

June 7, 2016

To: Worshipful Masters and Officers of All Particular Lodges  
Grand Lodge Officers  
Past Grand Masters  
District Deputy Grand Masters

Re: Summary of Legislation  
187<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Communication

Dear Brethren:

In compliance with Regulation 13.04 of the Digest of the Masonic Law of Florida, listed below are the Resolutions enacted at the 187<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Communication held in Jacksonville, Florida, on May 30, 31, and June 1, 2016. This summary should be reviewed by the Elected Lodge Officers and reported to the Brethren in open Lodge at the next Stated Communication after its receipt.

At the 187<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Communication of The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Florida the following Grand Lodge Officers were Elected and Installed:

M.: W.: Stanley L. Hudson, Grand Master  
R.: W.: Richard G. Hoover, Deputy Grand Master  
R.: W.: John E. Karroum, Senior Grand Warden  
R.: W.: John W. Westerman, III, Junior Grand Warden  
M.: W.: Elmer G. Coffman, P.G.M., Grand Treasurer  
M.: W.: Richard E. Lynn, P.G.M., Grand Secretary

This report contains six (6) Resolutions adopted which will amend various Constitutional Provisions and Regulations.

**Constitutional Provisions/Regulation Changes Adopted:**

1. ***Resolution for Flagship Charity Change.*** The adoption of this Resolution eliminates the recognition of the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory as The Grand Lodge of Florida's Flagship Charity. The Resolution on page 4a of the Digest of the Masonic Law of Florida will be deleted as well as Regulation 13.21.4. Article I, Section 7(o) and Article IX of the Constitution will be amended to remove "MMRL" from the name of the Flagship Charity Committee.
2. ***Resolution for the Admittance of the Fathers of Master Masons to the Masonic Home.*** The adoption of this Resolution allows a Master Mason's father to be admitted to residence in the Masonic Home under the Private Pay Plan subject to the conditions, limitations, and restrictions set forth in the Masonic Home Rules and Regulations, Chapter 48 of the Digest of the Masonic Law of Florida.
3. ***Resolution on Action of Grand Lodge on Appeals.*** The adoption of this Resolution changes Article V, Section 3, of the Constitution to coincide with Regulation 44.67(a) of the Penal Code of the Digest of the Masonic Law of Florida as follows:

**Section 3.** In cases of an appeal from a suspension or expulsion, if the Grand Lodge acquits the accused, or reverses the decision of the Lodge or Special Trial Commission below, or when the Grand Lodge confirms the decision of the Particular Lodge or Special Trial Commission and subsequently restores the party to

the rights and benefits of Masonry, the action of the Grand Lodge does not in either case restore the party to membership in the Lodge from which he is suspended or expelled without the unanimous consent of the Lodge, as in cases of a ballot for membership. In all cases of definite suspension, the member returns to his membership upon the expiration of the term of suspension.

4. ***Resolution on Conveying 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of a Masonic Home Resident's Estate to a Particular Lodge or The Grand Lodge of Florida.*** The adoption of this Resolution clarifies the fact that when a resident of the Masonic Home conveys 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of his "entire estate" to a Lodge or to the Grand Lodge the term "entire estate" is defined as "unexpended residual funds at the time of death of the resident."
5. ***Resolution to Amend Masonic Service Recognition.*** The adoption of this Resolution will change Chapter 26 in the Digest of the Masonic Law of Florida in order that all Masonic Service Recognition Awards be calculated with actual time in good standing in the Fraternity. Suspended time or unaffiliated time will no longer be calculated when awarding Masonic Service Awards.
6. ***Resolution on Zone and Districts.*** The adoption of this Resolution restructures the Zoning and Districting of The Grand Lodge of Florida to reduce the number of Zones from 10 to 7 and reduces the number of Districts from 34 to 28. This change will be effective May 31, 2017, for the 2017 Grand Lodge Year.

***This Summary has been reviewed by M.:W.: Joe A. Fleites, P.G.M., Chairman, and M.:W.: Robert P. Harry, Jr., P.G.M., Vice Chairman of the Masonic Jurisprudence Committee.***