

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.



INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND BASILEUS



May 29, 2023

Brothers,

As we prepare for the 84th Grand Conclave in Tampa, Florida, this meeting will be one of stronger activism for the betterment of the Black community. The recent legislation created by Florida's governor is another opportunity for our brotherhood to unite with a purpose. We are going to Florida for our Grand Conclave from June 26 - July 2, 2024, and will seize the opportunity to stand in solidarity with our local brothers and our community.

This Grand Conclave will again be a platform for us to showcase our resolve to the principle of **UPLIFT**. The importance of our fraternity's longstanding traditions of service will be on full display.

I've spoken with many brothers and have spoken at 11 district meetings regarding the issue of whether the Grand Conclave should be held in Florida. Some brothers have requested that we move the Grand Conclave out of Florida to another destination or to a virtual event, while others have suggested that we remain and support our brothers who live, and work daily, in Florida to bring forth the change we all want to see. I understand and respect both points of view. Based on the commitments we have in Tampa; we will continue with the original plan voted on by the Supreme Council in 2017, the plan that was once altered due to Covid-19 in 2020.

In Tampa, we will make a conscious effort to do business with black-owned businesses. We will also be hosting community forums and community engagement programs to educate our people about our history, providing literature and books on African American studies to our youth.

The Grand Conclave will be even more impactful with your presence and solidarity. I ask that you join the brotherhood in Tampa in 2024. A Conclave with a Purpose!

We will continue to communicate with brothers through email and zoom calls.

In Friendship,

Ricky L. Lewis
42nd Grand Basileus
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.