



Congregation Handbook
2022

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THE TST INVOCATION

**"Let us stand now, unbowed and unfettered by arcane doctrines born of fearful minds in darkened times. Let us embrace the Luciferian impulse to eat of the Tree of Knowledge and dissipate our blissful and comforting delusions of old. Let us demand that individuals be judged for their concrete actions, not their fealty to arbitrary social norms and illusory categorizations. Let us reason our solutions with agnosticism in all things, holding fast only to that which is demonstrably true. Let us stand firm against any and all arbitrary authority that threatens the personal sovereignty of One or All. That which will not bend must break, and that which can be destroyed by truth should never be spared its demise.
It is Done. Hail Satan."**

The Seven Tenets

I. One should strive to act with compassion and empathy toward all creatures in accordance with reason.

II. The struggle for justice is an ongoing and necessary pursuit that should prevail over laws and institutions.

III. One's body is inviolable, subject to one's own will alone.

IV. The freedoms of others should be respected, including the freedom to offend.

To willfully and unjustly encroach upon the freedoms of another is to forgo one's own.

V. Beliefs should conform to one's best scientific understanding of the world.

One should take care never to distort scientific facts to fit one's beliefs.

VI. People are fallible. If one makes a mistake, one should do one's best to rectify it and resolve any harm that might have been caused.

VII. Every tenet is a guiding principle designed to inspire nobility in action and thought.

The spirit of compassion, wisdom, and justice should always prevail over the written or spoken word.

Welcome

We are thrilled to have you as a valuable member of our congregation. You completed our application, interviewed, and joined our congregation.

...But now what??

We are sure that you have lots and lots of questions, and that is great! This guide was created as a way to explain some of the things we do and to catch some of those FAQ's that might slip through the cracks in other spots, as well as link some good resources in one place.

It's easy to get wrapped up in the excitement of being a new Satanist. There's so much to learn and so much to think about! We have many different kinds of people in TST Atlanta and we expect that everyone will have nothing but the utmost respect for each other even if there are disagreements. As a new member you are given the title of Fiend and will be assigned a Demon (fully vetted member) to help show you the ropes. If you already know an active member who you wish to be your Demon, please let the Membership Legion or Congregation Leaders know so we can set that up. In our Discord server, there is the Questions channel in the Acolyte's Lobby where you can go to ask questions and help others. It can be intimidating sometimes to meet lots of people at once, so we encourage members to reach out to their new Demon or any member you are comfortable speaking with if you have questions you may not be comfortable bringing up in the Discord. Once you have been a Fiend for three months, you may request to be promoted to be a Demon to assist future new members and be considered a fully vetted member of the congregation! As regular humans, we are all entitled to feeling down or tired and sometimes you may not have an answer or response right away. We all have jobs and lives and things to do so please be patient. If you have an urgent matter that needs prompt attention, we will do our best to help. It is recommended to email us at cong.atlanta@thesatanictemple.org or reach out to your Congregation Leaders with a direct message on Discord.

So now that you're here, what to do now? Get involved!

We have lots of fun activities and events to participate in, but we also need to keep everyone on the same page. We have a monthly congregation meeting where we invite everyone to listen in and offer the chance to ask questions. We require that active members attend at least **ONE MEETING PER YEAR** in order to continue membership. It is HIGHLY recommended to listen in when you can so that you are up to date on all that we are doing. And really, what's the point of joining if you aren't going to be a part of it, right? The Congregation Leaders want everyone to have a voice in what we choose to participate in, which campaigns to support, new ideas, fun events, everything! Not everyone can attend every meeting of course, so we'll always have someone taking minutes of meetings and those will be posted for members to review on our Discord.

Alright, so now you have found some people you vibe with and some causes to help out with. What's next? Well... why not look into our national efforts? If you happen to have Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and on and on, so why not give us and a few national congregations a follow? Want to learn more about Satanism and how it applies to everyday life? Come to some of our online religious services. Every Tuesday there are services held at The Satanic Estate online. Ordained Ministers from across the globe speak on all varieties of topics. This is a great way to learn new perspectives,

share your own, and get to know the greater TST community.

The Satanic Temple has quite a bit happening these days, and their website is a fantastic resource to reference if you have questions on Satanism and TST's particular brand. Congregation Leaders and other members are available for questions as well!

TST Atlanta is a group of talented, intelligent and open minded Satanists who want to make the world a little bit brighter, and we hope that by including yourself in our community that you do too. Ave Satanas!



The Structure of The Satanic Temple

The structure and scope of The Satanic Temple is pretty expansive, but we want to be sure you have a general summarized idea of the key elements.

Executive Ministry

Refers to TST's founders: Malcolm Jarry and Lucien Greaves. They strategize and implement international campaigns, focus on the development and expansion of the Temple, coordinate and respond to media coverage and inquiries, and establish overall standards for the organization to ensure that TST's mission and goals are preserved.

Two Pillars of TST

Congregations

The "Congregation Pillar" includes all of the groups that are made up of and managed by the members of our local congregational communities. This includes the Congregations themselves, as well as other types of member groups that come together for various purposes. The three main types of member group in this pillar are:

- **Congregations** (formerly: Chapters): Groups made up of members in a geographic region that focus on support and social activities for their members and charitable activities for their local communities.
- **Alliances** (formerly: Inter-congregation Committees or Interest Groups): Groups made up of members across congregations who share common interests, identities, or experiences.
- **Committees** (formerly: Special Projects or Initiatives): Groups made up of members across congregations that come together to complete a specific task or to achieve a specific goal.

Campaigns

The "Campaign Pillar" is composed of member teams called Campaigns that are focused on addressing specific issues relating to our mission and values and bringing about material change in the world. Currently the active Campaigns of The Satanic Temple include:



- **After School Satan Club:** an after school program that promotes self-directed education by supporting the intellectual and creative interests of students. The After School Satan Clubs meet at select public schools where Good News Clubs also operate. Trained educators provide activities and learning opportunities in which students are free to engage or may choose to opt out.



GREY FACTION

- **Grey Faction:** an educational and advocacy organization whose mission is to protect mental health patients and their families from dangerous pseudoscience and discredited therapies, particularly in the area of so-called "repressed memories."



- **Protect Children Project:** addresses abuses that take place in public schools that are perpetrated by school officials and are deemed legal. By asserting a religious claim consistent with our tenets, students who are TST members can legally exempt themselves from egregious forms of mistreatment.



- **Religious Reproductive Rights:** objects to many of the restrictions that states have enacted that interfere with abortion access as well as other related issues that affect members' religious rights. TST is taking many steps to address reproductive laws that violate our religious conscience by

inflicting guilt and shame in one's decision and being inconsistent with necessary health and safety standards.



• **Sober Faction:** Founded here in Atlanta! Sober Faction is a peer support group that offers a Satanic approach to recovery from addiction. The purpose of this campaign is to find a better way of living and help others who may be suffering. Our wish is to assure those who are suffering from addiction can find sobriety without having to experience the undue burden of religious dogma and superstition. Advocates for members who are court ordered to attend AA meetings and offers a satanic option based off of science and compassion.



• **Satanic Representation Campaign:** The Satanic Representation Campaign is dedicated to promoting pluralism and fighting for TST members' religious liberty, providing resources and strategic counseling to TST members who seek to have their religion represented alongside other religious voices by taking part in limited public forums such as invocations and displays on public property.



• **Good Works Campaign:** provides resources and strategic counseling to TST member groups to ensure that the charitable activities they engage in with their communities are as successful and bountiful as possible.

If you are interested in getting involved in any of TST's Campaigns, let your Congregation Leaders know.

Other Groups

Suryan Council

The Suryan Council (SurCo) provides unbiased and independent Human Resource and investigative support to The Satanic Temple (TST), its member groups, and affiliated media organizations. SurCo is responsible for the implementation and enforcement of TST-wide policies, including the Sexual Harassment policy, Conflict of Interest policy, and TST's Code of Conduct.

Ordination Council

The Ordination Council (OrdCo) manages the activities related to the ordained clergy of our church, including management of the online ordination program and support and management for activities of our ordained ministers including (but not limited to): information and support for ministerial activities such as wedding and funeral officiation, continuing education opportunities, resources that empower our ministers to provide religious guidance and care for our communities.

TST TV

The Satanic Temple TV is a video streaming platform providing a wide range of video content relevant to The Satanic Temple including but not limited to: live-stream video of rituals, ceremonies, protests and other gatherings; original new media series written and created exclusively for The Satanic Temple TV; video footage of lectures and interviews; and documentary-style features about our campaigns, protests, and other activities.

The Satanic Estate

The Satanic Estate is an immersive virtual map-based platform that hosts events for The Satanic Temple where Satanists and the Satan-Adjacent can connect, communicate, and collaborate. Every Tuesday, Ordained Ministers of Satan give religious services and host panel discussions about our philosophies at the Estate!

TST Atlanta Structure

Below is an overview of the membership structure and duties of the congregation. For a more in depth look into the structure of the congregation, you can find those in the TST Atlanta Bylaws.

1. Acolyte

- a. Must have recently attended at least one TST Atlanta event to be eligible.
- b. Invited to the TST Atlanta Discord
- c. People who are interested in becoming congregation members and people who wish to stay as allies but not official members.
- d. Can only see the Acolyte Lobby channels in the TST ATL Discord server.
- e. May apply to be a Fiend after attending a minimum of three events.

2. Fiend

- a. Required to have attended a minimum of three events.
- b. Required to sign the TST ATL Membership agreement and agrees to follow the TST Code of Conduct.
- c. Is an official member of the TST Atlanta Congregation and is welcome to attend members only events.
- d. All Fiends are assigned a Demon as a new friendly point of contact and resource.
- e. Has access to the TST ATL member channels and voice channels.
- f. Has a voice in making decisions but doesn't get to vote on things.
- g. May be promoted to Demon after a minimum of three months of healthy community engagement. Must be local to GA to be promoted to Demon.

3. Demon

- a. Fully vetted member of the congregation.
- b. Is able to vote on congregation decisions.
- c. Can host online events if they wish.
- d. Is eligible to be nominated for and to vote on Legion roles.

4. Legion

- a. Members that are nominated to be in volunteer positions of a chosen TST Atlanta sub-committee referred to as Legions.
- b. Must be accountable for the described Legion member responsibilities. Must attend monthly Legion meetings of their chosen Legion.

5. Devil

- a. Includes Legion Chairpersons, Ministry, Congregation Admin, Congregation Leaders and other volunteer positions outside of a legion.
- b. Congregation Leaders & Legion Chairpersons are required to attend monthly Legion Town Hall meetings.

6. Ministry

- a. Ordained Ministers of Satan. For information on ordination please see [Satanic Ministry](#).

7. Congregation Leader

- a. Official TST Atlanta Leadership

Section 3.2 The Satanic Temple Atlanta Duties & Descriptions:

1. Co-Congregation Leader

- a. The Congregation Leaders shall preside at all TST ATL Legion Town Hall meetings, if present, and shall exercise and perform such other powers and duties as the Council or these Bylaws may prescribe. Congregation leaders will collect and respond to all official

correspondence made to TST ATL. Congregation Leaders may delegate other duties to other members as they see fit.

- b. Responsible for overall well being of the congregation.
- c. Responsible for attending monthly Society of Congregation (SoC) Town Hall meetings.
- d. Collaborates with all Legion Chairpersons.

2. Congregation Administrator

- a. Records and maintains meeting minutes, motions/business discussed, and motions/business tabled.
- b. Is well versed in TST Atlanta bylaws and is responsible for ensuring bylaws are being followed during TST Atlanta business meetings.
- c. Cooperates with the Congregation Leaders to maintain Google Calendar, agenda, and Google Drive.
- d. Collaborates with all Legion Chairpersons.

3. Legion.

- a. Sub-committees of TST Atlanta to help ensure the goals and mission of the congregation are carried out.

4. Legion Mission

- a. To serve the TST Atlanta community at large, uphold the congregation's mission & initiatives, and to provide outreach and support in relation to the Legion's specific focus.

5. Legion Structure

- a. Only members who are at Demon level of membership or higher are eligible to participate in legions.
- b. Legion Members will be elected by their peers in an anonymous election process and using simple majority rule as the deciding factor of who will take on a Legion Committee Member position.
- c. Those wishing to stand for a Legion Committee Member open position that have been recommended to participate in a legion, can either be nominated by their legion peers, council members, or may freely stand for a position so long as they meet legion membership requirements and have been approved to participate in a legion.
- d. During the election process, members who will stand for a specific position shall qualify by sharing their experience with the role and why they wish to fulfill the role to give the community of voters an opportunity to make an informed decision when choosing who they think is best for the role.
- e. Legion Committee Members shall fulfill their roles for as long as they wish but may be removed from the position by Congregation Leaders if they violate the Code of Conduct. If anyone in the Legion is thought to have violated the Code of Conduct, it must be brought to the attention of the Congregation Leaders immediately. Leadership will review the claim and make the final decision as to whether a violation has occurred. If it is found that a violation has occurred, the member will be removed from participating in Legions. The severity of the violation may lead to removal from the congregation.

- f. Legion Committee Members will be considered to have resigned if they do not attend two legion meetings concurrently without giving notice to the Chairperson of that Legion. If they are a Chairperson they should notify the Congregation Leaders.
- g. Legion Committee Members who are unable to fulfill their duties for any reason shall reach out to the Chairperson of the legion or the Congregation Leaders to discuss a temporary relief of duties. A legion member of the same legion will be appointed to take over duties temporarily. If the elected legion member cannot fulfill their duties for longer than 2 months, they will be considered to have resigned and the vacancy will be filled by simple majority anonymous election by the Congregation. Legion members who consistently do not fulfill their duties without speaking to the chairperson of Council Legion Representative will be put on probation for one month. If the legion member continues to neglect their duties within that month, they will be considered to have resigned.
- h. If a Legion Committee Member wishes to resign voluntarily they must submit their resignation in writing to the Chairperson, Secretary, and Council Legion Representative. The Legion Committee Member will be asked to remain in that role until a replacement is elected at the next business meeting. The outgoing and incoming Legion Committee Members shall meet to facilitate a handoff of duties.
- i. Disputes among the committee members shall first attempt to be resolved by all parties involved having a civil discussion. If a civil discussion does not solve the dispute, it shall be brought to the Congregation Leaders for mediation and resolution.
- j. Official Legion Committee Members are the voting body of a Legion.
- k. Legions will conduct regularly scheduled business meetings of at least once per month.
- l. Legion Committee Members must be present at the legion meetings in order to vote. Voting by proxy is not allowed unless approved by the Congregation Leaders.

6. Membership Legion: The sub-committee that is responsible for healthy membership onboarding and upkeep.

a. Membership Chairperson

- i. Required to attend monthly TST ATL Legion Town Hall meetings.
- ii. Responsible for leading Membership Legion meetings once a month.
- iii. Ensures that Legion member roles and responsibilities are being met and facilitated.
- iv. Reports to Congregation Leaders.
- v. Ensures that Membership Interviews are with a minimum of two Membership Legion members.

b. Membership Secretary

- i. Takes meeting minutes of all Legion meetings.
- ii. Collaborates with Congregation Administrator with organization of membership files such as Membership Applications.
- iii. Schedules Membership Application Interviews.

c. Membership

- i. Required to attend monthly Membership Legion meetings.
- ii. Responsible for onboarding new Acolyte Members to the TST ATL Discord server.
- iii. Coordinates with Congregation Administrator with Acolyte onboarding dates and Fiend and Demon promotions.
- iv. Responsible for keeping records of Acolyte attendance at events.
- v. Keeps track of Fiend promotion dates and collaborates with Congregation
- vi. Attends membership interviews.
- vii. Ensures all new Fiends have an assigned Demon.
- viii. Collaborates with Congregation Leaders to have applicable Acolytes to sign membership agreements.

7. Events Legion: The sub-committee that is responsible for planning and executing events for TST ATL.

a. Events Chairperson

- i. Required to attend monthly TST ATL Legion Town Hall meetings.
- ii. Responsible for leading Events Legion meetings once a month.
- iii. Ensures that Legion member roles and responsibilities are being met and facilitated.
- iv. Point of contact when collaborating with outside organizations with Congregation Leadership approval.
- v. Does research into local goodworks organizations and opportunities.
- vi. Reports to Congregation Leaders.
- vii. Prepares [event proposals](#) to be sent to Congregation Leaders.

b. Events Secretary

- i. Takes Legion meeting minutes.
- ii. Collaborates with Congregation Administrator with organization of Event files and Calendar.

c. Events Legion Member

- i. Responsible for planning events for TST Atlanta.
- ii. Required to attend monthly Events Legion meetings.
- iii. All events must be approved by Congregation Leaders
- iv. Responsible for ensuring all events have the volunteers needed to run the event in a healthy and safe manner.

8. Social Media Legion: The sub-committee that is responsible for managing all TST ATL Social Media.

a. Social Media Legion Chairperson

- i. Required to attend monthly TST ATL Legion Town Hall meetings.
- ii. Ensures that someone is taking meeting minutes at all legion meetings.

- iii. Ensures that Legion member roles and responsibilities are being met and facilitated.
- iv. Reports to Congregation Leaders.
- v. Collaborates with Events Legion Chairperson.

b. Social Media Legion Member

- i. Responsible for posting to TST ATL Facebook page, Twitter Account, and Instagram (once available).
- ii. Will use Senidble account for Twitter and Instagram.
- iii. Responsible for posting a minimum of three posts a week to our social media pages. Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays.
- iv. Manages all Facebook Page Messages.
- v. Manages TST Atlanta Forum Facebook Group
 - 1. Vets group join requests.
 - 2. Posts a “Welcome Wednesday” post once a week if there are new members to the FB Group.
 - 3. Creates FB Events of all upcoming events.

9. Creative Committee Legion: The sub-committee that is responsible for artistic needs.

- a. Must have artistic capabilities.
- b. Entrusted with creating graphics, flyers, and other visual assets the congregation may need.



THE SATANIC TEMPLE

CODE OF CONDUCT



OUR SEVEN FUNDAMENTAL TENETS

- I.** ONE SHOULD STRIVE TO ACT WITH COMPASSION AND EMPATHY TOWARD ALL CREATURES IN ACCORDANCE WITH REASON.
- II.** THE STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE IS AN ONGOING AND NECESSARY PURSUIT THAT SHOULD PREVAIL OVER LAWS AND INSTITUTIONS.
- III.** ONE'S BODY IS INVIOLABLE, SUBJECT TO ONE'S OWN WILL ALONE.
- IV.** THE FREEDOMS OF OTHERS SHOULD BE RESPECTED, INCLUDING THE FREEDOM TO OFFEND. TO WILLFULLY AND UNJUSTLY ENCROACH UPON THE FREEDOMS OF ANOTHER IS TO FORGO ONE'S OWN.
- V.** BELIEFS SHOULD CONFORM TO ONE'S BEST SCIENTIFIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD. ONE SHOULD TAKE CARE NEVER TO DISTORT SCIENTIFIC FACTS TO FIT ONE'S BELIEFS.
- VI.** PEOPLE ARE FALLIBLE. IF ONE MAKES A MISTAKE, ONE SHOULD DO ONE'S BEST TO RECTIFY IT AND RESOLVE ANY HARM THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN CAUSED.
- VII.** EVERY TENET IS A GUIDING PRINCIPLE DESIGNED TO INSPIRE NOBILITY IN ACTION AND THOUGHT. THE SPIRIT OF COMPASSION, WISDOM, AND JUSTICE SHOULD ALWAYS PREVAIL OVER THE WRITTEN OR SPOKEN WORD.

WHO WE ARE

The Satanic Temple (TST) is a religious organization dedicated to practicing and promoting individual rights. We do not subscribe to supernaturalism; therefore, we do not believe that Satan is a deity, being, or person. As an organized religion, we actively provide outreach and participate in public affairs where the issues might benefit from rational, Satanic insights.

OUR MISSION

TST facilitates the communication and mobilization of politically aware Satanists, secularists, and advocates for individual liberty. The mission of The Satanic Temple is to encourage benevolence and empathy among all people. We embrace practical common sense and justice. As Satanists, we all should be guided by our consciences to undertake noble pursuits guided by our wills. We believe that this is the hope of all humankind and the highest aspiration of humanity.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

TST practices non-theistic Satanism; we believe that religion can, and should, be divorced from superstition. As such, we do not believe in either God or the Devil as supernatural forces. We bow to no god or gods and can celebrate our outsider status. To embrace the name, *Satan* is to embrace rational inquiry removed from supernaturalism and archaic tradition-based superstitions. The Satanist should actively work to exercise critical thinking and sound judgment. Our beliefs must be responsive to the best current scientific understandings of the world - never the reverse.



OUR CODE OF CONDUCT

with fellow Satanists, non-Satanists, dissenters on social media, and with the general public.

INTRODUCTION

The Satanic Temple (TST) is, first and foremost, a religious organization of diverse and engaged Satanists. TST is not a club, nor is it a hobby. Satanism is our religion, and being associated with TST has the potential to place you and those around you in danger by individuals who would seek to harm Satanists. Before continuing with membership or volunteering within TST, one must understand the risks of being granted official TST affiliation. To be associated with TST also means to agree to abide by a set of expectations to which all members and volunteers are held. These expectations exist to protect members and volunteers and also to protect the organization from unnecessary risk. We outline these expectations in this document: our Code of Conduct.

SCOPE

This Code of Conduct and the expectations outlined within apply to all members and volunteers of TST, including those who participate in any official capacity with a Congregation, campaign, or ministry. This Code of Conduct also applies to the various councils within TST (e.g., Ordination Council, Suryan Council) and any group that provides a broader function within or service to the organization (e.g., IT, security).

Being an official member or volunteer of TST also means being responsible by professionally representing TST when interacting with others. This Code of Conduct applies to all conversations, correspondence, and social media actions. This applies when interacting

PRIVACY

TST values the privacy of its members and will not disclose membership status with outside organizations, places of employment, or media outlets who may inquire. TST will never disclose a member's name or volunteer without their explicit permission unless otherwise compelled to do so. In such instances, information such as names and best-known geographical locations may be shared with local authorities for the purpose of safety and security.

SECURITY

Being associated with TST (and generally being a Satanist) means potentially being targeted by TST's various political, social, and scientific opponents. We have publicly confronted hate groups and extremist groups that actively work to expose and harm Satanists. Members and volunteers are encouraged to prioritize their personal safety in any situation that would otherwise jeopardize personal safety.

SENSITIVE INFORMATION

It is the responsibility of every member and volunteer of TST to take steps to protect sensitive information. Sensitive information includes personal information related to fellow Satanists in TST, as well as information related to how TST operates and functions, including internal policies and procedures. The practice of "doxxing" (publishing private or identifying information about a particular individual on the internet) is prohibited.

SOCIAL MEDIA BEHAVIOR & CONDUCT

appearing in school or higher education related interviews/projects, and making

On the internet, tone is easily mistaken, and discourse can quickly turn hostile. While you are not required to agree with or get along with everyone on the internet, in the capacity that you are associated with TST, you implicitly represent TST and are required to pick your language judiciously and actively discourage combative dialogue.

While being a Satanist means one may offend others at times, either with one's beliefs or words, members and volunteers of TST must not harass or bully others in person or online. A Satanist should strive to be a role model of rational and sound behavior. Behavior that is repeatedly combative, dismissive, unapproachable, and generally unpleasant does not accord with our Tenets. Moreover, such behavior violates our Code of Conduct. By agreeing to adhere to the Code of Conduct, you also agree to adhere to the TST Social Media Policy.

IN-PERSON EVENTS

When attending in-person events such as meet-n-greets, rallies, and public-facing congregational activities, you will be representing TST with your words, actions, and appearance. You are expected to uphold the Code of Conduct and conduct yourself in accordance with our Tenets.

REPRESENTING TST

Only officially recognized media liaisons and spokespersons are authorized to provide statements on behalf of TST.

Consequently, you should not appear in videos, documentaries, news/media broadcasts, or in any public capacity that would give a public appearance of officially representing TST unless leadership explicitly authorizes such appearances. This restriction includes participating *as a member of TST* in AMA (ask me anything) forums, statements to the media.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST & DATING IN THE ORGANIZATION

Members and volunteers should actively avoid situations which may present a conflict of interest to TST. This may include operating a company, organization, charity, or religious affiliated group that has the potential to compete with or disparage TST; it may also include managing platforms that could be confused as being affiliated with TST.

Satanists in a position of leadership are expected to practice good judgement, which may include refraining from dating those who operate within their respective groups. Generally, conflicts of interest are prohibited, must be declared, and productively resolved. Refer to the Conflict of Interest Policy for more information.

REPORTING CONCERNS

Those concerned about a fellow member or volunteer should first go to their respective group leadership (e.g., Congregation leader, campaign director, etc.) to discuss the matter and attempt to resolve the concern.

Those with a concern regarding an operational or procedural matter as it relates to a Congregation are encouraged to contact the Concerns Committee at: TBD

Those with a concern regarding a potential Code of Conduct or organizational policy violation may file with Suryan Council here: <https://forms.gle/QvnjYzMAQ3W9MXox6>

TST prohibits retaliation, including against external, potentially non-TST

affiliated individuals. TST defines retaliation as any adverse action as the

result of an individual

filing a concern in good faith or an individual participating in an investigation.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment within TST is strictly prohibited. Sexual harassment may include unwelcome physical contact, repeated unwanted advances, suggestive comments or language, and any unsolicited attention of a sexual nature. Allegations of sexual misconduct should be directed to Suryan Council (TST's HR group). Members found to violate the Sexual Harassment Policy are subject to having their membership revoked indefinitely. Members or volunteers convicted of sexual crimes (e.g., sexual assault, sexual battery, rape, any conflict related sexual violence, and any sexual crime related to a minor) must report their conviction status to Suryan Council. Failure to report a conviction (including a plea of nolo contendere) may result in permanent removal from TST.

DISCRIMINATION

Discrimination on the basis of membership in a protected, marginalized, or traditionally underrepresented class will not be tolerated. Specifically, but not exhaustively, such classes include religion, race, national origin, ethnicity, skin color, age, sexual identity, sexual orientation, gender identity, sex, pregnancy, familial status, disability, veteran status, and genetic information.

Members are discouraged from engaging in speech that ridicules or dismisses others, including theists and non-TST Satanists, simply based on their religious affiliation. Beliefs are not exempt from critical, rational scrutiny. Still, we must not engage in the sort of ad hominem attacks to which our opponents resort when they dismiss us simply in virtue of our religious affiliation. TST promotes viewpoint pluralism, which is inconsistent with silencing or dismissing voices simply because they differ from our own.

POLITICAL ACTIVITY

TST is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit organization. Currently, the law prohibits

political campaign activity by charities and churches by defining a 501(c)(3) organization as one "*which does not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office;*" (<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/charities-churches-and-politics>). As well, per the Johnson Amendment, clergy (e.g., Ministers of Satan) are not allowed to endorse candidates from the pulpit. Members and volunteers can, however, advocate for or against issues and legislation being discussed within the political arena.

Members and volunteers within TST are not allowed to campaign or participate in partisan activities *on behalf of or in representation of TST*. While we champion Enlightenment and progressive ideals, there is enough conceptual room in TST for a range of political party affiliations and policy positions among its membership; we should not encourage the perception that TST promotes a particular party's political platform.

Members and volunteers may not solicit others within TST to donate to PACs, political parties, or candidates for public office. Members may not, without prior consent from Executive Ministry, engage in activities as agents of TST or participate in any group within TST, where such activities imply or encourage the impression of collaboration or official alliance with non-TST entities, even when the aims and values of those entities appear clearly aligned with those of TST. *Mutatis mutandis*, the same applies to public disparagement or endorsement of non-TST entities. This restriction also applies to participation in any activity executed by a Congregation, regardless of whether it is declared to be an "official" activity or not. The activities of outside entities are not subject to the approval of TST and so there is no way to ensure their aims and values will continue to align with those of TST, and that the activities of those groups will continue to align with TST's best interests. Hence, to the extent members and volunteers choose to support outside entities, causes, and campaigns, they must do so as private individuals, neither purporting to represent TST or any of its member groups, nor implying such representation.

SUSPENSION OR REMOVAL OF MEMBERSHIP / VOLUNTEERSHIP

Depending on the severity of the infraction, a member or volunteer may be suspended or permanently removed from TST. Only Suryan Council and Executive Ministry have the authority to execute or reverse an organization-wide ban; a particular group, e.g., a Congregation, may, without Suryan Council intervention, ban or remove a member or volunteer from that specific group.

INTERNAL GROUPS

TST comprises a variety of groups and councils, all performing a specific function or organizing community events in accordance with our Mission.

• EXECUTIVE MINISTRY (EM)

- Executive Ministry is made up of TST co-founders Lucien Greaves and Malcolm Jarry. Note that EM enforces compliance with this Code of Conduct among its members.

• ORDINATION COUNCIL (ORDCO)

- Ordination Council provides oversight for TST's Ministry program. OrdCo can be contacted at Ordination@TheSatanicTemple.com.
Official website: <https://ordained.satanicministry.com>

• SURYAN COUNCIL (SURCO)

- Suryan Council provides unbiased and independent Human Resource and investigative support to TST and the various groups it comprises. SurCo is responsible for implementing and enforcing TST-wide policies, including the Sexual Harassment Policy, Conflict of Interest Policy, and TST's Code of Conduct. SurCo can be contacted at SuryanCouncil@TheSatanicTemple.com.
- Note that all members and volunteers are expected to cooperate in ongoing SurCo investigations. Refusal to cooperate, including obstructing an investigation, may be considered a violation of the Code of Conduct and therefore may result in disciplinary action up to and including removal of TST membership/volunteership.

• CONGREGATIONS

- Congregations, previously known as "congregations," are officially recognized local Satanic communities who find common ground in the Tenets of TST, as well as have a vested interest in Satanic religious expression and plurality. Congregations foster groups of like-minded individuals who value self expression, personal sovereignty, and Satanic values of different stripes.
Official website: <https://thesatanictemple.com/pages/find-congregation>

• CAMPAIGNS

- TST initiates various campaigns in accordance with our mission. TST's campaigns are responsible for coordinating TST community events and spearheading activism that protect TST members' religious rights.
Official website: <https://thesatanictemple.com/pages/ongoing-campaign>

SATANIC MINISTRY

REGARDING THE CODE OF CONDUCT AND MINISTERS OF SATAN

Though not official spokespersons for TST, ministers of Satan are the embodiment of TST's status as a religious organization. A Minister's conduct reflects the integrity of the Ordination Program and the dignity of TST and its Ministry. When a Minister of Satan fails to comport themselves in a manner consistent with TST's Code of Conduct, that Minister undermines their credibility and integrity, which, in turn, can potentially harm the good name of TST and its clergy. Conversely, when a Minister of Satan fulfills their ministerial activities responsibly and contributes to the wellbeing of our community, their actions vindicate the elevated esteem accorded to Ministers. Because Ministers of Satan operate in a unique role as religious leaders and showcase the Seven Tenets and Mission of TST in action, they are held to a higher standard than members who are not ordained. Note that enhanced expectations pertain to the conduct of Ministers in all their interactions with fellow TST members, the broader Satanic community, and, of course, especially, in the fulfillment of their ministerial duties. Ministers of Satan who violate the Code of Conduct are subject to revocation of their ordination status, i.e., the title of "Minister of Satan," as well as any position for which being a Minister of Satan is a necessary condition, e.g., being the official leader of a Congregation. Ministers of Satan may also have their ordination revoked for conduct not explicitly covered in this Code of Conduct but which the Ordination Council deems to be unbecoming of a Minister of Satan or a threat to the integrity of TST Ministry. Behavior that would be deemed a threat to the integrity of TST Ministry includes but is not limited to:

- Sharing protected materials that are part of the ordination curriculum,
- Subverting members' good-faith efforts to enroll in the Ordination Program, • Writing a "Letter of Approval" in bad faith, e.g., knowingly misrepresenting a candidate's suitability for ordination,
- Using one's status as a Minister of Satan for personal gain in such a way that constitutes a conflict of interest with TST (note: honoraria for approved services do not constitute such a conflict of interest),
- Propagating gossip that could undermine the legitimacy of TST Ministry or the integrity of specific Ministers (note: if you have credible reservations regarding a Minister of Satan, you should make these reservations known to Ordination Council and, if a violation of the Code of Conduct is suspected, Suryan Council),
- Using one's status as a Minister of Satan to undermine TST leadership, e.g., unless officially recognized as such, Ministers of Satan are not to be regarded as Congregation leadership or encourage the impression (through action or inaction) that they are Congregation leadership,
- Using one's status as a Minister of Satan as a platform from which to represent, without explicit authorization, any entity of TST, including Ordination Council, congregation leadership, Executive Ministry, etc.,
- Performing rituals without the required authorization from Ordination Council, • Sowing discord in communities where one is recognized as a Minister of Satan, • Failure to report a violation or credible suspicion of a violation of TST's Code of Conduct.

Public Event Protocol

The following are basic guidelines to be used when engaging in public facing events, rituals, fund-raisers, speaking engagements, etc.

Expectations

By being at an event you are representing The Satanic Temple Atlanta Congregation (TST ATL). As such, there are certain guidelines that should be followed to make sure TST ATL is shown as the professional and forward-thinking group of Satanists that we are. As congregation members, while you may represent TST ATL at events, online, etc. this does not mean you are permitted to speak on behalf of the congregation. Violating or disregarding these expectations may result in your membership being reviewed by congregation leadership.

- Please refrain from overtly heavy alcohol or drug use. Certain events may include alcohol, while everyone is permitted to have fun and live deliciously, we ask that you do not reach the point of over intoxication, as this can blur judgment and open the congregation up for possible security risks. Inappropriate behavior will not be excused on the basis of intoxication.
- It is expected that if you volunteer for an event that you show up. Not arriving at the event you volunteered for can cause unneeded stress on your fellow congregation members.
- Please do not feed the trolls. There are many people who do not agree with The Satanic Temple or Satanism in general, and will attempt to derail the event, or ritual. If this happens please continue on, if safe to do so. Engagement will only feed into what they are attempting.
- If events are interrupted, shut down, forced to relocate, etc. please remain calm. While these can be frustrating, emotional outbursts only provide more ammunition for those who seek to discredit TST and TST ATL.
- Harassment both internally and directed to the public will NOT be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to: sexual harassment, unwanted physical engagement, disparaging remarks about race/creed/background/etc.
- Be respectful of your surroundings. Whether an event is held in a public or private setting, we must do our best to leave the area in the same state, or better, compared to when our event began. Purposefully destroying or vandalizing the space at events will not be tolerated.
- Be knowledgeable, if you are representing TST or TST ATL at an event, it is expected that you are up to date on what TST is doing, and what TST is. If you do not know the answer to a question, please defer to a Congregation Leader. Giving false or misleading information can result in damage to the credibility of TST ATL and TST in general.

Media Interactions

Any approach by media (news outlets, “independent journalists”, students, etc) should be handled by the Congregation Leaders or the media liaison (spokesperson) of the congregation. These are people who have been properly vetted by the Society of Congregations, and are primed on how to address certain questions. If these people are not available, please direct them to use our email address at cong.atlanta@thesatanictemple.org.

Please note if media is allowed at public events (PRIDE, public ritual, etc) there may be photographers/videographers present. While you may choose not to be photographed for a “staged” photo, there is no guarantee that you will not be caught on camera by the crowd, or event organizers. This is a risk with any public event. If you are not publicly a Satanist, and do not want to risk having this information disclosed, it is advised you use a pseudonym in public spaces.

What You Should and Should Not Discuss:

Should

Your role within TST – Are you a member, Council member, Congregation Leader, etc.
If someone asks how they can learn more about TST, direct them to join our own TST ATL Forum Facebook group.

Should Not

Membership Demographic – Do not discuss who is in the congregation, their background, do not give names of other members. Internal workings of the congregation.

Respect & Equal Opportunity: We believe that everyone is entitled to respect and should have an equal opportunity to contribute to our work. We will treat everyone with respect, including those who oppose us. Members have the right to disagree with one another. We encourage all to listen to the thoughts of our comrades and understand that we all have a diversity of experiences and beliefs. Additionally, values of dignity and respect encompass recognition of different roles within the movement, including those of other activists, volunteers and staff. These different roles imply differing constraints and authority.

Social Conscience: Members undertake their work in the interests of The Satanic Temple and the wider international movement. They do not seek to gain financial or other material benefit for themselves, their family, or friends through this work.

FAQ

What is TST? – The Satanic Temple is a non-theistic satanic religion and is the first satanic religion to receive federal recognition as such.

Do you worship Satan? – No, nor do we believe in an actual being known as Satan/Lucifer/Beelzebub/The Devil. We use the character Satan from the works of romantic authors such as Milton as a symbol of rebellion against tyrannical authority.

I hate religion, how can I use TST to fight against religion? – TST, and all forms of satanism, are religions. TST itself is not anti-religious, we fight for religious pluralism.

I hate Christianity, how can I use TST to fight back? – TST believes in religious pluralism, this means we would rather see all religions represented, instead of the censorship of religion.

I thought TST was an activist organization? – While The Satanic Temple does engage in social and political activism, we are first and foremost a religious movement. Our political and social actions are a direct reflection of our satanic beliefs.

I saw in the documentary that X chapter did Y, when are you doing that? – While the documentary did a great job of showing what chapters do, it didn't really show the behind the scenes of what makes those things possible. It is important to remember that people who are in congregations are volunteers, so having the time to plan and do things can be difficult.

What does Satan mean to TST? - Satan is a symbol of the Eternal Rebel in opposition to arbitrary authority, forever defending personal sovereignty even in the face of insurmountable odds. Satan is an icon for the unbowed will of the unsilenced inquirer – the heretic who questions sacred laws and rejects all tyrannical impositions. Our metaphoric representation is the literary Satan best exemplified by Milton and the Romantic Satanists from Blake to Shelley to Anatole France.

How is TST a religion? - The idea that religion belongs to supernaturalists is ignorant, backward, and offensive. The metaphorical Satanic construct is no more arbitrary to us than are the deeply held beliefs that we actively advocate. Are we supposed to believe that those who pledge submission to an ethereal supernatural deity hold to their values more deeply than we? Are we supposed to concede that only the superstitious are rightful recipients of religious exemption and privilege? Satanism provides all that a religion should be without a compulsory attachment to untenable items of faith-based belief. It provides a narrative structure by which we contextualize our lives and works. It also provides a body of symbolism and religious practice — a sense of identity, culture, community, and shared values.

If you don't believe in the supernatural, why do you hold rituals? - TST is absolutely non-theistic. Ritual means different things to different people and TST Atlanta participates in rituals. The purpose of rituals can vary from personal catharsis to the physical destruction of meaningful items, to the simple process of engaging with a group in performance, so long as the participant wants something from the ritual itself. We are not so deluded to think ritual will solve problems or help us acquire anything more than a sense of well being or claiming dominion of ourselves.

