

Constitution and Rules of Order of the Grand Chapter of Florida order of the Eastern Star, Inc. and Rules and Regulations for the Government of subordinate Chapters in Florida,

Article XXII: R.E.S.T. (Resident Eastern Stars Today)

The purpose of R.E.S.T. is to provide emergency and/or financial assistance, to eligible Florida Eastern Star sisters enabling them to remain in their own home. If an assisted living facility is necessary for medical or personal care, an eligible sister may utilize facilities near her own environment, family and friends. The total cost of the use of this facility may not exceed the cost of care in the Masonic Home. The individual monthly assistance shall not exceed \$750.00 per month, the exact amount based upon actual need.

R.E.S.T. Night shall be observed by subordinate chapters at the second or only stated meeting in October.

Florida Eastern Star sisters who have maintained a continuous Florida Eastern Star membership for ten or more years and became a Florida Eastern Star member before age 60 are eligible to receive assistance. Eligibility to be based upon need and verified semi-annually by review of all applications. The applicant will not be required to repay or forfeit personal properties to meet the qualifications for assistance from the R.E.S.T. fund.

Assistance from this Fund is subject to final approval by the Main Committee, after review of the required applications, including budget and asset listing, with proper investigation and verification of all circumstances. Such application and budget forms are to be annually reviewed and revised as necessary by the Main Committee and approved by the Jurisprudence Committee.

The total of all assistance shall not exceed the amount that can be supported by the interest earned by this Fund, donations and that portion of the principal in excess of \$50,000, which shall be maintained as a minimum balance at all times. However, in no event shall the aggregate amount of all approved assistance exceed the amount which may be continued as long as the need and qualifications exist, as indicated by the expected budgeted funds available.

It shall be the duty of the main Committee to review all files received, request further investigation or verification as may be deemed necessary, including how, where and to whom monthly payments are to be made. Upon final approval the request for assistance is to be forwarded to and processed by the Grand Secretary as directed by the Main Committee Chairman.

The Committee shall be allowed recommended mileage for the purpose of screening applicants and postage for acknowledgment of contributions to the Funds.

Each subordinate chapter Secretary shall send all contributions to the Sub-Committee Chairman for record keeping, banking, reporting and acknowledgement of all contributions to the Fund. The Sub-Committee Chairman shall advise the Main Committee Chairman of all pertinent information. It shall be the duty of the Sub-Committee Co-Chairman to serve as chairman of major fund raising activities for the benefit of R.E.S.T. All activities shall be within the guidelines of our law. All proceeds from such activities shall be sent to the Sub-Committee Chairman for record keeping and banking.

All R.E.S.T. funds received shall be deposited in such banking institutions as shall be designated by the Grand Chapter, and all such funds shall be handled in accordance with Grand Chapter Laws.

Article XXV. Committees

Section 3. Composition of the Committees:

(x) R.E.S.T.: This Committee shall be composed of a Main Committee, a Sub-Committee and district chairmen.

The Main Committee is to be composed of 12 members appointed by the Worthy Grand Matron, who are to serve four years alternately, with three new members being appointed each year. These appointments shall be selected equally from the Northern, Central and Southern areas of the State. The Worthy Grand Matron shall designate annually a chairman who is knowledgeable and qualified. The chairman must be selected from the main committee.

The Sub committee shall consist of a chairman and co-chairman.

The District Chairman shall be composed of one member from each district.

Section 4. Duties of Committees:

(w) R.E.S.T. (Resident Eastern Stars Today) The duty of the Committee shall be the promotion of the R.E.S.T. program and the solicitation of funds.

It shall be the duty of the Main Committee to review all files received, request further investigations or verification as may be deemed necessary, including how, where and to whom monthly payments are to be made. Upon final approval, the request for assistance is to be forwarded to and processed by the Grand Secretary as directed by the Main Committee Chairman. The Main Committee shall meet as soon as possible after Grand Chapter for the purpose of formal training in the review of financial reports submitted with R.E.S.T. applications.

The District Chairman shall promote the R.E.S.T. program and solicit funds.

Each subordinate chapter Secretary shall send all contributions to the Sub-Committee Chairman for record keeping, banking, reporting and acknowledgment of all contributions to the Fund. The Sub-Committee Chairman shall advise the Main Committee Chairman of all pertinent information. It shall be the duty of the Sub-Committee Co-Chairman to serve as chairman of major fund raising activities for the benefit of R.E.S.T. All activities shall be within the guidelines of our law. All proceeds from such activities shall be sent to the Sub-Committee Chairman for record keeping and banking.

(updated 2016)