

OFFICE OF THE SENIOR GRAND LECTURER

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and
Accepted Masons of the Philippines
1440 San Marcelino St., Ermita, Manila

SGL Directive 2017 -03
May 29, 2017

ATTENTION: ALL JGLs, DDGMs, DGLs, GLIs,

SUBJECT : DIRECTIVES ON CLOSING OF LODGE IN SHORT FORM

It has come to the attention of the Grand Lodge that there are District Deputy Grand Masters (DDGM) present during stated meetings of the lodges who proceed to close the lodge in short form after delivering the DDGM's message to the brethren before closing.

It must be noted that the DDGM may not close the lodge in short form on all occasions. Article XXXII District Deputy Grand Masters, Section 2 par. j under Part I of the Constitution provides for the occasions when the DDGM may exercise its power to close the lodge in short form, to wit:

*"j. To close a Lodge within his District **in short form**, even with the presence of the Grand Master, during a private or public installation of officers, or a Host lodge or Lodge which opens for a District Convention, Multi-District or Regional Convention, provided that the Closing Prayer is rendered and the Altar attended to."*

In fact, closing a lodge in short form falls within one of the prohibitions on a lodge. Article IV Prohibition on a Lodge, Section 2, par. g under Part II Ordinances expressly states that:

"Sec 2. Among others, a lodge is prohibited from performing the following:

*g. To open or **close in short form** except in cases of extreme emergency or calamity to be determined by the Master."*

The DDGMs are hereby directed to observe the above-mentioned provisions of the Constitution and to refrain from closing the lodge in short form during stated meetings. The DDGMs may deliver the message to the lodge without the gavel being turned-over and wearing the hat during the latter part of the stated meeting and the

Master shall thereafter proceed to close the lodge in long form as provided for in the Blue Monitor.

Please be guided accordingly.



VW MARCUS ANTONIUS T. ANDAYA
Senior Grand Lecturer