




KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR LIFE

MEMORANDUM

To: State Deputies, District Deputies, Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries

From: Gary R. Nolan, Vice President
Membership Growth & Ceremonials 

Date: September 9, 2011

Re: First Degree Ceremonial Requirement for Star Council Award

To qualify for the Star Council Award each council will have to **“host”** or **“participate in”** four First Degree Ceremonials during the 2011-2012 fraternal year.

The definitions of **“host”** or **“participate in”** are as follows:

“HOST” – To “host” a First Degree Ceremonial means to be the sponsor of the exemplification. Regardless of where the First Degree team or the candidate is from, and as long as at least one candidate is welcomed into membership in the Knights of Columbus, that council shall be given credit as the **“host”** of the First Degree Ceremonial. Each hosting council should invite all neighboring councils to participate in their First Degree Ceremonial. (*See example below.*)

“PARTICIPATE IN” – A council that provides at least one candidate that advances to membership in the Knights of Columbus shall have **“participated in”** a First Degree Ceremonial.

In the following example: Council A hosts a First Degree, however their candidate cannot attend; Council B provides two candidates, and Council C provides one candidate. In this scenario Council A would be credited as **“host.”** Councils B and C would be credited for **“participating in”** the First Degree Ceremonial. The exemplification of the First Degree Ceremonial must be reported on Form 450 by the District Deputy, which includes his comments; or the new Form 450C by the Grand Knight or Financial Secretary. The host council should submit the Form 450C after each exemplification of the First Degree, even if as the host council, they do not have a candidate. The Form 450 and 450C are available to be submitted electronically from the Knights of Columbus website at www.kofc.org.

All councils are reminded that they have the ability to conduct their own First Degree at their own council, and may read the parts (if necessary) or use the “Narration CD” in case they become short-handed. The Official Suppliers have available higher quality and lower cost First Degree paraphernalia items and should be contacted directly for those items, along with Ceremonial Baldrics.

CC: Supreme Officers
Board of Directors
Executive Staff and Vice Presidents
General Agents
State Ceremonials Chairmen
State Membership Directors