

# The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio

JESS N. RAINES  
GRAND MASTER



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## **EDICTS 2019-2, 2019-3, 2019-4**

**WHEREAS**, Ohio's Masonic Code, section 27.05, authorizes the Grand Master to invoke this section of the Code as often as he sees fit during the term of his office, thereby allowing the conferral of all three Symbolic Lodge Degrees as identified in Section 27.01 (a) of the Code in one day upon a class of candidates to be known as a Grand Master's Class, and;

**WHEREAS**, I have authorized multiple Grand Master's Classes to be conducted throughout Ohio during 2019, and;

**WHEREAS**, the District Advisors in coordination with the Grand Master's Statewide Coordinator have scheduled and are authorized to make final decisions regarding time, place and personnel, and;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JESS NEIL RAINES**, Grand Master of Masons in Ohio, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, hereby decree the following Edicts:

### **EDICT 2019-2**

Section 24.01 of the Grand Lodge Code states, in part, that a petition for the degrees shall be presented to the Lodge only at a Stated Meeting and balloted upon at a subsequent Stated Meeting.

Lodges may receive or ballot on petitions for one of the Grand Master's Classes at Special Meetings called for that purpose. The petition, once received, must lay over to a subsequent meeting, Stated or Special, called for the purpose of balloting. During the interval, a full and proper investigation must be made of the petitioner by a proper Investigation Committee of not less than three members, none of whom shall have been a signer on the petition.

Lodges are permitted to receive petitions, from petitioners for the Grand Master's Class only, under the age of 19 so long as he will be 19 on or before the date of the Grand Master's Class which he will be obligated.

### **EDICT 2019-3**

Section 27.02 of the Grand Lodge Code and Article VI of the Uniform Bylaws pertaining to proficiency are set aside to accommodate candidates in the 2019 Grand Master's Classes.

In order to be considered proficient, all Master Masons raised in the Grand Master's Class are required to attend a meeting in their home Lodge within 60 days of taking their obligation as a Master Mason.

If a new Master Mason from a Grand Master's Classes cannot for sufficient reason comply with the above requirement to attend his Lodge within 60 days, the Worshipful Master may authorize an extension of time, which must be recorded in the minutes of the Lodge. The new Master Mason with such an extension will not be proficient until he returns and attends his home Lodge, at which time, the Worshipful Master will be authorized to declare him proficient.

If a Grand Master's Class Master Mason neglects or refuses to comply with the above requirement, he shall be declared to be suspended as if he had not complied with Section 27.02(d) of the Grand Lodge Code.

The suspended Master Mason may reinstate himself by passing the Master Mason examination in open Lodge. His examination must be from memory, and it must meet the minimum proficiency requirements as defined in Section 27.02(a) of the Grand Lodge Code.

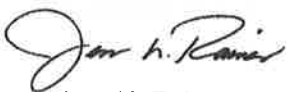
#### **EDICT 2019-4**

Section 23.02(a) of the Grand Lodge Code pertaining to residency is set aside to accommodate candidates in the 2019 Grand Master's Classes.

The 6-month Ohio residency requirement will be waived if, and only if, a Waiver of Jurisdiction is received in advance from the Grand Lodge with jurisdiction over the petitioner's residence. Such requests for Waivers of Jurisdiction must be made through the Office of the Grand Secretary. As a note, some Grand Jurisdictions take many weeks or months in processing a waiver request.

**I FURTHER DIRECT** these Edicts are required to be read and entered upon the minutes at the next Stated Meeting of each Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, and all Lodges should govern themselves accordingly. This Edict to be in effect from this date until midnight on October 19, 2019.

Given under my hand and seal of the Grand Master of Masons in Ohio in the City of Marietta this seventh day of January A.D. 2019, A.L. 6019.



Jess N. Raines  
Grand Master

