Knights of the Convent General Knights York Cross of Honor, United States of America, Prince Hall Affiliated, Inc., Greetings.

I am humbled and honored to be your 11<sup>th</sup> elected Most Eminent Grand Master General. Thank you for your vote of confidence.

Our Convent General is an "Institution of Leadership." We all have served four (4) Masonic organizations and have achievements, experiences and perspectives which place us in a position to improve and sustain Symbolic, Capitular, Cryptic and Chivalric Masonry, respectively, as well as Prince Hall Masonry as a whole.

As we move forward, we shall be guided by our ten (10) principles of 'LEADERSHIP:'

Love – We love the human family!!!

Empowerment – We understand the obligation, duty and responsibility we have to empower our youth to maximize their talents and become positive, relevant citizens.

Achievements – We understand the importance of identifying and pursuing goals that improve the quality of life of the least, the lost and the needy.

Devotion – We are devoted to godly principles. We adopt the mindset of the Good Samaritan, it's not what will happen to us if, it is what will happen to our fellowman if we do not.

Education – We understand the importance of the continual development of the mind; therefore, we shall highlight, integrate and teach the lessons of Symbolic, Capitular, Cryptic and Chivalric Masonry

Respect – We understand respect is earned; we respect the opinions, perspectives and thoughts of others; but we first command our own self-respect.

Selflessness –We place the needs of others ahead of our personal interests and welfare.

Honor – We realize our acts, deeds and words are continuously under observation and our behavior has a direct impact on our members, organization and Prince Hall Masonry as a whole.

Integrity – We understand the value that our word is our bond; our integrity can never be taken from us, we only lose it when we give it away.

Personal Courage – We all have a TEAM molecular DNA – Transparency, Education, Accountability and Mentorship

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays issued a challenge in the following statement, "Whatever you do, do it so well that the living, the dead and the yet unborn could not have done it better." When we dissect this challenge, we see the three phases of time: past, present and future. We have an obligation to our past, to those who shoulders we stand upon. We have a duty to the present, to those members we serve. We have a responsibility to the future, to ensure current and future Knights have a Convent General that is efficient, effective and relevant.