

# The Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS



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Grand Master 2020-2021  
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Organized 1812

## District Lodge Directive

June 29, 2020

After conferring with M: W: Brother Woody D. Bilyeu, PGM Grand Secretary, we have determined that several of the District Lodges could meet and stay within the 50-person limit guideline as well as maintaining social distancing.

Therefore, I am issuing the following directive to allow our District Lodges to resume meeting, with restrictions as follows:

- Districts Lodges are restricted to 50 or less members in attendance. In circumstances where the Lodge hall can accommodate additional members, based upon available seating using social distancing as the rule, no more that 50% capacity is allowed.
- Meals will be allowed with the following guidelines:
  - Buffet style service is discouraged and a designated server(s) is recommended. Servers will use gloves and masks for food and beverage service.
- Strict social distancing rules, as established in Governor Edwards' "Open Safely", will be followed, including the following:
  1. All Masons will maintain social distancing.
  2. Masons are strongly urged, but are not required, to wear face masks.
  3. Lodges are encouraged to have hand sanitizer available in the Lodge building.
  4. Most importantly, all Louisiana Masons are strongly encouraged NOT to attend District Lodges if they have any signs of illness or do not feel comfortable, at the present time, with attending. Masons must self-screen for any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 before attending any Lodge meeting. Those individuals considered to be "at-risk", including those who are 65 or older, and especially those with chronic lung disease; moderate to severe asthma; chronic heart disease; severe obesity; diabetes; chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis; liver disease; weakened immune system or other risk factors are encouraged not to attend Lodge. You are the sole decision-maker as to whether you should attend Lodge. There is nothing more important at this time than the continued well-being of our Louisiana Masons.

Fraternally,



James E. "Jimmie" Steen  
Grand Master

*"Charity, Friendship, Morality and Brotherly Love"*

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