

INSTALLATION CEREMONY **Of The COUNCIL of HIGHER DEGREES**

CURRENT PRESIDENT: *(Gives one rap.)* Members of the Council of Higher Degrees, it is now time for installing your elected and appointed officers. I have the honor of introducing Junior Past President _____ who will be our Installing Officer.

CURRENT PRESIDENT: *(Gives two raps.)* Everyone will please rise.

Junior Past President _____, I hand you the gavel, as a symbol of your authority as installing Officer.

INSTALLING OFFICER: *(Gives one rap.)* Everyone will be seated.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Council Members, I am here for the purpose of installing your Elected and Appointed Officers. *(Pause.)* Council Secretary will call the Roll of Officers, elected and appointed.

(Council Secretary will call the Roll of Officers. When their name is called, officers elect shall take a position in front of the Installing Officer and face the membership)

INSTALLING OFFICER: Council President _____, before proceeding with the installation of Officers for the ensuing term, it becomes my duty to ascertain whether the retiring Officers have complied with the Laws of the Order and the By-laws of this Council.

CURRENT PRESIDENT: They have.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Council Secretary, are the Officers-elect in good standing within their respective Lodges, Chapters and Legions?

COUNCIL SECRETARY: They are.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Council Members, do any of you have just cause to show why any or all of the Officers, elected or appointed, should not be installed as an Officer of this Council? If so, please make it known at this time.

(If any case should be presented which cannot be satisfactorily adjusted, the Installing Officers shall require that Officer to retire from the position at the Altar, and, proceed to install the remaining Officers. Immediately following the Installation, the Board of Officers shall submit a detailed report to the General Governor, and await his decision.)

Pending the General Governor's decision, the Office, for which Installation was deferred, shall be filled by the Officer who held such Office at the close of the preceding term, or, appointment shall be made by the Installing Officer.)

INSTALLING OFFICER: Since there appears to be no objection, I shall proceed to install them.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Officers-elect, place your left hand over your heart, raise your right hand and repeat after me, using your name where I use mine. "I _____ do solemnly promise – that I will faithfully and to the best of my ability – perform the duties of the Office – to which I have been elected or appointed. – I will obey all orders – emanating from the Supreme Lodge, – and will discharge my official duties – in accordance with the By-laws of this Council. – I will deliver to my successor in Office – all funds, -- books, --papers, -- and property in my possession – belonging to this Council. – I will devote my energies – toward the purposes of this Council, -- through my Lodge, -- my Chapter, -- the Moose Legion, -- the Women Of The Moose, -- for the promotion and growth – of the Loyal Order of Moose. – To all of which I pledge my sacred honor. – And, may GOD keep me steadfast – in the discharge of my duties."

You may lower your hands.

INSTALLING OFFICER: I hereby declare these Officers duly obligated and installed for the ensuing year.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Will the new Council President please approach this Station.

You are the President of this Council and shall preside at all meetings. It shall be your duty to preserve order, apply and enforce the By-laws of this Council and decide parliamentary questions. Your personal leadership, and guidance, is of vital importance for the progress of this Council for the coming year.

Building Council membership and increasing its service to the Moose Fraternity will be two major goals during your term as President. Success will come by utilizing the abilities of each and every member of this Council.

INSTALLING OFFICER (*gives two raps.*) Everyone will rise. The Chaplain will ask the blessing of the Supreme being.

CHAPLAIN: Let us fold our arms and bow our heads.

“Supreme Being, we ask you to watch over these Officers, to whom the leadership of this Council has been committed. Implant in their hearts the spirit of Loyal Service, instill wisdom into their decision making, and direct them toward greater contributions to the humanitarian efforts of our Order. We especially ask for Peace and harmony to prevail in this Council, and, that prosperity and good health be granted to every individual member and their Family. We ask these things in Thy name. Amen.”

MEMBERS: (*In concert*) Amen.

INSTALLING OFFICER: Brother/Madam President, A distinctive honor has been conferred upon you by the members of this Council. I now present you with the gavel as a symbol of this honor and your authority. Counsel wisely and never let it fall in anger, but wield it firmly and with discretion.

NEW PRESIDENT: (*Gives one rap.*) Everyone please be seated.

(meeting returns to regular order of business)

(Revised 11-21-07)