

Report of State Advocate Joshua Bryant, FDD, PGK
124th Annual Meeting of the District of Columbia State Council
April 29, 2023

Reverend Father, Worthy State Deputy, Dr. McInerney, Columbian Dignitaries, 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.

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. As of 26 April 2023, four of DC's twenty-two councils are fully compliant and 14 are partially compliant.

District	Fully Compliant	Partially Compliant	Non-Compliant	Full Compliant %
District 1	1	4	1	17%
District 2	1	3	2	17%
District 3	1	2	1	25%
District 4	1	5	0	17%

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. In some cases, Councils need to submit a new Form 185 with members in the required position of Grand Knight, Program Director, Community Director, and Family Director.

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.

This concludes my report as State Advocate for the Fraternal Year 2022-2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joshua Bryant". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Joshua Bryant, FDD, PGK

State Advocate

DC State Council