



## **123<sup>rd</sup> State Convention**

### **Report of the State Advocate**

Worthy State Chaplain, Supreme Knight, State Deputy, State Officers, and Brothers all,

In accordance with our bylaws, I affirm and report that I have carried out my duties as State Advocate during this past fraternal year. This report covers the following areas – (1) procedural or disciplinary inquiries, (2) Safe Environment requirements, and (3) the DC State Convention resolutions committee.

#### **Procedural/Disciplinary Inquiries –**

I have provided assistance for questions on council procedures and training, assisting both Grand Knights and District Deputies as required. As of today, there have not been any disciplinary inquiries submitted to the DC State Council this fraternal year.

#### **Safe Environment –**

Safe Environment training compliance is critical to protect our youth, elderly, and disabled as well as our Councils, State Council, and the Supreme office. This is a topic that hits close to home here in our jurisdiction and the Archdiocese of Washington. Unfortunately, I cannot report that the DC jurisdiction is fully compliant, but we are close and many Councils have actively been working to mitigate the issue. As of 26 April 2022 eighteen of DC's twenty-two councils are fully or partially compliant:

<b>District</b>	<b>Fully Compliant</b>	<b>Partially Compliant</b>	<b>Non-Compliant</b>	<b>Full/Partially Compliant %</b>
District 1	2	2	2	67%
District 2	0	4	2	67%
District 3	2	3	0	100%
District 4	4	1	0	100%

Partial compliance is defined as needing between 1-3 trained members out of the four required positions. Based on the data collected over the last year the primary issue in achieving full compliance is with Councils that have struggled to build an officer corps and have not had regular meetings.

This program has come a long way in the last several years, but additional changes are critical to making it successful in the DC jurisdiction. Allowing the State Advocate or an appointed chairman to have access to initiating the training process, particularly for members that did not complete the training during the required window, would accelerate and increase the DC State Council's ability of reaching full compliance. This can be done without introducing bias or additional risk to the process. As DC State



Advocate I am passing along this recommendation to the Supreme Advocate's office in hope that it will be easier for our Councils to conduct business in future years without inundating them with recurring paperwork and procedures while still ensuring the safety of our communities.

**Resolutions Committee –**

Six of DC's twenty-two Councils submitted resolutions in addition to resolutions submitted directly by the DC State Council. The resolutions committee met on 21 April 2022 to recommend the appropriate action by the DC State Council during the business session of the convention. The committee recommends the following:

Recommendation	Count of Resolutions
Adopt	16
No Action	9
Reject	1

In many of the cases where the committee recommended "No Action" the committee reviewed and recommended adoption of a more comprehensive substitute resolution aligned with both our faith and our order.

This concludes my report as State Advocate for Fraternal Year 2021-2022.

Nicholas Shields, FDD, PGK

State Advocate

DC State Council