



TO BE READ TWICE IN OPEN LODGE



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OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION NUMBER 30 January 30, 2023

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:

“Black History Month isn’t just in February. To me, it’s every month. It’s year-round.”

Willie O’Ree

February has been designated as Black History Month. Although one month is better than no month at all, we should not be content. Our history should be taught every month of the year; for our history is American History. We must apply a more assertive effort to learn our history and enlighten others about our history. We should not only do this in February, but throughout the year. It is our duty, no one else’s, to teach our children and grandchildren about the struggles and the achievements of our ancestors and the present-day struggles and achievements of our people. However, for us to teach it, we must know it.

Thursday, January 12, 2023, is a day that many will not forget. Several tornadoes ripped through the state of Alabama taking the lives of seven in Autauga County and delivering significant damage to the historic city of Selma, Alabama. To see the devastation left behind is quite humbling. To see the outpour of support for those affected is promising. To see the resilience of those who weathered the storm is encouraging. Let us do what we can to help those who have been affected by the tornadoes. Many lost everything they had and some lost loved ones. Let us assist all of those affected to the length of our cabletows.

As of January 1st of this year, the Jurisdiction of Alabama is fully reopened and is back at work in all facets. Lodges are now required to meet in person again while continuing to practice safety protocols.

SELMA MARCH

For the tenth consecutive year and in an effort to be more involved in our communities, to remember our past, and to look to our future, I am calling on the entire jurisdiction to converge on Selma, Alabama, on **Sunday, March 5, 2023**, to participate in the 58th anniversary of the historical walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge. I am asking all brothers and sisters to meet at 119 Washington Street, Selma, Alabama 36701, diagonally across from Washington Street Marketplace, at 11:00 a.m. The bridge crossing re-enactment will begin at 2:30 p.m. A large crowd is expected; therefore, I am asking all brothers and sisters to arrive at the designated time. Please bring plenty of water, snacks and lounging chairs as they will be needed, particularly by our elderly brothers and sisters. **All brothers are to participate in the March dressed in proper masonic regalia to include a black suit (including the jacket), white shirt and solid black tie.**

It is very important that we assemble in Selma, Alabama in mass numbers. Each year we have had hundreds of brothers and sisters to attend. Let us do our best to continue to increase our numbers this year. Consider this March as a time to remember for the seasoned brother and a history lesson for the younger brother. I am counting on you to help make this another great success.

VIRTUAL REGIONAL MEETINGS

The schedule for 2023 Virtual Regional Meetings is as follows:

Saturday, February 18, 2023 – Region #5: District Numbers 13, 14 and 15— Grand District Deputies Alvin Crawford (#13), Walter Greene (#14) and Dr. James Gray, II (#15) at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, March 11, 2023 – Region #6: District Number 17— Grand District Deputy H. Jerome Glover (#17) at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, March 25, 2023 – Region #1: District Numbers 1, 3 and 4—Grand District Deputies Llewellyn Spencer (#1), Robert Stallworth, Jr. (#3) and Billy Joe Stallworth (#4) at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, April 8, 2023 – Region #2: District Numbers 2 and 12—Grand District Deputies Lurie Walton (#2) and Rev. Richard Wilson (#12) at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, May 6, 2023 – Region #4: District Numbers 7, 8 and 10—Grand District Deputies Erwin Chambliss (#7), Donald R. Parks (#8) and Edward Cobb (#10) at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, May 13, 2023 – Region #3: District Numbers 5 and 6— Grand District Deputies Rev. Robert Worlds (#5) and Rev. Raymond Franklin (#6) at 10:00 a.m.

WORSHIPFUL MASTERS, WARDENS AND BROTHERS ARE TO PARTICIPATE IN THEIR VIRTUAL REGIONAL MEETINGS. EVERY LODGE IS TO BE REPRESENTED. ZOOM CREDENTIALS WILL BE EMAILED OUT TO THE GRAND DISTRICT DEPUTIES BY GRAND SECRETARY JOHNSON. THE GRAND DISTRICT DEPUTIES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR DISSEMINATING THE ZOOM CREDENTIALS TO THE WORSHIPFUL MASTERS AND BROTHERS IN THEIR DISTRICTS.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- 1.) The Traveling Again Reclamation Program (TARP) has been extended until further notice.
- 2.) To enter the Alabama School of Masonry (masonic college) on our website, you must enter the password XXXXXXXXXX.
- 3.) The souvenir journal information for 2023 has been disseminated and is also available on the website. Please pay strict attention to the deadline date of May 15th. Please do not wait until the deadline approaches to submit your ads. Begin submitting your ads now. **All subordinate Lodges are REQUIRED to purchase or sell a full-page ad or two half page ads. All Grand Lodge Officers and**

Grand District Deputies are REQUIRED to purchase a full-page ad. Let us make this year's souvenir journal the best ever.

4.) Addresses and telephone numbers on lodge rolls must be updated at least once a year and as often as needed as members often relocate.

5.) When filing a death claim, be sure to mail in the **original death certificate** along with the Endowment/Burial Claim. Please note if the family wishes to have the original copy of the death certificate returned to them and we will return it after review.

6.) 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.

7.) Brothers who reach exemption status are exempt from endowment dues only. To be approved for exemption status, a brother must have been a member of the Endowment Department at least thirty-two (32) years without a break in time (i.e., suspension for non-payment of dues, suspension from the lodge, etc.). When requesting exemption status on a brother, please complete an Endowment Dues Exemption Application and mail it to the office. If the brother qualifies, you will receive a letter stating that he has been approved. If the brother does not qualify, you will receive a letter stating when he is eligible.

8.) 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.

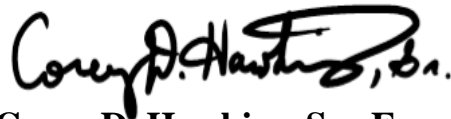
9.) Any current or reinstating member who would like to receive a membership certificate may send a check or money order in the amount of \$5.00 to the Grand Lodge Office along with a note requesting a certificate.

10.) A Request for Dispensation should be made as early as possible and must be made no fewer than fourteen (14) days prior to the event, emergency circumstances excepted. Requests must be made to the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

11.) The current fee structure is as follows:

- a.) Reinstatement - \$25.00
- b.) New Membership (includes membership certificate) - \$30.00
- c.) Membership Certificates - \$5.00
- d.) Taxes - \$25.00
- e.) Registration - \$25.00
- f.) Cornerstone & Burial - \$6.00
- g.) Replacement Membership Card - \$10.00
- h.) Membership Card Sticker - 25¢
- i.) Book of Constitutions - \$20.00
- j.) Assessment - New Members and those suspended before June 2002 - \$200.00. Those suspended after June 2002 - \$250.00 (all have two years to pay)

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 30th day of January 2023, A. L. 6023.



**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**