

REPORT OF THE 2024 RESOLUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Worthy Members of the State Council,

As required by the State Bylaws, a Resolutions and Bylaws committee was appointed by the State Deputy to review the resolutions passed by councils as well as the proposed bylaw modifications.

This report provides to the State Council our recommendations on these matters.

Committee

A special word of thanks is given the following men who provided invaluable assistance, guidance and direction in the review of the resolutions.

Brian Lagasse, State Advocate, Chair

Tony Coyle, DD 11, James Ford DD 1, Patrick Nash, PGK 17519

RESOLUTIONS

The committee reviewed several resolutions, which are summarized below. They are found in full in Appendix A of this document. The committee recommends adoption of all resolutions.

- Resolution 1
Gratitude to the Supreme Council
- Resolution 2
Appreciation and unwavering support for Pope Francis
- Resolution 3
Thanking All Local, State, Federal Law Enforcement, And First Responders For Their Service
- Resolution 4
In Support of Our Military
- Resolution 5
In Solidarity with Archbishop Rodi and Bishop Raica
- Resolution 6
Appreciation and Gratitude to Fr. Vernon F. Huguley, State Chaplain
- Resolution 7
Loyalty and Unwavering Support for Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly
- Resolution 8
Cause for the recognition of a motorcycle-based program that supports the efforts, actions, and programs of the Knights of Columbus

BYLAWS

The were no bylaw amendment submissions for the 2023-2024 Fraternal year.

Fraternally,
Brian Lagasse, State Advocate, Chair Resolutions and Bylaws Committee
Tony Coyle, DD 11
James Ford DD1
Patrick Nash, PGK 17519

Respectfully Submitted, April 11, 2024

Appendix A
Resolutions

Resolution – 1

GRATITUDE TO THE SUPREME COUNCIL

To Whom This May Come:

WHEREAS: The Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic fraternal and service organization in the world; and

WHEREAS: The Knights of Columbus is enjoying growth in its Membership and Insurance in force; and

WHEREAS: The State of Alabama could not be a Leader in the Knights of Columbus without the guidance, leadership, and assistance from the Supreme Knight, Supreme Chaplain, Supreme Board of Directors, General and Field Agents, and the Supreme Representative; and

WHEREAS: The dedication of all those working at the Supreme Council is displayed every day through assistance to our State Council and its membership;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Knights of Columbus membership of the State of Alabama meeting on April 20, 2024 in Atmore, Alabama, wishes to thank the Supreme Knight, Supreme Chaplain, the Supreme Board of Directors, General and Field Agents, and the Supreme Representative for a job well done, and asks the Supreme Knight to relay our gratitude to all those who work tirelessly for the success of the Alabama State Council, and all of the councils of the Order.

Resolution – 2

**APPRECIATION AND UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR
POPE FRANCIS**

To Whom This May Come:

WHEREAS: Pope Francis has been a faithful servant of the Church and global Christian community throughout his lifetime; and

WHEREAS: Pope Francis has faithfully and dutifully served the Church and needs of the global Christian community since his election as Supreme Pontiff in March 2013; and,

WHEREAS: Pope Francis known for his humility, his emphasis on God’s mercy, his concern for the poor, and his commitment to interfaith dialogue, and has ardently worked to maintain that the Church should be more open and welcoming; and

WHEREAS: Pope Francis maintains the traditional views of the Church and has been a major supporter of the cause of the Culture of Life; and

WHEREAS: Pope Francis served the Church in the role of Cardinal from his native country, Argentina; and

WHEREAS: Pope Francis has been a champion for world peace; and

WHEREAS: Pope Francis has traveled extensively around the world spreading the gospel of Christ;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Knights of Columbus membership of the State of Alabama meeting on April 20, 2024 in Atmore, Alabama hereby petitions the Supreme Council to express our deepest appreciation to Pope Francis and dedicate our unwavering support to him in serving the Church and the needs of the global Christian community.

Resolution – 3

Thanking All Local, State, Federal Law Enforcement, And First Responders For Their Service

To Whom This May Come:

WHEREAS: The men and women of our local, state, and federal law enforcement and first responder agencies, regularly put their lives on the line on a daily basis to protect and to serve all; and

WHEREAS: The members of our local, state, and federal first responder agencies are working hard each and every day to ensure that our lives and property are safe; and,

WHEREAS: Many of the men and women who proudly serve in local, state, and federal law enforcement and first responder agencies are Catholic Christians; and

WHEREAS: Many of these men and women are Knights or family and friends of Knights; and

WHEREAS: Supporting local, state, and federal law enforcement and first responder agencies are major focuses of the Knights of Columbus;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Knights of Columbus membership of the State of Alabama meeting on April 20, 2024 in Atmore, Alabama hereby petitions the Supreme Council to express our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to all our local, state, and federal law enforcement and first responder agencies, and pledge our unwavering support to them and offer our continuous prayers for their safety.

Resolution – 4

IN SUPPORT OF OUR MILITARY

To Whom This May Come:

- WHEREAS:** The Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus has supported our Military since the beginning of our Beloved Order; and
- WHEREAS:** The Supreme Council has worked diligently to provide aid and support the men and women who both currently serve and have served our country; and
- WHEREAS:** The Supreme Council has programs to aid our wounded warriors as they return home to their families; and
- WHEREAS:** The Supreme Council holds a special place in the hearts and minds of all Brother Knights;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Knights of Columbus membership of the State of Alabama meeting on April 20, 2024 in Atmore, Alabama hereby asks the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus to thank these brave men and women for their service to the United States of America.

Resolution – 5

In Solidarity with Archbishop Rodi and Bishop Raica

To Whom This May Come:

WHEREAS: Most Reverend Thomas J. Rodi, D.D., J.D., J.C.L. serves as Archbishop of the Diocese of Mobile, and

WHEREAS: Most Reverend Steven J. Raica, D.D., J.C.D. serves as Bishop of the Diocese of Birmingham in Alabama, and

WHEREAS: They have been strong supporters of the Knights of Columbus, and

WHEREAS: As shepherds of the people of Alabama, they provide spiritual leadership and devotion to the Will of God;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Knights of Columbus membership of the State of Alabama meeting on April 20, 2024 in Atmore, Alabama pledge our loyalty and support to Archbishop Rodi and Bishop Raica and all the priests and clergy of the Catholic Church in Alabama.

Resolution – 6

Appreciation and Gratitude to Fr. Vernon F. Huguley, State Chaplain

To Whom This May Come:

WHEREAS: Very Reverend Vernon F. Huguley, State Chaplain of the Alabama State Council of the Knights of Columbus provides spiritual guidance, warm friendship, and wise counsel, and

WHEREAS: Father Huguley has continuously exemplified the principles of our Order and generously shares his knowledge, time, and counsel;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Knights of Columbus membership of the State of Alabama meeting on April 20, 2024 in Atmore, Alabama express their sincere appreciation and gratitude for all his efforts and pledge to Fr. Huguley our continued loyalty and support.

Resolution – 7

Loyalty and Unwavering Support for Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly

To Whom This May Come:

WHEREAS: Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly is the Chief Executive Officer of the world’s largest Catholic family fraternal organization, with over two million members worldwide, and

WHEREAS: Patrick Kelly was elected as the 14th Supreme Knight of the Order being appointed on March 1, 2021. Prior to this appointment Kelly served as Deputy Supreme Knight from January 1, 2017 through February 28, 2021. He was also elected to the Order’s Board of Directors in 2013, and has served as the Order’s Vice President for Public Policy, and also served as the first Executive Director of the Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington D.C. Supreme Knight Kelly joined the order in 1983 and has served as State Deputy for the District of Columbia, and

WHEREAS: Worthy Supreme Knight Kelly retired from the U.S. Navy with the Rank of Captain from the Judge Advocate General’s Corps Reserve, after serving for twenty-four years. While in the Navy Kelly served as the commanding Officer of the international law unit of the U.S. Naval War College. Kelly also served as the Senior Advisor to the Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom at the State Department, and

WHEREAS: Brother Kelly has served his church and country in additional capacities, including serving as Legislative Counsel to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence in the U.S. House of Representatives and the Department of Justice, and

WHEREAS: Brother Kelly holds a law degree from Marquette University Law School and a master’s in theology from the Pontifical John Paul II Institute at Catholic University. He and his wife Vanessa are the parents of three daughters;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Knights of Columbus membership of the State of Alabama meeting on April 20, 2024 in Atmore, Alabama Council pledge their loyalty and appreciation to our Worthy Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly for all he has done for the Order and will continue to lead our Order to new heights with the help of Almighty God.

Resolution – 8

Cause for the recognition of a motorcycle-based program that supports the efforts, actions, and programs of the Knights of Columbus

To Whom This May Come:

WHEREAS: Many states have a Knights-centric motorcycle program, first launched in April 2005. These programs have members in most States of the USA as well as in Canada, with membership beginning to grow outside of North America. These programs support all aspects and efforts of the Knights of Columbus. As with the Knights of Columbus, the most important aspects of these motorcycle groups are service to others and charity, and

WHEREAS: The purpose of this program shall be to enjoy camaraderie with the Knights of Columbus as motorcycle riders, and to assist the Catholic Church, the Bishops of each Diocese, the Knights of Columbus, charitable organizations, individuals, and the community. To offer assistance to all through charity in the communities in which we live. To promote the principles of the Knights of Columbus and to strive to encourage faith, fellowship, and service, and

WHEREAS: These motorcycle-based groups continue to expand their efforts as Knights to include Knights of Columbus membership retention, growth, and development using motorcycle riding as a tool for these works. To further these efforts, these motorcycle programs have established guidelines, using the constitution and by-laws of the Knights of Columbus as a template, and

WHEREAS: These motorcycle-based groups support the Silver Rose program as well as other programs under the direction of the participating State Councils as a visible display of the Knights of Columbus, and

WHEREAS: The State Council of New Mexico has officially recognized Knights on Bikes as a motorcycle program within the Knights of Columbus New Mexico State Council, under the direction of the State Deputy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That Council #5636 requests that the State Council of Alabama put forth a Knights'-centric motorcycle program within the Knights of Columbus, with this program working through and in association with local Councils and the State Council.