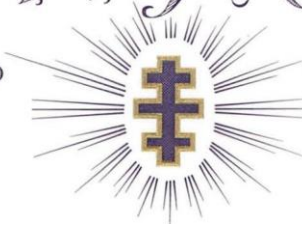


# Grand Encampment of Knights Templar

OF THE UNITED

STATES of AMERICA

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OFFICE OF

**DAVID J. KUSSMAN**

R. E. GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL

August 2015,

Knights Commander of the Temple of California

Sir Knights:

I am writing at this time to introduce the Grand Encampment College of Honors Program for California and standards by which this program will be managed for the Sixty-Seventh Triennial.

The Most Eminent grand master of the grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States of America, SK Duane Lee Vaught, GCT, has appointed me Deputy for the College of Honors in California, assisted by SK W. Bruce Pruitt, KGC, as Co-Deputy.

The awards addressed herein are the **Knight Commander of the Temple (KCT) and Companion of the Temple (CT)**. Any Knight Templar who is in good standing within the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of California is eligible for nomination as a KCT. A non-Templar (usually a lady, but can be anyone who has contributed to Templary) is eligible for nomination as a CT. I have discussed our program with the Grand Master and Co-Deputy, and we have reviewed the statutory provisions governing the College of Honors Program. We do hereby establish the following standards and guidelines in accordance with the Grand Master's guidelines and those statutory provisions of the Grand Encampment.

The Sir Knights who have been honored as a Knight Commander of the Temple are the individuals who will have the privilege and honor to recommend individuals to be decorated as a Knight Commander of the Temple or as Companion of the Temple. These recommendations must be submitted to any member of the College of Honors in California. We wish to point out that the Knight Commander of the Temple and the Companion of the Temple awards are intended to be decorations presented for service to the Order of Knighthood that we revere and are honored to serve. These Honors are to reward individuals who have conspicuously contributed to the betterment of the entire fraternal order, the community at large, and mankind. Naturally, a proposed Honoree should be the type of individual who, upon investiture of such award, can be counted on to be inspired to reinvigorate his/her sense of commitment and devotion to this service.

**The recommendations must be in writing and in the hands of the College of Honors no later than the last day of February of each year.** This will afford the College of Honors time to be able to fully review the nominations prior to the annual meeting at the Grand Officers' Conference in March. The recommendations should state why the individual being proposed is deserving of this award. The College of Honors will review each nomination solely and impartial upon the written recommendation in order to be fair, and then make nomination of those selected to the Most Eminent Grand Master for his approval.

**There is an honorarium of \$100.00** payable to the Grand Encampment for those who are selected to receive the honor of KCT or CT. This honorarium must be in the hands of the College of Honors in California before the name can be submitted to the Grand Encampment for processing.

As Knights Commander of the Temple, it is our responsibility to put the good of the Order first and foremost. We must be responsible leaders. We must encourage, groom, and develop leadership within others. Let us strive to let the light of our life shine so among men that they will see our good works and glorify our Father which is in Heaven!

**Remember, any Sir Knight in good standing may make recommendation(s) to any recipient of the KCT for an individual to receive either the KCT or CT. The Knight Commander of the Temple will forward the written recommendation to the College on Honors no later than the last day of February. NOMINATION FORMS ARE LOCATED ON THE GRAND YORKRITE WEBSITE/FORMS.**

**NOTE:** The above procedure does not apply for those Sir Knights who have been nominated for the Knights Templar Cross of Honor (KTCH). A detailed explanation for this award can be found in Section 127 ½ of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States of America. A subordinate commandery may nominate a member in good standing for the KTCH. After a unanimous ballot is received, the Commander will complete and sign the required Grand Encampment form and forward it to the Grand Commander for his review and approval. The Grand Commander will then forward the form to the Grand Encampment for processing. There is no cost to the Grand Commandery, subordinate commandery, or the nominee for this award.

Courteously,

*David J. Kussman*

SK David J. Kussman, GCT  
Deputy College of Honors for CA

for:

SK W. Bruce Pruitt, KGC  
Deputy College of Honors for CA

DJK:djw