TEXAS STATE COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Star Guide 2025-2026

State Deputy's Message



My Brother Knights,

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Diocesan Deputies, District Deputies, Grand Knights, and the council members for their dedication to our order and achieving five consecutive years of Circle of Honor and four out of five with Pinnacle Status. Without your efforts none of our success would have been possible. Congratulations! Let's build on that momentum and keep that consecutive streak going. It all begins now; we need to Start Strong!

Texas also hit another milestone with all fifteen-diocese achieving 100% in their Charity Goal and \$1,049,881 in Charitable Contributions, the highest in Texas History. As we await the final count from the Supreme Council, we have set a new mark with 256 Star Councils.

The success Texas had last year took a team effort, "**It Takes a Team**" means that it takes more than one person to accomplish a goal, and a team is required for success. July 1st brings with it a New Beginning, Restart, a chance to Refocus on this fraternal year. Each one of you is going to play an important role in our success.

This will be our Charity Pin and Slogan for the coming fraternal year which is from Matthew 4:19-20 "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Here are our Jurisdictional Goals for 2025 – 2026. Initial Circle of Honor Intake Goal: **5,848 New Members.** Pinnacle Intake Goal (120% of Ultimate COH Intake Goal). Star Council Goal: **127**. Faith Formation Goal: Conduct at least **Three Holy Hours**. State Charity Goal: \$1,020,000.00.

Now this is how we are going to accomplish our goals:

- Exemplifications/CUF's: 1 per District per month.
- All Districts need to be Recruitment Active by September 30th.
- All Councils Active need to be recruitment active by December 31st.
- Star Council: Set the bar even higher with 250 Star Councils
- NCD: 15 New Councils & 13 Reactivations.
- All 15 Diocese achieving 100% of their Charity Goal.

As I mentioned earlier, our success cannot rely on one person, "It Takes a Team" for us to be successful.

We can make a difference in man's life and his family. But it all begins by asking him to join the order. Set the example of a leader that he will follow. So, everything you say and do should be for the good of the order and for the greater glory of God.

Vivat Jesus! Ron Alonzo State Deputy

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Council Forms Deadline

	Form	Name	Due Date	•
\Diamond		Supreme Per Capita & Supreme Catholic Advertising	Upon Receipt	Lone Star Award for Excellence Requirement
4	1295	Semiannual Council Audit	August 15	Star Council Requirement
4	990	IRS Non Profit Tax Return (If based on fraternal year then Nov 15; if based	Nov 15 on calendar year the	n May 15)
*		State Per Capita & State Charities (LSAFE w/distinction)	December 31	
4	1728	Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity	January 31	
	10784	Special Olympics Report	January 31	
	1295	Semiannual Council Audit	February 15	
4		State Per Capita (LSAFE)	March 1	
		Educational Grant Application	March 1	
	SBMMA STSP 10680	State Blessed McGivney Award State Council Program Awards Family of the Year Entry Form	March 1 March 1 March 1	
\Diamond		Supreme Per Capita & Supreme Catholic Advertising	April 10	
\Diamond		Safe Environment Compliant	May 1	
*	990	IRS Non Profit Tax Return (If based on calendar year then May 15; if based	May 15 d on fraternal year the	n Nov 15)
	SP-7	Columbian Award Application	June 30	
		State Charities	June 30	
	185	Report of Officers Chosen for the Term	June 30	
	365	Service Program Personnel Report	June 30	
	EFF-C	Council EFF Director Submission Form	June 30	
_	2629	Appointment Round Table Coordinator	June 30	
*	10784	Fraternal Programs Report	As Needed	
\Diamond	11077	Fraternal Benefits Event Council Report	As Needed	

State Office

Address

1033 La Posada Dr, Suite 100 Austin TX 78752-3824

Phone

(512) 442-1492

State Deputy's Email for Forms forms@tkofc.org

Executive Secretary's Email carlos@tkofc.org

Website

www.tkofc.org

The State Office is here to help you succeed and achieve your goals. Also, your District Deputy and Diocesan Deputy are available for any issues or problems; reach out to them when needed.

Study this Star Guide. It has a description of current fraternal programs, Supreme and State Council award criteria, important deadlines, contact numbers and more.

Make sure all correspondence and checks sent to the state office are clearly identified with the council number, the person's name, and title. Checks should be clearly marked as to their purpose.

All forms requesting to send a copy to the State Deputy need to be emailed to forms@tkofc.org. Also, report any changes of council officers, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses to forms@tkofc.org. The State Office uses this information to maintain a database of all council Grand Knights and Financial Secretaries, and it is from this database that the Texas State Council Directory is created and correspondence, including convention invitations, are sent.

Email is the preferred way of communication for Texas State Council. If you are not receiving weekly emails reach out to us.

The Texas State Council's website (<u>www.tkofc.org</u>) does not require a login, all the information is available to the public except for the directory. If you need a digital copy of the directory reach out to us.

The Supreme Council's website (www.kofc.org) does have a login for some council officers. To get your invitation code or if you need to reset your password, use the ACCOUNT ASSISTANT or PASSWORD RESET links under the Sign In button. If you are having trouble logging in, contact Customer Service at (203) 752-4000 or info@kofc.org. If you have previously had access to Officers Online, your username remains the same and you only need to reset your password if you have misplaced/forgotten it.

You can order supplies and merchandise from Supreme here: www.kofc.org/en/for-members/resources/supplies.html

We would like to remind everyone that State Officers, State Directors, Diocesan Deputies, District Deputies, and committeemen will never reach out to you to request gift cards. Unfortunately there are many scammers out there taking advantage of your kindness. If you receive any requests or are unsure of their validity, reach out to us.

Carlos J. Gonzalez carlos@tkofc.org Texas State Council Knights of Columbus Executive Secretary

Membership

Membership Mission Statement

We believe the Knights of Columbus provides Catholic men the best opportunity in today's world of following in the footsteps of Christ. We want to do all within our power to grow the Order and foster healthy, vibrant councils in every parish.

As Knights, we should all believe this. Viewed in this light, it makes sense that we want to give all Catholic men the opportunity to join the Knights.

Goals

The membership goal for Texas for this fraternal year is **5848 members**. The monthly goals are broken down to the diocesan level as follows.

Diocese	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
Austin	40	52	57	69	61	57	48	62	68	65	67	83	729
Dallas	30	39	43	51	45	43	36	47	51	48	50	62	545
Fort Worth	31	41	45	54	48	45	38	49	54	51	53	65	574
Gal-Houston	61	80	89	106	94	88	75	96	106	100	104	127	1126
San Antonio	44	57	63	76	67	63	53	68	75	71	74	91	802
Brownsville	14	18	20	24	21	20	17	22	24	23	24	29	256
Corpus Christi	14	19	21	25	22	21	17	22	25	23	24	30	263
San Angelo	13	17	19	23	20	19	16	21	23	22	22	28	243
Victoria	18	23	25	30	27	25	21	28	30	29	30	37	323
Amarillo	8	10	11	13	12	11	9	12	13	13	13	16	141
Beaumont	9	12	14	16	14	14	11	15	16	15	16	20	172
El Paso	12	16	18	21	19	17	15	19	21	20	21	25	224
Laredo	6	8	9	10	9	9	7	9	10	10	10	12	109
Lubbock	8	10	12	14	12	12	10	13	14	13	14	17	149
Tyler	10	14	15	18	16	15	13	16	18	17	18	22	192
	318	416	461	550	487	459	386	499	548	520	540	664	5848

Goals for new councils and council reactivations for this year are as follows.

- 15 new councils (1 per diocese)
- 15 reactivated councils (1 per diocese)

How can the State Council help councils build membership?

The Membership Committee is structured to aid individual councils and be of service in helping them grow. To that end, the committee is organized to aid councils in these specific areas:

- 1. Help them make their councils and programs more visible in their parishes.
- 2. Help councils nurture relationships with parish priests.
- 3. Help them create a membership building culture.
- 4. Help them convert Online to Council members.

- 5. Help them put on Exemplifications.
- 6. Help them mentor and include new members.
- 7. Provide support to help start new councils.
- 8. Provide support to aid in reactivating suspended and inactive councils.
- 9. Create competition to breed performance.

In Order to focus the committee on those areas where we can help, our structure will be as follow.

24/7 Membership Recruitment Coordinator – Jon Leal

We encourage and facilitate all councils to have active membership recruitment activities called 24/7 Recruitment.

Councils need to focus primarily on Christ and weaving our faith throughout everything we do. By doing this, we infuse our councils with the Holy Spirit and make them attractive to prospects and more rewarding to members. We then focus on making recruiting part of every activity. We hand out flyers during and have Exemplifications right after our Easter Egg hunt. We recruit at breakfasts and Fish Frys. We recruit 24/7.

It is in the performance of activities in the parish that men are attracted to the Knights. Strong, healthy, vibrant councils have no problems recruiting. Men want to belong to a group of Catholic men like that. We continually invite them to do so.

All councils must have an appointed Membership Director. This director then coordinates frequent membership drives to provide the opportunity to harvest the crop the council has sown. This provides candidates for the Exemplifications held each month in each district.

John will also head a committee that encourages conversion of online to council members. This committee will engage councils directly to facilitate rapid conversion of online members.

All Councils Active Coordinator – Larry Pfeifer

Special attention is given to councils that have not recruited for an extensive period of time. These councils need more basic help. Working through Diocesan Deputies and District Deputies, this coordinator identifies issues at parishes and within councils that are preventing recruitment. He then helps the council implement ideas to aid in getting past these issues.

Online Membership Coordinator – Clint Mendonca

The coordinator promotes the online membership program available at kofc.org/join. He ensures that all online members are assigned to the correct councils. He also assures that councils know who is on their online roster and that the council is actively recruiting them. He then encourages conversion of e-members to council membership. In addition, he coordinates statewide initiatives to engage online membership in Knight's activities.

New Council Development/Reactivation - Victor Garcia and Jason Kelley

These coordinators maintain a database of leads for new councils and reactivations throughout the state. Working closely with Diocesan and District Deputies, the coordinators make sure that the required steps for starting and reactivating new councils are followed. The coordinators serve as the primary points of contact with Supreme in getting these councils started.

Exemplification Coordinator – JD Gutierrez

The coordinator encourages every district to host one Exemplification per month. He also maintains a database of these Exemplifications and follows up with District Deputies who have yet to schedule one. He also disseminates the Exemplifications database to State Council staff and Diocesan Deputies to facilitate attendance at these events. When necessary, the online video at kofc.org can be used for an Exemplification.

College Council / NexGen Membership Coordinator - Josh Jones

This coordinator helps ensure effective college council and college programs across the State. He also works to ensure continuity within councils to sustain summer breaks. Also, he helps start new college councils and reactivate those that have gone dormant. The coordinator also helps arrange the annual College Council Conference in the spring.

For the health of the Order, we need to recruit younger members. We often tell councils to get the new and young members involved but leave our council leadership on their own to figure out how to do that. This coordinator provides ideas and relevant information to help council leadership and District Deputies, who may be a little bit older, know what to do to engage these men.

Membership/Council Retention Chairman/AMI - Michael Barnett

It is important to communicate with councils when their statuses are pending. Since Supreme billing statements are only sent out to Officers Online, too many GKs/FSs miss them. We need to give plenty of warning of when a suspension is pending. Information also needs to be provided to councils utilizing the Affiliate Membership Initiative program to assure compliance.

Incentives

Over the course of the fraternal year, there will be numerous membership incentives, including a number of weekend trip getaways to a destination to be announced.

All new councils and reactivated councils will receive an award of \$250 for getting up and running. The Knight who facilitates the council will receive \$100.

Bill Tillotson william_tillotson@yahoo.com Texas State Council Knights of Columbus Membership Director

Star Council

Star Council Team Members

 David Zeigler (Laura) – Director zigsr@att.net; 903-926-0776
 Texas State Council Knights of Columbus Star Council Director

El Paso & Laredo Diocese

- Brad Meyer Star Tracker Chairman
- Robert Landry (Missie) Committeeman lsutigers34@yahoo.com; 361-676-2035

Victoria, San Angelo, Beaumont, Corpus Christi & Brownsville Dioceses

- Oscar Gendrop (Maria) Committeeman oscargendrop@hotmail.com; 305-773-2527
 - Tyler & Brownsville Dioceses & Archdiocese of San Antonio
- Dan Rangel (Sylvia) Committeeman rangeldan@sbcglobal.net; 210-274-3256
 - **Brownsville, Austin, Lubbock Dioceses**
- Dr. Dean Hansen (Edee) Committeeman deanhansendvm@gmail.com; 214-808-3879
 - Fort Worth, Dallas, & Amarillo Dioceses
- David Keating (Linda) Committeeman idkeating73@att.net; 281-650-5503
 - Archdiocese of Galveston/Houston & Brownsville Diocese

Star Council Award

The Star Council Award is the highest Supreme Award earned by councils for outstanding achievement in the areas of membership, insurance, safe environment, and service program activities. The Star Council Award is a unit of measure for successful councils. It is a positive health check point that the council has growth in membership, focus on insurance programs, compliant with Safe Environment, and commitment to a variety of programs in the areas of Faith, Family, Community and Life.

All Councils begin every fraternal year as Star Council. With proper planning and leadership, every council can maintain that status all year long.

To earn the Star Council Award:

- 1. Earn the **Father McGivney Award** for membership growth by June 30. The council quota can be found on the Membership tab in Officers Online. There is no application to complete for the Father McGivney Award, as the Supreme Council automatically determines eligibility. Goals are set at 6% growth with a minimum of 5 and maximum of 15.
- 2. Earn the Founder's Award for insurance growth by June 30. Each Council will participate in at least two Fraternal Benefits Events (FBE's) for current and prospective members and their spouses during the fraternal year. For Councils with 99 or fewer members (based on your July 1 Roster) you are required to have a total for the year of 10 members or member eligible men at your events. For Councils with 100 or more members (based on your July 1 Roster) you are required to have a total for the year of 14 members or member eligible men at your events. College & Military Councils only require (1) FBE but must meet the number of members. Grand Knight to submit on-line form #11077 within seven days of the event to receive credit. Form is available at:

https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7322809/Fraternal-Benefits-Event-Council-Report-v2

If the Council exceeds the number of members required in the 1st FBE, then the Grand Knight & DGK can meet with their Insurance Agent to go over their personal fraternal benefits available to them and these (2) meetings can count as the 2nd Council FBE.

- 3. Earn the Columbian Award for Faith in Action Programs (Form SP-7) by June 30. Conduct at least four programs in each of the four Faith in Action categories of Faith, Family, Community, and Life. Columbian Award application can be submitted at: www.kofc.org/en/forms/spa/invite.html?lang=en&form=SP7C.02
 Membership numbers and email addresses are required to complete the form.
 Note: June 30 is a hard deadline. You can submit the SP-7 as early as April 1st, Supreme will not accept this form after June 30. Submit the form early to verify the SP-7 will be accepted or if corrections need to be made.
 - We encourage each council that needs help to submit the SP-7 to your Star Council Team member for a review prior to submitting it to Supreme.
 - Note all the forms for specific featured programs I.E. RSVP Form 2863, Food for Families – Form 10057, ASAP form must be submitted prior to submitting the SP-7 for you to get (2) credits.
 - Submit your Form 10784 for every activity after each activity and Supreme will have the additional information needed for the SP-7.
 - Have your Trustees use the SP-7 all year to keep up with your activities for easy submission later in the year.
 - Only the Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, or the Program Director can submit the SP-7.
- 4. Complete and send the **(2) required forms** to Supreme <u>and</u> the Texas State Office.
 - Service Program Personnel Report (Form 365) is due by June 30. Form can be completed at:
 - www.kofc.org/en/for-members/resources/forms/365.html
 - Submit the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity (Form 1728) due by January 31. Form can be completed here:
 - www.kofc.org/en/forms/spa/invite.html?lang=en&form=1728C.02
 - Forward the confirmation PDF copy to the Texas State Office.
 - Both forms in "PDF" format can be found at: <u>www.kofc.org/en/for-members/resources/council-forms.html</u> However, on-line submission is preferred.
- 5. Safe Environment. Councils must be compliant with required training and background checks. All men in the following positions must complete the Safe Environment training modules within 30 days of receiving email from Supreme. Men in the Family or Community Director's position must also provide authorization for a background check. The positions required for training are:
 - Grand Knight
 - Program Director
 - Family Director (background check required)
 - Community Director (background check required)
 - Columbian Squires Counselors (if applicable) (background check required.

Some positions also have access to the Praesidium Academy administration dashboard to view council compliance status. Once completed, training is good for three (3) years.

The Service Program Personal (Form 365) will be recorded as received when the following required roles have been appointed - <u>Program Director, Community Director, Family Director, Membership Director, and Retention Chairman</u>. The Grand Knight can hold one ofthe Director's positions; however, (2) two other unique men must hold the other Director roles.

Accurate emails must be reported on Form 365. Praesidium will use these email addresses to send notifications to those men to complete Safe Environment training and to provide authorization for a background check. There should be no general email specific to council name, position, etc. - it must be a unique email address to the individual. The email the member will receive from Supreme will include their username and password to access the training website.

Safe Environment training can also be completed by those without Internet access. The Office of Youth Protection (OYP) can mail the training materials to a Knight. He then can read the training, complete the paperwork, and mail back in. Contact the OYP (info below) for more details.

The Star Tracker will provide training status as required to achieve 100% compliance. Grand Knights and District Deputies are expected to monitor these reports for Safe Environment Compliance for their councils. Grand Knights and District Deputies can also monitor progress in Officers Online. They should work to ensure that each council is 100% compliant as soon as reasonably possible.

Timeline is as follows:

- Once Supreme receives the completed Form 365 an email will be sent to the men
 who need to complete training. Individuals will have 30 days to complete the
 training and provide background information. Those without Internet access need to
 contact OYP.
- An email reminder will be sent in 2 weeks if not completed.
- If not completed within 30 days, the director's positions are automatically vacated by Supreme and another individual needs to be assigned.
- Completing the online safe environment training modules shows commitment to protecting children and vulnerable members.
- Recertification emails will be sent out 45 days prior to renewal date.
- DIOCESAN SAFE ENVIRONMENT REQUIREMENTS ARE UNIQUE AND SEPARATE FROM THE KNIGHTS. BOTH MUST BE COMPLETED. PLEASE SEE THE INFORMATION IN THE FOLLOWING LINK: www.kofc.org/en/resources/safe-environment-program/safe-

Safe Environment Requirements can be found at:

environment-trifold.pdf

www.kofc.org/en/safe-environment-program/index.html

All inquiries about the program should be directed to the Office of Youth Protection via email to youthleader@kofc.org or by phone to 203-800-4940.

6. Council must be current with **Supreme Assessments** (Per Capita) twice during the year; prior to October 10 based on July 1 Roster and April 10 based on December 31 Roster.

The Texas State Council provides a District Deputy Checklist (see form at end of this section) to help achieve Star Council, Form TX21B – 25. This form is also available for download on the Texas State Website:

www.tkofc.org/State-Council/Texas-State-Council-Forms

Star District Award

District Deputies are also recognized for excellence by Supreme. Criteria for this award is:

- 1. Meet 70% of the District Membership goal.
- 2. 50% of the Councils achieve the Founder's Award.
- 3. Submit District Deputy Report Form 944 for each of his councils prior to September 15
- 4. Have at least one council in the district earn Star Council

Lone Star Awards

Texas also has awards above and beyond the Star Council Award: The Lone Star Award for Excellence and the Lone Star Award for Excellence with Distinction.

The requirements for the Lone Star Award for Excellence are:

- 1. Earn the Star Council Award.
- 2. Recruit **110%** of Membership Goal.
- 3. Submit Report of Officers (Form 185) to State Office by July 15, 2025.
- 4. Report Special Olympics Activities between July 1, 2025 June 30, 2026 on Form 10784 by **June 30, 2026**.
 - www.kofc.org/en/forms/spa/invite.html?lang=en&form=10784C.02
- 5. Meet State Charity Goal by June 30, 2026.
- 6. Submit Audit forms 1295-1 by August 15, 2025 & 1295-2 by February 15, 2026.
- 7. Seat at least one delegate at the State Convention in Dallas, April 24-26, 2026.

The requirements for the Lone Star Award for Excellence with Distinction are:

- 1. Earn the LSAFE.
- 2. Recruit **120%** of Membership Goal.
- 3. Be a Quick Start Council (State Per Capita & State Charities) by **December 31, 2025**.
- 4. Contribute 110% to State Charity Goal by June 30, 2026.
- 5. Safe Environment Compliant by **December 31, 2025**.
- 6. Participate in (1) FBE by **December 31, 2025**.
- 7. Submit at least one entry for a State Service Program Award, or the Chic O' Connor Award, or the Family of the Year, or Blessed Michael McGivney Award, or Educational Grant by **March 1, 2026**.

Star Tracker Report

A Star Tracker Report will be maintained and updated as data is available from multiple sources (Supreme and State). This report will track each council's progress towards Star Council and the Lone Star Awards. Reports will be by Diocese and will be in Excel and PDF form. Star Tracker will be released every Monday after August 1, 2025 (or next business day for Supreme if on weekend or a holiday).

Reports will be sent to Diocesan, District Deputies, Grand Knights, & Financial Secretaries via our Constant Contact email platform.

Submission of Forms

Report of Officers - Form 185, Report of Service Program Personnel - Form 365, Survey of Fraternal Activity – Form 1728, and Columbian Award – Form SP-7should be submitted via Officers Online in the secure sign-in area. The on-line submission process is simple and automatically certifies that the Supreme Council has received the form.

One can also use the PDF form instead if needed:

www.kofc.org/en/for-members/resources/council-forms.html

If submitted in this fashion, please e-mail to the addresses as follows:

Form 185 addresschange@kofc.org Forms 365, 1728 & SP-7 fraternalmission@kofc.org

Since the District Deputy and the Texas State Office are not automatically notified of form submittals, councils need to save each form as a PDF file and forward them as follows:

State Deputy/State Office forms@tkofc.org

District Deputy (use appropriate address)
Diocesan Deputy (use appropriate address)

The council should retain a copy of all council forms. This is our biggest challenge: getting the documentation and paperwork done right and on time. Star Council and Safe Environment compliance hinges on *timely and accurate* completion of forms.

Goals for 2025-2026

Each Archdiocese/Diocese has a goal of 25% (minimum) of all councils within their diocese to become Star Council. Each Diocesan Deputy that meets/exceeds this goal will be recognized. Diocesan Deputies and District Deputies are asked to strive for one Star Council per district.

Goals per Archdiocese/Diocese '25- '26:

DIOCESE/	No. of Active	
ARCHDIOCESE	COUNCILS	GOAL
Amarillo	22	6
Austin	81	21
Beaumont	22	6
Brownsville	39	10
Corpus Christi	40	10
Dallas	56	14
El Paso	36	9
Fort Worth	64	16
Gal-Houston	119	30
Laredo	16	4
Lubbock	23	6
San Angelo	34	9
San Antonio	94	24
Tyler	30	8
Victoria	30	8
TOTAL	727	181 (min.)

Awards

District Deputy Incentive

District Deputies who get all their Council's Form 185 & Form 365 turned in at the Organizational Meeting will be entered for a \$250 gift card drawing to be given away on Sunday morning at the Organizational Meeting – July 13, 2025.

1st Star Council in Texas

Every Council that pre-qualifies for Star Council as of the April 20, 2026, Star Tracker Report, the Grand Knight will be entered into a drawing for a \$100 gift card. The Drawing will be held during the State Convention weekend. (need not be present to win)

Texas Circle of Honor Award for Diocesan Deputy

Requirements: Meet Star Council Goals for the diocese (25% of councils in the diocese). Award: Knights of Columbus Cooler & \$25 gift card.



Urban Peak Waterproof 12-Can Hinge Cooler

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Texas State Council - Form TX21B

Knights of Columbus

Star Council Requirement - District Deputy Checklist

Council#	-							
Father McGivney Awa		Membership July 1		ster Memb	ership No.	Goal	YTD	
		Men	nbersnip					
		Frateri	nal Benefit	01	Events	No. of	No. of	Total of
Founders Award		E	vents	Goal	YTD	Members	Members at 2nd	Members
College & Military Cou	ıncils			2		at 1st	at 2110	YTD
Only require (1) FBE b			10 particip		or councils y	vith 99 or fe	wer membe	ers
have number of memi							more memb	
Programs:	ᆸ	Faith	Fai	mily	Com	munity	Li	fe
Columbian Award	1							
Form SP-7	2							
Due June 30	3	10						
	4	*						
		Fraternal P	rogram Repo	rt - Form 10	0784 to be o	done for all F	rograms	
		Fill in	or mark off	program as	Council con	npletes activ	rity	
Reports							_	
Form 365-	Repo	ort of Service Personr	nel	Due by Jul	y 1		Do	one
5 4700					24			
Form 1728	- Sui	rvey of Fraternal Activ	vity	Due by Jan				
					Place	date District D	Deputy receiv	es form
Safe Environment Cor	mplia	int						
		Grand Knight	Program	Director	Family	Director	Communi	ty Director
Date of Compliance	e							
Supreme Per Capita		1st half Amount owe	d.			Date Paid		
-		(based on July 1 Rost				Date Faid.		
		2nd half Amount ow				Date Paid:		
		(based on January 1	Roster)		-			
		Amount owed:			Date Paid:			
		(based on July 1 Rost	ter)		_			
Notes:								

Form TX21B - 2025

Programs

The Knights of Columbus, initiated in 1882 by Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney, has remained successful and sustainable due to our Brother Knight's Fraternal Council Programs. This year's program's focus is to enhance the blessed acts of service that bring sustainability to our Order.

Supreme has outlined and suggested programs for the Councils to follow, but the available programs are only limited by the depth of the Council members innovative, faith based, fraternal driven imagination. Supreme has Faith in Action, which is the driving force of our council programs. This fraternal year, Supreme's focus is The National Eucharistic Revival, which is promoting Eucharist processions. Please meet with your Pastor to align and promote a Eucharist procession with the congregation of your council's parish.

Two main forms, Form SP-7, The Columbian Award and Form 10784 Fraternal Activity Report are required to attain Star Council. Please be advised of the following minimum requirements when identifying and submitting your program activities to attain the Columbian Award. Submit four activities per outlined programs, Faith, Family, Community and Life for a total of sixteen activities/credits.

Please strive to keep the members of your Councils active by participating in the Programs set forth. This will ensure that your Council will continue its success and growth through membership and Fraternal actions. Catholic men enjoy, correction, They LOVE working together to support the needs of the Council, Parish, and Catholic Communities. Allowing the Programs gear to function, in union with all the other Directorships, as the sustainer of our Blessed Order we allow Christ to be Our Light to guide our Councils to attain Star Council.

Faith in Action

Faith in Action encompasses Faith, Family, Community and Life. The goal therefore is for the active councils to conduct programs that will draw men closer to their faith, families, and communities. In addition, we called upon to defend life in all stages and in all conditions. One of the Focus Programs for this fraternal year is The Eucharist Procession program as part of the National Eucharistic Revival. Though there are several activities under each category, we will concentrate on the following:

Faith: RSVP, Into the Breach, Spiritual Reflection and Holy Hour.

Community: Wheelchair Mission, Habitat for Humanity, Helping Hands, and Coats for Kids. **Family:** Food for Families, Family of the Month/Year, Family Fully Alive, and Family Prayer Night.

Life: March for Life, Special Olympics, Ultrasound Program, Pregnancy Center Support.

Refund Support Vocation Program (RSVP) — Dan Stoffel, State Chairman

The RSVP program falls under the Faith section of Faith in Action. The RSVP program qualifies your Council for two credits as a featured program when you have met the minimum requirements. To have a successful vocations program, RSVP is just one component.

The Vocations Handbook states the objective of our vocations program is Awareness, Climate and Motivation for vocations. RSVP is just a measurable item to judge Council participation. All seminarians and religious originating from your Diocese should receive support. This includes monetary support, prayer, invitations to events and greeting cards.

Your Council Faith Director should work with your Diocesan Vocations Chairman regarding the equitable implementation of the RSVP program. This is important as the rebate to the Council or Assembly for any seminarian or religious, stops when they have received \$2,000 from any source claiming the \$100 per \$500 RSVP provided. If you do not have your copy of the Vocations

Handbook 1942, please order one. You can download a PDF version from:
www.kofc.org/en/resources/faith-in-action-programs/faith/rsvp/1942-vocations-handbook.pdf
Submit your request for the \$100 rebate for each \$500 support on form:
www.kofc.org/en/for-members/resources/faith-in-action-program-forms.html

Pro Life — Hector Gutierrez, State Chairman

The 2003 Woman's Right to Know Act: This bill requires the physician providing an abortion to discuss specific medical risks and sources of support with the patient. It also gives the patient the right to review informational materials published by the state on the same topics.

This is a call to all Knights to help create a Culture of Life in the state of Texas and to rid ourselves of the culture of death that is pushed into our lives. This is done through prayer, civic action, organizing and participating in Pro Life events, and through donations of funds to various Pro Life ministries such as pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes throughout the state. Please feel free to contact me or anyone in my committee for help in any of these areas... we are here to serve you and to continue to make Texas the most Pro Life state in the country.

The ACE Wings

The ACE in ACE Wings stands for – Pro Life without Apology, without Compromise, without Exception. To earn the ACE Wings a Knight must do five public Pro Life events – a guide to these events can is on the ACE Wing form located online at tkofc.org. Please note that only certain events can be repeated and are outlined on the form. This year's premium event will be the Texas Rally for Life held in January in Austin. This event will count for three of the five events needed to earn the ACE Wings. In the past the ACE Wings were often thought of as an award. Please never refer to it as an award – Each set of ACE Wings represents a child that was aborted – and you cannot "win" this...!! Please simply refer to them as "ACE Wings" and please wear them often, not just to KofC Meetings.

It takes a real man, a brave Knight, to earn and wear the ACE Wings!

Please treat them with the same respect you would any blessed object. Every ACE wing is blessed. A guide for wearing the ACE Wings will be distributed to your Diocesan Pro Life Chairman soon. He will distribute it to the rest of the Diocese.

Silver ACE Wings (est. 2003) continue to be the foundation in which the Texas Knights show others that the lives of those children who were aborted would have mattered, that they would have enjoyed the same things we all enjoy. A Knight works five public Pro Life events and once completed turns in his paperwork to the State Culture of Life Chairman for his consideration. If a Knight earns the ACE Wings, he may elect to purchase a set for his wife and children (Children must be 10 years of age or older since these represent a child lost to abortion and they are blessed objects and must be treated with respect). The cost for the additional set of wings is \$7 each.

Special Forces ACE Wings (est. 2017) are black with gold precious feet in the middle. These are to be presented to Knights in a Council that are often on the front lines defending the preborn - these are the men a Council call upon.

When a Pro Life event needs to be staffed, when volunteers are needed for 40 Days for Life, when Marshals are needed to protect Marchers at the Texas Rally for Life, or any of the March for Life events held across the state... to name just a few items.

To receive them, the Grand Knight, in cooperation with the Council Life Director, can choose up to ten members of their Council per year. The Council will submit a form to the State Pro Life Chairman for his consideration. The cost of each wing will be \$7 – including shipping. The funds must be paid in advance. The Knight must have already earned his Silver ACE Wings.

Spouses may also receive them if the Knight elects (\$7 cost). Children are NOT eligible, but they are still able to receive the Silver ACE Wings if a Knight so elects – the \$7 charge for these remains.

Gold ACE Wings (2013) are part of our ACE Wings system to recognize those Knights (Knights only please – however consideration will be given to non-Knights on special cases – Abby Johnson is a Gold ACE Wing recipient) whose constant and fearless love for the preborn have helped babies to live and Pro-Life ministries to thrive. Gold ACE Wings are presented to Knights that have been recognized for their outstanding Pro Life efforts year in and year out by the Diocesan Deputy in each of the 15 Dioceses in Texas. Each Diocesan Deputy is allowed to present up to two Knights and their spouses the Gold ACE Wings each year. They can only be earned once.

All ACE wing forms are available at:

www.tkofc.org/State-Council/Texas-State-Council-Forms

Pregnancy Resource — Greg Dutchover, State Chairman

Saving lives by helping women choose life by giving them the opportunity to view their unborn children on ultrasound machines at pro-life pregnancy centers. This initiative is funded by Knights of Columbus state and local councils with matching grants from the Supreme Council's Culture of Life Fund.

The Knights of Columbus work together as an organization to purchase ultrasound machines for qualifying pregnancy centers. Discounted prices for selected machines are offered through preferred pricing agreements arranged by the Supreme Council. The list of preferred machines is provided to sponsoring councils after the pregnancy center is approved for funding by the local diocese and the Supreme Council.

After the state and/or local council raises 50% of the cost, the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council will provide the other 50% to complete funding for purchase of an ultrasound.

Here are the steps for Ultrasound support for your identified Pregnancy Resource Center (PRC):

Notify Greg Dutchover, the State Pregnancy Resource Chairman of your intention to participate in the Ultrasound Program.

Form 10715 must first be completed and approved by the Diocesan Right to Life Office (Bishop's Office, not the KofC Diocesan Pro-Life Chairman).

Once the form is completed, email it to Greg Dutchover.

Brother Dutchover will forward it to Supreme, expect a response for approval in about a week. Once approved, fundraising may begin.

While fundraising, have the PRC obtain a quote for an ultrasound machine, this can be through Supremes' preferred pricing or on their own.

Once funds are raised, complete Form 10716 and email it to Brother Dutchover along with the quote, the PRC W-9 and the PRC's Statement of Faith (if applicable).

Once Brother Dutchover makes sure all is well, he will get the State Deputy to sign the application, and will send it to the Supreme Board of Directors who will vote on the funds. A check will be issued to the Pregnancy Resource Center. This usually takes 6 to 12 weeks once the 10716 is received.

Veterans Affairs – Angel Luna, State Chairman

The Veterans play a significant role within our Order, not only have they played a role in preserving our country's freedom and our way of life, but they also bring attributes that are reflective of their military training, like service to country and community. The question is, what are we doing for our veterans? Are we actively recruiting more veterans and are we guiding them as they join our councils?

When we invite the veterans to join our councils, we gain members with exceptional attributes that they have acquired through their military training, such as leadership, sense of service, teamwork, high moral and ethical values, discipline, and initiative. Veterans followed through on all activities, enhanced by their cross-functional skills.

Visiting them in their times of need, particularly at the Veterans Hospital is a valued and honored tradition. Please visit and support our veterans. Please remember our veterans and honor their sacrifices, especially the ones that made the ultimate sacrifice.

Pilgrim Icon Program – Edvardo Garcia, State Chairman

Every few years, the Knights of Columbus select an Icon, whose patronage is inspiring to Knights and their communities. Our new Pilgrim Icon is the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Councils organize a Sacred Heart Holy hour featuring an icon depicting the famous image of the Sacred heart of Jesus, painted in 1767 by Pompeo Batoni and now venerated in the church of the Gesu in Rome. More than 191,000 council and parish prayer services with over 23 million participants already held. Spread devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

For Pilgrim Icon resources: www.kofc.org/pilgrimicon

Silver Rose Program — Edvardo Garcia, State Chairman

Share the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe and promote respect for life by participating in this meaningful pilgrimage. The Silver Rose program demonstrates the unity between Knights of Columbus in Canada, the United States and Mexico, through a series of prayer services promoting the dignity of all human life and honoring Our Lady.

Each year, from early March through mid-December, Silver Roses are stewarded by Knights of Columbus councils along routes from Canada to Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion for Knights, parishioners, and community members to pray for respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation, and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Rick Guzman skrickguzman6021@gmail.com Texas State Council Knights of Columbus Programs Director

Charities

Our State Council theme resounds very well, "Follow Me." Our Bishops and Priests need the Knights of Columbus now more than ever! The first principle of our Order is Charity, and it is the basis for all we do as Brother Knights. Charity is at the heart of all the work we do and our faith — and it always has been. For the Knights of Columbus, charity means supporting a variety of projects. Together, we will make a difference. This is our path, and our faith leads the way.

Brothers, this fraternal year, each of you are called with the true spirit of charity and discharge our full duty to God, to our neighbors and to ourselves. We grow together in friendship with the Lord through our fraternity, and this friendship is lived and cultivated by our practice of charity. Membership in the Order offers a wide variety of opportunities for men and their families to grow in their faith and serve those in need.

Whether with gifts of money or works of service, the Knights must continue their staunch support within their communities through initiatives and programs, such as American Wheelchair Mission, Bishop Thomas J. Flanagan Fund, Cardinal Medeiros Fund, Disaster Response, Educational Grants, Special Olympics, Thanksgiving Masses, etc. Knights recognize our mission, and our faith in God; it compels us to action and calls us to "Follow Me."

Charity Fundraising Team — Josh Gomez, Chairman

The Charity Fundraising Team, led by Josh Gomez, who can be reached at 972-313-5398, JoshGomezKofC@gmail.com and the Fundraising Committeemen, will be leading the fundraising effort with our Brother Knights, our Councils, Districts, and each Diocese. They will be working to inspire our members to make contributions to State Council Charities.

The Fundraising Committeemen:

Bob Schmidt — 281-798-081, rhsch03@aol.com Thomas Oaks — 956-648-0463, major.oaks_1995@att.net Mario Mallari — 915-373-5794, mpogie10@gmail.com

Josh and the members of the fundraising team will be working to instill in our Brother Knights that while Charity begins at home, it must not stop there. In fact, if we are to truly give witness to Fr. McGivney's vision, it **cannot** stop at our local boundaries. While Charity is the first principle of our Order, it is only when implemented in conjunction with our two other founding principles of Unity and Fraternity can we realize our full potential. United with the councils across from each diocese and with our Brother Knights throughout the state, we will be able to help those in need, wherever the need arises.

Every year, your council is given an opportunity to earn awards by reaching their State Council Charity goal. The goal is derived by requesting \$10.00 per regular member, as reflected on your Council membership roster on July 1, 2025. Remember, the Bishop of your Diocese will receive 70% of your Council's charity contribution. The remaining 30% is retained by the State Council Charity Board and used for statewide charitable purposes. If your Council exceeds their goal, 100% of all monies exceeding your Diocesan charity goal will be returned to your Bishop. To ensure your Council receives proper credit, please make your checks payable to "State Council Charities" and ensure the Council Number is written on the check.

Mail check to:

Texas State Council Knights of Columbus 1033 La Posada Dr., Suite 100 Austin. Texas 78752-3824 Or you can pay online via the Texas State website (<u>www.tkofc.org</u>) then click on <u>Pay State</u> <u>Charities Online</u> at the top of the home page. You can pay <u>State Per Capita Dues</u> as well!

The Charity Pin

Whenever a Knight or family member donates \$20.00 or more, they will receive one of the beautiful, limited editions, State Council Charity lapel pins. By completing the Charity Contribution Form, the member's Council receive credit for the contribution towards its assigned goal.

Contribution Form 2025-2026

State Council C Donations of \$20.00 or higher we recognized with a State Charities Thank you for your generosity at Texas State Charities Program as supporting our Bishop's selected charities. Make checks payable to State Council Charities 1033 La Posada Dr., Suite 100 Austin Texas 78752-3824 Name	ill be Lapel Pin. ad assisting the well as Diocesan
Council	Amount Enclosed: \$
Thank you for your generosity,	9-3-1130
Texas State Officers and State Cl	narities Team
	07/2025

Bishop Thomas J. Flanagan Fund, Grants for Retired Priests — Dan Stoffel, State Chairman This fund, established in 2020, is named in honor of the late Bishop Thomas J. Flanagan who served the Archdiocese of San Antonio as Auxiliary Bishop from 1998-2005 and the Texas State Council as State Chaplain from 2000-2002. This fund was established to provide for the care and welfare of those who so faithfully served us and affords grants for our retired priests.

The primary way to contribute to this fund is by acquiring and displaying a Texas Knights of Columbus license plate on your vehicle. Donations can also be made by check, debit, or credit card on:

www.tkofc.org/Donate-Now/License-Plate-Program

State Council Charity magnets can also be purchased for \$20.

The Texas State Council first issued the KofC license plates in 2004 which means the program has been in effect for almost 20 years. Currently we are granting each diocese almost \$2,000 each year from this program. Multiply that by fifteen diocese and 20 years and we should be proud that the Knights have provided over \$500,000 to help our retired priests. Name another organization in the State that matches that record.

But the unwelcome news is that less than 1% of the Knights in the State participate. The easiest way to obtain your plate is to access:

www.myplates.com/design/personalized/passenger/knights-of-columbus/

The KC plate is \$30, or a vanity KC plate is \$70. The state of Texas will then send \$22 to State Council Charities for retired priests. All the funds contributed are distributed equally to the fifteen dioceses in Texas each fraternal year.

The Pledge Letter

We are asking your council to make a pledge to contribute toward your TSC Charity goal this fiscal year that ends on June 30th, 2026. **Can we count on your council?** Your decision will help us to plan at the state level to maximize donations for our Texas Bishops. Please present this pledge to your council in the months of July through October, then submit this pledge to your District Deputy before Nov. 15th, 2025.





State Council Charities Board of Directors

President Ron Alonzo

skronalonzo1202@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT-SPIRITUAL Most Rev. Michael Mulvey Bishop of Corpus Christi

Vice President-Secretary Robert B. "Bob" Goss bob@gosslaw.com

Treasurer Derek W. Rabey skdr2001@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT-LEGAL David Pels pelsd66@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT-ARRANGEMENTS Reed Fontenot

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Joe Jacobo ioeiacobokofc@yahoo.com

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Victor Medina
victor.medina3rd@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBER (1 YEAR) Tony Gonzalez tonyglz@yahoo.com

BOARD MEMBER (1 YEAR) Joe Lafuente Chiefjoe58@yahoo.com

STATE OFFICE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY Carlos J. Gonzalez 1033 La Posada Dr., Ste. 100 Austin, TX 78752 (512) 442-1492 carlos@tkofc.org Worthy Grand Knight,

State Council Charities Board of Directors (SSC) leadership would like to ask for your council's pledge to support your Bishop's charity of choice through our Diocesan State Charities goal of which 70% comes back to support your Bishop. Any amount over 100% goes directly to your Bishop. Your Council has the opportunity to help your Bishop's charity of choice and SSC with Special Olympics, Disaster Relief, College Catholic Centers, Scholarships & Grants, Front Line Faith, Habitat for Humanity, Catholic Archives, and other requests that are brought to Texas State Council for consideration.

We are asking your council to meet their goal in the fiscal year that ends on June 30th, 2026. **Can we count on your council?** Your decision will help us to plan at the state level to maximize donations for our Texas Bishops. Please present this pledge to your council in the months of July through October, then submit this pledge to your District Deputy before Nov. 15th, 2025.

My Council will provide the following support

☐ TSC Charities 2-step: My Coun our goal in two steps!	cil will contribute at or above 120% of
✓Step #1: 100% by Decemb	per 31, 2025*
√Step #2: additional 20% or	r more by June 30, 2026
☐ My Council will contribute at or 31, 2025*.	r above 100% of our goal by December
 My Council will contribute at or Convention April 24th. 	above 100% of our goal by TSC
☐ My Council will contribute \$ Convention April 24th.	toward our goal by TSC
\square No support, but we wish the Te	exas State Council well in this endeavor.
Signed by GK	Date
Print Name	Date Council #
This free-will pledge is not legally your diocese.	binding. It is an aspirational goal of
*100% goal met with 100% TSC po	er capita paid, qualifies your council for

"Quick Start Award".

Bishops Charities

The following is the list of Dioceses and their designations for the funds received through the Texas State Charities.

Bishop	Diocese	Charity Designations
Bishop Patrick J. Zurek	Amarillo	Secondary Catholic Education in the Amarillo Diocese
Bishop Daniel E. Garcia	Austin	Catholic Schools
Bishop David L. Toups	Beaumont	Seminarian Fund
Bishop Daniel E. Flores	Brownsville	Deaf Ministry/Disabled Program
Bishop William Michael Mulvey	Corpus Christi	Farm of Hope
Bishop Edward J. Burns	Dallas	Persons with Disabilities and Deaf Ministries
Bishop Mark J. Seitz	El Paso	Vocations
Bishop Michael F. Olson	Fort Worth	Deaf Ministry and Seminarian Support
Archbishop Joe S. Vasquez	Galveston/Houston	Archdiocesan Catholic Schools
Bishop James A. Tamayo	Laredo	Evangelization/Outreach Charity & Seminarian Support
Bishop Robert M. Coerver	Lubbock	Vocations/Seminarian Support
Bishop Michael J. Sis	San Angelo	Seminarian Education
Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller	San Antonio	Propaedeutic Program at Assumption Seminary
Bishop John G. Kelly	Tyler	Seminarian Education & Training
Bishop Brendan Cahill	Victoria	Continuing Education for Priests, Extension of Lay Ministry and Evangelization

Wheelchair Program — Bill Weber, Chairman; Brian Nelson, Assistant Chairman

The Knights of Columbus, in partnership with the American Wheelchair Mission, raise funds to support the purchase of wheelchairs for distribution worldwide. Thousands have been distributed in the USA. It is estimated that over 100 million people worldwide need a wheelchair and cannot afford one. It is also estimated that each wheelchair delivered changes and improves an average of ten lives. Our Worthy State Deputy has continued to set a goal for each Council to donate at least \$150 for the purchase of one wheelchair. To achieve this objective the Council's budget should reflect this amount as a line item. The Grand Knight should regularly include the wheelchair ministry on the agenda of the monthly Council meeting.

Make checks payable to the American Wheelchair Mission and mailed to: <u>American Wheelchair Mission</u>, Attn: <u>Dan Moberg</u>, 2600 E. <u>Seltice Way</u>, <u>Suite A172</u>, <u>Post Falls</u>, <u>ID 83854-7991</u>. Please do not mail checks to anyone else. To donate online, visit amwheelchair.org/donate and select "Knights of Columbus" in the Campaign field and enter your Council Number in the Organization/Council field.

The most effective way to raise funds for this program is to conduct a weekend Parish-wide fundraiser called Wheelchair Sunday. This gives parishioners an opportunity to join this ministry and is quite easy to conduct.

Preparing for a Wheelchair Sunday

- Get approval from your Pastor to hold a Wheelchair Sunday and to read a 2–3-minute pulpit talk and/or show a video at all the Masses. If you do not get approval from your Pastor for a pulpit talk or video, you can still hold a Wheelchair Sunday.
- Once approved, schedule 1 or 2 weekends for your Wheelchair Sunday that doesn't compete with other parish fundraisers.
- Obtain a sample pulpit talk and donation envelopes, or forms, from the Wheelchair Chairman or Assistant Chairman.8
- Advertise up to 6 weeks in advance in all parish media and include instructions on how to donate online.
- Obtain needed materials and supplies such as a display wheelchair, Certificate of Thanks, donation envelopes, newsletters, DVDs, pins, display board, pens, clipboards, baskets, and Our Lady of Guadalupe lithographs. If you do not have lithographs available to give to donors of \$500 or more, a lithograph can be shipped to them. We can bring all these materials and supplies if we are available to be there to help.

Conducting a Wheelchair Sunday

- Setup at least one table in the narthex or outside, depending on space and what your Pastor will allow.
- Read 2–3-minute pulpit talks and/or show a video at all the Masses.
- After each Mass: make sure all the exits are covered, collect cash/check donations in baskets and hand out donation envelopes.
- Checks must be made payable to American Wheelchair Mission.
- Parishioners should fill out a donation envelope if: requesting a Certificate of Thanks (\$150 or more donation), requesting an Our Lady of Guadalupe lithograph (\$500 or more donation), or using a credit card.
- Credit card readers are available where the funds go directly to the American Wheelchair Mission.
- If a lithograph is given out, please write "Took OLG" on the donation envelope. One lithograph per donor.

Tasks after Wheelchair Sunday

- For loose cash, your Council will write a check for the total amount.
- For cash in donation envelopes, be sure to write "Cash" at top of each envelope and write a personal check for the total amount or include this amount in the Council check.
- Mail all checks and envelopes to American Wheelchair Mission, Attn: Dan Moberg, 2600
 East Seltice Way, Suite A172, Post Falls, ID 83854-7991 via FedEx. We can give you a
 FedEx Number to use.

Wheelchairs are shipped in small and large containers. The small container costs \$16,500 and contains 110 wheelchairs and the large container costs \$42,000 and contains 280 wheelchairs. Only large containers are shipped to other countries. All arrangements for procurement and shipment of containers are managed by the American Wheelchair Mission.

An organization raising funds sufficient to fill either a small or large container may designate the location for distribution. Volunteers wishing to assist in a distribution may do so at their own expense.

Holding a Wheelchair Sunday will not only raise funds but will also present an opportunity to recruit new members. Emphasize that Charity is being demonstrated as the first principle of our Order. If it is not possible to conduct a Wheelchair Sunday, then Grand Knights should make direct efforts to assure that their Council donates at least \$150 for one wheelchair.

"CHANGING LIVES THROUGH MOBILITY"

Cardinal Medeiros Fund — Leo Saenz Jr., Chairman

The Cardinal Medeiros Trust Fund was established in 1981 and incorporated into the State Council Charities program. Humberto Cardinal Medeiros was the Bishop of Brownsville Texas from 1966 until 1970. He served as the Texas State Council Chaplain 1969-1970. He was named the Archbishop of Boston on September 8, 1970, and created a Cardinal on March 5, 1973.

The Cardinal Medeiros Fellow Program was started in 1998 to increase the principal in the trust fund. The interest earned is used exclusively to fund our educational grants. An increase in interest income facilitates and permits additional educational grants.

A Cardinal Medeiros Fellow may be ordered for a Knight of Columbus or for a Knight's wife. Additionally, it may be ordered in memory of a deceased Knight or for a deceased Knight's wife. This is a marvelous way to honor an individual, while at the same time providing a gift that keeps on giving grants through scholarships. With a contribution of \$1,000, the honoree is awarded a plaque, a lapel pin and their name is engraved on the Honor Roll which is on display at the State Council Office and at the State Convention.

To become a Medeiros Fellow visit the Texas State Council website https://tkofc.org/Donate-Now/Cardinal-Medeiros-Fund

Educational Grants — Leo Saenz, Jr., Chairman; Ken Orze, Assistant Chairman State Council Charities maintains two Education Grant Programs funded by the interest received on the Humberto Cardinal Medeiros Trust Fund managed by the Supreme Council. These two programs are the Catholic School Grants and the Individual Needs-Based Educational Grants.

- Catholic School Grants. State Council Charities will award \$2,000 or more per Diocese to designated Catholic Schools. Prior to March 1st, the Educational Grant Committee will ask the Bishop of each Diocese, the Diocesan Superintendent or Director of Catholic Education, to designate schools to receive the funds and the amount (at least \$500) each school is to receive. Funds will be provided after the State Convention. Each Diocese will receive at least one \$2,000 grant.
- Individual Needs-Based Educational Grants. State Council Charities will award at least one \$1,000 Educational Grant per Diocese and two more \$1,000 Educational Grants to the next two highest scoring applicants (all Dioceses are eligible for one of these two atlarge awards). Applications for these grants are due March 1st. The winners will be announced at the State Convention.
- Eligibility. An applicant must be a Knight of Columbus member in good standing, or his wife, son, or daughter, of a Council located in Texas. A grandchild of a member in good standing in a Council in Texas may apply if their father is not a Knight or is not in good standing. Descendants of deceased members or grandfathers who were in good standing are also eligible. Also, any graduating senior in a Catholic high school, or a graduate of a Catholic high school in Texas, is eligible when sponsored by a local Council in Texas (even when the student's parent or grandparent is not a Knight). All applicants must be at least a high school senior who will be graduating, or a high school graduate, or a college or technical school student, or a seminary student, or enrolling in other advanced training.

The sponsoring Council's Supreme and State per capita must be paid in full and the Council may not be suspended by Supreme.

The form can be found here:

www.tkofc.org/State-Council/Texas-State-Council-Forms

A completed application does count as an award write-up toward the Lone Star Award for Excellence with Distinction.

Special Olympics — Chris Hoefer, Chairman

The mission of Special Olympics Texas is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. These activities give them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.

Volunteers

Special Olympics Texas could not have been created and would not exist today without the time, energy, and the dedication of thousands of volunteers. Over 38,000 volunteers dedicate their time to helping athletes with intellectual disabilities in achieving their dreams. We as volunteers take an oath:

"I promise to give the time of my life, so that Special Olympics Athletes can have the time of their life. I promise to support Special Olympics not just as an expression of charity, but as a form of respect for my fellow human beings. I promise to spread the word of volunteerism because in giving, I receive so much more in return."

Partnership with Special Olympics (Form 10784)

EVERY Council should fill out a Form 10784, reporting Partnership Activities with Special Olympics, which details your Council's involvement - events attended, dollar contributions and manpower hours devoted to various Special Olympics competitions. Those Councils who participate in State Council Charities may report 2.5% of the Council's State Charities donated amount. The report is to be submitted whether a Council was actively involved in Special Olympics or not. We need every council to submit this report by January 31.

Charles 'Chic' O'Connor (October 9, 1919 – April 22, 2010) Award

Chic was a proud member of the Knights since 1943. He was very instrumental in starting Special Olympics in Gregg County (Longview). He became involved because his daughter, Monica, was an athlete. The O'Conner family has done everything from being Timers, Huggers, Chaperones and Pizza Providers for the entire Gregg County Delegation and Area events.

The Texas State Council approved the Charles 'Chic' O'Conner Annual Award in his memory. This award will recognize a Brother Knight for his exemplary contributions in supporting Special Olympics in Texas. Criteria include Leadership, Volunteering, Fundraising and Community Involvement. The nomination form is here:

www.tkofc.org/State-Council/Texas-State-Council-Forms

Deadline for the submission of this form is March 1st. Email the form to Chris Hoefer at choe6482@aol.com or Joe Jacobo at JoeJacoboKofC@yahoo.com

We will have Special Olympic lapel pins available for purchase this year! This will be a limited edition, and additional details will be forthcoming!

"LET ME WIN, BUT IF I CANNOT WIN, LET ME BE BRAVE IN THE ATTEMPT"

Emergency Response — Harry Storey, Chairman

Regional Emergency Response Coordinators:

- Ronnie Kwiat Northeast Beaumont, Dallas, Fort Worth, Tyler
- (619) 368-5996 or rpkwiat48@gmail.com
- Edward Cantu South San Antonio, Laredo, Corpus Christi, Brownsville
- (361) 855-3440 or edwardcnt@gmail.com
- Larry Pellerito Central Austin, Galveston/Houston, Victoria
- (281) 224-3728 or kcpellerito@gmail.com
- Harry Storey West Amarillo, Lubbock, El Paso, San Angelo
- (214) 557-2923 or hss@storeycorp.net

For information on the Knights of Columbus Disaster Relief Program: www.KofC.org/prepare

Texas State Council Emergency Response Program

The mission of our emergency response program is to provide GUIDANCE and ASSISTANCE to our brothers and councils before and after disasters.

Utilizing our statewide network of Emergency Response Coordinators (ERC), we provide GUIDANCE to councils and Knights, thus allowing a concerted effort for all involved. Our relief ASSISTANCE comes through charitable giving from our brothers and councils.

2025-2026 TEXAS STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COORDINATORS

Position	Name	Phone	E-Mail
State ERC Chairman	Harry Storey	214-557-2923	hss@storeycorp.net
Central Regional ERC	Larry Pellerito	281-224-3728	KCPellerito@gmail.com
Austin Diocesan ERC	Lee Fracker	512-985-7741	leefracker_koc@outlook.com
Galveston/Houston Diocesan ERC	"G" Giegerich	281-610-6507	jlglogs@gmail.com
Victoria Diocesan ERC	Jeremy Martin	361-648-9767	jkmartin8578@gmail.com
Beaumont Diocesan ERC	Rick Thomisee	409-454-6593	rlthomiseekc@gmail.com
Northeast Regional ERC	Ron Kwiat	619-368-5996	rpkwiat48@gmail.com
Dallas Diocesan ERC	Eduardo Valenzuela	469-782-7076	eduardo.valenzuela@kdrp.com
Ft. Worth Diocesan ERC	Sam Simon	817-455-7955	ssimon46@hotmail.com
Tyler Diocesan ERC	Wally Embrey	402-880-8014	wallye56@msn.com
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West Regional ERC	Harry Storey	214-557-2923	hss@storeycorp.net
Amarillo Diocesan ERC	Michael Peterson	512-636-5232	go.diesel@yahoo.com
Lubbock Diocesan ERC	Robert Leal	806-781-9875	rleal1971@yahoo.com
El Paso Diocesan ERC	James Weber	915-244-4849	jamesweber1940@yahoo.com
San Angelo Diocesan ERC	Jeff Wheaton	432-528-7931	jturbotime@aol.com
South Regional ERC	Edward Cantu	361-855-3440	edwardcnt@gmail.com
Brownsville Diocesan ERC	David Salinas	956-560-3890	davmar727@icloud.com
Corpus Christi Diocesan ERC	Eloy Ozuna	361-396-2680	mpbchurchfacilities@gmail.com
Laredo Diocesan ERC	Julian Luna, III	956-645-0539	jlunaiii3@gmail.com
San Antonio Diocesan ERC	Bill Havlic	210-584-3046	whavlic@satx.rr.com

For disaster relief, training, guidance, and resources, contact your ERC or E-Mail: EmergencyResponse@TKofC.org

Charities Awards 2025—2026

Council Awards

Quick Start Honor Roll	Plaque	Meet 100% of goal and pay State per capita by 12/31/2025.
Honor Roll	Plaque	Meet 100% of goal and pay State per capita by 06/30/26.
Joseph G. Murphy	Plaque	Highest % or Highest \$ Amount (Council can only qualify for one award) and State per capita paid by 6/30/26.
Hall of Fame	Plaque	5 consecutive years of 100% and State per capita paid by 6/30/26.
Emil E. Ogden	Plaque	10 consecutive years of 100% and State per capita paid by 6/30/26.
Mike Brown	Plaque	15 consecutive years of 100% and State per capita paid by 6/30/26.
Daniel Cardinal DiNardo	Plaque	20 consecutive years of 100% and State per capita paid by 6/30/26.
Saint John Paul II	Plaque	25 consecutive years of 100% and State per capita paid by 6/30/26.
Judge Ricardo H. Garcia	Plaque	30 consecutive years of 100% and State per capita paid by 6/30/26.
PSD Javier Martinez	Plaque	35 consecutive years of 100% and State per capita paid by 6/30/26.
Kevin Cardinal Farrell	Plaque	40 consecutive years of 100% and State per capita paid by 6/30/26.
200% Club	License Plate (or BTJF Fund Contribution) and Statue for Grand Knight	200% of Goal and State per capita paid by 6/30/26.
300% Club	License Plate (or BTJF Fund Contribution) and Statue for Grand Knight and License Plate (or BTJF Fund Contribution) for one additional member	300% of Goal and State per capita paid by 6/30/26.
State Deputy List	Certificate	Contribute 120% of Charity Goal.

District Deputy Awards

District Deputy Quick Start	TSC Commemorative Knife or Zippo lighter	All Councils in the District meet 100% of charity goal by December 31, 2025.
District Deputy Honor Roll	K of C License Plate (or BTJF Fund contribution)	District meets 100% of District Charity goal with each Council Contributing a minimum of 25% of Council's charity goal.
State Deputy List	Certificate	Reach 120% of Charity Goal.

Diocesan Deputy Awards

Diocesan Deputy Quick Start	TSC Commemorative Knife or Zippo Lighter	25% of assigned DD's achieve DD Quick Start in the Dioceses or 70% of active councils achieve Quick Start Honor Roll by December 2025.
Diocesan State Charities Consecutive Year Award	Plaque	Significant years (5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35) of consecutive State Charity goal at 100%.
Diocesan Deputy Hall of Fame	Ring	Diocese attains 100% of charity goal.
State Deputy List	Certificate	Reach 120% of Charity Goal.

Joe Jacobo joejacobokofc@yahoo.com Texas State Council Knights of Columbus Charities Director

Education, Training & Communications

Education, Training & Communications Mission

The mission of the Education, Training, and Communication team is to provide training and education effectively and efficiently to the leadership of the Knights of Columbus in Texas. We will support the other directorates to ensure the overall success of Texas.

Our website and social media outlets are designed to pass along valuable information, highlighting the great works performed by Knights across Texas. The Finish Line will be published monthly. We will highlight the successful programs that Diocesan and district leaders have seen, so that other dioceses and districts might find some fresh ideas.

Our financial secretary trainers will continue to provide training for all officers and those interested in learning more about one of our council's most vital positions. These training sessions will also assist new and established financial secretaries in how to perform their role more effectively.

To foster fraternal competition, we will be keeping track of the Diocesan Deputy and District Deputy of the Year awards. The progress toward these awards will be available to diocesan and district leadership monthly.

Constant Contact is the official email platform for the State Council. We maintain distribution lists for Diocesan Deputies, District Deputies, Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, and others. Reading these correspondences is vital to staying up to date on information that comes from the state.

Financial Secretary Training — David Solis, Chairman

The Financial Secretary is vital to the success of a council. Our Financial Secretary Trainers will be providing training for new and existing financial secretaries. It is the goal of our Trainers to conduct at least two trainings per diocese during the upcoming fraternal year plus one-on-one virtual trainings on an as needed basis. The basic training takes about three hours. When arranging the training sessions, Diocesan Deputies need to remember that a stable internet is a requirement when they arrange an in-person training session. These classes are open to all council and assembly officers and District Deputies. Trainers are also available to conduct video training via Zoom. The following trainers are available for the following dioceses:

- Austin and San Antonio Peter Donahoe, Jr.
- El Paso, San Angelo David Solis
- Beaumont, Tyler Ed Juno
- Galveston-Houston, Victoria Jerry Giegerich
- Brownsville, Corpus Christi, Laredo Michael Murphy
- Dallas, Fort Worth– Victor Garza
- Lubbock, Amarillo Steve Webb

Social Media — Anson Geisel, Chairman

The Multimedia Chairman is responsible for overseeing all social media platforms officially associated with the Texas State Council. The Texas Knights of Columbus is a brotherhood of Catholic men dedicated to faith, charity, and community. We will engage in social media content to feature inspiring stories, provide educational resources, promote upcoming events, and provide opportunities to strengthen your faith while serving others.

We encourage all diocesan deputies to appoint a social media coordinator to work with the State

Chairman to post relevant information on both diocesan and state social media platforms. There is a Supreme social media policy with which each coordinator must comply.

Our media platforms include:

Texas State Council Website – www.tkofc.org

Texas State Council Facebook page - www.facebook.com/txkofc

Texas State Council Twitter page – www.twitter.com/txkofc

Texas State Council Instagram page – www.instagram.com/txkofc

Texas State Council YouTube - www.youtube.com/@TexasKnights

State Webmaster — William Griffith

In January, we launched a new look for our state website. There are several new features that we think the membership is going to love. Our webmaster is charged with keeping the site up to date and adding features or special items as the need arises.

The team is always looking for articles to share worthy news with our brother Knights across the State. Articles, including pictures, are needed to have a successful website. If you post articles on one of our social media sites, be sure to also post your story via the portal at www.tkofc.org. This will help increase the visibility of those who are not on social media sites.

Anyone who attends a local Council, District, or Diocesan event should look to take digital photos, write a short story, and submit for publication. On the state website there is a submission tab. Write a brief summary of the event with 3 or 4 High Quality pictures, and we'll take care of the rest.

State Photographer — Scott Wagner

Maintaining a visual history of our major events makes this role essential. With the fresh-looking webpage, photos can be easily found in the Gallery. We ask that you also submit your high-quality photos of your local events for inclusion in the gallery, just send us a little information about it.

All photos taken will be stored at the State Council via the Cloud.

Awards - Scorekeeper — Lupe (Rod) Rodriquez District Deputy and Diocesan Deputy of the Year

For those leaders that meet certain monthly goals for required forms turned in, membership, charities, attendance at Diocesan Conferences, etc., a score card will be kept and reported monthly (starting in September) to the Diocesan Deputy to forward to the District Deputies. Each award will be based on the results at the end of the fraternal year (June 30). These awards are determined after the Star Councils have been announced at the Supreme Convention in August of the following fraternal year. The awards will be presented at the State Midyear Meeting of the following fraternal year or will be hand delivered by the State Deputy. The top Diocesan and District Deputy and their wives will receive a trip.

Presentations — Anson Geisel, Chairman

Anson Geisel arranges all Texas State Council presentations.

Chad Sandwell
chadsandwell@gmail.com
Texas State Council Knights of Columbus
Education, Training & Communications Director

Evangelization & Faith Formation

Blessed McGivney had a number of reasons why he began the Knights of Columbus, but chief among them, was "to form its members in Catholic faith and virtue" (Section 2, Charter Constitution and Laws of the Knights of Columbus (b)). Allowing men to come together to pray, be formed in their Catholic faith, and share in fraternity were of the upmost importance to our founder. His zeal for the salvation of souls was a driving force to his life and ministry. Today, we as Catholic men, more than ever, are called to renew the vision of Blessed Fr. McGivney to make Jesus Christ the source and summit of all that we do. To ensure our Catholic faith, missionary zeal, and the proclamation of the Kingdom of God permeates all aspects of council life and membership engagement.

The Knights of Columbus Evangelization and Faith Formation (EFF) initiative aims to center all council activity and membership engagement around Jesus Christ. We must place giving the opportunity for men to encounter Jesus Christ and grow in the Catholic faith as our first priority. Part of the Council EFF Directors role besides COR, is to collaborate with council leadership, especially their Membership and Programs directors, to create Christ centered messaging and add in a faith element to existing events.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us in paragraph 2634-2635 "Intercession is a prayer of petition which leads us to pray as Jesus did...intercession - asking on behalf of another has been characteristic of a heart attuned to God's mercy. In the age of the Church, Christian intercession participates in Christ's, as an expression of the communion of saints." Many councils already hold fish frys and breakfasts that bring your Parish community together. As Knights, in addition to serving them, seek any prayer intentions from those gathered and assure them that as a Brotherhood you will be lifting their intercessions up in prayer. After cleaning up, gather in the Chapel for a time of prayer, praying for those whom you served and lifting those prayer intentions gathered that day.

Our hope is that your Council EFF Director will be an active fraternal leader in your council beyond COR, assisting to further "unite members in their Catholic identity and the practice of

Men today are hungry for faith centered content and fraternity that help them grow in faith and become better Catholic men, husbands, and fathers. We know that our Catholic parishes and families need men who are faith-filled leaders who strive to grow in holiness, knowledge, and disciple others towards the Kingdom of Heaven. We are firm in our understanding that this goal is accomplished through *prayer*, *formation*, *and fraternity*.

their Catholic faith." (KofC CC&L Section 2 (g))

To aid in this mission, under the leadership and behest of our Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly, the Knights of Columbus have begun a comprehensive Evangelization and Faith Formation initiative. The purpose of the EFF initiative is threefold; **Encounter**, **Strengthen**, and **Commission**. A life of faith begins with an encounter with Jesus Christ that calls us to repentance and a radical reorientation of our lives because of His immense love poured out upon the Cross. We then, **strengthen** our relationship with God through our personal prayer, study of our Catholic faith and virtue, and share in a fraternal brotherhood that holds us accountable. Lastly, we respond and accept Christ's **commission** as in Mark 16:14-16 and Matthew 28:18-20; to be sent out as disciple makers to share Jesus Christ with others so they may encounter God and His radical life-giving love.

As a priest and pastor of souls, evangelization and faith formation were at the heart of Blessed Michael McGivney's vision for the Knights of Columbus. He recognized the immediate need to form men in their faith and provide the opportunity and means to keep them faithful and active within the

Church. The Supreme Council seeks to further strengthen this purpose of the Order through the Evangelization and Faith Formation department. The first element of EFF is COR.

COR is Latin for HEART and the root word for COURAGE. At the heart of every Knight of Columbus, is a deep relationship with Jesus Christ, knowing that God loves us, He died for our sins, and the need to radically reorient our lives to strive for Heaven. At the heart of every Knight of Columbus, is our Catholic faith, which invites us to seek holiness through our Baptism and daily prayer. At the heart of every Knight of Columbus, is a desire to build the Kingdom of God by being a disciple of Jesus Christ and having the courage to share with others the Good News of Jesus Christ and His Church.

COR exists to form and strengthen Catholic men in faith and virtue as missionary disciples by drawing them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through *prayer*, *formation*, and *fraternity*. The goal of each COR is to provide the opportunity for men to encounter Christ, to strive to be more Christ like, to strengthen our bonds of brotherhood, and to prepare for the courageous mission of evangelization.

COR essentials:

COR is not a program to be completed by your council, but a ministry within the council for men of the parish. COR is led at minimum monthly by a brother Knight, the council EFF director, and is open to ALL men to join in prayer, formation, and fraternity:

- **Prayer:** reciprocal relationship between God and man where man responds to God's invitation, then encounters the Creator.
- **Formation:** lifelong process where we become more like Christ through knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith.
- **Fraternity:** sharing in a common mission, faith, and brotherhood.

Your Texas State Council EFF team is here to provide direction, coaching and support to Diocesan EFF Coordinators, District Deputies, Grand Knights, Council Chaplains and Council Evangelization and Faith Formation Directors as they strive to form men in their Catholic faith, virtue and identity; building up the Kingdom of God and strengthening them to better serve their families, Church and communities. The TSC EFF Team works with the TSC Officers and Directors to integrate Evangelization and Faith Formation opportunities into all State Council initiatives and strategic planning. Our team is available to assist your councils in beginning COR, to help men of your parish grow in their Catholic faith and relationship with Jesus Christ.

With gratitude, Gregory Brown ggb@me.com Texas State Council Knights of Columbus Evangelization and Faith Formation Director

Vivat Jesus!

Texas State Council EFF Committeemen

- John Danley: El Paso, San Angelo, Lubbock, Amarillo
- **Gregory Brown:** Dallas, Fort Worth, Tyler, Beaumont
- Jose Ramos: Laredo, Brownsville, Corpus Christi, San Antonio
- Will Britten: Austin, Galveston-Houston, Victoria

Our Promises as Knights of Columbus

- #1. To help all men grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ
- #2. To provide opportunities for men to serve Christ in His Church including being a missionary disciple
- #3. To provide opportunities for men to serve those most in need in their communities and around the world IN THE NAME OF CHRIST JESUS
- #4. A promise to provide protection and aid to widows and orphans through our insurance arm

Football Frenzy

Football Frenzy is the only fundraiser conducted by Texas State Council (TSC). Here are the reasons why your participation is important:

- Supporting this fundraiser helps TSC avoid increasing your local council state per capita assessment.
- Texas holds the title of the largest jurisdiction in the United States and manages an extensive budget.
- TSC employs three full-time staff members who assist State Officers, Directors, Chairmen, Committees, Diocesan Deputies, District Deputies, Chapters and over 120,000 members throughout the state.
- TSC organizes multiple meetings annually, including our Annual State Convention.
- Funding for this program enables TSC to secure top-notch venues, ensuring you have the best experience!

This fundraiser follows the last 10 weeks of NFL football. You'll receive 4 different teams each week on your ticket. If your 4 teams combined score is the highest or lowest for that week, you win a cash prize!

Total prizes being given away by TSC Knights of Columbus are \$12,000! Including a grand prize of \$1,000 to the ticket holder that has the combined highest total 10 week score.

You, your friends, and family can purchase tickets online here: www.footballsweeps.com/purchase/checkout/org/TexasSta 7 2025

This fundraiser is open to the public, you don't need to be a member to buy tickets. Please make sure they enter the Knight's name and Council number in the designated fields. Entering a council is very important so your council can be entered into the all-new drawings. Orders will be emailed to you and there's nothing else you have to do to win!

The instruction sheet can be found here: www.tkofc.org/Football-Frenzy

All stubs, checks, and unsold tickets need to be returned by October 1st. Do not send cash. The last day to order online is October 29.

Willie Balerio williebalerio@yahoo.com Texas State Council Knights of Columbus Football Sweepstakes Chairman

Football Frenzy Raffle

Join the Texas State Council's Football Frenzy for a chance to win 1 of 3 custom outdoor packages!







For every ten tickets sold by your council get one chance to win. Sell 100 tickets recieve 10 chances. Show off your council with a tent, tablecloths and banners in your council's colors and information. Follow the entry guidelines and your council could be the lucky winner, making your tailgate the talk of the town!



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