

PART 3 – UNIFORMS.**37.301. Dress Uniforms.**

- a) The Templar Dress Uniform shall conform in all respects and particulars to the provisions prescribed by this Grand Commandery.
- b) All Commanders, Past Commanders, and Grand Commandery Officers of all ranks shall wear gold where metal appears; all Officers below rank of Commander, and all Sir Knights shall wear silver where metal appears; provided, however, that specifications for swords and belts shall be as hereinafter set forth.
- c) Current and Past District Deputy Grand Commanders shall be entitled to wear an authorized solid red bar directly above the left breast pocket welt and to the right of any other Templar meritorious ribbons.
- d) Current and Past Inspectors General shall be entitled to wear an authorized solid yellow bar directly above the left breast pocket welt and to the right of any other Templar meritorious ribbons.
- e) Current and Past District Instructors shall be entitled to wear an authorized solid white bar directly above the left breast pocket welt and to the right of any other Templar meritorious ribbons.
- f) Past Grand Officers (other than Past Grand Commander) shall be entitled to wear an authorized red and yellow bar directly above the left breast pocket welt and to the right of any other Templar meritorious ribbons.
- g) The Black Dress Uniform must be worn when performing the Jesse E. Ramsdell Trophy Competition and the Richard John Carr Trophy Competition by all officers (with the exception of the Prelate who may wear a Prelate's Robe) involved in performing the Commandery Opening Competitions.

37.302. Dress Uniform; Specifications.

- a) **Dress Coat.** The Dress Coat for Sir Knights shall be U.S. Navy service style, double breasted, semi-fitting sack coat, with roll collar, peak lapels, seam back, no vent, and two rows of three buttons each on front of coat. The length shall be one inch below crotch line. It shall have two lower set-in pockets, one set-in pocket without flap on left breast and one inside breast pocket on right side. The color shall be black, but may be of broadcloth, gabardine, tropical worsted, or other lightweight material. Buttons down the front line shall be plain cross and crown black buttons. Two detachable belt hooks, one on each side at the waist. Sleeve cuffs shall close without buttons. Properly centered on the left breast pocket welt, the abbreviation "Fla." and the number of the owner's Commandery shall be embroidered in one-half inch block letters with silver bullion on a piece of black cloth and applied. On the center of each sleeve, a red silk-velvet Passion Cross, one and one-half inches high, shall be set one and one-half inches from the edge. Optionally, the sleeve cross may be a Passion Cross of bright red silk velvet, embroidered on each edge with one row of No. 26 silver-plated bullion embroidery and no rays. The optional cross, including embroidery, shall be two inches in height; cross arms one and one-third inches long; the center of the cross between edges of embroidery shall be three-sixteenths of an inch wide, with no twisted bullion at the several corners or angles of the cross. Coats may be full, half, or quarter lined as desired, and will always be worn buttoned. The dress coat will have a slit on the left side to accommodate a Navy frog-type attachment for the sword, but Sir Knights having belts may wear the same with propriety. Sir Knights possessing or having access to the use of a black cloth Templar dress coat of the double-breasted frock coat style or pattern may wear the same, with propriety. A Sir Knight possessing or having access to the use of a

Templar three (3) button dress coat styled to close with two buttons only and with two longer set-pockets with flaps may wear the same, with propriety. Any accoutrements such as buttons, sleeve crosses, etc. provided by the manufacturer must conform to the regulations of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Florida.

- (1) *Dress Coat for Commanders and Past Commanders.* Dress coats for Commanders and Past Commanders shall be the basic specification, with the substitution of gold for silver in all cases.
 - (2) *Dress Coat for Grand Commandery Officers.* Dress coats for Grand Commandery Officers shall follow the basic specification, save that all metals shall be gold and the sleeve cross shall be a Templar Cross (cross patee'), one and one-half inches square, of red silk velvet embroidered with gold bullion without rays.
 - (3) *Dress Coat for Past Grand Commanders.* Dress coats for Past Grand Commanders shall follow the basic specification, save that all metal shall be gold and the sleeve cross shall be a Templar Cross of royal purple silk velvet, one and one-half inches square, embroidered with gold bullion without rays.
- b) **Trousers.** Trousers for all Sir Knights shall be of the same material as the coat, of plain design, and with no cuffs. There shall be two side pockets, two hip pockets, and one fob pocket on right front. There shall be seven belt loops with one and one-half inches clearance inside, suspender buttons inside waistbands, plain seams, and zipper or button front.
- c) **Chapeau.** The chapeau shall be a military chapeau, trimmed with black silk velvet binding, with one white ostrich plume not less than seven inches wide extending from front to rear and continued not more than three inches beyond rear peak, and having a black under plume. The front and rear peaks of the chapeau shall extend four and one-fourth inches from the head, front peak to have one-half roll upwards at outer end. There shall be a bow of black silk velvet ribbon at the base of the front peak for a plume socket. The side of the chapeau shall be beveled, being one inch smaller at the top than at the base. On the left side there shall be an oval black satin rosette, five inches high and four inches wide, and composed of not less than 33 points in single fold, on top of which is laid one row of pleated black silk ribbon in folds one-eighth to one-quarter inch wide, displaying the points of the rosette; an oval black silk velvet rosette, three and one-quarter inches high by two and five-eighths inches wide is laid on top of this, displaying the pleated satin ribbon about three-eighths to one-half inch around the edge of the velvet. A red silk velvet Passion Cross, three inches high and two inches wide shall be laid on the velvet rosette. Optionally, a dead silver Passion Cross, without rays, three inches long by two inches wide may be laid on the rosette. A storm-proof cover shall be provided for each chapeau.
- (1) *Chapeau for Commanders and Past Commanders.* The chapeau for Commanders and Past Commanders shall be of the basic design, save that the cross on the rosette shall be embroidered in gold with rays added. It shall be trimmed with gold-plated wire vellum lace, one and one-eighth inches wide, laid diagonally across both front and back peaks. A half-round gilt tassel shall be added to the front peak of chapeau.
 - (2) *Chapeau for Grand Commandery Officers.* The chapeau for Grand Commandery Officers shall be of the basic design, and shall have gold embroidered Templar Crosses with red silk velvet center laid on the rosette.

- (3) *Chapeau for Past Grand Commanders.* The chapeaus for Past Grand Commanders shall be as for Grand Commandery Officers, save that the Templar Crosses shall have centers of purple silk velvet.
- d) **Sword.** The basic sword shall be of straight pattern, helmet pommel, white grip with inlaid silver Passion Cross, and a cross guard with Templar Cross at juncture with blade. The scabbard shall be polished steel, upper mount with two rings, lower or terminal mount with Templar Cross and one ring. All metal parts shall be chrome or nickel-plated. A cloth cover shall be provided for all swords. Optionally, the sword may have the hilt etched with the owner's monogram on one side and a Passion Cross on the other, a chain may join the pommel and guard, the blade may be etched with the owner's name in Old English texts and the scabbard may be etched with emblematic mountings. Plating may be of silver.
- (1) *Sword for Commanders and Past Commanders.* The sword for Commanders and Past Commanders shall be of standard design with all plating in gold. The Passion Cross shall have rays added.
- (2) *Sword for Grand Commandery Officers.* The sword for Grand Commandery Officers shall be the same as for Commanders and Past Commanders, save that the Passion Cross shall be replaced by a Templar Cross.
- e) **Belt.** The basic belt, if worn instead of the Navy-style frog, shall be of black leather, one and three-quarters inches wide; the plate shall be oblong, same width as belt, with red hard-enameled Passion Cross in center and the words, *In Hoc Signo Vinces*, in semicircular design, extending over cross. There shall be two short and one long leather slings with swivel snaps, suspended from slides on belt. All metal parts to be chrome or nickel-plated. Optionally, the belt may be faced with black silk and silver wire lace in parallel lines (four of silver and three black) with three hard-soldered barreled chain slings, one long and two short. All metal work shall be silver-plated.
- (1) *Belt for Commanders and Past Commanders.* The belt for Commanders and Past Commanders shall be the same as for Sir Knights except that it shall be faced with gold lace upon which three rows of black silk lace is laid and all metal work shall be gold-plated. Optionally, the gold lace shall be of gold wire.
- (2) *Belt for Grand Commandery Officers.* The belt for Grand Commandery Officers shall be the same as for Commanders and Past Commanders, save that the Passion Cross shall be replaced by a Templar Cross enameled in red.
- (3) *Belt for Past Grand Commanders.* The belt for Past Grand Commanders shall be the same as for Grand Commandery Officers, save that the silk facing shall be of purple rather than black and the Templar Cross shall be enameled in purple.
- f) **Shirt, Tie, Socks, and Shoes.** For all Sir Knights, regardless of rank, shirts shall be of plain white with white rolled collars; ties shall be plain black, tied in four-in-hand; sock shall be black; shoes shall be black and of military dress style.
- g) **Gloves.** Gloves of buff-colored lisle thread or leather shall be worn in full dress. Provided, however, that white gloves shall be worn for funeral or Divine Services, and during conferral of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross.
- h) **Insignia and Jewels.** Insignia of rank, shoulder straps, and jewels of office shall be only those prescribed by the Grand Encampment.
- i) **Prelate's and Ceremonial Robes.**
- (1) *Prelate's Robe.* The Regulation Robe of the Prelate of the Grand Commandery and of Constituent Commanderies shall consist of under-robcs, mantle or over-

robes, stole and biretta according to Section 253 of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment.

- (2) *When Worn.* The Prelate shall wear his Robes of Office while officiating in the conferring of the Orders and may wear them outside the Asylum when attending a Templar funeral or religious service. At all other times, he shall wear the regulation Knight Templar Uniform of this Grand Jurisdiction and the jewel of his office.
- (3) *Red Cross and Order of Malta.* The Ceremonial Robes, dress, and accouterments of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross and of the Order of Malta shall be as prescribed in the Ritual.
- j) **Non-Regulation Accoutrements.** Accouterments not provided for by these Regulations shall not be part of the Regular Dress Uniform. Fatigue caps, traveling caps gauntlets, and Knight Templar Aprons are not approved for use in this Grand Commandery, except when worn to reflect historical development of the uniform or as otherwise stipulated in these Regulations. Provided, however, that Sir Knights sojourning or having Dual Membership may wear the regulation uniforms of their own jurisdictions, notwithstanding any Regulation herein to the contrary.
- k) **Masonic Collar, Wearing by Grand Commander.** When the Grand Commander (or a Past Grand Commander) wears civilian attire (i.e., business suit, sport coat and tie, or formalwear), he is authorized to wear the jeweled insignia of his office in the form of a Masonic collar.
- l) **Knights Templar Apron, Wearing by Grand Commander.** When the Grand Commander (or a Past Grand Commander) wears his Masonic collar and jewel of office, he is authorized to wear a black triangular Knights Templar apron with gold accoutrements. The apron shall be worn according to current Florida Masonic protocol. On special occasions, when in Full Dress Uniform, the Grand Commander or a Past Grand Commander is authorized to wear the Knights Templar apron as described herein on the outside of his uniform.
- m) **Knights Templar Apron, Wearing by Members of Constituent Commanderies.** Pursuant to Chapter XXII, Aprons, Sections 260 and 261 of the Grand Encampment Statutes, members of Constituent Commanderies may wear a Knights Templar apron in accordance with the provisions provided therein. Furthermore, the Knights Templar apron shall only be worn on the outside of the black Dress Uniform. [See Appendix B]

When conferring the Order of the Temple upon a candidate, the Officers of a Commandery must be fully clothed in the black Dress Uniform prescribed by the Grand Commandery of Florida.

37.304. Swords, Wearing.

Swords shall be worn when attending Divine Service and at other public appearances. Provided, however, that the Grand Commander or a Constituent Commander may, when requiring or inviting attendance at Divine Service, specify omission of swords.

37.305. When Uniforms Unavailable.

In the event of a national emergency which would make the securing of uniforms impossible, a fee ample for the purpose of purchasing a uniform under normal conditions shall be collected by all Constituent Commanderies, from those required to possess the same, in this Grand Jurisdiction.

37.306. Officers to Wear Jewels.

All Officers of the Grand Commandery and of Constituent Commanderies shall wear, during their incumbency, the jewels of their respective office as are prescribed in Chapter XXI of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment.

37.307. Insignia of Rank and Shoulder Straps.

The Emblems to be used or worn on the uniforms of the various Officers and Members of the Grand Commandery and of the Constituent Commanderies to denote the rank of such persons in the Order shall be as are set forth in Section 241, Chapter 17, of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment. The shoulder straps to be worn by the various Officers of the Grand Commandery and of the Constituent Commanderies shall be worn on the shoulder, seam at the top of the shoulder, and shall be of the form authorized and described in Sections 243 and 244, together with the limitations as to the wearing of the same as set forth in Section 245 and 246, all of Chapter 17 of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment.

37.308. Only Templar Jewels To Be Worn.

37.308.01. Only Templar Jewels are to be worn on Templar Uniforms. Meritorious Jewels, Knight Crusader of the Cross Jewel, Badge of Commandery, Order of Malta, and Order of Red Cross may be worn on the left breast, placed in order named, directly under the left breast pocket welt

37.308.02a. The Grand Commandery Meritorious Service Ribbon shall be worn directly above (touching the top of) the left breast pocket welt and centered on the embroidered Commandery designation cloth. When worn, the Red cloth band shall be on the right toward the center of the breast.

←“red” toward center of breast



37.308.02b. Any Sir Knight honored with a second Meritorious Service Ribbon shall affix the designated 5-point star in the center of the ribbon. Additional stars may be affixed for subsequent awards so as to also be centered in line on the ribbon.

37.308.03. The Veterans Meritorious Service Ribbon shall be worn directly above (touching the top of) the left breast pocket welt and centered on the embroidered Commandery designation cloth. If worn in conjunction with the Grand Commandery Meritorious Service Ribbon, the Veterans Meritorious Ribbon shall be worn to the left of the Grand Commandery Meritorious Service Ribbon or any other Knight Templar Meritorious Ribbon.

37.309. Crosses of Malta.

Each Constituent Commandery shall present to each Sir Knight, at his reception into the Order of Malta, a regulation Cross of the Order of Malta.

37.310. Grand Commandery Officers, Appointed.

- a) Appointed Grand Commandery Officers shall be entitled to wear an approved jewel of office, chapeau rosette, sleeve patches, and belt buckle as authorized for an Officer of this Grand Commandery, together with the appropriate shoulder strap of their office, during their incumbency as an appointed Grand Commandery Officer or until their successor is appointed and installed; thereafter, they shall return these items to the Office of the Grand Recorder.
- b) The Grand Commandery shall furnish the appropriate accouterments to the Appointed Grand Commandery Officers for use during their incumbency.

37.311. Summer Uniform.

The Summer Uniform as authorized by the Grand Encampment may be worn during the months of June, July, and August except for the Installation of Officers and conferring of the Order of the Temple.

- 1) **[From Grand Encampment Regulations, 2011].** “Each Grand Commandery may at their discretion adopt the uniform herein described making use of the optional sections as they choose. Further this uniform may only be used for the period beginning with Memorial Day, and continuing through Labor Day. A Commandery will either make use of this Summer Uniform, the Cap and Mantle, or the Regulation Uniform when appearing in public, but may not appear attired as a group using a combination (no mixing of uniforms).”
- 2) Description –
 - a) Pants: Plain Black as prescribed.
 - b) Shirt: White shirt, short sleeves, of military style with shoulder epaulets and two flap pockets, one on each breast.
 - c) Tie: Black tie optional at the discretion of the Senior Officer present.
 - d) Sword Belt & Sword: As prescribed. No slings to be used.\
 - e) Shoes: As prescribed.
 - f) Name Badge: The name badge shall be of metal, gold color, ½-inch wide by 2½-inch long, with the full name of the wearer in black letters to be worn centered above the wearer's right pocket.
 - g) Malta Jewel: A Malta Pin of current design, available from the Grand Encampment Office, shall be worn centered over the wearer's left pocket. (Option instead of pin: A metal ribbon bar, representing Commandery Jewels, to be worn centered over the wearer's left pocket. The metal bar shall contain three black panels, each surrounded with a silver line, each panel 1-inch wide. One, the left panel, shall be a miniature Red Cross Jewel, on the center panel shall be centered a miniature Malta Jewel, and on the right panel, shall be a Templar Cross with a Cross and Crown in the center).
 - h) Shoulder Insignia: For Grand Commandery Officers: A red Templar Cross surrounded by a gold line, 1-inch square, to be worn in the center of each epaulet. For Past Grand Commanders: The same except the color shall be purple. For Past Commanders, Commanders, Generalissimos, and Captains General: A metal bar, ¾-inch by 1½-inch of green or red color surrounded by a gold or silver line, as appropriate to the office, with appropriate emblems of their rank as currently prescribed to be worn centered on each epaulet. Essentially these are miniatures of currently prescribed shoulder straps in metal, and of similar configuration.
 - i) Collar Insignia (optional): For Grand or Past Grand Commandery Officers, shall be ½-inch gold cut-out letters with the abbreviation of the State as prescribed by the US Postal Service (no periods) to be worn on the wearer's left collar, and ½-inch gold "KT" cut out letters (without periods) on the right collar. For Commanders or Past Commanders, ½-inch gold State Abbreviations as above on the left collar with ½-inch cut-out gold Commandery Number on right right collar. Sir Knights below the rank of Commander are the same as for Commanders and Past Commanders, except the color shall be silver. These insignia to be worn centered on the collar and parallel with the top edge and set back ¾-inch from the leading edge of the collar.

- j) Cap: For Past Grand Commanders: Military style Naval Garrison Cap with white top, black band, and black visor with one row of gold oak leaves and acorns, metal purple Templar Cross, 2¼-inch square, fixed to the front of the black band and a gold chin strap attached with gold buttons. For Grand Commanders: Same as above except red Templar Cross. For Grand Commandery Officers: Same as above except plain black visor. For Commanders and Past Commanders: Same as above except with a 1¾-inch by 2-inch red metal Passion Cross trimmed in gold with rays. For all other Sir Knights: Same as above except using a red metal passion cross trimmed in silver and a silver chin strap attached with silver buttons.

37.312. Alternate Official Uniform – Cap and Mantle.

In lieu of the regulation Templar uniform, a Constituent Commandery may adopt the use of the Cap and Mantle as their official uniform. These can be worn for all Templar occasions (except for the conferral of the Order of the Temple [see Section 37.303]), provided that when appearing in public, the entire Commandery MUST be dressed in like manner – either all in Uniform or all in Cap and Mantle. The Cap and Mantle is prescribed as follows:

- A. **TEMPLAR MANTLE:** In general, the mantle shall be of the style worn by medieval Templars and by members of the Sovereign Great Priories. It shall consist of white material, with hood, reaching to approximately twelve inches from the floor and ornamented as follows:
 - 1) *For members of the Order below the rank of Commander:* The mantle shall be of white; the hood to be lined with silky white material; the Passion Cross in bright red, nine inches in height, on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with white cords with white tassel
 - 2) *For Commanders and Past Commanders:* The mantle shall have a single red ribbon, one inch wide, stitched one-half inch from the outer edge; the hood to be lined with a similar red material; the Passion Cross in red with gold rays, nine inches in height, on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with red cords with red tassels.
 - 3) *For Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers entitled to permanent rank:* The mantle shall have the ribbon of a Past Commander and an additional red ribbon one-half inch wide, stitched one-half inch from said ribbon; the Templar Cross in red, nine inches in height, on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with red cords with red tassels.
 - 4) *For the Grand Commander:* The mantle shall have a single red ribbon, two inches wide, stitched one inch from the outer edge; the hood line in red with a similar material; the Templar Cross in red, nine inches in height, on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with read cords with red tassels. *For Past Grand Commanders:* The mantle shall have a single purple ribbon, one and one-half inches wide, stitched three-quarters of an inch from the outer edge; the hood lined in purple with similar material; and the Templar Cross in purple, nine inches in height, on the left breast; the mantle to tie closely around the neck with purple cords with purple tassels.
- B. **TEMPLAR CAP:** The Templar cap shall follow the design and specifications of the style worn by the Sovereign Great Priories, three inches in depth and very slightly flared at the top and ornamented as follows:
 - 1) *For all members of the Order below the rank of Past Grand Commander:* The cap shall be of bright red velvet (or silk) and the cross displayed on the front of the cap shall be appropriate to rank – red Passion Cross for members below the rank of Commander; red Passion Cross with gold rays for Commanders and Past Commanders; and red Templar Cross for all Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers entitled to permanent rank.

- 2) *For Past Grand Commanders:* The cap shall be of purple velvet (or silk) with purple Templar cross.
 - 3) *For all Ranks:* The Cross shall be two inches high.
- C. COMMANDERY BADGE: The distinctive badge of a Constituent Commandery shall be worn on the right breast of the mantle. The badge will be no less than five inches or more than eight inches high. The badge of the Commandery shall be superimposed upon the Malta Cross, or the Malta Cross shall be incorporated within the Commandery badge. The Grand Commandery Committee on Jewels and Uniforms shall approve the design. No other ornamentation or Templar jewels or recognition shall be worn on the mantle.
- D. SWORD AND SCABBARD: The sword and scabbard shall conform to the regulations of the Grand Encampment.
- E. SWORD SLING: The sword shall be suspended, when required to be worn, on a sling to be worn over the right shoulder, of black leather or black cloth webbing one and one-half inches wide, of tailored or adjustable length according to the height of the Sir Knight, to terminate in two straps with snaps to fasten to the two upper rings of the scabbard.



The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A.

CHAPTER XXII APRONS

Section 260. It is permissible for Grand Encampment Officers and members of Grand, Constituent, and Subordinate Commanderies to wear an apron with Templar Uniforms as described in Sections 247, 248, 250, 250a, 251, and 259 as follows:

- A. **Traditional Apron.** A Traditional Templar Apron shall conform substantially in design to the images below. It shall be trimmed in gold for Sir Knights of the rank of Commander or Past Commander and above, and in silver for Sir Knights below the rank of Commander. A Traditional Templar Apron may only be worn in an Asylum or other private setting where only Knights Templar are present.



- B. **Contemporary Apron.** A Contemporary Templar Apron shall conform substantially in design to the image below. It shall be trimmed in gold for Sir Knights of the rank of Commander or Past Commander and above, and in silver for Sir Knights below the rank of Commander. A Contemporary Templar Apron may be worn in both private and public settings. It is permissible to manufacture an apron so that it is reversible with the Traditional Apron on one side and the Contemporary Apron on the other.



- C. Grand Encampment Officers may wear such aprons and others, as deemed appropriate, from time to time, by the Grand Master and in accordance with his directions. and
- D. If a Sir Knight appears in uniform in a tyled, Masonic Lodge, he shall wear such apron as is in accord with local Masonic custom or approved by the presiding officer.

Section 261. A Grand Commandery may provide for the wearing of a Templar Apron in its Uniform Regulations similar to those in Sections 260 A, B and C. A Grand Commandery may specify with which of its authorized uniforms a Templar Apron may be worn."