




CANDIDATE RESUME

Pursuant to a resolution adopted by the High Court, membership of the High Court will be restricted to only one member from any family.¹

Office Sought: High Court Trustee		
SECTION A: PERSONAL PROFILE		
1. Full Legal Name: Julie Bries		
2. Court Name/Number ^A : St. Francis Court #607		
3. Membership Date ^B : November 1, 1972		
4. Are you a Catholic Order of Foresters member in good standing and a practicing Roman Catholic in union with Rome as defined in the Order's Constitution and Bylaws? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
5. Are you a citizen of the United States? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
6. Current Address: 8278 Fortmann Road, Worthington, Iowa 52078		
7. Marital status: Married	7a. Spouse name: Steven J. Bries	
8. Have you ever been separated or divorced? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If "Yes", explain below.		
9. Email: jbries8@gmail.com		
<p>^A According to Section 13 of the <i>Constitution and Bylaws</i>, "No more than one High Court member may be a member of the same local court. No more than two High Court members may come from the same jurisdiction."</p> <p>^B According to Section 13 of the <i>Constitution and Bylaws</i>, "A High Court officer or trustee/director candidate must have been a member in good standing for two full years before nomination."</p>		
SECTION B: EDUCATION, COURT EXPERIENCE		
School Name	City/State	Graduate Degree/Certificate
1. High: Beckman Catholic	Dyersville, Iowa	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Diploma
2. College: Kirkwood Community	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Dipolma
2a. If you received a college education, provide your field of study and major:	Field of study Legal Secretary	Major Associate
3. Other: Archdiocese of Dubuque, Dubuque, Iowa		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Cert.
4. List prior Catholic Order of Foresters offices held, including all jurisdiction/state and/or local court titles and dates. Attach additional paper for more space.		
High Court Trustee from 2016 -- Present. Iowa Fraternal Alliance from 2015 -- President. Served as board member, Vice President and currently President See attachment for more information.		

¹Family is defined as parent, child, grandchild, grandparent, sibling, and in-laws of any of the previous individuals.



SECTION C: PROFESSIONAL, OCCUPATIONAL AND BUSINESS AFFILIATIONS

1a. Provide name of your current employer and occupation.

Self Employed -- Farm Business

1b. Provide a brief narrative of your current occupational role and responsibilities.

I have been involved in our family farming business since the 1990's and currently I am the owner/operator, along with my husband. I own farm land and we also rent land. Our operation includes a 2,000 head beef feedlot operation and have a cow/calf business where we finish those calves in the feedlot. My role and responsibilities include helping to the run the day-to-day operations, finances, investments, and management of the land and livestock.

1c. List your employment history for the last five (5) years.

In the last 5 years I have been an owner/operator for our family business.

2. List all current professional, occupational and/or vocational licenses you hold.

ALMI (Associate, Life Management Institute) -- Loma 302, 308, 321, along with Loma 280 and 290;
 Loma Level 1: Insurance Fundamentals -- Loma 280 and 290;
 Iowa State Extension Certificate as a static and livestock judge;
 See attachment for more information.

3. Provide details of any affiliation or association you (or your spouse) have with another insurer or fraternal organization.

Iowa Fraternal Alliance (IFA) -- presently the President of this organization.

4. Briefly state why you are qualified for the position you seek. Why would you be an asset to the Order? Use additional paper for more space.

Since joining the Catholic Order of Foresters over 50 years ago, I have served at the local, district, state/jurisdiction, and high court levels of this fraternal organization. During my time as a High Court Trustee, I have served as the
 See attachment for more information.



SECTION D: GENERAL KNOWLEDGE OF FRATERNAL BENEFIT SYSTEM OPERATIONS	
1. Do you possess a general knowledge of the Fraternal Benefit System?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Do you possess a general knowledge of the Order's fraternal workings?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3. Do you possess a general insurance management knowledge?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
4. Do you possess a general investment management knowledge?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
5. Are you free to travel on the Order's business?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
6. Do you have the time to devote to completing the orientation and educational training as required by the High Court?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
7. Do you understand that failure to comply with all orientation and educational training as required by the High Court within twelve (12) months of taking office will result in the forfeiture of your elected High Court position?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
8. Do you have a valid Driver's License?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
9. Are you prepared to devote the necessary time to fulfilling your responsibility as a High Court Trustee?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
10. Are you familiar with COF's life insurance and products?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
11. Are you familiar with the core characteristics, key competencies, and desired experiences required by the High Court?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
12. Do you possess one (1) or more of the characteristics, key competencies, and desired experiences as set forth by the High Court?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
13. List all characteristics, key competencies, and desired experiences that you possess.	
<p>I have the core characteristics, key competencies, and desired experiences necessary to continue as a High Court Trustee. I am a person who is dedicated to and believes in the mission of Catholic Order of Foresters. I am passionate about the Catholic Order of Foresters from where we have been to where we are going in the future. I have good communication skills, as well as good judgment. I am reliable and responsible in what I participate in. See attachment for more information</p>	

Continued on next page



CANDIDATE RESUME

14. Are you familiar with COF's mission?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
15. Do you support COF's mission?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
16. Describe in narrative form how you support COF's mission.	
<p>The mission of the Catholic Order of Foresters to provide financial security to families is as important today as it was when the organization first began over 141 years ago. Our family experienced a loss that you cannot plan for of a stillborn child. We had a good experienced agent who knew Catholic Order of Foresters could help our family at this time of financial stress. Everyone in our family was a member and our son, Nicholas, would have been a member had he lived. We were presented a check, and we are so grateful that there is something in place to help families when they experience this kind of loss. I have become an advocate of this benefit to young families, so See attachment for more information.</p>	



SECTION E: AUTHORIZATION AND CERTIFICATION

I attest the above information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I voluntarily authorize Catholic Order of Foresters to verify any information deemed necessary and to contact any individuals, schools, organizations, or investigative agencies.

This resume and accompanying photograph may be reproduced and distributed to the Catholic Order of Foresters Nominating/Election Committee, High Court officers and accredited National Convention delegates.

I further understand that all candidates are permitted to prepare a video, not to extend longer than three (3) minutes in length, that will be posted online to the catholicforester.org website. The video, which must be submitted by the deadline, may be accessible for viewing by Catholic Order of Foresters members, High Court officers and accredited National Convention delegates, and other visitors to the website.

Full Legal Name: Julie Bries

Full Legal Signature



E-SIGNED by Julie Bries
 on 05/01/2024 11:22:12:12 CDT

Date

May 01, 2024

CANDIDATE VIDEO

You may create and submit an optional video of yourself, not to extend longer than 3 minutes in length, that will be posted to the catholicforester.org website.

Your video must be submitted by June 3, 2024, to be reviewed for compliance with the stated 3-minute time length.

All posted videos may be accessible for viewing by Catholic Order of Foresters members, High Court officers and accredited National Convention delegates, and other visitors to the Catholic Order of Foresters' website.

To submit your video, please visit and click the hyperlink at catholicforester.org/2024-convention-landing-page.

CANDIDATE PHOTO

Please attach or upload a 3 x 5-inch or 4 x 7-inch digital professional photos of yourself by June 3, 2024. Your submitted photo will be placed on the first page of the Candidate Resume and may be used on the Catholic Order of Foresters' website and other Convention and Order-related materials.

To submit your photo, attach it when submitting this application. To submit your photo at a later date, visit and click the hyperlink at catholicforester.org/2024-convention-landing-page.

NOMINATING/ELECTION COMMITTEE CANDIDATE APPROVAL

Signature

David E. Huber

Date

7/17/2024



SECTION F: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Use this space to provide additional information.

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Local Court Chief Ranger 1997--Present

Iowa State Court/Jurisdiction Secretary 2009--2017

Iowa State Court/Jurisdiction Trustee 2008--2009

Fraternal Outreach Advisory Committee 2014--2016

Eastern Iowa District 2002-2008. Held the following positions: Treasurer, Vice President, and Trustee

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Virtus Safe Environment Training

Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Certification, Beef Cattle Care Training, and Feedlot Management Certification

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chair of the governance committee (2020 to present) and chair of the compensation committee (2022). I presently serve on the following committees: governance, convention task force, and constitution compliance task force. I have served on the following committees: compensation, fraternal youth, and good of the order. In 2014 I was part of the fraternal outreach advisory committee.

As chair of the compensation committee in 2022 I worked closely with the compensation consultant and worked diligently with our committee members to have an outcome that would benefit those in the roles in which we commend compensation for and be a valuable resource for the future compensation chairs and committees. I served an extra year on the compensation committee to mentor the next committee chair and committee. This mentorship has continued with the past committee chair serving as a mentor and committee member. I think this will be a valuable resource for the committee chair and committee in the future.

Governance committee work included the following: making sure policies and resolutions were reviewed annually, worked on the items included in the past referendum, developed a skills matrix to be used to identify gap areas of our board, worked together for an educational resolution for the board, continued work on strategic plan, and succession for board members. The skills matrix will be a resource for the nomination committee this convention cycle and I think it will be a valuable tool.

I am presently serving as the Iowa Fraternal Alliance (IFA) president. In the past I have been a director and vice president. In the past years I have been able to network with our state representatives and senators. I am currently working with the Wisconsin Fraternal Alliance to schedule a joint meeting of our boards to begin to explore networking with each other. I am excited to be part of this amazing organization that continues to develop ideas with every Catholic Order of Forester member in mind.

I am also active in my parish cluster and local community. I have been part of our parish council, board of education, director of religious education, youth minister, circle leader, eucharistic minister and for over 20 years I was a catechist and youth choir director. I am a 4-H leader in our local club, also served on several county committees from youth action to the nomination and elections committee for several terms.

The knowledge of operating and managing a family farm business has taught me how to manage a business. Managing our family farm business is challenging and will continue to be during the years ahead. We will need to continue with our succession planning and look at new ways to continue as a family farm.

I think I am qualified to continue to serve as a High Court Trustee with the background I bring to the board. I strive to continue to learn more about the Catholic Order of Foresters history, business aspect, and fraternal outreach. I have completed my Loma ALMI and will continue in the future to work toward my ACS and FLMI.

The 4-H motto is "to make the best better" and I will strive every day to live this out and pass this onto others. During the convention we need to all come together for the good of the order. I plan to do what I can so the values and mission of the



SECTION F: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Use this space to provide additional information.

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I present a positive attitude and an image that reflects positively on the Catholic Order of Foresters. I am open to change and encourage people to think outside the box. Along with openness to change, forward thinking is necessary to bring about the change that is needed. I have good listening skills and try to be there for anyone when they need someone to listen to them. I believe in being a mentor to other board members.

As a High Court Trustee, I make decisions to represent all members of our society. I have a good understanding of good corporate governance and continue to learn more about what is taking place in the industry. I have been part of working effectively with board members to collectively come together in decision making. The past referendum is an example of working effectively in a collective decision-making setting. I am very prepared for meetings and have had the responsibility of being the governance chair and compensation chair during the same year. I have a working knowledge of the Catholic Order of Forester’s Constitution and Bylaws and Robert’s Rules of Order. I have been mentoring 4-H members for the past 15 years on how to conduct their monthly meetings with Robert’s Rules of Order.

Education and leadership opportunities are valuable parts of my desired experiences. I have a degree as a legal secretary and have worked as a paralegal. I was employed by our parish for many years as the director of religious education and youth minister. I completed the three (3) year lay formation program, which provided leadership, learning, and growing in my faith. I have been part of many boards and committees over the years and each has provided leadership qualities. A recent board I served several terms on was the Dubuque County Extension nomination and election committee. I have organized and provided leadership for parish sacraments, retreats, and fundraisers. I have been a volunteer with Hospice of Dubuque and in that role, I learned about leadership, organizational skills, and how important faith is during the journey home. By volunteering in educational settings, I have gained insight in how important technology is and how quickly it changes.

I have the basic working knowledge of accounting, business, financial, insurance, legal, and management skills. I have come from a background that instilled this knowledge into my life experiences. I am vested in the Catholic Order of Foresters with life insurance and annuities. My husband and children have life insurance and annuities. When my granddaughters were born my husband and I purchased life insurance policies for them to provide them with financial security.

I will continue to learn and strengthen my characteristics, competencies, and experiences through education and life experiences.

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they are prepared in the event they experience a loss. Financial security is so important and Catholic Order of Foresters has never lost sight of this.

Catholic Order of Foresters has so many benefits that strengthen our spiritual faith life, provide social experiences that enrich our lives with other members and together we engage in charitable endeavors. I have experienced this firsthand and I will continue to engage and promote activities that provide spiritual, social and charitable experiences.




NOMINATION PETITION FOR OFFICE

Please print clearly.

I, Julie Bries, hereby file my nomination petition for the
 Candidate's Full Legal Name
 office of High Court Trustee with the Catholic Order of Foresters.
 Office Name

A copy of my resume is attached.

CANDIDATE CERTIFICATION	
I hereby certify that all information contained in my Candidate Resume and Nomination Petition for Office form is true, complete, and to the best of my knowledge correct.	
Candidate's Full Legal Signature	Date
 E-SIGNED by Julie Bries on 05/01/2024 11:22:45:45 CDT	May 01, 2024