



# John Philip Sousa Lodge No. 1106

## PETITION FOR THE DEGREES OF FREEMASONRY AUTHORIZED STATEMENT

To be read and assented to (*before signing petition*) by every person applying for admission to the Craft.

As you have expressed a desire to become a Freemason, we presume you have thoroughly considered the step you propose to take. The exact nature of our Institution being unknown to you, we consider it advisable that you should be informed on certain points which may affect your decision to apply for membership.

Freemasonry has in all ages insisted that men shall come to its doors entirely of their own free will; not from feelings of curiosity, but from a favorable opinion of the Institution and a desire to be ranked among its members.

The great permanent unchanging basic principle to which you must unreservedly subscribe, and which you must maintain, is the existence of God. Freemasonry has for its foundation the great basic principles of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. Therefore, no atheist can be a Freemason. It strives to teach a man the duty he owes to God, to his neighbor, and to himself. It inculcates the practice of every virtue, and makes an extensive use of symbolism in its teachings. It interferes neither with religion nor politics, and there is an absolute elimination of any arguments or contention in connection with either.

It cannot be too strongly emphasized that Freemasonry is not be entered in the hope of personal gain or advancement. Admission must not be sought from mercenary or other unworthy motives. Anyone so actuated will be bitterly disappointed. The aim of the true Freemason is to cultivate a brotherly feeling among men and to help where he can.

Freemasonry is not a benefit society. This fact cannot be too strongly emphasized. We do not subscribe so much a year to enable us to draw sick pay or other benefits, or to make provision for those we leave behind. There are other excellent societies founded for this purpose. No man should enter the ranks of Freemasonry unless he feels reasonably assured, humanly speaking, that he will never require help from its funds. Masonic charity is intended for those who, from unforeseen circumstances, and through no fault of their own, have met with misfortune.

Masonic Lodges are largely supported by contributions from their members in the form of dues. Each Lodge has certain fixed expenses which the good name of the Fraternity requires shall be paid with businesslike promptness. It is of the utmost importance, therefore, that the financial obligations of a member of his Lodge shall be paid when due. They should not be postponed except in cases of extreme urgency.



I have carefully read and understand the above "Authorized Statement," and hereby express my willingness and financial ability to meet promptly such payments in the form of dues as the Lodge may impose.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Usual Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

### STATEMENT OF LODGE SPONSORS

As a member in good standing of this Lodge, I certify that I am personally acquainted with this petitioner and believe he has answered truly all of the questions in the petition. I recommend him as a fit and proper candidate for Freemasonry and for membership in this Lodge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Usual Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Member Number*

I am also a member in good standing of this Lodge and am also personally acquainted with the petitioner and recommend him as a worthy candidate for Freemasonry and for membership in this Lodge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Usual Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Member Number*



\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_  
(Insert date)

**TO THE MASTER,  
WARDENS, AND BRETHREN OF**

**JOHN PHILIP SOUSA LODGE No. 1106**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned subscriber, having conceived a favorable opinion of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, and being unbiased by friends and uninfluenced by mercenary or other unworthy motives, freely and voluntarily petition for the mysteries of Freemasonry and membership in your Lodge. I am prompted to do so by a desire for knowledge and a sincere wish to be of service to my fellow men. I provide herewith the following information, in ink and my own handwriting, for consideration by the Lodge:

(ANSWERS TO ALL QUESTIONS MUST BE IN **APPLICANT'S OWN HANDWRITING**)

1. Name in full (Print) \_\_\_\_\_  
(First Name) (Middle Name) (Last Name)
  2. Please provide the last four digits of your Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_
  3. Where do you reside? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Zip Code)
  4. How long have you resided at this address? \_\_\_\_\_
  5. Please list your email address: \_\_\_\_\_
  6. Telephone (including Area Codes): Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_
  7. What is your occupation? \_\_\_\_\_
  8. Business address or place of employment? \_\_\_\_\_
  9. Where were you born? \_\_\_\_\_ Date? \_\_\_\_\_
  10. Parent's name in full? (1) \_\_\_\_\_
  11. Parent's name in full? (2) \_\_\_\_\_
  12. What is your marital status?  Single  Married  Widowed  Divorced
  13. If married, your spouse's name in full? \_\_\_\_\_
  14. If married, are you living with your spouse?  Yes  No
  15. Names and ages of children, if any? \_\_\_\_\_
-

16. What is the present state of your health? \_\_\_\_\_

17. Describe your physical defects (if none, so state): \_\_\_\_\_

18. Have you previously applied for the degrees of Freemasonry in this or any other jurisdiction?

Yes  No

If yes, state when, where and the result: \_\_\_\_\_

19. Have you ever been a defendant in a criminal case in court?  Yes  No

If yes, state the circumstances and result \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

20. Do you believe in God?  Yes  No

21. Give the names and addresses of three men, unrelated by blood or marriage, to whom you refer:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

22. List the name, address and telephone number of all employers during the past five years (use additional paper if necessary):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

23. If you have resided outside of the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area within the past five years, furnish names and addresses of three persons with whom you were acquainted at each place of abode (use additional paper as needed):

(a) Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

## PETITIONER'S STATEMENT

I declare that I have honestly and truly answered the questions herein presented, and promise that should my petition be granted I will cheerfully conform to all the ancient and established usages and customs of the Fraternity.

---

(PETITIONER WILL SIGN HIS NAME IN FULL)

*The Following section is to be filled out by the Lodge Secretary*

PETITION of \_\_\_\_\_

Presented \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_

Received \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_

*Dates and Fees for Degrees Paid:*

With petition \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

E.A. \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

F.C. \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

M.M. \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Paid \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Referred to Bros. (1) \_\_\_\_\_,

(2) \_\_\_\_\_, and

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

Report due \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_