



Elks State Training Government Relations Committee Overview

Presented by:



Agenda

- **Background**
- **Committee Objectives**
- **Focus Areas**
- **Contact Information**



Committee Objectives

- To report on these areas: Community, Youth, Veterans, Charity
 - Examples of activities to report are:
 - Parades, fairs, pop warner, local health care places, etc.
 - Hoop shoot, soccer, teen dances, children parties, scouts, etc.
 - Dinners, fishing, trips, activities, etc.
 - Helping needy families, a member does a charitable act, as an ELK, Relay for Life donations, allowing the Lodge to be used for fund raisers by another group, funerals, etc.
 - Reports should include:
 - Members who plan, work, clean up, and provide reports -, Non Elks
 - Just calling people on the phone counts!
 - A sample Charity Report will accompany the training
 - The reason for all this reporting is to help the Elks stay in good standing with the Government
 - Grand Lodge can use national organizational totals to influence Congressional legislation
 - State Associations can gather support for legislation affecting many lodges
 - Local Lodges can use charitable reporting to highlight what Elks do while establishing relationships with local legislators
 - These tools help to protect our non profit status



Committee Objectives

- To be aware of legislation that affects Elkdom in these areas:
 - Gaming on the Western Shore in Maryland
 - Changes in Unrelated Business Income language
 - Laws against Discrimination and Harassment
 - US Postal regulations – as they affect our newsletters and publications
 - Sales Tax and Exemptions
 - Alcoholic Beverage Control rules and regulations
 - Bingo Raffle and Games of Chance rules and regulations
 - Property tax exemption laws

Be aware of any *new* legislation or a *change* in legislation that could impact Elkdom



Exalted Ruler Focus Areas

- **Review charity reporting with the Government Relations Committee Chair and Lodge Secretary**
 - If there isn't any reporting, then find out why?
 - If there is reporting, then find out what specific events make up the report
 - Stay informed through your local lodge Government Relations Chair
 - Review the local lodge's previous year Grand Lodge Annual Report
- **Establish and maintain relationships with your local legislators**
 - Invite them to an Open House or meeting designed specially for them
 - Showcase your lodge strengths and give them a tour
 - Use your charity reporting to highlight what your lodge does in the community
 - Show all the individual charitable reports that comprise the total number

Your job as CEO is to keep your lodge in good status with the government!



Government Relations Committee

State Association Government Relations Committee

Bonnie Howell, State Chair (Delaware)

Corey Bradley, Vice Chair (Maryland)

David Reihl, North East

Jack Gordon, North Central

Gregory Robbins, South East

Carl Vogt, South West

Jay Nave, West

Who is your local lodge Government relations Committee?



Questions

