

**The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge
of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons
of the State of Connecticut**



EDICT

No. 2020 – E005A

Issued By: Stephen W. Petri, Most Worshipful Grand Master
Issued To: All Lodges under the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut
For Use On: Beginning Friday, November 6, 2020
Purpose of Edict: Modifications to Lodge stated and special communications physical attendance limits.

Whereas: COVID-19 remains a serious threat to the health and safety of our membership and the general populations.

Whereas: The Governor of Connecticut has ordered various rules and guidelines restricting gatherings of people in the state to control the spread of COVID-19, which are available at <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus>.

Whereas: The Governor of Connecticut has made changes to those various rules and guidelines restricting gatherings of people to control the spread of COVID-19.

Whereas: Lodges have been given dispensation to have Brothers attend Lodge meetings via various communication technologies.

Now therefore, I, Most Worshipful Brother Stephen W. Petri, do hereby ORDER AND DIRECT:

- 1) The general limits for Masonic communications will be changed to 25 people indoors and 50 people outdoors, observing State safety guidelines. Anything other than a stated or *special* communication, gathering size is now limited to 10 people without regard to location *excluding commercial restaurants, and entertainment venues*.
- 2) Local limits and modifications increasing restrictions according to local infection rates should be followed. Current Connecticut infection rate data is available at <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/COVID-19-Data-Tracker>. Lodges should abide by the “Connecticut Department of Public Health Town-level COVID Response Framework” available at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DPH/Communications/Graphics/COVID-chart.jpg>
- 3) The wearing of face masks or coverings while at Masonic events is MANDATORY.
- 4) Masters will prevent Brothers from attending Lodge meetings who appear to be ill or have recently returned from locations where widespread cases of the disease have been reported. The requirement of preferring Masonic Charges as indicated in ***Section 3211** is dispensed with, illness or exposure to illness not rising to the level of an offense.
- 5) The New modified degree ritual to be used for all degrees to reduce the chances of spreading the disease.

This edict shall supersede previous edicts regarding meeting limits and shall remain in effect unless further modified, terminated, or it expires.

***Section 3211.** When Master May Exclude a Member. The Master in the exercise of a sound discretion has the right to temporarily exclude a member from the communication of a Lodge if he is convinced that his presence will disturb its peace and harmony. Charges should at once be preferred against the excluded member and a trial had.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen W. Petri".

Bro. Stephen W. Petri
Grand Master