

Section 14 - TNSSAR Protocol

1. For National SAR Protocols please reference the NSSAR Handbook in Section I.
2. NSSAR Handbook

The President General is the ranking officer of the National Society and should be regarded as the honored guest at all SAR functions. The State Society President is the highest ranking officer in his State Society and should receive such recognition. In his State he outranks a Vice-President General. The Chapter President is the ranking officer and the ranking principle applies at Chapter functions.

In sequence of seniority, the National Society is first, and the State Society is second followed by the Chapter.

3. **TNSSAR (State Functions).**

The ranking of Tennessee Society officers may be used by Chapters as a guide: TNSSAR President, National Trustee, Alternate National Trustee, Former Presidents General, President-Elect, Vice Presidents, TNSSAR Secretary, TNSSAR Treasurer, TNSSAR Registrar, TNSSAR Surgeon, TNSSAR Chaplain, TNSSAR Chancellor, TNSSAR Historian, Former State Presidents, Former State Officers, Chapter Presidents, and State Committee Chairman.

The State DAR Regent, Local DAR Regent, State CAR Senior President, State CAR President, local CAR President should be ranked immediately following the TNSSAR President and ahead of the National Trustee.

4. **Seating.**

Similar to National Society functions the State President, as presiding officer, occupies the place at the center.

At Chapter meetings with the State Society President in attendance, the Chapter President occupies the place at the center with the State President at the place of honor, the first place on the Chapter President's right. The place on the left is the next highest seat, and down the line, alternating right to left. For ladies seating please follow the NSSAR handbook.

5. **Greetings and recognition.** The highest ranking guest should be introduced for any greeting, with others in order of precedence.

6. Requests for visits by the State President.

The demands on the State President's time are fairly heavy. This Society has had for a number of years the tradition that the State President visits each Chapter during his term of office. With thirteen Chapters and only eleven months available for visitations, each Chapter should arrange a visit at the President's earliest convenience. Chapters are encouraged to meet with other Chapters at the same time to help the President minimize travel duplications.

Protocol dictates that the TNSSAR President and his wife, if she accompanies him, are always guests of the inviting Chapter or Chapters, which should arrange for hotel and/or other accommodations. Likewise, meals are the responsibility of the host Chapter or Chapters. While many State Presidents choose to assume these expenses, they should clearly be understood to be the responsibility of the host organization under normal protocol.

Normally, the TNSSAR President is the guest of honor and will be the principal speaker at the function.

If the TNSSAR President is invited to install the Chapter Officers, this should be arranged at the earliest opportunity, and the Chapter should make available to the TNSSAR President a copy of the installation ritual and the Chapter's gavel prior to the installation.

7. Other State Officers.

Other State Officers should be recognized, but if the State President is present, they should be briefly acknowledged and let the State President give the main greeting on behalf of the State Society. If the State President is not present, the senior officer in precedence should bring the greetings, unless directed otherwise by the Chapter President. Remember, at the Chapter meeting, the Chapter President is the ruling officer. It's his meeting. He should preside.