



**GRAND CHAPTER OF
ROYAL ARCH MASONS**



**GRAND COUNCIL OF
CRYPTIC MASONS**



**GRAND COMMANDERY OF
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR**

GRAND YORK RITE OF MISSOURI

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Date: April 12, 2026

To: Companions and Sir Knights of the Grand York Rite of Missouri
Honorable Guests & Distinguished Visitors

Subject: 2026 Missouri Grand York Rite Session Invitation

Companions and Sir Knights All:

On behalf of M.:E.:C.: Kevin M. Ritter, Grand High Priest, M.:I.:C.: Dennis W. Houck, Grand Master, and Sir Knight Terry D. Coppotelli, R.:E.: Grand Commander, you are cordially invited to attend the One Hundred Seventy-Ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, the One Hundred Sixtieth Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, and the One Hundred Sixty-Fifth Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Missouri. The presiding grand officers have planned an efficient business meeting schedule and several dining events for your enjoyment. The first ladies of the Grand York Rite of Missouri have planned some wonderful activities for your lady to enjoy. We hope you will enjoy your stay with us, and we look forward to greeting each of you in St Louis.

Hotel Reservations MUST be made by May 18, 2026

The joint Grand York Rite Sessions of Missouri will be held at the w, **June 10-14, 2026**. You may book your hotel reservations online at <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1754927823394&key=GRP&app=resvlink> or by calling 314.423.9700. Please be sure to mention the Grand York Rite of Missouri when making your reservations. Room rates are \$139.00 per night for a single or double, plus tax. Hotel reservations **MUST** be made no later than **May 18, 2026**. We regret that we cannot guarantee space availability after that date. **ALL members and guests must make hotel reservations on their own**. If you experience any difficulties with making reservations, please contact this office immediately.

Event Meal Reservations MUST be made by May 18, 2026

Meal reservations may be made online by visiting www.moyorkrite.org and clicking on the 2026 Grand Sessions tab, through <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/2025-missouri-grand-york-rite-sessions> or by completing the enclosed Meal Reservations Form and sending it together with the appropriate fees to the Grand York Rite Office no later than Monday, May 18, 2026. If special

accommodation or dietary restrictions are required, please identify your needs to the office when you make your meal reservations. Those failing to make meal reservations in advance may not be afforded an opportunity to do so at the sessions due to planning and scheduling.

Distinguished Guest Registration MUST be made by May 18, 2026

All Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, visiting Grand Lodge, Grand York Rite and Appendant Body Distinguished Guests who plan to attend and who wish to be introduced must complete a Distinguished Guest registration online by going to www.moyorkrite.org and clicking on the 2026 Grand Sessions tab or by completing the enclosed Distinguished Guest Registration Form and sending it to the Grand York Rite Office no later than May 18th, 2026. Missouri Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers and visiting Distinguished Guests – Please take notice: **Failure to register properly will cause us to be unaware of your planned attendance, your full name and proper titles, and thus cause our inability to prepare for your proper introduction. This registration does NOT negate your need to register with the Credentials Committee as discussed below.**

All Missouri York Rite members MUST register with the Credentials Committee upon Arrival!

CREDENTIAL REGISTRATION: All Chapter, Council and Commandery voting delegates must register with the Credentials Committee (not the Grand Secretary/Recorder’s Office) for the Grand Sessions. Organizations, officers, grand officers, past presiding officers and past presiding grand officers have NOT been properly represented, registered or recorded at past grand sessions due to their failure to register with the Credentials Committee. Here is a list of the voting delegates who must register. Check the schedule of events for registration times and location.

Chapter: High Priest * King * Scribe * Secretary All Past High Priests	Council: Master * Deputy Master * Principal Conductor of the Work * Recorder All Past Masters	Commandery: Commander * Generalissimo * Captain General * Recorder All Past Commanders
Grand Chapter: Grand Officers DDGHPs DDGLs Past Grand High Priests Grand Committee Members	Grand Council: Grand Officers RDGMs RDGLs Past Grand Masters Grand Committee Members	Grand Commandery: Grand Officers RGCs Past Grand Commanders Grand Committee Members

The officers designated by an asterisk (*) not able to attend in person may appoint any “Past Presiding Officer” of their respective Chapter/Council/Commandery as their proxy to represent them in the corresponding grand session meeting. Such proxy shall be in writing on a Credentials Registration Form and signed by the officer making the appointment.

The representation of organizations and attendance of officers cannot be accurately recorded if you fail to properly register. Registration for one organization does NOT automatically register you for any other organization. Plural members may register (using a separate form for each organization) for more than one Chapter/Council/Commandery if they are properly qualified and

have made arrangements with those organizations. However, a sitting officer (delegate) may NOT proxy for another sitting officer (delegate). You should plan for this registration process before you show up in order to know who is registering for which office (if by proxy).

Additional Notice:

In accordance with the **By-Laws of Grand Chapter of Missouri, ARTICLE XII, Chartered Chapters, Section 104D.** *If at two consecutive Annual Convocations of the Grand Chapter, held after 1986, any chartered chapter shall not (1) be represented by any one of its High Priest, King or Scribe, or their legally appointed proxies, or (2) have in attendance a companion who is a member of the chapter appointed by action of the chapter to attend and who shall have exhibited satisfactory evidence of such appointment to the Committee on Credentials, or (3) have in attendance a Past High Priest who is a member of the Chapter, as determined by the Records of the Committee on Credentials, **the functions of the chapter are suspended.** (Adopted May 8, 1986, Amended May 14, 2009)*

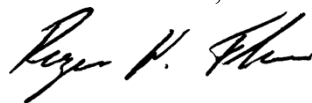
In accordance with the **By-Laws of Grand Council of Missouri, ARTICLE VII. Officers, SEC. 82.** *The Master. The Master has it in special charge to see that the By-Laws of his Council are duly observed, as well as statutes, rules and regulations of the Grand Council; that accurate records are made, and just accounts rendered; that regular returns are promptly made to the Grand Council, and that the annual dues are promptly paid. It is his duty to preside at all Assemblies of his Council, and he is responsible for the proper conduct of its affairs. **It is his duty, either in person or by proxy, to attend all Assemblies of the Grand Council,** and to see that the Recorder of his Council promptly discharges his duty in reference to Council returns, and dues. And he shall have authority to remove any officer of his Council, whose actions are such as to disturb the Craft or to interfere with its proper procedures, customs, and requirements.*

In accordance with the **Grand Commandery Laws and Regulations, ARTICLE VII, Officers Section 135. Duties of Commander. A.** *The Commander is specially charged to see that the By-Laws and Regulations of his commandery are duly observed, as well as the Constitution, Laws, Rituals and Rules of the Grand Encampment, and the Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery; that accurate records are kept and just accounts rendered; that regular returns are made to the Grand Commandery, annually, and that the annual dues are promptly paid. It is his duty, together with the Generalissimo and Captain General, to attend all conclaves of the Grand Commandery. **A Commandery that is not represented at an Annual Conclave by at least one of the above officers, or his proxy, shall be placed on probation until the next Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery, if it fails to have representation at the second Annual Conclave, its Charter may be arrested.***

Fraternally and Most Respectfully,



Donald MacCormick,
Grand Secretary, Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons
Grand Recorder, Grand Council of Cryptic Masons



Roger D. Flee, Grand Recorder
Grand Commandery of the State of Missouri