

June 5, 2025

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

Re: Summary of Legislation – 196<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 196<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Communication held in Orlando, Florida, on May 26, 27, and 28, 2025. This summary should be reviewed by the Elected Lodge Officers and reported to the Brothers, in open Lodge, at the next Stated Communication after its receipt.

At the 196<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.: Taleb T. Atala, Grand Master  
R.:W.: Haskell R. Vest, Jr., Deputy Grand Master  
R.:W.: Frederick R. Wendling, Jr., Senior Grand Warden  
R.:W.: Robert W. Estell, Jr., Junior Grand Warden  
M.:W.: Richard E. Lynn, P.G.M., Grand Treasurer  
M.:W.: Jeffrey S. Foster, P.G.M., Grand Secretary

This report contains two (2) Resolutions adopted which will amend various Constitutional Provisions and/or Regulations adopted by the Craft.

***FLOORWORK BOOK UPDATES – ADOPTED BY MAJORITY VOTE***

**RESOLUTION TO ADD CLARIFICATIONS, OPEN INSTALLATION, BALLOTING WORDS, AND PROCEDURES FOR MORE THAN 5 E.A.'S TO THE MERGED FLOORWORK PROCEDURES BOOK**

The “Handbook of Forms and Ceremonies Procedures – Combined Ritual Cipher and Floorwork Booklet” be updated per the copy submitted with this legislation to the Jurisprudence Committee, which has no changes to any Cipher or words, but only adds clarifications for Ritual that was vague, unclear, or inconsistent with our “Forms and Ceremonies” or the consistent teachings of the Committee on Work, and also includes the Open Installation Ceremony, wording for balloting, and procedures for more than 5 candidates in the Entered Apprentice Degree.

The Committee on Work will make these same updates to the Spanish version of the “Handbook of Forms and Ceremonies Procedures – Combined Ritual Cipher and Floorwork Booklet”.

***CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION/REGULATION CHANGES ADOPTED BY 2/3 ELECTRONIC VOTE:***

**RESOLUTION TO CHANGE THE CONSTITUTION AND THE DIGEST OF THE MASONIC LAW OF FLORIDA TO PERMIT THE GRAND MASTER TO AUTHORIZE ADDITIONAL PLACEMENT OF A DUPLICATE COPY OF THE FORMS AND CEREMONIES IN A DISTRICT**

The appropriate changes be made to the “Constitution” and “Digest of the Masonic Law of Florida” to permit the Grand Master to authorize those duplicate copies be produced by The Grand Lodge of Florida and be distributed to the requesting Districts. The receiving Districts will be required to follow the procedures for opening the safes containing the duplicate copies of the “Work” as delineated in Chapter 38.04 of the “Digest of the Masonic Law of Florida”. The duplicate copy of the “Forms and Ceremonies” retained at The Grand Lodge of Florida in Jacksonville shall be used as the “Master” for producing the duplicate copies.

**Article XV, Section 2 of the Constitution be amended to read:**

There shall be one (1) original and up to **forty (40)** duplicate copies of the Forms and Ceremonies described herein. There shall also be one Spanish Translation and **ten (10)** duplicate copies of the Spanish Translation of the Forms and Ceremonies. There shall also be one (1) digitized copy of the original and Spanish Translation of the Forms and Ceremonies. (2025)

**Regulation 38.04 (b) amended to read:**

There shall be one (1) original and up to **forty (40)** duplicate copies of the Forms and Ceremonies described herein. There shall also be one Spanish Translation and **ten (10)** duplicate copies of the Spanish Translation of the Forms and Ceremonies. There shall also be one (1) digitized copy of the original and Spanish Translation of the Forms and Ceremonies. (2025)

***This Summary has been reviewed by M.:W.: J. Dick Martinez, P.G.M., Chairman, and R.:W.: Ronald C. Mincey, Jr., Vice Chairman, of the Masonic Jurisprudence Committee.***