

CEREMONY
FOR THE
CONSOLIDATION
OF COUNCILS



PROPERTY OF THE GRAND COUNCIL
OF CRYPTIC MASONS
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

REVISED JUNE 2003

CEREMONY FOR THE CONSOLIDATION OF COUNCILS

M. I. GRAND MASTER:

COMPANIONS, LADIES AND FRIENDS. EVERY SO OFTEN, A HAPPENING OF NOTE TRANSPIRES IN THE LIFE OF A COUNCIL, AND IT IS INDEED PROPER THAT WE CONVENE ON AN OCCASION TO MARK THE OCCURRENCE WITH APPROPRIATE CEREMONY TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE EVENT AND SET THE TONE FOR THE FUTURE. AT THIS MOMENT WE ARE GATHERED TO FORMALLY BRING TO A CLOSE THE SEPARATE EXISTENCE OF TWO COUNCILS OF CRYPTIC MASONS IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK AND TO CONFIRM A CONSOLIDATION INTO A SUCCEEDING COUNCIL, WHICH, ACCORDING TO ALL RECORDS AND INFORMATION AVAILABLE, HAS THE ABILITY TO PRACTICE THE ARTS OF CRYPTIC MASONS BY CONVENING ASSEMBLIES, BY RECRUITING CANDIDATES AND BY CONFERRING DEGREES. I WILL, THEREFORE, PRESIDE OVER THE CEREMONY APPROPRIATE TO THIS OCCASION.

M. I. GRAND MASTER:

BEFORE ENTERING UPON THIS OR ANY IMPORTANT UNDERTAKING, WE SHOULD ALWAYS PAUSE FOR A MOMENT TO INVOKE THE AID OF DEITY. WOULD YOU ALL PLEASE RISE AND GIVE YOUR ATTENTION TO OUR GRAND CHAPLAIN?
R. I. GRAND CHAPLAIN WILL YOU LEAD US IN PRAYER.

R. I. GRAND CHAPLAIN:

ALMIGHTY AND ETERNAL GOD, THOU HAS DECLARED HOW GOOD AND HOW PLEASANT IT IS FOR BRETHREN TO DWELL TOGETHER IN UNITY. MAY THE UNITING OF THESE TWO COUNCILS RESULT IN A UNION OF STRENGTH, VISION AND ACHIEVEMENT. MAY IT PRODUCE A SPIRIT OF FELLOWSHIP AND SERVICE UNPARALLELED IN THE ANNALS OF EITHER COUNCIL. MAY THIS NEW TIE HOLD THEM TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT THAT WILL MEAN THE ADVANCEMENT OF CRYPTIC MASONRY IN THIS AREA. IN THY HOLY NAME WE ASK THESE BLESSINGS. AMEN.

CEREMONY FOR THE CONSOLIDATION OF COUNCILS

M. I. GRAND MASTER:

PLEASE BE SEATED. R. I. (M. I.) GRAND RECORDER, HAS
_____ COUNCIL NO. ___ AND _____ COUNCIL NO. ____
MADE THE PROPER REQUEST TO YOUR OFFICE TO
CONSOLIDATE UNDER THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 27 OF
THE CONSTITUTION OF THE GRAND COUNCIL OF CRYPTIC
MASONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK?

R. I. (M. I.) GRAND RECORDER:

M. I. GRAND MASTER, THEY HAVE.

M. I. GRAND MASTER:

WILL THE COMPANIONS OF _____ COUNCIL NO. ___ PLEASE
RISE? ARE YOU STILL WILLING TO CONTINUE WITH THIS
CONSOLIDATION?

COMPANIONS: YES, WE ARE. * (*Seats Companions*)

M. I. GRAND MASTER:

WILL THE COMPANIONS OF _____ COUNCIL NO. ___ PLEASE
RISE? ARE YOU STILL WILLING TO CONTINUE WITH THIS
CONSOLIDATION?

COMPANIONS: YES, WE ARE. * (*Seats Companions*)

R. I. (M. I.) GRAND RECORDER, WILL YOU PLEASE READ THE
DISPENSATION.

R. I. (M. I.) GRAND RECORDER:

(*Reads the Dispensation, See Copy.*)

CEREMONY FOR THE CONSOLIDATION OF COUNCILS

M. I. GRAND MASTER:

WILL THE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS OF THE TWO COUNCILS PLEASE PRESENT THEMSELVES WEST OF THEIR RESPECTIVE ALTARS?

(The Illustrious Masters go West of their respective Altars, carrying the Warrant and Seal of their Council).

RESPECTING THE WISHES OF THE COMPANIONS OF THESE TWO COUNCILS, WE WILL PROCEED WITH THE CEREMONY OF CONSOLIDATION. R. I. GRAND MARSHAL. ATTEND AT THE ALTAR AND CLOSE THE GREAT LIGHT IN MASONRY OF *(Outgoing)* _____ COUNCIL NO. ____ . RECEIVE THE WARRANT AND SEAL OF _____ COUNCIL NO. ____ FROM THE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER AND TRANSMIT THEM TO THE GRAND RECORDER. { *After Completing The Order, The Grand Marshal Returns To His Station* } *The Last Battery Is Given (*** ***)* .

R. I. GRAND MARSHAL, ATTEND AT THE ALTAR OF *(Remaining)* _____ COUNCIL NO. ____ AND BREAK THE GREAT LIGHTS IN MASONRY. RECEIVE THE WARRANT AND SEAL OF _____ COUNCIL NO. ____ AND TRANSMIT THEM TO THE GRAND RECORDER. { *After Completing The Order, The Grand Marshal Returns To His Station* } *The Last Battery Is Given (*** ***)* .

THE TWO ILLUSTRIOUS MASTERS WILL UNITE IN THE CENTER, WEST OF THE ALTAR, UNDER THE SIGN OF TRUE FRIENDSHIP.
{Two Masters Unite by Shaking Right Hands}.

***** {All Standing}** IN THE NAME OF THE GRAND COUNCIL OF CRYPTIC MASONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK AND BY VIRTUE OF THE POWER AND THE AUTHORITY IN ME VESTED, I NOW DECLARE _____ COUNCIL NO. ____ AND _____ COUNCIL NO. ____ TO BE DULY CONSOLIDATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE GRAND COUNCIL OF CRYPTIC MASONS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK. THE COUNCIL TO BE HENCEFORTH KNOWN AS _____ COUNCIL NO. ____.

CEREMONY FOR THE CONSOLIDATION OF COUNCILS

M. I. GRAND MASTER:

R. I. GRAND MARSHAL, ATTEND AT THE ALTAR AND RESET THE GREAT LIGHTS IN MASONRY.

*(The Grand Marshal Resets The Lights On The Altar
And Resumes His Station).*

COMPANIONS, GRAND HONORS, TAKING TIME FROM THE GRAND MARSHAL.

R. I. GRAND MARSHAL:

COMPANIONS, GRAND HONORS. *{Grand Honors Are Given}.*

M. I. GRAND MASTER:

PLEASE GIVE YOUR ATTENTION TO OUR GRAND CHAPLAIN.
R. I. GRAND CHAPLAIN WILL YOU LEAD US IN PRAYER.

R. I. GRAND CHAPLAIN:

MAY THY RICHEST BLESSING REST UPON THE UNION NOW COMPLETED AND MADE OFFICIAL. MAY EACH COMPANION BE RENEWED IN MIND AND HEART. MAY EACH FULFILL HIS OBLIGATION TO THE COUNCIL. MAY THE LORD PRESERVE THY GOING OUT AND THY COMING IN FROM THIS TIME FORTH AND EVEN FOREVER MORE. AMEN.

M. I. GRAND MASTER:

* {Seats All}. R. I. GRAND MARSHAL, ESCORT THE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER OF *{Outgoing}* _____ COUNCIL TO THE SIDELINES.
{Grand Marshal executes order and returns West of the Altar}.

R. I. GRAND MARSHAL, ESCORT THE ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER OF *{Remaining}* _____ COUNCIL NO. ____ TO THE EAST.

CEREMONY FOR THE CONSOLIDATION OF COUNCILS

M. I. GRAND MASTER:

ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER, THIS CONCLUDES THE CEREMONY OF CONSOLIDATION. I NOW RETURN THE GAVEL TO YOU FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTION AND INSTALLING THE NEW OFFICERS OF _____ COUNCIL NO. ____.

ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER:

WILL THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE PRESENT ITS REPORT.

{Companion Chairman of the Nominating Committee gives the Nominating Committee's Report}.

COMPANIONS ARE THERE ANY NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR FOR ANY OF THE ELECTED OFFICES. HEARING NONE, I WOULD ENTERTAIN A MOTION THAT THE ELECTION BE CLOSED AND THAT THE RECORDER CAST A UNANIMOUS BALLOT FOR THE SLATE OF OFFICERS PRESENTED BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE ELECTED OFFICES OF _____ COUNCIL No. ____ FOR THE ENSUING CRYPTIC YEAR.

{A Companion so moves the motion and the Grand Recorder casts the ballot and reports to the Illustrious Master his findings. The Illustrious Master asks each Companion Elected whether he accepts. Upon favorable response from each he then reports to the Grand Master.}

MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER, THE OFFICERS OF _____ COUNCIL NO. ____ HAVE BEEN DULY ELECTED AND APPOINTED FOR THE ENSUING CRYPTIC YEAR. THE OFFICERS NOW REQUEST THAT YOU INSTALL THEM INTO THEIR RESPECTIVE OFFICES OF SAID COUNCIL.

{The Grand Master proceeds to install the officers according to the Installation Ceremony for Constituent Councils. Following the ceremony the Grand Master should be asked to speak to all present and then he should retire by the usual manner.}