PETITION FOR THE DEGREES OF FREEMASONRY

Madeira Beach, Florida this_____day of _____ 20_____

To the Master, Wardens and Members of ____**Gulf Beach Lodge No. 291, F. & A.M.**

Having conceived a favorable opinion of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, and a sincere desire of being serviceable to my fellow creatures, unbiased by friends, and uninfluenced by mercenary motives, I do freely and voluntarily offer myself as a candidate for initiation into the mysteries of your time-honored institution, and if elected, will cheerfully conform to all the ancient and established usages and customs of the Fraternity, which I understand are based on the highest principles and moral precepts and incorporate no unseemly conduct.

(The Petitioner will answer each of the following questions fully – print or type, except signature)

Do you believe in the existence of one ever-living and true God?_____

What is your full name?_____

Where do you reside? House No. & Street_____

City_____Zip_____Phone(C)_____Phone(H)_____

eMail_____How long resided there? _____

How long resided in the State of Florida?_____Where have you resided during the past five years?_____

_____

What is your present occupation?_____How long?_____

Employer's Name, Address and Zip?_____Employer's Phone_____

Other Employers for the past five years?_____

Where were you born?_____

Date of birth?_____day of _____A.D (Year)_____Age:_____

Do you know of any physical, mental, legal or moral reason which would prevent you from becoming a Freemason?_____

If yes, please explain_____

Have you ever been arrested, pleaded guilty, no contest, or received a non-adjudication of any crime? Y__ N__ If yes, please explain:

(list when and where)_____

Spouses name:_____Children's Names/Age_____

Have you previously applied for, or been proposed, as a candidate for the Degrees in a Masonic Lodge?_____If yes, when and what

Lodge?_____

What were the results?(explain)_____

Do you believe, of have you ever believed in the overthrow of the government of the United States of America by force or infiltration,

or been a member of an organization who advocates the same? Yes ____ No____ (If yes, names and dates)_____

_____

Have you ever been a member of the Order of DeMolay?_____What Chapter?_____

Offices held:_____

Would you be interested in serving with one or more of our youth organizations?_Y___N___

FACTS CONCERNING FREEMASONRY

PETITIONER MUST READ THE FOLLOWING

Having expressed the desire to become a Freemason, we presume you are willing to consider thoroughly the step you propose to take. The exact nature of our Institution being unknown to you, we deem it advisable that you should be informed of certain points, the knowledge of which may affect your decision to apply for membership.

Freemasonry interferes neither with religion nor politics, but has for its foundation the great principles of The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. No atheist can be a Freemason. Freemasonry strives to teach a man the duty he owes to God, his neighbor and himself. It includes the practice of virtue, and makes an extensive use of Symbolism in its teachings.

It cannot be too strongly emphasized that Freemasonry is not to be entered upon in the hope of personal gain or advancement. Admission thereto must not be sought from mercenary or other unworthy motives. The aim of the true Freemason is to cultivate a brotherly feeling among men, and to help whomsoever he can.

Freemasonry is not a Benefit Society. This fact cannot be too strongly emphasized. We do not subscribe so much a year to entitle us to draw sick pay or their benefits, or make provisions for those who survive us. However, each Mason is expected to provide for the future of his family. No man should enter the ranks of Freemasonry in hope or expectation that he will derive any financial benefits fro it. Masonic Charity is directed towards those who, from unforeseen circumstances and through no fault of their own, have met with misfortune. To be eligible for resident, non-resident, or other relief programs a Florida Mason must have been a member in good standing of a Florida Lodge for not less than 10 years, the last 3 years whereof must have been continuous at the time application is made and he would not be eligible for such relief if he had already attained the age of 70 years that the time he became a Florida Mason.

Loyalty to one's Country is an essential qualification in Freemasonry., and only those are accepted who cheerfully render obedience to every lawful authority. Disloyalty in any form is abhorrent to a Freemason, and is regarded as a serious Masonic offense.

Freemasonry has in all ages insisted that men should come to its doors entirely of their own free will, and not as a result of solicitations, or feelings of curiosity, but simply from a favorable opinion of the Institution, and a desire to be ranked among its members.

We have no authority at present to give you further information regarding the Fraternity you propose to join, but we have imparted sufficient information to enable you to conclude that Freemasonry is not contrary to the principles which mark a man of upright heart and mind, and has in it nothing inconsistent with one's civil, moral or religious duties.

We think it advisable to inform you that your admission to our Craft will entail certain financial obligations which you should be able to discharge without detriment to yourself or those dependent on you. In addition to the fees on your entrance, there will be annual dues for the support of your Lodge.

Before presenting this petition be sure in your heart that you are not prompted by mere curiosity, the desire for commercial gain or social prestige. For such motives Freemasonry has no reward. **INITIAL: _____**

I hereby certify on my honor that all the answers are true and correct, and that I have read, understood and agree with all the statements made on this application form, and I hereby agree that I will not petition any other body of Masonry for Degrees for a period of six months after receiving my Master Mason Degree, or until I have passed a satisfactory examination in the catechism of the Master Mason Degree.

(44.07 Obtaining a Degree or Degrees of Freemasonry by fraud, untrue statements or representations or by knowing concealing and withholding information relevant and material to eligibility for such Degrees is proper subject for Masonic Discipline)

SIGN YOUR FULL NAME (in ink)_____

(Type or print your full name)_____

Initiation Fee (First Degree)……...…..$ 100.00 *

George Washington National Memorial Assn…….……$ 5.00 *

*** ($105.00 payment due with this petition) Cash, Check, Money Order, or Zelle**

Fellowcraft (Second Degree)…….…..$ 100.00

Master Mason (Third Degree)…….……$ 100.00

Annual Dues (Includes Grand Lodge Per Capita)…….$ 212.70

Masonic Home Endowment Fund (Voluntary)……....$ 18.25

RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend the above petitioner as a candidate for the Degrees of Masonry, based upon our belief that he is of good moral character, temperate, and industrious.

(Must have two recommendations)

Signatures of Members of the Lodge to which the petition is directed: { _____ _____

REFERENCES

(NOTE: SHOULD BE DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS)

Each petitioner is required to furnish in the space provided below, the names of three (3) persons (preferably Masons, local) as references that have known him for a period of five years or more.

NAME	STREET ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/**ZIP**
(1.)_____	_____	_____
(2.)_____	_____	_____
(3.)_____	_____	_____

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION

By submitting this petition, the Petitioner acknowledges and agrees to the following:

- The Petitioner voluntarily consents to undergo a criminal background check.
- The Petitioner agrees to submit and pay for the required background screening through the approved provider as part of the petitioning process.
- The results of the background check will be provided to the Investigation Committee for review and used solely for the purpose of recommending this petition.

DIGEST OF MASONIC LAW OF FLORIDA

Chapter 31

31.03 A Lodge may not receive a petition for the Degrees of Freemasonry from any person who has been convicted of a felony and who has not been restored to full civil rights.

Criminal Background checks must be ordered by going to this URL in any web browser:

http://www.infocheckusa.com/masons-ordering-florida.html

A copy of the report ***must*** be sent directly to the Secretary by using the Secretary's email address provided in the "Additional Email Address" field.

Lodge Secretary's Email Address: Secretary@gulfbeachlodge.org

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION CONSENT

I hereby consent to receiving electronic communications from the Grand Lodge and/or the Lodge to which I am a member of.

Initials_____