

## Understanding the Candidate Selection Process

As an individual seeking further information and a possible life in Freemasonry it is important that you understand how this process works. In the past, almost any man who approached Freemasonry came well recommended and well known by another Freemason. They were family members, a long time friend, a workmate, or a neighbor. You might well be in that same category. Each of these men knew a Freemason who could vouch for his character based on knowing him for a long time. This may also be the case for you but in today's world a man might come to Freemasonry in very different ways. Many men now find us by contact through the Internet, social media, books or movies and they have no personal relationship with a Freemason.

No matter what path you have traveled to this point, any man that petitions a Lodge must have his petition signed by a Master Mason who is a member in good standing of the Lodge in which the petition is being presented. The Master Masons signing this petition must be able to vouch for your good character and intentions. The purpose of these meetings will be for both you and the Lodge to learn more about each other prior to your potential entrance into the Fraternity.

As well as needing to get to know each other, it is critical to both you and the Lodge that you know what we stand for and why Freemasonry is so special to its members. We need to know what your expectations are for us and you need to know what our expectations are for you.

We now have had one meeting with you and the process has begun. We will schedule a series of three in person meetings with you that will assist us both in evaluating your desire to become a Brother among us. We would also like to invite you and your family to a social event so that we can get to know you in a more relaxed environment. We will arrange our last meeting at your home with your family present. We would like to answer any last questions your family or you may have.

At that point, if all goes well, we will give you the opportunity to *ask* for a petition. The rest is totally up to you.

Are you ok with this approach? If yes initial your assent here \_\_\_\_\_. Our next meeting will be held on Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_

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