

## Application for the Life Membership in Perpetuity Plan of the Grand Lodge of Virginia

### METHOD OF PAYMENT

**CHECK:**

Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check No. \_\_\_\_\_

**CREDIT CARD:**

Full Payment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Three Payments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Six Payments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Twelve Payments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Eighteen Payments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

This section is to be completed by the Applicant:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(FIRST) (MIDDLE) (LAST) GRAND LODGE MEMBER #

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (M/D/Y) Social Security Number \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ Work Telephone: \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Lodge Name \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge Number \_\_\_\_\_

1. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND SECTION 5.0 OF THE VIRGINIA METHODICAL DIGEST. A PERSONAL COPY OF THE RULES PUBLISHED BY THE LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN PERPETUITY COMMITTEE (PLAN MANAGER) HAS BEEN PROVIDED TO ME FOR STUDY AND RETENTION.
2. I UNDERSTAND THE MANNER IN WHICH THE AMOUNTS CALCULATED BY THE LODGE SECRETARY FOR PLAN MEMBERSHIP WAS ARRIVED AT AND BELIEVE THEM TO BE CORRECT.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(SIGNATURE OF THE APPLICANT) (DATE)

This section is to be completed by the Lodge Secretary:

\*Current Dues \$\_\_\_\_\_.\_\_\_\_ --- \*Grand Lodge \$\_\_\_\_\_.\_\_\_\_ --- \*Total \$\_\_\_\_\_.\_\_\_\_

- \*1. THE FIGURES CITED ARE FEES IN EFFECT THE DATE OF THE APPLICATION.
2. THE MEMBER HAS ALREADY PAID THIS YEAR'S DUES. ***IF PAYING BY CHECK***, A CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF 16 TIMES THE ANNUAL DUES OF THE LODGE AND THE GRAND LODGE IN COMBINATION PAYABLE TO THE GRAND LODGE OF VIRGINIA LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND IS ENCLOSED.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(SIGNATURE OF THE LODGE SECRETARY) (DATE)

This section is to be completed by the LMIP Committee:

- [ ] RECEIPT IS ACKNOWLEDGED.  
 [ ] LIFE MEMBERSHIP IS APPROVED AS OF \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(SECRETARY TO THE COMMITTEE) (DATE)

Please return to:

**Grand Lodge of Virginia, Life Membership Committee, 4115 Nine Mile Road, Richmond, VA 23223-4926**

**Section 5.00**

**Life Membership in Perpetuity  
Plan**

**Sec. 5.01. Name of Plan.** — The name of this plan shall be: "Life Membership in Perpetuity Plan of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, A.F.& A.M." (Hereinafter sometimes referred to as "The Plan")

**Sec. 5.02. Eligibility.** — A Life Membership may be purchased for or by any member in good standing of a Lodge holden under the Grand Lodge of Virginia, subject to the rules. A Memorial Life Membership may also be purchased for a deceased Master Mason (who was in good standing at the time of his death) in any Lodge in Virginia upon acceptance of the Memorial Life Membership by vote of the Lodge. (1998)

Memorial Life Memberships may be purchased for deceased Master Masons of any Lodge of any jurisdiction recognized by the Grand Lodge of Virginia; provided, that his good standing has been ascertained in advance through the office of the Grand Secretary, and upon acceptance of the membership by vote of the Lodge. (2002)

**Sec. 5.03. Life Membership Fees.** — The Life Membership Fee shall be equal to sixteen (16) times the amount of the Annual Dues and assessments of his Lodge at the time of the purchase, or \$300.00, whichever is greater. Dues for the year in which he purchases the Life Membership must have been paid before the purchase, and are not included in the 16-year calculation, except when the purchase is in memory of a deceased member. (1996)

#### DECISIONS

1994 D-14, §-5.03, §-5.20

To permit the Committee to collect one year's dues in advance along with the formula amount set forth. (T. F. May)

**Sec. 5.04. Method of Payment.** — The Life Membership Fee from a member shall be paid to the Secretary of the Lodge, who will make a record thereof and forward the fee to Grand Lodge. A completed application, in duplicate, on a form prescribed by the Plan Manager, must be submitted with the fee.

**Sec. 5.05. Administration of the Plan.** — The Plan shall be administered by the Grand Lodge of Virginia Life Membership Committee, hereinafter, referred to as the "Plan Manager" in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Methodical Digest, as a separate fund. The original amounts paid for Life Memberships shall be forever kept and maintained as and for a permanent Life Membership Fund. Only the interest and dividends paid in cash on bank deposits or authorized investments in securities shall be available for use. The investments will be managed in the same manner as the basic Grand Lodge Investments.

**Sec. 5.06. Certificate of Life Membership in Perpetuity.** — Upon receipt of the full purchase price, the Grand Secretary, shall issue a Certificate of Membership to the Participant. Such Certificate shall be signed by the Grand Master, attested by the Grand Secretary under the Seal of the Grand Lodge. The Grand Secretary shall forward such Certificate to the Lodge

Secretary for appropriate presentation. The Grand Lodge will issue Permanent Life Membership cards to Life Members.

**Sec. 5.07. Delivery of Payments by Grand Secretary.** — Any payments into the Plan received by the Grand Secretary shall be promptly delivered to the Plan Manager.

**Sec. 5.08. Payments by the Plan Manager.** — On or before January 1 of each year after the year in which the Participant became a member of the Plan, the Plan Manager of the Grand Lodge shall pay from the Plan Fund the following for each qualified member of the Plan:

1. To the Grand Lodge of Virginia general fund, the amount of the existing Grand Lodge dues at the time the Participant became a member of the Plan.
2. To the Participant's Lodge, the amount of the existing Lodge dues at the time the Participant became a member of the Plan.

Payment to the Grand Lodge general fund of the amount of the Grand Lodge dues as set forth above shall relieve the Participant and his Lodge of the liability for the dues payment which would otherwise be required for such Participant. Payment to the Participant's Lodge of the amount of dues as above set forth, shall relieve the Participant of the liability for the dues payment which would otherwise be required for such Participant.

**Sec. 5.09. Dues Increases or Decreases.** — Future increases or decreases in the Participant's Lodge dues shall have no effect upon the payments made or to be made by a Participant or the Plan Manager of the Grand Lodge, unless any deferred payments of the purchase price are not made as required.

**Sec. 5.10. Special Assessments.** — A participant shall not be liable for special assessments. (1996)

**Sec. 5.11. Death of a Participant.** — Upon the death of a Participant, the Plan Manager shall continue to make the payments set forth in this Plan to the Grand Lodge general fund and to the Participant's Lodge.

**Sec. 5.12. Refunds and Disciplinary Action.** — No refund shall be made from the Plan to any Participant, any other person or any Lodge for any reason. No Participant shall be exempt from disciplinary action as provided by Section 4.00 of the Virginia Methodical Digest. In the event of the suspension or expulsion of a Participant, the Plan Manager shall continue to pay to the Grand Lodge general fund and to the Participant's former Lodge any amounts which would have been paid had the Participant not been suspended or expelled. A Life Member expelled, subsequently restored and again elected to membership in the same Lodge is also restored to all the rights pertaining to his Life Membership.

**Sec. 5.13. Dues Card.** —The Secretary of a Participant's Lodge shall cause to be issued a dues card to each Participant in good standing, with the designation Life Membership in Perpetuity (LMIP) indicated thereon.

**Sec. 5.14. Dual Membership.** — A Brother desiring to purchase Life Membership and who holds plural membership within this Grand Jurisdiction may purchase a Life Membership in any or all Lodges in which he holds membership. A Life Membership in one Lodge, however, shall not excuse the member from dues and assessments payments in Lodges in which he holds dual or plural membership.

**Sec. 5.15. Transfer.** — Any transfer of a Life Member to another Lodge within the Commonwealth of Virginia shall have his Life Membership account transferred to his new Lodge, with the new Lodge accepting the Life Membership as previously paid. A Life Membership purchased with Lodge funds cannot be transferred without approval by vote of the Lodge and the agreement of all other parties involved. [Ref: Sec. 2.121] If a Lodge consolidates, surrenders its Charter, or has its Charter arrested, the funds credited to this Lodge in the Life Membership Fund shall follow the member in accordance with the relevant section of the Methodical Digest dealing with consolidation, surrenders and arrests of Charters, for whatever reason, or has its Charter arrested, and does not consolidate shall revert to the Grand Lodge. (1996)

**Sec. 5.16. Membership in a Non-Virginia Lodge.** — If a Participant holds or acquires membership in a non-Virginia Lodge or Lodges, or transfers his membership to a Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction, no payments shall be made by the Plan Manager to such non-Virginia Lodge. The Plan Manager shall continue payments to the Grand Lodge general fund and the Virginia Lodge in which he was originally a member, as herein provided.

**Sec. 5.17. Plan Manager to Account.** — The Plan Manager shall hold, administer and distribute assets of the Plan as one Perpetual Membership fund. However, he shall maintain adequate records of the payments for each Participant in the Plan. The Plan Manager shall pay the reasonable costs of the administration of the fund from the income thereof, and the Plan Manager shall observe standard accounting practices in the maintenance of the records of the Plan. At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, the Plan Manager shall submit a written report of their administration of the Plan. At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, the Plan Manager shall also make any recommendations to the Grand Lodge as they may consider necessary and proper for the continued proper administration of the Plan.

**Sec. 5.18. Distributions of Excess Revenue.** — In the event that the Plan Manager determines that the Plan has produced income in excess of amounts reasonably necessary to meet its projected obligations, the Plan Manager shall recommend to the Grand Lodge that amounts be distributed from the fund to Lodges who have participants therein and to the Grand Lodge in proportionate amounts. Such distributions to Lodges shall be based on the proportionate amounts paid into the Plan attributable to Participants who are living or deceased members of the Lodge,

but any such distribution shall only be made upon approval of the Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication.

**Sec. 5.19. Life Membership in Perpetuity Committee.** — The Grand Lodge shall establish a Life Membership in Perpetuity Committee as a Standing Committee which shall be appointed by the Grand Master. Said Committee shall consist of five (5) members. The Committee shall initially be appointed for one, two, three, four, and five year terms. Thereafter, the Grand Master shall appoint one Committee Member each year for a five year term. It shall be the duty of the Committee to evaluate procedures and implement changes in procedures as may be necessary for the efficient operation of the program. The Grand Master shall annually appoint one member as Chairman. The Grand Master may replace any Committee member, with the term of appointment being the balance of the term of the member being replaced. The Committee shall annually meet prior to the time of Grand Lodge and shall report to the Grand Lodge each year.

**Sec. 5.20. Modification of Rules.** — These rules may be modified or amended at any time by the Plan Manager, subject to ratification by the Grand Lodge and, provided that no changes may affect any Life Membership in Perpetuity in effect at the time of such change.

#### DECISIONS

1994 D-14, §-5.03, §-5.20

To permit the Committee to collect one year's dues in advance along with the formula amount set forth. (T. F. May)

**Sec. 5.21. Effective Date.** — This legislation is effective at the close of the 1992 Grand Lodge Session.

**Sec. 5.22. Charter Life Member.** — Any Brother applying for Life Membership before the end of 1992 will have his Life Membership card stamped as a Charter Life Member. The application and fees for a Charter Life Membership must be post-marked no later than December 28, 1992. Life Membership will always be available. (1992)

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#### PREVIOUS ENACTMENTS

**Previous Enactments, etc., Repealed.** — All previous enactments of the Grand Lodge of a general nature, not herein contained and in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed.