



Office of The Grand Secretary
Masonic Temple



**THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF DELAWARE**

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DISPENSATION

TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: I, M.: W.: Evan R. Moody, Grand Master of Masons in Delaware, desire that each constituent Lodge under the Jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Delaware has the ability to plan future lodge required activities and to maintain compliance with the requirements of the Constitution, Code, and General Regulations of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Delaware, and to maintain lodge continuity of operations during this World-wide Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic; and,

WHEREAS: Our state, our country, and the world continue to be affected by the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic, and our masonic and everyday activities continue to be guided by federal, state, and local government restrictions; and,

WHEREAS: The Governor of the State of Delaware has extended restrictions for any social gatherings as part of his Phase II reopening of Delaware, and will continue to have very tight restrictions on the number of people that can gather in any social activity; and,

WHEREAS: Restrictions on social gatherings will continue for some unknown length of time, perhaps beyond September, and our federal and state health officials are predicting a strong possibility of a resurgence of this Coronavirus pandemic in the fall; and,

WHEREAS: Our fraternity here in Delaware needs direction to move forward with their plans for the 2020 – 2021 Masonic Year and be able to maintain lodge continuity of operations; and,

WHEREAS: To that end, I find it necessary to update and modify my previous Dispensation No. 19-20-22 and to take some very unusual steps to ensure the safety of our brethren, their families, and our communities, and to allow our subordinate lodges to continue with the government, continuity, and functionality of their lodges, therefore;

BE IT KNOWN THAT I, Evan R. Moody, Grand Master of Masons in Delaware, by virtue of the power and authority in me vested, do hereby waive the following Constitution, Code, and General Regulations of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Delaware as shown below, and do hereby authorize and empower the Master and Wardens of each Lodge to execute these directives accordingly.

To Wit:

1. **Chapter 3, Article II, Official Decisions (Suspension of Stated Communications, Civil Emergencies, and Holidays), Reference 3-4, Section 3:**

Since every lodge is independent and guided by the leadership and brethren of their individual lodges, the final decision as to whether or not any lodge will hold any masonic activity, must ultimately be decided by the Worshipful Master. If, after consultation with the officers of the lodge, the Worshipful Master decides that it is unsafe to hold any particular masonic activity, including a Stated or Special Communication, this Dispensation will allow for said suspension/cancellation/postponement of any masonic activity. If such a case occurs, it will be necessary for the Secretary of the lodge to notify the Office of the Grand Secretary and the Brethren of the lodge, with a Due & Timely Notification of same.

This exception to the above noted code reference will remain in effect until further notification.

2. **Authorization For Paying Lodge Bills:**

Lodge Worshipful Masters will continue to have the authority to authorize the lodge's Treasurers, to pay bills in the ordinary course, without lodge approval.

In conclusion, this Dispensation is issued with the understanding that the current Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis has resulted in the need for us to take some unprecedented steps to help in the continuity of the operation of our Constituent Lodges. This Dispensation attempts to answer additional questions that have come to my attention, but I am sure there will be others as we work through this together, and we may need to modify or add to this Dispensation. I encourage each lodge to think "outside the box" and try to find a way to continue with some of the necessary requirements of our lodges, while maintaining compliance with federal, state, and local government. Any questions concerning this Dispensation, or any additional questions or recommendations going forward, shall be directed through the Grand Secretary's Office.

Further, I hereby Order that this Dispensation is to be distributed to all of our members as expeditiously as possible. Additionally, this Dispensation shall be entered in full upon the Minutes of the Lodge thereof, during the next allowable Stated Communication of the Lodge.

Dispensation No. 19-20-29, Coronavirus (COVID-19) Issues
August 17, 2020
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For the purpose set forth above this shall be deemed your full and sufficient **WARRANT**.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Grand
Lodge of Delaware this 17th day of August, 2020
AD, 6020 AL.



Evan R. Moody

M.: W.: Evan R. Moody
Grand Master

Glenn F. Davis, Sr.

M.: W.: Glenn F. Davis, Sr., PGM
Grand Secretary

19-20-29