Constitution

AND

GENERAL REGULATIONS

OF THE

GRAND COUNCIL

OF

Cryptic Masons

OF THE

STATE OF NEW YORK

Change History

August 15, 2026

This document is maintained under the authority of the Jurisprudence Committee of the Grand Council of the State of New York.

The purpose of this document is to present a general description of approved changes along with identifying the specific Article, Section and line changes to the Constitution And General Regulations of the Grand Council.

The contents of this document are provided for reference use only. The detailed information, formatting and layout can be subject to change.

The following tables present the adopted changes and the Grand Assembly that approved them.

Adopted Addition: Aug. 15, 2026 – 203rd Grand Assembly		
This section was added to enable the Illustrious Grand Master to suspend a Companion temporarily for cause without having to refer the matter to the Grand Lodge.		
General Regulations Article I, Section 6(e)	Added	The Illustrious Grand Master has the authority to temporarily suspend a Companion for failure to follow New York Cryptic duties required under the Constitution and General Regulations as well as any direct order by the Illustrious Grand Master, or his designee, until the time the Companion becomes compliant. The reason for the suspension must be provided to the Companion together with the required actions needed to lift the suspension. Should further disciplinary actions become warranted.

Corrective Changes: Aug. 25, 2025 – Jurisprudence Committee		
The Jurisprudence Committee made a correction to the Constitution and General Regulations removing the position of the Grand Fraternal Correspondent that was missed in the 2018 changes.		
Constitution Article I Section 3	Change	The Grand Chaplains, Grand Lecturer, District Deputies Grand Master, ~~Grand Fraternal Correspondent~~, Judge Advocate, Grand Historian, Grand Archivist, Grand Musician, Grand Sentinel and Assistant to the Grand Recorder shall be appointed by the Grand Master to hold office during his pleasure.

Adopted Addition: Aug. 19, 2023 – 200th Grand Assembly		
These sections were added to introduce the office of Grand Archivist and to describe the process for forming a Council of Research..		
General Regulations Article I section 3	Change	A District Deputy Grand Master, for each Cryptic District; Judge Advocate; Grand Historian; ***Grand Archivist,*** Grand Musician; Grand Sentinel.
General Regulations Article I section 3(a) Paragraph 1	Change	Judge Advocate, Grand Historian, ***Grand Archivist,*** Grand Musician, and Grand Sentinel
General Regulations Article I section 3(a) Paragraph 3	Change	Judge Advocate, Grand Historian, ***Grand Archivist,*** Grand Musician, Grand Sentinel
General Regulations Article IV section 47	Change	of the Grand Historian, on the left of the Grand Lecturer; ***of the Grand Archivist, on the left of the Grand Historian;*** of the Grand Musician(s), on the right and behind the Grand Marshal;

General Regulations Article II section 27.5	Add	***Section 27.5 — Procedure forming a Cryptic Council of Research*** ***Sub-Sections a), b), c), d) & e)***

Adopted Addition: Aug. 20, 2022 – 199th Grand Assembly		
This section was added to handle conditions when/where Grand Council is unable to have an in-person Grand Assembly.		
General Regulations Article I section 4 (c)	Add	***In the event of a State or National emergency, or where the Annual Assembly shall be impossible, dangerous or unhealthy to hold "in person", the Grand Council may meet instead of "in person" by any other electronic means upon the direction of the Most Illustrious Grand Master and upon the method and rules by which he shall Order. Voting shall be implemented by Order of the Grand Master on the basis of secure electronic means as the Grand Master shall detail. Quorum requirements shall be the same as for an "in person" Assembly.***

Adopted Changes: Aug. 18, 2018 – 195th Grand Assembly		
The Constitution and General Regulations listing the position of the Grand Fraternal Correspondent were changed to remove this appointed position. The General Regulations were updated to require a higher lever of attendance by our Grand Representatives and a process for the selection of District Officers.		
Constitution Article I Section 3	Change	A District Deputy Grand Master, for each Cryptic District; ~~Grand Fraternal Correspondent;~~ Judge Advocate; Grand Historian; Grand Musician; Grand Sentinel.
General Regulations Article I Section 3 (a)	Change	excepting the Grand Chaplains, Grand Lecturer, District Deputies Grand Master, ~~Grand Fraternal Correspondent,~~ Judge Advocate, Grand Historian,
General Regulations Article I Section 6 (l)	Change	Any Grand Representative to this Grand Council who shall fail to attend, or make a report in writing *to the Grand Recorder*, at two, at two out of three ~~consecutive~~ Annual Assemblies of this Grand Council *without acceptable excuse* shall be considered as resigning his position as such Grand Representative,
General Regulations Article I Section 13 (b) 9	Add	*9. To hold a caucus of all Most Illustrious, Right Illustrious and Very Illustrious Companions in his District yearly prior to April 30. Such caucus shall have the responsibility of selecting the District Deputy Grand Master and Assistant Grand Lecturer for recommendation and appointment by the Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master, A written report of the caucus to be submitted within 15 days of the caucus.*
General Regulations Article III, Section 44 (b) 10	Change	and action thereon; the Grand Lecturer, ~~Grand Fraternal Correspondent~~ and Committee on Jurisprudence

General Regulations Article IV Section 47	Change #1	at the left of the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work; *of the Judge Advocate to the left of the Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer;* of the Grand Captain of the Guard, in the West;
General Regulations Article IV Section 47	Change #2	of the Grand Lecturer, on the left of the Grand Standard Bearer; of the ~~Grand Fraternal Correspondent,~~ *Grand Historian* on the left of the Grand Lecturer; ~~of the Grand Historian, on the left of the Grand Fraternal Correspondent;~~ of the Grand Musician(s), on the right

Adopted Changes: Aug. 13, 2016 – 193rd Grand Assembly		
The General Regulations listing the duties of the Deputy Grand Master were changed to better define the reasons behind the assumption of the duties of Grand Master.		
General Regulations Article I section 7	Change	In the event of the death, ~~removal from the State~~, removal from office, or ~~inability of the Grand Master~~ <u>if the Grand Master shall become unable to perform the duties of his office</u>, the duties of that office shall devolve upon and be discharged by the Deputy Grand Master.

Adopted Changes: Aug. 22, 2014 – 191st Grand Assembly		
The General Regulations listing how the Grand Officers are selected was modified to be more syntactically correct and to remove the Assistant to the Grand Recorder.		
General Regulations Article I section 3 (a)	Change	… officers of this Grand Council, ***excepting*** the Grand Chaplains, Grand Lecturer, District Deputies Grand Master, Grand Fraternal Correspondent, Judge Advocate, Grand Historian, Grand Musician, ***and*** Grand Sentinel shall be elected at the Annual Assembly by ballot**,** and by a majority of ***the*** votes ***cast***.

Adopted Changes: Aug. 17, 2013 – 190th Grand Assembly		
The General Regulations were updated to allow the Grand Master to grant dispensations to our constituent councils to meet at other locations and times. To allow the Grand Recorder to handle the dispensation requests and prepare them for the Grand Master. To allow the Jurisprudence Committee a lower number for membership. The Index list was reworked to reference the current structure of the document.		
General Regulations Article I section 6 (i)	Change	...all regular business to ***other locations and/or times*** than their ...
General Regulations Article I section 10-1 (c)	Change	...Grand Council. ***To receive all requests for dispensations, prepare and submit same to the Grand Master for his review and approval.***
General Regulations Article III section 46 - #2	Change	... to consist of ***three or*** five members.
Index	Update	Line entries properly reference 2013 document.

Adopted Change: Aug. 17, 2012 – 189th Grand Assembly		
This line was added to the Grand Officers section of the General Regulations to detail the "Quid Pro Quo" of Council visitations and reimbursements.		
General Regulations Article I section 14 (a) (1)	Add	***Each Grand Line Officer will visit each Council in the district(s) assigned to him in order to receive any expense money appropriated for such in the budget.***

Adopted Changes: Aug. 14, 2010 – 187th Grand Assembly		
The position of Judge Advocate was added to the Constitution and General Regulations under the sections for officers and responsibilities.		
Constitution Article I section 3	Change	… Fraternal Correspondent; ***Judge Advocate;*** Grand Historian; ...
General Regulations Article I section 3 (a)	Change	… Fraternal Correspondent; ***Judge Advocate;*** Grand Historian; ...
General Regulations Article I section 3 (a) L-3	Change	… Fraternal Correspondent; ***Judge Advocate;*** Grand Historian; ...
General Regulations Article I section 12-A	Add	***It shall be the duty of the Judge Advocate to be the legal adviser to ...***