



St John

For the Faith and in the Service of Humanity

Dear Confrère,

Thank you for your interest in having your name submitted for nomination to the Order of St John and its Priory in the United States. As leaders in their communities and charitable supporters of the St John Eye Hospital, Members of the Order are always seeking outstanding individuals who as Members would embody its values, and respect and uphold its historic traditions, which extend back a millennium.

The nomination process is integral to ensuring that the Order's mission and its financial support of the Eye Hospital continues to flourish, along with its other activities. Please review the enclosed nomination requirements carefully. If you choose to move forward with your nomination, please note that all completed packages **must be received in the Priory office no later than March 15, 2019.**

Should you have questions or wish to discuss membership and what it entails, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Member of the Order from whom you received this package, or to any other Member you know should you have questions or wish to discuss further. Our Priory office would also be happy to respond to any questions you might have.

Best regards,

Palmer C. Hamilton, KStJ
Prior

enclosure

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Instructions for Nominations

Members wishing to nominate an individual for Order membership or as a Priory Esquire must submit the following items:

- Completed “Nomination Form for Membership,” including:
 - Indication of Application to Order Membership or Priory Esquire (Page 1)
 - Demographics: Salutation or Title, Suffix, Nominee’s Address and Contact Information, Occupation, Spouse/Children Information, Religious Affiliation, Educational Background, Membership Honors and Volunteer Charitable Interests (Pages 1 and 2)
 - Nominee Signature Required** - Acknowledgement of History and Current Works of the Order (Page 3)
 - Nominee Signature Required** - Statement of Understanding for Continuing Annual Obligations (Page 3)
 - Nominee Signature Required** - Agreement of fulfillment of Oblations (Page 3)
 - Nominee Signature Required** - Acknowledgment of the Order’s Statute (Page 4)
 - Sponsor and Secunder Signature Required** - Affirmation of Qualifications as Nominator (Page 4)
 - Nominee Signature Required** - “Certificate and Undertaking” (Page 6)
- A **Sponsor** reference letter
- A **Secunder** reference letter
- The **Nominee’s** current Resumé
- A **photograph** of the **Nominee** (Please label photograph)

To be considered for appointment in 2019 to the Order of St John, all requirements must be postmarked by March 15, 2019 (firm date). Any nomination forms received after March 15th will be considered only for 2020 admission. Incomplete submissions will be returned to the Sponsor and will not be considered, no exceptions.

Please mail complete Nomination Packages to the Priory office:

The Priory in the USA of the Order of St John
1850 M Street, NW, Suite 1070
Washington, DC 20036

Or electronically to nominations@saintjohn.org. Nomination Packages sent to Priory staff or other email accounts will not be considered, no exceptions.



Membership Nomination
The Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem
The Priory in the United States of America

QUALIFICATION OF A NOMINEE

Be a good citizen, of laity or clergy, with outstanding merit and a history of volunteer service, including charitable work and philanthropy. Nominees should have a generous spirit in how they spend their time and talents.

Demonstrate philanthropy parallel to the purposes and objectives of the Order of St John. Those who do not identify with the Christian faith may still qualify for membership. They in good conscience can recognize that the charitable principles of the Christian faith in the Order are not unlike those of their own faith.

RESPONSIBILITY OF A NOMINEE

Be generous in supporting the Order's pledged contribution and service work to "our lords, the sick and poor." Order Members take on this new responsibility without discounting other charities they serve. A Member's minimum annual Oblation in the U.S. Priory is \$1,000 (whereas the minimum annual Oblation for clergy and for Members 35 or younger is \$500). In addition to the required annual Oblation, there are various fundraising events and appeals earmarked to benefit specific activities and projects appropriate to supporting the Hospital.

Be an honorable person who prioritizes the financial support of the Hospital as a part of the Order's work. One's genuine good will provides the door through which a postulant enters membership.

RESPONSIBILITY OF A SPONSOR

The Sponsor and the Secunder must be Order Members of the Priory in the USA in good standing and current on their annual financial obligation. The Sponsor shall have been a member of the Order for a period of at least three years, and personally have known the person being recommended for a period of at least three years. The Secunder shall have been a member of the Order for a period of at least one year, and personally have known the person recommended for a period of at least one year. *For Priory Esquire Nominations, the dual requirement is one year.*

With respect to these time limitations, if a Confrère should seek a rare exception to these time limitations on sponsors, such a request must be directed only to the Prior and in a timely fashion. The Prior may waive these limitations, but the Priory Honors and Awards Committee will make the final determination.

The Sponsor and Secunder shall write separate letters, qualifying their Nominee. All recommendation letters should typically be a page in length and should include the recommenders' signatures, pledging their ability to nominate. In their recommendations, they shall clearly state their Nominee's qualifications pertaining to merit membership into the Order. Sponsors and Seconders may observe the prospective Member's character, values, accomplishments, charitable work, community impact and their potential productive and positive contribution as an Order Member for the Priory in the USA.

A Sponsor should discuss the spiritual commitment and material support of membership with their Nominee. Membership vows are taken in a consecrated sanctuary at the time of formal Investiture into the Order, and only Members in financial good-standing may participate.

A Sponsor should inform their Nominee of possible impediments to their qualification. These may be conflicting involvements, including association with Orders incompatible with ours. This also includes indiscriminate membership in honorary, social, decorated or lineage societies (called *Ordenshunger*), which tend to be based upon falsified titles, decorations and honors, rather than charitable activities.

When a Sponsor or a potential nominee has a question about a nominee's involvement in another Order, the sponsor is urged to contact the Priory office. In assessing membership in another Order, the fundamental question is whether membership in that other Order is granted by the head of a Sovereign State, or under the authority of a Head of a Sovereign State or is an Order recognized as an Order of Chivalry or Merit by the State where the Order was originally founded. The fact that the other Order is headed by the heir of a former reigning dynasty gives legitimacy ONLY if the original State recognizes the Order. In questions arising from these Orders, the Priory will be advised by Guy Sainty, a renowned authority on chivalric Orders.

A Sponsor will assist the Priory's confidential inquiry should a New Member fall short of their Investiture pledge. After an allotted grace period, the Priory Honors and Awards Committee may remove that Member from the Priory Roll and Membership in accordance with Order statutes, if deemed expedient for just and fair cause.

THE NOMINATION PROCEDURE

The Priory Headquarters provides, by simple request, a Membership Information Packet for potential Nominees, including (1) standard Priory Nomination Forms and (2) universal Certificate and Undertaking for the Order. The Nominee shall supply the required information (including a resumé and photograph), as well as the Nominee's personal signature on the Nomination Forms and Certificate of Undertaking. *Answers on the Nomination Form should be filled out completely for Nominees to be considered. Incomplete Nomination Forms will be returned to the Nominee's Sponsor and will not be considered for appointment, with no exceptions.* Sponsors or Seconders may submit the *completed* Nomination forms and their recommending letters to the Priory Honors and Awards Committee at the Priory Office via U.S. mail, or electronically at nominations@saintjohn.org

Nominees are inducted into the Order through a structured process. Those reviewing the Nominations are aware not to preclude the attendance of new Members at the next Priory

Investiture; therefore, the collection of information and decisions regarding Nominees are completed in a timely manner within a few weeks after the application deadline. Nominations received after the March 15th deadline will be processed for the next year's Investiture cycle.

The evaluation of nominations for prospective Members endeavors to be inclusive. Priory Statutes confer that any Member who meets the qualifications listed above has the privilege to nominate a prospective Nominee for membership. The necessary requirements are equal for all – to determine the Nominee's qualification of personal integrity, respectable associations, charitable motives and acceptance of the Order's Oblation.

The Priory Honors and Awards Committee receives nominations no later than March 15th each year, to commence processing of Nominees for that year's Investiture.

Formal procedure then includes a review by the Priory Honors and Awards Committee, subsequent approval by the Priory Chapter and Officers and final endorsement by the Prior. The list is submitted to the Order's Chancery at the St John International office in London for review. The Secretary-General and Grand Prior endorse the new Member list for The Palace, where final sanction of the Sovereign Head of the Order is by warrant of Her Majesty's sign manual. The honor is listed in the *London Gazette*, the UK's most important public record, in due course.

The new Postulants receive certification of their sanctioned honor from the U.S. Priory during the summer, depending on The Palace's date of review. The Sponsor(s) will receive duplicate notifications of the honors. Further information specifically related to the upcoming Investiture is sent in separate mailings.

The Annual Service of Investiture and Rededication for the Priory in the United States of America is held in an Episcopal cathedral in the United States in the fall.



NOMINATION FORM FOR MEMBERSHIP



Please indicate whether nomination is for
Order membership or Priory Esquire.

_____ Membership in the Order of St John

_____ Esquire in the Priory in the USA*

**Priory Esquires are members of the Priory in the United States of America. They are not members of the Order.*

Final determination of category of candidacy is decided by the Priory Honors & Awards Committee.

All responses must be typed, and complete before they will be considered.

Salutation or Title

(Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms., Dr., The Hon., The Reverend, etc.): _____

Suffix (PhD, MD, Jr., etc.): _____

NOMINEE'S FULL NAME (no initials or nicknames):

Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____

Primary Residence Address:

Mailing Address (if different from above):

Home Phone: _____

Business Phone: _____

Mobile Phone: _____

Home/Business Fax: _____

Email Address:

Working **Retired**

Occupation/Vocation: _____ **Title** _____

Spouse/Children: _____

Religious Affiliation: _____

Education:

Memberships/Honors (*Clubs, Orders, Societies, etc.*):

Volunteer/Charitable Interests:

Please describe your knowledge of the history and current works of the Most Venerable Order:

Nominee Signature: _____

Please state your understanding of the continuing obligations, including an annual obligation of \$1,000 for membership in the Order:

Nominee Signature: _____

Please acknowledge and sign the following admitted New Member's statement of responsibility once accepted: "I understand that I will make my \$1,000 obligation payment prior to the Investiture of the class to which I am admitted."

Nominee Signature: _____

Please include a Resumé and photograph with this form.

The Statutes of the Order require that the following declaration be signed by the Nominee:

“I do solemnly declare that I will be faithful and obedient to the Order of St John and its Sovereign Head as far as is consistent with my duty to my country; that I will do everything in my power to uphold its dignity and support its charitable works; and that I will endeavor always to uphold the aims of this Christian Order and to conduct myself as a person of honor.”

Nominee Signature: _____ Date: _____

In addition, the Nominee must sign the appropriate Certificate and Undertaking (for Order membership or for Priory Esquire) included in this Nominations package.

TO BE COMPLETED BY SPONSOR AND SECONDER:

The Sponsor and the Seconder must be Order members of the Priory in the USA in good standing and current on their annual financial obligation. The Sponsor shall have been a member of the Order for a period of at least three years, and personally have known the person being recommended for a period of at least three years. The Seconder shall have been a member of the Order for a period of at least one year, and personally have known the person recommended for a period of at least one year. With respect to these time limitations, if a Confrère should seek a rare exception to these time limitations on sponsors, such a request must be directed only to the Prior and in a timely fashion. The Prior may waive these limitations, but the Priory Honors and Awards Committee will make the final determination. *For Priory Esquire Nominations, the dual requirement is one year.*

How many years has the Sponsor known the nominee? _____

Sponsor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name of Sponsor (please print): _____ Year Admitted: _____

(A separate reference letter must be attached)

How many years has the Seconder known the nominee? _____

Seconder Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name of Seconder (please print): _____ Year Admitted: _____

(A separate reference letter must be attached)

It has been increasingly difficult in some communities to distinguish between a legitimate order of chivalry and a “false order.” To protect the Royal status of the Order of St John, it is important to have a basic understanding of the meaning of a “Specified Body.”

The Royal Charters and Statutes of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem (2004) provides as follows:

Schedule

1. Specified Bodies

A Specified Body is any body (whether or not incorporated and whether or not a separate legal entity) in respect of which all the following conditions apply:

- 1.1. Condition 1 : the body holds itself out to be or styles itself to be an “order” of any nature;
- 1.2. Condition 2 : the body is not one of the Mutually Recognised Orders of St John, as defined in paragraph 2 of this Schedule; and
- 1.3. Condition 3 : the body either or both:
 - a. uses the words “St John” or any translation or variant thereof in its title (irrespective of any other words used in the title); or
 - b. uses:
 - i. the Emblem, as defined in paragraph 3 of this Schedule, with or without any other device or motif; or
 - ii. any other device or motif sufficiently similar to the Emblem as to be likely to cause confusion therewith.

2. Mutually Recognised Orders of St. John

The Mutually Recognised Orders of St John which are referred to in Condition 2 are:

- a. The Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem;
- b. the three other Orders which comprise the Alliance of the Orders of St John, namely:
 - i. Balley Brandenburg des Ritterlichen Ordens St. Johannis vom Spital zu Jerusalem (commonly referred to as “the Johanniter”);
 - ii. Johanniter Orde in Nederland; and
 - iii. Johanniterorden i Sverige; and
- c. The Sovereign Military and Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem, called of Rhodes, called of Malta (commonly referred to as “the Sovereign Military Order of Malta” or “the Order of Malta”).

3. Emblem

The Emblem which is referred to in Condition 3 is the white equidistant eight-pointed cross (commonly referred to as “the Maltese cross” or “the Amalfi cross”) with or without embellishments in the quadrants on a background of any colour or colours and of any shape.



THE ORDER OF ST JOHN

CERTIFICATE AND UNDERTAKING

I, _____, (full names)

of _____

HEREBY CERTIFY that I am not a member of a Specified Body (as defined in the Schedule) and I UNDERTAKE that [if and]* for so long as I shall be a Member or Priory Esquire of The Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem I will not become a member of a Specified Body.

Dated this _____ day of _____ 201[]

(Signed)

* The words in square brackets are omitted in the case of promotion in the Order