

Suggested Form of Chapter Institution Ceremony

This is a ceremony of institution for a state Chapter of the SAR. This entire ceremony is under the control and direction of the State Society in which the Chapter to be instituted is located.

The President of the State Society – or his designated representative – presides.

State Society President

1. Call to order for the purpose of instituting the _____ Chapter of the _____ Society of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.
2. Invocation by Chapter Chaplain Elect, Compatriot _____.
3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America led by Compatriot _____.
4. Pledge to the SAR, led by Compatriot _____.
5. Welcome to the members and guest.
6. Introduction of selected guest. (Obtain names from the Chapter President Elect)
7. Introduction of the master of ceremonies, who will be Compatriot _____ (May be the State President).

Master of Ceremonies

1. Introductory remarks and then proceed with the ceremony of institution.

The Ceremony of Institution by the Master of Ceremonies:

1. Will the marshal please conduct the designated officers of the _____ Chapter to a position in front of the Speaker's table.

Marshal – After escorting the designated officers to the front:

“Compatriot Master of Ceremonies, I take great pleasure in presenting to you the designated officers of the _____ Chapter, _____ Society, Sons of the American Revolution.”

Master of Ceremonies

1. Will all of the prospective members of the _____ Chapter please rise.
2. To you, the duly qualified members of the _____ Society, Sons of the American Revolution, who meet to establish a new Chapter, I ask three questions, and the expected answer is in the Affirmative:

1. Is it your desire to form this group into the _____ Chapter, _____ Society, Sons of the American Revolution? (Answer -- Yes)

2. Have you, members of this group, met and selected the following officers:

President	_____
Vice-President	_____
Vice President	_____
Secretary (- Treasurer)	_____
Treasurer	_____
Chaplain	_____
Other	_____

(Answer – Yes)

3. Are you willing that your President-Elect take for you the obligation of a newly formed Chapter the _____ Society, Sons of the American Revolution? (Answer – Yes)

The officers will remain standing, and the other new members of the _____ Chapter will please be seated.

President-Elect _____, will you please step forward. Please raise your right hand, and repeat the obligation after me.

The Obligation

“I, (please state your name), on behalf of the officers and members of the _____ Chapter, _____ Society, do hereby promise and declare, that I will at all times support the Constitution of the United States of America, and the Constitution of the State of _____.”

“I further promise and declare that I will, by precept and example, enforce obedience to the Constitution and By-laws of the National Society and the _____ Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, and to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the Community, State and Nation.”

“So help me God and keep me steadfast in this my pledge and obligation to the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution.”

President _____, you may now lower your right hand.

Our Chaplain, Compatriot _____, will now invoke a blessing upon this, our present undertaking.

Chaplain: (Offers an appropriate prayer)

Master of Ceremonies

Charge to the Officers

Compatriots, as the installing officer, it is my duty to charge you with your privileges, duties and responsibilities. It is your duty to take part in all meetings, either Local, State or National; to aid in making policy; and to bring forth objectives which will benefit not only this, our organization, but also your State and your Nation.

You are obligated to preserve the records and to perpetuate the memory of those ancestors who fought for independence and to keep alive and develop the spirit that prompted that sacrifice. You are also charged to inculcate lessons of Patriotism and love of country in the communities in which we live; to inspire respect for the Stars and Stripes in the youth of America; and to promote peace and good will of the people of the United States and all other Nations.

Charge to the Chapter

Compatriot, I have just given your new officers their charge. I now wish to remind you of your obligation to them: Assist them, support them and encourage them in the discharge of their duties, thus furthering the principles and purposes of the Sons of the American Revolution.

President _____, will you please step to the rear of the Speaker's table. The other officers will please return to their places.

President _____ of the _____ Society, Sons of the American Revolution, it is with pleasure that, at this time, I inform you that the _____ Chapter of the _____ Society, has been instituted in due form. In Charter, I am pleased to present the President of the _____ Chapter, Compatriot _____.

Presentations by the State President:

1. Charter – At the direction of the _____ Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, and in its name, I hereby present to your President, Compatriot _____, the Charter of the new _____ Chapter of our Society and with its presentation is carried to you, and to your associates all the rights and privileges befitting this organization. (The State President now hands the Charter to the new Chapter President.)

The _____ Chapter is now formally accepted and installed as a Chapter of the _____ Society, Sons of the American Revolution, and is recognized as such.

2. President's Insignia – Mr. President, I place about your neck the insignia of your office (Places the insignia about the neck). This insignia represents the authority invested in you by your Compatriots of the _____ Chapter. They have bestowed a great honor on you and at the same time you have accepted a grave responsibility. When wearing this insignia, be ever mindful of the duties and

responsibilities which go hand in hand with the honor and dignity of your office. Strive diligently to fulfill the pledge you have just taken.

3. President's Gavel – President _____, it is now my sincere privilege to present to you this gavel, as a symbol of the authority now vested in you. Wield it always with dignity, honor and temperance.

Congratulations, Mr. President, and best wishes for the future success of the _____ Chapter. You now have the floor to make such remarks as you may desire.

Brief remarks by the new Chapter President.

Master of Ceremonies

Introduces the remainder of the program which may include a special speaker, or selected remarks by any special guests, including any National and State Officers who might be present. This is also an appropriate time to pass out new Member Certificates, present an award to helpful DAR, present a State SAR check to the new Chapter, etc.

(Now turns the new Chapter over to the new Chapter President with suitable oratory.)

Chapter President

Will everyone please stand for the SAR Recessional, to be led by Compatriot _____ and remain standing for the Benediction which will be given by Chaplain _____, after which the _____ Chapter is adjourned.

SAR Recessional – “Until we meet again, let us remember our Forefathers, who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an independent Supreme Court and a Nation of free men.”