



FRANK REED HORTON MEMORIAL LODGE NO. 379, F. & A. M.

UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE PHILIPPINES

Lecture No. 8 **CONSEQUENCES OF PETITIONS' REJECTION**

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Quoted from Albert Mackey's "Principles of Masonic Law" and "Jurisprudence of Freemasonry"

A rejected petitioner may again apply for initiation into the mysteries of Freemasonry only to the Lodge which rejected him in two ways:

1. At least **12 months after** rejection as prescribed in our Constitution
2. **Within 12 months** after rejection by Dispensation of the Grand Master.

1. **At least 12 months after rejection**

A. In such a case, the treatment of the renewed petition must be, in all respects, *as if no former petition existed*.

The petitioner must...

- apply by an entirely new petition
- again be vouched for and recommended as in the original petition by the same or other Brethren.
- again be referred to a Committee on Investigation on the inquiry of character
- again lie over for one month
- again undergo the same circularization to inform the other Lodges of his petition
- be balloted for precisely as it was before

B. The necessary notice will in this way be given to all brethren; and if there are objections to receiving the petitioner as existed in the first petition, there will be ample opportunity for expressing them in the usual way of rejection.

C. There may be objections that the Lodge may be harassed by the repeated petitions of an importunate petitioner.

- While it may sometimes be the case, this argument can be of no weight since it can be met by another equal or greater force — that if it were not for the provision of this second petition, many good men who have perhaps been unjustly refused admission, and for which act the Lodge may naturally feel regret, would be without redress.
- It was wisely provided that, to meet such cases, the petitioner is permitted to present a renewed petition and to pass through a second or even a third and fourth ordeal.
- If it proved favorable in its results, the injustice to the petitioner is compensated for.
- If it again proved unfavorable, no evil has been done to the Lodge, and the petitioner is just where he was — before his renewed application, rejected.

2. **Within 12 months after rejection**

A. In such a case, the treatment of the renewed petition must have the Dispensation of the Grand Master.

B. Our Constitution provides in Art. VI, Sec 5 –

*“No Lodge shall accept a petition from a person who within the preceding 12 months has been rejected by the Lodge except by Dispensation of the Grand Master. The request for Dispensation must be unanimously approved by the Lodge **at a meeting of which the members shall have due notice.**”*

C. This provision should be interpreted as follows:

- The rejected petitioner may renew his petition at any time within 12 months after his rejection.
- The notice of his renewed petition can be received by the Lodge only on its regular monthly meeting.
 - 1) He needs to fill up a new application and submit all requisites as in the first.

- 2) Notice will be given by the Lodge Secretary to the members of the Lodge whose unanimous approval is needed before a Dispensation is requested of the Grand Master.

The rationale for requiring a UNANIMOUS APPROVAL for the request for dispensation is that, if said request for dispensation was not unanimously approved by the members of the Lodge, the inescapable conclusion is that the renewed petition of the rejected petitioner will suffer the same fate as in the first rejection.

- On the second monthly regular meeting, the members will unanimously approve for the request of Dispensation from the Grand Master.

Representations are then made through the DDGM to secure the Dispensation from the Grand Master.

- On the third regular monthly meeting when the Dispensation from the Grand Master through the DDGM shall have been had, notice is given to the members of the Lodge that balloting on the renewed petition will be taken at the next regular monthly meeting.
- On the fourth regular meeting, the members of the Lodge ballot on the renewed petition.
- The time frame for such a renewed petition to be balloted by the Lodge is at least four months.