



Brothers and Sisters:

Recently a group of Grange members from a Subordinate Grange not in good standing dropped in on the California Department of Food and Agriculture, Division of Fairs and Expositions (CDFA). It seems as though the purpose for this meeting was to convince the CDFA that members did not need to be in good standing to represent The Grange in a CDFA-supervised fair, expo, or similar event. I was not involved in any way with or part of this meeting. Immediately after that surprise visit, I received a call from the administration of the CDFA asking questions about the status of the California State Grange. I responded with the same documents that I have provided to all of you: the 2 court decisions granting summary judgment against the McFarland Group. These documents are the final determinations from the federal and state trial courts on these issues.

As mentioned in previous memos, the McFarland Group is not a Grange and is not part of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry. As a result of the federal court's ruling in the trademark lawsuit, the McFarland Group cannot represent that it is a Grange (hence the change of the name on the website the McFarland Group currently controls). We are the one and only California State Grange.

Part of the responsibility of the California State Grange is to administer the Youth Program for compliance and eligibility. The Fair Program is a part of a 4-entity consortium agreement between FFA, 4H, The Grange, and CDFA. The Grange has an ethical and moral responsibility to fulfill its responsibilities.

The Grange brand and trademarks bring value to Grange fair participants. Generations of people within communities have been supporting the Grange youth participants because they represent our Order. Community members and companies support The Grange because of its role in the community and its deep, rich roots in agriculture. Our brand integrity cannot be diluted in the marketplace. While a few have still chosen to confuse the market by blurring who is or is not The

Grange, the courts have ruled. We are the California State Grange. The McFarland Group is not. Mr. McFarland is not a member or an officer of any Grange.

Our role is critical to the integrity of the Fair Program and that role is to enforce the rules of our Order as coordinated with the Fair Program. That includes verifying Granges are in good standing and members meet the eligibility requirements to participate in the Fair Program. If a Grange is not paying dues and not completing the required reports we are unable to validate eligibility.

To participate in the Fair Program representing a Grange, a member and the Grange he or she works within must be in good standing. That means that the participant's Grange must be no more than 2 quarters delinquent in its Grange dues and reports. Currently, there is an amnesty program on a in place that works with Subordinate Granges. This program was designed to recognize dues payments made to the McFarland Group as a result of confusion and to delete, in effect, a double payment of Grange dues, clarify membership accounting and reaffirm members understanding of their obligations to our Order.

For 2016, all Grange fair participants must:

- be in Good Standing 120 days prior to the fair they are expecting to participate in; this works in conjunction with the large animal ownership rules.
- The participant must be a member of the Order for no less than 6 months prior to showing.

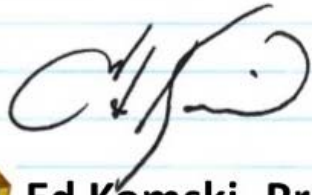
The Grange has no wish, nor desire to discourage a young person from showing at a fair. If a person chooses not to be a Grange member in good standing, the option is always available to join either FFA or 4H or simply show as an independent.

The above ruling is effective immediately 9/17/15 for participation in any 2016 Fair in and out of California where a person is expressly representing The Grange.

Fraternally,

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Ed Komski, President, Master and CEO

California State Grange

The Grange of the State of California's Order of Patrons of Husbandry, Chartered
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