

**BY-LAWS OF ADONIRAM  
COUNCIL NO. 10  
ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS**

**ARTICLE I.**

**Name**

The name of this Council shall be ADONIRAM COUNCIL No. 10, Royal and Select Masters (Cryptic Masons). It exists by virtue of a Charter, dated May 20, 1918, from the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Florida, and is located at Miami, Florida.

**ARTICLE II**

**Assemblies**

The regular Assemblies of this Council shall be held at the Oleeta West Dade Lodge No. 145, located at 145 South Royal Poinciana Boulevard, Miami Springs, Florida, at 7:30 P.M. on the third Monday of each even month.

**Section 1.** All general business, including the reception of petitions and balloting for candidate shall be transacted at Regular Assemblies; Provided, that Special or Called Assemblies may be held at any time upon the call of the Illustrious Master. If business of a general nature is to be considered at such Special or Called Assembly and such Assembly is set at a Regular Assembly of the Council and the business to be considered be stated, such business may be considered without further notice to the members of the Council unless there be objection at such Regular Assembly. Should there be any such objection, all members of the Council shall have written notice at least ten days prior to such called Assembly, said notice to state fully the nature of the business to be considered: provided, further, that this Council may hold Regular or special Assemblies in any lodge room within its territorial jurisdiction for the purpose of creating interest in Cryptic Masonry, and at such Assemblies may transact such business as is prescribed by its bylaws or by the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Council.

**ARTICLE III.**

**Officers**

**Section 1.** The Officers of this Council shall consist of an Illustrious Master, Deputy Master, Principal Conductor of Work, Treasurer, Recorder, Chaplain, Captain of the Guard, Conductor of the Council, Steward, Marshal (optional), and Sentinel.

**Section 2.** The style of the Illustrious Master shall be "Illustrious" and of the other officers is "Companion."

**ARTICLE IV**

**Election and Installation of Officers**

**Section 1.** The Annual Election of Officers shall take place on or after the last Stated Assembly in November and by December 27th. December 27th may be used by any Council for a Stated Assembly date if due and timely notice is given to its members.

**a.** The first five Officers, namely: Illustrious Master, Deputy Master, Principal Conductor of Work, Treasurer, and Recorder, shall be elected by a majority Ballot of all those present and voting.

**b.** The election shall be held without nomination and by secret written ballot except that, by unanimous consent, the rules may be waived, nominations made, and a member designated to cast the unanimous vote of the Council for the nominee.

**c.** The remaining Officers and all other committees shall be appointed by the Illustrious Master-elect.

**Section 2.** The Annual Installation of Officers shall take place on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist (December 27th), or as soon thereafter as expedient, but not later than the 28th day of January.

**ARTICLE V.**

**Seal**

The Seal of the Council as here shown shall be in the custody of the Recorder.

**ARTICLE VI.**

**Committees**

**Section 1.** The Illustrious Master, Deputy Master, and Principal Conductor of Work shall be a standing committee of Charity, shall have power to draw warrants on the Treasurer for any sum not exceeding one hundred dollars for the relief of any one applicant, and such action shall be reported to the Council at its next ensuing stated Assembly. In addition to the Charity provided above, at each Assembly a charity box shall be passed before the Council Closes, and the funds collected turned over to the Committee to disburse at its discretion. No restraint shall be placed upon the discretion of the committee and, when a contribution is

made to an individual, he shall not be informed from whence the charity comes.

**Section 2.** The Illustrious Master, immediately after his installation, shall appoint the following standing committees, who shall hold their offices until their successors are appointed:

**a.** A Finance Committee, consisting of three members, whose duty it shall be to examine and audit all accounts presented against the Council. The Deputy Master shall chair such committee.

**b.** A Committee for the Visitation of the Sick, consisting of three members, whose duty it shall be to endeavor to obtain information relative to all sick Companions and to visit them and tender them such care and attention as their case may require; detailing if necessary, such members of the Council as to them shall seem proper, to share with them this fraternal duty.

**c.** An Entertainment Committee, consisting of three members, to provide suitable programs for social gatherings and to perform such duties enjoined upon it by the Council from time to time, for the entertainment of its members.

**d.** A Vigilance Committee, consisting of three members, to assure that the integrity of the Masonic Fraternity is maintained.

**e.** A Committee on Delinquency, consisting of five members, of which the Illustrious Master and Recorder shall be two. It shall be the duty of this committee to inquire into, consider and report to the Council its recommendations in reference to members of the council who are subject to suspension for nonpayment of dues.

**Section 3.** The Illustrious Master shall, at the time of the annual election of Officers, appoint an Auditing Committee, consisting of three members, whose duty it shall be to audit the books and accounts of the Treasurer and the Recorder at the close of the Cryptic year and report conditions found at the time of Installation or at the following Assembly. The Deputy Master shall chair this committee.

## **ARTICLE VII.**

### **Illustrious Master**

It shall be the duty of the Illustrious Master to preside at each Assembly and see that the Constitution, Laws, and Regulations of the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Florida, and the customs of Cryptic Masonry, are duly observed and enforced.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **Recorder**

It shall be the duty of the Recorder to keep a regular list of the members, and record the transactions of the Council which are proper to be converted to writing. He shall receive all moneys paid into the Council and shall promptly pay the same over to the Treasurer, receiving an executed receipt therefrom. He shall give due notice when directed, by advertising or otherwise, of the time of holding each Assembly. He shall make an annual report to the Council, at the Regular Annual Assembly, of the state of the funds of the Council, embracing an account of the receipts and expenditures, for the preceding year up to and including the Regular Assembly preceding the 27th of December, and often- er if required. He shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by the Constitution, Laws and Edicts of Grand Council.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall receive from the Recorder all the moneys collected by him on account of the Council, and execute a written receipt therefor. He shall keep a correct amount of the same and duly pay all orders drawn on him by authority of the Council. He shall make regular entries both of receipts and disbursements, and have his books and vouchers always ready for examination, when called upon for that purpose. He shall also report to the Council the state of the funds yearly and oftener if required. He shall, pursuant to Regulation, be bonded with a Bonding Company listed in the Federal Treasury list in an amount set by Resolution or Order of the Grand Council; such bond to be on file in the Grand Recorder's office.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Petitions**

**Section 1.** The Degrees of the Council shall not be conferred for a less sum than at least Thirty dollars (\$30.00), which must be paid with the petition, and then only upon Royal Arch Masons who are members in good standing of Regular Chapters and Symbolic Lodges whose petitions have been duly presented in writing at a Regular or Special Assembly and reported upon by a Committee of no less than three Companions. At the discretion of the Council, Petitions may be acted upon at the time of the report.

**Section 2.** For membership by demit from another Council, a fee of Five (\$5.00) must accompany the demit. If such petition is approved by ballot of the Council, a dues card shall be issued the petitioner for the current year.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **Dues**

The annual dues of this Council shall be Twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), plus assessments levied by the Council, plus such sums as the Grand Council shall from time to time prescribe, plus the per capita sum as the General Grand Council may prescribe, payable in advance at the beginning of each Council Year, to-wit: December 28th of each year.

**Section 1.** Adoniram Council No. 10, Royal & Select Masters, for the purpose of instituting a charitable endeavor, shall

assess each member on record the sum of three dollars (\$3.00) per annum. Such assessments are payable at the time dues are collectable

(December 28th). Such funds are to be forwarded to the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation, as outlined by the General Grand Council  
Cryptic Masons, International.

## **ARTICLE XII**

### **Failure to Appear for Degrees**

When the ballot has been passed on the application of any Brother for the Degrees conferred in this Council, and said Brother shall fail to present himself within one year from the date of the ballot, he shall be deprived of the benefit of said ballot and said application shall be null and void – provided that said Brother shall have been duly notified of his election by this Council. Provided, however, that for satisfactory reasons shown, the Council may in such case retain the fee accompanying the petition; provided that said Brother may again make application and upon his election, will be given credit for the fee previously paid. If the applicant is rejected upon a repetition, the fee paid by him shall be returned.

## **ARTICLE XIII**

### **Suspension for Non-Payment of Dues**

Whenever any member shall be six months or more in arrears for dues, the Recorder shall notify such delinquent, by written notice by first class mail to his last known address, stating therein the amount owing for said dues, and that unless the same shall be paid within thirty days after such notification or satisfactory reason given, such delinquent may be suspended at the discretion of the Council. Thirty days after such notice has been given, said dues remaining unpaid, the Recorder shall issue a summons or notice to the delinquent to be present at a Regular Assembly of the Council to answer the charge of delinquency or neglect, and show cause why he should not be suspended, such notice to be served at least ten days before the Assembly appointed for the hearing. If the delinquent Companion does not appear after service of the notice, a default shall be entered against him, the Recorders account being a sufficient charge, and he shall be suspended by action of the Council. If a member so suspended pays all delinquent dues together with dues for the current year within one year after he has been suspended, he shall stand reinstated instantly. If the member fails to pay the delinquent dues within one year, he shall be required to file an application for reinstatement accompanied by the current and delinquent dues. The said application may be considered at any regular Assembly and shall require a two-thirds vote of the members present for reinstatement.

## **ARTICLE XIV**

### **Super Excellent Master Degree**

Each Member shall be encouraged to obtain the Degree of Super Excellent Master, and to wear the headdress peculiar to such Degree at all Cryptic functions.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Demits**

A Demit may be granted to a Companion upon his making application in writing at a regular Assembly of the Council without vote, provided the said Companion is not in arrears for dues or under charges. The Demit shall date from the time it is applied for.

## **ARTICLE XVI**

### **Membership**

#### **Section 1. Emeritus Members.**

**a. By Necessity.** This Council may, by two-thirds vote at a Regular Assembly, create as an Indigent Emeritus Member such Companions as from age, infirmity, or misfortune have been incapacitated and unable to pay dues, thereby exempting such members from annual dues to the Council and the Grand Council. The Recorder shall file with the Grand Recorder each year a certificate setting forth the full name and address of the member and a complete statement of the reasons for creating such Emeritus Membership.

**b. For Merit.** The honorary title of Emeritus Member may be conferred by two-thirds vote at a Regular Assembly on a deserving member for long membership and for distinguished service to the Cryptic Rite. This Council shall pay to the Grand Council all annual dues, taxes and assessments of such member.

**c. Removal from List.** The Council may, by a majority vote, take any such member listed pursuant to subsection a, above, off the Emeritus list when he is able to pay his dues. Special notice shall be immediately given to Grand Council of such action.

**Section 2. Life Membership.** This Council may only create Life Members, who remain in affiliation in Lodge and Chapter, in accordance with Chapter 26 of the Laws, Rules, and Regulations of the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Florida. This Council does elect to participate in the plan set forth in Resolution 26.03.

**Section 3. Past Rank and Honors.** At the discretion of the Presiding Officer, this Council shall extend such honors and privileges to Past Grand Officers, Distinguished Capitular Companions and Sir Knights, Grand Officers of sister Grand Jurisdictions, Grand Officers of Symbolic Masonry, and other distinguished Masons as custom and circumstance require.

**Section 4. Dual Membership.** Any member of a Constituent Council in another Grand Jurisdiction recognized by the Grand Council of Florida which permits Dual Membership may apply for, and be elected to, membership in this Council.

**Section 5. Plural Membership.** Any member of a Constituent Council in this Grand Jurisdiction may apply for, and be elected to, membership in this Council. Provided, however, that such member may not hold office in more than one Council at the same time.

**Section 6. Perpetual Membership.** This Council elects to follow the provisions of the Grand Council of Royal And Select Masters of Florida regarding Perpetual Membership status.

**Section 7. Termination.** Involuntary termination of a Dual or Plural Member's membership in any Constituent Council will automatically terminate his membership in this Council.

## **ARTICLE XVII.**

### **Vacancies in Office**

Vacancies in elective offices can occur only by death, resignation, Demit, removal after Installation beyond the jurisdiction of the Grand Council, promotion at an election to fill vacancies, or by Suspension or Expulsion. The first three elective offices cannot be vacated by resignation.

## **ARTICLE XVIII**

### **Vacancies, How Filled**

The Council may fill vacancies in any of the elective Offices except that of Illustrious Master, by ballot at any regular Assembly but, in case of a vacancy in the office of Illustrious Master, an election may be held only at a Regular Assembly, the members being duly summoned for that purpose, and by virtue of authority from the Grand Illustrious Master, which must be applied for by the Deputy Master and Principal Conductor Of Work, with a vote of two-thirds of the members present at a Regular Assembly, to be certified by the Recorder, under the Seal of the Council. Vacancies in appointed offices shall be filled by the Illustrious Master. After such vacancy is filled the Recorder shall certify the name and address to the Grand Recorder.

## **ARTICLE XIX**

### **No Appeal**

There can be no appeal to the Council from the decision of the Illustrious Master; however, three or more members of the Council may appeal to the Grand Council or to the Grand Illustrious Master from a decision of the Illustrious Master.

## **ARTICLE XX**

### **Funds**

The funds of this Council shall be deposited, by the Treasurer, in a bank to be designated by the Council. The Account must always stand in the name of Adoniram Council No. 10, and not in the name of the Treasurer either officially or individually. Provided that upon mutual agreement between the Council Chapter and Commandery funds may be deposited in a joint fund in the name of the York Rite Bodies of Miami.

## **ARTICLE XXI**

**Annual Returns**

The Recorder shall make Annual Returns to the Grand Recorder, upon blanks furnished by the Grand Recorder. Such returns shall be signed by the newly installed Illustrious Master, and shall be forwarded to the Grand Recorder on or before the 27th day of January each year; together with the full amount of per capita tax and fees due Grand Council.

**ARTICLE XXII**

**Amendments**

**Section 1. By Council.** Proposed Bylaws or any change in or amendment to existing Bylaws shall be submitted in writing at a regular Assembly, and – if approved by a majority vote – shall lie over for one month, or to the corresponding regular Assembly in the following month, during which time due and timely notice of such proposal shall be given to the members of the Council. If two-thirds of all the members of the Council then present vote in favor thereof, such change or amendment is adopted and will go into effect upon approval by the Most Illustrious Grand Master or by his authority. Proposed Bylaws or amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Most Illustrious Grand Master in triplicate, all three copies to be signed by the Illustrious Master and the Recorder and under the Seal of the Council giving the dates when such Bylaws or amendments were first submitted and approved and when adopted by the Council. When approved by the Most Illustrious Grand Master, the Original will be returned to this Council, for its archives.

**Section 2. Amendments to Uniform Code.** Amendments to these bylaws because of changes made in the Uniform Code of Bylaws by the Grand Council shall become effective after Notice to the members, entry in the Minutes of the Council and entry in the written Bylaws of the Council; no vote shall be required. The Recorder shall notify the Grand Recorder of such amendment.

**ARTICLE XXIV**

**Books**

This Council shall adopt and keep a Code of Bylaws, a Record Book of the Proceedings of the Council, and a Ledger of the payments of its members.

**APPROVED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
GRAND MASTER

DATE:

\_\_\_\_\_

