

... from the Texas State Council



[www.tkofo.org](http://www.tkofo.org)



Volume 2025 Issue 1

30-60-90 Day Outlook

January 2025

Follow Me



**Ron Alonzo (Margo)**

State Deputy  
361-947-1346

[skronalonzo1202@gmail.com](mailto:skronalonzo1202@gmail.com)

**Most Reverend Bishop**

**Michael Mulvey**

State Chaplain  
Corpus Christi, TX  
325-651-7500

**Rev. Tommy Chen**

Asst. State Chaplain

**Robert "Bob" Goss**

State Secretary  
334-538-1415

[bob@gosslaw.com](mailto:bob@gosslaw.com)

**Derek Rabey (Veronica)**

State Treasurer  
210-288-7353

[Skdr2001@gmail.com](mailto:Skdr2001@gmail.com)

**David Pels (Susan)**

State Advocate  
817-807-2982

[Pelsd66@gmail.com](mailto:Pelsd66@gmail.com)

**Reed Fontenot (Donna)**

State Warden  
501-920-0102

[reed.fontenot@att.net](mailto:reed.fontenot@att.net)

**Terry Fruge (Beth)**

Immediate Past State  
Deputy  
713-417-0751

[tbfruge@comcast.net](mailto:tbfruge@comcast.net)

From the Texas State Council:

## From the Desk of the State Deputy

### FINISH STRONG

Many thanks to all our Councils and Brother Knights from across our Great State of Texas for all the hard work you have done in the past seven months.

We are on track to achieve many of our goals, but we can't let up!

Charities set a new mark in Quick Start Awards which is a good sign Texas will have all 15 Dioceses at 100 % of their Charity Goal.

Many of our councils are on track to achieve Star Council, continue to work on your safe environment and start preparing your SP-7s.

Membership intake for the month of January was outstanding.

Not sure about you, but I am tired of seeing New Jersey in the lead! Our Brothers from New Jersey sent Texas this nice little note!



We have five months left in this fraternal year. Let's take advantage of the momentum we have and Let's Finish Strong!

Let's get Texas into the Circle of Honor before our Annual Convention take back the #1 spot in Division 1!

Ron Alonzo  
State Deputy  
[skronalonzo1202@gmail.com](mailto:skronalonzo1202@gmail.com)



**Executive Secretary**

Carlos Gonzalez (Rebecca)  
512-497-8779  
[carlos@tkofc.org](mailto:carlos@tkofc.org)

**State Admin Accountant**

Kari Jordan  
512-442-1492  
[kjordan@tkofc.org](mailto:kjordan@tkofc.org)

**State Admin Council Records**

Kathleen McLoughlin  
512-442-1492  
[kathleenm@tkofc.org](mailto:kathleenm@tkofc.org)

Texas State Council  
6633 Hwy 290 East  
Suite 204  
Austin, TX 78723-1157  
512-442-1492 - office  
512-326-1492 - fax

**Membership:**

We believe the Knights of Columbus provides Catholic men the best opportunity in today's world of following in the footsteps of Christ. We thus 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.

The membership goal for each Diocese in Texas for February is shown below.

Division 1		Division 2		Division 3	
Diocese	Goal	Diocese	Goal	Diocese	Goal
Austin	50	Beaumont	18	Amarillo	7
Dallas	59	Brownsville	14	El Paso	18
Fort Worth	45	Corpus Christi	14	Laredo	16
Gal-Houston	90	San Angelo	18	Lubbock	7
San Antonio	72	Victoria	14	Tyler	11

We have always encouraged every District Deputy to host one Exemplification per month. An easy website has been set up to allow DDs to report their monthly Exemplification by the first of the month. Simply click [here](#) and input your information. And you can look up Exemplifications online by clicking [here](#).

Each month, this newsletter will focus on a particular area of focus for the Membership Committee. This month, we'll talk about **Council Retention**.

Supreme Per Capita assessments were made for each council on January 1. Supreme statements are available to the GK and FS in Officers Online. State Per Capita statements were mailed to the GK and FS of record back in August.

Councils are billed semiannually (every six months) by Supreme. The assessment is \$1.75 Per Capita and \$0.50 Catholic Advertising per billable member (regular, inactive and honorary members). Councils are also billed \$1 per member for Culture of Life (Honorary, Honorary Life, Inactive and disabled members are excluded). Military and Seminary councils are excluded from Per Capita assessments.

The council statement is available in Officers Online on January 1. It is due UPON RECEIPT. **April 10 is NOT the due date** – that is the date the council will be suspended for non-payment.

Of all the billings a council receives, THIS is the most important one and the first that should be paid! If a council is suspended, it is BADNESS. Members lose fraternal benefits, including their death and dismemberment insurance. We expect our members to pay their dues on time – your members are expecting you to pay the council bills on time.

**Membership Director**

Bill Tillotson (Christina)  
817-690-0556  
[william-tillotson@yahoo.com](mailto:william-tillotson@yahoo.com)

**Star Council Director**

David Zeigler (Laura)  
903-926-0776  
[zigsr@att.net](mailto:zigsr@att.net)

**Charity Director**

Joe Jacobo (Nicole)  
432-638-5578  
[joejacobokofc@yahoo.com](mailto:joejacobokofc@yahoo.com)

**Program Director**

Rick Guzman (Telsa)  
210-215-7196  
[skrickguzman6021@gmail.com](mailto:skrickguzman6021@gmail.com)

**Education, Training, & Communications Director**

Chad Sandwell (Stephanie)  
409-656-4284  
[chadsandwell@gmail.com](mailto:chadsandwell@gmail.com)

**Evangelization & Faith Formation Director**

Gregory Brown (Hollie)  
940-247-1721  
[ggb@me.com](mailto:ggb@me.com)

**Insurance Liaison**

Juan Carlos Carlin (Erica)  
956-206-0407  
[Juan.carlin@kofc.org](mailto:Juan.carlin@kofc.org)

**Texas Knight Editor/TKOFC Webmaster**

Mark Johnson  
512-851-8000  
[mjohnson@creatdev.com](mailto:mjohnson@creatdev.com)

The State Per Capita assessment is made once a year. This assessment is \$12 per member with special considerations for college and military councils. This payment is due by March 1. If a council does not pay their State Per Caps, the council cannot participate in state activities, such as the Free Throw contest. The council also cannot participate in the State Convention nor earn any state awards.

Council leadership needs to be aware of these important due dates and make sure they keep their council in good standing.

Bill Tillotson  
Texas State Council  
Membership Director  
817.690.0556  
[william-tillotson@yahoo.com](mailto:william-tillotson@yahoo.com)

**Education, Training, & Communications:**

*"Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold." – 2 Corinthians 3:12*

At the start of January, the Texas State Council launched the new look [www.tkofc.org](http://www.tkofc.org). The site has a lot of great features, so check it out and browse around. If you have any questions you can reach out and we'll answer them for you.

Additionally, if you have a news item that you would like to submit to the website, you can send them to the email [txstatec@gmail.com](mailto:txstatec@gmail.com) and we will get them published as soon as we can.

Our team is here to fulfill all your needs to be a Star Council. Visit [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) or [www.tkofc.org](http://www.tkofc.org) at least weekly. Email all forms to the correct Supreme email address and to the Texas State Council at [forms@tkofc.org](mailto:forms@tkofc.org). Copy all forms to your District & Diocesan Deputy.

Online training and webinars are available 24/7 on the Supreme website. Visit <https://www.kofc.org/en/for-members/fraternal-training.html> for the complete library of topics for members and Council Leaders.

Register for upcoming online sessions by clicking on the links below.

Trainings are archived after each live session, and can be found in our library of [on demand training](#).

**Note: All Times are Eastern**

February 3, 2025 8:00 PM

February 10, 2025 8:00 PM

February 13, 2025 8:00 PM

February 25, 2025 8:00 PM

[Financial Secretary Overview](#)

[Working With Your Pastor](#)

[Conducting Church Drives](#)

[Online Tools & Resources](#)

Our Financial Secretary Trainers are available to assist Council Financial Secretaries and other Officers with their needs for Affiliate Member Initiative questions. Please reach out to them to schedule a one-on-one session. Diocesan Deputies, please schedule your live training sessions if you have not done so. David Solis (Chairman) [dsolis4027@aol.com](mailto:dsolis4027@aol.com) 915-238-8735 can assist you with this. The room needs to have adequate wireless internet to accommodate all trainees. David can also schedule an online training session. We cannot stress enough how important these trainings are!

### February 2024 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter underway

- **February 15** – Semi-Annual Audit Due – Form 1295
- Diocesan Free throw contests should be done by February 25
- Get your State Award applications ready & sent in by **March 1**. (See Star Guide)
- Schedule Church Membership Drives & Exemplifications for Spring – order your materials now

### March 2024 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter ending

- **March 1** – **All State Award applications due for each Director's Area**. International Wheelchair Day.
- **March 1** – Educational Grant Application Due
- **March 2** – State Basketball Freethrow – San Antonio – **State per capita MUST be paid to participate**
- **March 15** – Form 10784 Family of the Month (for February) due
- **March 29** – Founder's Day
- Conduct Church Membership Drives & Exemplifications

**\*\*\*Elect State Convention Delegates & fill out all forms for State Convention**

### April – 4th Quarter begins **FINISH STRONG!!**

- **April 26 – 28** – Texas State Convention; be on the lookout for messages on activities related to the convention
- Conduct Church Membership Drives & Exemplifications; this is a great time to speak with those new Catholic me who entered the Church on Holy Saturday through RCIA
- Start your Sp-7; this is a great time to take inventory on what you need to complete the STAR Council requirements.

Chad Sandwell  
Texas State Council  
Education, Training & Communications Director  
[chadsandwell@gmail.com](mailto:chadsandwell@gmail.com)  
409-656-4284

### Programs:

Worthy Brother Knights,

This is an update on Programs across the State of Texas:

- **Soccer Challenge:**

I received soccer score entry forms and their winners from three Dioceses: Fort Worth, Beaumont, and Galveston-Houston. The scores were tallied up and the State Winners for boys and girls were obtained. A list of the state winners was obtained and forwarded to both the State and Supreme Councils before the deadline.

- **Catholic Citizenship Essays:**

I received essays and entry forms from the following Dioceses: San Antonio, Austin, Corpus Christi, Beaumont, Fort Worth and Dallas. The last of these essays are being judged and they will be turned in to both the State and Supreme Council on or before the deadline of 01/31/25.

- **Keep Christ in Christ Posters:**

I have received posters from the following Dioceses: Laredo, Victoria, Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Austin, San Antonio, Dallas, Fort Worth and Tyler. These posters and entries have been documented and organized. Scoring will commence on 01/27/25. The state winners will be selected and forwarded to both the State and Supreme Council on or before the deadline 02/28/25.

First, Second and Third Place Trophies will be awarded to the state winners of these three programs.

I had the opportunity to present and visit with my brother Knights from following Diocese: San Angelo, Victoria, and Beaumont during their Winter Diocesan Conferences.

Rick Guzman  
Texas State Council  
Programs Director  
[skrickguzman6021@gmail.com](mailto:skrickguzman6021@gmail.com)  
210-215-7196

## **Star Council Awards**

Brothers,

*"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!" 1 John 3:1*

We, as children of God, should want to please our Father. 60% of our active councils are putting yourselves and your community at risk by not being Safe Environment Compliant. This is a fixable problem within your Council. You control the process with getting compliant. If you missed the training deadline, simply resubmit the Form 365 with all (5) required positions <even if you change one name> to restart the time clock. As you wear the emblem, it means something. Your parish family expects better from you. They assume we are aware of our surroundings and know what to look for to protect our most venerable. Supreme's Safe Environment training helps teach how to protect them & yourself and what to watch for. Also understand your council can be held liable for not having the training and something happens at your event. Correct that & please your Lord by getting trained as soon as

possible. The hard deadline to be compliant is May 1, 2025. Note many councils at 100%, 200% , and close to 400% of their membership goal are not compliant. You cannot be Star Council without it.

Semi-Annual Audit – Form 1295b is due by February 15, 2025 (LSAFE). Supreme will accept them before the due date.

Meet the dates below for the Star Council & LSAFE Requirements:

February 15, 2025 – Form 1295b – Council Audit Due LSAFE

March 1, 2025 – Educational Grant, State Program Award, Family of Year, or Chaplain of the Year Applications due – LSAFED

April 25-27, 2025 -State Convention – Corpus Christi - LSAFE

April 2025 – prepare and submit the Columbian Award to the Star Council team to verify requirements to help before you send it to Supreme.

Do not think it is too late to earn Star Council. You still have plenty of time. Our team will continue to contact the District Deputies to maintain your Star Council status. Please note the Due Date is the last date for Submission. You can submit all forms earlier than the Due Date. Let us know how we can help you! Keep protecting God's children and his love will lavish you as well!

Vivat Jesus!

David Zeigler, Star Council Director

903-926-0776

[zigsr@att.net](mailto:zigsr@att.net)

## **Texas State Council Charities:**

### **CULTURE CHANGE**

Worthy Texas Knights,

\*Please be advised that this message may contain information relevant to our 120% initiative. If you are already informed about this initiative, there is no need to read the second half of this message.

The Texas State Council (TSC) officers and Charity Board members gathered in Austin on January 25th to review the charitable progress made during the first half of this fraternal year. Additionally, we participated in the "2025 Texas Rally for Life," which took place on January 25th, 2025, at the Texas Capitol, alongside our Texas Bishops.

I had the pleasure of engaging in a conversation with our Worthy State Warden, Reed Fontenot, Reed is also our immediate past TSC Charities Director. We celebrated the cultural shift in Texas councils. The saying "Texas has not seen its best year yet" seems true, reflecting our current charity standings. Another well-known saying is "Numbers don't lie". This statement is also applicable when comparing our current numbers to those of the previous fraternal year.

For example:

- As of January 22, 2025, the State Council received council contributions totaling \$784,909.15 on a goal of the 15 Diocesan total Goal of \$810,015.00 for 96.90% (up 3.11% versus same time last year).

- We are also working on the stretch goal of \$1,020,000.00, currently we are at 76.95%.
- 585 councils met or exceeded their charity goals at six months versus 570 for the previous fraternal year.
- 131 Districts have exceeded the goal at six months versus 114 for the previous year.
- 103 councils have been named to the "State Deputy List" for exceeding 120% of their charity goal. According to the February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, report, 51 councils had exceeded 120% or more.
- 7 Diocese have already surpassed 100%
- 662 councils have paid State per Capita
- 581 Councils earned Quick Start versus 569 last year
- 131 District Deputies earned Quick Start versus 113 last year
- 15 Diocesan Deputies have earned Quick Start versus 12 last year
- Last Fraternal year, all 15 dioceses achieved 100% of their charity goal for the first time. We expect to achieve this again within a few months.

**Thank you to all who have worked hard to get TSC were we are today!**

On to the second half of my message:

In November, we launched the "State Deputy List" incentive. Councils that are TSC per capita compliant and achieve 120% of their state charity goal by the end of the fraternal year will receive a certificate of achievement. Additionally, if they are named by April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025, members from these councils attending the 2025 TSC convention banquet will have prime seating towards the front of the room for quick recognition.

The following message is from the State Charity Newsletter, emailed on January 13th. Look for this newsletter every second Tuesday of the month.

"An issue that I would like to address is the request for an addition 20% from every diocese, district, and council. It has been reported to me that councils in our state perceive this request as unreasonable, as it aims to make up for the shortfall caused by councils that do not contribute to their Texas State Council Charity Goal.

The answer is, yes, that is our objective. But it is not merely the shortfall of some councils; it is the shortfall of all dioceses, districts and councils. We are being called as councils to be our brother's keeper, the fiber that strengthens the cable. The reason we need some councils to contribute a little more is for our Texas Bishops and State Sponsored Programs. Achieving 120% of our state goal will bring TSC near the \$1 million mark.

Please allow me to explain why this is important. With the formation of Supreme Council's Affiliate Member Initiative (AMI) a few years ago, the AMI was a significant win for local councils but a considerable loss for our Texas Bishops and State Sponsored Charities.

- The AMI program has lowered our fraternal 2024/2025-year goal to a current total of \$810,015.00.
- The 2024/2025 goal is lower than the goals set before the Fraternal years of 2007/2008, when the goal was \$828,520.00.
- When Texas councils reached contributions of \$900,000 or more, the ten-year average was \$962,470.00.
- Adding 20% to our current goal amounts to \$972,018.00.

With that said, Brothers, we know some councils are financially unable to contribute any amount. We understand that not everyone can give, so please do not feel obligated. To these councils, I assure you that many Texas Councils will give a little extra to cover what you are unable to contribute. These councils will remember the first and second lessons of Charity & Unity and will enable us to rise together!"

Joe Jacobo  
TSC Charity Director  
[joejacobokofc@yahoo.com](mailto:joejacobokofc@yahoo.com)  
432.638.5578

## **Evangelization & Faith Formation:**

Grace and Peace Worthy Brothers,

"If we get the man right, we get everything right – the marriage, the family, the parish, the community. We need men who will say 'yes' to their God-given vocation."

- Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly

Introducing Cor Central: A quarterly EFF newsletter dedicated to helping your Council EFF Director successfully run Cor. Hopefully you received the newsletter last week. If not, below is a link to the newsletter. [Link to Cor Central](#)

- In the newsletter, we provided your Council EFF Director with FREE access to Formed by the Augustine Institute, offering world-class formation content for use in Cor.

---

Join us for an informative webinar entitled **Cor Through the Liturgical Year**. Tuesday, February 4, 2025, 7pm CST [Click here to register](#)

The liturgical year directs our Church through the seasons of Christ's life, as well as important feast days. This webinar will explain how you can use this calendar as a guide to shape the prayer and formation content of *Cor*. This will include practical examples and tips so you can successfully structure your next *Cor* sessions.

And remember, if you can't join us live, it will be available on-demand afterwards. Be sure to sign-up to ensure you get the link for this important webinar.

---

We developed *Cor* 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. This truly can only be achieved through the Grace of God and the working of the Holy Spirit. We know that lives are being transformed through the Christ centered brotherhood of *Cor*. Please share your testimony of *Cor*.

This testimony may be a story of your own or on behalf of someone else or the whole group. Your testimony may include success stories and/or struggles that you have faced through the development and running of *Cor*. If there is a challenge you would like to share that will help



us in the future, please do not hesitate to include these as well. [SUBMIT A COR TESTIMONIAL HERE](#)

---

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.

We must place giving the opportunity for men to encounter Jesus Christ and grow in the Catholic faith as our first priority. The Knights of Columbus Evangelization and Faith Formation (EFF) initiative aims to center all council activity and membership engagement around Jesus Christ. Central to the [Council EFF Directors](#) role besides COR, is to work with council leadership, especially their Membership and Programs directors, to create Christ centered messaging and add in a faith element to existing events. Appointing a [Council EFF Director](#), will allow your Council to be aided by our State EFF Team and Supreme in assisting your council placing faith first which was at the heart of Blessed McGivney's vision for his Knights. This director is separate from the Faith Program director for the council.

District Deputies, please continue to encourage your Grand Knights to appoint a [Council EFF Director](#). We need to strive to have every active council have an appointed EFF Director.

Council EFF Directors and Chaplains can find startup guides, content for prayer and formation, resources and training videos at [www.kofc.org/cor](http://www.kofc.org/cor) and for Spanish councils, [www.kofc.org/cor-es](http://www.kofc.org/cor-es).

If you have any questions about beginning or maintaining COR or how a Council EFF Director can work with existing Council activities to incorporate faith and prayer, please let our State EFF Team and myself assist your council.

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

The Knights of Columbus make 4 promises to all our Brother Knights and prospective Knights.

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

Gregory Brown  
Texas State Council Knights of Columbus  
Evangelization and Faith Formation Director  
Vivat Jesus!  
[gbb@me.com](mailto:gbb@me.com)  
940.247.1721

**Finish Line Editor**

Chad Sandwell

409-656-4284

[chadsandwell@gmail.com](mailto:chadsandwell@gmail.com)Copyright © 2023, Knights of Columbus, Texas State Council, Austin, Texas

*The "Finish Line" is published Monthly by the Texas State Council and electronically posted on the [www.tkofc.org](http://www.tkofc.org) website by the Editor. The publication is a running outlook of the activities, events, award criteria, and form due dates for the next 30-60-90 days. Specific questions about Membership, Charities, Programs, Council Growth, Star Council, Education, Training, & Communications, and the specific subjects therein should be directed to the appropriate State Director.*