



REPORT OF THE STATE ADVOCATE
District of Columbia State Council

126th State Convention - May 17–18, 2025

I. Procedural and Disciplinary Inquiries

The DC State Council has not received any disciplinary inquiries as of today, May 7, 2025.

This Fraternal year, my primary focus has been to provide assistance on all matters requiring training or procedural guidance. Each District Deputy and Grand Knight received group training and one-on-one assistance regarding the Safe Environment Program (SEP) training questions and general SEP compliance issues, upon request. Some of these requests include account resets, validation of contact information on file, and assistance with logging on for training sessions.

II. Safe Environment Training Compliance

The Knights of Columbus Safe Environment Program is intended to protect youth from the risks of abuse and neglect. The program consists of a fraternal leader screening process, child abuse awareness training, and a reporting procedure in the event of any incidents of misconduct. Certain officers and directors are **required** to undergo Safe Environment training and, depending on their role, to provide authorization for a background check.

At the compilation of this report, of the 19 Active Councils in the jurisdiction (not including suspended councils), **nine (9) or 47% of the Councils** are non-compliant, while **ten (10) councils or 53%**, are **fully compliant** with all Safe Environment requirements. Below is a list of all Active Councils and their current SEP compliance status:

	Council #	Council Name	District	SEP Compliance Status
1	7530	St. Josephat Council	1	Compliant
2	11302	Patrick Cardinal O'Boyle Council	1	Compliant
3	417	St. Anthony's Council	2	Compliant
4	433	Potomac Council	2	Compliant
5	15795	San Oscar Romero Council	2	Compliant
6	11496	Bl. Fr. Cyprian Tansi Council	3	Compliant
7	4944	Immaculate Conception Shrine Council	3	Compliant
8	9542	Catholic University of America Council	4	Compliant
9	13242	George Washington University Council	4	Compliant
10	16773	St. John Paul II Council	5	Compliant
11	224	Washington Council	1	Not Compliant
12	3877	Bishop Patrick Bryne Council	1	Not Compliant
13	16215	Sacred Heart Council	2	Not Compliant
14	353	Keane Council	2	Not Compliant
15	17611	Divine Mercy African Council	3	Not Compliant
16	6375	Georgetown University Council	4	Not Compliant
17	10008	St. Cyprian Council	5	Not Compliant
18	11578	St. Thomas Moore Council	5	Not Compliant
19	14823	St. Michael the Archangel Council	5	Not Compliant

The distribution of compliant councils by district is as follows:

- District 1 - 2 councils (50%)
- District 2 - 3 councils (75%)
- District 3 - 2 councils (40%)
- District 4 - 2 councils (67%)
- District 5 - 1 council (16%)

Some Councils could be considered **partially compliant**, meaning that all Safe Environment positions have been appointed, but some individuals have not finished the required training and/or background check. The **non-compliant** Councils generally have yet to fill all required appointments, such as Grand Knight, Program Director, Community Director, and Family Director, or have yet to complete required training and background checks.

In conclusion, I encourage all District Deputies and Grand Knights, to proactively address all challenges impeding their ability to achieve full compliance with the Safe Environment Program requirements. This can be achieved by filling leadership positions with quality candidates and encouraging them to promptly complete both training and background checks, as required for their respective roles. They should also endeavor to avoid communication pitfalls, by ensuring that appointees regularly monitor their emails, to avoid any difficulties with receiving their personal credentials for accessing the designated website for SEP training. Finally, they are strongly urged to reach out to the State Advocate with any issues that they are unable to resolve. This will ensure prompt attention in addressing issues and alleviate delays in reaching full compliance, before the end of the fraternal year.

Fraternally Yours In Service,



**Joseph O. Njoku, Jr., FDD, PGK, PFN
State Advocate**

Dated: May 7, 2025