

MASONIC BIOGRAPHY

Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge
Washington & Jurisdiction



Wallace Nelson

Deputy Grand Master

Right Worshipful Wallace Nelson, born on June 2, 1956, is the eldest of 13 children of the late Charles P. Stokes, Sr. and Mary C. Nelson, his late mother's and only child. He has led a life dedicated to service, with extensive experience in both military and civilian careers, as well as in Freemasonry.

RW Nelson began his education at Mergenthaler Vocational Technical High School in Baltimore, MD. He enlisted in the United States Army in October 1972, serving his country honorably until November 1979. RW Nelson pursued further education at Thomas Nelson College in Newport News, VA, studying Business Management from 1980 to 1983.

In addition to his military service, RW Nelson spent nearly two decades in broadcasting, working as an announcer at 13 different radio stations between 1978 and 1996. He re-enlisted in the US Army in April 1988 and served until his retirement in September 2001. After retiring from the Army, RW Nelson worked at Pierce Transit for 20 years, first as a bus operator for four years and then as a Service Supervisor for 16 years. It was during his time at Pierce Transit that he met and was mentored by the late GIG Edward L. Brydie.

RW Nelson's Masonic career began in 2007, when he was initiated, passed, and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason at Cassia Lodge #5, Washington Jurisdiction. Over the years, he has served in various leadership roles, including Senior Deacon (2007), Junior Warden (2008), Senior Warden (2009-2010), and Worshipful Master (2011-2013). As Worshipful Master, he spearheaded several initiatives, including a firework stand fundraiser for the Lodge and enhanced the District 2 Christmas Toy Giveaway with DDGM Graham. He also served as the Registration Committee Chair for the Grand Lodge Annual Grand Session from 2014 to 2018.

Elected Grand Lecturer in 2018, RW Nelson traveled extensively to lodges in Districts 1 and 2, providing educational sessions and feedback on Masonic work.

He also visited District 9 in Germany to observe and offer guidance. In 2019, he contributed to the revision of the MWPHGL Ritual Book and was elected Grand Junior Warden in 2021, serving until 2023. In this role, he was also the Chairman of the Scholarship Committee and working closely with all youth programs. In 2023, RW Nelson was elected Grand Senior Warden and served as 1st Vice Chair of the Grand Entertainment Committee (GEC), attending district sessions in Germany, Korea, Dubai, and representing the MWGM at the Grand Lodge of Washington's Annual Session. In July 2025 elected Deputy Grand Master

RW Nelson is also an active member of Cascadian Consistory 75, where he served as Thrice Potent Master from 2022 to 2023 and continues in this role from January 2025 to the present. RW nelson was elevated to GIG in may of 2025 in Philadelphia

RW Nelson is blessed with three adult children – Brianne Richardson (husband Courtney), Deven Nelson (and his wife, Ashley), and Ashley Nelson – and eight grandchildren: Taylor, Courtni, Aneesa, Aiyana, Mavryk, Fallyn, Amiri, and Aziri.

RW/GIG Wallace Nelson's professional and Masonic journeys exemplify his commitment to service, leadership, and the betterment of his community. His dedication to Freemasonry and his family continues to inspire and shape the lives of those around him.