

Grand Chapter of Georgia Order of the Eastern Star

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 21, 1901

From the Desk Of
Tina Spier
Worthy Grand Matron



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To: Members of the Grand Chapter of Georgia, OES

With a great deal of love and concern for the health of our members, I write you this letter to inform you that President Trump has declared a National Emergency in the United States and our Governor Brian Kemp has signed a Public Health State of Emergency for Georgia to address the coronavirus-and-COVID-19 virus.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has strongly recommended "Social Distancing" be implemented. Social Distancing means that all meetings or gatherings of more than 10 people should be cancelled for the next few weeks. This is very important for our organization since many members are in the high-risk population, specifically those over the age of 60.

The Jurisprudence Committee is in agreement that this is a National Health Emergency and action should be taken to protect our members. I, with the concurrence of the Worthy Grand Patron, have determined that Section 162 of the Manual and Code does not apply in a National Emergency. This determination is based on the precedent of a National Emergency during World War II when chapter were unable to meet.

All Regular, Special Meetings, Social Activities and Fund Raisers of the chapters and Grand Chapter in Georgia are suspended until further notice. This includes meetings for election of officers and officer installations in subordinate chapters.

The Chapter Worthy Matron, Secretary and Treasurer may conduct chapter business during this time, such paying necessary bills, even though you will not have a meeting. On the date of the regular meeting, the secretary will post in her minute book, "***No meeting held due to the current Coronavirus (COVID 19) Pandemic.***" This will be a part of your permanent chapter minute records. During this Public Health Emergency and with the notation in your minute book, missed meetings will not be counted against your chapter.

If necessary, this letter can be considered a Dispensation for the absence of meetings, to elect officers after March 31, 2020 and to hold an Installation of Officers after April 30, 2020, if needed. File this letter/Dispensation with your chapter minutes.

We will continue to monitor the situation closely and any new information or changes will be provided to you as soon as possible.

Please be safe, get in touch with your shut-ins and pray this will be over soon so we can all be together again.

Blessings of Love

Tina Spier
Worthy Grand Matron

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tina Spier".



Attest: A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patsy Niheek".

PGM, Grand Secretary