

GM Tyner Offenses

As of February 15, 2009

The evidence of MWGM Tyner's commission of many transgressions of the Masonic constitution during his tenure of office is evidenced by the edicts and letters that he has sent out to the jurisdiction. MWGM Tyner completely ignored his obligation to abide by the constitution.

During the past three years the craft has been subjected to the Grand Master whining and crying about a lack of respect for him or was it the Office of Grand Master? The Craft has also been subjected to his lying, cheating, deceitfulness, manipulating of the Grievance and Appeals Committee, and unilateral revision of Grand Lodge proceedings. Further, he has gone to Masonic lodges, banquets, shrine temples, balls, sisters' organizations, consistories, and public assemblies and slandered honorable brothers with his venomous tirades. It is no wonder Grand Master Tyner turned out to be one of the most feared and disliked Grand Masters in more than 100 years.

Brothers, so that you have a better understanding of some of the violations of the constitution, refer to the following items:

1. The appointment of RWSGW Tommie E. Phillips to RWDGM for the so-called "good of the Order" was a political move and was an abuse of executive authority on the part of the Grand Master. The appropriate appointment to fill the vacancy of RWDGM could have been anyone other than an elected Grand Lodge officer, and that person would have served until the next Grand Session. Apparently, Brother Phillips was duped to believe that a temporary appointment of someone else would impede his Masonic progress. It is unfortunate, he did not realize that by remaining as RWSGW he would have kept the faith with the Craft who elected him, and remain in compliance with the constitution. If Brother Phillips has masonry at heart, then he should be tired of the deceptions and disharmony caused by this Administration. And accordingly, Brother Phillips would not accept any other nomination for office in July other than RWSGW. The constitutional requirements for an elected Grand Lodge officer are cited in Article V, Section 1. Time of election and tenure of office for the Senior Grand Warden is that he shall hold his office until his successor is elected and installed.
2. Abuse of executive authority, the Grand Master unilaterally ordered the Grand Secretary to issue a warrant to the Grand Treasurer, to pay the IRS \$60,000.00 without finalizing a review to determine if the total indebtedness was accurate, and if any penalties could be waived. The payment was not made in accordance with Article XVI, Section 6b nor was a report made to the Grand Lodge as required by Section 6i. The Grand Master has continually usurped the constitutional requirement of the Grand Board of Directors to perform the duties as delineated in Article XVI, Section 6, thus, rendering the Board ineffective.

3. We had an abuse of executive authority when the Grand Master required the OES to obtain a dispensation from him, in order to accept applications for degrees from women with no bloodline. We adopted a constitutional change in 2006 that a bloodline is no longer required as a qualification to become a member of the OES.
4. There was an abuse of executive authority when the Grand Master sent a letter to lodges declaring that proof of burial was not required for a lodge to pay out a death benefit, only the death certificate, Part III Grand Lodge Charity, Article VI, Section 1, disbursement, is violated when proof of who made payment to the funeral home is not provided.
5. We have an abuse of executive authority with regards to participation in church and Masonic activities when the Grand Master tells us that because Masonic ceremonies and other Masonic activities could interfere with his personal church going, that no Masonic events will take place before 3:00 PM if the activity is to occur on a Sunday. This imposition of an unlawful edict is an example of the types of actions that have been unlawfully imposed upon the craft. This particular edict violates the constitutional citations under Chapter XVII, Section 178 the Masonic anniversary (St. John the Baptist's Day) shall be observed by assembling at their hall or some church for appropriate religious services; Prince Hall Day shall be observed by assembling at a hall, church, auditorium, or an appropriate outside area for services.
6. We have an abuse of executive authority when the Grand Master put out an edict that the optional/short burial ceremony could not be used at a burial site during his administration. That was another unlawful decision. But, in accordance with Article XXX, in the opening paragraph it states that the "optional burial ceremony may be used at the discretion of the Worshipful Master where ever deemed appropriate". Lodges also have powers, executive, legislative, and judicial, which are cited in the Uniform Code of By-Laws, Article II, Section 1, Powers and Duties of Lodges covers three items, but in this instance the legislative applies, in that it requires compliance with the constitution and by-laws of Grand Lodge.
7. We have an abuse of power when the Grand Master demonstrated a total lack of concern for the financial well being of the Grand Lodge by allowing over \$56,000 to be spent on a lawsuit when the issues could have been settled through mediation. The Grand Master was deceitful in not telling the Board of Grand Directors that mediation had been offered as a means of settling the issue of the removal of a board member. The constitution provides that the Grand Master and Board of Directors have a fiduciary responsibility, to protect our investments and other assets. The violations are cited in Article XVI, Section 4c, Officers, Section 5, Object, and Section 6a, 7h, The Board.
8. Last but not least, is it a conflict of interest when the Grand Master is selling insurance to individuals and Prince Hall Masonic bodies in this jurisdiction?