

# Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. & A.M. Washington and Jurisdiction



## GRAND LODGE

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Office of the  
Most Worshipful Grand Master  
**GARDNER M. TORRENCE SR.**



## RESIDENCE

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January 9, 2012

**To:** Worshipful Masters, Past Masters, Wardens, Officers and Members of All Lodges

**Subject:** Submission of 2012 Recommendations and Resolutions

The main reason for this official correspondence pertains to the importance of timelines set by our code to submit recommendations and/or resolutions.

**Article 22 - Masonic Law, The Code and Amendments**, describes in whole the **Presentation, Format, Referral, and Distribution** of proposed recommendations and/or additions to our masonic code. It states that nothing in the process of codification shall be construed to repeal or amend established matters or to enact new matters and in case of any conflict, the prior Grand Lodge legislation enactment or approved ruling shall prevail.

**Section 22.07 - Time Limit** states that all recommendations/resolutions which if adopted would change the Constitution or By-Laws shall be delivered to the Grand Secretary or mailed to him under postmark not later than **Jan 15th** preceding each Annual Communication. The Grand Secretary shall refer all resolutions to appropriate Standing Committees prior to **April 1st**. He shall print the resolutions and committee recommendations, together with any resolutions held over from the previous Annual Communication, and forward the same to all Constituent Lodges for study.

**Recommendations and proposed Resolutions** from the presiding **Grand Master** shall be received by the Grand Secretary not later than **March 1st** preceding each Annual Communication and shall be printed and circulated to the Constituent Lodges for study prior to **April 1st**. Any recommendations of the Grand Master presented at the Annual Communication, and not previously circulated, shall be presented as Resolutions by the appropriate Committee prior to the following Annual Communication in the prescribed manner, unless declared emergent.

Any resolution submitted **after January 15th** and **prior to twelve o'clock noon** of the 2nd day of any Annual Communication shall be forwarded to the Grand Master for consideration and if the Grand Master believes that any such proposal is urgent and that it should, for the good of Masonry, be considered by Grand Lodge at the ensuing Annual Communication, he may, at his discretion, order the same to be processed and circulated in such manner as time will permit.

If time will not permit the processing and subsequent mailing of late resolutions to the Constituent Lodges, the Grand Secretary when possible shall make such resolutions and committee reports available to each member of the Grand Lodge at the time of registration. Any resolution submitted **after twelve o'clock** noon of the **2nd day's session shall not be considered.**

It is surprising that as of the date of this communication the office of the Grand Secretary has not received any recommendations or resolutions from any constituent lodge or member.

Based on that fact and what I believe would be in the best interest of this Grand Lodge and all Constituent lodges, I am extending the **January 15th deadline** which will allow all lodges and our general membership to submit their official recommendations/resolutions to the office of the Grand Secretary to be received not later than **February 1, 2012.**

The Grand Secretary will in turn account for and immediately forward recommendations/resolutions on to the appropriate committee and distribute to all constituent lodges not later than **March 1, 2012.** This will allow the lodges at least an additional month to review and study.

Additionally, I have set a deadline of **May 1, 2012** for all standing committees to forward their recommendations to the newly appointed **Grand Lodge Recommendations/Resolutions Committee** which is tasked with streamlining and the formulating of the same for presentation at our upcoming annual communication.

All are to take due and timely notice and be governed accordingly.

Given under my hand and seal this 9th day of January 2012.



**GARDNER M. TORRENCE, SR.**  
Grand Master of Masons

