



THE CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS
OF THE
HOLY ORTHODOX ORDER OF
SAINT GEORGE THE GREAT MARTYR

HARTFORD, CT, USA

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PROMULGATION

P R E A M B L E

The Holy Orthodox Order of Saint George the Great Martyr is an international, religious, fraternal, Pan-Orthodox Order of Christian chivalry. Its mission is to help peacefully defend, sustain and preserve the continued existence and wellbeing of the Orthodox Christian Faith within the Holy Land, the Middle East, and wherever the Orthodox Church and her faithful are either persecuted or in need.

TITLE I

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NAME, NATURE AND SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE OF THE ORDER

In the name of the Holy and Consubstantial and Indivisible Trinity

Article 1 – Name of the Order

- 1.1 The official, legal name of the Order is: *“The Holy Orthodox Order of Saint George the Great Martyr, INC”*.
- 1.2 The official name for general formal usage is: *“The Holy Orthodox Order of Saint George the Great Martyr”*.
- 1.2 The official shortened name of the Order is: *“The Order of Saint George”*.

Article 2 – Nature of the Order

- 2.1 The Order of Saint George is a part of the One, Holy, Orthodox, Catholic and Apostolic Church and in no way considers itself to be separate from that Church; the Order is not a para-church organization. The Order will not compromise its stance on any Orthodox doctrines, beliefs or articles of faith. Accordingly, the Order fully rejects both directly and indirectly any connection to or association with Freemasonry and/or similar societies and fraternal organizations.
- 2.2 The nature of the Order is one of mercy and peace, dedicated to the peaceful defense and support of the Orthodox Christian Faith, its beliefs, customs, traditions, principles and presence throughout the Holy Land, Middle East and the world. The Order of Saint George is ever mindful of the words of Saint Paul to the Christians in Corinth: *“...and if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.”*
- 2.3 Accordingly, as a membership of free Orthodox Christians, the Order takes very seriously its desire to see full dignity, human rights and freedom for all Orthodox Christians regardless of where they live. For this reason, the Order affirms that it is its responsibility to advocate for those Orthodox Christians who are *not* free.

Article 3 – Goals and objectives of the Order

- 3.1 In addition to what is stated in the preamble of this Constitution, The Order of Saint George hereby establishes its goals and objectives: to organize, promote, aid and engage in charitable, humanitarian, educational, religious, medical and chivalric activities, particularly by:

- (a.) aiding the poor, the sick, the needy, the aged, the infirm, the maimed, the mentally ill, the imprisoned and the socially disadvantaged;
- (b.) assisting in the maintenance of holy places including, but not limited to, buildings, monasteries, seminaries, shrines, churches and cathedrals of the Orthodox Faith; and
- (c.) establishing and promoting the works of hospitals, medical centers, orphanages, schools and other bona fide Orthodox institutions and/or organizations.

3.2 It is the intention of the Order of Saint George to seek formal status and association with the United Nations and other international institutions in order to be a strong advocate for Orthodox Christians, especially for those who face persecution and need. The Order of Saint George in regard to the United Nations will support those articles of its Charter for Human Rights which are in agreement with the teachings and beliefs of the Orthodox Christian Faith.

Article 4 – Religion

All members of the Order of Saint George must be practicing Orthodox Christians in good standing, upholding with their lives, fortunes and honor the principles and beliefs of the Orthodox Faith.

Article 5 – Spiritual Guidance

- 5.1 The Order of Saint George shall place itself under the spiritual protection and guidance of either an autocephalous Orthodox Primate, Bishop or Archimandrite who shall serve as the Supreme Spiritual Advisor to the Order. In this function, he will advise the Order on all issues relating to and regarding the Orthodox Christian Faith.
- 5.2 The Supreme Spiritual Advisor shall appoint as his Clerical Representative a cleric who shall represent him and provide spiritual support and guidance to the Order on his behalf as needed.

Article 6 – The Clerical Representative

It is the responsibility of the Clerical Representative to advise the government of the Order on behalf of the Supreme Spiritual Advisor on all matters, assuring conformity to the doctrine, dogma, spirituality and practice of the Holy Orthodox Christian Faith. The Clerical Representative serves as chaplain to the Order.

TITLE II

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SYMBOLS, MOTTO, LANGUAGE AND INVOCATION OF THE ORDER

Article 7 – The Flag of the Order

The flag of The Holy Orthodox Order of Saint George the Great Martyr consists of three equal horizontal bands of crimson (top), green (middle) and white (bottom). The color crimson symbolizes the sacrificial blood of Christ and the innocent shed blood of the Holy Martyrs. The color green symbolizes Holy Pentecost while the color white symbolizes the peace and purity of the Holy Orthodox Christian Faith. Superimposed in the center of the flag is the lesser coat of arms of the Order of Saint George.

Article 8 – The Flag of the Sovereign Knight

The flag of the Sovereign Knight consists of a crimson field. Like the flag of the Order, the crimson color symbolizes the sacrificial blood of Christ and the innocent shed blood of the Holy Martyrs. This color is also to remind the Sovereign Knight of sacrifices he might have to endure as sovereign head of the Order. Superimposed in the center of the flag is the lesser coat of arms of the Order of Saint George.

Article 9 – The Coat of Arms of the Order

- 9.1 The coat of arms of The Order of Saint George consists of a crowned, golden, double-headed eagle on a crowned crimson shield. Clutched in its right claw is a royal scepter and in the left claw a royal orb. Superimposed on the breast of the double-headed eagle is a crimson shield depicting an image of Saint George the Great Martyr in full Roman armor wearing a flowing red cape, riding a horse in full gallop treading upon a spear-pierced dragon. The center crest rests upon an ermine, fur-fringed mantle, tasseled and mounted by a heraldic royal crown. The ermine-lined mantle, the royal scepter, the orb and the crown represent the kingship and royal dignity of Jesus Christ. The double-headed eagle symbolizes the international scope of the Order and the universality of the Holy Orthodox Christian Faith.
- 9.2 The middle coat of arms of The Order of Saint George consists of a crowned, golden, double-headed eagle on a crowned crimson shield. Clutched in its right claw is a royal scepter and in the left claw a royal orb. Superimposed on the breast of the double-headed eagle is a crimson shield depicting an image of Saint George the Great Martyr in full Roman armor wearing a flowing red cape, riding a horse in full gallop treading upon a spear-pierced dragon.

- 9.3 The lesser coat of arms of The Order of Saint George consists of a crowned, golden, double-headed eagle. Clutched in its right claw is a royal scepter and in the left claw a royal orb. Superimposed on the breast of the double-headed eagle is a crimson shield depicting an image of Saint George the Great Martyr in full Roman armor wearing a flowing red cape, riding a horse in full gallop treading upon a spear-pierced dragon.

Article 10 – The Motto

The motto of the Order shall be: *“In the peace of Christ, I conquer.”* In Koine Greek: *“Εν τη ειρηνη Χριστου, νικαω”* or *“En ti eirini Christou, nikao”*.

Article 11 – Language

- 11.1 The official international and administrative language of the Order of Saint George shall be English.
- 11.2 The secondary languages of the Order shall be Russian, Greek and Arabic.
- 11.3 Any other language used to express the Orthodox faith is welcomed by the Order.

Article 12 – Invocation

All official acts of the Order of Saint George shall be preceded by the invocation of the Trinity: *“In the name of the Holy and Consubstantial and Indivisible Trinity.”*

TITLE III

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MEMBERSHIP IN THE ORDER

Article 13 – Membership

In order to carry out its goals and objectives, The Holy Orthodox Order of Saint George the Great Martyr will admit those Orthodox Christians who apply for membership and are accepted by the Council of Admissions.

Article 14 – Membership Requirements

- 14.1 Any person lay or clerical may apply for membership into the Order so long as such an individual meets the following criteria:
- (a.) is baptized and/or chrismated into the Orthodox Christian Faith;
 - (b.) is **NOT** a member of a Masonic or Freemason fraternity and/or organization;
 - (c.) is living according to Orthodox Christian principles;
 - (d.) is a member in good standing of a local Orthodox parish;
 - (e.) is of sound mind and judgment;
 - (f.) is known to live honorably;
 - (g.) is prepared to observe the rules and regulations of the Order of Saint George;
 - (h.) is willing to make a solemn pledge of allegiance to the Order and to its mission at a formal religious ceremony of investiture; and
 - (i.) is no less than 18 years of age upon applying for membership.
- 14.2 Application packets for membership will be available for downloading on the Order’s website (www.orderofsaintgeorge.org) or by contacting a local Chapter of the Order.
- 14.3 Once an application is completed, it is submitted to the Order’s local Chapter. The local Chapter will then examine the application for completeness and submit it to the Council of Admissions for a final decision. Once the Council gives its approval, it will then contact the local chapter of the Order. It will be the responsibility of the local chapter to inform the individual. When approved, the individual will receive an official document signed and sealed by the Sovereign Knight, indicating the applicant’s reception into the Order with the formal rank of “Brother” or “Sister”.
- 14.4 Those received into the Order are received in accordance with their personal state and may choose the nature of their commitment in the activities of the Order. All new members of the Order of Saint George shall be invested at an authorized religious ceremony of investiture as soon as practically possible after their acceptance.

- 14.5 Those members of the Order of Saint George belonging to the clergy, remain subject to the rules and regulations of their respective Hierarchs and Orthodox jurisdictions.

Article 15 – Membership Fees

- 15.1 The initiation fee for membership into the Order is \$300.00 USD. There shall be yearly dues in the amount of \$120.00 USD. Yearly dues are payable by January 31st starting the year after admission.
- 15.2 The Order of Saint George will permit initiation fees and yearly dues to be paid either in full or in 12 monthly instalments (\$300 = \$25/month; \$120 = \$10/month).

Article 16 – Ranks of the Order

The Holy Orthodox Order of Saint George the Great Martyr shall have five classes of ranks separate from that of the Sovereign Knight and Hereditary Knight. These classes of ranks are:

Men

Sovereign Knight (S.K.O.S.G.)

Hereditary Knight (H.K.O.S.G.)

Women

Sovereign Lady (S.L.O.S.G.)

The rank of Sovereign Lady is the official title for the wife and consort of the Sovereign Knight.

Hereditary Dame (H.D.O.S.G.)

The rank of Hereditary Dame is the official title for the wife and consort of the Hereditary Knight.

Knight Grand Cross (K.G.C.O.S.G.)

Knight Commander (K.C.O.S.G.)

Knight (K.O.S.G.)

Serving Brother (S.B.O.S.G.)

Brother (B.O.S.G.)

Dame Grand Cross (D.G.C.O.S.G.)

Dame Commander (D.C.O.S.G.)

Dame (D.O.S.G.)

Serving Sister (S.S.O.S.G.)

Sister (S.O.S.G.)

Clergy

Ecclesiastical Grand Cross (E.G.C.O.S.G.)

Rank reserved for those in episcopal or Monastic authority.

Ecclesiastical Commander (E.C.O.S.G.)

Grand Chaplain (G.C.O.S.G.)
Senior Chaplain (S.C.O.S.G.)
Chaplain (C.O.S.G.)

Article 17 – Commitment of Members

- 17.1 All members of the Order of Saint George, both lay and clerical, shall be committed to leading their lives in an exemplary manner in accordance with the duties and principles of the Holy Orthodox Church.
- 17.2 In addition, one of the major responsibilities of each member of the Order of Saint George is to actively and purposely promote the goals and objectives of the Order and to encourage other Orthodox Christians to become members.
- 17.3 At the religious investiture each member must make the following oath:
“I, (baptismal name), do solemnly promise and declare before Almighty God that I will serve the Holy Orthodox Order of Saint George the Great Martyr loyally and faithfully; to respect and observe its Constitution, mission, By-laws, regulations and customs; and to obey its government, for the greater glory of God and His Holy Church;

That I shall conduct my life in accordance with Orthodox Christian moral and religious principles so that I may always be worthy of the honor that is to be bestowed on me and of the dignity with which I shall be vested;

That I shall never engage in any actions that could disparage the image and dignity of the Order of which I am to become a member; and That I shall respond to the initiatives and needs of the Order by assisting in its charitable works towards the greater glory of the Church.

Should I, in the future, ever break and/or seriously violate the preceding promises that I have solemnly made, I understand that I will be subject to the rules and or policy concerning dismissal from the Order, this in accordance with its legitimately constituted authority.”

Article 18 – Assignment of Ranks and Decorations

- 18.1 The Sovereign Knight is the sole authority for awarding the following Ranks and Decorations of the Order: Knight Grand Cross, Dame Grand Cross, Knight Commander, Dame Commander, Knight, Dame, Serving Brother and Serving Sister, as well as Ecclesiastical Grand Cross, Ecclesiastical Commander, Grand Chaplin and Senior Chaplin; the Decoration of Christ Pantokrator, the Decoration of the Holy Spirit, the Decoration of the Theotokos, the Decoration of the Holy Archangels and other Bodiless

Powers of Heaven, the Decoration of Saints Peter and Paul, the Decoration of Saints Constantine and Helen, the Decoration of the Double Headed Eagle and the Decoration of Merit.

- 18.2 The various Ranks and Decorations granted by the Sovereign Knight can be given at any time regardless of position. Ranks and Decorations are not awarded freely but are rather earned through hard meritorious work and dedication to the Holy Orthodox Church and to the goals and objectives of the Order.
- 18.3 The Sovereign Knight may bestow the Decoration of Merit upon any individual when any honor, prestige, or special degree of service has been shown to or for the Holy Orthodox Church or to the Holy Orthodox Order of Saint George the Great Martyr.
- 18.4 The Decoration of Merit is awarded to both members and non-members of the Order of Saint George. It is awarded regardless of religion.
- 18.5 The Decoration of Merit along with all other Decorations shall be broken down into (four) 4 grades.
- 18.6 Awardment of the Decoration of Merit does not grant membership into the Order of Saint George.

Article 19 – Official Forms of Address

The official forms of address for members of the Order are as follows:

His Serene Excellency/Her Serene Excellency – Sovereign Knight/Sovereign Lady
His Excellency/Her Excellency – Hereditary Knight/Hereditary Dame/Regent
His High Honor/Her High Honor – Knight Grand Cross/Dame Grand Cross
His Honor/Her Honor – Knight Commander/Dame Commander
His Honor/Her Honor – Knight/Dame
Sir/Madam – Serving Brother/Serving Sister
Sir/Madam – Brother/Sister

Article 20 – Expulsion, Removal and Right of Appeal

- 20.1 The Sovereign Knight may, with or without out the advice of the Grand Magisterial Council, expel any member of the Order regardless of office, decoration or rank who transgresses the aims, obligations or standards of behavior or integrity of the Order.
- 20.2 Any person expelled from the Order (excluding clause 20.5 of this Article) shall have the right of appeal. All appeals must be made to the Constitutional Council for a vote. The Constitutional Council has sixty days to reach a decision. Once the decision is made it is final and irrevocable.
- 20.3 In case of an expulsion, no reimbursement or compensation for any monies, gifts or services rendered to the Order will be given or returned.

- 20.4 Any office or decoration awarded may be removed by decree of the Sovereign Knight. In such a case the decision of the Sovereign Knight is final and irrevocable.
- 20.5 Those members of the Order found to be associated with Freemasonry and/or any Masonic or similar fraternity, will be expelled from the Order, striped of all honors and barred from future membership with no right to appeal.

TITLE IV

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ORGANIZATION OF THE ORDER

Article 21 – Subdivisions of the Order

- 21.1 The subdivisions of the Holy Orthodox Order of Saint George the Great Martyr exist to further its goals and objectives. The basic structure of the Order shall be from the lowest authority locally to the highest authority internationally. These structures are:
- (a.) the Chapter;
 - (b.) the Commanderie;
 - (c.) the National Jurisdiction; and
 - (d.) the Grand Magistry.
- 21.2 Each Chapter shall be subject to the jurisdiction of a regional Commanderie and each regional Commanderie will be subject to a National Jurisdiction. All National Jurisdictions are subject to the jurisdiction of the Grand Magistry.

Article 22 – Headship of a National Jurisdiction

- 22.1 Each National Jurisdiction shall be headed by a President appointed by the Sovereign Knight. The President shall function as the personal representative of the Sovereign Knight within the National Jurisdiction.
- 22.2 The President shall ensure that all matters and activities of the National Jurisdiction are properly performed in full accordance with this Constitution.
- 22.3 Each National Jurisdiction shall elect a Chancellor from amongst its membership. The Chancellor leads in the day-to-day governance of the National Jurisdiction and appoints the Officers of the Commanderies (Commanderie Officer).
- 22.4 The Chapters of the Order are headed and chaired by an Officer (Chapter Officer) elected by the members of the Chapter.

Article 23 – By-laws of a National Jurisdiction and sub-jurisdictions

- 23.1 Each National Jurisdiction and its sub-jurisdictions shall adopt their own By-laws and regulations for proper functioning and governance. Elections shall not be held more than once per year unless a special election is needed and is recognized as such by the Sovereign Knight.
- 23.2 Any By-laws or regulations adopted pursuant to this provision shall not be inconsistent with, or supersede this Constitution, any By-law of the Order of Saint George, Regulation, law of the Order, or any Magisterial Decree issued by the Sovereign Knight.

Article 24 – Legal Establishment

- 24.1 The Grand Magistry of the Order of Saint George shall be incorporated under the civil law of the country of its founding.
- 24.2 National Jurisdictions of the Order of Saint George shall be established by the Sovereign Knight upon the advice of the Grand Chancellor in the form of a Magisterial Decree.
- 24.3 Each National Jurisdiction and all dependent sub-jurisdictions shall establish a legally constituted not for profit association according to the laws of the country in which they exist.
- 24.4 The members of the National Jurisdiction and its dependent sub-jurisdictions are automatically members of the association.

Article 25 – Finances

- 25.1 In order to realize its goals and objectives, the Grand Magistry of the Order of Saint George will rely financially on membership fees, yearly dues, free contributions, grants, legacies and all types of public and private means or through any other means agreed upon by the Grand Magisterial Council.
- 25.2 All National Jurisdictions and dependent sub-jurisdictions are independently responsible for the procurement of monies for their own financial needs. Additionally, each National Jurisdiction and its sub-jurisdictions are to develop a calendar of events and programs with which additional funds can be raised to assist the Grand Magistry of the Order in its goals and objectives as outlined in Title I, Article 3 of this Constitution.

TITLE V

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THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ORDER

Article 26 – Structure of Government

- 26.1 The following constitutes the Grand Magistry and the Government of the Holy Orthodox Order of Saint George the Great Martyr:
- (a.) the Sovereign Knight who is the supreme sovereign head of the Order;
 - (b.) the Grand Magisterial Council which assists him;
 - (c.) the Constitutional Council which interprets the regulations, statutes and Constitution of the Order of Saint George. It arbitrates in disputes between the different organs of government, the National Jurisdictions, and the members of the Order;
 - (d.) the Governing Council which provides for the equal and fair representation of all the National Jurisdictions; and
 - (e.) the General Assembly which permits the expression of all members of the Order of Saint George.
- 26.2 In addition to the above, the Government of the Order of Saint George shall be comprised of and assisted by the following Councils and bodies:
- (a.) the Council of Admissions;
 - (b.) the Council of Humanities;
 - (c.) the Council of Auditors;
 - (d.) the Council of Communications;
 - (e.) the Juridical Council;
 - (f.) the Office of the Advocate General; and
 - (g.) Consular Offices and Consular Representatives.

Article 27 – The Sovereign Knight

- 27.1 The Sovereign Knight is the supreme sovereign head of the Order, and to him is delegated all power, authority, prerogatives and honors. He is the Order's most senior and visible representative. The person of the Sovereign Knight must fully dedicate himself and his life to the development of the works of the Order and so set an example of living according to Orthodox Christian principles.
- 27.2 The Sovereign Knight together with the Grand Magisterial Council issue any legislative measures not covered by this Constitution.
- 27.3 The Sovereign Knight promulgates government acts, helps manage Common Treasury assets, ratifies international agreements, appoints the four members of the High Offices, appoints the Consular Representatives, appoints the Presidents of the National

Jurisdictions, summons the General Assembly, and awards the various ranks of Knighthood and Decorations of the Order.

27.4 The Office of Sovereign Knight is for life. At the inception of the Order and its legal establishment, it is embodied in the person of Ernest Christopher Konstantine Pandolfi, founder and originator of the Order. For the sake of stability, the succession to the position of Sovereign Knight is hereditary and shall follow the regular order of primogeniture and representation in the male line.

27.5 The official address and title of the sovereign head of the Order shall be:
“His Serene Excellency (baptismal name), Sovereign Knight of the Holy Orthodox Order of Saint George the Great Martyr.”

Article 28 – The Oath of the Sovereign Knight

During the Sovereign Knight’s ceremony of inauguration and religious investiture, the Sovereign Knight makes the following solemn oath:

“I, (baptismal name), by the Grace of God and as his servant, do solemnly swear, promise and affirm before Him, the Holy Theotokos, His angels and His saints: that I shall forever uphold and observe the beliefs, practices and the Holy Tradition of the Holy Orthodox Catholic and Apostolic Faith; that I shall ensure they are upheld and obeyed by all members of the Order, insofar as it may lie within my power and influence so to do; that I shall administer and govern the Holy Orthodox Order of Saint George the Great Martyr loyally and faithfully to the end of my days, as befits the duty and dignity of the Sovereign Knight; and that I shall uphold the statutes, regulations, decrees and customs of the Order as so written and rightfully observed. So Help Me God.”

Article 29 – Magisterial Decrees

The Sovereign Knight shall have the exclusive right to issue Magisterial Decrees for the appointment of members to any office, rank or decoration within the Order, including the Presidents of the National Jurisdictions and for such other acts as may be necessary to carry out his responsibilities or the governance of the Order as a whole.

Article 30 – Delegation of Authority

The Sovereign Knight may delegate in such manner as he deems fit any of his powers or authority for the day-to-day operation of the Order to any member of the Order as he may specify. Any power or authority so delegated is held temporarily at the discretion on the Sovereign Knight.

Article 31 – The Order of Succession

- 31.1 The Office of Sovereign Knight shall be inherited by the male Orthodox successors of His Serene Excellency Ernest Christopher Konstantine Pandolfi. Succession shall follow the regular order of primogeniture and representation, in the following order of precedence: the earlier shall precede the more distant; within the same sex, the older shall precede the younger.
- 31.2 The eldest son of the Sovereign Knight, from the time of his birth shall hold the title, dignity and rank of Hereditary Knight of the Holy Orthodox Order of Saint George the Great Martyr.
- 31.3 Should all legitimate blood lines of succession become extinct, the reigning Sovereign Knight may adopt his successor in a manner most suitable to the interests of the Holy Orthodox Order of Saint George the Great Martyr.
- 31.4 Those persons with a right of succession to the position of Sovereign Knight who marry against the express prohibition of the reigning Sovereign Knight, shall be excluded from succession.

Article 32 – The Consort of the Sovereign Knight

The consort of the Sovereign Knight may not assume any constitutional functions except under the permission of the Sovereign Knight and in accordance with the provisions for the Regency and Guardianship.

Article 33 – The Regency

- 33.1 In the event of the Sovereign Knight being under age, the Sovereign Knight's mother or, in default thereof, the oldest male relative of legal age who is nearest in line of succession, according to the order established in this Constitution, shall immediately assume the office of Regent, which shall be exercised during the Sovereign Knight's minority.
- 33.2 If the Sovereign Knight becomes unfit for the exercise of his authority, and this incapacity is recognized by both the Grand Magisterial Council, the family of the reigning Sovereign Knight and the Supreme Spiritual Advisor, the Hereditary Knight shall immediately assume the Regency, if he is of age. If he is not, the procedure outlined in the foregoing paragraph shall apply until the coming of age of the Hereditary Knight.
- 33.3 If there is no person entitled to assume the Regency, it shall be appointed by the Grand Magisterial Council and shall be composed of one person.
- 33.4 In order to exercise the Regency, it is necessary to be an Orthodox Christian in good standing and legally be no less than 18 years of age.

- 33.5 The Regency shall be exercised by constitutional mandate, and always on behalf of and in the name of His Serene Excellency the Sovereign Knight.

Article 34 – The Guardianship of the Sovereign Knight

The Guardian of the reigning Sovereign Knight during his minority shall be the person appointed in the will of the deceased Sovereign Knight, provided that he or she is of age and is an Orthodox Christian. If a guardian has not been appointed, the mother of the reigning Sovereign Knight shall be guardian, so long as she remains widowed. In default thereof, the Guardian shall be appointed by the Grand Magisterial Council, but the offices of Regent and Guardian may not be held by the same person, except by the mother or direct ancestors of the Sovereign Knight.

Article 35 – The Grand Magisterial Council

- 35.1 The Grand Magisterial Council shall assist the Sovereign Knight in his governance of the Order and shall function as the Board of Directors of the Order.
- 35.2 The Grand Magisterial Council is the highest governing, executive, legislative and legal body of the Order of Saint George.
- 35.3 The Grand Magisterial Council shall be composed of the Sovereign Knight who presides over it, the holders of the four High Offices – the Grand Chancellor, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Humanitarian Aid and the Minister of Finance and Records – and six additional members at large.
- 35.4 Apart from the Sovereign Knight and the holders of the four High Offices, members of the Grand Magisterial Council are elected every fifth year for a five-year term by the General Assembly.
- 35.5 The Grand Magisterial Council shall be convened by the Sovereign Knight and shall meet at the Seat of the Order of Saint George at least two times a year and whenever special circumstances may require additional meetings.
- 35.6 Approval of any vote will be decided upon by simple majority. In the event of a tie vote among the members, the Sovereign Knight shall cast the deciding vote. Any proposed revisions or amendments to the Constitution of the Order will be reviewed, discussed and voted upon by the Grand Magisterial Council, notwithstanding article 27 of this Constitution.
- 35.7 The Sovereign Knight does not vote on matters for which the Grand Magisterial Council has a deliberative vote or where it must give its advice to various organs of the Order's government, notwithstanding Article 29 of this Constitution.
- 35.8 Before being promulgated, all documents drafted by the Grand Magisterial Council must be signed by the Sovereign Knight indicating his approval. The Sovereign Knight maintains absolute veto authority.

Article 36 – The Grand Chancellor

- 36.1 The Grand Chancellor shall be the most senior aide and advisor to the Sovereign Knight. Under the authority of the Sovereign Knight, the Grand Chancellor presides over the executive branch of the Order.
- 36.2 The Grand Chancellor shall be responsible for the representation of the Order of Saint George to third parties, the carrying out of policy and the internal administration of the Order, as well as the coordination of the activities of the Government of the Order between its different administrative bodies.

Article 37 – The Minister of Foreign Affairs

- 37.1 The Minister of Foreign Affairs shall serve as the international advisor to the Sovereign Knight.
- 37.2 He shall be responsible for overseeing the foreign policy and international relations of the Order as well as the Order's Consular Offices, Consular representatives and National Jurisdictions.
- 37.3 In addition to the above provisions, the Minister of Foreign Affairs shall strive to establish bilateral relations with countries and governments in which the Order of Saint George is established or has an interest in.

Article 38 – The Minister of Humanitarian Aid

- 38.1 The Minister of Humanitarian Aid shall serve as the humanitarian advisor to the Sovereign Knight.
- 38.2 The Minister of Humanitarian Aid shall be responsible for overseeing and administering the various charities run by the Order, ensuring that Christian principles of care and human dignity are respected everywhere the Order is present.

Article 39 – The Minister of Finance and Records

- 39.1 The Minister of Finance and Records is the financial advisor to the Sovereign Knight and to the Grand Magistry and serves as the Order's secretary of records.
- 39.2 The Minister of Finance and Records is responsible for and shall administer all finances, salaries, properties and monetary accounts of the international government of the Order of Saint George in coordination with the Grand Magisterial Council under the authority of the Sovereign Knight and under the surveillance of the Council of Auditors.
- 39.3 The Minister of Finance and Records shall submit to the Sovereign Knight for his approval the acceptance of inheritances, bequests and donations, and the disposal of subsequent reinvestment of any property or goods of the Order.

- 39.4 The Minister of Finance and Records is the counter-signatory, together with the Sovereign Knight for acts of disposal or assignment and contracts which involve the property or assets of the Grand Magistry.
- 39.5 In addition, the Minister of Finance and Records conducts all correspondence on behalf of the Order of Saint George; keeps the minutes of the Grand Magisterial Council; informs in a timely fashion the membership of the Order of any regular or extraordinary meetings; records lists and addresses of membership; and prepares annual reports and any other reports as needed.

Article 40 – The Constitutional Council

- 40.1 The Constitutional Council is composed of six members of the Order directly appointed by the Sovereign Knight.
- 40.2 The members of the Constitutional Council elect from amongst their membership a Chairman and a Vice Chairman.
- 40.3 The Constitutional Council is responsible for the interpretation of the Constitution, as well as the regulations and statutes of the Order. As an independent body, it arbitrates in disputes between the different organs of the Order's Government, the National Jurisdictions, and the members of the Order. Its conclusions are expressed in the form of recommendations which become binding once validated by the Sovereign Knight.
- 40.4 Any member of the Order regardless of rank or position may address the Constitutional Council directly in writing over his or her signature regarding a serious problem or dispute. The Constitutional Council then has sixty days to announce its decision. This decision is final and irrevocable.

Article 41 – The Governing Council

- 41.1 The Governing Council is composed of the Chancellors of the National Jurisdictions of the Order.
- 41.2 The members of the Governing Council elect from amongst their membership a Chairman and a Vice Chairman.
- 41.3 It is the job of the Governing Council to transmit to the Grand Magisterial Council, via its Chairman, propositions and/or reports of difficulties, concerns or issues encountered in the National Jurisdictions of the Order. It is also the duty of its Chairman to transmit back to the Council all appropriate information from the Grand Magisterial Council that is necessary for the good functioning of each National Jurisdiction and its sub-jurisdictions.

Article 42 – The General Assembly

- 42.1 The General Assembly of the Order of Saint George shall represent the supreme assembly of Knights of the Order. It shall meet no less than twice every year to discuss important issues of the Order such as: the current status of Orthodox Christians in the Holy Land, Middle East and World; humanitarian issues facing Orthodox Christians; the humanitarian activities and programs of the Order; and the international relations of the Order with national governments and international organizations.
- 42.2 Any issue or concerns expressed may be formally submitted to the Grand Magisterial Council for their deliberation and action.
- 42.3 Every five years the General Assembly will elect by a simple majority six people in good adequate health from amongst their membership to the Grand Magisterial Council.
- 42.4 The General Assembly shall be composed of twenty people picked by the Grand Magisterial Council from each rank of Knighthood. The Assembly will also include five people from each ecclesiastical rank. The Sovereign Knight shall preside at all meetings of the General Assembly.
- 42.5 Those picked by the Grand Magisterial Council shall serve a five-year term as a representative to the General Assembly.

Article 43 – The Council of Admissions

- 43.1 The Council of Admissions shall be the governmental body responsible for granting membership to those Orthodox Christians wishing to become members of the Order of Saint George.
- 43.2 The Council shall be made up of six people of different ranks appointed directly by the Sovereign Knight.
- 43.3 In order for a person to become a member of the Order of Saint George, the applicant will need to be approved by at least 4 members of the Council of Admissions.

Article 44 – The Council of Humanities

- 44.1 The Council of Humanities is the advisory board to the Grand Magisterial Council in charge of studying political, religious, humanitarian, and international issues.
- 44.2 The Council shall be made up of six people of different ranks appointed directly by the Sovereign Knight.
- 44.3 The members of the Council elect from amongst their membership a Chairman and a Vice Chairman.

Article 45 – The Council of Auditors

- 45.1 The Council of Auditors is in charge of overseeing and auditing the income, expenditures and all assets of the Order.
- 45.2 The Council of Auditors shall consist of a Chairman, four ordinary Councilors and two alternates, appointed by the Sovereign Knight upon the advice and guidance of the Grand Magisterial Council, from amongst Knights with particular expertise in legal, economic and/or financial disciplines.

Article 46 – The Council of Communications

- 46.1 Council of Communications is in charge of the internal and external communication activities of the Order and assists the Grand Chancellor in the development and implementation of communication programs.
- 46.2 It is composed of a President and six Councilors chosen by the Sovereign Knight, competent in various sectors of communication, management, public-relations, and mass media.

Article 47 – The Juridical Council

- 47.1 The Juridical Council is an expert advisory, collegial body that advises the Sovereign Knight regarding the customs, traditions and internal, non-legal matters of the Order. It meets at the Seat of the Order and is composed of a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and five additional members.
- 47.2 The members of the Juridical Council are appointed directly by the Sovereign Knight.

Article 48 – The Office of the Advocate General

- 48.1 The Office of the Advocate General provides legal assistance to the Order in the area of public and international law as a whole and is made up of independent members of the legal profession who are experts in various types of jurisprudence.
- 48.2 It is composed of the Advocate General and two alternates who are appointed by the Sovereign Knight for a period of three years.
- 48.3 All Consular Offices, Consular Representatives, Leaders of the National jurisdictions and the organizations of the Order should seek the advice and the assistance of the Office of the Advocate General whenever necessary and especially in cases which involve complex legal issues.

Article 49 – Consular Offices and Consular Representatives

- 49.1 The Order of Saint George will seek to establish Consular Offices to help facilitate its relations with local orthodox churches, national governments and peoples and international organizations.
- 49.2 Consular Offices may only be established by means of a Magisterial Decree issued by the Sovereign Knight.
- 49.3 Consular Representatives head all Consular Offices.

This Constitution is hereby promulgated and shall come into effect immediately upon its approval by His Serene Excellency the Sovereign Knight of the Holy Orthodox Order of Saint George the Great Martyr and is so indicated by his signature.

His Serene Excellency, Konstantine I
Sovereign Knight of the Holy Orthodox Order of Saint George the Great Martyr

Date Approved: ____/____/____

Clerical witness

Date Witnessed: ____/____/____