



# Most Excellent Union Grand Chapter

HOLY ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF FLORIDA & U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS, INC.  
Prince Hall Affiliated

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## 2026 OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION

December 17, 2025

To the Honorable Gus Harris Jr., Most Worshipful Grand Master; All Florida Jurisdictional Department Heads; Deputy Grand High Priest, Right Excellent Peter J. Bruton; Grand King, Right Excellent Andre Reed; Grand Scribe, Right Excellent Craig E. Hall; Grand Treasurer, Right Excellent Jose "Tito" George; Grand Secretary, Right Excellent Darryl V. Smith; Grand Chaplain, Right Excellent Rev. Jeremy N. Blackwell; Grand CCFC, Right Excellent Henry L. Williams III; All Past Most Excellent Grand High Priests; All Past Grand High Priests; All Appointed Grand Chapter Officers; All Excellent High Priests, Past High Priests, Kings, Scribes, Treasurers, Secretaries; All Local Appointed Officers, and All Companions.

*And thou shalt anoint them, as thou didst anoint their father, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office: for their anointing shall surely be an everlasting priesthood throughout their generations.*

*Exodus 40:15*

We have stood before the craft and presented our workmanship. It has been heralded to be **good** work, **true** work, and **square** work. Our elders have proclaimed it to be EXCELLENT. It is almost time for us to convene as Holy Royal Arch Masons, exhibit our work and give an account our stewardship.

## CALL TO ASSEMBLE

Now, by the prerogative of this office and in conformity with the Constitution and By-Laws governing the Most Excellent Union Grand Chapter, Holy Royal Arch Masons of Florida & U.S. Virgin Islands, Prince Hall Affiliated, I, Most Excellent Dr. Elton L. Lewis KCT KYGCH, Grand High Priest of all Capitular Masonry, do hereby proclaim the **123<sup>rd</sup> Annual Grand Convocation and 2026 Holy Royal Arch Annual Meeting**, will convene for all Holy Royal Arch Masons on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront, 225 East Coastline Drive, Jacksonville, Florida 32202.

## LODGING ACCOMMODATIONS

The host hotel for this event is the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront. For reservations by phone, or for assistance with an existing booking, please contact the Hyatt Reservations Department at (904) 588-1234 and indicate that you are booking under the block or group name "**G-MW26**." Reservations may be made beginning immediately and must be completed no later than **March 26, 2026**. Please be advised that the block is subject to sell out before this date, so we strongly encourage you to promptly make your reservations. *(If the group rate is not available, the prevailing hotel rate will apply. By the time of the writing of this Proclamation the room block may be full. If that is the case, please refer to representatives from the MWUGL for additional lodging accommodations. All visitors and guests contact our Rt. Ex. Grand CCFC, Henry Williams, at (904) 912-4104 or by email at [meugc.ccfc@gmail.com](mailto:meugc.ccfc@gmail.com))*

### **The Pass Key for Hotel Reservations:**

The pass key for the 2026 Grand Session is below. Please click the hyperlink below to access the hotel reservation site:

[LINK TO GRAND SESSION BOOKING WEBSITE](#)

We are expecting a larger than normal attendance at this event, so make your reservations early. Please do not over book rooms. Reservations must be made with a major credit card. The Grand Chapter will not be responsible for cancellation charges or overbooked rooms.

Most Excellent

Dr. Elton L. Lewis KYGCH KCT  
Grand High Priest

Right Excellent

Peter J. Bruton KYCH  
Deputy Grand High Priest

Right Excellent

Andre Reed KYCH  
Grand King

Right Excellent

Craig E. Hall KYCH  
Grand Scribe

Right Excellent

Jose "Tito" George  
Grand Treasurer

Right Excellent

Darryl V. Smith  
Grand Secretary

Right Excellent

Rev. Jeremy N. Blackwell  
Grand Chaplain

Right Excellent

Henry L. Williams III  
Grand Chair of Foreign  
Correspondence

## REGISTRATION

Registration is **\$85.00 from December 15, 2026 through February 28, 2026**. Late Registration is **\$125.00 from March 1, 2026 through March 22, 2026**. Any registrations received by the Grand Secretary after March 22, 2026, will be considered on-site registration. On-site registration is \$175.00. Chapters must pre-register all three (3) principal officers: Excellent High Priest, King, and Scribe. These officers must register whether in attendance or not.

All **Appointed Grand Chapter Officers** and Companions who serve as **Joshua or Court Director** for the Heroines of Jericho are expected to **register with their local Royal Arch Chapter**. This will be strictly enforced. Please understand that it should not be expected that the local HOJ Court will pay your registration for you.

This year's registration form can also be completed using the online registration form. A link to the online registration form can be found on the registration form attached below. ALL local Chapter Secretaries are encouraged to complete the online registration form to allow for accuracy of information being submitted. The QR Code for Zelle payments can also be found on the online registration form. Registrations can be mailed directly to the **Grand Secretary, Right Excellent Darryl V. Smith, at P.O. Box 26834, Jacksonville, FL 32226**. Attached below is the registration form, which includes a link to the online registration form. Make all checks and money orders payable to the "M.E.U.G.C." There will be a \$40 fee on any returned check plus bank fees. Individuals or Chapters can also register using Zelle by sending funds using the email address [meugc.grtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:meugc.grtreasurer@gmail.com).

## ATTIRE

All Companions are to dress in full Royal Arch ritualistic dress, to include black suit, white dress shirt, black socks, red tie, crown, apron, gloves, and appropriate collar. *(Please note that those with inappropriate crowns, aprons, or collars will be asked to remove them before entering the meeting room. **PLEASE BE WARNED!**)* All elected and appointed Grand Chapter Officers are to dress in full ritualistic regalia.

## OCCASIONAL CHAPTER OPENING

The officers and members of Providence Chapter #113, of Miami, Florida, will perform the Occasional Grand Chapter Opening in due and ritualistic form. This is the last ritualistic opening performed for this Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and it will be done by none other than his home Chapter.

## "CODE RED" HOSPITALITY

**THE EVENT OF THE YEAR IS BACK!!!** The Most Excellent Union Grand Chapter HRAM and the Most Ancient Union Grand Court HOJ will have their "CODE RED" Hospitality on **Tuesday, April 21st, 2026, at 6:00pm** on-site at the host hotel. This event will include a crab boil, barbecue, spades tournament, dominoes tournament, line dance competition, and a mechanical bull. Companions and Heroines are asked to dress casual with red from head to toe. There will be prizes and giveaways throughout the evening. This event promises to be one for the ages!

## DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST REPORTS

Each District Deputy Grand High Priest will prepare two copies of his Annual District Deputy Report, and forward one copy to the Grand Secretary and one copy to the Deputy Grand High Priest. Reports must be received by the Grand Secretary and Deputy Grand High Priest by March 6, 2026.

## BY-LAWS, GRIEVANCES, AND RESOLUTIONS

All By-Laws, Resolutions and Grievances to be acted upon at the 123<sup>rd</sup> Annual Grand Convocation must be received in the Office of the Grand Secretary, Rt. Ex. Darryl V. Smith, on or before February 13, 2026.

Changes to approved By-Laws must be submitted to the office of the Grand Secretary with three duplicates, along with the approved By-Laws on or before Friday, February 20, 2026.

### **GRAND CHAPTER COMMITTEE REPORTS**

All committee reports must be completed and sent electronically to the Office of Grand Secretary, Rt. Ex. Darryl V. Smith, on or before February 15, 2026. A copy of the report must also be sent to the appropriate Committee Administrator by the same date.

### **SUBORDINATE CHAPTER REPORTS**

Each Chapter is required to submit a written report of their activities, special projects, and accomplishments from March 2025 to February 2026. One copy of the report is to be sent to the Grand Secretary and the other copy sent electronically to the Most Excellent Grand High Priest. Please ensure that these reports are in the possession of the aforementioned by March 1, 2026.

### **GRAND CHAPTER BOOK OF MARKS**

The Most Excellent Union Grand Chapter has adopted an Official Book of Marks for Companions of the Jurisdiction to have their official mark left in perpetuity amongst the archives. Every Companion in attendance can have their mark placed in the Grand Chapter Book of Marks on a first-come-first-serve basis at a cost of \$20.00.

### **GRAND CHAPTER CHARITABLE ENDEAVOR**

Chapters are expected to support the 2026 Grand Chapter charitable endeavor by donating \$100.00 to be collected by each District Deputy Grand High Priest. The District Deputy Grand High Priest is expected to collect all monies for their respective districts and turn all monies over to the Grand Secretary by March 31, 2026. At the Joint Memorial Service held by the Most Excellent Union Grand Chapter HRAM and the Most Ancient Union Grand Court HOJ, there will be a monetary contribution made to several charities from around the State of Florida.

In closing, I ask for your continued prayers of intercession for me as I go to the Supreme High Priest of Heaven and Earth in intercession for you. Let "Holiness to the Lord" be engraved upon all your thoughts, words and actions.

*This communication is to be read in its entirety during each meeting until the commencing of the 123<sup>rd</sup> Annual Grand Convocation and a copy made available to each member via email or regular mail.*



UNDER THE LIVING ARCH I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the Most Excellent Union Grand Chapter to be affixed.

Most Ex. Dr. Elton L. Lewis, KCT KYGCH  
Grand High Priest of all Capitular Masonry

ATTESTED,

Rt. Ex. Darryl V. Smith  
Grand Secretary



# Most Excellent Union Grand Chapter

## Holy Royal Arch Masons State of Florida & U.S.V.I. & Jurisdictions, Inc.

*Prince Hall Affiliated*

**Most Excellent Dr. Elton L. Lewis, KCT KYGCH – Grand High Priest**

## 123<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GRAND CONVOCATION AGENDA

APRIL 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	
Mon. Apr. 20	5:00 PM	Registration	Rt. Ex. Darryl V. Smith
Tue. Apr. 21	7:00 AM	Registration	Rt. Ex. Darryl V. Smith
Tue. Apr. 21	8:00 AM	Occasional Chapter Opening	Providence Chapter #113
Tue. Apr. 21	8:30 AM	Reception of District Deputies Reception of PGHP's Reception of Grand Cabinet	Rt. Ex. Peter J. Bruton
Tue. Apr. 21	8:45 AM	Reception of Grand High Priest	Rt. Ex. Peter J. Bruton
Tue. Apr. 21	8:55AM	Reception of Dept. Heads/Visiting Dignitaries/Guests	Most. Ex. Dr. Elton L. Lewis
Tue. Apr. 21	9:30 AM	Reception of MW Grand Master & Cabinet	Most. Ex. Dr. Elton L. Lewis
Tue. Apr. 21	9:35 AM	Devotion	Rt. Ex. Jeremy N. Blackwell
Tue. Apr. 21	9:45 AM	Welcome	DDGHP Thomas Raines – Dist. 1
Tue. Apr. 21	9:50 AM	Greetings/Welcome	Most Ex. Dr. Elton L. Lewis
Tue. Apr. 21	10:00 AM	Roll Call <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elected Grand Chapter Officers</li> <li>Appointed Grand Chapter Officers</li> <li>Subordinate Chapters</li> </ul>	Rt. Ex. Darryl V. Smith
Tue. Apr. 21	10:15 AM	Rules of the Day	DDGHP Cecil Carter
Tue. Apr. 21	10:20 AM	Acceptance of 122 <sup>nd</sup> Grand Convocation Minutes	Rt. Ex. Darryl V. Smith
Tue. Apr. 21	10:25 AM	Grand Treasurer Report Grand Secretary Report	Rt. Ex. J. Tito George Rt. Ex. Darryl V. Smith
Tue. Apr. 21	10:30 AM	Committee Reports	Rt. Ex. Peter J. Bruton
Tue. Apr. 21	11:00AM	Consecration Ceremony	Rt. Ex. Rev. Jeremy Blackwell
<b>LUNCH ON YOUR OWN – 11:30 AM</b>			
Tue. Apr. 21	1:00 PM	MEGHP Annual Address	Most Ex. Dr. Elton L. Lewis
Tue. Apr. 21	1:20 PM	Election of Grand Chapter Officers	Hon. Gus Harris, Jr.
Tue. Apr. 21	1:35 PM	Installation of Grand Chapter Elected Officers	Hon. Gus Harris, Jr.
Tue. Apr. 21	1:50 PM	Acceptance Speech from Newly Elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest	Newly Elected Most Excellent Grand High Priest
Tue. Apr. 21	2:00 PM	Grand Chapter Appointments & Installation	Most Excellent Grand High Priest
Tue. Apr. 21	2:15 PM	Final Remarks	Visiting Dignitaries PMEGHPs Department Heads Most Excellent Grand High Priest Hon. Gus Harris, Jr.
Tue. Apr. 21	2:45PM	Official Ritualistic Closing of the 123 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Grand Convocation	Grand Chapter Elected and Appointed Officers
Tues. Apr. 21	3:00PM	Joint Memorial Service & Public Installation	MEUGC HRAM & MAUGC HOJ
Tue. Apr. 21	5:00 PM	Joint HRAM + HOJ <b>"CODE RED"</b> <b>Hospitality</b>	MEUGC HRAM & MAUGC HOJ