

**The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge
of Texas and its Jurisdictions,
Free and Accepted Masons**



Edict #20150122-1

To: All Master Masons beholding to the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Texas and its Jurisdiction

**From: Hon. Wilbert M. Curtis
Most Worshipful Grand Master**

Date: January 22, 2015

Subject: Visitation Rules and Guidelines

By the authority vested in the Office of the Most Worshipful Grand Master by the Constitution of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Texas and Its Jurisdiction, in accordance with ARTICLE VI, Section 5 – Issuance of Edicts, I, Wilbert M. Curtis hereby issue the following edict:

As the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas extends and receives mutual fraternal recognition with regular Grand Lodges other than Prince Hall Affiliated Grand Lodges, guidelines are needed to insure that proper protocols are followed in receiving visitors and visiting lodges of other Jurisdictions.

Effective immediately, the following guidelines below are to be used for receiving visitors (ARTICLE I.) and visiting Lodges of other Grand Lodge Jurisdictions (ARTICLE II.):

Edict #20150122-1

ARTICLE I. RECEIVING VISITORS

Section 1. Register. A book shall be kept in each Lodge in which each member and visitor shall register his name, the name and location of his Lodge, and the jurisdiction thereof, whenever he attends any meeting therein.

Section 2. Masons of Other Grand Jurisdictions. A Master Mason, in good standing, a member of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of any grand Lodge or other Grand Body which is in fraternal relations with this Grand Lodge, may be admitted as a visitor, subject to the provision of **Section 6. Visitors Excluded.**

Section 3. Good Standing. Upon notification to the Worshipful Master, and at his discretion, a member of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge may visit any Prince Hall Affiliated Masonic Lodge working under this jurisdiction without the avouchment and or examination process providing that he is in good standing and presents a receipt from his Lodge showing that his dues are current at the time of said visitation along with a photo identification; except in cases provided for in **Section 5. Non-Affiliates.** Sojourning Masons from other jurisdictions must possess a current dues card and shall be vouched for or examined in accordance with **Section 4. Avouchment and Examination.**

Section 4. Avouchment and Examination. One Mason cannot vouch for another unless he has sat in open Lodge with him, and can so state, or was a member of a Committee appointed to examine such Brother in a Lodge. A Brother cannot vouch for another upon the request of another Brother who has sat in a Lodge with the visitor but was unable to be present at the meeting; nor can it be done upon any private examination apart from the Lodge. Provided, that the Worshipful Master may appoint an examining Committee, prior to the opening of the Lodge to examine and report upon any applying visitor.

Section 5. Non-Affiliates. A non-affiliated Mason may not visit any Lodge in this jurisdiction more than three times unless he shall petition a Lodge for membership. If his petition is rejected he may be allowed to visit Lodges for one year thereafter, when he should again petition.

Section 6. Visitors Excluded: When. A visitor, who is not a member in good standing of a Lodge working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, may be excluded on the objection of a member of the Lodge at the discretion of the Worshipful Master. When three members make the objection, such visitor must be excluded. Like objection may be made to a member of a Lodge working under the jurisdiction of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Texas only if such member is under charges preferred against him.

ARTICLE II. VISITING LODGES OF OTHER GRAND JURISDICTIONS

The following protocol for visiting Lodges of other regular Grand Lodge Jurisdictions is established and utilized by Regular Grand Lodges:

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Section 1. Official Correspondence. All official Masonic correspondence shall be conducted between the Grand Secretaries. All correspondence from lodges, districts or divisions shall be directed to its Grand Lodge who will then direct the correspondence to the other Grand Lodge. No Lodge, district or other division will correspond directly with any Grand Lodge, division, district or lodge other than its own.

Section 2. Official Visitation. Members of lodges under the jurisdiction of our respective Grand Lodges may have and exchange visitation at tiled meetings. Prior to visitation, the visiting member, officer, or lodge will provide due notice of the intended visit in adherence with Masonic courtesy and practice. A brother wishing to visit a lodge shall be required to hold in his possession a current year's dues receipt or membership card and to follow the usual Masonic practice of examination or avouchment of visitors.

Take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly.

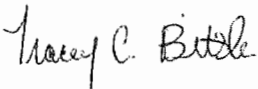
Under my hand and seal...

Fraternally yours,



M.: W.: Wilbert M. Curtis
Grand Master

Attested:



R.:W.: Tracey C. Bittle
Grand Secretary

