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Grand Exalted Ruler

A Fraternal Organization

A SERIOUS MESSAGE FOR SERIOUS TIMES – Exalted Ruler, please read this communication at your next Lodge meeting:

My fellow Elks, I need to discuss with you a serious topic, which had a significant financial impact on our Order but, more importantly, had a detrimental impact on our image.

In his acceptance speech at the July, 2012 National Convention in Austin, Texas, now Past Grand Exalted Ruler, Thomas S. Brazier pointed out "There's become a change in the social norms over the past three decades. You can't have a few belts at the bar anymore and drive home without consequences." Recent events related to a claim in Pennsylvania brought with it a harsh reminder of just how true our Past Grand Exalted Ruler's statement really is.

A Local Lodge's allegedly improper service of alcohol prompts us to take stock of the purposes and objectives of our Order. We cannot allow circumstances that may downgrade the image of our Order to that of a nationwide chain of bars and taverns.

Each Lodge must strictly enforce the policy that anyone approaching intoxication must be cut off from the service of alcohol. Additionally, each Lodge must ensure that those responsible for the service of alcohol, whether employee or volunteer, are provided proper training from a qualified and certified organization.

Every Lodge must remember that its bar facilities are to be operated for the social purposes of the Order's members and their bona fide guests.

For those Lodges that rent out their facilities for weddings, parties, etc., they must require that the person or entity renting the facility provide a

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