

The Most Excellent Grand Chapter  
Of Royal Arch Masons of Florida

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2018



2019

Grand York Rite of Florida  
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**RULING AND DECISION No. 2018-1**

June 30, 2018, A: L: 2548

**Membership Growth Awards**

**Where As**, Section 43.06 of the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons deals with Membership Growth Awards,

**Where As**, There has been controversy over the interpretation of this section, particularly regarding the time frame to be taken into account,

**Where As**, Discussion of this matter was tabled at the Grand Convocation two years ago,

**Where As**, No awards have therefore been given out since that time, and

**Where As**, Many Companions believe they are entitled to said awards.

**Now** comes the following:

**Evidence The Fact**, The regulation states “each year”,

**Evidence The Fact**, The other awards given are for performance during the previous year,

**Evidence The Fact**, Awards are for outstanding achievement above the ordinary, and recruiting a number of new companions during a one year period is just that, not over a many year period,

**Evidence The Fact**, The different levels are additions to the previous level, so if this is a cumulative award, rather than a single award, the recipient would keep getting the previous benefits over and over again,

*All men are born of Mothers – All Masons are raised by Brothers*

**Evidence The Fact,** The annual budget was never funded with a cumulative payout in mind,

**Therefore,** It is my **Ruling and Decision,** that Section 43.06 shall be interpreted in the following manner.

- 1) The Membership Growth Award is for top line signers of petitions for new Chapter Members which have been exalted during the appropriate time frame.
- 2) That time frame will correspond with the term between the annual Grand Convocations and the Grand High Priest in office.
- 3) Therefore this award is for a single year's achievement and not a multiple year endeavor.
- 4) Written evidence of each petition's validity shall be provided by the constituent chapter Secretary to the Grand Secretary at least 30 days before the Grand Convocation and reviewed and approved by the Grand High Priest.
- 5) This ruling takes place immediately and is therefore valid for the 2018-19 Capitulat year and is not retroactive.

**In Witness Thereof,** I have set my hand and seal on this 30<sup>th</sup> Day of June, 2018, A: L: 2548



Harry V. Eisenberg  
Most Excellent Grand High Priest  
Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida

