

## THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

April 19, 2021

To All Masters, Secretaries and Ambassadors,

Once in every Grand Master's 3 year term the Membership Development Committee is asked to organize and execute a One Day Class. The **One Day Class** is a great opportunity to avail Masonry to a candidate who may not be able to take his Degrees in the more traditional one degree per month model. In addition, if your Lodge has candidates who may have taken their First Degree, or possibly First and Second Degrees, this might be a good opportunity to reach out to them to wrap up their degrees.

The date is September 11<sup>th</sup>, and the theme is "Honoring our First Responders". This year marks the twentieth anniversary of that fateful day where so many lost their lives both as innocent victims and those serving as first responders. Our First Responders include EMS, fire, and police officers, yet this class will accommodate other candidates for whom the format of a One Day Class best fits their efforts to balance family and work.

Grand Lodge is sponsoring this One Day Class as "a tool" to help lodges build their membership, it is not "the tool" to solve all of our membership challenges. We are committed to conferring the degrees with quality ritual, engaging our candidates where we can in the process, providing them with quality meals and offering a collation period following the conclusion of the degrees to underscore the important social aspect of our fraternity.

It is important to get all One Day Class candidate's applications read in Lodge and then balloted upon before your Lodge goes dark, and no later than July 31<sup>st</sup>. The necessary steps leading to a successful ballot include:

- Having your Secretary read the application in Lodge.
- Formation of the Investigation Committee
- Have his name and address published in the Lodge Communication
- Have a favorable report submitted by the Committee
- Conducting the ballot and finding him clear

Regarding costs and fees associated with the One Day Class, your Lodge will collect initiation fees as it would for any candidate for the Degrees. One Day Class participants will need to bring their own Candidate's kit to Grand Lodge the morning of September 11<sup>th</sup>. Breakfast, lunch, and a Collation for candidates/mentors & degree workers, along with parking vouchers costs are being covered by our Grand Lodge.

Keep an eye on massmasons.org in the coming days for updates and information concerning this historic day for Freemasonry in Massachusetts.

Fraternally, Wor. Jim Uzdarwin and Wor. Erich F. Horgan, 2021 One Day Class Co-Chairs