



DISTRICT GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER

CENTRAL SOUTH AFRICA

Holding of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Freemasons of Scotland

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ME Comp A. VISSER
Hon Grand Chancellor
Grand Superintendent

ME Comp J Fordham
District Grand Scribe "E"

Circular 20/2006

30 October 2006

TO ALL SCRIBES E and RECORDERS TO BE READ IN OPEN CHAPTER / COUNCIL AND MINUTED

Dear Sir and Companion

MORATORIUM

With the three-year moratorium, for Craft Masons to join the Royal Arch, in place for just more than one year, and after reviewing the matter thoroughly, I came to the following conclusions -

1. A moratorium will undoubtedly benefit all the various aspects of Freemasonry.
2. It is designed to protect our younger Craft Masons in progressing beyond their natural capabilities.
3. It is a measure to support the Craft in order to strengthen the basic foundation of Freemasonry.
4. It is designed to allow younger Masons ample time to first understand the basics of Craft Freemasonry, before progressing to the other Orders that could be very difficult to master at the best of times.

I came to the conclusion that the above measure is undoubtedly the correct measure to support the Craft, the Royal Arch, other Orders as well as our younger Brethren.

Although I intend to maintain the moratorium, I consider three years to be somewhat restrictive and I have decided to change the ruling with immediate effect to the following –

A Craft Mason can as from immediate effect join the Royal Arch Degrees, viz. Mark Degree, Excellent Masters Degree and Royal Arch Degree after a completion of 15 (fifteen) months as a Master Mason.

Please note that no exceptions will henceforth be allowed and no dispensations to the contrary will be granted.

I have discussed this particular ruling with the Depute First Grand Principal for Scotland, who is in agreement.

All Scribes and Recorders are requested to minute the contents of this letter and also to ensure that this ruling is adhered to at all times. Any deviations from this ruling will be seen as serious.

Yours fraternally

A VISSER
Grand Superintendent