

The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the Philippines

Plaridel Masonic Temple, 1440 San Marcelino St., Manila 1000 Philippines Tel/Fax No.: (63) 02-400-1042 Website: www.yorkritephilippines.org Email: ogr-gckt@yorkritephilippines.org

S.K. Manuel Liam C. Garcia, PGC, KCT, KTCH

Grand Recorder

S.K. Rodel Riezl S. Reyes, KCT, KTCH Right Eminent Grand Commander

CIRCULAR NO. 01-2022-GCKT

TO: ALL SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE

GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE PHILIPPINES.

THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM:

NOTICE ON THE LIFTING OF THE SUSPENSION OF FACE-TO-FACE CONCLAVES, **SUBJECT:**

INSTALLATIONS, CONFERRALS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES.

01 MARCH 2022 **DATE:**

This has reference to Grand Commandery Circular No. 02-2020 last November of 2020 instructing all Commanderies in the Jurisdiction to suspend temporarily all Conclaves, Conferrals, Installations and other affairs and events until further notice.

Due to recent downgrading of the Alert Levels by the relevant government health agencies in several areas and localities around the country, and because of the relaxing of protocols attributed to the downgrading of the Alert Levels, certain mass activities and gatherings have been permitted by the authorities, provided certain guidelines are followed.

As a result, the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the Philippines is lifting the suspension of face-toface Conclaves, Conferrals, Installations and other affairs and events ordered through the November 2020 Grand Commandery Circular and will now allow and permit the resumption of face-to-face activities subject to certain rules and guidelines provided by the GLP in their Circular No. 24 and the latest Circular No. 27 (MW Paulino).

All Stated Meetings, Installations, Inductions, Conferrals, Activities and Events are permitted to resume subject to the compliance with the protocols stipulated in advisories issued by relevant government agencies like the Inter Agency Task Force (IATF), the Local Government Units (LGU), Department of Health (DOH) and Local Task Force for COVID-19. These would include restrictions on venue capacity. Please check your respective local protocols and restrictions with authorities before proceeding with your face-to-face gatherings.

The following guidelines are expected to be followed and adhered to when engaging in the aforementioned gatherings:

- 1. All attendees should be fully vaccinated and are required to present their vaccination cards upon arrival at the venue;
- 2. All attendees are required to undergo on-site rapid antigen testing (nasal or saliva) prior to the Stated Conclave, Installation and Conferral;
- 3. No Stated Conclave, Installation and Conferral shall proceed without the presence of at least nine (9) Sir Knights; All attendees should wear face masks and maintain physical distancing throughout the meeting or activity; Health and safety protocols prescribed by the IATF-EID, LGUs, and/or the COVID-19 Local Task Force, including restrictions on venue capacity, shall be strictly observed and complied with.

Constituent Commanderies may conduct their face-to-face Installation of Officers only in a TYLED setting; Only fifty percent (50%) of the venue shall be occupied; All attendees should wear face masks and maintain physical distancing throughout the installation ceremony. Sir Knights and guests may attend the fellowship to be held after the installation ceremony preferably outdoor/open-air dining.

Jurisdictional Joint Conferrals for the moment are banned. Commanderies are encouraged to confer on their own candidates. In case of difficulty in personnel, joint conferrals can be done with a maximum 3 Commanderies



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only. The candidates for degrees and the personnel for the conferring team can only come from the 3 said Commanderies. One Commandery can be the host and the other Commanderies can also declare their respective Commanderies open for conferral. Recorder of each Commandery will prepare their own minutes, records, and fees applicable to their particular Commanderies. Same as meetings and installations, only 50% of the venue shall be occupied. Only Conferring team and candidates allowed inside the Masonic Hall during conferral proper.

In the event that there are difficulties in meeting face-to-face, the constituent Commanderies still have the option to meet officially through Zoom or any other electronic means as we have done in the past 2 years, conferrals are not allowed.

The Grand Commandery continues to wish everyone well, the safety of each Sir Knight and their family members is still paramount as the pandemic has not yet ended.

For the guidance and compliance of all concerned.

Courteously,

Manuel Liam C. Garcia, PGC, KCT, KTCH

Grand Recorder

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Attested by:

S.K. Rodel Riezl S. Reyes, KCT, KTCH

Right Eminent Grand Commander

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