



ST. THOMAS MORE REGION SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER



DOCUMENTATION OF LAPSED STATUS

(Please print or type)

Date: _____

Fraternity's name: _____

Minister's name: _____

Member's name: _____

Article 18, paragraph 7 of our National Statutes, as confirmed by the International Presidency, July 24, 2013, defines active and lapsed members as follows:

7. The Local Fraternity is responsible for contributing to the Regional Fraternity on a fair share basis from its common fund to underwrite the costs of that fraternity [cf. General Constitutions, article #30.3]. A fair share contribution is made based on the number of active and excused brothers and sisters, but not for those who are deemed lapsed.

a. An active fraternity member is one who participates both by attending fraternity meetings and by providing financial support to the community, or whom the fraternity has excused from such obligations.

b. Those brothers and sisters who neither attend meetings, support the community financially, nor have valid reasons due to health, family, work or distance, and who, after personal invitations to return to fraternity, consciously and deliberately reject or ignore the invitation, will be termed "lapsed" and will not be carried on the fraternity membership roll nor be reported as a member to higher fraternity Councils [cf. General Constitutions, article #53.3].

The above member has been contacted at least three times either by phone, letter or e-mail, in an attempt to find a good reason to grant temporary withdrawal or to encourage participation in fraternity life.

Date: _____

Contacted by: _____

Date: _____

Contacted by: _____

Date: _____

Contacted by: _____



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The members of the Fraternity Council believe we have, through the above contacts, attempted to lovingly encourage the above member to return to fraternity life. Inasmuch as this member has not responded to our efforts, we have decided to place this member in lapsed status, thereby removing him/her from our Fraternity membership rolls. The above member is only being removed from our rolls and **not** from the Secular Franciscan Order. If at some future date, the above member decides to re-establish his/her relationship with our Fraternity, we will be agreeable to discuss the matter, as provided by Article 57 of our General Constitutions.

The above member is still a member of the Secular Franciscan Order and is expected to follow the Rule.

Fraternity Minister's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please Note: The original of this form is to be kept for the Fraternity's records and a copy is to be mailed to the individual to whom it pertains. A copy is to also to be mailed to each of the following, whose names and addresses may be found in the Regional Directory: the Regional Minister, the Regional Secretary; and the Regional Database Coordinator. Thank you.