ESTABLISHMENT OF RESEARCH COMMANDERIES

The proponents of this Resolution seek to establish the ability to form commanderies within California as authorized by the 68th Triennial of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar for the United States of America.

To the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of California:

WHEREAS, the chartering of research commanderies would provide more opportunities for Sir Knights to be involved in Templary; and,

WHEREAS, the delegates at the 68th Triennial of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar for the United States of America adopted amendment 2021-17 authorizing the establishment of special purpose commanderies, such as research commanderies, by amending the Constitution of the Grand Encampment as follows,

Section 176 1/2. Special Commanderies. A Grand Commandery may create and charter special purpose Commanderies, such as a research commandery, for such purposes, and under such terms and conditions as deemed appropriate. Membership in such a special purpose Commandery shall only be by affiliation and may not be a Sir Knight's sole membership. All members of a special-purpose Commandery shall be subject to the payment of all dues and assessments levied by the Grand Encampment, Grand Commandery, and Commandery and shall be subject in all other respects to Templar law. A special-purpose Commandery shall not be required to have a suitable Asylum, to meet quarterly, or to create new Sir Knights. A Sir Knight serving as Commander of a special-purpose Commandery does not obtain the rank of Past Commander by virtue of such service.”
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Grand Commandery Constitution be amended as marked:

PART V
RESEARCH COMMANDERIES

700. RESEARCH COMMANDERY.

Research Commanderies are a special classification of Constituent Commandery with authority to conduct research, hold discussions, gather and preserve Templar information, maintain a library, supply papers or speakers at the request of other Commanderies, and conduct a program of general service to the Order in the field of Templar education and information. Research Commanderies shall be subject to all provisions of these laws and regulations applicable to Constituent Commanderies, except as follows:

A. The word “Research” shall be included in the name of the Commandery;
B. Membership:
   1. Shall consist exclusively of Knights Templar in good standing of Constituent Commanderies or of Commanderies under the jurisdiction of Grand Commanderies recognized by this Grand Commandery;
   2. Shall cease if a member loses such status; and
   3. May be voluntarily severed at any time by resignation;
   4. No member of a Research Commandery shall, by reason of that membership alone, be considered a member of a Constituent Commandery for any purpose of these laws and regulations.
C. Only Knights Templar in good standing of a Constituent Commandery shall hold office and vote;
D. Grand Commanderies recognized by this Grand Commandery, their Commanderies, or any other Grand Commandery recognized by this Grand Commandery, may become “Subscribing Members,” entitled only to receive bulletins and publications;
E. Receipts for dues must accompany a Petition for Dispensation, but no Demit or Request for Demit shall be received or issued by a Research Commandery;
F. The provisions of these laws and regulations requiring certain recommendations, notifications and certificates from an Inspector dealing with qualifications of officers and membership in a Commandery seeking a Dispensation or Charter shall be deemed complied with if an Inspector designated by the Grand Commander certifies to the standing of the petitioners, the provision for a suitable Commandery asylum and the qualification of the officers for their duties. The Dispensation and Charter shall be issued without charge;
G. A member may be the Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, Treasurer or Recorder of a Research Commandery at the same time as he is the Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, Treasurer or Recorder of another constituent Commandery. The provisions of these laws and regulations dealing with the qualifications of Commander, Generalissimo, and Captain General shall not apply to
the officers of Research Commanderies. When the officer elect is not a Past Commander of a Constituent Commandery, before he can be installed he must produce a certificate from the Inspector of the division in which the Research Commandery is situated certifying to the proficiency of such officer in the opening and closing ceremonies;

H. They shall not:
   1. Confer orders,
   2. Be liable for the relief of a member, his wife, widow or orphan;
   3. Be entitled to representation in Grand Commandery or any vote therein;

I. Research Commanderies shall be exempt from the assessments levied by Grand Commandery on Commanderies, and applicants for membership in Research Commanderies shall be exempt from the assessments levied by Grand Commandery on applicants;
   1. However they will be responsible for any assessments and contributions levied by Grand Encampment.

J. Research Commanderies shall not be exempt from per capita levied by Grand Commandery and/or Grand Encampment on Commanderies.

K. No officer or former officer of a Research Commandery shall, by reason of that position alone, be a member of Grand Commandery. Sections of these laws and regulations dealing with the title of Past Commander shall not be applicable to one who has served as Commander of a Research Commandery only, and the Commander of a Research Commandery shall not, upon death or completion of his term of office, by reason of that fact alone, become or be known as or designated as a Past Commander, and shall possess none of the rights, powers or privileges of a Past Commander of a Commandery;

L. Their Stated Conclaves shall be held at least once annually. By a vote of its members, the Commandery may change the place, date and time of a Stated or Special Conclave to something other than what is fixed in its Charter or Bylaws. The meeting place must be safe and suitable for a titled Commandery meeting in this Jurisdiction as determined by the Inspector of the division in which the Research Commandery is situated. Business may be transacted immediately following the opening of any Stated Conclave. Members shall be given notice of any change to the place, date and time of Stated Conclave.;

M. The forms of Petition for Dispensation, Petition for Charter, Charter and Uniform Code of Bylaws shall be adopted insofar as the provisions may be applicable to such Commanderies;

N. They shall have no judicial powers;

O. The giving of notice of receipt of applications for membership and the referral of applications for membership to a committee of three for investigation and report thereon provided for elsewhere in these laws and regulations are dispensed with, and applications for membership may be voted on at the same Stated Meeting at which they are submitted and read;

P. Suspension of a member for non-payment of dues shall not affect his membership in any other Commandery;

Q. They shall be chartered only by name and without a Commandery number;
R. They shall be exempt from the minimum annual dues requirement imposed by these laws and regulations; and
S. They may provide complimentary memberships to Captains General, Generalissimos or Commanders of a Constituent Commandery.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Stephen E. Alderete, PC, No. 23
s/ Rick L. Baca, PC, No. 9
s/ James Baum, PC, No. 79
s/ John Bickerstaff, PC, No. 23
s/ Joseph K. Dongo, PC, No. 2
s/ John L. Cooper III, PC, No. 16
s/ Marty M. Cusing, PC, No. 16
s/ Joseph K. Dongo, PC, No. 2
S/ D. Mike Edwards, PC, No. 7
s/ Craig L. Flagtwet, PC, No. 23
s/ Gregg A. Hall, PC, No. 10
s/ David J. Kussman, PC, No. 36
s/ Cirilp P. Marquez, PC, No. 9
s/ William A. McBroome Jr., PC, No. 35
s/ Anthony C. McLean, No. 23
s/ H. Bud W. Ramsey, PC, No. 10
s/ Roger S. Ross, PC, No. 36
s/ Frederick L. Smith, PC, No. 52
s/ David W. Studley, PC, No. 3
s/ Jordan T. Yelinek, PC, No. 80