



The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge
of
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons
of the State of Oklahoma
www.gloklahoma.com



Grand Master

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May 15, 2020

2020 EDICT NO. 6

TO ALL OKLAHOMA MASONS, APPENDANT AND AFFILIATED MASONIC BODIES.

The COVID-19 pandemic is a trying time for all of us, especially with everything we see and hear on the news and social media about the world's situation. I realize how important Masonry is, but one of the most important things we must keep in mind as a Masonic Fraternity is the safety and well-being of our members.

I have met with the Grand Lodge Trustees and have also taken into consideration the input from brethren across the state on this matter. I have spent many hours contemplating the re-opening of Oklahoma Masonry and have come to the following conclusion:

- Beginning **June 1, 2020**, Lodges may hold stated meetings **ON THE ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE ONLY**, for conducting the necessary business of the Lodge. Strict social distancing guidelines, as established by the CDC, Governor Stitt, and local officials, must be followed including the following:
 1. **All Masons MUST keep a six-foot distance from other Masons.**
 2. **Masons are strongly urged to, but are not required to wear face masks.**

3. Lodges are encouraged to have hand sanitizer available at numerous places in the Lodge building. Be certain that all restrooms have liquid hand soap.
 4. Temperature testing of attendees with a medical non-touch device before entering the Lodge building will be at the discretion of the Worshipful Master of the Lodge.
 5. To maintain proper social distancing, Masons should not shake hands.
 6. Masons are encouraged to only attend their own Lodges, and not visit other Lodges at this time.
 7. Masons are strongly encouraged NOT to attend Lodge if they have any signs of illness. Protect your Brothers and stay home.
 8. Those who are considered to be “at-risk” (we know who we are) are the sole decision-makers as to whether to attend Lodge or not.
 9. Please, use common sense. There is nothing more important than the health and well-being of our Masonic brothers and sisters.
- There will be NO degree work until further notice, as social distancing cannot be maintained during degrees.
 - There will be NO District gatherings until further notice.
 - Masonic funerals/memorial services are exempt, but must follow state and local guidelines.
 - There will be NO meals prepared or served in the Lodge building during the month of June.

- **Lodges may hold fundraisers if they are not held in the Lodge building, but must maintain the social distancing guidelines.**
- **All other Affiliated and Appendant Masonic Bodies may re-open June 1, following these guidelines along with the CDC and state and local guidelines under the direction of the heads of their respective organizations.**

The Grand Lodge office will re-open and the staff will return to their duties on June 1. **TO PROTECT OUR OFFICE STAFF, VISITORS WILL BE REQUIRED TO WEAR A MASK WHILE IN THE OFFICE AREA.**

If any Lodge does not wish to re-open under these guidelines, there will be no penalty for not opening. Our Fraternity is a volunteer organization, therefore, it is not mandatory for you to attend. If your Lodge feels that it should not open for safety reasons, please send the Grand Secretary an email to that affect.

I would urge the Lodge Secretary to note in the minute book the dates of the meetings that have not been held. Attach copies of the edicts and guidelines of the state of Oklahoma to your minute book for future reference so they may be researched as part of the Lodge history.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at onegolfnbob@yahoo.com or 405-640-5983.

I will issue future directives as it becomes safe and prudent to do so.

May Peace and Harmony Prevail

Bobby J. Peters

Bobby J. Peters
Grand Master 2020