

York Rite Sovereign College
Of North America

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GOVERNOR GENERAL 2020-2021
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D. Allen Surratt
SECRETARY GENERAL

Date: April 8, 2021

To: Officers; Regents, Grand Governors, Deputy Grand Governors
And Committee Chairmen

From: D. Allen Surratt, Secretary General

Re: 64th General Assembly

Dear Distinguished Brethren,

The Governor General and Board of Directors have looked at the updated data, opinions of public health experts and community officials concerning the Coronavirus during the time of our General Assembly, July 29 - August 1, 2021. Based on the projections of the virus, and in order to give enough time for the vaccines to work, we are having to make the following changes to the 64th General Assembly of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America.

1. The 64th General Assembly will be a Virtual Meeting.
2. The 2021 conferral of the Order of the Purple Cross will be a virtual conferral. All candidates for the years 2019 and 2020 will be part of the Virtual Class of 2021 which will be named for Most Preeminently Distinguished Brother James W. Patton, Past Governor General of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America. This class will be known to be located in Denton, North Carolina and will take place on Saturday, July 31, 2021 at the 64th General Assembly.
3. The 64th General Assembly has been turned into three separate virtual meetings. The Board of Directors will meet on Thursday, July 29, 2021 at 1:00 PM EST with the Joint meeting of the Board of Directors and the US Charitable Fund immediately afterwards. Regents and Regents Ex-Officio will meet on Saturday, July 31, 2021 at 12:00 PM EST, immediately following this portion of the meeting all attending Companion Knights will then be admitted, the US Charitable Fund Meeting will follow directly after the business session of the General Assembly. At 3:00 PM EST we will have the Virtual Conferral of the Order of the Purple Cross. Closer to the meetings, all necessary documentation of items to be considered during the virtual meetings and the access information will be sent to you well in advance of these meetings. **Please ensure that the Sovereign College office has your correct email address. Also, please acknowledge receipt of the information upon receipt.** Anyone who may experience difficulty in joining the meetings will be furnished a telephone number to obtain assistance. **All Committee Reports are to be filed with the office no later than June 1st. Grand Governors, please ensure that your candidates are ready to receive the Order and that they have the necessary paperwork into the office. A letter will be sent to them explaining the Virtual Conferral and what is needed.**
4. Constituent Colleges may use virtual meetings for the purpose of conducting the Installation of Officers and if necessary, they can use an abbreviated service. However, if your Grand Lodge does not allow this type of meeting or service, you cannot use this format.

Based on the information provided by public health professionals and in order to give time for the vaccines to work, the York Rite Sovereign College of North America determined that the safety of the attendees, their families and the communities could not be reasonably provided on or before the start of the 64th General Assembly in Kansas City, Missouri and therefore made these changes to the Assembly, due to the hazards of safely hosting it.

Most Preeminently Distinguished Brother Berry and his First Lady Roseanna, are extremely sorry that they will not be able to personally welcome you to Kansas City, Missouri this year to renew old friendships and to make new ones.

Again, we apologize for this great inconvenience, but we will meet in Kansas City, Missouri in 2022, when it is safe for everyone involved! Please stay safe in your community and may God Bless each of you and your families.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact this office.