



Grand Master

The  
Most Worshipful Grand Lodge  
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons  
of the State of Oklahoma

[www.gloklahoma.com](http://www.gloklahoma.com)



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June, 23, 2020

## EDICT #7

Dear Oklahoma Masons

The COVID-19 pandemic is increasing in its severity in Oklahoma. The number of contracted cases rises every day. We must keep in mind that nothing is as important as the well-being of our Brothers.

I along with the Grand Lodge Trustees feel that the following edict will help to move the fraternity forward. Please understand that the following restrictions are given for the safety of ALL of our members to the best of our ability.

I am issuing this edict with the following restrictions: **Beginning July 1, 2020.**  
**PLEASE READ COMPLETELY AND CAREFULLY.**

There are several things that must be done to help with the safety and well-being of our members while attending ALL Masonic meetings and gatherings:

**Social Distancing (mandatory)**

**Wearing Masks (mandatory)**

**Hand Sanitizing (mandatory)**

**Temperature Testing (recommended)**

- Lodges may hold STATED MEETINGS, opening on any degree, for conducting all business of the lodge. SOCIAL DISTANCING (6 feet apart) is one of the keys to preventing the spread of the virus and should be

maintained at all times. (For Degree work, see below.) MASKS MUST BE PROPERLY WORN at all times when in the lodge building, including the lodge room during meetings and degrees. HAND SANITIZER must be readily available at each restroom entrance, and provided and dispensed on entering the lodge building AND at the Tyler's station when entering the lodge room. Some Lodges are using no-touch thermometers to check temperatures. I highly recommend, but it is not mandatory.

- NOTE: A brother, wearing a mask and gloves, should CHECK TEMPERATURE and dispense the HAND SANITIZER into the hand of the members as they enter. This will limit the number of people handling the dispenser itself.
- When BALLOTING, a Brother should be on both sides and 6 feet away from the altar with GLOVES and HAND SANITIZER to dispense hand sanitizer to the members after they ballot.
- Lodges may perform DEGREE WORK with everyone involved wearing MASKS AND GLOVES and maintaining SOCIAL DISTANCING when possible during degrees. Anything a lodge can do to limit contact between Brothers will be helpful in eliminating the possible spread of the virus.
- Every Mason who attends Lodge must LEGIBLY sign the Tiler Register with their name and contact information. This information will be used for CONTACT TRACING in case of a positive test case.
- Visiting lodges that you are not a member of is still discouraged, although there are lodges that may need assistance to perform degrees. If you are invited to another lodge to participate in degree work, be sure to bring a MASK and GLOVES to wear during the meeting and degree, and make sure you are on the trestle board before you go to the lodge.
- OTHER MASONIC FUNCTIONS, such as outdoor degrees, cornerstone ceremonies, outdoor district meetings, and outdoor fundraisers may be held as long as MASKS AND/OR SOCIAL DISTANCING is maintained. A record of the names and contact information of everyone in attendance must be kept and made available upon request. No district meetings, district schools or fundraisers can be held inside lodge buildings until further notice.

- Any FOOD/MEALS cannot be delivered, brought in, prepared, served or eaten inside the lodge building until further notice.
- All rooms and equipment that are used should be sanitized after each use.

In addition to this edict, I urge the heads of other Affiliated and Appendant Masonic Bodies to follow the state and local guidelines.

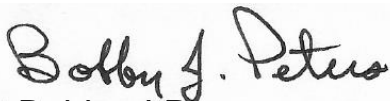
If any lodge does not wish to re-open under these guidelines, there will be no penalty for not opening. If your lodge feels that it should not open for safety reasons, please send the Grand Secretary an email to that affect. The Grand Lodge still needs to know what lodges are not meeting.

Brethren, I urge you to use your best judgement in attending lodge. Remember our fraternity is a volunteer organization; therefore, it is not mandatory for you to attend. To our older membership 65+ and those with health concerns: If you feel uncomfortable being around crowds, please remain at home. Lodge members and officers should find ways to stay connected with these Brothers. If you are feeling ill please stay home.

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

I will issue future directives as the situation changes.

May Peace and Harmony Prevail,



Bobby J Peters  
Grand Master