

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 125th
OHIO STATE CONVENTION
Northern Kentucky Convention Center – Covington, Kentucky
May 17-19, 2024

General Session

State Deputy Jeff Kiliany opened the 125th Ohio State Convention at 1:00 PM on Saturday, May 18, 2024. State Warden Anthony Offenberger reported that those in attendance were duly qualified Third-Degree members for this business session.

State Chaplain, Reverend Fr. James Lang led the delegation in opening prayer.

Edward Ponder, Vice Supreme Master, Hennepin Province of the Fourth Degree, led the Pledge of Allegiance which concluded with the Ohio Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Posting of the Colors.

Roll Call

State Warden Anthony Offenberger took the Roll Call of the State Officers:

State Chaplain	Rev. Fr. James Lang	Present
State Deputy	Jeffrey Kiliany	Present
State Secretary	Michael Felerski	Present
State Treasurer	James Maslach	Present
State Advocate	Christopher Sarka	Present
State Warden	Anthony Offenberger	Present
Immediate Past State Deputy	Mark Siracusa	Present

Noted Guests in Attendance

Supreme Secretary	Patrick Mason	Present
Vice Supreme Master	Edward Ponder	Present

The Opening Ode was led by the State Warden and sung by all.

Welcome to Fr. Johnathan Meyer, visiting priest from the E6 Men's Conference, Indiana. Fr. Meyer gave speech about Mass and the importance of the Eucharist.

Report of the Credentials Committee & Roll Call

State Deputy Jeff Kiliany was provided with a report of the Credentials Committee by State Secretary Michael Felerski and a roll call of delegates. The report listed those delegates in attendance at the convention:

7 State Officers
261 Council Delegates
268 Total Voting Delegates

8 *Past State Deputies*
47 *District Deputies*
55 *Non-Voting Floor Privileges*

State Secretary Michael Felerski reviewed the current council status as the following:

- 426 Total Councils
- 56 Inactive Council
- 21 Delinquent Councils
- **349** Total Councils in Good Standing

State Advocate, Christopher Sarka confirmed a quorum shall be no less than the equivalent of all the councils in the State of Ohio, less the inactive councils, and less councils who are delinquent in state per capita. The number of councils in good standing shall be divided by three revealing the number of delegates required for the quorum. Confirming 268 total voting delegates, it was verified that a quorum was present for the proceedings of the 125th Ohio State Convention.

Without objection the roll of delegates submitted by the Credentials Committee will be the official roll of voting members of the convention.

State Deputy Jeff Kiliany invited the State Advocate, Christopher Sarka to provide an overview of the Rules of the Convention. The state convention will be conducted honoring these rules. A motion was made that the Rules of the Convention be accepted. There motion was seconded. Motion was approved.

State Deputy Jeff Kiliany declared that the 125th State Convention was formally in session. A video from our Worthy Supreme Knight, Patrick E. Kelly, was presented for all to view.

Welcoming Remarks

Supreme Secretary Patrick Mason provided opening remarks. He noted to all in attendance that he was honored to be in Ohio with all brother knights, families, and guests in attendance. Our Supreme Secretary, Patrick Mason, noted our Order's continued progress in support of programs

such as Supporting our Seminarians and COR programs. He acknowledged how close that Ohio is to obtaining Circle of Honor with membership growth. He is asking the Knights not to stop at your membership goals but continue to invite men into our Order. In his closing remarks, he asked those in attendance to help Catholic Men to become better men to not only serve the church but society.

State Deputy Jeff Kiliany introduced all Past State Deputies and Former State Chaplains in attendance.

Appointment of Committees

State Deputy Jeff Kiliany officially appointed all committees as published in the 125th Convention Program Book.

Report of State Officers

State Deputy Jeff Kiliany proceeded to read his official report on the condition of the Order in the State of Ohio. During Jeff's report a collection for ASAP (Aid and Support after Pregnancy), totaling \$1,373.00 was collected at this time. In conclusion he offered sincere thanks to his predecessors, fellow state officers and the entire state team. A motion was made to accept the report of the State Deputy as presented. This motion was seconded. There was no discussion, motion was approved.

State Deputy Jeff Kiliany entertained a motion that in lieu of reading reports of the remaining State Officers, these reports to be accepted as printed and distributed in the 125th State Convention Report Book. This motion was seconded. There was no discussion, motion was approved.

Nomination of State Officers & Election of State Officers

State Deputy, Jeffrey Kiliany – Nomination and motion conducted by Patrick Kiliany, Past Grand Knight of Council 1569. Seconded by Past State Deputy Robert Collins Jr and member of Council 15065. Additional support of seconds for nomination of Jeffrey Kiliany for State Deputy by councils 3727, 1716, 14882, and 1195. After a call for further nominations and none further were presented, the chair entertained a motion to close nominations and cast unanimous ballot for Jeffrey Kiliany as State Deputy. A motion was presented and seconded. Motion approved.

State Secretary, Michael Felerski – Nomination and motion conducted by Past State Deputy Gary Eckstein. Seconded by Mark Kosobud, Cincinnati Growth Coordinator. Additional support of seconds for nomination of Michael Felerski for State Secretary by councils 14465 and 2726. After a call for further nominations, and none further were presented, the chair entertained a motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Michael Felerski as State Secretary. A motion was presented and seconded. Motion approved.

State Treasurer, James Maslach – Nomination and motion conducted by Master of Ohio District 1 and Grand Knight of Council 15023, Brandon Robinson. Seconded by David Heilman, Grand Knight of Council 4847. Additional support of seconds for nomination of James Maslach for State Treasurer by councils 16373 and 16376. After a call for further nominations, and none further were presented, the chair entertained a motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for James Maslach as State Treasurer. A motion was presented and seconded. Motion approved.

State Advocate, Christopher Sarka– Nomination and motion conducted by Dave Bogner, District Deputy Coordinator, and member of Council 4324. Seconded by Christopher Bush, Ohio District 2 Master and member of Council 3864. Additional support of seconds for nomination of Christopher Sarka for State Advocate by councils 14665 and 11265. After a call for further nominations, and none further were presented, the chair entertained a motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Christopher Sarka as State Advocate. A motion was presented and seconded. Motion approved.

State Warden, Anthony Offenberger – Nomination and motion conducted by Brett Martz, Grand Knight of Council 1716. Seconded by Thomas Meagher, Past Grand Knight of Council 15401. Additional support of seconds for nomination of Anthony Offenberger for State Warden by councils 4617 and 4361. After a call for further nominations, and none further were presented, the chair entertained a motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Anthony Offenberger as State Warden. A motion was presented and seconded. Motion approved.

**Note: Meeting concluded at 4:05 PM and scheduled to reconvene Sunday, May 19th at 10:05AM.*

General Session

State Deputy Jeff Kiliany re-opened the 125th Ohio State Convention at 10:15am on Sunday the 19th of May 2024. State Warden Anthony Offenberger reported that those in attendance were duly qualified Third-Degree members for this business session.

State Chaplain Rev. Fr. James Lang led the delegation in opening prayer.

Edward Ponder, Vice Supreme Master, Hennepin Province of the Fourth Degree, led the Pledge of Allegiance which concluded with the Ohio Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Posting of the Colors.

Roll Call

State Warden Anthony Offenberger took the Roll Call of the State Officers:

State Chaplain	Rev. Fr. James Lang	Present
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State Deputy	Jeffrey Kiliany	Present
State Secretary	Michael Felerski	Present
State Treasurer	James Maslach	Present
State Advocate	Christopher Sarka	Present
State Warden	Anthony Offenberger	Present
Immediate Past State Deputy	Mark Siracusa	Present

Noted Guests in Attendance

Supreme Secretary	Patrick Mason	Present
Vice Supreme Master	Edward Ponder	Present

Report of Committees

Audit Committee:

State Secretary Michael Felerski asked the members who were present and served on the Audit Committee to stand and be recognized for their work. State Secretary Michael Felerski gave the audit report from the meeting that was conducted via Zoom online meeting Wednesday May 15, 2024, 7:05pm. Noted that the full audit from Blue and Company would be presented online the following week due to an error in printing for the convention material. He moved that the report of the Audit Committee be accepted as part of the 125th Ohio State Convention minutes. Motion was seconded and approved.

Resolutions & Bylaws:

State Advocate Christopher Sarka asked the members who were present and served on the Resolutions and Bylaws Committee to stand and be recognized for their work. State Advocate Christopher Sarka gave the official report in which the committee moves to adopt all resolutions as presented. Each resolution was gone through and those present were read in their entirety. He moved that the report of the Resolutions and Bylaws Committee be accepted as part of the 125th Ohio State Convention minutes. The chair entertained the motion to approve resolutions and bylaws committee report as presented. Motion was seconded and approved.

Annual Meeting Minutes:

State Advocate Chris Sarka noted the official review of the 124th Ohio State Convention meeting minutes. During the review, the committee recommended page numbers be added. He moved that the report of the Meeting Minutes be accepted as part of the 125th Ohio State Convention minutes. The chair entertained the motion to approve the annual meeting minutes of the 124th Ohio State Convention. Motion was seconded and approved.

Credentials:

State Secretary Michael Felerski presented the Credentials report and recommended that it be accepted as part of the 125th Ohio State Convention minutes. The chair entertained the motion. Motion was seconded and approved.

Elections / Tellers:

State Treasurer James Maslach recognized all who helped serve on the committee. State Treasurer James Maslach completed his full report. There were 9 of the 12 committee members present during the meeting which was held on Saturday May 18, 2024. The committee reviewed the procedure for the collection and counting of ballots. The meeting concluded with prayer. He moved that the report of the Election/Tellers be accepted as part of the 125th Ohio State Convention minutes. The chair entertained the motion to approve the Election/Tellers report. Motion was seconded and approved.

Election of Supreme Delegates & Alternates to the Supreme Convention

State Deputy Jeff Kilianny noted that by virtue of his office, the State Deputy is a delegate to the Supreme Convention in addition to the Immediate Past State Deputy. Therefore, State Deputy-elect Jeffrey Kilianny and the Immediate Past State Deputy Mark Siracusa are automatic delegates for the Ohio State Council.

State Advocate Chris Sarka made a motion to nominate State Secretary-elect Michael Felerski as the alternate for the State Deputy-elect and State Treasurer-elect James Maslach as the alternate for the Immediate Past State Deputy. There were no nominations from the floor or objections. The nominations were seconded and approved.

Ohio can elect eight (8) more Third-Degree members to represent Ohio at the Supreme Convention of which four (4) insurance members and four (4) associate members. The area caucus meetings were held at 4:15pm on Saturday May 18, 2024, at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center during the 125th Ohio State Convention.

Caucus Area Chairman Area 1 Chair: Joseph Hartle

Area 2 Chair: M. Stewart Vetter

Area 3 Chair: Teran Taggart and Mike Incorvati

Area 4 Chair: Chris Dodson

Area 5 Chair: Tim Mangan

Area 6 Chair: Dave Bogner

Area 7 Chair: Jeff Turner & Tom Offenberger

Area 8 Chair: Andrew Nuckols

The nominations include the following Brother Knights as Delegates and Alternates to the 142nd Supreme Convention:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Council</u>	<u>Member Type</u>	<u>Caucus Area</u>	<u>Del or Alt</u>
Todd M. Grillot	6373	Insurance	1	Delegate
Edward J. Maher, Jr	1750	Insurance	2	Delegate
Patrick Gale	10792	Insurance	3	Delegate
Louis Drouhard	1417	Insurance	4	Delegate
David Weeks	12912	Associate	5	Delegate
Marshall Myers	5899	Associate	6	Delegate
Robert Byers	4617	Associate	7	Delegate
William Johansen	11355	Associate	8	Delegate
Arron Mier	17113	Insurance	1	Alternate
Robert Harrison	12224	Insurance	2	Alternate
Robert Walsh	2643	Insurance	3	Alternate
Michael Rogers	2039	Insurance	4	Alternate
John L. Hoffman	14504	Insurance	5	Alternate
Alex Esparza	11188	Associate	6	Alternate
Brett Martz	1716	Associate	7	Alternate
Thomas Marvel	12359	Associate	8	Alternate

A motion to accept these nominations was presented, seconded and the motion was approved.

Report of Committees (cont.)

Good of the Order:

Immediate Past State Deputy Mark Siracusa recognized those who served on the committee. Comments from the committee were to ask if the State Council can review convention costs to help aid smaller councils to attend. The committee asked if more food could be supplied during the Friday Night Party. Ask was for coffee to be served after Mass. A more detailed map for parking at the Hotel. Fantastic job with the Liturgies. The great work with choosing the hotel and their staff has been wonderful to work with. He moved that the report of the Good of the Order be accepted as part of the 125th Ohio State Convention minutes. Motion was seconded and approved.

Assistant Wardens:

State Warden Anthony Offenberger noted the Assistant Wardens committee met at 11:33AM outside the ballroom at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center on Saturday May 18th, 2024. In attendance was the State Warden and 11 of the 12 committee members as assigned to serve on the committee. There was an overview of the responsibilities of assistant wardens and other duties as assigned regarding the General Business Session at the 125th Ohio State Convention. In addition, an outline of the rules regarding admission for membership in the 3rd Degree was

examined. Meeting adjourned at 11:55AM. The State Warden recognized those who have served on this committee and thanked them for their assistance. He moved that the report of the Assistant Wardens be accepted as part of the 125th Ohio State Convention minutes. Motion was seconded and approved.

Unfinished Business

Mileage and Per Diem Report from previous state conventions. The report of unfinished business is available on the state website in its entirety.

At the 101st Annual State Convention of the Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus, four Councils (733, 2726, 3269 & 4847) submitted to a resolution on "Mileage and Per Diem" rates. This Resolution(s) mandates the State Council to study the current cost and recommend to the 102nd Annual State Convention Delegation, appropriate adjustments to bring Ohio State Council's Mileage and Per Diem to within = or – 10% of the Federal Government Rates. The Delegates amended these resolutions to require the Committee to also recommend an appropriate revenue/Per Capita increase to cover all additional costs. The Delegates at the 101st Annual Convention approved this amended Resolution(s).

State Deputy Albert F. Hickey III established a "Mileage and Per Diem Committee" comprised of the State Secretary and the State Treasurer. They were charged with collecting costs and making recommendations based on their findings. The study at the time of review by the State Officers covers actual cost from May 1 thru March 31, 2001. (Our Fiscal Year runs from May 1 thru April 30). April's Mileage and Per Diem costs are small and should not have a big impact on the study numbers. Final cost numbers were presented at the convention.

At the 125th (2024) State Convention in Covington Kentucky, the state officers are making no recommendation for an increase in per capita.

The chair entertained a motion to accept the recommendation as read. Motion was seconded and approved.

New Business

There was no new business presented to the assembly.

Conclusion

State Evangelization and Faith Formation Director, Arron Mier, presented information and additional video support on Cor from Supreme.

Awards were presented to the winners of the Euchre Tournament and Annual Monsignor Krispinsky Golf Tournament.

Past State Deputy, Robert Collins Jr., provided a report on the Ohio Charity Foundation Scholarship Program and how the investments with example of the Christopher Funds provides scholarships for our high school youth. In addition, if councils wish to help present funds to help support this program, please see Robert Collins Jr.

State Deputy Jeffrey Kiliany concluded with closing comments on his upcoming term as State Deputy. He offered his appreciation and support.

Each State Officer provided closing remarks to the delegation present. Commending brother knights for their hard work and dedication in Faith in Action programs, membership growth, and support of our respective dioceses in the State of Ohio.

Prayers were offered for brother knights sick or in distress and noted as part of the Good of the Order.

The discharge of delegation was conducted by the Assistant Wardens. The collection of delegate cards was completed and deposited with the State Secretary.

Closing Ode conducted by State Warden, Anthony Offenberger.

Closing Prayer conducted by our State Chaplain, Fr. James Lang.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anthony Offenberger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Anthony" and the last name "Offenberger" clearly distinguishable.

Anthony Offenberger, State Warden
Ohio State Council Knights of Columbus

Note: An official recorded transcript of the convention is available. The Annual Minutes Committee will review this report of the 125th State Convention at the 126th Ohio State Council convention at the Downtown Hilton Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio..