

MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE
of
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS of the STATE of SOUTH CAROLINA



Victor C. Major, 33°

27th Most Worshipful Grand Master

"Bridging the gap of the Past, with an eye on our Future, while protecting our Brand"

Lynwood F. Givens, 33°
R.W. Deputy Grand Master

Wayne Davis, 33°
R.W. Senior Grand Warden

James Davis, 33°
R.W. Junior Grand Warden

Paul Brawley, 33°
R.W. Grand Treasurer

Thomas W. Holmes, Jr., 33°
R.W. Grand Secretary

Lavern Witherspoon, 33°
R.W. Grand Chaplain

Fred Herriott, 33°
R.W. Grand Tyler

Christopher Major, 33°
R.W. Grand Trustee

Karl J. Marion, 33°
R.W. Grand Trustee

Leo H. Murphy, 33°
R.W. Grand Trustee

Brian Smith, 33°
R.W. Grand Trustee

Leroy Williams, 33°
R.W. Grand Trustee

Silas J. Williams, 33°
R.W. Grand Trustee

PAST GRAND MASTERS

Rev. Charles W. Davenport, 33°
Lonnie Hosey, 33°
Alonzo Haynes, 33°
Nathaniel I. Durant, Jr., 33°
Curtis W. Mansel, Sr., 33°
Lewis H. Nelson, Jr.
E. Spencer Scott, I, 33°

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Cedric June, 32°
Worshipful Asst. Grand Sec.

Edwin D. Givens, 33°
Worshipful Grand Legal Adv.

Cezar E. McKnight, 33°
Worshipful Grand Legal
Political Advisor

March 25, 2024

To: ALL BROTHERS of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of South Carolina (MWPHGLSC)

My Brothers, I pray that this communication finds you well. I am deeply honored and humbled to have been re-elected as your Most Worshipful Grand Master at the 155th Annual Grand Lodge Session in Charleston, SC. I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to each member who has placed their trust in me once again. Your continued support and confidence mean the world to me. It is a privilege to serve alongside such dedicated individuals who are committed to the success and growth of the MWPHGLSC.

The 155th Annual Grand Lodge session was a momentous success. There were 1300 registered Brothers at the session. There were also 385 Sisters representing the Prince Hall Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Stars as well. I am grateful for all the participation and support.

Due to the hard work of our constitution committee, led by RWDGM Lynwood F. Givens, and the dedication of the brothers of the MWPHGLSC, **ALL** constitutional recommendations were passed and effective as of December 16, 2023. We are working to update the printed Constitution and By-Laws, and we will make sure to notify all Lodges when they are available from the MWPHGLSC bookstore.

Enclosed are the updated Edicts. Please share this information with the brothers of our respective lodges. The updates are in bold for your convenience.

Our lecture team is working to finalize a regalia standards document. This is so that we are uniform in our appearance and consistent with the proper implements of our office. Brothers, it is important that we pay attention to the jewels and emblems that we are purchasing. The regalia standard will provide us with the proper direction as we move forward.

The MWPHGLSC Jurisdictional Ring is available for purchase. Please visit www.mwphglsc.com to view the ring, download the order form, and place your order today. This is an exciting opportunity to purchase a masonic ring designed only for brothers of the MWPHGLSC. The costs of the rings are:

Silver:	\$200.00
Silver and Gold:	\$375.00
All Gold:	\$1,275.00

Please note, any size larger than size 14 will incur additional charges.

We have the new updated Jurisdictional medallions available for purchase in the bookstore. The purple ribboned medallions are for appointed Grand Lodge officers and the blue ribboned medallions are for all brothers.

We will have a Jurisdictional Officers Training on May 4, 2024, at 9:00 am at the MWPHGLSC. This training is tailored to Worshipful Masters, Senior Wardens, Junior Wardens, Treasurers, Secretaries, and all Appointed Grand Lodge officers.

We will have a Jurisdictional Raffle this year. The raffle price is \$10.00. The prizes for the raffle are:

- 1st Place: 3 Day/2 Night vacation stay at the Mills House in downtown Charleston, SC. The Mills House is one of the few Black owned hotels in this region of the USA. The stay will also include Lunch & Dinner.
- 2nd Place: 85" Samsung TV
- 3rd Place: \$500.00 Gift Card
- 4th Place: \$100.00 Gas card and \$100.00 Gift Card

Any district that sells all their allotted tickets will receive a \$2000.00 award towards District functions & operations. District Deputies will disburse tickets to the respective Lodges. District Deputies and Worshipful Asst. Grand Secretary, PM Cedric June, will serve as points of contact for this fundraiser. The purpose of the raffle ticket fundraiser is to raise money for food giveaways, scholarships, and distress relief efforts.

We have met with a vendor and are happy to inform the brothers that we will be able to go into print for rituals soon. We will notify Lodges when the rituals are available in the MWPHGLSC bookstore.

Registration for the 2024 Grand Lodge Session will be open soon. Registration will be available online as well as paper forms. This year, we will have registration open at all District Meetings to assist brothers with getting registered for the session.

Please remember to send all dispensations to your Special Deputy who will then forward them to the District Deputy and MWGM Major.

Remember to submit activities, banquets, community service, visitations, etc., to the Prince Hall Voice, Editor-In-Chief, PM Reggie Graham. Please use the enclosed submission guidelines.

The Prince Hall Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Stars will have its annual session on July 14 – 17, 2024. We will be received on Tuesday, July 15th. I am looking forward to matching the 385 Eastern Stars who attended our Grand Lodge Session. Let's show up in record numbers!

There have been newly appointed District Deputies in our Jurisdiction. The appointments reflect giving others an opportunity to serve. The district deputies are:

District #1	PM Kevin Kizer
District #2	PM Stormy Gillens
District #3	PM David Wright
District #4	PM George Bryan
District #5	PM Cedric Tidwell
District #6	PM Terrell Mingo
District #7	PM Josepha Ham
District #8	PM Nathaniel Peterson
District #9	PM Keith Phillips
District #10	PM John Chaney
District #11	PM Reginald Cooper

District Burial teams are available and looking for dedicated Brothers to serve. Please contact your District Deputy if you are interested in serving on the burial team. This is our last act for our brothers and their families. We should ensure that this occasion is efficient and performed at the highest display of Masonic conduct.

Lastly, we are looking to have a Jurisdictional raising at our Grand Lodge Session in December. If you already have fellowcrafts who are awaiting the third degree, then please move forward with the raising. If not, bring them to the Grand Lodge session in December. Additional information will be forthcoming from your District Deputies.

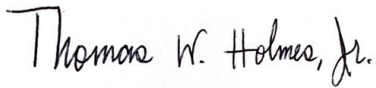
I look forward to a successful 2024 year and believe that we can achieve all our goals if we trust in God and work TOGETHER.

Fraternally yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victor C. Major". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Victor C. Major
27th Most Worshipful Grand Master

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas W. Holmes, Jr.". The signature is cursive and includes a small "Jr." at the end.

Thomas W. Holmes, Jr.
Right Worshipful Grand Secretary

2024 EDICTS

- 1) No organization of Masonry (symbolic, concordant, or affiliated) will schedule or hold any meeting or program during the scheduled three days of Grand Lodge Annual Session in December, nor Eastern Star Annual Session in July.
- 2) The Burial Dress for **ALL** Master Masons at Last Rite ceremonies will be **White Apron and White Gloves, NO COLLARS, NO JEWELS, NO MEDALLIONS, NO LAPEL PINS.**
- 3) No Earrings or hair ornaments shall be worn in any Lodge meeting, funeral services or public programs when Masonically dressed.
- 4) All death claims must be sent in within 30 days of a brother's death so that the Grand Lodge office can process and send relief donation to beneficiary or designee. If no beneficiary is listed, then the office will contact the Lodge.
- 5) The Grand Master's name must be the last name on the front of ALL masonic programs and unless confirmation of his attendance to the program, his name shall NOT be placed on program to give remarks.
- 6) The protocol for the MWPHGLSC is the only protocol, as written, that will be used for symbolic lodge ceremonies and events. No alterations to this protocol will be used.
- 7) When the Grand Master is invited to a banquet or seated program, his seat shall be to the immediate right of the podium and in his absence, his sent representative will assume that seat and give remarks on his behalf. If no one is sent by the Grand Master, then the District Deputy may speak on behalf of the Grand Master.
- 8) The position of prayer is always the Sign of Fidelity, including all masonic or public programs.
- 9) It is my directive that a YEARLY audit be performed for all lodges, **Districts, counties (if applicable)**, associations, and social club accounts associated with all lodges owing allegiance to The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of South Carolina. If there are any discrepancies determined by the Lodge, an immediate report is to be made to the Grand Master and a Grand Lodge audit team will be dispatched. If the investigation of the Grand Lodge audit team finds the financial activities to be fraudulent, all guilty parties will be subject to prosecution of the law.
- 10) All Worshipful Master Elects must register and attend the Grand Lodge Session in order to receive the Past Master Degree. He cannot sit in the East until he has received this degree and been installed. Installation of the new Worshipful Master Elect shall be on or before the 27th of December.
- 11) All Lodge officers and Past Masters are expected to attend the Annual Grand Lodge session, unless excused by the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

- 12) All Lodges owing allegiance to MWPHGLSC will not rent to or allow non-recognized bodies (including PHO, clandestine organizations, etc.) to use its facility. This includes any non-masonic bodies (Odd-Fellows, etc.). This does not apply to traditional community organizations or religious groups (i.e., Churches, NAACP, Elks, 100 Black Men, etc.).
- 13) Every new member must attend a new members' class or training.
- 14) All Lodges must have property and liability insurance on the Lodge and/or building itself.
- 15) All Worshipful Masters, Treasurers, and Secretary positions must be bonded.
- 16) All Lodges and **Districts** must send a copy of the Lodge By-Laws to the Grand Lodge By-Laws committee for approval. All members of that respective lodge or District must receive an updated copy of the approved by-laws within 90 Days.
- 17) No Lodges will take a summer break/darkness. Lodges are expected to meet monthly.
- 18) All brothers must update their personal information using the Grand Loge profile sheets so that all information may be updated properly.
- 19) Members who have been away from the Lodge for more than 2yrs, must submit a national background check before being voted on (**majority vote**).
- 20) All petitions must include a picture of the applicant along with the national background check. A black and white head photo is sufficient.
- 21) All lodges who find a petitioner unfavorable (black ball), must inform in writing, their respective District Deputy, **who will then inform Lodges in the District**, as well as a copy sent to the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, within 30 days of balloting.

All previous edicts are null and void.

**MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE
of
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS of the STATE of SOUTH CAROLINA**



Victor C. Major, 33°
27th Most Worshipful Grand Master
"Bridging the gap of the Past, with an eye on our Future, while protecting our Brand"

Jurisdictional Ring Order Form

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Lodge Name: _____

Lodge #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Ring Size: _____

Ring Selection: All Silver (\$200.00)
 Silver & Gold (\$375.00)
 All Gold (\$1,275.00)

Please mail payment along with this form to: **MWPHGLSC, P.O. Box 992, Columbia, SC 29202.**

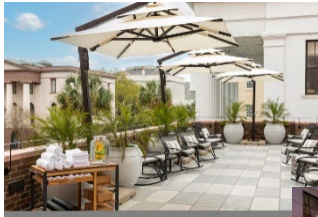
Please complete a separate form for each ring purchased.



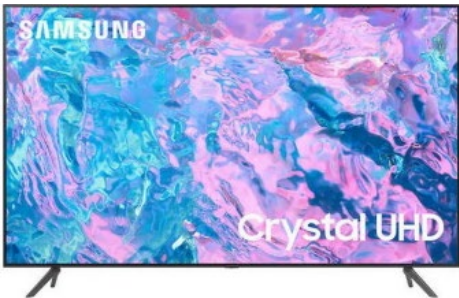
**MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
CHARITY FUNDRAISER**



First Place: 2 Night Three Day Stay at The Mills House Hotel



**Second Place
85inch Samsung Television**



**Third Place
\$500 Visa Gift Card**

**For more Information
Contact: Cedric June
(803) 464-4924**

**CJ Gore
(843) 251-8826**

**Samuel Revenel
(843) 478-7269**

Tickets: \$10

Fourth Place

\$100 Gas Card

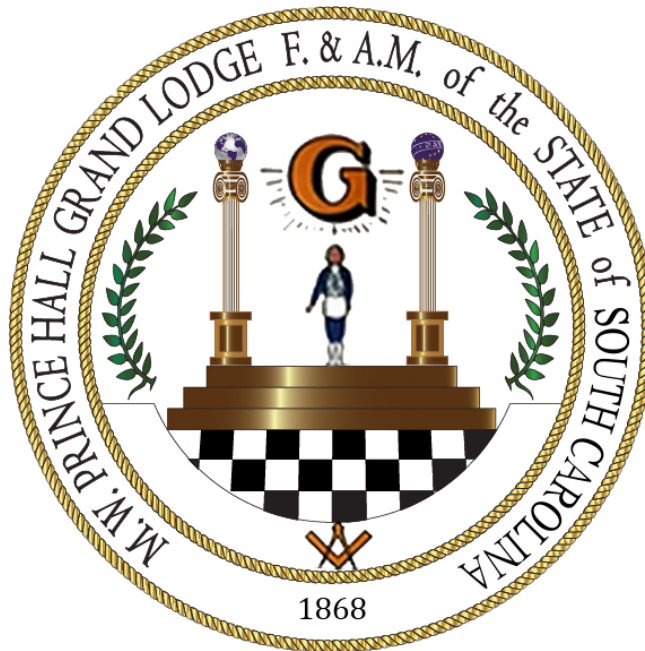


****Drawing to be held at the 156th Prince Hall Grand Lodge Session ****

****** ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE SUPPORT OF OUR SCHOLARSHIP FUND AND
LOCAL CHARITIES.**

**THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL GRAND LODGE
of
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
of the
State of South Carolina**

REGALIA AND DRESS CODE



**Victor C. Major
Most Worshipful Grand Master**

Master Mason Regalia

Apron



Master Masons are to wear white cloth, satin, or lambskin apron with or without blue trim. The apron can be worn with or without fringe. It is always appropriate to wear a plain, all-white apron. **(No wreath, No Vinework.)**

Acceptable colors: Blue and White

Master Masons are not to wear aprons with a wreath or vinework. Master Masons are not to wear aprons that look identical or similar to Grand Lodge Officer aprons, even if they are different in color.

The following apron (or anything similar) is **not to be worn**:



Master Masons are not to wear collars if they are not a Subordinate Lodge Officer.

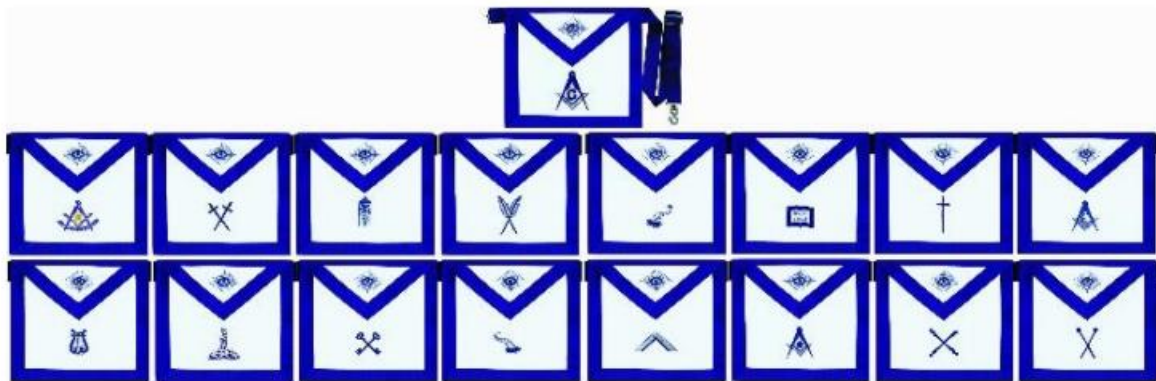
Subordinate Lodge Officers' Regalia

Apron



Subordinate Lodge Officers are to wear white cloth, satin, or lambskin apron with or without blue trim. The all-seeing eye should be worn on the bib and the masonic emblem on the body. The apron can be worn with or without fringe. **(No wreath, No Vinework.)** It is always appropriate to wear a plain, all-white apron.

Acceptable colors: Blue and White



Subordinate Lodge Officers are to wear white cloth, satin, or lambskin apron with or without blue trim. The all-seeing eye should be worn on the bib, and the masonic emblem or the emblem of office is on the body. The apron can be worn with or without fringe. **(No wreath, No Vinework.)** It is always appropriate to wear a plain, all-white apron.

Acceptable colors: Blue and White

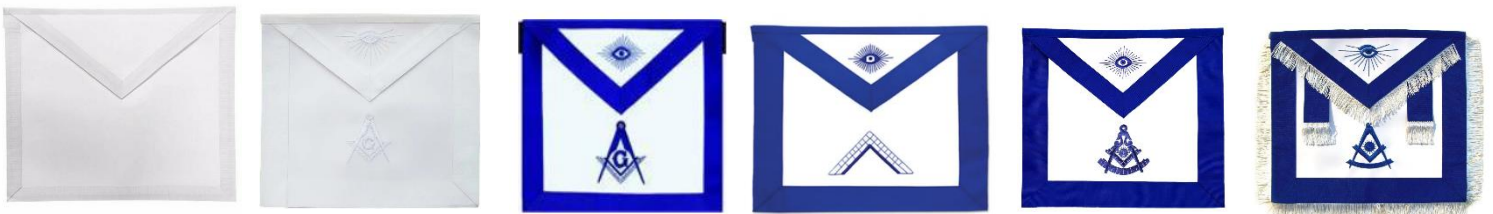
Collar



Subordinate Lodge Officers are to wear a gold or silver plated metal collar on blue velvet backing with the jewel of their office suspended from it. **No other trimmings or ornaments may be attached to the collar.** **No wreath is allowed on the jewel.** Wreaths are for Grand Lodge Officers only.

Worshipful Master Regalia

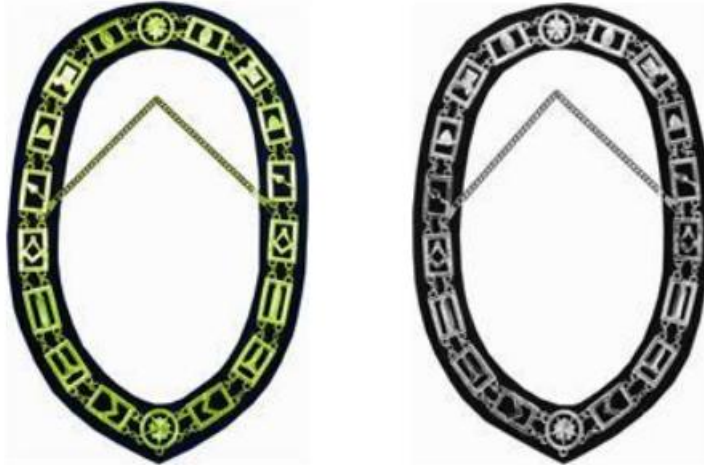
The Worshipful Master must wear the square jewel.



Worshipful Masters are to wear a white cloth, satin or lambskin apron with or without blue trim. The all-seeing eye is on the bib and the masonic emblem, square, or Past Master's emblem is on the body. The apron may be worn with or without fringe. It is always appropriate to wear a plain all-white apron. **(No wreath, no vinework.)** *Only a Worshipful Master who is also a Past Master, may wear the Past Master emblem on the apron.*

Acceptable colors: Blue and White

Collar



Worshipful Masters are to wear a gold or silver-plated metal collar on blue velvet backing with the square suspended from it. **No other trimmings or ornaments may be attached to the collar. (No wreath on the jewel).**

Hat



Worshipful Masters are to wear a black top hat or a very similar covering.

Past Master Regalia

Apron

Acceptable colors: 1. Blue and White 2. Blue, White, and Silver 3. Blue, White, and Gold



Past Masters are to wear a white cloth, satin or lambskin apron with or without blue trim. The all-seeing eye is on the bib, and the masonic emblem or Past Master's emblem is on the body of the apron. The apron may be worn with or without fringe. It is always appropriate to wear a plain all-white apron. **(No wreath, no vinework)**

Past Masters are not to wear aprons that look identical or similar to Grand Lodge Officer aprons, even if they are different in color.

These aprons are NOT to be worn:



Collars



Past Masters are to wear a gold or silver-plated metal collar on blue, velvet backing with the Past Master's emblem suspended from it. **No other trimmings or ornaments may be attached to the collar.** **No wreath is allowed on the jewel. Wreaths are for Grand Lodge Officers only.**

This is the proper Past Master jewel (no wreath).



This is **NOT** allowed for Past Masters (wreath).

Wreath is for Grand Lodge Officers only.



Grand Lodge Officer Regalia

Jewels worn by the Grand Lodge officers are of gold pendant to a collar of purple velvet. The apron white satin lambskin with appropriate jewels embroidered thereon in gold, and trim with purple ribbon and gold bullion fringe.

Apron



Acceptable Colors: Purple, White, and Gold

Grand Lodge Officers are to wear an apron with a purple bib and border with gold trim, fringe, and an all-seeing eye on the bib. The Past Master's emblem or emblem of office within a wreath must be on the body of the apron.

Only Elected Grand Lodge Officers, Past Elected Grand Lodge Officers and Past Most Worshipful Grand Masters may adorn the apron with the TAU. **No other brother** may adorn the apron with the TAU.

TAU =



Collar



Grand Lodge Officers are to wear a gold-plated metal collar on purple, velvet backing with the jewel of the Grand Lodge Office, within a wreath, suspended from it. Grand Lodge Officers whose offices do not have jewels, will wear the Past Master's jewel within a wreath. **No other trimmings or ornaments may be attached to the collar for Appointed Grand Lodge Officers. Only Elected Grand Lodge Officers and Past Most Worshipful Grand Masters' collars may have trimmings and/or ornaments attached to the collar as approved by the Grand Lodge.**

Past Grand Lodge Officer Regalia



Acceptable Colors: Purple, White, and Gold

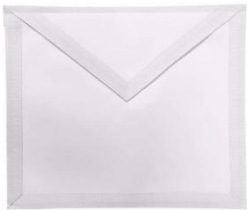
Past Grand Lodge Officers are to wear an apron with a purple bib and border with gold trim, fringe, and an all-seeing eye on the bib. The Past Master's emblem within a wreath must be on the body of the apron. Past Elected Grand Lodge Officers may wear the emblem of the Grand Lodge Office in which he was elected, within a wreath on the body of the apron.

Collar



Past Appointed Grand Lodge Officers are to wear a gold-plated metal collar on purple, velvet backing with the Past Master's jewel within a wreath suspended from it. Past Elected Grand Lodge Officers are to wear the Past Master's emblem or the emblem of the Grand Lodge Office in which he was elected, within a wreath, suspended from it. **No other trimmings or ornaments may be attached to the collar for Past Appointed Grand Lodge Officers. Only Past Elected Grand Lodge Officers and Past Most Worshipful Grand Master collars may have trimmings and/or ornaments attached to the collar as approved by the Grand Lodge.**

Funeral Dress



Brothers participating in the Ceremony - Brothers participating in the ceremony are to wear an all-white apron, and plain white gloves (no emblems on the gloves); and are **not to wear** collars, lapel pins, nor pocket squares. (Including Past Masters/Grand Lodge Officers)

Brothers not participating in the Ceremony - Brothers who are not Past Masters are to wear an all-white apron, and plain white gloves (no emblems on the gloves); and are **not to wear** collars, lapel pins, nor pocket squares.

Past Masters/Grand Lodge Officers who are not participating in the ceremony can wear dress apron and collar, and are **not to wear** lapel pins, nor pocket squares.

Items NOT to be worn



Cuffs are only to be worn by the Most Worshipful Grand Master. No other brother is to wear cuffs.



No Masonic Emblem Ties nor Masonic Emblem Cravats are to be worn with regular Masonic Dress. Solid black neck tie or solid black bow tie is to be worn with regular Masonic Dress.



Wreaths are to adorn the aprons, jewels, gloves and lapel pins of Grand Lodge Officers and Past Grand Lodge Officers only. Brothers not of this rank should not have wreaths on their aprons, jewels, gloves, lapel pins, etc.



Spats are not to be worn with regular Masonic Dress.

No earrings are to be worn with regular Masonic dress.

No shorts nor sandals are to be worn in the Lodge.

Dress Specifications

Masonic dress is a black suit, black tie, white shirt, white gloves, and black shoes.

Solid black socks are to be worn with regular Masonic dress.

It is always appropriate to wear a plain, all-white apron.

If a brother wears a lapel pin or emblem, it must be appropriate to the Master Mason Lodge.

Apron dimensions should be 13" x 15" or 14" x 16".