

# The Grand Lodge



## Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New Jersey

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### EDICT

**WHEREAS**, Trials were held to hear the charges of unMasonic conduct against R.W. Gary J. Olsen on September 14, 2022; R. W. Jose Villalta on September 27, 2022; and R. W. Michael Holt on October 20, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, R. W. Olsen was found guilty of 47 specifications, R. W. Villalta was found guilty of 57 specifications, and R. W. Holt pleaded guilty to 22 specifications; and

**WHEREAS**, each were independently sentenced to penalties of expulsion, followed by the completion of all appeals; and

**WHEREAS**, I, as Grand Master of Masons of the State of New Jersey have been requested to review the penalties imposed following the trials, and have compared these penalties against prior penalties imposed for similar charges against others in the past, and having reviewed these matters and believing that the actions of these expelled brothers was similar to that of prior bad actors who did not receive as significant a penalty; and,

**WHEREAS**, based on my review, and my understanding of basic Masonic jurisprudence, that although by edict this may seem shortsighted, I personally consider the overall sentences in these cases to have been excessive;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I hereby invoke my authority, pursuant to Landmark 3 and suspend, to the extent necessary, the provisions of the Grand Lodge Bylaws, Title Four, Article XI, Section 8, Part 7, and consider the time served under the current expulsions to be adequate penalty; and,

It is **HEREBY ORDERED** that, effective immediately, R.W. Olsen, R.W. Holt, and R.W. Villalta are, by virtue of this Edict, restored to active membership in the Grand Lodge F &AM of New Jersey, and entitled to the rights and privileges of active membership, and,

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Grand Secretary shall communicate this Edict to the involved Brethren, the elected officers of this Grand Lodge, the Past Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge, all lodges of this Grand jurisdiction and other Grand Lodges with which this Grand Lodge enjoys fraternal communion.

Dated: September 24, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Eugene Margroff".

J. Eugene Margroff  
Grand Master of Masons for the State of New Jersey

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry S. Plasket".

Attest: Larry S. Plasket, PGM  
Grand Secretary  
Grand Lodge of New Jersey