



GRAND EXALTED RULER'S MESSAGE TO OUR MEMBERSHIP

GREETINGS Brothers, Daughters, and Elk Family:

This is Attorney Leonard J Polk Jr, Grand Exalted Ruler with an important message.

As we, the Grand Lodge and Grand Temple Officers, continue to monitor Coronavirus (COVID-19) developments closely, the health and well-being of our members and their families is the utmost importance to us.

It is also critically important that all Lodges, Temples, Councils, State Associations, and Auxiliaries comply with any and all State of Emergency rules and restrictions imposed by your local, state, and federal governments, including, but not limited to, attendance limitations. Effective immediately, all lodges, temples, councils, and auxiliaries shall suspend meetings until further notice. Lodges, Temples, State Associations, and Joint Management Teams should hold meetings for emergency purposes only. In that event, the use of teleconferencing is highly encouraged ([freeconferencecall.com](https://www.freeconferencecall.com)).

Considering the growing concerns related to the Coronavirus and the impact it may have on our communities throughout the country and internationally, we've also made the decision to postpone the following Elk conferences, namely, Veterans Affairs, Education Department, Active Exalted Rulers Council, and Youth Department until further notice. We recognize how stressful this particular situation is, and we share your concerns. The Grand Lodge and Grand Temple will be coordinating with the State Presidents to ensure that membership's individual concerns are heard and addressed as well.

In light of the National Emergency declared, the Grand Lodge and Grand Temple will continue to monitor developments and adjust the business of our organization accordingly. Plans are in place and operations will continue as we work remotely. Our planning and response is grounded in recommendations from the US Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

As previously mentioned, our highest priority is the health and safety of our members, our communities, their families, and their loved ones. As always, our office is available via email or via phone to respond to any of our member's needs. Further, we will continue to provide updates as quickly as they become available.

Stay safe, be well, and many thanks for your continued support of our great organization.

God Bless you and God Bless the Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World.

**Attorney Leonard J. Polk Jr.
Grand Exalted Ruler**