

Grand Encampment of Knights Templar



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OFFICE OF
DAVID J. KUSSMAN, GCT
MOST EMINENT GRAND MASTER

April 20, 2022

Grand Master's Decision No. 2022-01

Question:

Was the trial and expulsion of Duane L. Vaught by St. George Commandery #76, Ohio, a valid proceeding?

Rationale:

Section 209 of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America requires all trials to be conducted in accordance with the Disciplinary Rules adopted by the Grand Encampment.

Sections 3, 83, 96 and 97 of the Disciplinary Rules address the Exclusive Jurisdiction of the Grand Encampment and the authority of the Grand Master in such cases.

Sections 3 and 23 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America address the authority of the Grand Encampment and the Grand Master.

Decision:

The Grand Encampment had exclusive jurisdiction to try Duane L. Vaught thereby making the actions of St. George Commandery #76, OH, invalid.

Therefore, I, David J. Kussman, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, do hereby vacate all actions of St. George Commandery #76, OH, against Duane L. Vaught ab initio.

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "David J. Kussman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David J. Kussman, GCT
Grand Master
Grand Encampment Knights Templar, USA