

Resolution 2007-01

(Requires a 5/6 majority for adoption)

Synopsis: The purpose of this resolution is to establish a statute of limitations for the prosecution of a Brother for un-Masonic conduct. This period would be within five years, if approved. Currently a Brother may be tried for life for any infraction, even if key witnesses for his defense are no longer available or are deceased. This denies the rights of a Brother to a speedy trial within a reasonable time frame. This change would not apply to any Brother who has ever been convicted of a felony, nor to any Brother who has falsified a petition for membership.

Additions in bold, removed text ~~struck through~~:

Section 129. For any violation of the Ancient Landmarks of the Order, or the Constitution or Regulations of the Grand Lodge, of the by-laws of his Lodge, or of any portion of the Masonic or moral law all of which is collectively referred to as un-Masonic conduct: (1) a member of a Lodge within this jurisdiction may be reprimanded, suspended or expelled, in the manner provided in Sec. 158; (2) A member of a Lodge in another Grand Jurisdiction who resides in this jurisdiction may be tried for un-Masonic conduct in this Jurisdiction and the findings and recommendations of the Lodge shall be transmitted to the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge for reference to the Grand Jurisdiction where the accused holds membership. ~~In no case shall the passage of time bar prosecution for un-Masonic conduct.~~ **Charges brought for any un-Masonic conduct other than either a felony conviction, as provided for in sections 129.1 and 129.2, or for falsification of a petition or application for membership, must be brought within five calendar years of the date of commission of the offense.**

Fraternally Submitted,

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