



The Statement of Unity, signed by the Sovereign Grand Commanders of the Supreme Councils and United Supreme Councils of The United States of America: SGC James D. Cole, 33°, SJ, USA; SGC Corey D. Hawkins, Sr., 33°, USC, PHA, SJ, USA; SGC Peter J. Samiec, 33°, NMJ, USA; and SGC Dr. Melvin J. Bazemore, 33°, USC, PHA, NJ, USA, Inc.

STATEMENT OF UNITY

SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

The Supreme Council Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction; United Supreme Council, 33°, of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Prince Hall Affiliation, Southern Jurisdiction of the USA; the Supreme Council, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction; and the United Supreme Council, 33°, of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Prince Hall Affiliation, Northern Jurisdiction of the USA, in unity and harmony, declare the following statement of principles.

The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry began in 1801 in Charleston, South Carolina.

Our Councils recognize one another as the sole and legitimate conservators of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite within our recognized jurisdictions, which together compose the entirety of all lawful and recognized Scottish Rite activity within the United States of America and its territories.

We agree that the Supreme Councils of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry were founded as appendant bodies of symbolic Masonic Lodges. These Lodges are chartered and governed by their applicable Grand Lodge. Each of our members are, and must remain, members in good standing in a Lodge existing within a recognized Grand Lodge. Our organizations believe that Masonic principles as identified through Grand Lodges are foundational, not merely optional, principles upon which we build to provide further light.

We agree and affirm that the local rules governing visitation among our Bodies and all membership activity shall be in accordance with the rules established by the applicable, recognized Grand Lodge within the state or territory.

We agree and affirm that no other Supreme Council may be recognized or legitimately exist within the United States of America without the proper recognition of one or more of our Supreme Councils, in accordance with our rules and procedures for fraternal recognition.

We pledge ourselves to support one another in the cause of Scottish Rite Freemasonry, that our members may enjoy the benefits of our kind and gentle craft and the world at large may be convinced of its good effects.

In token thereof, we affix our signatures as the Sovereign Grand Commanders of our Supreme Councils.

James D. Cole

JAMES D. COLE, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander
Supreme Council, 33°
Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, SJ

Corey D. Hawkins, Sr.

CORRY D. HAWKINS SR., 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander
USC, 33°, A&ASR of Freemasonry
PHA, SJ, USA

Peter J. Samiec

PETER J. SAMIEC, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander
Supreme Council, 33°
Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, NMJ

Dr. Melvin J. Bazemore

DR. MELVIN J. BAZEMORE, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander
United Supreme Council, 33°, A&ASR
(PHA) NJ, USA, Inc.

