Daughter of Isis. She will coordinate with the Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron a teachable study outline for all National Department heads (female) and members of the Ashiqué Ladies Council.

#### **ARTICLE VII - NATIONAL STANDING COMMITTEES**

**SECTION 1 - National Real Property Acquisition Committee** shall be chaired by the National Land Acquisition Director, whose duties shall be to find real property, verify zoning, environmental hazards, tax value and report findings to the Supreme Council. The following rules shall apply to Real Property:

- A. A Subordinate Lodge or Charter before acquiring real property or lease, or constructing a structure, or making substantial additions to, or alterations of its real property, or mortgage financing, or refinancing, or selling or exchanging its real property, or making a gift thereof, or leasing the same, or any portion that could be binding for more than one year, shall contact the National Land Acquisition Director, who shall report and obtain permission from The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander
- B. Application for such permit must be made in writing, and shall set forth the proposed plan for purchase, sale, gift, lease, exchange, construction, alteration, and financing of the project and any such other information that may be required to determine if the proposal is sound and suitable for the Subordinate Lodge or Chapter to pursue.
- C. The National Land Acquisition Committee shall investigate thoroughly all applications submitted under this provision, and shall refuse a permit where the proposal appears unsound, or likely to cause a financial loss or be injurious to the Subordinate group or to United National.
- D. A permit granted under this provision shall require the Subordinate group to certify to the completion of the proposal within the limitation set forth in the application. Any project not completed in the time allocated, the National Land Acquisition Director must request an extension of time from the he Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander.
- E. The National Land Acquisition Committee shall in no case approve a permit until the Subordinate group furnishes satisfactory evidence that a full and complete notice in writing, of

the proposal has been given to the entire membership of the Lodge or Chapter more than ten (10) days before a vote was held thereon, and that the said proposal was adopted by not less than two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular meeting or special call meeting of the Lodge or Chapter.

- F. In the event any action is taken by the Subordinate Lodge or Chapter without strictly complying with all provisions of this law, the contract entered into shall be declared null and void and shall be considered an offense against the Constitution of United National Supreme Council and The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander shall punish same by suspension of not less than thirty (30) days or more than one (1) year or by expulsion from the Order.

**SECTION 2 - National Scholarship Committee** shall be chaired by the National Scholarship Director, whose duties shall be responsible for scholarship applications as set forth in the standing rules and regulations of United National. The National Scholarship Committee will award two scholarship to students enrolled at a Community College with a least twelve (12) credit hours or more \$500 and two scholarships to students enrolled at a four-year institute of higher learning with at least twelve (12) credit hours or more \$1000. These amounts shall not exceed the total funds earmarked to the Scholarship Fund so the account will not be depleted.

- A. Only High School Seniors are eligible for the scholarship.
- B. The student must be sponsored by a parent or grandparent who has been a member of United National for at least 3 years or more.
- C. The student must be accepted at an accredited college or university of their choice.
- D. Application must be submitted by March 1. Scholarship applications are available at the National Office.
- E. Recipient must attend the September banquet to receive the scholarship. If the recipient does not attend the September banquet, the scholarship will be forfeited. The sponsor must register for the September Convention.

**SECTION 3 – National Hospitality Committee** shall be chaired by the National Dietician, whose duties shall be responsible for healthy menus for banquets and hospitality room.

**SECTION 4 – National Health Awareness Committee** shall be chaired by the National Director of Nursing, whose duties shall be to assist those displaying illness or the inability to help themselves, to provide educational programs on health awareness, to call family members in emergency situations, to be on duty during all conventions, to notify The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander and/or the Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron of all emergencies.

Each State shall appoint a Nurse(s):

- A. The appointed nurse(s) will report to the National Director of Nursing and
- B. Will assist those displaying illness or the inability to help themselves;
- C. Will provide educational programs on health awareness
- D. Will call family members in case of an emergency;

- E. Will be on duty at all state conventions;
- F. Will notify the Grand Master or Grand Matron of all emergencies;
- G. Will check medical supplies and restock prior to each convention. The State will be responsible for replenishing supplies.

**SECTION 5- National Beautification Committee** shall be chaired by the National Beautification Director, whose duties shall be to govern all beautifications for United National Supreme Council events. His/her duties are to attend and prepare national events and meetings accordingly with all beautification aspects in regards of following proper procedures of the Masonic Organization.

**ARTICLE VIII - NATIONAL GRAND LODGE & NATIONAL GRAND CHAPTER  
GRAND LODGE & GRAND CHAPTER OFFICERS - DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**SECTION 1 –National Grand Master and National Grand Matron** shall preside in all meetings of the National Grand Lodge and National Grand Chapter. They shall report each month to The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander’s office and the Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron’s office, failure to do so could result in his or her being removed from office.

**SECTION 2 –National Grand Lodge and National Grand Chapter officers** shall have the same responsibilities as the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter officers bearing the same title. The only distinction in the positions is the terms “National” and “Grand”. All officers are appointed and serve at the well and pleasure of the appointee.

**SECTION 3 - Grand Master and Grand Matron**

- A. The Grand Master and Grand Worthy Matron of each State shall preside in all state meetings. They shall have the general supervision of the order of the State and shall sign all orders of the Grand Treasurer and other documents that require their signature.
- B. They shall have the power to appoint all deputies for the State, fill all vacancies and remove any Worshipful Master or Worthy Matron under his/her administration for neglect of duty, immoral conduct and incompetence, after due investigation.
- C. They report each month to The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander’s office and the Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron’s office, failure to do so could result in his or her being removed from office.
- D. On the first day of the Annual Communication or as soon thereafter as possible, the Grand Master and Grand Matron shall lay before or cause to be laid before the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter their annual addresses; giving an account of their official acts during recess, an account of the State, the condition of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter and recommend such as he or she deem expedient and necessary after appointing committees. Committees should have reasonable time to work on any legislation the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter may see fit to consider from the report of the Grand Master or Grand Worthy Matron.
- E. They shall have four (4) communications yearly with the Worshipful Masters and Worthy Matrons. The Grand Conclave can be counted as one of the communications.

- F. Taxation and Finance must have the approval of the Finance Committee before going to the floor.
- G. Legislation must have the approval of the Resolution Committee.
- H. They may exercise such powers as are warranted and perform such duties as are required of them by Ancient Regulations and Customs, provided that they shall have no power to suspend the operation of any law of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter. The Trustees will report to the Grand Master and Grand Worthy Matron, which requested to do so.
- I. They shall have a seal which he or she shall use to authenticate such documents or orders that require his or her official attestation.

**SECTION 4 – Deputy Grand Master** shall assist the Grand Master in the discharge of his duties. In his absence, he shall exercise all prerogatives and perform all duties of the Grand Master.

**SECTION 5 – Grand Associate Matron** shall assist the Grand Worthy Matron in the discharge of her duties. In her absence, she shall exercise all prerogatives and perform all duties of the Grand Matron.

**SECTION 6- Grand Senior and Grand Junior Warden**

- A. The Grand Senior Warden shall preside over the Grand Lodge in the absence of the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master.
- B. The Grand Junior Warden shall preside over the Grand Lodge in the absence of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Senior Warden.

**SECTION 7 – Grand Secretary**

- A. To attend the communications of the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter, to verify the credentials of all members; to observe and record the proceedings of the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter and preserve the same in a bound book kept for this purpose. They shall at the beginning of each session of the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter read a typewritten report of the minutes of the preceding session before any other business shall be done. A copy shall be furnished to United National when required.
- B. To present a copy of the minutes of the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter to each subordinate Lodge or Chapter. To record a listing of all Grand Officers and members of the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter present at its communications.
- C. To communicate in the interval between the communications of the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter, and when required, lay before the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter all communications received together with a copy of his or her correspondence.
- D. To receive all monies due the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter, transfer the same to the Grand Treasurer and receive a receipt of the same.

- E. To have custody of the seal of the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter.
- F. To serve upon several committees appointed by the Grand Master or Grand Matron, when required, with the records, documents and papers of the office.

#### **SECTION 8 –Grand Treasurer**

- A. The Grand Treasurer shall have charge of all funds, properties and jewels of the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter.
- B. It shall be their duty to attend all communications of the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter, and when required to meet with the Officers and Committees and to produce all books and documents relating to his or her office; to make full reports at regular communications; to pay all order drawn on them by authority of the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter; to receive all funds of the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter and immediately deposit them in the depository approved by the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter, to transfer to his successor in office all monies in hand, together with all books, papers, vouchers, securities, jewels and other properties in his or her possession belonging to the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter taking duplicate receipts for same, one of which shall be delivered to the Secretary.
- C. To receive all monies paid into the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter from the hands of the Grand Secretary, keep a regular and just account of the same, and pay it out upon the order of the Grand Master or Grand Matron and the consent of the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter.

#### **SECTION 9 - Grand Lecturer**

- A. He/She shall be proficient in Masonry and the Order of Eastern Star.
- B. He/She shall visit the Lodges and Chapters in their jurisdiction as extensively as possible and instruct them in the work, lectures and ceremonies adopted by the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter.
- C. He/She shall make written reports to the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter of the work done by them and the general condition of the jurisdiction and other matters connected with his or her office.
- D. He/She shall report to the Grand Master or Grand Worthy Matron monthly concerning their activities and the condition of Lodges and Chapters and the Order in general.

**SECTION 10 –District Deputy and District Matron** shall work at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master and Grand Matron. They shall oversee the District. They shall preside over meetings called by Grand Master and Grand Matron. They are to see that the work is performed uniformly and correctly. They are to make monthly reports to the Grand Master or Grand Matron.

**SECTION 11 - All Other Grand Officers** shall perform all duties assigned them in their respective installation charges and the Duncan’s Ritual or Macoy Ritual.

## **SECTION 12 - Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter Vacancies**

- A. In the event of a vacancy caused by death, resignation or removal of the Grand Master or Grand Worthy Matron, The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander or The Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron shall appoint the Deputy Grand Master, Grand Associate Matron or a successor to serve the unexpired term.
- B. In case of a vacancy in any of the other Grand Offices the Grand Master or Grand Worthy Matron shall immediately appoint a member to serve until the regular communication of the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter.

## **ARTICLE IX - SUBORDINATE LODGES AND CHAPTERS - DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **SECTION 1 – Worshipful Masters and Worthy Matrons**

- A. The Worshipful Masters and Worthy Matrons are set forth in the fundamental practices of Free and Accepted Masonry and the Order of Eastern Star. Organizationally, the Worshipful Master and Worthy Matron shall preside in their meetings. They shall have the general supervision of the Lodge and Chapter and shall sign all orders of the Treasurer and other documents that require their signature.
- B. The Worshipful Master and Worthy Matron shall have the power to appoint all officers for appointed positions in the Lodge and Chapter, fill any vacancies in the appointive offices.
- C. The Worshipful Master and Worthy Matron must make a monthly report to the Grand Master and Grand Worthy Matron's office. Failure to do so could result in his or her being removed from office.
- D. On the first day of the Annual Communication or as soon thereafter as possible, the Worshipful Master or Worthy Matron shall report to the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter the minutes of the Annual Meeting with a list of the elected officers for the following year.

### **SECTION 2 – Secretary**

- A. To attend the communications of the Lodge or Chapter, to verify the credentials of all members; to observe and record the proceedings of the Lodge and Chapter and preserve the same in a bound book kept for this purpose. They shall at the beginning of each session of the Lodge and Chapter read a typewritten report of the minutes of the preceding session before any other business shall be done. A copy shall be furnished to the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter when required.
- B. To receive all monies due the Lodge and Chapter, transfer the same to the Treasurer, receive a receipt of the same, update the Monthly Dues Report, and remit the appropriate amount of funds to United National.
- C. To have custody of the seal of the Lodge or Chapter.

- D. To serve upon several committees appointed by the Master or Matron.
- E. Notify in writing any member who is behind in their dues and assessments each month. At the end of the third (3) month, if the member has not paid their arrearage, the Secretary must notify United National that the member has been dropped from the roll. If this procedure is not followed, in the event of death of said member, the Lodge or Chapter will assume United National's responsibility for payment of the Death Benefit.

### **SECTION 3 - Treasurer**

- A. The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds, properties and jewels of the Lodge or Chapter.
- B. It shall be their duty to attend all communications of the Lodge or Chapter, and when required to meet with the Officers and Committees and to produce all books and documents relating to his or her office; to make full reports at regular communications; to pay all order drawn on them by authority of the Lodge or Chapter; to receive all funds of the Lodge or Chapter and immediately deposit them in the depository approved by the Lodge or Chapter, to transfer to his successor in office all monies in hand, together with all books, papers, vouchers, securities, jewels and other properties in his or her possession belonging to the Lodge or Chapter taking duplicate receipts for same, one of which shall be delivered to the Secretary.
- C. To receive all monies paid into the Lodge or Chapter from the hands of the Secretary, keep a regular and just account of the same, and pay it out upon the order of the Worshipful Master or Worthy Matron and the consent of the Lodge or Chapter.

**SECTION 4 – All other officers** shall perform all duties as dictated by the Duncan's Ritual or Macoy's Ritual and assigned in their respective installation charges.

## **ARTICLE X - FEES, DUES, ASSESSMENTS, FINES**

**SECTION 1 –** Application fees for membership in United National Supreme Council shall be submitted to the National Office as follows:

- A. Applicants shall pay sixty-two dollars (\$62.00) for Masons and Eastern Stars payable to the Lodge or Chapter. The Lodge or Chapter must remit thirty-one dollars (\$31.00) along with the original application to the National Office.
- B. College student's application fee shall be thirty-one dollars (\$31.00). The Lodge or Chapter must remit fifteen dollars and fifty cents (\$15.50) along with the original application to the National Office.
- C. Applicants for the membership to the Field of Moral shall be five dollars (\$5.00). The Chapter must submit the original application to the National Office.

**SECTION 2 –** Monthly dues must be received at the National Office by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Dues are as follows:

- A. Each Regular or Member-At-Large member shall pay dues in the amount of eight dollars (\$8.00) per month.
- B. Honorary members shall pay four dollars and fifty cents (\$4.50) per month.
- C. Field or Moral members shall pay one dollar (\$1.00) per month.
- D. Higher Degree Department members shall pay dues of twenty dollars (\$20.00) per year by January 31<sup>st</sup>.

**SECTION 3 – Insurance** – *Participation is optional for all members.*

- A. The member will be enrolled in group life insurance program in the amount of \$12,500 up to age 70. Benefits decrease to \$6,250 for members over the age of 70.
- B. Family members may join the insurance program for an affiliation fee of \$15.00 per year plus the monthly premium. Premiums must be paid semi-annually. (By August 1 and February 1 of each year)
- C. The family must notify United National within 12 hours of death. Notification must include the address and correct phone number of the beneficiary at the time of death.
- D. The insurance benefit is for the beneficiary and no binder with the funeral home should be made.
- E. Immediately following the funeral, a Certified Copy of the death Certificate must be submitted to the National Office. If the death was accidental, a policy report must also be submitted.
- F. Benefits will be paid within 90 days from the receipt of Death Certificate.

**SECTION 4 - Fire & Disaster** - Participation is mandatory for all members. Each member is required to pay a three dollars (\$3.00) fee each year at the Annual Meeting in December.

**SECTION 5** – Master Mason’s assessments to their Eastern Star Chapter and Higher Degree (female auxiliaries) shall not exceed five dollars (\$5.00) per month.

**SECTION 6** – Registration fees for the General Congress, Quadrennial Session and National Higher Degree Departments for all chartered entities must be paid 30 days prior to the convention.

- A. United National shall pay the General Congress Registration Fee and Package for the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, duly elected and installed Grand Master and Grand Matron, and Grand Secretary, if they have more than three (3) chartered lodges and chapters remaining in good standing for a period of 36 months. The Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter may not fall into a probationary status during this 36-month period.
- B. United National shall pay for the Lodging and General Congress Registration Fees & Package for the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, duly elected and installed Grand Master and Grand Matron, and Grand Secretary, if they have more than seven (7) chartered lodges and chapters remaining in good standing for a period of 36 months. The Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter may not fall into a probationary status during this 36-month period.

- C. Each Lodge and Chapter shall pay two hundred-fifty dollars (\$250.00) as registration fees for the Lodge or Chapter, Worshipful Master or Worthy Matron, Secretary, King (Mr. United National) or Queen (Ms. United National), and Father or Mother Contest.
- D. Each State Higher Degree Department shall pay one hundred (\$100.00) as registration fees directly to the National Higher Degree Department .
- E. All members present at the National Higher Degree Meetings that do not belong to a State Higher Degree Department, because no state department has been established, must pay \$10 directly to the National Higher Degree Department

**SECTION 7 – National Annual Dues & Assessments** – All General Members must pay at least fifty percent of their Annual Dues by January 31<sup>st</sup> and the balance must be paid in full by May 31<sup>st</sup>. The amount due is based on the type of membership and which Higher Degrees the member holds. Annual dues include:

- A. Regular or Member-At-Large member ninety-six dollars (\$96.00) per year OR
- B. Honorary members shall pay fifty-four dollars (\$54.00) per year.
- C. Exempt members shall not pay dues. *(Note: This does not affect assessments or higher degree dues)*
- D. Chartered member shall not pay dues. *(Note: This does not affect assessments or higher degree dues)*
- E. Each Higher Degree Department dues are twenty dollars (\$20.00) per year by January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- F. Fire Disaster is three dollars (\$3.00) per year.
- G. Registration Fee for each National Event is fifty dollars (\$50.00).

**SECTION 8 – Delinquency of Annual Dues**

- A. General Congress members shall be delinquent if Annual Dues are not paid in full by May 31<sup>st</sup> and shall be removed from the General Congress.
- B. Grand Masters, Grand Matrons, National Department Heads that do not remit their Annual Dues in full by May 31<sup>st</sup> will be allowed to serve the remainder of their term and will not be eligible for election to any National Office for a one-year period and must pay all back Annual Dues owed to the National Office.
  1. They shall not be compensated by the National Office for any expenses to the General Congress
  2. They shall not compensated or reimbursed by the Department for any expenses to the General Congress

**SECTION 9 – Assessments**

- A. When in case of emergency and for the good of the order The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander or Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron may not assess each member more than twenty dollars (\$20.00) or each National Higher Degree Department more than fifty (50%) of their treasury.
- B. Grand Master or Grand Worthy Matron may not assess its membership more than fifteen dollars (\$15.00).
- C. A Worshipful Master or Worthy Matron may not assess its membership more than ten dollars (\$10.00).

**SECTION 10 – Fines**

- A. The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander or Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron may not fine a member more than twenty (\$20.00) dollars
- B. Grand Master or Grand Worthy Matron may not fine a member more than fifteen dollars (\$15.00).
- C. A Worshipful Master or Worthy Matron may not fine a member more than ten dollars (\$10.00).

**SECTION 11 – Charters**

- A. Each Lodge or Chapter, Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter, Higher Degree Department requesting a Warranted Charter shall pay the National Office one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
- B. Each Field of Moral Court requesting a charter shall pay the National Office ten dollars (\$10.00).

**ARTICLE XI - OFFENSES**

**SECTION 1** - Upon satisfactory proof that any officer or member of any department under United National Supreme Council is found guilty of rebelling or conspiring against the Order, neglect of duty, immoral conduct, incompetence, feigning sickness for the purpose of receiving sick benefits; making malicious or unfounded charges against the Order or members, or any illegal conduct contrary to Masonic principle, may be reprimanded, removed from office, suspended or expelled.

**SECTION 2** - Should any Subordinate Lodge or Chapter find it necessary to suspend any member, immediately after suspension, the Secretary of such Lodge or Chapter must notify the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter in that state and notify the Secretary of the Supreme Council or Ashiqué Ladies Council who will notify the Supreme Council only on recommendation from the Subordinate Lodge or Chapter.

**SECTION 3** - Any member or officer having a charge against them in any department of this order and not satisfied with the decision of the body in which the case was heard, may appeal their case to the next highest department with payment of five (\$5.00) dollars.

**SECTION 4** - Any Warranted Chartered Lodge or Chapter has jurisdiction over all its members, regardless of their residence or of the place where an offense is committed.

## **ARTICLE XII - SOLICITING FUNDS**

**SECTION 1** - No Subordinate Lodge or Chapter shall solicit funds at a Grand or General Congress meeting, Council or Session.

**SECTION 2** - No member shall sell tickets to dance, banquets, raffles, nor shall they ask for contributions to any civic, public, social, or charitable affair sponsored by the local or Grand Department while attending a General Congress meeting.

**SECTION 3** - No Subordinate Lodge or Chapter shall send blocks of tickets to another Lodge or Chapter to sell. Every function planned by a group must be supported by that Group.

**SECTION 4** - No member, Lodge, or Chapter shall make an appeal to another Lodge or Chapter regardless of the case without prior approval in writing from The Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander or The Most Ancient Worthy Grand Matron.

**SECTION 5** - Any violation of any Section will be punishable as the General Congress may see fit.

## **ARTICLE XIII - OFFICIAL FORMS**

**All Official forms must be obtained from the National Office or online. (A copy of each form is listed in the Appendix)**

**SECTION 1** – The Petition for Membership (Masons, Order of Eastern Star, Field of Moral) and the Higher Degree Application must be submitted to the National Office with the appropriate fee. This form should be complete in its entirety. The petitioner/candidate must sign the form.

- A. Petition – Membership
- B. Petition – Membership – Field of Moral
- C. Application(s) – Higher Degree Department

**SECTION 2** – A Demit Form must be submitted by a brother (Demit Form – Brother) or sister (Demit Form – Sister) on the roll of a Subordinate Lodge or Chapter desiring to become a member of another Subordinate Lodge or Chapter or desiring to organize a new Subordinate Lodge or Chapter. The process is as follows:

- A. Complete the Official Demit Form

- B. Brothers shall submit the form to the Worshipful Master and Sisters shall submit the form to the Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron for their signature. They must forward a copy to the National Office and to the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter for proper record.
- C. The brother or sister demitting should present a copy of the signed Official Demit Form with your application for membership to your new Lodge or Chapter. This will clearly define you are a member in good standing.

**SECTION 3** – Petition for Charters should be submitted to the National Office with the appropriate fee, the name and number (if applicable), the city, country, and state that the entity will operate. All members must sign the petition.

- A. Petition for Charter – Lodge
- B. Petition for Charter – Chapter
- C. Petition for Charter – Grand Lodge
- D. Petition for Charter – Grand Chapter
- E. Petition for Charter – Field of Moral
- F. Petition for Charter – Royal Arch & 14<sup>th</sup> Degree
- G. Petition for Charter – 18<sup>th</sup> Degree
- H. Petition for Charter – 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree
- I. Petition for Charter - Shrine
- J. Petition for Charter – Amaranth
- K. Petition for Charter – Heroines of Jericho
- L. Petition for Charter – Daughters of Isis

#### **ARTICLE XIV - AMENDMENTS**

**SECTION 1** – This Constitution may be amended at the General Congress meeting by a two-third (2/) majority vote of those present.

**SECTION 2** – Any proposed amendments must be sent, in writing, to the Chairperson of the Constitution and By-laws Committee and must be postmarked no later than sixty (60) days prior to the convening of the General Congress Meeting. The Chairperson shall acknowledge receipt of proposed changes immediately.

**SECTION 3** – Any changes voted on during the General Congress Meeting shall be ratified by the Supreme Council and shall be effective at the end of the General Congress unless otherwise stipulated.

#### **ARTICLE XV - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*, newly revised shall govern this organization in all cases to which they are applicable.

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