

**Resolution to Amend
Part Two – By-Laws
Article III, Section 312 -
Vacancies, A.**

(Revised August 29, 2011, Amended September 29, 2014)

To the Officers, and Members of the General Grand Council, Cryptic Masons, International:

Whereas, there is a need to clarify the progressive succession of the General Grand Master, Deputy General Grand Master, and General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work in the event of a vacancy, and

Whereas, the procedure for filling a vacancy in any of these officer positions is unclear and prevents the continuity of work between Triennials, and

Whereas, unlike the laws governing vacancies in the General Grand Chapter, there is a provision that prevents any of these elected officers from resigning for any reason, and

Whereas, a more delineated and realistic procedure needs to be established:

Therefore, let it be resolved that:

As it reads:

Article III, Section 312

- A. Should the office of General Grand Master be vacated by death, permanent disability, or other causes, the Deputy General Grand Master and the General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, shall in the order named, be installed and succeed to the office vacated, along with its title and prerogatives. The question of permanent disability or other causes as herein used shall be determined by the Committee on Cryptic Jurisprudence.
- B. The General Grand Master, Deputy General Grand Master, and the General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work cannot resign.
- C. Resignations of other Elective and Appointive Grand Officers and members of any committee may be accepted by the General Grand Master and replacements named.

Be amended as follows:

Article III, Section 312

- A. Should the office of General Grand Master be vacated by death, permanent disability, or other causes, the Deputy General Grand Master and the General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, shall in the order named, be installed and succeed to the office vacated, along with its title and prerogatives. As to the office of the General Grand Master, the question of permanent disability or other causes as herein used shall be determined by the Committee on Cryptic Jurisprudence. Upon issuance of a resolution confirming that Committee's determination by the Deputy General Grand Master and General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work acting as the Board of Trustees, the office of General Grand Master shall be deemed vacant and the Deputy General Grand Master shall succeed to the office of General Grand Master for the remainder of the Triennial term.
- B. Should succession occur due to a vacancy in the office of General Grand Master or Deputy General Grand Master, the remaining vacant office may be filled by:
1. Appointment of a Past General Grand Master as the interim General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work as selected by the concurrence of the Board of Trustees until such time as a Special Assembly of the General Grand Council is held, nominations received, and election held to fill the vacancy. The Past General Grand Master so appointed shall not be eligible to continue in that office or advance by election at the next regular Triennial Assembly.
 2. If all of the Past General Grand Masters decline the appointment, or if the General Grand Master and the Deputy General Grand Master jointly decide not to appoint a Past General Grand Master to the vacancy, the General Grand Recorder shall issue the Board of Trustees' call for a Special General Grand Assembly for the primary purpose of an election to fill the vacancy, with three months' notice to the voting membership. The qualified member elected shall be installed in due form and assume the title and prerogatives of the office of General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work for the balance of the Triennial term of office.
 3. As an alternative to the appointment of a Past General Grand Master as an interim General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, or a call for a Special General Grand Council Assembly, the General Grand Master and the remaining elected advancing line officer, acting as the Board of Trustees, may submit a panel of three eligible and qualified members for special election to the position that is conducted by an electronic ballot of the voting membership. The individual elected by such electronic ballot upon a majority of the ballots cast in due form will be installed in due form, and assume the title and prerogatives of the office of General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work for the balance of the Triennial term of office. The General Grand Recorder shall give ninety days' notice of the special election to the Grand Recorders of the member Grand Councils,

Recorders of the constituent councils under direct supervision of the General Grand Council and the voting membership.

- C. **The General Grand Master, Deputy General Grand Master, or the General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work may submit a written resignation for reasons of health, disability or inability to perform the duties of their position which may be accepted by the Board of Trustees. The General Grand Recorder shall notify the member Grand Councils and any constituent councils under direct supervision of the General Grand Council of any such resignation.**
- D. Resignations of other Elective and Appointive **General** Grand Officers and members of any committee may be accepted by the General Grand Master and replacements named by the General Grand Master **with notice to the Board of Trustees.**

To Read after amendment:

Article III, Section 312

- A. Should the office of General Grand Master be vacated by death, permanent disability, or other causes, the Deputy General Grand Master and the General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, shall in the order named, be installed and succeed to the office vacated, along with its title and prerogatives. As to the office of the General Grand Master, the question of permanent disability or other causes as herein used shall be determined by the Committee on Cryptic Jurisprudence. Upon issuance of a resolution confirming that Committee's determination by the Deputy General Grand Master and General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work acting as the Board of Trustees, the office of General Grand Master shall be deemed vacant and the Deputy General Grand Master shall succeed to the office of General Grand Master for the remainder of the Triennial term.
- B. Should succession occur due to a vacancy in the office of General Grand Master or Deputy General Grand Master, the remaining vacant office may be filled by:
1. Appointment of a Past General Grand Master as the interim General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work as selected by the concurrence of the Board of Trustees until such time as a Special Assembly of the General Grand Council is held, nominations received, and election held to fill the vacancy. The Past General Grand Master so appointed shall not be eligible to continue in that office or advance by election at the next regular Triennial Assembly.
 2. If all of the Past General Grand Masters decline the appointment, or if the General Grand Master and the Deputy General Grand Master jointly decide not to appoint a Past General Grand Master to the vacancy, the General Grand Recorder shall issue the Board of Trustees' call for a Special General Grand Assembly for the primary purpose of an election to fill the vacancy, with three months' notice to the voting membership. The

qualified member elected shall be installed in due form and assume the title and prerogatives of the office of General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work for the balance of the Triennial term of office.

3. As an alternative to the appointment of a Past General Grand Master as an interim General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, or a call for a Special General Grand Council Assembly, the General Grand Master and the remaining elected advancing line officer, acting as the Board of Trustees, may submit a panel of three eligible and qualified members for special election to the position that is conducted by an electronic ballot of the voting membership. The individual elected by such electronic ballot upon a majority of the ballots cast in due form will be installed in due form, and assume the title and prerogatives of the office of General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work for the balance of the Triennial term of office. The General Grand Recorder shall give ninety days' notice of the special election to the Grand Recorders of the member Grand Councils, Recorders of the constituent councils under direct supervision of the General Grand Council and the voting membership.
- C. The General Grand Master, Deputy General Grand Master, or the General Grand Principal Conductor of the Work may submit a written resignation for reasons of health, disability or inability to perform the duties of their position which may be accepted by the Board of Trustees. The General Grand Recorder shall notify the member Grand Councils and any constituent councils under direct supervision of the General Grand Council of any such resignation.
- D. Resignations of other Elective and Appointive General Grand Officers and members of any committee may be accepted by the General Grand Master and replacements named by the General Grand Master with notice to the Board of Trustees

Respectfully submitted,

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