

READ THIS PARAGRAPH BEFORE YOU COMPLETE ANYTHING.

This packet continues to increase in size each year due to the lack of ability / desire to follow guidelines. **The due date is not a suggestion.**

We have contractual dates that we need to meet and when you register late it causes serious issues. When you complete forms or write checks - double and triple check that everything is complete and payment amount matches your form.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO DECREASE THE ERRORS ON OUR REGISTRATIONS.

Grand Lodge Convention Chicago, IL 2026

Registration flow sheet & other items of significant importance

1. Make your Delegate housing reservation by sending your completed Delegate housing form and payment to the state office in Tacoma. Due in the office by 4/21/26.
2. Sign in to your elks.org account and pay your GL registration after it is open for business which is usually mid-April. This is separate from the housing registration with the state office and it is your responsibility to handle.
3. Make certain you order the proper badge directly through Badges by Jan.
www.badgesbyjan.com
4. For all ER's or qualified alternate, order your Kelly Green blazer here: [Wholesale Blazers for Men and Women 18 colors by Saxon Uniforms](#) order form is at the bottom of web page.
5. If you need any WSEA clothing, you can complete the order form during winter convention and pick up your clothing in Pasco at the summer convention.
6. District Deputy Designates get 4 days comped by Grand Lodge. **You must make your housing reservation through your state association form. It is your responsibility.**
7. Certain delegates will receive comped days to attend the convention. If you stay longer than days comped by GL, that would be at your expense. The assigned hotel will be paid by GL in advance of the convention. Assigned hotel means the hotel the state has been assigned to. For GL Committee people or GL Officers, your paperwork from GL will specify where you will stay. **You are responsible for reading your correspondence from GL and following their instructions to the letter.**

Those who have comped days in the past include Incoming GL Committee people, District Deputy Designates, GL Officers, State Elks National Veterans Service chair, State Hoop Shoot chair, Hoop Shoot Regional Directors & State Governmental Relations chairs.

In recent years, State Drug Awareness Chairs have needed to pay for their room in advance and then be reimbursed by GL after properly submitting an expense voucher.

Drug Awareness State Chairs, pay particular attention to the correspondence you receive from Grand Lodge.

The following note should not have to be printed, however in past years there are many examples of poor representation through improper dress.

Short pants and any item with inappropriate messaging are not to be worn to any official functions while at Grand Lodge. This applies to the opening session, general sessions, the afternoon instructional seminars and Ritual Competition.

**Please use your head so as not to embarrass yourself, your Lodge, or your State.
Dress & act appropriately.**

GL information **Scan me**





Grand Lodge Housing Chair
Joe Basil
PO Box 888
South Bend, WA 98586-0888
(360)942-8131 (C)
joebaz56@gmail.com

To: **All Area 8 Grand Lodge Convention Attendees**

Subject: 161st **Grand Lodge Convention Chicago, IL**

Grand Lodge Convention will be held in Chicago, IL, Sunday July 5th through Wednesday July 8th, 2026.

Per Grand Lodge Statutes it is each Lodge's responsibility to send their Exalted Ruler or qualified alternate to the National Convention; however, it is the incoming Exalted Ruler or qualified alternate's responsibility to complete the forms and see that the required funds are submitted by the listed deadline. It is imperative the registration form and payment be received by the listed deadline of April 21st, 2026, or the Lodge will receive a bill for a \$75.00 late fee. Lodges should not pay for anyone to go to the Grand Lodge Convention that is not an ER or qualified alternate. The alternate's need to register with the Grand Secretary on official letterhead no later than two weeks before the convention. Even if a Lodge gets dispensation and does not send their ER, the lodge is still obligated to pay the activity fee.

The Grand Lodge Convention **OPENING CEREMONY WILL TAKE PLACE AT 4:00 PM (Time subject to change) ON SUNDAY July 5th at the McCormick Place West Building, 2317 West Indiana Blvd, Chicago, IL 60616.**

All of Area 8 will be housed at the Marriott Marquis-Chicago, 2121 S. Prairie Ave. Check early and often for the best flight rates and to arrive in time to attend the 4:00 PM Opening Ceremony on Sunday July 5th, 2026. The hotel is located 10 miles from Midway Airport and a shade over 20 miles from O'Hare.

If you have questions regarding housing, please contact your state coordinator.

Fraternally,

Joe Basil

Joe Basil, Chair

Area-8 Grand Lodge Housing



161st Grand Lodge Convention
Marriott Marquis-Chicago Area 8 Hotel
2121 S. Prairie Ave, Chicago, IL 60616
July 5th to July 8nd, 2026

LODGE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION

As approved by State Sponsor
Budget for Exalted Ruler & Spouse

Travel (Round trip for 2 people @ \$650 each.....	\$1,300.00
Housing (5 nights @ \$210.50 tax included (Housing Form).....	\$1,052.50
Per Diem (5 Days @ \$100.00).....	\$ 500.00
ER Activity Fee 1 submission required per lodge.....	ER or qualified alternate only \$ 300.00*
*Lodge will be billed \$75.00 if received after April 21 st .	
Washington State Jacket and Tie.....	\$ 250.00

**Registration w/Grand Lodge DONE ONLINE & YOUR RESPONSIBILITY \$ 70.00 Higher this year
because you will have bussing to the Memorial Building all days but Saturday.**

.....TOTAL recommended budget not including optional items below **\$ 3,422.50**

Strongly encouraged Optional selection for Chicago GL Convention 2026

Incoming GER Tim Jaeger cocktail reception w/hors d'oeuvres.....	\$100.00/\$150.00
Your \$100 cocktail reception purchase includes entry for a single person and 1 pin or 1 pendant.	
Your \$150 cocktail reception purchase includes entry for 2 people and 2 pin(s)/pendants(s)	
.....TOTAL recommended budget including optional selection	\$ 3,502.50/ \$ 3,552.50

Payment for one night's room deposit (\$210.50) and
ER Activity Fee (ER or Qualified Alternate Only) (\$300.00)
must be ***at the state office in Tacoma*** by April 21st, 2026.

Total to send to state office is \$510.50 not including optional
incoming GER reception.

Late payments will result in an additional \$75.00 fee per above.



161st Grand Lodge Convention

Washington State Elks Delegate Housing Form

July 5th – July 8th, 2026



P **early**

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Lodge Name & #: _____ Email: _____

One (1) Title for Badge: _____

Spouse name (if attending): _____

HOTEL RESERVATION:

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE BLANKS – REGISTRATION WILL BE **RETURNED** IF INCOMPLETE

or not calculated correctly. Double check your addition and ensure you add all items,

PLEASE

Marriott Marquis Chicago, 2121 S. Prairie Avenue, Chicago, IL 60616

1st Night Room Deposit **DO NOT SEND MORE THAN 1st night deposit – no exceptions.....** \$210.50

Check the boxes below as they apply to your room needs:

Occupancy: 1-2 people ☐ 3 people ☐ **4 people ☐ Four People add \$20 to above. Now \$230.50**

Room Type: 1 Bed ☐ OR 2 Beds ☐

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____ total # of guests in room _____

(check in time 3:00pm)

(check out time: Noon)

Special Requests (ic. ADA shower etc). _____

ER ACTIVITY FEE:

ER or qualified alternate ONLY: \$300 in the hands of the state office by 4/21/2026.....\$ 300.00

Each lodge submits this fee. The lodge will be billed \$75 if received after April 21st, 2026

Incoming GER Tim Jaeger RECEPTION: Optional purchase

Cocktail reception for 1 person: check one- ☐ pin or ☐ pendant.....\$ 100.00

Cocktail reception for 2 people: choose two; # of pin(s) ____ / # of pendant(s) ____.....\$ 150.00

No selection to the above will default to "pin" selection(s)

Total of Above = \$ _____

Mail Completed Form(s) to:
WASHINGTON STATE ELKS,
GL Convention Registration
PO Box 110760, Tacoma, WA 98411-0760

It is your responsibility to enter the correct information on your Delegate housing form, we are not responsible for errors or omissions that you make to your data.

DEADLINE FOR ALL REGISTRATIONS:
At the state office by April 21st

State Office use ONLY:

FOP: _____ AMT: _____

PC: _____ LC: _____

POSTMARK: _____

__ of __ _____

DEADLINE- April 21st, 2026

FORM INSTRUCTIONS:

Please follow these instructions carefully!

Fill in all the information completely and clearly.

Incomplete OR miscalculated registrations OR checks that don't match the registration form totals will be returned to you until they are complete.

All housing registrations must be submitted on THIS form and must be accompanied by payment for your First night room charge. Room Rate is \$210.50 tax included.

ALL Housing will be assigned in the order in which the requests are received.

Indicate any special room requests you may have, i.e. handicapped access, etc.

(Please note, DD-Designates do not pay for Lodging however DD-Designates will pay for nightly room charges in excess of authorized travel days as issued by Grand Lodge.

ER ACTIVITY FEE

Each Lodge is required to pay a fee of \$300.00 to defray the costs associated with the Grand Lodge Convention. If your payment is not in the hands of the state office by APRIL 21st, 2026 your lodge will receive a bill for the additional \$75.00. Exalted Ruler's or qualified alternate's registration form should include 1st night housing deposit as well as \$300 ER Activity Fee.

NO CREDIT CARDS, PAYMENT MUST BE BY CHECK ONLY

Mail a Check payable to WSEA ensure you include a housing form – payment without forms and vice versa will be returned for proper completion:

Washington State Elks Association
Grand Lodge Housing Registration
PO Box 110760
Tacoma, WA. 98411

- You will send the badge order form and payment directly to badges by Jan. Visit: www.badgesbyjan.com
- You will submit your clothing order forms to the State Office at Winter Convention and pick them up at Summer Convention in Pasco.
- You will go online and secure your Kelly Green Blazer, it is no longer facilitated by WSEA. Website link is [Wholesale Blazers for Men and Women 18 colors by Saxon Uniforms](#)

DO NOT SEND TO WSEA

THIS FORM AND PAYMENT GOES DIRECTLY TO BADGES BY JAN

DO NOT SEND TO WSEA

Badge Order Washington State Elks Association

Send to:

Badges by Jan

PO Box 854

Condon, OR 97823

Phone: 541-384-6854

Email: badgesbyjan@hotmail.com

Over the Pocket OR Flat ~ 2 1/4" x 3 1/4" Face

F1 Gold Badge w/Green Letters ~ 4 Lines

1— Name; 2—Title; 3-Lodge name and #

#4 Emblem

Price \$14.00 ea



Flat ~ 1 1/2" x 3" Face

L2 Gold Badge w/Green Letters ~ 3 Lines

1— Name; 2—Title; 3-Lodge name and #

#4 Emblem

Magnet Back

Price \$12.00 ea

**Picture not
available**

Name as you want it to appear on the badge _____

Officer Title _____ OR Wife/Spouse of _____

Lodge Name _____ Lodge # _____

Badge(s) Total \$ _____ + Shipping of \$7.00 \$ **Order Total**

Ship Badges To:

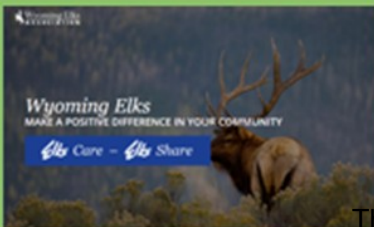
Name _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone # _____ In case we need to contact you

Email: _____



Marriott Marquis-Chicago

2121 S. Prairie Avenue

Chicago, IL 60616

161st Grand Lodge Convention

Chicago, IL

July 5th thru July 8th 2026

AREA 8 REGISTRATION FORMS AND CONVENTION OVERVIEW

PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON EACH FORM CAREFULLY

Hotel Information

- ❑ **Location:** All of area 8 is housed at Marriott Marquis (Address above)
- ❑ **Amenities:** Bus service to all sessions will be available.
- ❑ **Room Costs:** \$210.50 per night single, double, triple. **Quad add \$20.**
- ❑ **Parking:** Hotel \$40 per night (See additional info on enclosed sheet)
- ❑ **Credit Card vs Debit Card:** While you have paid your state association for your **first night**, you will be asked for a credit or debit card for incidentals. If you must use a debit card, make certain you have adequate cash in your bank account because the hotel will take out funds for each day of your reservation and the money may not show back up for a week or more following check out.
- ❑ **NO SHOWS-** If you are a no show and don't make contact with Area-8 Housing Chairman Joe Basil you will lose your entire reservation. **Cancellations less than 14 days prior to convention will forfeit their first night payment** Joe's telephone # is 360-942-8131. Contact should be done **verbally** (**don't leave a voice mail**) to assure contact has been made followed by a confirming text or email to Joe.

Registration for Attendance

- ❑ **ALL HOTEL REGISTRATIONS MUST BE MADE THROUGH YOUR STATE ASSOCIATION AS PER ATTACHED REGISTRATION FORM. NO EXCEPTIONS.** The hotel has assured us they will not accept individual registrations.

Ground Transportation

There is light rail from O'Hare and Midway airports however you will have to change trains. Your best bet is utilizing Uber or Lift.

Hospitality Room

- ❑ Upon checking in you can ask the front desk clerk for the room number and location of your States Hospitality Room.
- ❑ After you check into the hotel, please go to your hospitality room as soon as possible so that we can record your contact information. We want this information for several reasons:
 1. In case of emergency.
 2. So that we know that you have arrived.
- ❑ Check with your hospitality coordinator for hours of operation in your hospitality room.

PLEASE CHECK DAILY FOR ANY NOTICES & SCHEDULE CHANGES

WHICH WILL BE POSTED IN THE HOSPITALITY ROOM

CONVENTION ATTENDEES DRESS CODE

Elks/Delegates

- The **Official Dress** for all **Grand Lodge functions** including **Opening Session & all Business Sessions** is your **state uniform** or as **designated by your Sponsor**.

Note: **Short Pants** are unacceptable attire for any **Grand Lodge Function or Activity**.

Non-Elks, Spouses & Guests

- For attendance at sessions please make certain you dress accordingly. If your state has protocols for this, please go by that standard. If you are uncertain, check with your State President or DDGER.

Hospitality Room Attire

- Please wear appropriate dress while relaxing in the hospitality room. Please no bathing suits, short-shorts, cut-offs, tank tops or t-shirts with offensive language. We will be hosting guests periodically and we are all representing **Area 8**, so dress accordingly. Wear only clothing with logos on them that are tasteful. **If you are unsure of the proper dress, check with your District Deputy Designee or State President.**

OTHER GRAND LODGE ACTIVITIES

Ritual Contests:

- Ritual contests will be held at the McCormick Place West Building. Time allowing, let's watch and support our area 8 teams. Check the ritual schedule upon arrival for the time, location and date for the ritual contests.

Things to do in Chicago:

- There are many things to do in Chicago and we suggest you look over the information provided at elks.org under Convention.

Fraternal and Fun Supplies

- You may have already received, or will receive invitations from companies that sell fraternal supplies. Do plan to visit their booth at the Convention Center and take your guests. It is an excellent opportunity to purchase gifts for your Lodge Officers or Elk friends and relatives.

GRAND LODGE CONVENTION SCHEDULE INFORMATION

(THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE SO LOOK FOR UPDATES ON LINE at elks.org)

General Information

- The **Grand Lodge (CO) Headquarters Hotel** is the Hilton Chicago Hotel. Check the Grand Lodge Web-Site (elks.org) for schedules.
- District Deputy Designate Seminar **Mon 7/6 and Tue 7/7 12:45PM** at McCormick Place West Building. Room to be determined. Check posted listings on the elks.org website.
- The McCormick West Building is the site of the following functions and activities:
 - ❖ Sunday Afternoon Opening Ceremony (Time subject to change) **Sunday July 5th from 4-6:00 PM**
 - ❖ Registration & Exhibits McCormick Place West Building **Sat. – Tue**
 - ❖ Daily Business Sessions McCormick Place Sky Ballroom **8:00 AM Mon-Tue-Wed**
 - ❖ Ritual Competition at McCormick Place West Building **TBA**

Shuttle bus service will be available during the convention. Check signs at all hotels for schedule.

DAILY SCHEDULE & INFORMATION

Saturday & Sunday July 4th and 5th

□ Upon arrival, get your credentials as soon as possible. Registration opens Saturday at the McCormick Place West Building.

❖ The Registration process changed several years ago with registration now being available online www.elks.org by credit card at a fee of \$70. Onsite registration will be \$80 and credit cards will be accepted. Check the GL Web-Site to find out when the registration process opens. The target date for this is the beginning of April, 2026.

❖ There is no fee for Non-Elk Spouses/Guests, however; they must be registered to gain admittance.

❖ **The Sunday Afternoon Opening Session begins at 4:00 PM SHARP** (Check times for changes) **in the McCormick Place West Building Sky Ballroom.** Arrive early so that we can sit as a group.

□ **Except for the aforementioned obligations, Saturday & Sunday, prior to the 4:00 pm Opening Ceremony, are free days, so enjoy the sights and special activities provided in Chicago.**

Monday – July 6th

□ **8:00 AM SHARP, Business Session begins**

Your District Deputy Designee will have your seating saved at the McCormick Place West Building and will take attendance **EVERY DAY**. Seating will be with Area 8. This seating arrangement will apply for all of the Grand Lodge Business Sessions. Always have your credentials with you!

□ District Deputy Designee Seminar will be held on Monday, July 6th and Tuesday July 7th at 12:45 pm at the McCormick Place West Building. Look for signs directing you to the proper room.

Tuesday - July 7th

□ **8:00 AM SHARP, Business Session begins ELKS/DELEGATES WILL NOT BE ADMITTED WITHOUT BADGES & VOTING CREDENTIALS. SPOUSES/GUESTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND (WITH BADGES) but will be seated in an area for non-credentialed attendees.** Always have your Membership Card with you.

Wednesday - July 8th

□ **8:00 AM SHARP**, Final Grand Lodge Business Session begins.

❖ Spouses/Guests are invited to attend. Note: Convention Badges are required.

□ 9:30 AM – Installation of Grand Lodge Officers and District Deputy Designees

❖ Spouses/Guests are invited to attend. Note: Convention Badges are Required

□ 11:00 AM – Grand Lodge Session adjourns

Note: All Delegates are urged to reconfirm dates, times and places in the schedule given to you at the time of Registration and daily in the Hospitality Room and at the Convention Center.

Make certain to have your Membership Card with you and do not laminate it. When you go through registration the clerk will stamp your card signifying your attendance. Keep your

card and credentials with you at all times.

WSEA Grand Lodge Clothing Order Form

THIS WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU IF IT IS INCOMPLETE

WSEA GOLF/POLO SHIRTS

Color options: Green, White or Red

Size options – S, M, L, XL, 2X, 3XL, 4XL



Please indicate M (male) or F (female) cut. If no selection is made a M (male) cut will be filled.

M or F Size : ____ Color: _____ Qty: ____ X \$30.00 each.....total: \$ _____

M or F Size : ____ Color: _____ Qty: ____ X \$30.00 each.....total: \$ _____

M or F Size : ____ Color: _____ Qty: ____ X \$30.00 each.....total: \$ _____

M or F Size : ____ Color: _____ Qty: ____ X \$30.00 each.....total: \$ _____

WSEA SHORT SLEEVE BUTTON-UP DRESS SHIRTS

Color options: Green, White or Red

Size options – S, M, L, XL, 2X, 3XL, 4XL

Please indicate M (male) or F (female) cut. If no selection is made a M (male) cut will be filled.

M or F Size : ____ Color: _____ Qty: ____ X \$30.00 each.....total: \$ _____

M or F Size : ____ Color: _____ Qty: ____ X \$30.00 each.....total: \$ _____

M or F Size : ____ Color: _____ Qty: ____ X \$30.00 each.....total: \$ _____

M or F Size : ____ Color: _____ Qty: ____ X \$30.00 each.....total: \$ _____

State Tie Qty : ____ X \$25.00 each..... Total: \$ _____

Ladies State Scarf Qty: ____ X \$25.00 each..... Total: \$ _____

Badge Holder (neck wallet) Qty: ____ X \$10.00 each..... Total: \$ _____

SUBTOTAL \$ _____

Email complete sheet to: Conventioninfo@waelks.net

THE ITEMS ON THIS FORMS WILL BE ORDERED ON MARCH 1ST. PICKUP WILL BE DURING SUMMER CONVENTION IN PASCO. IF YOU MISS THE ORDER DATE YOU WILL BE AT THE MERCY OF STOCK ON HAND AT THAT TIME.

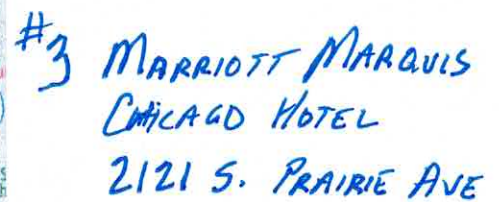
Please ensure your information is legible.....Please, we can't stress this enough.

Name: _____

Lodge # _____

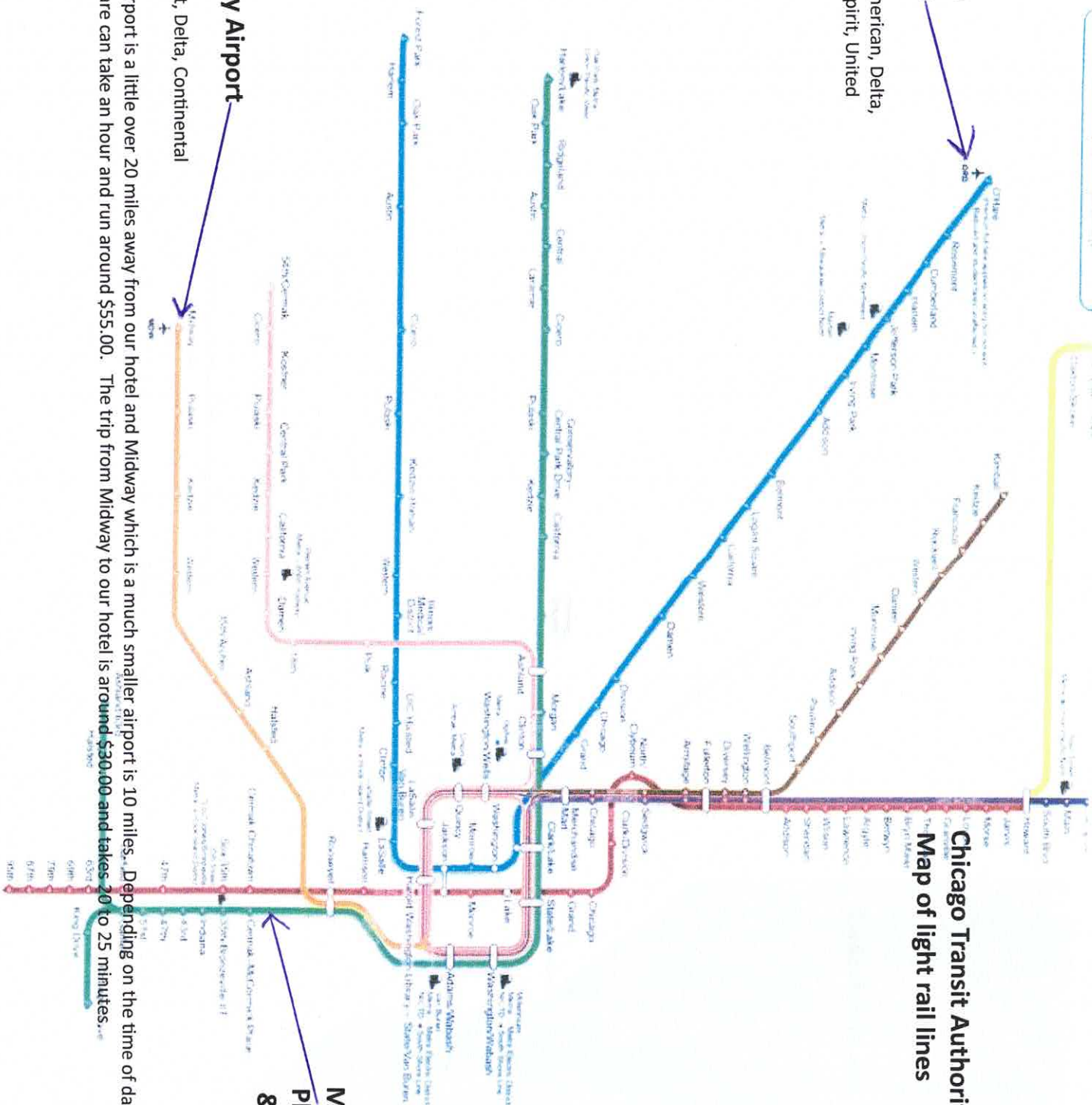
Eve Ph# _____ Day Ph# _____

Email: _____



O'Hare Airport

Alaska, American, Delta, Frontier, Spirit, United



O'Hare Airport is a little over 20 miles away from our hotel and Midway which is a much smaller airport is 10 miles. Depending on the time of day for travel the trip from O'Hare can take an hour and run around \$55.00. The trip from Midway to our hotel is around \$30.00 and takes 20 to 25 minutes.



SELF-PARKING

Self-Parking is conveniently located for guests via Skybridge in Lot A of McCormick Place. Skybridge connectivity to the Marriott Marquis Chicago is located on the 3rd Floor of Lot A.

- **GPS Address: 2301 S. Prairie Ave**
- Rates: 0-16 hours: \$27.00 | 16-24 hours: \$40.00
- **Non-Overnight Guests:** Self Parking pay stations are available in Lot A upon your departure. In and Out privileges are not included.
- **Overnight Guests:** Self Parking will be added to your rooms bill at \$40 a night. Your room key will act as your access pass to Lot-A. In and Out privileges included.

VALET PARKING

Limited Valet Parking services on a first-come/first-serve basis.

Guests' room keys will provide in/out access for Self-Parking in Lot A for overnight guests.

- **GPS Address: 2121 S. Prairie Ave.**
- Standard Rates | 0-1 Hours: \$22 | 1-3 hours: \$27 | 3-9 hours: \$32 | 9-24 hours: \$60
- Event Rate | \$38

