T. T. G. O. T. G. A. O. T. U.

THE MOST WORSHIPFUL NATIONAL GRAND LODGE FREE AND ACCEPTED ANCIENT YORK RITE MASONSTM PRINCE HALL ORIGIN • NATIONAL COMPACT U.S.A.

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OFFICE OF NATIONAL GRAND MASTER HON. TYRONE J MONTGOMERY, Sr. 33rd

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R.W. RICHARD LEVERT 33rd
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R.W. ANRECHIO HEARNS 32nd National Tyler

Psalm 133; Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments.

WELCOME ADDRESS

August 3, 2021

First, giving honor to God, who is the head of my life. To Past National Grand Master Lee Singleton, Past National Deputy Grand Master William Chasten, all past and current National Grand Lodge officers, National Grand Matron Evelyn Ross, all Department heads past and present, brothers and sisters, greetings.

I want to thank all the brothers and sisters from the many states who attended the 58th Triennial Session of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Ancient York Rite Masons, Prince Hall Origin, National Compact U.S.A. in Roanoke Virginia July 15th – July 21st. The triennial session was a great success, The National Compact has been in existence since June 24, 1847, and is poised to continue to exist for the foreseeable future.

Furthermore, I want to thank all the brothers who placed their trust and the future of The National Compact by electing me as the National Grand Master. I pledge to be transparent in all undertakings and I expect to be judged by my actions and words. Directly after my installation I was entrusted with **The Most Worshipful National Grand Lodge 1847 Warrant**, a Gavel and the Constitution and By Laws. These are the tools I will utilize as the National Grand Master.

As a Past Grand Master for Ohio, I am blessed to have been duly elected and installed as the 24th National Grand Master. Interestingly, I am the 5th National Grand Master from the state of Ohio, more than any other single state: William A. Darnes (1856-1859), Richard H. Gleaves (1865-1877), Matthew Brock (1963-1975) and Jefferson D. Tufts Sr. (1976-1990). Ohio has always played a large role in the National Compact and continues that historical pattern today.

As we look towards our future, there are three principles we need to focus on; growth, financial stability and an adherence to our rituals, add to that the tenants of Freemasonry, *brotherly love, relief and truth* and we have all we need to be successful. Psalms 133 listed above speaks to *brotherly love* as it states, "how good and pleasant it is for *brethren* to dwell together in unity," Freemasonry has been called a secret society, at its roots Freemasonry is a fraternal society, a *brotherhood, unlike any other*. Jude 1:21 speaks to God's *love*: "keep yourselves in God's *love* as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life."

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1 Peter 3:17 states: "For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil." Be it through our youth Programs, our scholarships, donations to charities or the many community projects we are involved in around the country, Freemasons are known for our *relief* work. We do these good works to help our fellow man and because God tell us to.

Truth is necessary and vital for the success of any organization; without truth we are living on lies and deceit. Lies and deceit are built on a false house, a house of sand. The 58th Triennial showed the world our house is built on solid rock. Psalm 25:5 Guide me in your *truth* and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

In closing, thank you again for the vote of confidence, I wish safety and blessings on all in the coming months. I ask for your prayers. Please follow all CDC and health guidelines as we traverse the ever-changing COVID-19 pandemic. I look forward to a prosperous year and will see all at the National Grand Lodge Workshop in Charlotte, North Carolina July 2022.

Proud to be a Compact Mason

Fraternally,

Hon. Tyrone J. Montgomery, Sr 33

National Grand Master