

The Grand York Rite Bodies of Freemasonry of Florida

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons • The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons • The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar

JOINT (SINGLE) RESOLUTION FORM

Date: September 11, 2020

Originator(s): James W. Hogg, PHP, PDDGHP

City/State/Zip: Fort Myers, Florida 33906

Officer(s)

TO: Grand Chapter x Grand Council ___ Grand Commandery ___

Regulation to be amended (Article, Section, Page, Paragraph, Line, etc.)

Grand Chapter: **CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE --SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS, CONVOCATIONS AND BUSINESS; 25.01 Quorum for Business and Work.**

LANGUAGE TO BE AMENDED (deleted, changed, etc.)

25.01 Quorum for Business and Work.

Nine Royal Arch Masons are necessary to constitute a quorum to transact any business, but such quorum may be made up of five members of any Chartered Chapter of which a High Priest, King, Scribe or a Past High Priest must be one, together with four Companions of any other Chapter. A quorum so composed may open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the transaction of any business or for the conferring of Degrees, but nothing shall be done unless by unanimous consent of the members of the Chapter so meeting. The High Priest may call a meeting of the Lodges respectively to confer the Lodge Degrees upon duly elected candidates and do the work with the working quorum Mark Masters' Lodge (5), Past Masters' Lodge (3), Most Excellent Masters' Lodge (2), all of whom shall be Royal Arch Masons. For such purposes the Chapter need not be opened in the Royal Arch Degree.

Identification of amended Article, Section, Page, Paragraph, Line, etc.

Grand Chapter: **CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE --SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS, CONVOCATIONS AND BUSINESS; 25.01 Quorum for Business and Work.**

(continued on reverse)

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LANGUAGE TO BE AMENDED

(continued from front)

NEW LANGUAGE (In **BOLD**)

25.01 Quorum for Business and Work.

Nine Royal Arch Masons are necessary to constitute a quorum to transact any business, but such quorum may be made up of five members of any Chartered Chapter, of which a High Priest, King, Scribe, or a Past High Priest must be one, together with four Companions of any other Chapter. A quorum so composed may open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the transaction of any business or for conferring of Degrees, but nothing shall be done unless by the unanimous consent of the members of the Chapter **present at said** meeting. The High Priest may call a meeting of the Lodges respectively to confer the Lodge Degrees upon duly elected candidates and do the work with the working quorum Mark Masters' Lodge (5), Past Masters' Lodge (3), Most Excellent Masters' Lodge (2), all of whom shall be Royal Arch Masons. For such purposes the Chapter need not be opened in. the Royal Arch Degree.

Except, that at a Regular Convocation date, time, and place, if there be at least six (6) Royal Arch Masons, four (4) of which are members of that particular Chapter, but not enough to open in ritualistic form as described above, then, a "Business Communication" may be opened by declaration by either the High Priest, an elected Council Officer, or a Past High Priest of the Chapter.

The Chapter so opening in this manner is empowered to act for certain limited purposes; which include, but are not limited to: **authorizing the payment of bills, setting dates for special events, receiving and acting on petitions for the Degrees, and election of officers.** This limited business herein described must be accomplished only by the unanimous consent of the members of the Chapter who are present at said "Business Communication" meeting. However, no form of degree work may be performed without opening in ritualistic manner with the required minimum number of nine Royal Arch Masons present.

Discussion: This change makes it easier for a Constituent Chapter to accomplish necessary business items in the absence of a necessary quorum of nine Royal Arch Masons, which are required to open a Royal Arch Chapter.

NOTE: This is companion legislation to the resolution amending Article XIII, Section 19.

Effective Date: This resolution is to take effect and be implemented on June 1, 2021.