

Statement on Coronavirus Epidemic – Cancellation of the May Conference of Grand Masters

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 23, 2020

New York —The President of the Conference of Grand Master, Prince Hall Affiliation, Inc. Dorian R. Glover issues the following statement regarding the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

The Conference of Grand Masters scheduled in Springfield Massachusetts, May 13-May 17th, 2020 has been cancelled.

Thank you MW Jeffrey M. Coaston, Grand Master of Massachusetts and his convention team lead by MWPGM Leslie Lewis for their hard work and efforts in creating a conference experience for the incoming delegations, and their responsiveness to helping the COGM in the wake of this pandemic.

Thank you to our Executive officers: Vice President MWPGM Phillip David (DC), Treasurer MWPGM Ron Robinson (CA), Secretary PGM Fred Way (DE), President PGWM Robin M. Brown (VA), Grand Patron PGWP Fred Herroitt (SC), Treasurer PGWM Virginia Vauls (MD) Secretary PGWM H. Lorraine Jeter (IL). You never wavered in your leadership through these trying times. As the Conference prepares for the future and looks to reset in the wake of COVID-19, I thank you for not tiring but for continuing to push through as a body.

Special thanks to our dynamic convention team leaders PGWP Robert Calloway (TX) and GWM Elvera Shannon (La). It is the work from this team in preparing to present to our conference members the best of accommodations, and their efforts in making sure that the body didn't lose money in cancelling the conference that makes them remarkable.

We pray for the containment of the virus, for the protection of our Grand Bodies and their families here and abroad. If this disease has touched anyone loved ones, we pray for their restoration to full health. Protect our first responders, doctors, nurses and health care workers, as they are on the front lines daily. Finally, take care of yourselves first, because if you are not healthy you cannot nurse others back to health. Stay mindful of the health, travel and work restrictions placed upon all of us to flatten the curve.

Stay home, stay well, and stay in touch.

Fraternally,

MW Dorian R. Glover PGM (NY)

President