

# Resolution Committee Report

**To: The Officers and Members of the 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Louisiana State Council, Knights of Columbus.**

In compliance with the directive of the State Deputy Rennan Duffour, your Resolutions Committee met at 1:00 pm. Saturday, April 25, on Go-To-Meeting Virtual Meeting. The Committee carefully considered each Resolution submitted, taking into account the recommendations of the Elected State Officers and the Past State Deputies. Your Committee concluded by approving this report, which contains the recommendations and actions of the Resolution Committee on all resolutions presented during the meeting.

The time and meeting place were announced in the April 2020 issue of the Louisiana Knight and in the Convention Agenda. Time was made available to interested parties for personal discussion of any resolution. We trust our consideration adequately served the Louisiana Jurisdiction and the interested parties responsible for submitting these resolutions for consideration.

In general the recommendations of the Resolution Committee are expressed by use of the following words: "Adoption," "Adoption as Amended," "Rejection," "No Action," or "Refer to Committee."

The recommendation of "No Action" or "Rejection" does not necessarily mean that a resolution lacks merit. It may mean that a particular subject has already been dealt with or the idea expressed is not advisable at the present time. Any resolutions that concerned ceremonials were to be presented to the State Deputy without debate or discussion. There were no resolutions on ceremonial matters.

## SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

Twelve (12) resolutions were received and mailed prior to the Convention.

## PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS TO THE STATE COUNCIL

Only the purpose and resolve clauses of the first eleven resolutions will be read and then the recommendations of the Elected State Officers, the Past State Deputies and the Resolution Committee. Then action of the State Council will take place.

## READ RESOLUTIONS

Worthy State Deputy and my Brother Knights, this concludes the report of the Resolution Committee. The Committee wishes to thank you, the members of the State Council, for allowing us to serve you and our Order.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**/s/ Eric R. Miller**

**Eric R. Miller**

**State Advocate**

Carl Benoit, Council 2012, Grand Knight Chairman

Stephen Boudreaux, Council 3061

Gene Hickey, Council 3854

Chad Hargrave, Council 5499

John Walling, Council 7275

Dan Miller, Council 7275

John Mowad, Council 8770

John Broggi, Council 9247

Michael Guillory, Council 9418

Ronald Marcantel, Council 11270

Kell Luke, Council 13819

Rennan Duffour, State Deputy

Vernon Ducote, State Secretary

George Martin, State Treasurer

Eric Miller, State Advocate, Chairman

Vince Whittington, State Warden

Mark Carver, State Program Director

Robert Charpentier, State Membership Director

Brett Cormier, Moderator

Brandon Hendricks, State Webmaster

## **Resolution Number 1**

**BY: Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

**PURPOSE: To declare that the knights from the great State of Louisiana believe in and put all of their trust in the Order's insurance program and to encourage all knights to participate in the insurance program.**

WHEREAS: The Knights of Columbus has an excellent record of providing life insurance to the members of the Order according to the highest standards possible; and

WHEREAS: Regulators have stated that they found evidence of very strict and ethical marketing practices, and complimented the Knights of Columbus on their market leadership in the area of ethics and sales practices; and,

WHEREAS: The Order has always worked hard to ensure that the needs of its members are met and that problems are resolved quickly and fairly.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Louisiana State Council, Knights of Columbus, convened in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on May 1-3, 2020, of their 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting completely in all respects join together in support of the Order's insurance program, its leaders and the fraternal insurance agents;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Louisiana State Council encourage every knight to meet with his insurance agent and purchase insurance through the Order's insurance program;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Louisiana State Council submit this resolution at the 138<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council seeking support and endorsement of all other jurisdictions regarding support of the Order's insurance program, its leaders and the fraternal insurance agents.

**Respectfully submitted:**

**/s/ Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

### ACTION TAKEN

Elected State Officers	Approved
Past State Deputies	Approved
Resolutions Committee	Approved
State Council	

## Resolution Number 2

**BY: Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

**PURPOSE: To pledge our total support and reaffirm solidarity with our bishops, priests, deacons, and all our religious.**

WHEREAS: The brother knights of the Louisiana Jurisdiction recognize that the great majority of our religious follow their vows in an honorable and righteous manner, exhibiting love for the Catholic Church and its teachings, dedication to the people they serve, loyalty to the Holy Father Pope Francis and their bishops, and

WHEREAS: In addition to our four basic principles: charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism, there exists a fifth principle that unites our members and is vital to the life and strength of our Order and that principle is respect for the priesthood,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Louisiana State Council, Knights of Columbus, convened in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on May 1-3, 2020, of their 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, and the members of Louisiana Knights of Columbus reaffirm solidarity with our priests and bishops, and pledge our total support, our loyalty, and gratitude to these shepherds of our faith, and stand shoulder to shoulder with them;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The State Council urge each council to publicly demonstrate its total support, loyalty, and gratitude for our priests and bishops;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: This resolution be distributed to the bishops and diocesan newspapers within Louisiana.

**Respectfully submitted:**

**/s/ Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

### ACTION TAKEN

Elected State Officers	Approved
Past State Deputies	Approved
Resolution Committee	Approved
State Council	

## **Resolution Number 3**

**BY: Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

**Purpose: To offer our respect, support and gratitude to the men and women serving in the United States military at home and abroad, in their efforts to defend our country.**

Whereas: The men and women of our military have volunteered to defend America from enemies who wish to do harm through acts of terrorism against the citizens of United States; and

Whereas: The members of the armed forces of the United States place their lives in harm's way to defend our way of life each and every day, and

Whereas: The members of the United States military are working hard each and every day to ensure that our lives at home are safe; and

Whereas: The members of the United States military are committed to the ideals of freedom found in the United States constitution. We pray that God shall bless and protect these brave men and women and that "God Bless America."

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Louisiana State Council, Knights of Columbus, convened in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on May 1-3, 2020, of their 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, offer our respect, support and thanks to the men and women of the military in their efforts to defend our country.

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Louisiana State Council forward a copy of this offer of support to President Donald J. Trump and ask all jurisdictions of our Order to join our resolution supporting the men and women of the military of the United States of America.

**Respectfully submitted:**

**/s Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

ACTION TAKEN

Elected State Officers	Approved
Past State Deputies	Approved
Resolutions Committee	Approved
State Council	

## **Resolution Number 4**

**BY: Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

**Purpose: To offer our respect, support and gratitude to the men and women serving in the local, state and federal first responders.**

Whereas: The men and women of our first responder agencies have volunteered to provide public safety in our communities, and

Whereas: The members of our local, state and federal first responder agencies place their lives in harm's way to protect our way of life and property each and every day, and

Whereas: The members of our local, state and federal first responder agencies are working hard each and every day to insure that our lives and property are safe; and

Whereas: We pray that God shall bless and protect these brave men and women and that "God Bless America."

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Louisiana State Council, Knights of Columbus, convened in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on May 1-3, 2020, of their 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, offers its respect, support and thanks to the men and women of our local, state and federal first responder agencies.

**Respectfully submitted:**

**/s/ Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

ACTION TAKEN

Elected State Officers                      Approved

Past State Deputies                         Approved

Resolutions Committee                    Approved

State Council

## Resolution Number 5

**BY: Elected State Officers and Past State Deputies**

**PURPOSE: To Commend Supreme Council Officers, Carl A. Anderson, Supreme Knight; Patrick E. Kelly, Deputy Supreme Knight; Michael J. O'Connor, Jr., Supreme Secretary; Ronald F. Schwarz, Supreme Treasurer; John A. Marrella, Supreme Advocate; Francis Drouhard, Supreme Warden; and Archbishop William E. Lori, Supreme Chaplain for their many years of dedicated service to the Knights of Columbus.**

WHEREAS: These brother knights have provided exemplary leadership and guidance in fostering new council development and outstanding membership growth during their tenure, and

WHEREAS: These brother knights leadership continues to strengthen the Order's support of Holy Mother Church, the Pope, all members of the hierarchy, all priests and religious, proudly proclaiming the Order as the right arm of the Catholic Church, and

WHEREAS: These brother knights have been supportive in the Order's commitment to the leadership in the "RESPECT LIFE" movement, and

WHEREAS: These brother knights have seen the Order's Insurance Program continued growth that has far exceeded its original intent of our founder Fr. Michael J. McGivney.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Louisiana State Council, Knights of Columbus, convened in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on May 1-3, 2020, of their 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, commends the Order's Supreme Officers for their outstanding leadership, dedication to our church and their sincere concern for the Order.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Louisiana State Council submit this Resolution at the 138<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council, seeking the endorsement of all jurisdictions in this salute to our Supreme Officers.

**Respectfully Submitted:**

**/s/ Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

### ACTION TAKEN

Elected State Officers	Approved
Past State Deputies	Approved
Resolutions Committee	Approved
State Council	

## **Resolution Number 6**

**BY: Elected State Officers and Past State Deputies**

**PURPOSE: To commend Fr. Jamin Scott David, State Chaplain, for his dedicated service to the Louisiana Knights of Columbus.**

WHEREAS: Fr. Jamin Scott David has served our Church in many roles as a Priest with extreme devotion and an unwavering faith in Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS: Fr. Jamin Scott David is recognized as a loving and compassionate spiritual leader by his flock and the entire membership of the Louisiana Knights of Columbus, and

WHEREAS: Fr. Jamin Scott David exemplifies the principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism by living by the principles of our great Order and has graciously supported the many programs, activities and projects of the Louisiana State Council.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Council, Knights of Columbus, convened in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on May 1-3, 2020, of their 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting commends Fr. Jamin Scott David, State Chaplain, for his outstanding dedication to our church and his true dedication to the Knights of Columbus of the State of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Columbus of the Louisiana State Council, pledge their continued prayers and unwavering support to our beloved State Chaplain Fr. Jamin Scott David.

**Respectfully submitted**

**/s/ Elected State Officers and Past State Deputies**

### ACTION TAKEN

Elected State Officers	Approved
Past State Deputies	Approved
Resolution Committee	Approved
State Council	

## **Resolution Number 7**

**BY: Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

**Purpose: To support and promote the canonization of Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus.**

WHEREAS: On December 18, 1997, at the Chancery of the Archdiocese of Hartford, the cause for sainthood for the founder of the Knights of Columbus, Father Michael J. McGivney was formally opened which initiated the Diocesan investigation into his life, works and virtues; and

WHEREAS: We believe that Father McGivney was especially saintly and that he understood the social teaching of the church. He had a deep concern for the welfare of widows and the needy which was reflected in his heart and is reflected today by his actions, programs and membership of the knights of Columbus; and

WHEREAS: The Diocesan Phase of the cause for canonization has been completed; and

WHEREAS: The commission has studied all available historical evidence pertaining to Father McGivney, determined its authenticity and made a judgment about the heroic virtue of this servant of God and the tribunal is satisfied that all material is complete and accurate. The commission has turned over material to the Archbishop. The Archbishop has turned Father McGivney's case over to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints for the Roman phase; and

WHEREAS: The results of Diocesan and Roman phases of this investigation have been presented to the Holy Father for his decision regarding the canonization of Father McGivney; and

WHEREAS: Pope Benedict XVI has proclaimed Father McGivney as, Venerable Servant of God, one more approved miracle shall complete the cause for sainthood; and

WHEREAS: When Father McGivney is eventually raised to the Honors of the Altar, he may be the first parish priest of the United States to be declared a saint.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Louisiana State Council, Knights of Columbus, convened in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on May 1-3, 2020, of their 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, support and promote the canonization of our beloved founder, Father Michael J. McGivney.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Louisiana State Council submit this resolution at the 138<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council, seeking the support and endorsement of all other jurisdictions regarding this cause for sainthood.

**Respectfully submitted:**

**/s/ Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

ACTION TAKEN

Elected State Officers	Approved
Past State Deputies	Approved
Resolutions Committee	Approved
State Council	

## Resolution Number 8

**BY: Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

**PURPOSE: To express Order's defense of religious liberty.**

WHEREAS: The Catholic Church teaches that the right to religious freedom is based upon the inherent dignity of the human person, which is known through both reason and divine revelation; and

WHEREAS: The right to religious freedom is guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States; and

WHEREAS: Religious freedom means that all persons are to be free from coercion in matters of belief and conscience, and that no person should be forced to act in a manner contrary to his or her own beliefs or conscience; and

WHEREAS: During his visit to the United States in 2008, Pope Benedict XVI reminded us that it should never be necessary to deny God in order to enjoy our rights and that it is inconceivable that believers should have to suppress their faith in order to be active citizens; and

WHEREAS: The Church consistently teaches that religious freedom is an inalienable right which should be recognized in the governing laws of each country in such a way that it is acknowledged as a basic civil right; and

WHEREAS: Religious freedom is not a benefit that a government confers out of a sense of mere tolerance and that can be removed, but rather it is an inalienable right, rooted in the transcendent dignity of every human being; and

WHEREAS: Religious freedom is at the very heart of human rights because it encompasses freedom of speech, assembly and conscience, which together form the basis of civil society and respect for the individual; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: We will never waver in our efforts to defend religious freedom as an inherent right of all Americans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: As American citizens and as Knights of Columbus, we will steadfastly support the free exercise of religion as it is enshrined in the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: We stand in solidarity with our bishops in their call to the Catholic faithful, and to all Americans, to join together in the great struggle to protect religious liberty and freedom of conscience; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: We call upon Congress to pass, and the President to sign, legislation that will protect the constitutional right of religious institutions and individuals to be free from government coercion in health care and all other matters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: We will remain steadfast in our opposition to any future governmental action or policy that forces Catholic institutions and individuals to violate our most deeply held moral and religious convictions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: Our struggle for religious freedom at this decisive moment in our nation's history is not only for our sake, but for the sake of our children, our grandchildren and all future generations, so that they too may know a country that is "one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

**Respectfully submitted:**

**/s/ Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

### ACTION TAKEN

Elected State Officers	Approved
Past State Deputies	Approved
Resolutions Committee	Approved
State Council	

## Resolution Number 9

**BY: Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

**PURPOSE: To memorialize the Clergy, who died during the past fraternal year.**

WHEREAS, since our last annual meeting, Almighty God, in His Infinite Wisdom, has called Brother Knights who served us as priests and deacons; and

WHEREAS, in their personal missions as representatives of Christ on earth, they made immeasurable contributions to the advancement of the Kingdom of God on earth and through such roles made countless contributions to the Order; and

WHEREAS, the names of our deceased brothers are include in the written report of the Memorial Committee and the memorial booklet distributed at the memorial mass.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Council, Knights of Columbus, convened in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on May 1-3,2020, in its 115<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting assembled, does hereby rejoice in their victories over death, through extending our fraternal and prayerful sympathy to the members of their families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that by spreading a copy of this resolution in the minutes of this Convention, we do express our gratitude to Almighty God for the valuable instances of services these noble brothers rendered to us.

**Respectfully submitted:**

**/s/ Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

### ACTION TAKEN

Elected State Officers	Approved
Past State Deputies	Approved
Resolution Committee	Approved
State Council	

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## Resolution Number 10

**BY: Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

**PURPOSE: To memorialize brother knights who died during the past fraternal year.**

WHEREAS, the names of our deceased brothers are included in the written report of the Memorial Committee and the memorial booklet distributed at the memorial mass, and

WHEREAS, these departed brothers distinguished themselves as upright and outstanding citizens of their communities and as true Catholic gentlemen in all their endeavors; and

WHEREAS, their absences are a material loss, not only to those of us who were privileged to know them, but also to their families, to their respective own councils, and to our great Order.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we the Knights of Columbus, convened in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on May 1-3, 2020, in its 115<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting duly assembled do humbly submit to the will of Almighty God in calling these, our brothers, to their eternal rewards; that we pay prayerful tribute to their memory; and that through this medium, we convey to their families and loved ones, our deepest sympathy on their material loss, assuring them of our prayers and devotions that their souls may rest in peace.

**Respectfully submitted:**

**/s/ Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

### ACTION TAKEN

Elected State Officers	Approved
Past State Deputies	Approved
Resolution Committee	Approved
State Council	

## **Resolution Number 11**

**BY: Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

**PURPOSE: Resolution honoring Past Supreme Knight Virgil C. Dechant**

WHEREAS, Past Supreme Knight Virgil C. Dechant, passed away in his sleep at the age of 89 during the early morning hours of February 16, 2020. He was the Order's longest-serving supreme knight, holding the office from 1977 to 2000.; and

WHEREAS, Virgil Dechant, born September 24, 1930, joined the Knights in 1949 and was a member of LaCrosse (Kansas) Council 2970 and St. Augustine Council 2340 in Liebanthal, Kansas; and

WHEREAS, he was a very successful businessman, operating a private farm in Kansas, and owning and operating his own car dealership and farm equipment firm; and

WHEREAS, Virgil Dechant became the 12<sup>th</sup> Supreme Knight of the Order on January 21, 1977; and

WHEREAS, as supreme knight, Virgil Dechant oversaw tremendous growth in the Order's membership as well as in its assets and insurance business, while also opening the Order to greater involvement by the wives and families of its members; and

WHEREAS, as supreme knight, forged a close relationship with the Vatican during the pontificate of St. John Paul II, leading the Order to sponsor numerous renovation projects – including of the façade of St. Peter's Basilica, and working with the pope to promote the faith in Eastern Europe, which was then behind the iron curtain; and

WHEREAS, he served as the vice president of the Vatican Bank, a Gentleman of His Holiness, and a Councillor on the State Council for Vatican City.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana State Council. Knights of Columbus, convened in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on May 1-3,2020, in its 115<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting assembled, does hereby give thanks to God for the life and faithful service of Past Supreme Knight Virgil C. Dechant to the Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus, and prayerfully commends to the Author of Life the noble soul of our beloved Past Supreme Knight; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and condolences to the members of his family, and to Supreme Officers and Directors.

**Respectfully submitted:**

**/s/ Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

ACTION TAKEN

Elected State Officers	Approved
Past State Deputies	Approved
Resolution Committee	Approved
State Council	

## **Resolution Number 12**

**BY: Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

**PURPOSE: To Amend the 2019-2020 Budget to Invest \$50,000.00 of YEP Unallocated for Purpose of Benefiting Seminarians.**

WHEREAS, the YEP Unallocated has a balance of \$191,096.00 as of March 5, 2020.; and

WHEREAS, the 2019-2020 Budget for the Louisiana State Council was adopted by the members at the 114<sup>th</sup> Louisiana State Convention on May 4-5, 2019; and

WHEREAS, it having been proposed to pay \$50,000.00 to the Bishop Charles P. Greco Foundation in the fraternal year 2019-2020 to invest for the purpose of benefiting seminarians.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that effective with the budget for the fraternal year 2019-2020, the Louisiana State Council, Knights of Columbus, is hereby authorized to pay \$50,000.00 to the Bishop Charles P. Greco Foundation to invest for the purpose of benefiting seminarians.

**Respectfully submitted:**

**/s/ Elected State Officers & Past State Deputies**

ACTION TAKEN

Elected State Officers	Approved
Past State Deputies	Approved
Resolution Committee	Approved
State Council	