Grand Encampment of Knights Templar

United States of America & its Jurisdictions
Prince Hall Affiliation, Incorporated

Sir Fredrick Joyner (DC), GCT, KYGCH
39th Most Eminent Grand Master
megm@gektpha.org

Proclamation
01-2026

Sir Joaquin M. Diaz (HI)
R.E. Deputy Grand Master
redgm@gektpha.org

Sir Eddie V. Tucker (MD)
R.E. Grand Generalissimo
regg@gektpha.org

Sir Mark C. Maxwell (KY)
R.E. Grand Captain General
regcg@gektpha.org

Sir Kenneth A. Ferguson (FL)
R.E. Grand Treasurer
regt@gektpha.org

Sir Otho Z. Wilbur, Sr (TX)
R.E. Grand Recorder
regr@gektpha.org

Sir Frank Fields (OK)
R.E. Grand Prelate
regp@gektpha.org

Sir Steven S. Legette (VA)
R.E. Grand Senior Warden
regsw@gektpha.org

Sir Richard Bourne (NY)
R.E. Grand Junior Warden
regjw@gektpha.org

Sir Amondus Brown (OK)
R.E. Grand Trustee - 3 year
regtrustee03@gektpha.org

Sir James Reed (NC)
R.E. Grand Trustee - 2 year
regtrustee02@gektpha.org

Sir Marques Jones (NY)
R.E. Grand Trustee - 1 year
regtrustee01@gektpha.org

Sir Dale E. Weaver (MD)
R.E. Grand CCFC
regccfc@gektpha.org

TO: Right Eminent Deputy Grand Master Sir Joaquin M. Diaz (HI), Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo Sir Eddie V. Tucker (MD), Right Eminent Grand Captain General Sir Mark C. Maxwell (KY), Elected & Appointed Grand Encampment Officers, Most Eminent Past Grand Masters, Honorary Past Grand Masters, Most/Right Eminent Grand Commanders, Right/Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commanders, Right/Very Eminent Grand Generalissimos, Right/Very Eminent Grand Captain Generals, Right/Very Eminent Grand Prelates, International Grand Princess Commandress Martha Myers, International Grand Royal Advisor Sir Frederick Walker, Sr. (TX), International Grand Court Cyrene Crusaders Elected & Appointed Officers, Past International Grand Princess Commandresses and Past International Grand Royal Advisors

*****GREETINGS*****

Pursuant to the powers and authority in me vested by the Constitution, By-Laws, General Regulations and Statutes, as the 39th Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and Its Jurisdictions, Prince Hall Affiliation, Incorporated, I, Most Eminent Sir Fredrick Joyner, do hereby summon all Grand Encampment Officers, Elected and Appointed, and all Sir Knights who owe allegiance to this Magnanimous Order, to convene with me for the 101st Annual Grand Conclave of the Grand Encampment and the 58th Annual Session of the International Grand Court, Cyrene Crusaders, June 29th through July 3rd, 2027, at the SAHARA Las Vegas, located at 2535 Las Vegas Boulevard South, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109. The Grand Encampment Officers will open an occasional Grand Conclave on Thursday, July 1st, 2027 for the purpose of receiving the Most Eminent Grand Master.

REGISTRATION

Advance Registration for Sir Knights and Princesses is $ 200.00 and includes a ticket for the Annual Black & White Banquet. Complete the Annual Grand Conclave Registration Form online (**quickest and most efficient way to register**). **Registration is not complete until payment is received.** Registration and payment must be received no later than **May 25, 2027**, to qualify for the advance registration rate. On-site and late registration is $ 300.00 for Sir Knights and Princesses **(kit not guaranteed)**.

Payment may be made through PayPal, Cash App, or Zelle. Electronic payments are subject to applicable convenience fees. Convenience fees are nonrefundable; any approved refund will exclude those fees.

If submitting by mail, allow sufficient delivery time; the Grand Encampment is not responsible for postal delays. Make checks or money orders payable to Grand Encampment K.T. USA-PHA and mail with the completed registration form to Sir Otho Z. Wilbur, Sr., Right Eminent Grand Recorder, at P. O. Box 7024, Round Rock, TX 78683. Cash and checks will also be accepted on site. For questions, email regr@gektpha.org or call (618) 694-3328.

ADDITIONAL MEALS

Please let us know if you have any dietary restrictions or preferences. The prices for additional meal tickets are as follows:

Extra Lunch ticket is $ 60.00 **Extra Banquet ticket is $ 90.00**

ON SITE / LATE REGISTRATION

Registrations received after **May 25, 2027**, will be considered late registrations and may not include all amenities provided by the Grand Encampment.

REGISTRATION REFUND POLICY

Registration Refund requests must be submitted by email or letter no later than June 1, 2027; phone requests will not be accepted. Requests received after June 1, 2027 may be processed minus the cost of meals on a case-by-case basis. All Convenience fees for electronic payments are nonrefundable.

JURISDICTIONAL RETURNS AND FEES

All Jurisdictions owing allegiance to this Grand Encampment are to complete the Jurisdiction Returns Form online **(quickest and most efficient way to submit returns)**. Returns and applicable fees must be received no later than **May 25, 2027**, for jurisdictions to be seated. Payment may be made through PayPal, Cash App, or Zelle. Electronic payments are subject to applicable convenience fees, which are nonrefundable.

If submitting by mail, allow sufficient delivery time; the Grand Encampment is not responsible for postal delays. Make checks or money orders payable to Grand Encampment K.T. USA-PHA and mail with the completed returns to Sir Otho Z. Wilbur, Sr., Right Eminent Grand Recorder, at P. O. Box 7024, Round Rock, TX 78683. For questions, email regr@gektpha.org or call (618) 694-3328.

JURISDICTIONAL DEPUTIES

Please submit your Jurisdictional Deputy's Report and Fee of **$ 150.00** which is due annually to the Grand Recorder **no later than May 25, 2027**.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Hotel reservations can be made online through the Sahara reservation link: https://book.passkey.com/e/51358285

When making your reservation, please refer to the group code **The 101st Grand Encampment of Knight Templars USA, PHA**. A valid credit card or debit card is required. **One (1) night's lodging will be charged when you make your hotel reservations. Debit card funds may be held for 7 to 10 business days by most banking institutions.** All hotel reservations must be made no later than **Tuesday, June 8, 2027**, to meet the Grand Encampment and International Grand Court room block deadline. The room rates are as follows:

Marra-Style King Room - Single or Double Occupancy

- **June 29 - July 1, 2027: $ 49.00** per night, + $ 40.00 resort fee per night, + 13.38% tax
- **July 2 - July 3, 2027: $ 149.00** per night, + $ 40.00 resort fee per night, + 13.38% tax
- An additional **$ 15.00 per person resort fee** for **Triple or Quad Occupancy** per night

NOTE: Family Plan Policy Room rates include the accommodation of children **(17 years old or younger)** who sleep in the existing bedding of a guest room. **All other guests are considered adults. ALL ROOM OCCUPANTS MUST BE REGISTERED WITH THE HOTEL.**

Rollaway beds and cribs may incur extra charges.

- Extra rollaway bed: $ 30.00 per rollaway/per night.
- Child rollaway bed: $ 30.00 per rollaway/per night.
- Crib: No charge

All guest rooms are non-smoking. Smoking of any kind is prohibited inside rooms.

Check-In time is 4:00 p.m. and Check-Out time is 11:00 a.m. unless special arrangements are made in advance. NOTE: Not all rooms may be able to accommodate rollaway beds or cribs. Please contact the hotel directly for more information.

HOTEL ROOM INCIDENTALS

Debit card funds may be held for 7 to 10 business days by most banking institutions. A major credit card is required upon check-in and will be authorized for room charges, taxes, resort fees, and a **$ 50.00** incidental deposit per day. **Any unused incidental funds may take up to five (5) business days to be released by your financial institution**.

RESORT FEE POLICY

Resort Fee plus applicable tax applies to each night of your stay and **will be collected at the time of check-in**. Resort Fee plus applicable tax will be displayed in the total room charges but will not be collected at the time of booking.

The resort fee includes complimentary valet and self-parking, in-room Wi-Fi, fitness center access, seasonal pool access, two complimentary bottles of water, local and toll-free telephone calls, airline boarding pass printing, notary services for registered guests during business hours, and exclusive **on-property perks valued at over $ 150.00 via our digital savings pass**. Please provide your **email address when making your hotel reservation** to ensure that you receive the **digital savings pass.**

NOTE: The digital pass savings can be used to purchase tickets for the monorail. You can purchase tickets online at Las Vegas Monorail | Alternative to Shuttles, Taxis & Trams

Present your conference badge to receive a discount at participating establishments inside the SAHARA Hotel. Starbucks is excluded.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations must be made at least 72 hours before 4:00 pm on the scheduled arrival date. Cancellations made after that time will be subject to a penalty of first night's room rate plus tax. Guests who do not arrive for their reservation and fail to cancel within the stated cancellation period will be charged a no-show fee equal to one night's room rate plus applicable taxes.

SMOKING/CANNABIS POLICY

All guest rooms are non-smoking. Smoking of any kind is prohibited inside rooms.

TRANSPORTATION

Harry S. Reid International Airport is located approximately **six (6) miles** from SAHARA Las Vegas. Taxi service is available at a **current** flat rate of **$ 30.25 one way, excluding tips (rates are subject to change without notice)**. Uber and Lyft are also available; however, fares vary based on demand and time of travel.

SOUVENIR JOURNAL

There will be an electronic Joint Souvenir Journal. All Grand Encampment Officers -- Elected and Appointed and affiliated Jurisdictional Commanderies are asked to be represented in the Souvenir Journal. The price of a full-page ad with digital journal access is **$ 60.00**. The price of a full-page ad with digital journal access and a printed journal

is **$ 100.00**. **Souvenir Journal Ads and payment can be submitted electronically at**: GEKT Souvenir Journal Ad Submission Form

Please submit Ads/Photos saved in high resolution (JPEG; PDF File or Microsoft Word Documents). If you have questions, contact the Souvenir Journal Committee: Robbie Parker – (757) 412-9871 or William Moore – (757) 574-3595 at: gektsouvenirjc@gmail.com

NOTE: E-mailed Ads will be processed upon receipt of payment! Deadline for Ads is April 30, 2027. Complete your **souvenir journal ad submission online**. Payment may be made through PayPal, Cash App, Zelle, or by mailing a check or money order. Cash and checks will also be accepted. Make checks or money orders payable to Grand Encampment K.T. USA-PHA and mail to Sir Otho Z. Wilbur, Sr., Right Eminent Grand Recorder, at P. O. Box 7024, Round Rock, TX 78683.

SOUVENIR JOURNAL REFUND POLICY

Souvenir Journal Refund requests must be submitted by email or letter no later than April 30, 2027; phone requests will not be accepted. Electronic payments are subject to applicable convenience fees. **All Convenience fees for electronic payments are nonrefundable**.

REPORTS

The following working Reports will be compiled and received at the Grand Encampment:

A. Rules of the Day
B. Audit
C. Credentials
D. Most Eminent Past Grand Master's Honors
E. Knight Commander of the Temple
F. Knight Grand Cross of the Temple
G. Medical
H. Most Eminent Grand Master's Address

Elected and Appointed Officers and Committees are on the website: 2026-2027 GEKT Officers.

Committee Chairs are listed first under the Committee Title.

All Elected Officers' Annual Reports and Committee Reports (Committee Chairs) are to be completed and turned in to the Right Eminent Grand Recorder by **May 25, 2027**. The following Reports are to be completed and sent via email to Sir Otho Z. Wilbur, Sr., Right Eminent Grand Recorder at regr@gektpha.org:

A. Deputy Grand Master
B. Grand Generalissimo
C. Grand Captain General
D. Grand Treasurer
E. Grand Recorder
F. Grand Prelate
G. Grand Senior Warden
M. Grand Junior Warden
N. Grand Trustees
O. International Grand Royal Advisor
P. Jurisdictional Deputies
Q. Grand CCFC
R. Student Aid
S. Grievance and Appeals
H. Jurisprudence
I. Resolutions
J. Ways and Means
K. Budget and Finance
L. Crown and Cross Foundation
T. Time and Place
U. Constitution and By-Laws
V. Ways and Means / Special Projects
W. Webmaster
X. MSA / Leadership Award

MEMORIAL / UPPER ROOM / PRAYER LUNCHEON / DEDICATION OF ASYLUM
FRANK FIELDS (OK)
TYRONE HARDESTY (GA)
ALL R.E. GRAND ASSISTANT PRELATES

RULES
RICHARD BOURNE (NY)
MARQUES JONES (NY)
CHARLES MOTLEY (AL)

WAYS & MEANS
EDDIE V. TUCKER (MD)
AMONDUS BROWN (OK)
VALENTINO MCBRIDE (FL)

BUDGET & FINANCES
JOAQUIN M. DIAZ (HI)
KENNETH A. FERGUSON (FL)
OTHO Z. WILBUR, SR (TX)

AUDIT
CLARENCE A. TRAYNHAM (LA)
ARCHIE FOWLER (TN)
JONAS OGLESBY, JR (TN)

KING CONTEST
RICHARD BOURNE (NY)
AMONDUS M. BROWN (OK)
JAMES REED (NC)

DRILL & TACTICS
MARK C. MAXWELL (KY)
TOBY BRYANT (PA)
WILLIE KELLER (TX)

STUDENT AIDE
S. SHAH LEGETTE (VA)
ARCHIE FOWLER (TN)
RICHARD BOURNE (NY)

CREDENTIALS
DR. LEE HILL (MO)
MARK WHISONANT (NC)
OTHO Z. WILBUR, SR (TX)

COLLEGE OF HONORS
JOAQUIN M. DIAZ (HI)
EDDIE V. TUCKER (MD)
MARK C. MAXWELL (KY)

FLAG CEREMONY
RICHARD BOURNE (NY)
TOBY BRYANT (PA)
TYRONE PETERSON (BA)

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
S. SHAH LEGETTE (VA)
WILLIAM A. COOKE (NC)
MEPGM ELMA L. KIBLER (DC)

RESOLUTIONS
JOAQUIN M. DIAZ (HI)
MARK C. MAXWELL (KY)
FRANK FIELDS (OK)

TIME AND PLACE
JOAQUIN M. DIAZ
WILLIE J. TATE (TX)
JAMES REED (NC)

GRIEVANCE AND APPEALS
MARK C. MAXWELL (KY)
DARRYL R. SMITH (OH)
MICHAEL THOMAS (AK)

JURISPRUDENCE
EDDIE V. TUCKER (MD)
HARRISON GREGG (TX)
BERNT WALKER (MI)

ANNUAL BANQUET
EDDIE V. TUCKER (MD)
WILLIE J. TATE (TX)
HOST JURISDICTION REPRESENTATIVE

WORKSHOPS
S. SHAH LEGETTE (VA)
RONALD D. GERAC (TX)
MARK C. MAXWELL (KY)

AWARDS COMMITTEE
MARK C. MAXWELL (KY)
MEPGM FRED R.S. NELSON, JR (PA)
MEPGM MELVIN CALLAHAN (TN)

FOREIGN & FRATERNAL RELATIONS
MEPGM HOMER BUCHANAN (OH)
WALTER J. SIMS, JR (PA)
DALE WEAVER (MD)

MEPGMs & HMEPGMS CEREMONY
DANNY WEST (MD)
AMONDUS BROWN (OK)
VERNON JAMES (TX)

WEBMASTER
OTHO Z. WILBUR, SR (TX)
LARRY ELROD (GA)

MARKETING COMMITTEE
STEPHEN BARRETT (MI)
BRANDON JAMES (MI)

VISITORS
RONALD D. GERAC (TX)
KENNETH E. BROWN (TN)

SECURITY
CLARENCE GILLARD (LA)
ALEX LITTLE (MO)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
EDWARD L. RIDLEY, JR (DC)

MEGM's ALLOCUTION
ALL MEPGMs

MEDICAL STAFF
ARLANDER RIDDICK (KY)

CONVENTION TEAM
WILLIE J. TATE (TX)

NOTE: Beginning **January 2027 through March 2027**, the Committee Chairman shall submit via email a monthly In-Progress Review (IPR) by the **15th** to the MEGM and REDGM.

Beginning **April 2027 through June 2027**, submit via email twice-monthly an IPR by the **9th and 23rd** to the MEGM and REDGM.

KNIGHT COMMANDER OF THE TEMPLE (KCT) DEGREE

Sir Knights, the Honorary Degree of Knight Commander of the Temple will be conferred during our Grand Encampment. If you are desirous of becoming a Knight Commander of the Temple, your petition, resume, and fee of **$ 350.00** are to be mailed to the Right Eminent Grand Recorder no later than May 25, 2027. Please make checks/money orders payable to Grand Encampment K.T. USA-PHA and mail to Sir Otho Z. Wilbur, Sr., Right Eminent Grand Recorder, at P. O. Box 7024, Round Rock, TX 78683. For questions, email regr@gektpha.org. The Right Eminent Grand Recorder will forward the petitions and resumes to the Right Eminent Grand Captain General to review for KCT honors. Note: All petitions shall be signed and affixed with their Grand Commander's Seal before submission to the Right Eminent Grand Recorder. Fillable KCT Application

KNIGHT GRAND CROSS OF THE TEMPLE (KGC) DEGREE

Sir Knights, the Honorary Degree of Knight Grand Cross of the Temple will be conferred during our Grand Encampment. You must have received the Knight Commander of the Temple Honors in order to be eligible for the KGC honor. If you are desirous of receiving the Knight Grand Cross of the Temple, your petition, resume and fee of **$ 750.00** are to be mailed to the Right Eminent Grand Recorder no later than May 25, 2027. Please make checks/money orders payable to Grand Encampment K.T. USA-PHA and mail to Sir Otho Z. Wilbur, Sr., Right Eminent Grand Recorder, at P. O. Box 7024, Round Rock, TX 78683. For questions, email regr@gektpha.org. The Right Eminent Grand Recorder will forward the petitions and resumes to the Right Eminent Grand Captain General to review for KGC honors. **Note**: Recommendations are to be submitted and signed by the GEKT Jurisdictional Deputy. Fillable KGC Application

KING'S CONTEST

The King's Contest will be held during the 101st Grand Encampment in Las Vegas, NV. Every jurisdiction is requested to participate in this event, which is for a worthy cause. Proceeds from the King's Contest will be used to assist a deserving student to attend an institution of higher learning. Contestants for the King's Contest are to

send the funds (Cashier's Check or Money Order made payable to Crown and Cross Foundation**; please do not mail cash**) no later than May 25, 2027, to Sir Knight Richard Bourne, 884 Heartwood Loop Road, NE, Leland, NC 28451. For questions, email regjw@gektpha.org.

DRILL AND TACTICS

Jurisdictional Drill Teams are to complete the Daughtery-Mitchell Sword Drill Competition and Drill Ceremonies Entry Form online - **the quickest and most efficient way to register.** Applications and the **advance entry fee of $ 40.00 per team** must be received no later than **May 25, 2027**. Payment may be made through PayPal, Cash App, or Zelle. Electronic payments are subject to applicable convenience fees, which are nonrefundable.

If submitting by mail, allow sufficient delivery time; the Grand Encampment is not responsible for postal delays. Make checks or money orders payable to Grand Encampment K.T. USA-PHA and mail with the completed application to Sir Otho Z. Wilbur, Sr., Right Eminent Grand Recorder, at P. O. Box 7024, Round Rock, TX 78683. For questions, email regr@gektpha.org. The Right Eminent Grand Recorder will forward completed forms to the Drill and Tactics Chairman.

COVID-19 ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America and Its Jurisdictions, Prince Hall Affiliation Incorporated is fully aware of and takes seriously the dangers involving exposure to the COVID-19 virus and its several variants. The protection and safety of our members, attendees, leadership, and staff is our top priority. All attendees will adhere to the following health and safety protocols during the conclave in Las Vegas.

1. The wearing of a facemask is **OPTIONAL AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE** during the Annual Grand Conclave. Facemasks and hand sanitizer will be made available to all members if needed.
2. Daily screening will consist of a temperature check. **Attendees with temperatures above 100.4° F / 38° C will be evaluated for COVID-19 and will not be allowed into the meeting**.
3. A wristband will be issued to all attendees (daily) after successful completion of the medical screening process. **NO WRISTBAND, NO ENTRY!!!**
4. Please remain cognizant of your surroundings and environment as you enter the meeting rooms. We are grateful for your attendance and participation at this year's Annual Grand Conclave but your safety is of our utmost concern.
5. I HEREBY voluntarily seek admission to the GEKT 's Annual Grand Conclave of the Grand Encampment and/or the Annual Grand Session of the International Grand Court Cyrene Crusaders, Auxiliary to the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of The United States of America & Foreign Jurisdictions, P.H.A.
6. I understand that this event will include memorial services, opening ceremonies, meetings, and other "in-person" activities. I further acknowledge that I may be increasing my risk of exposure to the Coronavirus/COVID-19 as a result.
7. I understand the contagious nature of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 and that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and many other public health authorities recommend practicing the following precautionary measures, including, but not limited to, social distancing of at least six (6) feet apart, frequent handwashing and hand-sanitizing, and wearing a face covering or mask over one's mouth and nose.
8. I understand that for all "in-person" activities every reasonable step will be taken to provide a safe environment in conformance with applicable CDC and local public health authority recommendations. I acknowledge that I too must comply with all precautionary measures as set forth above to reduce the risk of contagion during this event/function.
9. I further understand that, notwithstanding all safety precautions being taken, the risk of contracting COVID-19 during an "in-person" activity cannot be eliminated completely.

COVID-19 Liability Waiver & Certification

Therefore, I on behalf of myself, my heirs, and any personal representatives, hereby release and agree to hold harmless the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, P.H.A., Inc. and International Grand Court, Order of Cyrene Crusaders, including all affiliated members, agents, and employees, from any and all causes of action, claims, demands, damages, costs, expenses, or compensation for loss or injury to myself and/or my property. This includes, but is not limited to, bodily injury, illness, death, or medical treatment that may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of the aforementioned organizations, specifically related to exposure to or contraction of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 (**acknowledgement and agreement of the aforementioned terms are required for registration**).

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This Proclamation is being issued and attested to by our hands and the Seal of this Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the USA, PHA, Incorporated on this 31st day of October 2026.

Yours in Knightly Courtesy,

_____FJ
ME Sir Fredrick Joyner (DC), GCT, KYGCH
39th Most Eminent Grand Master

ATTESTED BY:

_____OZW
RE Sir Otho Z. Wilbur, Sr (TX), GCT, KYCH
Right Eminent Grand Recorder