

— INTRODUCTIONS AT BANQUETS/SOCIAL OCCASIONS —

For formal or semi-formal banquets when a distinguished speaker is present, only those seated at the head table should be introduced. If, however, some other dignitaries are present in the group not at the head table, he or she should be introduced. It is not necessary, nor is it advisable, to introduce all those present who may now hold, or have held, an office or served on a committee in a Lodge, State Association, or Grand Lodge (*see note below*). Remember, this is an occasion for honoring the person of the "HOUR."

— ORDER OF INTRODUCTIONS —

When distinguished guests are present and officials are presented, their introductions should be made in this order:

1. Exalted Rulers.
2. State Committee Chairpersons and Committee Members.
3. State Officers.
4. District Deputy Grand Exalted Rulers.
5. Special Representatives.
6. Special Deputy Grand Exalted Rulers.
7. Grand Lodge Committee Chairpersons and Committee Members.
8. Appointive Grand Lodge Officers.
9. Elective Grand Lodge Officers.
10. Grand Forum (*in order of seniority*).
11. Past Grand Exalted Rulers (*in order of seniority*).
12. Grand Exalted Ruler (*by the sponsoring Past Grand Exalted Ruler if present*).

It is not often that a meeting will be held when all of these introductions are necessary, however, they are listed in order as a guide. Figuratively speaking, there are three levels of office in the

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. They are Grand Lodge, State Association and Local Lodge, which is the order of precedence.

For introductions, the reverse order of precedence is used: first, the Local Lodge; second, the State Association; and last, the Grand Lodge. On occasion, when many visitors are to be introduced, at the discretion of the Exalted Ruler, group

introductions should be made in order to speed up the time given to such presentations. The Grand Exalted Ruler is introduced by the sponsoring Past Grand Exalted Ruler if one is present.

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For informal occasions that are designed more for socializing, introductions should be held to a bare minimum. It is not necessary to introduce all present, as most of them are well known to all in attendance.

(*NOTE: If the person in charge elects to make introductions other than the head table, it should be kept in mind that extensive introductions are difficult and can be boring. If such is felt necessary, it should be done in groups (i.e., "All Past State Presidents, please stand") rather than individually.*)