

TACTICS MANUAL OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF MN

*ASYLUM CEREMONIES
AND
TACTICS*

*COMPILED AND PREPARED BY THE
OFFICERS OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY
OF MINNESOTA
(REVISED SEPTEMBER 2022)*

Full Form Opening

RECEPTION OF EMINENT COMMANDER

Commander:	Sir Knight Captain General, see that the Asylum is in suitable array for my reception... Sir Knight Generalissimo and Excellent Prelate, accompany me to my apartment. <i>(After the Commander, Generalissimo and Excellent Prelate have cleared the Asylum, the Captain General takes his place on the Dias, and commands)</i>
Cap General:	Sir Knight Warder, sound the assembly. <i>(He does this by making sure all Sir Knights are in the Asylum and door is closed.)</i> <i>Captain General pauses until all are in Asylum)</i> Officers... take your Stations... Sir Knights... Be Seated
Cap General:	<i>(Captain General draws sword and comes to carry swords)</i> Sir Knight Senior Warden, <i>(The Senior Warden arises, takes one step forward, draws his sword, and sword salutes)</i> Are all present Knights Templar? <i>(When the Captain General has completed his order, he will sword salute the Senior Warden, and both will come to carry swords simultaneously)</i>
SR Warden:	<i>(The Senior Warden will now face the Junior Warden and give the order)</i> Sir Knight Junior Warden, <i>(When called upon the Junior Warden rises, faces the Senior Warden, takes one step forward, draws his sword and sword salutes the Senior Warden)</i> Ascertain if all in the north are Knights Templar.
JR Warden	<i>(When called upon the Junior Warden rises, faces the Senior Warden, takes one step forward, draws his sword and sword</i>

	<i>salutes the Senior Warden. After the order is given the Senior Warden will sword salute the Junior Warden, and both will come to carry swords simultaneously. They both proceed to the east end of the asylum, do an about face, and inspect the Sir Knights on the way to the west. Having reached the west end of the asylum, they now face each other and the Junior Warden sword salutes and reports)</i> Sir Knight Senior Warden, All in the north are Knights Templar.
SR Warden	<i>(The Senior Warden will return the salute, and both come to carry swords and return to their stations)</i> <i>(Sword Salute)</i> Sir Knight Captain General, all Present are Knights Templar. <i>(The Captain General will return the sword salute of the Senior Warden; both will come to carry swords. The Senior Warden and Junior Wardens will return swords and be seated simultaneously)</i>
Cap General:	Sir Knight Warder, <i>(Warder arises, takes one step forward, draws sword and sword salutes)</i> Post the Sentinel, inform him that a Commandery of Knights Templar is about to be opened and direct him to guard accordingly. <i>(After giving the order, the Captain General will sword salute the Warder, and both come to carry swords simultaneously)</i>
Warder:	<i>(The Warder will leave his station, go to the door, open it without knocks and inform the Sentinel)</i> Sir Knight Sentinel, a Commandery of Knights Templar is about to be opened and you are directed to guard accordingly.

Sentinel:	Sir Knight Warder, it shall be done. <i>(The Warder closes the door and gives the knocks, xxx... xxx... xxx... x which are answered by the Sentinel. The Warder returns to his station, sword salutes the Captain General, and reports)</i>
Warder:	Sir Knight Captain General, the Sentinel is at his post and the Asylum is duly guarded. <i>(The Captain General returns the salute of the Warder thus releasing him to return his sword and be seated)</i>
Cap General:	Sir Knight Senior Warden, <i>(The Senior Warden arises, faces the Captain General, draws his sword and sword salutes)</i> Form the lines for the reception of the Commander. <i>(The Captain General returns the salute, thus releasing the Senior Warden)</i>
SR Warden:	<i>(The Senior Warden leaves his station, moves the “shortest” distance to the East of the Asylum, stopping in front of the Generalissimo’s station on the Asylum floor. He faces the west and commands)</i> Commandery... Attention... Fall-in. <i>(At the command “Fall-in”, all not excused, without drawing swords, promptly fall-in, single file, facing East, dressing on the Senior Warden, graduating in size from front to rear. The Junior Warden falls in on the West end or bottom of the line)</i>
Cap General:	Sir Knights on the sidelines be seated. <i>(All officers remain standing except Recorder and Treasurer. The Captain General takes his station on the north side of the Asylum, six or eight paces from and in the center of the line, facing the line.)</i>
SR Warden:	<i>(As Captain General passes East of the line)</i> Left... Face... <i>(The Senior Warden takes his position on the north side of the Asylum about three paces in front and center of the line, facing the line)</i>

	Draw... Swords... (Includes Standard Guard) Count... Twos. <i>(The Senior Warden dresses the line, returns to his station in front of the line, and commands)</i> Present... Swords. <i>(The Senior Warden executes an about face, sword salutes the Captain General and reports)</i> Sir Knight Captain General, the lines are formed. <i>(The Captain General returns the salute, releasing the Senior Warden, who takes his station as right (East) guide by the shortest route, without command)</i>
Cap General:	Carry... Swords... Open Ranks. <i>(The Senior and Junior Warden step back to just in front of the Captain General's station on the Dias to mark the new alignment of the rear rank. The Captain General goes to see that the Wardens are in line parallel to the front rank. He returns to the north side of the Asylum, three paces in front of the line and commands)</i> March <i>(The front rank, the odd numbered knights will dress to the right without closing the interval; the even numbered knights who constitute the rear rank, turn heads to the right, step backwards, halt when dressed to the right without closing intervals on the line established by the Wardens. The Captain General superintends the alignment of the front and rear ranks, then places himself, at the north of the Asylum, three paces in front of the front rank and commands. Note: Captain General has the authority to dress the lines whenever he chooses.)</i> Front <i>(The Wardens resume their places in the front rank and the Sir Knights cast their eyes to the front)</i>
Cap General:	Form two divisions... Files... Cover

	<i>(At the command "Cover", the rear rank side-steps right and covers on the front rank and becomes the first division)</i>
Cap General:	Front Rank... About... Face <i>(At the command "Face", the front-rank faces about and becomes the second division. The Senior Warden will about face with the front rank and without command will march forward, one pace beyond the first division, right face, and march to the left of the first division opposite the Junior Warden and dress right. The Captain General will now take his place on the Dias in the east)</i>
Cap General:	Sir Knight Junior Warden, <i>(The Junior Warden steps to the center of the lines, left faces to the east, sword salutes the Captain General)</i> Be in readiness with the Standard Guard as escort, to repair to the apartment of the Commander and inform him that the lines are formed for his reception. <i>(The Captain General returns the Junior Warden's salute thus releasing him to carry out the order)</i>
JR Warden:	<i>(Does an about face, steps forward to the Standard Guard and commands)</i> Standard Guard as Escort... Right... Face. <i>(Warder does Left Face and goes to the Asylum door and opens it. Junior Warden moves to front of Standard Guard)</i>
JR Warden:	Forward... March... Column right... March. <i>(Warder will sword salutes the escort as they pass out the Asylum door, remaining at the door until the escort, Commander and his staff return)</i>
JR Warden:	<i>(As the escort reaches the apartment of the Commander, the Junior Warden commands)</i> Standard Guard... Halt... Right or Left Face... Present... Swords. <i>(When the Junior Warden addressed the Commander, he will come to sword salute)</i>

	Eminent Commander, the lines are formed, and the escort awaits your pleasure.
Commander:	Sir Knight Junior Warden, it is my pleasure to be escorted into the Asylum. <i>(The commander returns the Junior Wardens salute with his hand, thus releasing him to carry out the order)</i>
JR Warden:	Escort... Carry... Swords... Left or Right... Face... Forward... March. <i>(After the command "Face", the Junior Warden will take his place on the opposite end of the line and the Standard Guard will return to the Asylum in reverse order. As the escort approaches the Asylum door, the Warder will sword salute and announce)</i>
Warder:	The Commander approaches. <i>(After the escort and the Commander passes, the Warder will come to carry swords, go to his station)</i>
Cap General:	<i>(When the Warder announces "The Commander approaches" the Captain General commands)</i> Commandery... Attention
JR Warden:	<i>(The Junior Warden will march the escort to their stations in the west and command)</i> Escort... Halt... Right... Face... <i>(The Junior Warden takes his station on the right of the second division facing the Senior Warden)</i>
Cap General:	<i>(As the Commander approaches the bottom of the lines, he will halt and give the Junior Warden time to return to his station and come to Carry Swords)</i> Sir Knights in Line... Present... Swords. <i>(Standard Guard and Warder will come to Present Swords. The Sir Knights on the sidelines will arise, uncover, and remain uncovered until the command "Carry Swords" is given at which time they will recover)</i> <i>(As the Commander, Generalissimo, and Prelate, in that order, pass through the lines, only the commander will uncover. When</i>

	<i>they have passed through the lines, he will recover. The Captain General Sword Salutes the Commander when he has reached his station, the Generalissimo and Prelate take their Stations)</i>
Commander:	<i>(When the Commander arrives at his station, he will About Face, return salute to Captain General by hand.)</i> Carry... Swords... Sir Knights on the sidelines... Be Seated. <i>Note: Only if there is an inspection taking place</i> The Inspecting Officer and Grand Warder will please repair to the Ante Room.

RECEPTION OF INSPECTING OFFICER

(The Grand Warder for the inspecting officer will instruct the Sentinel to give the proper battery on the door of the Asylum xxx... xxx... xxx... x)

Warder:	<i>(Immediately upon hearing the alarm, the Warder will step forward, draw sword, salute the Commander and report)</i> Eminent Commander, there is an alarm.
Commander:	Sir Knight Warder, attend to the alarm. <i>(Commander returns salute thus releasing the Warder who goes to the door, gives the battery, xxx... xxx... xxx... x. The door is opened by the sentinel.)</i>
Warder:	Sir Knight Sentinel, what is the cause of the alarm?
Sentinel:	Sir Knight Warder, the Grand Warder for Name of Inspecting officer, and Title desires admittance. <i>(Closes door and gives the battery, xxx... xxx... xxx... x.)</i>
Warder:	<i>(The warder returns to his station, salutes, and reports)</i> Eminent Commander, the alarm was caused by the Sentinel who reports that the Grand Warder for Sir Knight Name of Inspecting officer, and Title desires admission.
Commander:	Permit him to enter. <i>(Commander answers the salute thus releasing the Warder who goes to the door, and gives the battery, xxx... xxx... xxx... x. Door is opened by sentinel and Warder reports.)</i>
Warder:	The Eminent Commander permits him to enter. <i>(As the Grand Warder enters, the Warder will announce)</i> The Grand Warder for Sir Knight Name of Inspecting officer and Title <i>(The Warder will sword salute the Grand Warder, come to carry swords after he has passes, remain at the door until the Grand Warder retires, again saluting him as he retires, comes to carry swords, closes the door, and returns to station)</i>

Grand Warder:	<i>(Sword Salutes)</i> Eminent Commander, I am directed to report that Sir Knight name of inspecting officer and Title, is in waiting to inspect your commandery.
Commander:	Sir Knight Grand Warder, inform Sir Knight name of inspecting officer and Title that the lines are formed, and an escort will immediately wait upon him. <i>(The commander will now hand salutes the Grand Warder thus releasing him. The Grand Warder retires and reports)</i>
Grand Warder:	<i>(Sword Salutes and returns to the apartment of the Inspecting Officer)</i> The Eminent Commander directs me to inform you that the lines are formed, and an escort will immediately wait upon you.
Commander:	Sir Knight Junior Warden, <i>(The Junior Warden steps forward to the center of the lines, faces east, and swords salutes the Commander.)</i> Be in readiness to march the Standard Guard as escort to the apartment of Name of Inspecting Officer and Title. <i>(The Commander Hand Salutes the Junior Warden, thus releasing him)</i>
JR Warden:	<i>(The Junior Warden faces about, steps forward to the Standard Guard and commands)</i> Standard Guard as escort, Right... Face. <i>(Warder faces left. Junior Warden takes station in front of the Standard Guard facing south)</i>
Commander:	Sir Knight Generalissimo, <i>(Hand Salute)</i> with the Standard Guard as escort, you will repair to the

	apartment of Name of Inspecting Officer and Title and inform him that the lines are formed for his reception. <i>(The Generalissimo hand salutes the Commander, passes north of the lines to the escort, takes his place in the rear of the escort)</i>
Generalissimo	Sir Knight Junior Warden, carry on.
Warder:	<i>(When the Generalissimo approaches the Standard Guard, the Warder will leave his station at the rear of the Standard Guard and take station at the door of the Asylum on the south side. He will open the door for the escort to pass out. After he has opened the door, he will step back into the Asylum and Sword Salute the escort as it passes out the Asylum door. He will remain at the door until the escort and the distinguished guest approach.</i>
JR Warden:	Escort... Forward... March... Column Right... March. Escort... Halt... Left or Right Face... Present... Swords. <i>(JW comes to carry.)</i>
Generalissimo:	<i>(Hand Salutes Distinguished Guest and Title)</i> Sir Knight Name of Inspecting Officer and Title, I have the honor to inform you that the Lines are formed, and the escort awaits your pleasure.
Inspect Officer	Sir Knight Generalissimo, it is my pleasure to be escorted into your Asylum.
Generalissimo:	Sir Knight Junior Warden, carry on. <i>(As the Inspecting Officer is escorted into the Asylum, the Generalissimo will step to the left side of the Inspecting Officer to escort him into the Asylum)</i>
JR Warden:	<i>(Junior Warden sword salute)</i> Escort... Carry... Swords... Left or Right Face... Forward... March. <i>(After the command "Face", the Junior Warden will take his place on the opposite end of the line and the Standard Guard will return to the Asylum in reverse order)</i>
Warder:	<i>(As the escort approaches the Asylum door the Warder will Sword Salute and announce)</i>

	Sir Knight Name of Inspecting officer, and Title approaches. <i>(After the escort has passed, the Warder will come to carry, go to his station at the left of the Standard Guard and come to Present Swords.</i>
Commander:	Commandery... Attention. <i>(Steps off Dias to the center of the lines in the east)</i>
JR Warden:	<i>(The Junior Warden will march the escort to their stations in the west and commands)</i> Escort... HALT... Right... Face... Present... Swords. <i>(The Junior Warden takes his station on the right of the second division facing the Senior Warden)</i>
Generalissimo	<i>(The Generalissimo will Hand Salute the Commander and report)</i> Eminent Commander, I have the honor to present Grand Inspecting Officer, Sir Knight Name of Inspecting officer, and Title.

Note: Only the **Inspecting Officer, Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, The Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, His Representatives, KTCH Recipients** and **Current Grand Master of Masons** are entitled to be received under an Arch of Steel.

Commander:	<i>(After the Generalissimo and Inspecting officer have passes through the lines, the Commander will hand Salutes the Inspecting Officer)</i> It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to our Asylum. I now surrender to you my chair of office and ask you to preside over this conclave. <i>(The Inspecting Officer will return the Salute, acknowledge the courtesy, and return the authority to the Commander)</i>

	Would all Past Grand Commanders and Distinguished Guests who wish to be received please repair to the ante room.
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RECEPTION OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

(The Grand Warder for the Distinguished Guest will instruct the Sentinel to give the proper battery on the door of the Asylum xxx... xxx... xxx... x).

Warder:	<i>(Immediately upon hearing the alarm, the Warder will step forward, sword salute the Commander and report)</i> Eminent Commander, there is an alarm.
Commander:	Sir Knight Warder, attend to the alarm. <i>(Commander returns salute thus releasing the Warder who goes to the door, gives the battery, xxx... xxx...xxx... x. The door is opened by the sentinel.)</i>
Warder:	Sir Knight Sentinel, what is the cause of the alarm?
Sentinel:	Sir Knight Warder, the Grand Warder for Distinguished Guest and Title desires admittance. <i>(Closes the door, gives the battery, xxx... xxx...xxx... x)</i>
Warder:	<i>(The warder returns to his station Sword Salutes the Commander and reports)</i> Eminent Commander, the alarm was caused by the Sentinel who reports that the Grand Warder for Distinguished Guest and Title desires admission.
Commander:	Permit him to enter. <i>(Commander answers the salute thus releasing the Warder who goes to the door, gives the battery, xxx... xxx...xxx... x. Door opened by Sentinel and Warder reports.)</i>
Warder:	Sir Knight Sentinel, the commander permits him to enter.
Grand Warder:	<i>(Sword Salutes)</i> Eminent Commander, I am directed to report that Distinguished Guest and Title, is in waiting to visit your commandery.

Commander:	Sir Knight Grand Warder, inform Distinguished Guest and Title that the lines are formed, and an escort will immediately wait upon him. <i>(The commander will now hand salutes the Grand Warder thus releasing him. The Grand Warder retires and reports)</i>
Grand Warder:	<i>(Sword Salutes and returns to the apartment of Distinguished Guest.)</i> The Eminent Commander directs me to inform you that the lines are formed, and an escort will immediately wait upon you.
Commander:	Sir Knight Junior Warden, <i>(The Junior Warden steps forward to the center of the lines, faces east, and sword salutes the Captain General)</i> Be in readiness to march the Standard Guard as escort to the apartment of Distinguished Guest and Title. <i>(The Commander Hand Salutes the Junior Warden, thus releasing him)</i>
JR Warden:	<i>(The Junior Warden faces about, steps forward to the Standard Guard and commands)</i> Standard Guard as escort, Right... Face. <i>(Warder faces left. Junior Warden takes station in front of the Standard Guard facing south)</i>
Commander:	Sir Knight Generalissimo, (Hand Salute) with the Standard Guard as escort, you will repair to the apartment of Distinguished Guest and Title and inform him that the lines are formed for his reception. <i>(The Generalissimo hand salutes the Commander, passes north of the lines to the escort, takes his place in the rear of the escort)</i>
Generalissimo	Sir Knight Junior Warden, carry on.
Warder	<i>(When the Generalissimo approaches the Standard Guard, the Warder will leave his station at the rear of the Standard Guard and take station at the door of the Asylum on the south side. He will open the door for the escort to pass out. After he has opened</i>

	<i>the door, he will step back into the Asylum and Sword Salute the escort as it passes out the Asylum door. He will remain at the door until the escort and the distinguished guest approach.</i>
JR Warden:	Escort... Forward... March... Column Right... March. Escort... Halt... Left or Right Face... Present... Swords. <i>(Junior Warden Comes to Carry)</i>
Generalissimo	<i>(Hand Salutes Distinguished Guest and Title)</i> Distinguished Guest and Title, I have the honor to inform you that the Lines are formed, and the escort awaits your pleasure.
Dist. Guest:	<i>(Returns the Generalissimo's salute with his hand and says)</i> Sir Knight Generalissimo, it is my pleasure to be escorted into the Asylum.
Generalissimo	Sir Knight Junior Warden, carry on. <i>(As the Distinguished Guest is escorted into the Asylum, the Generalissimo will step to the left side of the Distinguished Guest to escort him into the Asylum)</i>
JR Warden:	Escort... Carry... Swords... Left or Right Face... Forward... March. <i>(After the command "Face", the Junior Warden will take his place on the opposite end of the line and the Standard Guard will return to the Asylum in reverse order)</i>
Warder:	<i>(As the escort approaches the Asylum door the Warder will Sword Salute and announces)</i> Distinguished Guest and Title approaches.
Commander:	Commandery... Attention. <i>(Steps off Dias to the center of the lines in the east)</i>
JR Warden:	<i>(The Junior Warden will march the escort to their stations in the west and commands)</i> Escort... HALT... Right... Face... Present... Swords. <i>(The Junior Warden takes his station on the right of the second division facing the Senior Warden)</i>

Generalissimo	<i>(The Generalissimo will Hand Salute the Commander and announce guest in order of Rank)</i> Eminent Commander, I have the honor to present Distinguished Guest and Title.
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Note: The Most Eminent Grand Master, all Grand Commanders and their representatives, Past Grand Commanders, and Honorary Past Grand Commanders of all Grand Jurisdictions are the only Sir Knights entitled to be received under an arch of steel. The Grand Master of Masons of Minnesota or his Personal Representative are to be received under an Arch of Steel. All other Distinguished Guests will be given Present Swords. Each guest will be announced and escorted through the lines individually.

Commander:	<i>(Hand Salutes the distinguished guest)</i> It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to our Asylum. Sir Knights, I have the pleasure of presenting to you Distinguished Guest and Title. <i>(If the guest is a Grand Commander or his representative, he will continue as follows only to highest ranking officer)</i> I now surrender my chair of office and ask you to preside over this conclave. <i>(The guest received will return the Salute, accept the courtesy, introduce his staff if present, make a few remarks, and return the authority to the Commander)</i> <i>(Dias officers return to stations)</i> Sir Knights on the Sidelines be seated.
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COMMUNICATE ACROSS THE LINES

Commander:	Commandery... Attention... For Communication. Officers... Post. <i>(The Generalissimo and the Captain General with Swords Drawn leave the Dias together. The Generalissimo will take station on the left of the second division and the Captain General on the right of the first division, facing each other. The commander takes his station two paces to the right and midway facing the lines. The line that includes the Captain General is the first division)</i>
M.. H... S.... H... H.. B...	First Division, communicate to the second division the Pilgrim Warriors Word. Guard... Give... Cuts... Communicate... Carry... Swords. <i>(At the command guard, turn the left foot square to the left, turning on the heel and plant the right foot firmly about 18 inches to the front, feet at right angles, the weight resting principally on the right foot, the shoulders oblique to the front, head and eyes square to the front. At the same time raise the sword hand on a line with the lower part of the belt and about 2 inches from it, the guard about 3 to 4 inches to the right of the belt clasp. Drop the tip of the sword diagonally to the left, blade tip about 18 inches in front of the left shoulder, edge to the front, thumb on the back of the grip. At the command "Carry", come to the position of guard. At the command "Swords" come to the position of Carry Swords)</i>
G..... APOTS	Second Division, communicate to the First Division the Pilgrim Penitent Word. Guard... Give... Cuts... Advance and Communicate. <i>(The lines will come to guard as before and give the same cuts, but on the command "Advance and Communicate", they will advance on the right foot, placing their left feet beside each other, the swords forming an arch of steel as in Cross Swords, placing their left hand on each other's right shoulder and communicate the word)</i> Carry... Swords.

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(At the command "Carry" they will return to guard and on the command "Swords" will come to Carry Swords)

Return... Swords.

First Division, communicate to the Second Division the Immaculate Word... Sir Knights... Kneel...

(At the command "Kneel", the Sir Knights will take 1 step forward with the right foot and kneel on the left knee)

Un... Cover...

(At this command, the Sir Knights will remove their cover with their left hand and place it on the right shoulder)

Deposit... Chapeau...

(At the command "chapeau", the Sir knights will remove the cover from the right shoulder and place it on the floor at the left of the right foot, front pointing towards the body, cross up)

Sir Knights... interlace fingers...

(At this command, the Sir Knights that make up the First Division, will cross their forearms about halfway between the elbow and the wrist, the right arm over left. The Sir Knights that make up the Second Division will interlace; their fingers with the Sir Knights of the First Division and come to point)

Sir Knights, as your fingers are thus strongly interlaced, so should the hearts of all Sir Knights be firmly united in the bonds of friendship and brotherly love. Over this symbol of our faith, Communicate.

(At the command "Communicate", the First Division with arms crossed, right arm over left, fingers interlaced with the Second Division, will give the word. The Second Division with fingers interlaced with the First Division, comes to point and then, will cross their forearms halfway between the elbow and wrist and give the response after which they come back to point and release hands)

Sir Knights, Secure... Chapeau... Re... Cover... Arise.

(At the command "Secure", the Sir Knights will place their left hand on the peak of the chapeau. On the command "Chapeau",

they will place the chapeau on the right shoulder. On the command "Re-Cover", they will place the chapeau on their head and drop the left hand to their side. On the command "Arise", they stand and place their weight on the left foot and bring the right foot back alongside of the left, dressing to the east, without command. After the lines have dressed up, the Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General will return to the dais)

Sir Knights on the sidelines...Be Seated

FORMING THE TRIANGLE

Commander:	Sir Knight Captain General , (Captain General draws sword and Salutes) form the Triangle preparatory to our devotions. (Commander returns salute with hand. Captain General comes to Carry Swords)
Cap General:	Form the Triangle. <i>(On the command "Triangle", the Wardens will march backward to a point that will give the Standard Guard enough room to fill in at the base of the triangle)</i> First and Second Divisions, from the west, backward wheel... March. <i>(On this command the two divisions will wheel backward until they line up with the Wardens and the Captain General commands)</i> Halt. Commandery, Attention... Draw... Swords... Present... Swords... (Standard Bearer retrieves Beauceant) Standard Guard... Post.
Sw Bearer:	Standard Guard, Forward... March... Halt. <i>(The Standard Guard will march forward until they are in line with the Senior and Junior Wardens)</i>
Cap General	<i>(After the Standard Guard has halted at the bottom of the triangle, the Captain General orders the commandery and reports to the Commander)</i> Commandery, Carry... Swords... Return... Swords. Eminent Commander, the Asylum is in suitable array for our devotions.
Commander	Sir Knight Generalissimo, Sir Knight Captain General and Excellent Prelate, accompany me to the Triangle. <i>(As the Dais Officers and the prelate reach the triangle, Prelate proceeds into the Triangle and Dias Officers complete Triangle. Then the Standard Bearer will step forward about 2 paces into the triangle and ground the Beauceant. The Wardens will face toward the east)</i>

Commander	Sir Knights, to your devotions. Kneel... Un... Cover. Excellent Prelate, lead our devotions. <i>(All Sir Knights including the Standard Bearer will uncover with their left hand and place the chapeau on the right shoulder. The Standard Bearer does not kneel)</i>
Ex. G. Prelate	<i>(Gives prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer)</i> Amen.
Commander	Sir Knights, Re... Cover... Arise. <i>(After this command, the dais officers return to their stations stopping in front of the dais waiting until the Prelate reaches his station, they then return to the dais together)</i> Sir Knight Captain General, <i>(The Captain General will draw his sword, Sword Salute the commander)</i> Reduce the Triangle. <i>(Commander will return salute with a hand salute)</i>
Cap General	<i>(Captain General faces the Triangle and commands)</i> Form Square. First and Second Divisions from the east, Backward Wheel... March. <i>(When the Square is formed, the Captain General will command)</i> Halt. Officers, ... Center and Front. <i>(At the command "Center and Front", the officers will step forward, The Sword Bearer and the Senior Warden will take position on the right of the Standard Bearer, and the Junior Warden on the left of the Warden; They all stand still after taking their positions until the Captain General commands)</i> Commandery, Draw... Swords... Present... Swords <i>(Standard Guard and Wardens come to Carry Swords. They march to the front, guiding on the Standard Bearer)</i>

Sr. Warden:	Officers, Forward... March. <i>(As the officers' march to their posts, the Wardens will drop off at the end of each Division, the Warder, Standard Bearer and Sword Bearer will continue to march to their stations where the Sword Bearer commands)</i>
Sword Bear:	Standard Guard, Halt... About... Face... Sword... Salute. <i>(As the Standard Guard comes to Present Swords, the Wardens will come to Salute Swords at the same time)</i>
Cap General:	Commandery, Carry... Swords... Return... Swords. <i>(On the command "Swords", the Standard Bearer shall return the Beauceant to its stand)</i>

FLAG PRESENTATION

Commander:	Sir Knight Senior Warden, <i>(Senior Warden comes to attention, takes 1 step forward, faces the Commander, Draws Swords and Sword Salutes)</i> Present the United States Colors. <i>(Commander hand salutes the Senior Warden. The Senior Warden comes to Carry Swords, about faces and proceeds to the right side of the Sword Bearer. At the same time the Junior Warden proceeds to the left side of the Warden. The Commander then rises, draws his Sword and commands)</i> Commandery, Attention... Draw... Swords.
Sr. Warden:	Standard Guard, Forward... March. <i>(When about 4 paces from the Dais, he commands)</i> Standard Guard, Halt. Sir Knight Standard Bearer... Secure the Flag. <i>(Standard Bearer marches to 3 paces of the flag, executes a Sword Salute, comes to carry, Return Sword and hooks scabbard on 1st ring)</i>
Commander:	Commandery, Present... Swords. <i>(Officers on the Dais will execute a Sword Salute. The Standard Bearer secures the flag, marches around the north end of the Standard Guard to his place in line)</i>
Sr. Warden:	Standard Guard, Carry... Swords... Right About... March... Forward... March... Right About... March... Forward... March, (When 4 paces from Dias) Halt... Standard Guard, Present... Swords. <i>(At the command "Right About" the Standard Guard pivots on the Standard Bearer, right side moves forward, left side backwards until they face West. They will march to the west, Right About and return to the east, facing the Commander)</i>
Sr. Warden:	<i>(Senior Warden Sword Salutes Commander)</i> Eminent Commander, by the authority of the Grand

	Encampment of the United States of America, we present you the United States Flag. Its place is on the dais to your right. As Knights Templar, we pledge ourselves to protect and defend this emblem of our country, and to yield up our lives rather than forfeit our pledge. (Senior Warden returns to Present Swords)
Commander:	Sir Knights, justly we honor this flag, symbol of the government that protects our noble heritage, a heritage preserved by the precious sacrifices and true devotion of a united people; a heritage under which the gracious favor of our Heavenly Father, we fervently pray may be transmitted in full measure to our posterity; Its colors like those of our Grand Standard remind us of purity and honor, justice and sacrifice, the finest fruits of Christian civilization. Sir Knight Senior Warden, cause the flag to be placed in its station to my right. <i>(Done)</i>
Sr Warden:	Sir Knight Standard Bearer, place the United States Flag. <i>(Standard Bearer proceeds forward, places the flag in its receptacle, moved back 2 paces, Draws Sword, and Sword Salutes the flag, comes to Carry Swords and takes his place in line, passing on the north side of the Standard Guard and comes to Present Swords)</i>
Commander:	Commandery... Sword... Salute. Please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country. <i>Done</i> Commandery... Carry... Swords.
Sr Warden:	Standard Guard... About Face... Forward... March. (Wardens will drop off at the west end of each Division)
Sw Bearer:	<i>(When arriving at their station in the west, the Sword Bearer commands)</i> Standard Guard... Halt... About... Face.

Commander:	Commandery... Return... Swords.
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INSPECTION AND REVIEW

Commander:	Sir Knight Captain General, form the lines for Inspection and Review. <i>(The commander returns the Captain General's salute with his hand, thus releasing him to perform the order)</i>
Cap General:	<i>(The Captain General, with sword drawn, faces the lines and commands)</i> Second Division... Close Ranks... March. <i>(On the "March" Command the Senior Warden will take one step back, make a right face, and march to the rear of the First Division to the east. When he has reached about 1 pace to the right of the First Division, he will make a Left Face and go to his post at the right of the First Division)</i> Second Division, Halt... About... Face... Right Dress... Front... Count... Twos. For Inspection and Review. Officers... Post. <i>(At the command "Post", the Captain General will take his station at the front of the Commandery. After the Captain General has reached his station, the Commander, Generalissimo, and Inspecting Officer, with their swords hooked up, will take their stations to the rear of the Captain General)</i>
Cap General:	<i>(The Captain General will designate platoons by going to the line and stating the left of the First Platoon and the Right of the Second Platoon and then return. Do not use the Sword as a pointer to designate Platoons)</i>
Cap General:	Commandery... Draw... Swords <i>(The Standard Bearer will not Draw Swords. He will secure the Beauceant)</i> Second Platoon... Left Step... March... Halt, Commandery... Present...Swords.
Cap General:	Standard Guard... Post

Sw Bearer:	Standard Guard... Carry... Swords... Forward... March. <i>(At the command “March”, the Standard Guard will march towards the east of the Asylum. Upon reaching the interval in the line prepared by the Captain General, The Sword Bearer commands)</i> Standard Guard... Right Wheel... March... Forward ...March. <i>(After passing through the interval, the Sword Bearer commands)</i> Left About... March... Left oblique into line... March... Halt... Right Dress... Front... Present... Swords.
Cap General:	Sir Knights in line, Count...Twos <i>(Does not include Standard Guard)</i> Commandery... Carry...Swords, Prepare for Inspection...Forward...March...Halt <i>(in line with Commander’s chair)</i> Open Ranks. <i>(At the command “Open Ranks” the Senior Warden and the Junior Warden will step backwards 6 steps to mark alignment of the rear rank. The Captain General goes East to the Wardens and checks to see if they are parallel to the front rank, then takes his position, 3 paces in front of the right file and commands)</i> March
Cap General:	<i>(At the command “March”, the standard Guard will take 2 paces forward, the odd numbered Knights dress to the right without closing the interval. The even numbered Knights cast their eyes to the right, step backwards, halt when in alignment with the Wardens and dress to the right without closing the interval on the line established by the Wardens. The Captain General superintends the alignment of the front rank and verifies the alignment of the rear rank, then places himself facing left 3 paces in front of the front rank and commands)</i> Front

Cap General:	<i>(At the command “Front”, the Senior and Junior Wardens will take their positions at the right / left of the Standard Guard)</i> <i>(The Captain General faces the Commander, Sword Salutes, and reports)</i> Eminent Commander, the lines are formed. <i>(The Commander Hand Salutes the Captain General after which he will come to Carry)</i>
Commander:	<i>(The Commander will then face the Inspecting Officer, Hand Salute, and reports)</i> Eminent Sir Knight, the lines are formed for your inspection. <i>(The Inspecting Officer will Hand Salute the Commander and invites the Commander and Generalissimo to accompany him on the inspection)</i>
Cap General:	<i>(The Inspecting Officer, Commander and Generalissimo, in that order, will inspect the lines passing first in front of the Captain General from his right to his left, then to his rear, then to the line of the Senior Warden, Standard Guard and Junior Warden, to the front and right of this line, passing to the left of this line and then to the rear, then back to the right of the first line after the Officers. Starting on the right of this line in the front going to its left and return at the back or rear of this line to the front of the next line in the rear. After they have passed, the Captain General will face about and commands)</i> Inspection Swords. <i>(This command does not apply to the Standard Guard or the Wardens. He will again face about and face the front waiting for the Inspecting Officer to return. The Inspecting Officer, Commander and Generalissimo will pass around the right flank of the Sir Knights in the line and take their position in the north. The Commanders position is in the center, in front of and facing the Commandery. The Inspecting officer takes a position on his right, facing the Commandery. The Generalissimo takes a position 2 paces in the rear and 1 pace to the right of the Inspecting Officer)</i>
Commander:	Sir Knight Captain General, to your Post.

	<i>(The Captain General Sword Salutes the Commander who returns the salute with his hand. The Captain General will return his sword and takes a position on the left of the Commander and 1 pace in the rear. The Commander will now draw his sword and may exercise the Sir Knights in a Sword Manual, closing with Carry Swords. The Sword Manual shall be given when the Commandery is in open order. After the Commander is finished with the Sword Manual, he will Return Sword, face the Captain General, and give the order)</i> Close the Ranks.
Cap General:	<i>(Captain General Sword Salutes Commander and takes his place at the front of the formation)</i> Close Ranks. <i>(On this command, the Senior Warden executes a Right Face, the Junior Warden executes a Left Face, and the Standard Guard executes an About Face)</i> March.
Cap General:	<i>(On this command the Dias Officers return to stations, the rear rank, Standard Guard, Senior and Junior Wardens will all move at the same time. The Senior Warden to the right of the line, the Junior Warden to the left of the line, the Standard Guard to the interval in the line between the First and Second platoons, and the Sir Knights making up the rear rank will move into the front rank, all dressing to the right on the Senior Warden continuing to march in place until command "Halt")</i> Halt... Standard Guard... About... Face. <i>(The Captain General dresses the line, the Captain General will take his position at the front of the Commandery and commands)</i> Backward... Guide Right... March... Halt.
Cap General:	Commandery... Present...Swords. Standard Guard...Post. <i>(Sword Bearer posts the Standard Guard)</i> Commandery... Carry...Swords.

	First Platoon... Left Step... March... Halt... Return... Swords... Sir Knights...Fall out.
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(The Captain General will then return to his station on the Dais)

REHEARSAL OF DUTIES

Commander:	Sir Knight Captain General, call the officers to attention and Draw Swords
Cap General:	Officers... Attention... Draw... Swords.
Commander:	Sir Knight Generalissimo, are you a Knight Templar?
Generalissimo	That is my title.
Commander:	Where were you created a Knight Templar?
Generalissimo	In a regular and duly constituted Commandery of Knights Templar.
Commander:	How many compose such a Commandery?
Generalissimo	There is an Indispensable number, and a Constitutional number.
Commander:	What is the Indispensable number?
Generalissimo	Three.
Commander:	Under what circumstances may three form and open a Commandery?
Generalissimo	Three Knights Templar, hailing from three separate Commanderies, and acting under a lawful Warrant, may form and open a Commandery of Knights Templar for the dispatch of business.
Commander:	What is the Constitutional number?
Generalissimo	Nine, or more.
Commander:	When composed of eleven, who are they?
Generalissimo	The Eminent Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Excellent Prelate, Treasurer, Recorder, Standard Bearer, Sword Bearer and Warder.

Commander:	The station of the Warder?
Generalissimo	On the left of the Standard Bearer, and on the left of the Second Division when separately formed.
Commander:	Sir Knight Warder... your Duty?
Warden:	To sound the assembly, post the Sentinel, announce the approach and departure of the Eminent Commander, and see that the Asylum is duly guarded.
Commander:	The station of the Sword Bearer?
Warden:	On the right of the Standard Bearer, and on the right of the Second Division when separately formed.
Commander:	Sir Knight Sword Bearer... your Duty?
Sw Bearer:	To assist in protecting the Banner of our Order.
Commander:	The station of the Standard Bearer?
Sw Bearer:	In the West, and in the center of the Second Division.
Commander:	Sir Knight Standard Bearer... your duty?
St Bearer:	To display, support and protect the Banner of our Order.
Commander:	Why are you stationed in the west?
St Bearer:	That the brilliant rays of the rising Sun, shedding luster upon the Banner of our Order, may animate and encourage all valiant and magnanimous Knights, and dismay and confound their enemies.
Commander:	The station of the Recorder?
St Bearer:	On the left, and in front of the Captain General.
Commander:	Sir Knight Recorder... your Duty?

Recorder:	Faithfully to record the transactions of the Commandery, collect the revenue and pay it over to the Treasurer.
Commander:	The Station of the Treasurer?
Recorder:	On the right, and in front of the Generalissimo.
Commander:	Sir Knight Treasurer... your Duty?
Treasurer:	To receive in charge all the funds and property of the Commandery, pay all orders drawn on the Treasury, and render a true account when required.
Commander:	The station of the Excellent Prelate?
Treasurer:	On the right of the Generalissimo.
Commander:	Excellent Prelate... Your Duty?
Prelate:	To minister at the Altar and offer up prayers to Deity.
Commander:	The station of the Junior Warden?
Prelate:	At the Northwest angle of the Triangle, on the right or in front of the Third Division when separately formed, and on the left of the Commandery when in line.
Commander:	Sir Knight Junior Warden... your Duty?
Jr Warden:	To attend poor and weary Pilgrims traveling from afar, accompany them on their journey, and in due time recommend them to the Eminent Commander.
Commander:	The station of the Senior Warden?
Jr Warden:	At the Southwest angle of the Triangle, on the right or in front of the First Division when separately formed, and on the right of the Commandery when in line
Commander:	Sir Knight Senior Warden... your Duty?

Sr Warden:	To attend Pilgrim Warriors; comfort and support Pilgrim Penitents; and after due trial introduce them into the Asylum.
Commander:	The station of the Captain General?
Sr Warden:	On the left of the Eminent Commander.
Commander:	Sir Knight Captain General... Your Duty?
Cap General:	To see that due preparation is made for conclaves of the Commandery, that the Asylum is in suitable array for the introduction of candidates and the dispatch of business, to execute the orders of the Eminent Commander, and in his absence and that of the Generalissimo to preside.
Commander:	The station of the Generalissimo?
Cap General:	On the right of the Eminent Commander.
Commander:	Sir Knight Generalissimo... your Duty?
Generalissimo:	To assist the Eminent Commander in the duties of his office, and in his absence to preside.
Commander:	The station of the Eminent Commander?
Generalissimo:	In the East, or at the head of the Commandery.
Commander:	His Duty?
Generalissimo	To distribute alms to poor and weary pilgrims traveling from afar, feed the hungry, cloth the naked, and bind up the wounds of the afflicted, to inculcate the duties of charity and hospitality, and govern the Commandery with justice and moderation.
Commander:	Sir Knight Generalissimo, it is my order that this Commandery of Knights Templar be now opened for the dispatch of such business as may regularly come before it, requiring all Knights present to govern themselves according to the sublime principles of this magnanimous Order, this you will

	communicate to the Captain General and he to the Sir Knights. <i>(The commander salutes the Generalissimo, thus releasing him to perform that order and the Generalissimo returns the Commanders Salute)</i>
Generalissimo	Sir Knight Captain General: <i>(Captain General Sword Salutes the Generalissimo)</i> It is the order of the Eminent Commander that this Commandery of Knights Templar be opened for the dispatch of such business as may regularly come before it, requiring all Knights present to govern themselves according to the sublime principles of this magnanimous Order. This you will communicate to the Sir Knights. <i>(The Generalissimo will Salute the Captain General who will return the salute and then call up the Commandery)</i>
Cap General:	Sir Knights, Attention...Draw...Swords. It is the order of the Eminent Commander that this Commandery of Knights Templar be opened for the dispatch of such business as may regularly come before it. Take due notice and govern yourselves according to the sublime principles of this magnanimous order. Present...Swords. <i>(The Captain General then turns to the Generalissimo, Sword Salutes, and reports)</i> Sir Knight Generalissimo, the order of the Eminent Commander has been obeyed.
Generalissimo	<i>(The Generalissimo then turns to the commander, salutes, and reports)</i> Eminent Commander, your order has been obeyed.
Commander:	<i>(Rises and Draws Sword)</i>

	I now declare this Commandery of Knights Templar opened in form. Sir Knights, Carry...Swords. Sir Knight Warder, inform the Sentinel and direct him to guard accordingly.
Warder:	<i>(Warder goes to door, opens it, and informs the Sentinel)</i> Sir Knight Sentinel, the Eminent Commander has opened this Commandery of Knights Templar and you are directed to guard according. <i>(Warder closes door. Gives battery xxx... xxx... xxx... x, which is returned by the Sentinel, returns to his station and reports)</i> Eminent Commander, your order has been obeyed.
Commander:	<i>(Commander Salute the Warder)</i> Sir Knights, Return...Swords...Be Seated.

CLOSE THE COMMANDERY

Commander:	Sir Knight Captain General, I am about to close this Commandery. See that the Sentinel is informed and that he guards accordingly.
Cap General:	Sir Knight Warder, inform the Sentinel that the Eminent Commander is about to close this Commandery, and direct him to guard accordingly.
Warder:	<i>(Goes to door, and informs Sentinel)</i> Sir Knight Sentinel, the Eminent Commander is about to close this Commandery, and you are directed to guard accordingly. <i>(Closes Door, Gives Battery (xxx... xxx... xxx... x), returns to his post and reports)</i> Sir Knight Captain General, the Sentinel is informed. <i>(The Captain General Sword Salutes the Warder and reports to the Commander)</i>
Cap General:	Eminent Commander, your order has been obeyed.
Commander:	Commandery, Attention...Un... Cover. Excellent Prelate, lead our devotions.
Prelate:	<i>(Prays)</i> Amen.
Commander:	Sir Knights, Re...Cover I now declare this Commandery closed, Sir Knight Warder, inform the Sentinel.
Warder:	<i>(Goes to door, opens the door, and says)</i> The Commandery is closed. <i>(Returns to post and reports)</i> Eminent Commander, the Sentinel is informed.

Commander:	Sir Knights you are dismissed.
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KNIGHT TEMPLAR OPENING SHORT FORM

	<i>The commandery should always be opened in full form. In an extreme case the Commander is authorized to omit portions of the Full Form Ceremonies. But under no circumstances shall less than the following be used.</i>
Commander:	Officers, Take Your stations. Sir Knights, be seated. Sir Knight Senior Warden, are all present Knights Templar?
Sr. Warden:	<i>(Examination made as in the Full Form)</i> Eminent Commander, All present are Knights Templar.
Commander:	Sir Knight Warder, Post the Sentinel, inform him that _____ Commandery No. _____, is about to be opened, and direct him to guard accordingly.
Warder:	<i>(Goes to door, opens it and informs Sentinel)</i> Sir Knight Sentinel, the Eminent Commander is about to open _____ Commandery No. _____ and you are directed to guard accordingly. <i>(Closes Door, Gives Battery (xxx... xxx... xxx... x), Sentinel returns Battery (xxx... xxx... xxx... x), Warder returns to his post, sword Salutes and reports)</i> Eminent Commander, The Sentinel is at his post and the Asylum is duly guarded.
Commander:	Commandery, Attention...Un... Cover. Excellent Prelate, lead our devotions.
Prelate:	<i>(Prays, Ending with the Lord's Prayer.)</i> Amen.
Commander:	Sir Knights, Re...Cover

	Re-cover. Waiving further ceremony, I now declare _____ Commandery, No. _____, open for the dispatch of such business as may regularly come before it; requiring all Knights present to govern themselves according to the sublime principles of this Magnanimous Order. Sir Knight Warder, Inform the Sentinel, and direct him to guard accordingly.
Warder:	<i>(Goes to door, Gives Battery (xxx... xxx... xxx... x). Sentinel returns Battery (xxx... xxx... xxx... x), then Sentinel opens the door)</i> Sir Knight Sentinel, The Commandery is now open. Take due notice and guard accordingly. <i>(Sentinel closes Door, Warder returns to his post, sword Salutes and reports)</i> Eminent Commander, your order has been obeyed.
Commander:	Sir Knight, be seated