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*August 27, 2020*

*Dear Sisters and Brothers*

*The Grand Chapter of Maryland, our State and Country is still facing obstacles with the Covid-19 virus.*

*It was my hope and prayer that there could have been normalcy in our lives as we go into the fall season. The Grand Master has lifted his edict for Collateral Bodies of Maryland to return to Chapter Meetings.*

*However, I have been watching the numbers of Covid-19 continue to rise in the state of Maryland. I still do not feel that this is a safe time for our members to start back to Chapter.*

*Yesterday I received guidelines from the MWGM, Marianne Shenefelt with instructions on holding Zoom or video conference methods to take care of SIMPLE Chapter business during this pandemic.*

*There will be NO reading of petitions, no reading of investigating reports, no balloting, and no initiations during the virtual Chapter meeting.*

*I am issuing an Edict that NO Eastern Star Chapter Stated Meetings can be held through the months of September or October. Near the end of October, I will reevaluate and make another decision.*

*When it is safe to return to our Chapter rooms, there must be safety for our members, and the guidelines that I presented last week will be STRICTLY followed, to ensure that we are taking every step possible to keep everyone safe.*

*Fraternally*  
*Deborah L. Raynovich, Worthy Grand Matron*

