

Chandler Lodge #138 F &AM
Lodge Education Program

Subject: Voting

Date: Oct 28th 2008

In the next few weeks we will have the opportunity to exercise our voting privileges not only within our lodge, but also in our community. Here is some background regarding voting.

1776 When this country announced its independence from Britain, voting rights were based on property ownership. This typically meant that those voting were white males over the age of 21 of Protestant religion.

1868 The 14th Amendment recognizes African Americans as citizens, giving them the right to vote. However, state officials attempted to deny this right

1870 African Americans were given the right to vote in the 15th Amendment. It prohibited any state or local government from denying that right.

1920 The 19th Amendment was added to the Constitution, giving women across the nation the right to vote

1940 Congress recognizes Native Americans as citizens. However, it wasn't until 1947 that all states granted them the right to vote.

1971 The voting age is lowered to 18

In Ohio the requirements are a non-felon, at least 18 years of age, and registered, which requires being an Ohio resident for 30 days. Proper Identification is required for registration, and at the voting stations.

Masonic voting also has some rules:

- 1) Within the lodge current Master Masons in good standing within their dues paying home lodge are entitled to vote. Honorary, and visiting members are not entitled to vote, nor hold any office.
- 2) At our temple association level the WM and SW are the two lodge representative entitled to vote in addition to regular dues paying temple board members.
- 3) For meetings of the 9th Masonic district, only past masters, current elected or appointed officers of a lodge within the 9th district are entitled to vote on district affairs.
- 4) The annual Grand Lodge Convocation entitles the top three platform officers the right to vote, this right may be passed via a proxy to any one of the current elective officers.

Source:
Elections.com
Ohio ACLU website
Grand Lodge of Ohio Code (chapters 5 &21)
9th District by-laws