

# Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Wisconsin



3 June 2017

## Grand Master's Edict

To be read at the next Stated Communication of your Lodge

**WHEREAS:** The Grand Lodge F&AM of WI is designated by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(10) organization, and

**WHEREAS:** Section 54.04 of the WI Masonic Code designates the final disposition of a lodge's assets if it surrenders its Charter or has it revoked, and

**WHEREAS:** It is the Fiduciary responsibility of the Grand Master and the Grand Trustees to manage present and future assets in the best interests of our fraternity.

**IT IS THEREFORE,** my Edict that:

no lodge shall seek a tax status (including but not limited to 501(c)(3) status) that places limits (under tax law) on the ability of such lodge to exercise all of its Masonic purposes.

**IT IS ALSO** my Edict that:

no lodge shall seek a tax status (including but not limited to 501(c)(3) status) that places limits (under tax law) on the ability of such lodge to support and maintain the Grand Lodge. Similarly, no lodge may seek a tax status that places limits (under tax law) on the use of property transferred to the Grand Lodge upon the surrender or forfeiture of the charter of such lodge.

**IT IS ALSO** my Edict that:

no lodge shall organize a supporting organization with a tax status (including but not limited to 501(c)(3) status) that places limits (under tax law) on the use of funds raised by such organization.

IT IS ALSO my Edict that:

no lodge shall mortgage, pledge, lease, sublease, assign, encumber, transfer, distribute, donate, place a lien on, gift, contribute, sell, grant any easement or other contractual rights in or to or otherwise transfer and/or encumber in any manner real property leased or owned by such lodge, unless or until approved by the Grand Master pursuant to the Wisconsin Masonic Code.

Given under my hand this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2017.

P.P. *Michael A. DeWolf*

M.:W.:L. Arby Humphrey  
Grand Master of Masons in Wisconsin



Attest:

*Michael A. DeWolf*

Michael A. DeWolf, PGM  
Grand Secretary