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## OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION NUMBER 25 June 11, 2021

**TO:** Grand Lodge Officers, Grand Trustees, Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, and Brothers of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, Jurisdiction of Alabama

### GREETINGS:

*“I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: My God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, And from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: His truth shall be thy shield and buckler.”*

*Psalm 91:2-4*

The COVID-19 pandemic has left devastation throughout the world; however, since the dissemination of the coronavirus vaccine, there is hope. We now have an opportunity to stop COVID-19 in its tracks. God is good and His mercy endures forever! I encourage each of you to do your part: get vaccinated, continue to wear your masks and continue to practice social distancing. The life you save may be your own!

### **151st ANNUAL COMMUNICATION POSTPONED UNTIL DECEMBER**

The 151st (one hundred forty-third since consolidation) Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama, scheduled to convene on Tuesday, July 20, 2021, at 8:30 a.m., at The Battle House Renaissance Mobile Hotel and Spa, 26 North Royal Street, Mobile, Alabama 36602, is hereby postponed. **The 151st Annual Communication will be held December 6th-8th, 2021, at The Westin Huntsville Hotel, 6800 Governors Drive West, Huntsville, Alabama 35806.** The postponement is necessary due to the pandemic. More information concerning the 151st Annual Communication will be forthcoming in a future Official Communication.

### **SOUVENIR JOURNAL DEADLINE EXTENDED**

Although we did not print a book, our souvenir journal efforts for 2020 were a great success. I congratulate and thank all who participated. We will print ads for the 2020 and 2021 souvenir journal in our upcoming book. The souvenir journal information for 2021 is enclosed with this Communication and will be available on the website. Please sell as many ads as you can and pay strict attention to the extended deadline date of **August 1, 2021.**

**All subordinate lodges are REQUIRED to purchase or to sell a full-page ad or two half-page ads. If the lodge purchased or sold an ad for the 2020 souvenir journal, it is also responsible for selling or purchasing an ad for the 2021 souvenir journal. Both ads will be placed in the book.**

### **GRAND LODGE REGISTRATION FEE**

In accordance with Official Communication No. 22, due to the cancellation of the Annual Grand Lodge Session in July of 2020, the annual registration fee for the year 2020 will be credited in the registration department to the year 2021. Therefore, if you paid your Grand Lodge Registration Fee for the year 2020, it will be applied to the year 2021.

Several lodges that paid the registration fee for the year 2020 have also mailed in payments for the year 2021. Those payments will be applied to the year 2022. The Grand Lodge will not process reimbursements. Only credits will be provided.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS & RE-OPENING POSSIBILITIES**

Currently community service projects within the jurisdiction are allowed as long as CDC guidelines are followed. However, all masonic activities (meetings of any kind, fundraising events, banquets, degree work, etc.) of all masonic bodies, within the Jurisdiction of Alabama, remain suspended until further notice. Lodges can; however, conduct essential business (i.e., payment of bills, voting of candidates, reinstatements, demits, etc.) via conference call or by video conference without a formal opening of the lodge.

It is my hope that I will be able to re-open our jurisdiction by no later than mid-August to early September. I will send you official notice when I do decide that we will re-open.

### **NO ELECTIONS TO BE HELD**

All officers of subordinate lodges elected and installed in 2019 are to remain in office until future notice is given designating an election month.

### **VIRTUAL ST. JOHN'S DAY**

Each district will be hosting a virtual St. John's Day on Sunday, June 27, 2021. Please contact your Grand District Deputy for more information. I encourage each of you to participate in large numbers.

### **CANCELLATION of the 2021 PHA CLASSIC WEEKEND**

Effective immediately, the Annual Prince Hall Americanism Classic Weekend is hereby cancelled. We will resume this festive weekend in 2022.

### **PERSONAL CHECKS and MONEY ORDERS**

There has been a tremendous increase of personal checks and money orders sent to the Grand Lodge to pay subordinate lodges' invoices. This is an indication that several lodges are operating without checking accounts. **THIS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE. Every lodge, in the Jurisdiction of Alabama, is to have a checking account and each check should require dual signatures. Also, the check writer should not be the individual receiving the bank statement. EACH GRAND DISTRICT DEPUTY IS INSTRUCTED TO REQUIRE EACH LODGE IN HIS DISTRICT TO SHOW PROOF OF AN ACTIVE CHECKING ACCOUNT.**

### **NEW MEMBERSHIP CARD STICKERS**

In accordance with Official Communication No. 24, the cost of new membership card stickers has increased to twenty-five cents per sticker. The semi-annual tax invoice, dated December 2, 2020, did not reflect the increased amount of twenty-five cents; rather, it reflected ten cents per sticker. The extra fifteen cents per sticker was to be added to the May 2021 invoice. Unfortunately, due to continued database issues, the extra fifteen cents was not added; however, it will be added to the semi-annual audit invoice in December of 2021. The total amount for membership stickers will reflect forty cents, which will include the twenty-five cents for the year 2022 and the fifteen cents for the year 2021.

### **GRAND LODGE OFFICE CLOSED TO APPOINTMENTS and WALK-INS**

To eliminate risk of exposure to our employees, the Office of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. and A. M. of Alabama remains closed to appointments and walk-ins until January 1, 2022. The business of the Grand Lodge will continue to be transacted via U.S. Mail, email, telephone, and/or facsimile, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

### **GRAND LODGE TAX and ENDOWMENT DUES**

**PLEASE BE REMINDED THAT IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT EACH LODGE SEND ITS GRAND LODGE TAX TO THE GRAND SECRETARY BY DECEMBER 1<sup>st</sup> AND BY MAY 30<sup>th</sup>. All Worshipful Masters of all lodges are requested to send all Grand Lodge taxes to R. W. Anthony J. Johnson, Grand Secretary, Post Office Box 6468, Huntsville, Alabama 35813-6468, as soon as possible.**

**Also, be sure to send all endowment reports to our Endowment Office Supervisor, Mrs. Kathy Dunnigan-Taylor, Post Office Box 10504, Birmingham, Alabama 35202-0504, each month—but not later than the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.**

### **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

- 1.) Do not send cash to the Grand Lodge office for any transaction; send checks. Cash will not be accepted.**
- 2.) All checks should be made out to Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alabama (MWPHGL of AL).**

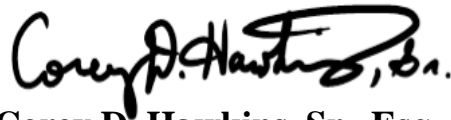
3.) Brothers who reinstate and demit must always reinstate to the lodge that they were members of when suspended and then demit to the lodge of their choice. If a Brother's lodge no longer exists, he is to be referred to his Grand District Deputy to help in completing the paperwork to get him on another lodge's roll.

4.) When you renew your license plates, please remember to purchase a Prince Hall Grand Lodge license plate. A donation of \$41.25 of the \$50.00 fee will go to the Prince Hall Legacy Foundation for scholarship purposes. We should be proud to show the world that we are Prince Hall Masons.

5.) Any current or reinstating member who would like to receive a membership certificate may send a check or money order in the amount of \$5.00 to the Grand Lodge Office along with a note requesting a certificate.

**Again, I encourage you to please get vaccinated, continue to wear your masks, and continue to practice social distancing. Also, please continue to pray and check on the well-being of our brothers and sisters. We must support one another more than ever. May God bless and keep you in His care!**

**In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Grand Lodge to be affixed and the same to be attested by the Grand Secretary on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June 2021, A. L. 6021.**



**Corey D. Hawkins, Sr., Esq.  
Most Worshipful Grand Master  
of the**

**Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge  
Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama**



Attested:



**Anthony J. Johnson  
Right Worshipful Grand Secretary  
of the**

**Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge  
Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama**