

I. WHAT ARE THE DUTIES OF A GRAND REPRESENTATIVE?

The principal duty of the Grand Representative of another Cryptic Masonic jurisdiction is to represent that Grand Council by his personal attendance at the Annual Assemblies of the Grand Council of the State of New York, and....

...once each year, following the Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of New York, to correspond with his counterpart in the jurisdiction that he represents (that is, the Gr. Rep. of the Grand Council of NY residing in that state, province or country). This correspondence is to share any matters which in the personal opinion and observation of the Grand Rep., were of particular importance, interest or a subject of discussion at our Grand Council's Annual Assembly.

By custom and tradition, should any officers of the jurisdiction he represents be present at our Grand Council's Annual Assembly, the Grand Rep. may be called upon for the ceremonial duty of escorting and introducing them during the Reception of Distinguished Visitors.

II. HOW LONG IS A GRAND REPRESENTATIVE'S TERM OF APPOINTMENT?

A Grand Representative holds his appointment at the pleasure of the Grand Council and Grand Master of the jurisdiction he represents. So they determine the length of the appointment.

However because a Grand Representative's duty is to attend the Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of NY, our Constitutions & General Regulations stipulate that should he fail to be present at that meeting for two out of three consecutive years (without prior excuse from the Grand Master of the Grand Council of NY), he will be deemed no longer able to fulfill the duties of his office and considered to have resigned.

III. WHO MAY BE RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENT?

Any Companion who is a member in Good Standing of a Council under the jurisdiction of the Grand Council Cryptic Masons of the State of NY who is recommended by his Council, endorsed by the District Deputy Grand Master of that District and found worthy of approval and recommendation by the Grand Master of the Grand Council of the State NY.

While not a requirement, the custom and tradition in our Grand Council is that the recommended Companion should be a Past Illustrious Master. Current or "sitting" Illustrious Masters will be considered but their term of appointment, if found worthy of recommendation, will not become effective until after they have completed their service as Illustrious Master. Per our Constitutions, current Grand Council officers may not also serve as Grand Representatives.

IV. HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE FOR AN APPOINTMENT TO BE MADE?

Since the actual appointment comes from another Cryptic jurisdiction, the time it takes from your Council's having recommended a worthy Companion until he receives his certificate of appointment will vary. The steps are as follows:

- (a) The Companions of your Council must approve the recommendation and the recommended Companion must indicate his willingness to fulfill the duties of the office.
- (b) The recommendation must be endorsed by the District Deputy Grand Master and sent to our Most Illustrious Grand Master for his review and approval.
- (c) Our Most Illustrious Grand Master will review the recommendation and if found worthy, will forward it to a sister jurisdiction for their approval.

V. WHO CHOOSES THE JURISDICTION A RECOMMENDATION WILL BE SENT TO?

The Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of N.Y. based on those jurisdictions where a vacancy currently exists.

In recent years, some Councils have expressed concern over the cost of Grand Representative's aprons. If a Council is in possession of an apron for a specific jurisdiction and they or the recommended Companion wish to state a preference, that will be taken into account. However, our Most Illustrious Grand Master must make his recommendations to those jurisdictions where a vacancy currently exists.

V. DOES A GRAND REP. ALSO HAVE TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE GRAND COUNCIL HE REPRESENTS?

No! His duty is to represent that jurisdiction at our Grand Council's Annual Assembly.

In considering whether or not your Council has a Companion worthy of recommendation always keep the following foremost in your minds. This is an active and esteemed office. The reputation of your Council and our Grand Council are reflected in your choice of whom you recommend. Therefore, we are looking for active and interested Cryptic Masons. Companions who have exhibited a genuine interest and participation in your Council and its activities. This is an honorable appointment but not an "honorary" one. The Companion you recommend must be willing and able to fulfill with pride the duties of a Grand Representative of a sister jurisdiction, and thereby bring honor to your Council.