



# Knights of Columbus®

## Indiana State Council

Gil Spisak  
State Deputy

April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Worthy Brother Knights:

This is to inform those interest in seeking election as a state officer, and to notify all Brother Knights of the applicable rules governing such elections. These rules shall be used at this year's State Convention and should serve as a reference for future elections to State Council Office.

Candidates are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the *Charter, Constitution, Laws and Rules of the Order* (the "Laws") and the *By-laws of the Indiana State Council* (the "By-laws"), particularly as they pertain to candidates for State Office. I would like to bring your attention to the following provisions::

Section 162 of the Laws is found in Article XVIII of the Supreme Constitution, which deals with Misconduct and Nonfeasance of Members and Officers. Section 162 states that a member who engages in the conduct described in the following subsections shall be subject to the discipline indicated:

6. Insubordination. Willful insubordination, contempt, or disobedience of the lawful orders of superior authority; fine, suspension or expulsion.
7. Giving Scandal. Giving scandal, scandalous conduct or practice unbecoming a member of this Order; suspension or expulsion.
23. Appeals for Political Support. Issuing appeals for, or soliciting by virtue of his membership in the Knights of Columbus, aid, assistance or support by or in behalf of or announcing candidates for public office, or candidates for office (including delegates to State and Supreme councils) in another society or body or in the Order; fine, suspension or expulsion.

Any member who knowingly permits or acquiesces in such appeals, solicitation, etc., shall, if elected, be ineligible to hold office.

Section 157.10 of the Laws (Offences of Councils) states that any local council which engages in the conduct described above can be suspended or dissolved, and its charter forfeited.

Article IV, Section 2 of the By-laws (Eligibility) states that only third degree members are eligible to be a state officer. State Deputies must be insurance members.

(Conduct of Candidates):

Members who are interested in being elected to a State Office may make their interest known to the delegates. However, any statements made by or on behalf of such member, and any materials, items or information provided by or on behalf of such member, shall be truthful and shall not be unbecoming of a member of the Order or otherwise violate Chapter XVIII of the Supreme Constitution. **Candidates shall not use the emblem of the Order on any materials prepared in connection with their efforts to be elected.**

For purposes of clarification, subject to the laws and rules referenced above, the following are permitted: (a) personal conversations in which a member expresses his interest in being elected and describes his qualifications, (b) printed materials handed out at the State Meeting and Convention which describe the interested member's qualifications (Note: Promotional photographs in literature / communications should only be in reference those who are supporting the candidate.)

The following are examples of actions that are NOT permitted: (x) asking for support or votes, (y) offering or promising something of value in exchange for support, including support for another interested member, and (z) sending or using phone calls, emails, faxes, texts, and other forms of electronic communications, or letters to promote the election of an interested member.

Negative communications or communications that can degrade a candidate for election shall be considered Un-Knightly (see above Section 162).

NO Campaign material of any kind is allowed in the Chamber!

Furthermore, candidates and all in attendance at the State Council Meeting and Convention must comply with the rules of the location where the event is being held, which may prohibit placing/taping campaign materials, or engaging in open campaigning, in public areas, including doorways, walls, hallways, elevators, bathrooms, etc. – No taping of any campaign materials on the walls, doors, etc. for election.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

God Bless and Vivat Jesus!

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cc: State Officers, Directors, Chairmen, District Deputies, Councils