

UNITED SUPREME COUNCIL, 33º

ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY SOUTHERN JURISDICTION (Prince Hall Affiliation) 3385 Airways Blvd, Suite 201 Memphis, TN 38116

Corey D. Hawkins, Sr. 33° Sovereign Grand Commander – L. Ken Collins 33° Secretary General Hon. Gregory L. Brown, 33° Deputy for Arkansas (870) 815-0178

Most Illustrious Commander-in-Chief Bishop Gregory L. Brown Deputy for the Orient of Arkansas 521 West Johnson Avenue Osceola, Arkansas 72370

"Rebuilding the Orient One Step at a Time" Nehemiah 4:6

PROCLAMATION #3

To: All Sovereign Grand Inspectors General (Active & Emeritus), All Grand Inspectors General, All Commanders-in-Chief, All Consistories, State Grand Loyal Lady Ruler, All Loyal Lady Rulers, and Assemblies

From: Bishop Gregory L. Brown, Illustrious Deputy for the Orient of Arkansas

Date: September 12, 2022

Greetings:

It is my sincerest prayer that the favor of the Lord is resting on each of you. The Orient of Arkansas has the task of representing the United Supreme Council, AASR, PHA, SJ, and the Sovereign Grand Commander in a manner that the work of the Scottish Rite can continue as directed by the Holy Empire. As the Illustrious Deputy for the Orient, it will always be my utmost intention to carry out my duties concerning every Concordant body and Appendant body in the Jurisdiction of Arkansas and most especially with the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Arkansas. My obedience to the Sovereign Grand Commander and the United Supreme Council is foremost in my service because my authority as Illustrious Deputy for the Orient originates there and will always have the preeminence.

Effective September 12, 2022, the Order of the Golden Circle will no longer use the membership application with the Grand Matron's signature, and neither will the applicants require approval from the Grand Matron to become a member of the Order of the Golden Circle. Article IV, Section 1 in the Constitution of the Order of the Golden Circle only requires that an applicant be "the wife, widow, sister, or mother of a Scottish Rite Mason who is now in good standing, or was at his death, is eligible for membership in the Order... Any variation from these requirements shall only be made by the Sovereign Grand Commander or by the Deputy at his request." Additionally, in Article IV, Section 2, "The Supreme Council shall make such qualifications and requirements for membership from time to time as it deems fit."

With this understanding and authority, if a member of the Order of Eastern Star desires to become a member of the Order of the Golden Circle, it shall not be a requirement for the applicant to have all five (5) degrees of the OES to become a member. The Orient of Arkansas will only require that the OES member is fully financial with the Royal Grand Chapter, OES (Grand Chapter Assessment, Grand Chapter Relief Dues, and Local Chapter Dues). All of this is a requirement if the applicant is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Please

know that an applicant **DOES NOT** have to be a member of the Order of the Eastern Star to become a member of the Order of the Golden Circle. As mentioned above, in Article IV, Section 1, the lady only has to be "the wife, widow, sister, or mother of a Scottish Rite Mason who is now in good standing, or was at his death, is eligible for membership in the Order."

Effective September 12, 2022, every Master Mason desiring membership in the Scottish Rite, must submit with his membership application, a letter from his lodge or the Grand Lodge indicating that he is fully financial with the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Arkansas (Grand Lodge Assessment, Grand Lodge Relief Dues, and Local Lodge Dues).

As the Illustrious Deputy for the Orient, I have the authority to interpret the Constitution and By-Laws of the Order of the Golden Circle and the Constitution and By-Laws of the Council of Deliberation as I see fit for the good of the Orient. Please be comforted knowing that I will not abuse this authority and will do all I can to be amicable with the Prince Hall Grand Lodge and all Concordant and Appendant bodies in the Jurisdiction of Arkansas.

In conclusion, please be prepared to assist whenever called upon because everyone can play a part in "Rebuilding the Orient One Step at a Time!" If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. My cell number is (870) 815-0178 and the email to use is gbrown0178@att.net.

Govern Yourselves Accordingly

Fraternally,

Bishop Gregory L. Brown, 33°

Most Illustrious Commander-in-Chief &

Deputy for the Orient