

The Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem

Grand Master

The Most Hon. Don Carlos Gereda de Borbón, Marquis of Almazán

Grand Commander of the Order

H.E. Major the Chevalier David J. James, TD, GCLJ, GCMLJ, GCrLJ, GMLJ

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MEMORANDUM

To: The Grand Master
Cc: The Grand Master Emeritus
Grand Magistral Council

Date: 20 May 2009

Subject: Grand Commander of the Order – Relinquishment of Appointment

I write formally to confirm my intention to relinquish my appointment as Grand Commander of the Order on 30 June 2009. As you know, I informed the Joint Reunification Commission of this intention on 28 February 2009 following my advice to you some time earlier. I shall also convey this message separately to all Heads of National Jurisdictions.

This decision has taken some time to achieve, originating in my letter dated 31 August 2007 to HRH The Duke of Seville advising him that I wished to relinquish my appointment on 31 December 2007 or, at the latest, May 2008. This letter is attached for your information. Although its contents remain pertinent, I would add that I believe it to be healthy for the Order for the most senior appointments to be limited to five year terms, although the Constitution prudently provides for longer.

At the time of writing the attached letter, I had not anticipated: i) the retirement of HRH The Duke of Seville; ii) the acceleration of progress in achieving reunification with the Norwich Group and others; iii) the search for candidates for consideration as Grand Master; and iv) the culmination of all these events at last year's Chapter-General. I have remained in office since then, at the request of yourself, the Grand Master Emeritus, and other senior members of the Order to see you settled initially into office. With the assured and continuing advice of the Principal Grand Officers your role, as the constitutional Head of the Order as Grand Master, will be assured.

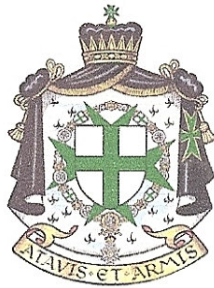
Finally, other commitments, both personal and professional, will demand all my spare time this year. However, I shall continue to support the development and growth of the Order in the United Kingdom and Ireland, and to maintain the many contacts and friendships that Anne and I have enjoyed over the years.

Respectfully, in faith, hope and charity



David J. James
Grand Commander of the Order





The Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem

Grand Master

H.R.H. Don Francisco de Borbon y Escasany, Duke of Seville

Grand Commander of the Order

H.E. Major the Chevalier David J. James, TD, GCLJ, GCMLJ, GCrLJ, GMLJ

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31 August 2007

H.R.H. Don Francisco de Borbon y Escasany
Duke of Seville
Grand Master
The Military & Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem
IECSA
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PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Francisco,

In May 2003, at the GMCM at Vaals in Holland, you honoured and surprised me by asking if I would consider accepting taking on the responsibility of the executive and operational leadership of the Order as successor to the then Grand Chancellor. After much thought, discussion, prayer, and with the support of Anne and the wise counsel of Ken Moritsugu, I accepted.

Ultimately, during that year, following much discussion between us, terms of reference were agreed and I was appointed Grand Commander, which appointment I agreed to accept for a period of five years. This period will elapse early next year and I write to request that I might relinquish this post at the earliest opportunity. As you are aware from our frequent conversations, the growth of our company has been better than all expectations and is demanding more and more of both Anne's and my time and must take priority. Fortunately, this success has enabled us both to be able to work and travel on behalf of the Order with greater freedom than if we were working for somebody else or in retirement. More importantly, Anne and I would like to be able to share more time with each other and with our family without the daily intrusion of Order affairs without regard to whatever else we are doing or wish to do.

In terms of timing, I know that Anne also wishes to relinquish the post of Grand Magistral Council Secretary, and would like to do so on 31 December 2007. I would hope to leave office no later than May, but certainly earlier if circumstances permit.

Both Anne and I joined the Order over twenty-five years ago, as we believed it would be a way for us to fulfil our Christian service to others. Whether or not we have succeeded, only others can judge, but we treasure the trust and friendship you have afforded us, both as Grand Master and a true Christian gentleman – for this we thank you.

With your permission I shall forward this letter, in confidence, to Bruce, Paul, Bob and Geoff as a courtesy to them.

Respectfully, and with warmest personal regards

David.

