

## INVITATION TO PETITION FOR THE DEGREES OF SYMBOLIC MASONRY

(Please type or print)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To the officers and members of \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge No. \_\_\_\_\_, Ancient, Free,  
and Accepted Masons, at \_\_\_\_\_, Iowa.

1. We, the undersigned, hereafter known as "Recommenders," respectfully propose:

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ who resides at: \_\_\_\_\_  
(full name) (address)

to receive the Masonic Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason upon completion of a Petition for Membership and paying the initiation fee.

2. He is eighteen (18) years of age or older and has resided in Iowa continuously for more than six months immediately prior to the date of this proposal. (see Section 22, Laws for Subordinate Lodge of the Masonic Code of Iowa)

3. We have known the proposed candidate two years or longer.

4. We believe him to be of good moral character.

5. We believe him to have faith in a Supreme Being.

6. We believe he will be an asset to the Fraternity.

### THE TOP-LINE SIGNER BELOW MUST PRESENT THIS PROPOSAL IN PERSON AT A STATED COMMUNICATION

### REPORT AND AFFIDAVIT OF RECOMMENDERS

We, the undersigned, confirm the authenticity and accuracy of the above information to the best of our knowledge.

		Date
_____ Sign name (Top-Line Signer)	_____ Print name	_____
_____ Sign name	_____ Print name	_____
_____ Sign name	_____ Print name	_____

## PROCEDURE

1. The Invitation to Petition for the degrees of Masonry shall be for the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason. A favorable ballot shall elect to the three degrees.
2. The Invitation to Petition shall be on the official form prescribed by the Grand Secretary.
3. The Invitation to Petition shall be signed by three recommenders.
4. The potential candidate does not sign this form.
5. The top line signer shall present the Invitation to Petition at a Stated Communication without the prospective candidate's knowledge.
6. The Invitation to Petition shall be held over until the next Stated Communication with a legal quorum present when a ballot is taken. A unanimous ballot is required for election.
7. The balloting procedure shall be the same as for a regular petition.
8. Should only one negative ballot appear, the Master shall not declare the result, but order a rebalot, and the vote on the rebalot shall be declared and be final.
9. A negative ballot or an Objection (as outlined in Chapter 27, Laws for Subordinate Lodges) stops the Invitation to Petition. It does not prohibit the proposed candidate from petitioning the lodge in the regular manner.
10. After election the top line signer or another recommender shall visit with each potential candidate individually about joining Masonry.
11. The invited candidate must completely fill out and sign the official petition for membership as prescribed by the Grand Secretary's Office.
12. The petition, accompanied by the lodge's fee as provided in Chapter 24, Laws for Subordinate Lodges, must be received and recorded by the lodge secretary before the degrees can be conferred.
13. If the potential candidate gives a negative answer to the question, "Do you profess faith in a Supreme Being?" on the official petition form, the petition is rejected.
14. If the potential candidate gives a positive answer to either of the questions on the official petition form: "Have you previously applied for membership in a Masonic lodge?" or "Have you ever been convicted of a felony?" the petition shall, at the petitioner's request, take the course of a regular petition.
15. If the candidate declines to accept the petition or fails to present himself for initiation within 6 months after the petition is received and recorded by the lodge, the petition is considered to have been withdrawn. Either action shall be made a part of the lodge records. This does not prohibit the proposed candidate from petitioning a lodge in the regular manner at a future date.
16. All discussions on a Invitation to Petition are to be considered confidential outside the lodge hall.

INVITATION TO PETITION  — of —	Received at Stated Communication:  Dated: _____	Action taken at Stated Communication:  Dated: _____ Result: _____	Recommenders:  _____ _____ _____
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