

## Nominating/Election Committee Report

In accordance with Section 15 of the Catholic Order of Foresters (“COF”) Constitution & Bylaws (“C&B”) High Chief Ranger Rodney W. Oligmueller appointed Past High Chief Ranger David E. Huber, Past High Court Trustee Larry Galles, Ann Baker, Jon Meyer, and Kenneth Ciesla to serve on the Nominating/Election Committee.

Section 16 of the COF C&B provides that the Nominating/Election Committee will actively seek out potential candidates to serve on the High Court and screen all nomination petitions and résumés to determine if candidates meet High Court Officer or Trustee qualifications as specified in the Constitution & Bylaws or required by any law or regulation.

The Committee met numerous times to fulfill its stated responsibilities. At the first meeting all members were present including High Chief Ranger Rodney W. Oligmueller (“Oligmueller”), Chief Executive Officer/President Gregory A. Temple (“Temple”), General Counsel/Corporate Secretary Christopher T. Nowotarski (Nowotarski”), and Committee Liaison Anthony Szymanek (“Szymanek”). The Committee discussed the process they intend to use in determining if candidates meet the qualifications as specified in the C&B and required by any law or regulation.

General Counsel Nowotarski provided background on the C&B, legal and regulatory requirements for any elected High Court Officer or Trustee. He emphasized that the various Departments of Insurance are focusing on governance of all insurance entities.

The Departments believe that insurance organizations fail due to the lack of good governance. As of 2019, Illinois requires each insurance entity to annually prepare and file a Corporate Governance Annual Disclosure (“CGAD”). CGAD entails disclosure of the skills, education, expertise and experience of all Board members. CGAD allows the Department of Insurance to determine if the Board collectively has the necessary skills, knowledge and experience to oversee the operations of the organization.

During the application period, Seventeen (17) individuals submitted applications for High Court Trustee and one (1) individual submitted an application for High Chief Ranger.

Each candidate was required to complete a resume, biographical affidavit, credit check, driving record check, and background investigation. Committee Liaison Szymanek informed the Committee, that each of the candidates passed all investigations. The various reports were reviewed by the Director of Human Resources, Holly Nauman, General Counsel Nowotarski and Committee Liaison Szymanek and made available to the Committee members for their review.

The Committee then began the process by reviewing each candidate’s resume and video presentation and determined which candidates they would interview.

The Committee believes that based on the current emphasis on governance by society as well as government regulators, COF must continue to nominate and elect a Board that collectively has the best qualities and characteristics to oversee a fraternal insurance organization. This means supporting individuals with a diverse set of skills and expertise and not rewarding long time members only because they served in various fraternal positions. The National Association of Insurance



Commissioners requires organizations to have a board that can oversee the operations of COF, be a sounding board to the President and fulfill their fiduciary responsibilities.

Upon completing the above process the Committee unanimously concluded that given the regulator emphasis on governance, the Committee needed to nominate candidates that would maximize the experience, characteristics, expertise, knowledge of the COF High Court and the fraternal insurance industry.

On July 17, 2024, the Committee met again and discussed the qualifications of each of the Candidates. The Committee unanimously found the candidates for High Chief Ranger position and fifteen candidates for High Court Trustee best satisfy the needs of the COF High Court..

Based on the above, below are the candidates the Committee is nominating in alphabetical order based on the individual’s last name.

For High Chief Ranger	Rodney W. Oligmueller
For High Court Trustee Qualified Candidates with the Experience, Skills, Education, and Knowledge Deemed best for COF.	Julie Bries Gregory Buehner Daniel Buksa Mark Connaughton Erin Donnay Wesley Even Betty Fiegen Ronald J. Freund John D. Krebs William Martin Beth A. McFarlane Joseph Meyers Susan M. Pereira Kelly Pinchart Michael J. Schuster

**Rules of Election National Convention 2024**

In accordance with Section 16 of the Constitution and Bylaws, the Nomination/Election Committee chair will place each name into nomination after the approval of the Nomination/Election Committee Report.

**ELECTION RULES**

Section 16 of the Constitution and Bylaws provides that following the Nominating/Election Committee chairperson’s report, the committee will conduct the election and certify the results. The election will be conducted in accordance with Section 13 of the COF’s Constitution and Bylaws.

Voting will be conducted via the electronic platform known as LUMI. Each candidate for office will be listed under the office he or she seeks, and where more than one candidate is running for such office, the

candidates will be placed on the ballot by a random drawing conducted under the supervision of the Nomination/Election Committee.

Regardless of the number of candidates running for an office, a nominee for an office who has received an absolute majority of the votes based on the number of votes cast for the office shall be declared elected. If more than 14 candidates receive a majority vote, the High Court Trustee positions will be filled by the 14 candidates receiving the largest number of votes, limited to no more than one candidate from the same Local Court and no more than two from the same Jurisdiction Court.

A majority of the votes cast is necessary for election. After the second and each succeeding ballot, the candidate receiving the least number of votes will be eliminated from the next and succeeding ballots.

If the required number of individuals do not receive a majority of the votes cast, a subsequent ballot will be held in accordance with these rules and the Constitution and Bylaws until all positions are filled.

Voting shall begin when the Chair of the Nominating/Election Committee declares the opening of the balloting and concludes when declared by the Chairman that voting has closed.

The Nomination/Election Committee shall report to the Convention the results of the election based on results reported by LUMI.

In accordance with Section 13 of the Constitution and Bylaws, no more than two High Court Members may come from the same Jurisdiction Court. Therefore, if three candidates from the same Jurisdiction Court are elected in accordance with the above rules, the top two candidates will be elected, and the third-place finisher will be eliminated.

Any protest with regard to the officially announced results must be made within 15 minutes of the announced results, by stating the reason for the protest and providing any supporting materials to the Chair of the Nominating/Election Committee and such protest shall be considered and resolved by the Nomination/Election Committee. If such candidate does not agree with the determination, the candidate may appeal the decision to the Convention. Such appeal must be filed within five minutes upon the candidate learning of the decision.

Send any questions, comments or suggestions to the committee at the Nominating/Election Committee hyperlink at the Convention Website on or before midnight Central Time July 27, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

/S/

David E. Huber  
Chairperson, Nominating/Election Committee