

Privacy Policy

June, 2008 (v.1)

The Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of California and its affiliates (“**Masons of California**”) are committed to protecting your privacy and developing technology that gives you a safe online experience. Our Privacy Policy applies to our Web sites and governs the collection and usage of data.

By visiting our Web sites, you agree to accept the Terms of Use and this Privacy Policy. If you do not agree with the terms of the Privacy Policy or Terms of Use, you may not use the Web site.

This Privacy Policy may change from time to time so please refer to it periodically.

Collection of your Personal Information

When you visit our Web site, we will not collect any personally identifiable information about you unless you provide it to us voluntarily. We strive to collect only that information that we think is necessary for our legitimate interests consistent with the tenets of Free Masonry and programs and services offered by and through the Masons of California. Such information includes personally identifiable information including your e-mail address, name, home or work address, telephone number and may include your social security number and such other personally identifiable information which you provide to us to participate in programs or services we offer or which may be offered through or linked to third parties (“**Personal Data**”).

You are encouraged you to review the privacy statements of those Web sites you choose to link from the Masons of California’s Web sites so that you can understand how those Web sites collect, use and share your information. The Masons of California are not responsible for the privacy statements or other content on Web sites outside of the Masons of California.

There is also information about your computer hardware and software that is automatically collected by the Masons of California. This information can include: your IP address, browser type, domain names, access times and referring Web site addresses. This information is used by the Masons of California for the operation of the service, to maintain quality of the service, and to provide general statistics regarding use of the Web site. It may also be used to determine what services and programs offered by or through the Masons of California are the most popular. This data is used to deliver customized content to users of the Masons of California’s Web sites whose behavior indicates that they are interested in a particular subject area.

Use of your Personal Information

The Masons of California collects and uses your Personal Data to operate our Web sites and deliver the programs or services you have requested and to inform you of other products, programs or services available from the Masons of California. The Masons of California may also contact you via surveys to conduct research about your opinion of current services or programs or of potential new services or programs that may be offered. The Masons of California may, from time to time, contact you on behalf of external business partners about a particular offering that may be of interest to you. In those cases, your unique personally identifiable information (e-mail, name, address, telephone number) is not transferred to the third party.

The Masons of California may disclose your Personal Data to its affiliates, employees, contractors, leadership, members, service providers, advisors, accountants, auditors, other professional advisors and temporary employees which may use your Personal Data but only for the purpose of fulfilling its legitimate business interests as described in this Privacy Policy. Personal Data you disclose through any of our public message boards may be collected and used by others.

Personal Data may be made available to or at the direction of legal or regulatory authorities, without notice to you, if required by law or in the good faith belief that such action is necessary to: (a) respond to or be in compliance with legal process served on Masons of California; (b) protect and defend the rights or property of the Masons of California; or, (c) act under exigent circumstances to protect the personal safety of users of the Masons of California’s Web sites or the public.

Cookies

The Masons of California's Web sites may use "cookies" to help you personalize your online experience. A cookie is a text file that is placed on your hard disk by a Web page server. Cookies cannot be used to run programs or deliver viruses to your computer. Cookies are uniquely assigned to you, and can only be read by a web server in the domain that issued the cookie to you.

One of the primary purposes of cookies is to provide a convenience feature to save you time. The purpose of a cookie may be to tell the Web server that you have returned to a specific page. For example, if you personalize the Masons of California pages, or register with the Masons of California's Web site or services, a cookie helps the Masons of California to recall your specific information on subsequent visits. This simplifies the process of recording your personal information, such as billing addresses, shipping addresses, and so on. When you return to the same Masons of California Web site, the information you previously provided can be retrieved, so you can easily use the features that you customized.

You have the ability to accept or decline cookies. Most Web browsers automatically accept cookies, but you can usually modify your browser setting to decline cookies if you prefer. If you choose to decline cookies, you may not be able to fully experience the interactive features of the Masons of California services or Web sites you visit.

Security Measures and Safety of Children

We maintain appropriate security measures to keep Personal Data private. We do not rent, sell or make otherwise available user information provided via our Web site(s) to third parties except as specified in this Privacy Policy.

Safeguarding personal information of children is extremely important. We collect the minimum amount of personal information necessary to provide the services or programs we offer. A child's personal information will always be available for parental inspection, and service of any special content will be terminated upon parental request. We recognize that there are standards in the area of children's privacy that may affect how we process a child's personal information, and we will always comply with the law, and exceed industry standards to protect children.

Masons of California strives to protect the privacy of the information you provide so that inadvertent disclosure of that information is unlikely. In the event of such an inadvertent disclosure, we will do everything commercially reasonable to limit and remedy the disclosure, but the Masons of California accepts no liability for any unintentional disclosure or a disclosure that occurs due to a security breach of our systems or facilities.

Unsubscribing or Opt –Out or Other Questions of Comments

We are firmly committed to guarding the confidence you have placed in us and to use any information you volunteer responsibly and professionally.

We frequently provide users the opportunity to opt-out of receiving communications from us at the point where we request your information. Also, in our e-mail communications, you will find instructions for unsubscribing. Masons of California seeks to comply with the CAN-SPAM Act of 2003 and will always strive to maintain a good relationship when contacting you.

You may use one of the following options to request removal of your Personal Data from our databases or to otherwise ask your questions or provide your comments regarding this Privacy Policy.

Please include the exact Personal Data you would like removed and some detail about the type of communication you received from us or your specific questions or comments regarding this Privacy Policy.

By Mail to:

The Grand Lodge

1111 California Street, Third Floor
San Francisco, CA 94108
Attention: Chief Technology Officer

By email to: support@freemason.org