



INVESTIGATION ON PETITION FOR THE DEGREES Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of New Mexico

REFERRAL TO THE COMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATION

To Brother _____, Chairman
(Printed Name)

(Printed Name)

(Printed Name)

You are directed to examine and thoroughly investigate the standing and character of the petitioner and reply to the questions below.

Referred to the committee by order of the Worshipful Master of _____ Lodge No. _____

on _____
(Date) _____
(Secretary)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATION

Each committee member should review this document, including the instructions on page 2, before proceeding with the investigation.

Qualifications:

1. Is the petitioner at least 18 years old? _____
2. Does the petitioner state that he believes in a Supreme Being or Deity? _____
3. Is the petitioner able to speak, read and write the English language? _____
4. Does the petitioner have legitimate means of support for himself and his family? _____
5. Has the petitioner been a resident of the State of New Mexico for a period of six consecutive months immediately preceding the date of his petition? _____ Month and year residence established _____

Investigation:

6. Did you contact the references and obtain letters of reference from them? _____
7. Did you interview the petitioner in-person? (required) _____
 - a. Did you meet with the petitioner and his family in his home? _____
If no, explain _____
8. Did you review the background report from the Grand Lodge and provide it to the petitioner? _____
9. Does the petitioner possess sufficient knowledge and intelligence to appreciate the values, doctrines, and tenets of Freemasonry? _____
10. Did you explain the financial obligations of membership to the petitioner? _____
11. Is the petitioner able, at this time, to afford the financial obligations of membership? _____

Investigation on Petition for the Degrees, Continued

- 12. Is the petitioner physically able to conform, in spirit, to the requirements of the Degrees of Freemasonry? _____
- 13. Does the petitioner have any physical limitations or infirmities that the Master should be aware of during the degree ceremonies? _____
- 14. Is the petitioner a man with whom the committee and others would willingly associate? _____
- 15. Provide any other pertinent comments that may be essential _____

RECOMMENDATION OF COMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATION

We declare on our Masonic honor that we have investigated the petition, background, reputation, character, and standing of Mr. _____, and find that he is a man that does / does not warrant his acceptance to receive the degrees of Freemasonry. (Select One)

Chairman _____ Dated _____
(Signature)

(Signature)

(Signature)

NOTES FOR THE COMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATION

- The committee is entrusted by the Lodge a serious duty that should be performed with due diligence. A thorough investigation and report will assure each Lodge member that the petitioner is an honorable and trustworthy man – or not. Conversely, if accepted, upon initiation the petitioner will realize he is a Brother surrounded by honorable Brothers on whose trust he can with confidence rely.
- When reviewing a background report from the Grand Lodge (done before the in-person interview), the committee should understand that an *arrest* does not mean a *conviction*, and that a conviction does not automatically disqualify the petitioner. Additional work may be required to learn the case history and disposition to make an informed recommendation to the Lodge.
- The committee should contact the references *before* conducting the in-person interview. The development of independent references in addition to those provided by the petitioner is encouraged.
- The in-person interview is an opportunity to ask specific questions regarding qualifications and suitability for membership *and* to discuss expectations about Masonry and answer questions the petitioner or his family may have.
- The committee should have informational Masonic brochures to leave with the petitioner and his family during the home visit. Professionally produced brochures are available from the Masonic Service Association of North America – www.msana.com.
- Attach all documents, letters of reference, and emails, etc. obtained as part of the investigation. Personal notes on conversations with references may be substituted.
- This report should be returned to the Secretary before the meeting for agenda and scheduling purposes.
- The committee has up to 70 days to complete the investigation, unless a time extension is granted by the Master, however most investigations are completed sooner.

Masonic Record on Petition for the Degrees of:

Mr. _____ Member ID _____
(Full Name of Petitioner) (Grand Lodge Number)
of _____ Lodge No. _____ at _____, New Mexico.

RECEIPT AND REFERRAL

* Petition received _____ Grand Lodge database updated _____
(Date) (Date)

Background investigation report received _____ SSN struck from petition _____
(Date) (Date)

* Referred to committee at a communication on _____
(Date)

* Balloted on at a regular communication, at least 28 days after being referred to committee _____
(Date)

The petitioner was accepted rejected.

MASONIC RECORD

Coach _____ Mentor _____
(Name) (Name)

Candidate Education Course (CEC), Part I, provided to candidate on _____
(Date)

* Initiated _____ CEC, Part II, provided _____ * Proficiency _____
(Date) (Date) (Date)

* Passed _____ CEC, Part III, provided _____ * Proficiency _____
(Date) (Date) (Date)

* Raised _____ CEC, Part IV, provided _____ * Proficiency _____
(Date) (Date) (Date)

Comments (failure to advance, etc.) _____

Secretary _____
(Name and Signature)

NOTES FOR THE SECRETARY

- Upon receipt of a petition, the Lodge Secretary, or an assistant, must enter the petitioner information into the Grand Lodge database. * Indicates the dates that must be entered into the database as they occur.
- All petitions and reports thereon are permanent records of the Lodge.
- When the petition is presented to the Lodge, only the basic information on the petitioner and names of recommenders should be read. The petition is then referred to committee and laid over at least 28 days.
- The completed background report from the Grand Lodge shall be given to the candidate. *Code 190*
- Use of the Candidate Education Course (CEC), adopted by the Grand Lodge in March 2011, is strongly recommended.
- Page three (3) of the Investigation on Petition for the Degrees is classified administrative and may be revised from time to time by the Grand Secretary with the approval of the Grand Master. *Code 96*