



Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons in Virginia



Edict No. 2026-001

Establishing the Randall Wayne Johnson Ritualistic Excellence Award

WHEREAS, Right Excellent Randall Wayne Johnson devoted decades of faithful service to the preservation and teaching of the Capitular Ritual in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, he served with distinction as District Lecturer and Grand Lecturer, and was named Grand Lecturer Emeritus by this Grand Chapter at its 2025 Grand Annual Convocation; and

WHEREAS, his passing in 2026 has brought profound sorrow to this Grand Jurisdiction, while his instruction, encouragement, and example continue through the many Companions he taught; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting to honor his memory by recognizing those who demonstrate excellence in the Ritual and who share their knowledge in service to others;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kyle W. Strickland, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons in Virginia, do hereby establish the Randall Wayne Johnson Ritualistic Excellence Award.

Purpose and eligibility. The award shall recognize a Royal Arch Mason in good standing in a subordinate Chapter of this Grand Jurisdiction who demonstrates exceptional knowledge and presentation of the Capitular Ritual and a meaningful commitment to its instruction and preservation. A Companion need not hold or have held a particular office to be eligible.

Selection. The Grand Lecturer, in consultation with the Committee on Work, shall consider recommendations from Chapters, District Lecturers, District Deputy Grand High Priests, and individual Companions. In evaluating a Companion, they shall consider both his performance of the work and the care with which he teaches and encourages others. The Grand Lecturer shall recommend a recipient to the Grand High Priest, who shall make the final selection. No award shall be required in a year when no Companion meets this standard.

Presentation and record. The award shall ordinarily be presented at the Grand Annual Convocation. The Grand Secretary shall record each recipient in the Proceedings and maintain the record of recipients among the awards of Grand Chapter.

Continuance. It is the intent of this Edict that the Randall Wayne Johnson Ritualistic Excellence Award be a continuing award of the Grand Chapter, administered each year under these provisions unless and until Grand Chapter amends or rescinds them. I direct that this Edict be included in my report to the 2026 Grand Annual Convocation for review by the Past Grand High Priests under Section 43 of the Digest, and I respectfully request that Grand Chapter approve its continuance and direct its inclusion among the approved edicts of the Grand Chapter.

May this award preserve more than a name. May it inspire Companions to learn the work well, teach it faithfully, and *mark well* the lessons Right Excellent Johnson spent his life sharing.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons in Virginia at the City of Chesapeake, this 1st day of November, A.D. 2026, A.I. 2556 and in the Two-Hundred and Eighteenth year of our Grand Chapter.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle W. Strickland".

Kyle William Strickland

Grand High Priest

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne H. Anderson".

Wayne H. Anderson

Grand Secretary