

# **Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention**

## **STATE COUNCIL OF NORTH CAROLINA RESOLUTIONS**

### **Resolution 1**

**WHEREAS**, Pope Leo XIV is the Vicar of Christ on earth, and

**WHEREAS**, we congratulate him and stand in solidarity with him upon his election to the papacy, and

**WHEREAS**, he is an inspiration to us as the Leader of the Catholic Church

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Councils of North Carolina offer him our sincere prayers and support for his Spiritual Leadership.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and refer to Supreme**

**Action:** **Adoption and refer to Supreme**

**Supreme Action:** **Supreme Resolution 260 – Adoption of Substitute**

### **CELEBRATING THE ELECTION OF HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV**

**WHEREAS**, on May 8, 2025, at the Conclave following the death of Pope Francis, Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost was elected to the Chair of St. Peter as the 267<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Rome and supreme head of the Holy Roman Church; and

**WHEREAS**, a native of Chicago, Illinois, His Holiness is the first Pope born in the United States, as well as the first from the Order of St. Augustine, and the first holding Peruvian citizenship, which he gained after years of dedicated missionary service in that country; and

**WHEREAS**, in his episcopal motto, *In Illo Uno Unum*, words taken from a sermon of St. Augustine, the Holy Father expresses the teaching that we all are one in the one Savior, Jesus Christ; and

**WHEREAS**, in the early weeks of his pontificate, Pope Leo extolled the virtues of charity, unity and fraternity, principles of the Knights of Columbus which also complement the principles of the Augustinian order; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 4, 2025, U.S. Independence Day, Pope Leo received in private audience at the Vatican Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly and Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, during which meeting the Order's leaders spoke of the charitable and faith formation activities of the Knights of Columbus, as well as the mission given to the Order at its founding by Blessed Michael McGivney.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council, on behalf of the more than 2.1 million members worldwide and their families, promises its constant loyalty to Pope Leo XIV and support him through our prayers, invoking especially the maternal intercession of Mary, Mother of the Church, and the Sacred Heart of Jesus; and

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**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be entered into the proceedings of this 143<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council held August 7, 2025, in Washington D.C., and that an inscribed copy be prepared for presentation to the Holy Father.

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## Resolution 2

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis was the Vicar of Christ on earth, and

**WHEREAS**, He has been an inspiration to us as the Leader of the Catholic Church, and

**WHEREAS**, He has been called home by our Lord and God, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Councils of North Carolina thank Pope Francis for his faithful service to our Church and fervently pray for the repose of his soul.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and refer to Supreme**

**Action:** **Adoption and refer to Supreme**

**Supreme Action:** **Supreme Resolution 261 – Adoption of Substitute**

### **MOURNING THE DEATH OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS**

**WHEREAS**, during the twelve years of his pontificate, as the first pontiff from the Americas, Pope Francis exercised his Petrine ministry with an admirable emphasis on serving those at the peripheries through his travels, writings, addresses and homilies, while stressing the foundational Christian virtues of charity and fraternity; and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis called Catholics to become “missionary disciples” actively engaged in evangelization by sharing the love of God in Jesus Christ and communicating the message of Jesus at all times (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 120); and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis stressed the integral nature of faith that includes respect for creation, reverence for all human life, rejection of a “throwaway culture” and the importance of “fraternity and social friendship” that recognizes the inherent dignity of every human person; and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis was a tireless advocate for peace among nations and within nations, seeking to fulfill his role as *Pontifex Maximus* (“chief bridge builder”) and exhorting all peoples to live as brothers and sisters who are created in the image of God; and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis served as a unifying figure of prayer and enduring hope in God’s providence during the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly through the extraordinary *Urbi et Orbi* blessing and meditation, viewed remotely by millions worldwide, during which he stood in an empty, rain-swept St. Peter’s Square before the Miraculous Crucifix from the Church of St. Marcellus in Rome, and invoked the maternal protection of the Virgin Mary before the venerable image of *Salus Populi Romani*; and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis stood in solidarity with the people of Ukraine, offering aid and consolation and solemnly consecrating Russia, Ukraine and the whole world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary; and

**WHEREAS**, Pope Francis inspired and strengthened the faith of countless Knights and their families during his pastoral visits to the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Philippines, Cuba, Poland, Lithuania, the Republic of Korea and France – nearly every nation in which the Order is established; and

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WHEREAS, Pope Francis raised to the honors of the altar the Founder of the Knights of Columbus, Father Michael J. McGivney, approving a miracle attributed to his intercession and issuing the Apostolic Letter for his beatification ceremony on October 31, 2020, which recognized that Blessed McGivney's "zeal for the proclamation of the Gospel and generous concern for the needs of his brothers and sisters, made him an outstanding witness of Christian solidarity and fraternal assistance"; and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis received in private audience with great kindness Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly, Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William Lori, as well as the members of the Board of Directors and their wives, and through messages to the Annual Supreme Convention encouraged the entire Order in its mission of charity, unity and fraternity throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis repeatedly commended the Knights of Columbus to St. Joseph as an "admirable model of those many virtues of quiet strength, integrity and fidelity which the Knights of Columbus are committed to preserving, cultivating and passing on to future generations of Catholic men," and during the Year of St. Joseph, which he proclaimed for the entire Church, the Holy Father blessed an icon of St. Joseph chosen by Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly as his first subject for the Order's pilgrim icon program, reflecting the consecration of his leadership of the Order to St. Joseph; and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis issued an encyclical on the Sacred Heart of Jesus, *Dilexit nos* ("He Loves Us") in October 2024, which providentially coincided with the pilgrim icon program of the Knights of Columbus that has brought images of the Sacred Heart to councils throughout the Order for public prayer and devotion, and in which encyclical the Pope repeatedly mentions charity, unity and fraternity as key aspects of the Sacred Heart that Jesus offers to humanity; and

WHEREAS, in the days before he peacefully returned to the house of the Father on Easter Monday, April 21, 2025, Pope Francis offered his illness and suffering to God during his prolonged hospitalization, and showed the qualities of a loving father after returning to his Vatican residence, offering the traditional "Urbi et Orbi" blessing from the loggia of St. Peter's Basilica, and making a surprise final ride in the Popemobile around St. Peter's Square, where he greeted many of the thousands gathered to see him.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council, on behalf of the more than 2.1 million members worldwide and their families, expresses grief and sorrow over the Death of His Holiness Pope Francis; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that our Order, following the exhortations and selfless example of Pope Francis, will continue to reach out to the peripheries to serve the neediest among us; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that our Order will continue to pray for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis, entrusting him to the intercession of Our Lady, St. Joseph and the most merciful Sacred Heart of Jesus.

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## Resolution 3

**WHEREAS**, The Most Reverend William E. Lori travels throughout the Order encouraging the cause of Columbianism

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we offer our support and prayers for our Supreme Chaplain, who is the spiritual leader for the Knights of Columbus.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and refer to Supreme**

**Action:** **Adoption and refer to Supreme**

**Supreme Action:** **Supreme Resolution 262 – Adoption**

## Resolution 4

**WHEREAS**, Blessed Michael McGivney was beatified on October 31, 2020, and

**WHEREAS**, Blessed Michael McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882, and

**WHEREAS**, we, his followers, continue to pray for his canonization

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that all continue to pray for the canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the North Carolina State Council encourages all Knights to continue their prayer and support for his canonization.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and refer to Supreme**

**Action:** **Adoption and refer to Supreme**

**Supreme Action:** **Supreme Resolution 263 – Adoption**

# Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention

## Resolution 5

**WHEREAS**, The North Carolina State Council and other councils throughout this jurisdiction look to the Supreme Officers and Directors for their leadership and guidance, and

**WHEREAS**, our Supreme Knight, Patrick E. Kelly continues to provide outstanding leadership to the State of North Carolina and to the Order

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Councils of North Carolina express our sincere gratitude to Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly and extend our thanks and appreciation to the Supreme Officers, and Directors for their continued help, guidance, and efforts on behalf of the entire order.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption, refer to Supreme, and a letter from the State Deputy**

**Action:** **Adoption and refer to Supreme**

**Supreme Action:** **Supreme Resolution 264 - Adoption**

## Resolution 6

**WHEREAS**, The Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D. is the Archbishop for the Military Services, USA, and

**WHEREAS**, The Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio provides spiritual leadership to all branches of the Military Services

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Councils of North Carolina express our sincere thanks to Archbishop Broglio for his prayerful contributions to all members of the Military Services.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption, refer to Supreme, and a letter from the State Deputy**

**Action:** **Adoption and refer to Supreme**

**Supreme Action:** **See Resolution 23**

# Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention

## Resolution 7

**WHEREAS**, The Most Reverend Luis Rafael Zarama, Bishop of Raleigh, supports the Knights of Columbus, and

**WHEREAS**, Bishop Zarama provides his personal and unwavering support of the Knights of Columbus in North Carolina

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Councils of North Carolina express our sincere thanks to Bishop Zarama, for his prayerful contributions to the Knights of Columbus in North Carolina and to wish him well in his priestly assignment as the leader of the Raleigh Diocese.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy**

**Action:** **Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy**

## Resolution 8

**WHEREAS**, The Most Reverend Michael T. Martin, O.F.M. Conv., Bishop of Charlotte, is a 28-year Knight of Columbus, and

**WHEREAS**, Bishop Martin provides his personal and unwavering support of the Knights of Columbus in North Carolina

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Councils of North Carolina express our sincere thanks to Bishop Martin, for his prayerful contributions to the Knights of Columbus in North Carolina and wish him well in his priestly assignment as an administrator of the Charlotte Diocese.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy**

**Action:** **Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy**

# Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention

## Resolution 9

**WHEREAS**, The Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis, Bishop Emeritus of Charlotte, supports the Knights of Columbus, and

**WHEREAS**, Bishop Jugis provides his personal and unwavering support of the Knights of Columbus in North Carolina, and

**WHEREAS**, Bishop Jugis provided 20 years of faithful service as Bishop to the Catholics of the Charlotte Diocese prior to his retirement

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Councils of North Carolina express our support for Bishop Emeritus Jugis for his many years of faithful service to the Charlotte Diocese.

**Recommendation:** Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy

**Action:** Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy

## Resolution 10

**WHEREAS**, Right Reverend Placid Solari, OSB, is the Abbot for Belmont Abbey in Belmont, North Carolina, and

**WHEREAS**, Right Reverend Placid Solari provides spiritual guidance and leadership to the Abbey as well as undying support of the unborn

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Councils of North Carolina offer Right Reverend Placid Solari our sincere thanks and prayers for his leadership at the Abbey and his support for the unborn.

**Recommendation:** Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy

**Action:** Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy

## Resolution 11

**WHEREAS**, The Most Reverend Gregory J. Mansour is the Bishop for Maronite Catholics in North Carolina, and

**WHEREAS**, Bishop Mansour provides spiritual leadership to all Maronite Catholics in North Carolina

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Councils of North Carolina express our sincere thanks to Bishop Mansour for his prayerful contributions to the Maronite Church of North Carolina.

**Recommendation:** Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy

**Action:** Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy



# Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention

## Resolution 12

**WHEREAS**, His Grace, Most Reverend Kurt Burnette, is the Bishop for the Byzantine Catholics in North Carolina, and

**WHEREAS**, Bishop Burnette provides spiritual leadership to all Byzantine Catholics in North Carolina

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Councils of North Carolina Knights of Columbus express our sincere thanks to Bishop Burnette for his prayerful contributions to the Byzantines of North Carolina.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy**

**Action:** **Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy**

## Resolution 13

**WHEREAS**, His Grace, Most Reverend Bohdan J. Danylo, is the Bishop for the Ukrainian Catholics in North Carolina, and

**WHEREAS**, Bishop Danylo provides spiritual leadership to all Ukrainian Catholics in North Carolina

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Councils of North Carolina express our sincere thanks to Bishop Danylo for his prayerful contributions to the Ukrainian Catholics of North Carolina.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy**

**Action:** **Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy**

## Resolution 14

**WHEREAS**, His Grace, Bishop Mar Joy Alappatt, is the Bishop for the Syro-Malabar Catholics in North Carolina, and

**WHEREAS**, Bishop Mar Alappatt provides spiritual leadership to all Syro-Malabar Catholics in North Carolina

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Councils of North Carolina express our sincere thanks to Bishop Mar Alappatt for his prayerful contributions to the Syro-Malabar Catholics of North Carolina.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy**

**Action:** **Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy**

# Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention

## Resolution 15

**WHEREAS**, His Grace, Most Reverend Steven J. Lopes, is the First Bishop of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter in North Carolina, and

**WHEREAS**, Bishop Lopes provides spiritual leadership to all Ordinariate Catholics in North Carolina

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Councils of North Carolina express our sincere thanks to Bishop Lopes for his prayerful contributions to the Ordinariate Catholics of North Carolina.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy**

**Action:** **Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy**

## Resolution 16

**WHEREAS**, the 143rd Supreme Convention of the Knights of Columbus will conduct business from Tuesday, August 5 through Thursday, August 7, 2025, and

**WHEREAS**, the The State Council of District of Columbia will host this international convention in Washington, District of Columbia.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina State Council and Delegates express our sincere thanks to the State Council of the District of Columbia for their hosting of this convention on behalf of the entire order.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy**

**Action:** **Adoption and a letter from the State Deputy**

# Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention

## Resolution 17

**WHEREAS**, the Reverend William P. Lesak is the North Carolina State Chaplain, and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend William P. Lesak has provided spiritual direction and outstanding leadership as a Priest serving the Archdiocese of Newark for 49 years and the United States Naval Service as a Naval Chaplain for 27 years before retiring from active service with the rank of Captain, and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend William P. Lesak is celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his priestly ordination at this State Convention, and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend William P. Lesak continues to serve as State Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus in North Carolina

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Councils of North Carolina express our sincere thanks to Reverend William P. Lesak for his many contributions to the Church, Military, and the Knights of Columbus in North Carolina.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and Standing Ovation**

**Action:** **Adoption and Standing Ovation**

## Resolution 18

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Chris Koehn is the North Carolina Associate State Chaplain for the Diocese of Raleigh, and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Chris Koehn has provided spiritual direction and outstanding leadership as a Priest serving the Diocese of Raleigh for 6 years

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina State Council and Delegates express our sincere thanks to Reverend Chris Koehn for his many contributions to the Church and the Knights of Columbus in North Carolina.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and Standing Ovation**

**Action:** **Adoption and Standing Ovation**

# Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention

## Resolution 19

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Marcel C. Amadi is the North Carolina Associate State Chaplain for the Diocese of Charlotte, and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Marcel C. Amadi has provided spiritual direction and outstanding leadership as a Priest serving the Diocese of Charlotte for 10 years

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina State Council and Delegates express our sincere thanks to Reverend Marcel C. Amadi for his many contributions to the Church and the Knights of Columbus in North Carolina.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and Standing Ovation**

**Action:** **Adoption and Standing Ovation**

## Resolution 20

**WHEREAS**, the Catholic Church in North Carolina has a need for more Priests, and

**WHEREAS**, the Seminarians are discerning the call of God to a life of the Priesthood

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Councils of North Carolina pray for the wisdom, courage and strength they need to continue their studies and deepen their relationship with God.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and Standing Ovation**

**Action:** **Adoption and Standing Ovation**

## Resolution 21

**WHEREAS**, Priests, Religious and Deacons are serving as Chaplains, Friars, and Spiritual Advisors to the Councils and Assemblies throughout the State of North Carolina, and

**WHEREAS**, the spiritual guidance and leadership provided by these Chaplains, Friars and Spiritual Advisors are a key ingredient to the success of the Knights of Columbus in North Carolina

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Councils of North Carolina express our sincere thanks to the clergy and religious throughout the state, who serve the Knights of Columbus.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and Standing Ovation**

**Action:** **Adoption and Standing Ovation**

# **Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention**

## **Resolution 22**

**WHEREAS**, the North Carolina State Council has many Past State Deputies, and

**WHEREAS**, all of North Carolina's Past State Deputies continue to provide support, guidance and friendship

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina State Council offers our sincere thanks and appreciation to all the Past State Deputies of the Knights of Columbus of North Carolina.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and Standing Ovation**

**Action:** **Adoption and Standing Ovation**

# Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention

## Resolution 23

**WHEREAS**, we, the Knights of Columbus, support our military personnel serving in the Armed Forces throughout the World, and

**WHEREAS**, we also support all of our veterans who have served our country so well in the past, and

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus pray for peace in our world and for the souls of our men and women who have lost their lives in defense of our freedom

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the Knights of Columbus, offer our support for the safe return of our men and women in the Armed Forces serving our country today, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we express our sincere thanks to all our veterans and current military for their sacrifice for our freedom, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we express our gratitude to all our military personnel who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption, a moment of silence and refer to Supreme**

**Action:** **Adoption, a moment of silence and refer to Supreme**

**Supreme Action:** **Combined with Resolution 6 to form Supreme Resolution**

**265 – No Action**

**Massachusetts Resolution 166 – In Support of our Armed Forces and Service Personnel**

**RESOLVED**, that we reaffirm our unequivocal support and encouragement for the men and women of the armed forces who defend our liberties and freedom;

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we never waver in our commitment to recognize the contributions of every service member on active duty, in the Guard, in the Reserves, and all veterans and retired service members;

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we prayerfully support and encourage the families of those servicemen and servicewomen who are deployed overseas;

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we continue to pray for the mission success and the safe return of all military personnel throughout the world, especially those deployed to combat zones; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we pay tribute to those men and women who have served, especially those who have suffered serious combat injuries, and we pray for the souls of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives in the service of their country.

# Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention

## Resolution 24

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina has exceeded 10 million residents who occupy over 54,000 square miles of land that is prone to floods, severe storms, and other natural disasters, as well as threats of violence and terror, and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina is known for its extraordinary response to these emergencies. Every day 911 dispatchers, police officers, firefighters, emergency personnel and hospital frontline workers are our first line of defense and response, protecting our communities and ensuring North Carolina is the safest place to live, work and visit, and

**WHEREAS**, the heart of North Carolina's emergency response capability is our force of first responders. No greater courage is demonstrated than that of dedicated and brave first responders facing an emergency, rather than running away from it. First responders put their lives on the line by protecting and administering care to others in need, and

**WHEREAS**, first responders accept the challenge and responsibility of serving others without a second thought. They unselfishly perform their duties without regard for their own safety and provide a superior level of service, and

**WHEREAS**, as a direct result of our first responders' extensive training, rapid emergency deployment, and coordinated efforts, lives are saved, and

**WHEREAS**, every day the citizens of the State of North Carolina rely on the dedicated professionalism of first responders to preserve the peace and secure the safety and well-being of all who live in and visit North Carolina, and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina has received generous assistance from first responders from outside of the state in the wake of the devastation caused by Hurricane Helene and, more recently, the wildfires, and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina prays for continued assistance for those in all states that need assistance and appreciates the selfless work of our first responders who travel to provide that assistance

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the North Carolina State Council and Delegates express our sincere thanks to these First Responders and pray for their safety and success in their daily activities.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption, a moment of silence and refer to Supreme**

**Action:** **Adoption, a moment of silence and refer to Supreme**

**Supreme Action:** **See Resolution 25**

# Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention

## Resolution 25

**WHEREAS**, the natural disasters in North Carolina have caused widespread devastation, leaving many communities in need of support and assistance;

**WHEREAS**, disaster relief efforts in North Carolina have been carried out by brother Knights, volunteers, and individuals who have selflessly dedicated their time, resources, and energy to help those affected by the disasters;

**WHEREAS**, the work of these brother Knights, volunteers, and individuals has been invaluable in providing aid, comfort, and hope to those affected by the disasters, and has helped to mitigate the impact of the disasters on communities in North Carolina;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that this organization hereby honors and recognizes the disaster relief work in North Carolina, and expresses its gratitude and appreciation to all those who have contributed to these efforts, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this organization encourages all its brother Knights and the broader community to continue to support disaster relief efforts in North Carolina, and to assist in any way possible to help those affected by the disasters.

**Recommendation:** Adoption, a moment of silence and refer to Supreme

**Action:** Adoption, a moment of silence and refer to Supreme

**Supreme Action:** Combined with Resolution 24 to form Supreme Resolution 266 – Adoption

## Resolution 26

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus is a fraternal family service organization, and

**WHEREAS**, the Knights owe much of their success to the continued support of their spouses, and

**WHEREAS**, often their spouses are not recognized for their efforts to support members of the Knights

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the Knights of Columbus, acknowledge the continued support of our spouses, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the members of the Knights of Columbus express their sincere thanks and appreciation to all wives and widows.

**Recommendation:** Adoption and a standing ovation at the State Banquet

**Action:** Adoption and a standing ovation at the State Banquet



# Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention

## Resolution 27

**WHEREAS**, the ongoing conflict in Ukraine is a complex issue with historical, political, and social roots, and

**WHEREAS**, recognition of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity by all parties involved is needed for a solution to the conflict, and

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus have members of our order who reside in Ukraine, and

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus from Poland are physically supporting our Brothers in the Ukraine

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we the Knights of Columbus will continue to pray for a peaceful solution to the conflict and instability in the region, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the members of the Knights of Columbus will remain one with the people of Ukraine.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and refer to Supreme**

**Action:** **Adoption and refer to Supreme**

**Supreme Action:** **Supreme Resolution 267 – No Action**

### **British Columbia Resolution 31 – Support for the People of Ukraine**

**RESOLVED**, that we reaffirm our solidarity with the people of Ukraine as they courageously confront the ongoing conflict and widespread humanitarian crisis;

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we call for an immediate end to all hostilities and for full and unfettered access to humanitarian assistance for all affected civilians, especially children, the elderly, people with disabilities, and the most vulnerable;

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we offer deep appreciation to the Knights of Poland and Ukraine, for their unwavering commitment to Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism amidst the perils of the present conflict during which they have answered the call of Cardinal Husar to “raise the spirituality” of their people and to “show them the real face of the Church...as it should be;”

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we call on the United Nations, the European Union, and all people and nations of goodwill, to respond in whatever way they can to support the suffering people of Ukraine; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we recommit ourselves to answering the call of our late Pope Francis to pray for a just and lasting peace in Ukraine, and across all of Eastern Europe, and to continue providing support to those impacted by the conflict through our Ukraine Solidarity Fund and the ongoing daily corporal and spiritual works of mercy performed by our brother Knights throughout Eastern Europe.

# Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention

## Resolution 28

**WHEREAS**, the ongoing conflict in the Middle East is a complex issue with historical, political, and social roots, and

**WHEREAS**, recognition of Israel's sovereignty and territorial integrity by all parties involved is needed for a solution to the conflict

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we the Knights of Columbus will continue to pray for a peaceful solution to the conflict and instability in the region, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the members of the Knights of Columbus will remain one with the people of the Middle East.

**Recommendation:** **Adoption and refer to Supreme**

**Action:** **Adoption and refer to Supreme**

**Supreme Action:** **Supreme Resolution 268 – No Action**

**Mexico West Resolution 178 – In Solidarity with Persecuted Christians**

**RESOLVED**, that we extend our gratitude and congratulations to the Supreme Council and all brother Knights for their actions in favor of persecuted Christians, and to continue encouraging the work of the Supreme Council to keep promoting the Persecuted Christian Fund by praising, raising awareness, and conducting fundraising campaigns for humanitarian aid.

# Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention

## Resolution 29

Submitted by Father William O' Byrne Council 3574, Jacksonville

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that The State Council budget will be voted on by Councils in good standing at the State convention. The State Council will make available its proposed budgeted items for the next Fraternal Year and the rationale<sup>1</sup> for each. This will be accomplished no less than six weeks prior to the State Convention. Delegates will actively participate in the voting process at the State Convention. The budget and the progress of its execution will be shared to at least the District Deputy level. Councils will not support unapproved items. Emergency charitable assistance will be made through the Knights of Columbus Charities program. The State Council will not hold<sup>2</sup> funds for the purpose of matching contributions from councils. Finally, budgeted items financially supported by Supreme will not be subject to the voting process.

Rationale: Although the Knights of Columbus follows the pattern of governmental and military structure, it is otherwise at its core a united band of brothers in the service of Christ principally serving at the parish level<sup>3</sup> following the long held Catholic principle of subsidiarity<sup>4</sup>. The State Council budget should reflect that it solely exists because there are councils and assemblies across the state; anything the State Council does is in communion with all Knights in North Carolina. This approach will enable participation in determining our legitimate expenses by identifying common state-wide objectives. This in turn will also keep fund raising for State initiatives to a minimum. Every minute of fund raising for State initiatives is a minute donated that could be devoted toward another local good; establishing a visible budget together helps all brother Knights to labor for Christ in solidarity. Finally, it is understood that Supreme supports the State financially in certain capacities and these then would not be considered part of the voting process.

**Recommendation:** Rejection

**Action:** Rejection

**Reasoning:** Disaster relief donations by the councils are optional and councils are free to make their donation to Supreme rather than to the Penny-a-Day fund if they so choose. A committee of Grand Knights from across the state participates in the budget process and a copy is made available on the state website by no later than 72 hours prior to the State Convention for all delegates to review.

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<sup>1</sup> SPECIFIC DESIGNATION: SEC. 52. Funds of the Order shall be specifically designated according to the particular purpose for which they are created.

<sup>2</sup> Levy Assessments: SEC. 57. State Councils are hereby given power to levy, collect and enforce such assessments upon the councils or membership in the state as they may find necessary for the defraying of their legitimate expenses...

<sup>3</sup> For example, see "Nature of the Order" on p. 10 of the Knight's "Chaplain's Handbook"

<sup>4</sup> Refer to <https://www.usccb.org/sjp/forming-consciences-faithful-citizenship>

# Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention

## Resolution 30

Submitted by Father William O' Byrne Council 3574, Jacksonville

**BE IT RESOLVED**, The State Council will make known initiatives within Districts so that individual Councils may voluntarily participate.

Rationale: All Districts should be aware of good initiatives at other Councils. Perhaps there is a need to pool resources. In these cases the State Council can facilitate pooling resources or make the initiative a State budget item for the next year seeking support from all councils in the state.

**Recommendation:** No Action. Refer to the Good of the Order Committee.

**Action:** No Action. Referred to the Good of the Order Committee.

**Reasoning:** The idea of there being a central source of information for activities happening across the state is worth investigating.

## Resolution 31

Submitted by St. James the Greater Council 7450 and Assembly 3158, Concord

**WHEREAS**, the first principle of our order is Charity and our Catholic faith teaches us to "Love thy neighbor as thyself" and our members support those in need both spiritually and materially and our mission and our faith in God compel us to action, and

**WHEREAS**, the second principle of our order is Unity and our knowledge shows that we can accomplish more when we support one another and our unity expresses our belief in one Faith and one God, and

**WHEREAS**, the third principle of our order is Fraternity and our desire is to be men of integrity and to take responsibility for our actions and our wish is to assist one another by prayer, counsel and practical support, and

**WHEREAS**, the fourth principle of our order is Patriotism and our pride shows through our devotion to God and country and our understanding that the greatest citizens support their nations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to formally recognize Brother Knight and Brother Sir Knight, Victor St. Pierre, for 70 years of faithful contribution of his time and talent to promote the principles of our organization and to be an example for Knights of Columbus everywhere.

**Recommendation:** Adoption, standing ovation, and letter from the State Deputy

**Action:** Adoption, standing ovation, and letter from the State Deputy

# Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention

## Resolution 32

Submitted by Fr. Aloysius H. Schmitt Council 13220, Camp LeJeune

**WHEREAS**, the Knights of Columbus 4th degree, serves as honor and color guard at various events and functions, and

**WHEREAS**, they are compelled to look professional and in unison, and

**WHEREAS**, often time required or requested to be in regalia which requires the use of a tie, and

**WHEREAS**, tie clips are commonly used when ties are present as an accessory to maintain professional appearance, and

**WHEREAS**, there are no regulations concerning tie clips, and

**WHEREAS**, tie clips are available with the degree of the order and emblem of the 4 th degree, both are offered through the Knights of Columbus knights gear website, or rank of PGK, PFN or other office held if made available through the English company website

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that in keeping with more professional appearances a tie clip depicting the 4th degree emblem, emblem of the order or distinction of rank of office such as PGK, PFN, DD FDD, ect. should be allowed to be worn as part of the regalia during such functions, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Fr. Aloysius H Schmitt council 13220, Camp LeJeune motion that this resolution be referred to Senator Albert J. Ellis Assembly 1541, Jacksonville for action and recommendations was made at a special meeting held 24 Jan 2025, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution was brought forth to the Senator Albert J. Ellis Assembly 1541, Jacksonville, NC and vote was to make an amendment to the uniform manual that allows the use of a tie clip with the emblem of the 4th degree to be worn as part of the regalia.

**Recommendation:** **No Action. Refer to the District Master.**

**Action:** **No Action. Referred to the District Master.**

**Reasoning:** The State Convention is convened in the Third Degree and these are Fourth Degree matters. There is a separate biennial meeting for matters pertaining to the Fourth Degree.

# **Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention**

## **Resolution 33**

**Submitted by Fr. Aloysius H. Schmitt Council 13220, Camp LeJeune**

**WHEREAS**, public appearance of Fourth Degree Knights as Color Corps or Honor Guard at religious and civic functions is an important activity for each Assembly, and

**WHEREAS**, such functions and various events are conducted both indoors and outside, and

**WHEREAS**, there are numerous assemblies that have cold or inclement weather, and

**WHEREAS**, often time required or requested to be in regalia at such events, and

**WHEREAS**, the Knights in regalia are compelled to look professional and in unison, and

**WHEREAS**, Currently there is no regulation allowing for the use of a p-coat, over coat or any jacket to be used while in regalia

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, a committee should be formed to design an all-weather coat with the 4th degree emblem, to be used at outside events during inclement weather, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the color corps manual be updated for the approved coat be listed as an optional item, and describe the manner of wear while in and out of regalia uniform.

**Recommendation:** **No Action. Refer to the District Master.**

**Action:** **No Action. Referred to the District Master.**

**Reasoning:** The State Convention is convened in the Third Degree and these are Fourth Degree matters. There is a separate biennial meeting for matters pertaining to the Fourth Degree.

# **Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention**

## **Resolution 34**

**Submitted by Bishop Michael J Begley Council 770, Charlotte**

**WHEREAS**, Brother Sergio Miranda has dedicated 22 years of faithful service to the Knights of Columbus since his initiation into the St. John Neumann Council 7343 in Charlotte, NC, in August 2002, ardently promoting the principles of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity, and

**WHEREAS**, Brother Sergio Miranda has consistently exhibited active involvement in every council with which he has been associated, serving as treasurer in St. John Neumann 7343, Deputy Grand Knight for St. Mark 12654, and as Grand Knight for both 12654 and 770, and

**WHEREAS**, Brother Sergio Miranda has demonstrated unwavering and honorable commitment to the North Carolina State Council, amassing valuable experience through roles such as Family Director, District Deputy, Regional Membership and Program Consultant, also known as Regional District Deputy of today, State Warden for two years, State Advocate for one year, State Treasurer for two years, State Secretary for two years, and as State Deputy, and

**WHEREAS**, Brother Sergio Miranda became a full Knight and joined the Michael J Sabella Assembly 2417 in 2005, fervently promoting the spirit of Patriotism, and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Bishop Michael J Begley Council 770 does hereby extend unanimous and enthusiastic endorsement to Brother and Sir Knight Sergio Miranda for election to the office of State Deputy. His name shall be placed in nomination at the 2025 State Convention scheduled for May 16-18 in Hickory, North Carolina. We earnestly request that all Councils throughout this great state confer upon Brother and Sir Knight Sergio Miranda their vote of confidence.

**Recommendation: No Action**

**Action: No Action**

# Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention

## Resolution 35

Submitted by Fr. H. Charles Mulholland Council #7186, Apex

**WHEREAS**, Brother Richard (Rick) W. Lewis Jr. has faithfully served the Knights of Columbus since October 1997 when he joined the Msgr. Michael A. Carey Council 6650, promoting Charity, Unity and Fraternity, and

**WHEREAS**, Brother Rick Lewis helped bring the principals of the Order of the Knights of Columbus by helping grow the order becoming a charter member of the Fr. H. Charles Mulholland #7186 in Apex, NC while serving as District Warden, and

**WHEREAS**, Brother Rick Lewis has served the great state of North Carolina as District Deputy #5, helping to bring the principals of the Order of the Knights of Columbus by helping to start, and then becoming a charter member of the Fr. Hillary Miketinac Council 13582 at St. Julia Parish in Siler City; Youth Director; State Squires Chairman; Assistant Protocol Office;, Recruitment Chairman; New Council Development serving from 2003 till 2009, and serving the Master of the North Carolina District, David Onofrio, PSD as his District Marshal from 2013 till 2016, and

**WHEREAS**, Brother Rick Lewis has managed his time and efforts, with the unfailing support of his wife of 30-years Debbie, raising his two children Deirdre and RJ while being very active in the Knights of Columbus, and

**WHEREAS**, Brother Rick Lewis has faithfully and honorably served the North Carolina State Council as State Warden for one year, and State Advocate for two years, State Treasurer for two years, and State Secretary for one year

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fr. H. Charles Mulholland #7186 does hereby enthusiastically endorse Brother and Sir Knight Richard (Rick) W. Lewis for the election to the office of State Secretary and will place his name in nomination at the State Convention May 16-18, 2025 in Hickory, NC, and request that all Councils in this great state also give Brother and Sir Knight Rick Lewis their vote of confidence at the convention.

**Recommendation:** No Action

**Action:** No Action



# **Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention**

## **Resolution 36**

**Submitted by All Saints Council #9709, Raleigh**

**WHEREAS:** Brother Joseph (Joe) M. McCarthy has faithfully served the Knights of Columbus since November 2000 when he joined Valencia Council 80 in Milford, Massachusetts and was elected Grand Knight for Fraternal Years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006, and

**WHEREAS:** Brother Joe McCarthy served the great State of Massachusetts for 4 years as a District Deputy from 2007 thru 2011, and

**WHEREAS:** Brother Joe McCarthy moved to North Carolina transferred St. Raphael's Council #9880, Raleigh, serving as a Trustee for the council for two years from 2012 to 2014, and transferred to All Saints Council #9709, Raleigh in 2014 and was subsequently elected Grand Knight for Fraternal Year 2016-2017, and

**WHEREAS:** Brother Joe McCarthy served the great State of North Carolina as DD9 for Fraternal Year 2014-2015 and Country Store Chairman from 2016 until 2017 and Regional District Deputy 2 from 2018 to 2021. and

**WHEREAS:** Brother Joe McCarthy has managed his time and efforts, with the support of his loving wife of 26-years Anne-Marie, raising their four children while being very active in the Knights of Columbus, and

**WHEREAS:** Brother Joe McCarthy has faithfully and honorably served the North Carolina State Council as State Warden for one year, and State Advocate for two years, and State Treasure for one year and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** that the All Saints Council #9709 does hereby enthusiastically endorse Brother and Sir Knight Joseph (Joe) M. McCarthy for the election to the office of State Treasurer and will place his name in nomination at the 2025 State Convention May 16 to 18, 2025 in Hickory, NC, and request that all Councils in this great state also give Brother and Sir Knight Joe McCarthy their vote of confidence at the convention.

**Recommendation: No Action**

**Action: No Action**

# **Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention**

## **Resolution 37**

**Submitted by St. Joan of Arc Council #15265, Candler**

**WHEREAS**, Brother Timothy G. (Tim) Kelley has faithfully served the Knights of Columbus since October 2008 when he joined St. Eugene Council 11911 in Asheville, NC, and

**WHEREAS**, Brother Tim Kelley has faithfully served the North Carolina State Council in a variety of roles since 2013, including two years as State Warden and one year as State Advocate, and

**WHEREAS**, Brother Tim Kelley was inspired and encouraged by his wife of nearly 24 years, Tonya, whose memory he seeks to honor, and

**WHEREAS**, Brother Tim Kelley seeks to live out his Gospel call to love and serve his God and his neighbor to the best of his ability, and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the members of St. Joan of Arc Council 15265 of Candler hereby heartily endorse Brother and Sir Knight Tim Kelley for election to the office of State Advocate and will place his name in nomination at the 2025 State Convention in Hickory May 16-18, 2025, and request all councils of this great state to also give Brother Tim Kelley their vote at the convention.

**Recommendation: No Action**

**Action: No Action**

# **Resolutions for the 2025 North Carolina State Convention**

## **Resolution 38**

**Submitted by Paul J Trageser Council #10910, Chapel Hill**

**WHEREAS**, Brother Christopher Aloysius Kremer has faithfully served the Knights of Columbus for over 19 years since he joined the Catholic University of America Council #9542 while in college, later transferring to Council 10910 Paul J Trageser Council, Chapel Hill, NC, in 2014, where he immediately became engaged in promoting the Council's activities; and faithfully served in several Council leadership roles including two-term Grand Knight during which his Council earned the Star Council Award; And

**WHEREAS**, Brother Chris Kremer is a Fourth Degree Knight and served in the Divine Mercy Assembly having been elected Faithful Navigator for four terms, during which the Assembly twice earned the Star Assembly award, And

**WHEREAS**, Brother Chris Kremer was appointed District Deputy covering councils of various sizes, conditions, and diverse demographics, during which time his District earned Supreme's Star District award; and Brother Chris Kremer has served the State Warden for State Council of North Carolina focused on forms, inventory and supporting Councils across the state, And

**WHEREAS**, Brother Chris Kremer is a proud member of our nation's military with current rank of Major in the Colorado Army National Guard, where he has served as a Space Operations Officer And

**WHEREAS**, Brother Chris Kremer possesses several key characteristics including: An unwavering desire to continue to serve his Brother Knights; A successful record of leadership and organizational experience; A demonstrated willingness to commit the extensive amount of time and energy that's demanded of effective State officers; A clear understanding of and belief in the principles upon which our Order was founded; And the loving support of his family;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Paul J. Trageser Council 10910 does hereby enthusiastically endorse Brother and Sir Knight Chris Kremer for the election to the office of State Warden, and will place his name in nomination at the 2025 State Convention, and request all Councils in this great state also give Brother Kremer their vote of confidence, at this convention.

**Recommendation: No Action**

**Action: No Action**

# **Additional Supreme Resolutions Impacting NC Councils**

## **SUPREME RESOLUTION 401**

### **REPEALING SECTION 108 AND AMENDING SECTIONS 109 AND 114 OF THE LAWS OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**WHEREAS**, at its annual convention in 2022, the Supreme Council adopted Resolution No. 318, which amended Sections 109, 164, and 217 of the Laws of the Order regarding various issues related to the disposition of an application for membership in the Order; and

**WHEREAS**, the reason for these amendments was to update the statutory text to reflect current practices with respect to the disposition of an application for membership; and

**WHEREAS**, additional amendments are required in order to harmonize the Laws of the Knights of Columbus with current practices.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Section 108, which stipulates the appointment of an Admission Committee, be repealed; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the following Sections be amended as follows:

#### **SEC. 109 - Disposition of Application**

1. The application shall be read by the Grand Knight at the next monthly council meeting and the council shall proceed forthwith to ballot for the admission of such applicant after said reading.

#### **SEC. 114- Rejection - Effect of**

Any person rejected by ballot shall not be again eligible to apply for membership in any council until after the expiration of six months from the date of such rejection.

# **Additional Supreme Resolutions Impacting NC Councils**

## **SUPREME RESOLUTION 402**

### **AMENDING SECTION 145 OF THE LAWS OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

***WHEREAS,*** Section 145 of the Laws of the Knights of Columbus requires the Board of Trustees to conduct a semi-annual audit of the accounts of the Financial Secretary and Treasurer; and

***WHEREAS,*** an annual audit is sufficient to ensure proper oversight of a council's fiscal condition;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that Section 145 regarding the duties of the Board of Trustees be amended as follows:

#### **SEC. 145. Board of Trustees - Duties**

The Board of Trustees shall consist of the Grand Knight and three members to be elected by the council. The Grand Knight shall be its chairman. At the first election of a new council, three trustees shall be elected, one to hold office for one year or until the next regular election, one for two years or until the second next regular election, and the other for three years or until the third next regular election, as determined by lot among themselves. Thereafter, at each succeeding election, one Trustee shall be chosen for a term of three years. The Trustees shall have supervision of all the financial business of the council and their approval shall be necessary for the payment of all moneys except Benefit Fund moneys and demands of the Supreme Council or Board of Directors or State Council, and the regular and usual stated payments of the council, and payments authorized by the council after notice and vote in accordance with Section 122. They shall audit the accounts of the Financial Secretary and Treasurer and report thereon annually to their council and the Supreme

## **Additional Supreme Resolutions Impacting NC Councils**

Council, according to rules set by the Board of Directors. They shall see that the Financial Secretary and Treasurer give proper bonds running to the Knights of Columbus in trust for their particular council and in amounts fixed by said trustees, and they shall be the custodians of such bonds. But in case the Board of Directors shall bond such officers, the trustees shall be charged only with fixing the amount of such bonds in excess of the amount provided for by said Board of Directors, and in such case they shall have evidence that said officers shall have been bonded in such excess amount. They shall perform such other duties as their council or the District Deputy or Territorial Deputy or the officers of the Order may direct.