

**District of Columbia State Council
Knights of Columbus
Minutes of the Business Session of the 126th Annual Meeting
May 17, 2025 – National Shrine of Saint John Paul II**

State Deputy Nicholas S.C. Shields, FN, FDD, PGK, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and State Chaplain Rev. Frank S. Donio, SAC opened the meeting with a prayer.

I. Opening and Administrative Items

- a. State Deputy Nicholas Shields welcomed the following special guests and Columbian Dignitaries:
 - i. Assistant Supreme Secretary and Vice President for Public Policy Timothy Saccoccia, PSD
 - ii. Past State Deputies Peter Gervais, Amado Alvarez, and Christopher Pierno
 - iii. Christopher Powers, Master of the Fourth Degree, Archdiocese of Washington District
 - iv. General Agent Stephen Regan, Regan Agency
 - v. Supreme Director Christopher Kolomjec
- b. State Deputy Shields then thanked Fr. Donio for celebrating the opening Mass and invited the State Chaplain to make remarks.
- c. The State Deputy then appointed Past State Deputy, Timothy Saccoccia, as the Parliamentarian for the Annual Meeting.
- d. **Regularity of Credentials**
 - i. State Secretary Joshua R. Bryant, FDD, PGK delivered the report as follows:
 1. Councils in the Jurisdiction Eligible to a Vote: 25
Councils under inactive status: 2
Councils under suspension: 4
Councils Entitled to Voting Delegates: 19
Total Possible Delegates: 38
State Officers: 7
Total Possible Voting Members: 45
State Officers: 7
Grand Knights/Alternates: 19
Past Grand Knights/Alternates: 19
 - ii. State Deputy Shields moved for adoption which received sufficient second and was approved.
- e. **Appointment of Standing Committees**
 - i. State Deputy Shields appointed the committees of the convention as it was reflected in the convention materials (attached).
- f. **Report of the Committee on Credentials**

- i. State Secretary Bryant reported that of the 45 members of the State Council entitled to a vote at the convention, 23 were present as follows:
State Officers: 6
Grand Knights/Alternates: 8
Past Grand Knights/Alternates: 9
- ii. State Secretary Bryant moved for the adoption of his report which received sufficient second and was approved.

g. Greetings to the Convention

- i. State Deputy Shields announced that greetings had been received by the following which were presented to the convention online by the following:
 1. His Eminence Robert Cardinal McElroy, Archbishop of Washington
 2. Most Rev. Timothy P. Broglio, Archbishop for the Military Services, USA
 3. Most Rev. Borys Gudziak, Metropolitan-Archbishop of the Archeparchy of Philadelphia of the Ukrainian Catholic Church
 4. Monsignor Walter R. Rossi, Rector, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
 5. Patrick E. Kelly, PSD, FDD, PGK, Supreme Knight
 6. Hon. Muriel Bowser, Mayor of the District of Columbia
- ii. State Deputy Shields read aloud the Letter of Greeting from Cardinal McElroy.
- iii. A video message from the Supreme Knight was then played for all in attendance.

h. Approval of the Minutes of the 125th Annual Meeting

- i. State Secretary Bryant moved that the minutes of the 125th annual meeting, which were included in the convention package, be approved. The motion received sufficient second and was approved by voice vote.

II. Reports of State Officers

a. State Deputy

- i. State Deputy Shields turned control of the meeting to State Secretary Bryant who introduced State Deputy Shields for the Report of the State Deputy.
 1. The State Advocate moved that that convention extend its sincere appreciation and gratitude to the State Deputy for his timely message and that his report by received and filed. The motion received sufficient second and was approved by voice vote.
- ii. State Secretary Bryant returned control of the meeting to the State Deputy.

b. State Treasurer

- i. State Treasurer Ryan P. Mulvey, FDD, PGK, delivered the report and moved for its adoption. A sufficient second was received and the motion carried.

III. Report of District Deputies, State Directors, and Chairmen

- a. The reports from the District Deputies, Directors, and Chairmen were submitted in writing to be included with the minutes.
- b. The following State Directors delivered brief verbal reports:
 - i. State Membership Director Christopher Pierno, PSD, FDD, PGK
 - ii. State Evangelization and Faith Formation Director Terence Fitzgerald, DD, PGK

IV. Resolutions

- a. State Advocate Joseph O. Njoku, FN, FDD, PGK delivered the report of the resolutions committee.
 - i. The delegates to the convention approved of all recommendations made by the committee on the resolutions presented.

V. Elections

State Deputy Shields proceeded to the election of State Officers and turned the gavel over to the State Secretary.

a. State Deputy

- i. The State Secretary recognized the Chairman of the Nominations Committee, Matt Miano, who nominated Nicholas S.C. Shields of St. John Paul II Council #16773.
- ii. The State Secretary called for further nominations, but none were entered.
- iii. The State Secretary recognized Chairman of the Nominations Committee who moved that the State Treasurer be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot in the name of Nicholas S.C. Shields for the Office of State Deputy. The motion received sufficient second and was agreed to by voice vote.
- iv. The State Secretary returned the gavel to the State Deputy.

b. State Secretary

- i. The State Deputy recognized the Chairman of the Nominations Committee, who nominated Joshua R. Bryant of St. John Paul II Council #16773 for State Secretary.
- ii. The State Deputy called for further nominations, but none were entered.
- iii. The State Deputy recognized the Nominations Committee Chairman who moved that the State Advocate be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot in the name of Joshua R. Bryant for the Office of State Secretary. The motion received sufficient second and was agreed to by voice vote.

c. State Treasurer

- i. The State Deputy recognized the Chairman of the Nominations Committee, who nominated Ryan P. Mulvey of St. Josaphat Council #7530 for State Treasurer.
- ii. The State Deputy called for further nominations, but none were entered.

- iii. The State Deputy recognized the Nominations Committee Chairman who moved that the State Warden be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot in the name of Ryan P. Mulvey for the Office of State Treasurer. The motion received sufficient second and was agreed to by voice vote.

d. State Advocate

- i. The State Deputy recognized the Chairman of the Nominations Committee, who nominated Joseph O. Njoku of Bl. Tansi Council #11496 for State Advocate.
- ii. The State Deputy called for further nominations, but none were entered.
- iii. The State Deputy recognized the Nominations Committee Chairman who moved that the State Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot in the name of Joseph O. Njoku for the Office of State Advocate. The motion received sufficient second and was agreed to by voice vote.

e. State Warden

- i. The State Deputy recognized the recognized the Chairman of the Nominations Committee, who nominated James “Eddie” Oxford, Jr. of Keane Council #353 for State Warden.
 - ii. The State Deputy called for further nominations, but none were entered.
 - iii. The State Deputy recognized the Nominations Committee Chairman who moved that the State Advocate be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot in the name of James “Eddie” Oxford, Jr. for the Office of State Warden. The motion received sufficient second and was agreed to by voice vote.
- f. State Deputy Shields declared those for whom the ballots were cast as the duly elected State Officers for the District of Columbia for the term of July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

VI. Election of Delegates and Alternates to the Supreme Convention

State Deputy Shields proceeded to the election of Delegates and Alternates to the Supreme Convention.

- a. In addition to its State Deputy and last living Past State Deputy, the District of Columbia is afforded one (1) additional delegate to the 143rd Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council to represent its associate membership. Brother Joshua R. Bryant of Council #16773 was elected on a unanimous ballot as the Associate Delegate to the Supreme Convention.
- b. Brother Knights were elected alternates to the delegates to the 143rd Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council by unanimous ballots as follows:
 - i. Christopher Pierno of Council #433
 - ii. George W. Hanna of Council #11578
 - iii. Peter D. Gervais of Council #353

VII. Remarks on the 143rd Supreme Convention

- b. The State Deputy invited the Co-Chairman of the Supreme Convention Committee Timothy Saccoccia to deliver remarks on the upcoming 143rd Supreme Convention taking place in Washington, DC in August.

The business session recessed for lunch and the annual meeting of DC Knights of Columbus Charities at approx. 11:30am. The business session returned to order at approx. 12:00pm.

VIII. Remarks by Guests and Columbian Dignitaries

- c. The following guests and Columbian Dignitaries delivered remarks to the Convention:
 - i. Christopher Powers, Master of the Fourth Degree, Archdiocese of Washington District
 - ii. Stephen Regan, General Agent, Regan Agency
 - iii. Supreme Director Christopher Kolomjec

IX. The State Deputy recognized the State Secretary for announcements regarding the close of the Convention and related activities taking place on Sunday, May 18. At the conclusion of the business meeting, the State Deputy thanked all delegates and officers for their assistance in executing the meeting and recognized Past State Deputy Peter Gervais, Director of Operations at the St. John Paul II Shrine and thanked him for all his assistance in pulling off the weekend's events. The State Deputy also thanked the staff of the St. John Paul II National Shrine for serving as the host of the convention.

X. The closing prayer was delivered by the State Chaplain. The State Deputy adjourned the business session of the 126th Annual Meeting, sine die, at approx. 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joshua R. Bryant, FDD, PGK
State Secretary