

Knights of Columbus Arkansas State Council Advocate

Charter Constitution Laws Knights of Columbus

Chapter 11 Organization SEC. 11 (C)

State Councils shall elect by ballot from the membership at large a State Deputy, State Secretary, State Treasurer, State *Advocate*, State Warden...

***By-Laws* Arkansas State Council Article V Officers**

State Advocate Section 6

He shall hold the same basic position in the State Council as the Supreme Advocate holds in the Supreme Council.

Duties of State Council Advocate

The State Advocate is the Officers in charge of all legal decisions that are made by the State Council. He need not be an attorney, but may be required to seek legal advice when necessary. When any local council has an internal conflict, or matter that requires outside intervention, or any clarification of Supreme, State or Council by-laws it is the State Advocate who rules in the matter.

Any resolution written and passed by the delegates at the Council level is submitted to the State Advocate prior to the State Convention (normally end of February) for his perusal. At the State Convention, the State Advocate is the Chairman of the Resolution Committee. He presents to the committee all resolutions submitted to him, and he gives his opinion on the correctness and his opinion on the validity of the resolution, He then explains to the committee how the resolution will affect the State or Supreme Council. The committee then votes on whether to recommend acceptance, acceptance as modified, or rejection of the resolution to the State Convention Delegates.

At the conclusion of the State Convention all resolutions approved by the delegates are forwarded electronically to the Supreme Advocate. Any resolutions approved changing the State Council By-Laws will be pointed out to the Supreme Advocate. Any Resolution approved changing the Order's by-laws will be addressed to the Supreme Advocate to include in proposed resolutions a the Supreme Convention. Others approved to be read at the Supreme Convention will also be pointed out to the Supreme Advocate.

Note: Resolutions approved by the delegates to the State Council are only in effect for one Fraternal Year. If they are to be included in the following Fraternal Year the local council must resubmit them.

Council Leadership Training: The State Deputy will organize Leadership Training across the state. This training may be conducted in a central location, district location or local council location.

This training is critical to the State Council and the State Advocate must be knowledgeable on all aspects of the Council Leadership Training to teach these sessions. They normally take 2-4 hours and the State Advocate should be organized, prepared, and knowledgeable in every aspect. This training should be complete by the end of August. After the Training sessions, the State Advocate prepares an attendance report to the State Deputy and plans to teach any council not represented at the training session.

Other responsibilities also include following up with the District Deputies assigned to him for leadership training to assure all council reports are submitted in time and verify each council has a membership plan and they are committed to a number of new members for the fraternal year. These numbers will include any suspensions that may occur during the fraternal year.

An equally important function involves the routine support of the State Council Team at various State and Council functions throughout the State. As a minimum the Advocate is expected to attend the annual State Convention, Organizational Meeting and mid-year meetings. The Advocate should be available to visit the councils he is assigned to train as a representative of the State Council and attend District Deputy Meetings. He promotes “*Unity*” by attending degree exemplifications, new council developments and assembly function.

As part of the State Council Officer Team, the Advocate is a liaison for the State Convention Committee with the Warden. These two Officers form the team to work with the Convention Committee to organize, plan, and put on the Annual State Convention. His experience as former State Council Warden will serve him well in serving with the Lead State Council Officer, i.e., State Warden, when the State Convention is held.

The State Advocate job is challenging requiring a great deal of dedication and patience; these experiences and virtues will provide excellent training for future State Deputies.

Always remember that the Advocate is part of a six-man team, not an individual Officer with one job. He is elected to do the best he can, but not he is not on his own.

STATE ADVOCATE DUTIES

1. Have a working acquaintance with the Charter, Constitution, and Laws of the Knights of Columbus (Supreme Council). Make sure you have the latest edition.

2. Have a working acquaintance with the By-Laws of Arkansas State Council, Knights of Columbus. These are found in the back of the Minutes of the State Convention.
3. Respond to inquires regarding rules and regulations governing the Arkansas State Council. Researching items 1 and 2 above may obtain a correct response, consulting with KC members, or obtaining an answer from the Supreme Advocate.
4. Chair the Committee on Resolutions for the State Convention.
 - a. Solicit resolutions from State Officers, and Grand Knights no later than two months prior to the convention. Normally this is done the first part of January. Set a deadline for submitting proposed resolutions, usually the latter part of February. Remember to include a return address on the letters.
 - b. Consolidate proposed resolutions and send copies to State Officers, Past State Deputies, District Deputies, and Grand Knights no later than one month before the convention. Normally the proposed resolutions are sent out the first part of March. Additional copies must be available at the convention.
 - c. Meet with the Committee on Resolutions members to discuss proposed resolutions. Committee recommends each as "pass," "do not pass," or "pass as amended." Normally this is done the Friday afternoon of the convention. The Immediate Past State Deputy will give the Past State Deputies Committee recommendation of "pass" or "do not pass" on all resolutions pertaining to council money matters.
 - d. Present the resolutions to the convention delegates with the Committee on Resolutions recommendations. The State Deputy presides during the session. If there are no comments or questions on a resolution, the rap of the gavel by the State Deputy constitutes the resolution as passed. Defer any resolution with comments or questions until last.
 - e. Give a copy of the passed resolutions to the State Secretary for insertion into the State Convention Minutes.
 - f. Send a copy of resolutions to the Supreme Advocate. Cover letter must give tax status of recipients of the Christopher Fund.
5. Perform any other duties assigned by the State Deputy.
6. Transfer the State Council's laptop computer, issued to you when you assumed office, and all computer files to your successor at the conclusion of your term. In addition furnish the incoming State Advocate with an updated copy of your duties and responsibilities.

The State Advocate can expect to devote and average of 2.0 days per month to fulfill his obligations. Most of the time is for leadership training, attending required meetings and preparing the proposed resolutions and submitting those that approved to the Supreme Advocate.

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