

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of F & A M Of the State of Hawai'i

Alexander A. Escasa
Grand Master 2019 - 2020

Marty P. Alexander, PGM
Grand Secretary

P.O. Box 1220 Kihei, HI 96753
Ph: (808) 596-9121 HawaiiFreemason@hawaii.rr.com

Grand Master's Decision 2019-05 Response to Coronavirus Concern

My Brothers, as we all are aware, the Coronavirus (COVID-19) is spreading across the World. Whether we know someone that has it or not, I don't think there will be a single person who won't be affected by it in some way - financially, travel, school closures, work hours, etc..

The Grand Lodge of Hawaii is joining in the heightend awareness to help prevent the spread of this virus, so that our world's medical experts may have time to try to find cures and vaccines. In doing so, we will be continually monitoring the situation and adapting to protocols as set forth by our Federal, State, and CDC guidelines, so....

IT IS THEREFORE MY DIRECTION that

A) The upcoming Grand Master's 1-Day Class is postponed. We will try to reschedule it for sometime in June or July. More information will be forth coming.

B) The upcoming Annual Communication on April 17/18 is "partially" cancelled and the dates/times will be adjusted and/or cancelled as follows....

1. All accompanying events such as banquets, private dinners, hospitality rooms etc. are cancelled.
2. The business meeting will still be held, but with VOTING MEMBERS of the Grand Lodge of Hawaii ONLY. It will be closed to all others. Even if brothers would like to attend, they will not be allowed entry; the intent of this change is to manage the size of the group and limit the number of people gathering, so as to stay within CDC's recommended guidelines for group gatherings.
3. As the participation will be limited to voting members only, much of the usual business carried out during our Friday sessions will no longer be required; the business session will be conducted on Saturday, April 18th ONLY and starting at 9:00 am, with a change of venue to the Makiki Temple.

More detailed information for attendees will follow soon.

C) Until further notice, HMC §2036 which states that "A Lodge shall hold a stated meeting for the transaction of its regular business once in each calendar month." shall hereby be waived until further notice. This will allow each Worshipful Master to make his own informed decision regarding the meetings and gatherings of their own lodge.

As the decision to continue their meetings or not will rest in their hands, we suggest each Worshipful Master not only get the council of your pillars and consult CDC's health guidelines

when contemplating your decisions, but to also consider the following if you do continue meetings:

- * If you are ill, stay home;
- * If you recently traveled outside of the United States, stay home;
- * If you have preexisting health conditions, stay home;
- * Enforce hand-shake free gatherings and remind all attendees to wash hands often.

And lastly, I ask that you be patient with us as we start cancelling events with our vendors and begin issuing refunds for those who have already paid money for the banquet.

Thank you for your understanding while we all work together to prevent the spread of this virus. A link to the CDC's website showing up-to-date virus information and current health recommendations is <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>.

This decision is to be communicated to your lodge members in the best way you deem prudent.

Please direct any questions you may have to our Grand Secretary at HawaiiFreemason@hawaii.rr.com or at 808-596-9121

Dated: March 15, 2020

Attested:



Alexander A. Escasa
Grand Grand Master



Marty P. Alexander PGM
Grand Secretary

