

MALCOLM WESTBROOKS

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June 19th 2009

Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge
Free and Accepted Masons
State of California Incorporated
9027 South Figueroa Street
Los Angeles California 90003-3229

Attention RW Grand Secretary
Billy G. Harrington

RE: Appeal of unlawful suspension and expulsion

“If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7: 14.

My Good Christian Brothers

This communication comes to you as a formal appeal. An appeal not for myself but as an appeal for all that we are, all that we have always been and perhaps all we desire to be in the future. You see I have no appeal for myself because I have done no wrong. In the opening of any Masonic Lodge. It is asked of the Senior Warden what makes you a Master Mason? In every constituted and well governed Lodge of Master Masons his reply is my obligation. Where were you made a Master Mason? His reply is in a regular and well governed Lodge of Master Masons.

I was proficient in my Master Mason’s obligation in 1979 and my Lodge East Gate #44 in Berkeley California voted that I be raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. Since that time I have been obedient to that oath of obligation. I swore to uphold the constitution and bylaws of the Grand Lodge and the Lodge of which I may become a member and I have also been true to that part of my obligation. In the course of my three Masonic degrees and in the opening of every Lodge Meeting. I was given several charges of conduct to which I have not been found to be in violation of any of them either.

I have also been the beneficiary of thirty years of the greatest relationships and training this world has to offer and young Man or Woman. I have been blessed with the love and knowledge of Great Men and Women. Without this beautiful family and the relationships I have enjoyed over the past thirty years. I would not be the successful person I am today. Being a Master Mason has truly touched and enhanced my life and I am a better person because of it and I am sure that all of you share my experience. I understand that I am appealing to intelligent Black Men. So I really don't have to remind you that all of you took that same oath and I pray to God that you have abided by it. All of the things that we swore are actually some very good self improvement training practices and they have actually worked for most of us.

If they haven't worked for you then you may have joined the wrong fraternity. Which leads me to the question, exactly what is there to appeal? Since I don't have the answer maybe you can search your hearts and help me out. Why don't we look further into what is going on in our beloved Grand Lodge. You have a large number of Master Masons under suspension or expulsion for charges that cannot be found in any of the ritualistic works of Freemasonry. If you care to open your eyes and look at your constitution, by laws and edicts, you can't even find them there.

My suspension letter stated that I had conducted several acts of (CONTUMASY). Now I must admit that at this point I have to grab Webster's New World Dictionary. Not the small one that I keep in my private office, but the big Third College Edition that we keep in the Library upstairs that no one ever uses. This very large book describes (CONTUMASY) as stubborn refusal to submit to authority, especially that of a law, court; insubordination; disobedience. Now that really got my attention because, I was just summoned to appear in The United States Federal Court in San Francisco as a juror and really didn't want them to know that I was guilty of such a serious offence towards anyone. So I began to do some serious soul searching.

Could it have happened when in December 2007, at the Homewood Suites were I attended the Grand Board of Directors Meeting all day. Left for a few hours to take my wife to dinner as I had promised. Only to get in trouble because I had to tell her I was going back to the meeting after dinner. When I arrived several brothers met me in the parking lot to inform me that P. M. Fred Young had been removed from the Grand Board of Directors. Or could it have been when I dined with Grand Master Tyner after that meeting and assured him that he would receive monthly reports from myself and newly appointed MW Prince Hall Arms Board member Willie D. Humphrey. It could have been because P.M. Humphrey and my self worked tirelessly to provide the Grand Master the minutes of every PHA Board meeting and reports from then until Grand Lodge 2008. Perhaps it was at Grand Lodge when I secured a promissory note from PHA regarding the Grand Lodges money. It could have been when Grand Master Tyner refused to allow P.M. Humphrey's report to come to the floor because he knew that the PHA Funding confirmation was in that report.

Or could it have been when I called Grand Master Tyner after the election to congratulate him. Telling him that I had supported the other candidate three times and lost three times. Or was it when I offered to work with him to bring peace and harmony to this Grand Lodge. The contumacy may have taken place on several other occasions like in Tulsa Oklahoma when I offered to travel the state at my own expense to help deliver the message of Brotherly Love and help heal our sick Grand Lodge. My letter of expulsion is even more confusing than my letter of suspension.

It states that an email that I sent out informing the craft that Grand Lodge funds were being spent on a lawsuit that contained frivolous, false and misleading information and that the expenditures for legal fees in the amount of \$56,000.00 were not authorized in advance by the Grand Lodge (YOU). Our constitution provides for the Grand Master to spend \$1,000.00 in emergency funds without Grand Lodge approval. The money was spent on a law suit that could have very well been settled through mediation. In that letter he states that I put the Grand Lodge in a bad position. Well brothers I cannot sign a check for ten cents in the name of the Grand Lodge. So you decide for yourselves who has put you in a bad position. The reality of this situation is that as Masons we are trained to give the office of Grand Master all due respect. In this case the respect was given to the office which is being held by someone who through their actions fall way short of deserving the respect afforded to the office he holds. But being true Masons we do so because we are creatures of habit and I don't apologize for that because I love being a Master Mason. However when faced with a situation that is detrimental to the order I will rise up to defend its honor and integrity.

At the writing of this letter I have received information that a total of 56 Master Masons all Past Masters have been suspended in this sick and unnecessary show of power and more are expected. While we sit by and watch while our brother's life works and dedication is rewarded by Grand Master Tyner's policy of NO GOOD WORK WILL GO UNPUNISHED. All of these Men have dedicated their lives to Freemasonry and are the life blood of our venerable institution. So ask yourself the question. What exactly has been suspended and expelled. Is it just a few trouble makers, who the Grand Master had to put in their place or is it the very fiber of Freemasonry. The principles of FRIENDSHIP, MORALITY AND BROTHERLY LOVE. The principles that we all pledged that we would uphold if we were afforded the honor and privilege of becoming Master Masons.

In my humble opinion what has been suspended here is our oath of obligation and our charges of conduct. While at the same time our constitution and bylaws and due process have been expelled. We conduct business as a Federal Non Profit Tax Exempt 501(c) 8 corporation. While the 1st Amendment United States Constitutional Rights of Freedom of Speech, Press and Assembly are violated. Brothers we can't go on letting this happen. It threatens our status with the U.S. Government.

We belong to such prodigious organizations as the NAACP while we commit violations such as those who made it necessary for these organizations to exist in the first place. More important we call ourselves an organization of Christians. Every Lodge Meeting under the ALL SEEING EYE and THE LETTER G while all the while violations of the law and eradication of the Commandments of The Most High God take place. Yes our oath of obligation and charges of conduct have been suspended. Our constitution, by laws and due process expelled. Our U.S. constitutional first amendment rights violated and the COMMANDMENTS of GOD eradicated.

This administration has coveted everything that good men earned and in most cases stole it from them. This administration has supplanted brothers in their laudable undertakings, bared false witness against their brothers and sworn deceitfully against them. If we have stooped to the lows that I can take what belongs to our brothers. Then I am in the wrong place anyway. My Brothers we still have a chance to redeem ourselves. To put behind us this embarrassing situation regain the good name, respect and admiration we have lost nationally and internationally during this administration.

This appeal is not for me alone and is directed to those who gave me The Great Gift of Freemasonry Thirty years ago, you the craft and if you decide that I have done you wrong our taken something from anyone that was theirs then I will suffer whatever fate the craft decides. But I ask you today, do we keep down this path of destruction or do we obey what the Lord directed the people of Israel to do in 2 Chronicles 7: 14. Humble ourselves, pray, seek his face and turn from our wicked ways, so that he can forgive us and heal our land.

I have already witnessed what I consider the best years in my opinion of this Grand Lodge. So if you decide that I never again stand upright at the alter of God as a Master Mason I will live with your decision. My appeal is for my beloved Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons State of California Incorporated. My appeal is that at the opening of business Monday morning July 13th 2009 the craft call for all suspended and expelled Master Masons be reinstated with no break in service. So that due process, fair elections, oaths of obligations, Masonic constitution and by laws, charges of conduct, U. S. Constitutional Rights and The Commandments of THE MOST HIGH GOD can also be reinstated with no break in service. Thus Said the Lord Has Been Given To You in 2nd Chronicles 7: 14 Govern Yourselves Accordingly

MAY THE PEACE OF THE LORD BE WITH YOU

PM Malcolm Westbrooks
East Gate Lodge # 44