

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON INFORMATION FOR RECOGNITION

February 18, 2019

TO THE CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS OF MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA:

MOST WORSHIPFUL BROTHER CHAIRMAN:

MOST WORSHIPFUL AND RIGHT WORSHIPFUL BRETHREN:

It is my honor as Chairman of this Commission to present the 67th annual report of the Commission on Information for Recognition. At this time I am pleased to present the other members of this Commission in the order of length of service:

M.W. Raymond C. Lemons, Past Grand Master of Michigan

M.W. Joe R. Manning, Jr, Past Grand Master of Oklahoma

M.W. Glen A. Cook, Past Grand Master of Utah

M.W. Jorge L. Aladro, Past Grand Master of Florida

M.W. Richard Stewart, Past Grand Master of Massachusetts

M.W. Richard A. H. Brown, Past Grand Master of Saskatchewan

M.W. Joe C. Harrison, Past Grand Master of Tennessee, Secretary-Treasurer
and I am William J. Bray, III, Past Grand Master of California, Chairman.

Since the delegates to this Conference change each year, I would like to repeat the standards for recognition adopted for our guidance when the Commission was formed in 1952. These are the guidelines used to evaluate the regularity of a Grand Lodge, and thereby determine whether it is worthy of consideration for recognition by our member Grand Lodges. This Commission provides this data for use by our Grand Lodges, and does not attempt to influence or recommend what action should be taken. The Commission serves you in an investigative and advisory capacity only.

The standards for recognition are summarized as follows:

1. Legitimacy of origin.
2. Exclusive territorial jurisdiction, except by mutual consent and/or treaty.
3. Adherence to the Ancient Landmarks - specifically, a Belief in God, the Volume of the Sacred Law as an indispensable part of the Furniture of the Lodge, and the prohibition of the discussion of politics and religion.

Applying these standards to the requests of several Grand Lodges during our deliberations, we now share the following information:

Brazil State Grand Orients

The Grande Orient de Minas Gerais and the Grand Oriente de Mato Grosso do Sul were each recognized by and treaties signed with their respective State Grand Lodges in 2018. Each of these bodies are also recognized by the CMI. It would be reasonable to assume that these grand orients are practicing regular Masonry and recognition would be appropriate if you so desire.

Grand Lodge of Royal Art (Romania)

The Grand Chancellor of this grand lodge, R/W Dragos Ionut Onescu contacted the Commission in a timely manner to pursue recognition. No representative from this grand lodge was present at the 2019 Commission meeting. There is no evidence available to indicate that this grand lodge meets any of the standards for recognition.

Additional Information

1. Representatives of both entities identifying themselves as the Gran Logia Simbolica Del Paraguay spoke briefly before the Commission. The Commission's position remains the same as reported in recent reports of the Commission.
2. The current address of the Grand Lodge of Benito Juarez of the state of Coahuila R.E.A.A. is:
Bahia de Ballenas #933
Col. Nueva California
Torreon CP 27089
Coahuila, Mexico

REMINDER: The deadline for reports filed with the Commission is December 1. We will not accept any new material for consideration after this date.

I now call on M/W Joe C. Harrison for the financial report.

TREASURER'S REPORT

TO: THE CONFERENCE OF GRAND MASTERS OF
MASONS IN NORTH AMERICA

This report is an accounting of the funds of the Commission on Information for the period just past, ending January 31, 2019. Since January 1, 2018, *thirty-two (32)* Grand Lodges have contributed \$1,950.00.

BALANCE ON JANUARY 31, 2018:..... \$ 4,477.66

Receipts from Grand Lodges received between January 1, 2018 and January 31, 2019:

Alabama	\$ 50.00
Alaska	15.00
California	100.00
Canada – Ontario	30.00
Canada – Saskatchewan	30.00
Delaware	50.00
Florida	100.00
Idaho	15.00
Illinois	100.00
Iowa	50.00
Japan	100.00
Louisiana	100.00
Maine	50.00
Massachusetts	100.00
Michigan	100.00
Minnesota	50.00
Mississippi	50.00
Missouri	100.00
Nebraska	50.00
Nevada	15.00
New Mexico	15.00
New York	100.00
North Carolina	100.00
Ohio	100.00

Pennsylvania	100.00
South Carolina	100.00
South Dakota	15.00
Texas	100.00
Virginia	100.00
West Virginia	50.00
Wisconsin	50.00
Wyoming	15.00
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	<u>\$1,950.00</u>
Sub-Total	\$6427.66

Expenses between January 1, 2018 and January 31, 2019:

Conference and Travel Expense	\$2,527.42
Printing Annual Report	355.00
Postage and Stamps	231.90
Secretarial Services	00.00
Website	00.00
Office Supplies / Photo Copies	<u>243.29</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3357.61

BALANCE AS OF January 31, 2019 \$3070.05

Respectfully submitted,

Joe C. Harrison, Past Grand Master
Secretary-Treasurer

M. W. Bro. Harrison, thank you for the report.

The Conference Nominating Committee submitted the name of M.W. Dave Worrel, Past Grand Master of Alaska as the new member of the Commission, and he was duly elected by the Conference. The normal term of service for a new Commission member is seven years.

The organization of the Commission for the year 2019 will be:

CHAIRMAN

M.W. Raymond C. Lemons
Past Grand Master of Michigan

VICE-CHAIRMAN

M.W. Joe R. Manning, Jr.
Past Grand Master of Oklahoma

SECRETARY-TREASURER

M.W. Joe C. Harrison
Past Grand Master of Tennessee

Most Worshipful and Right Worshipful Brethren, my sincere thanks for your attention and for the opportunity to serve this Conference. This concludes the 67th annual report of this Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

William J Bray, III, PGM, Chairman

Raymond C. Lemons, PGM

Joe R. Manning, Jr, PGM

Glen A. Cook, PGM

Jorge L. Aladro, PGM

Richard Stewart, PGM

Richard A. H. Brown, PGM

Joe C. Harrison, PGM, Sec/Treas.

I move the acceptance of the report.