

## **Bio of Past Potentate Curtis L. Smith**

Past Potentate Curtis L. Smith was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and raised in Charleston, South Carolina. A proud graduate of Gordon H. Garrett High School in North Charleston, he dedicated 24 honorable years to the U.S. Army, where he served as a Senior Logistician and earned two Bronze Star Medals for combat.

PP Smith's Masonic journey began when he was raised as a Master Mason in Providence Wing Lodge No. 229 in Newport News, Virginia, in 2009. He was elected Worshipful Master of Pride of the West Lodge No. 53 in April 2021 and continues to serve in that capacity.

His extensive Masonic achievements include serving as the Excellent High Priest of Holy Royal Arch Chapter No. 90 (2021), earning the title of Companion of the Year (2018), and being an active member of L.G. Raynor Council No. 8 and Demolay Commandery No. 33. In 2014, he served as the Thrice Potent Master of Rio Grande Consistory No. 24, and he held several key positions within Oro Temple No. 9, including Marshal (2012), Oriental Guide (2013), High Priest and Prophet (2014), and Assistant Rabban (2015). As Illustrious Potentate, he led Oro Temple No. 9 during the years 2016 and 2018-2020, and he was honored as Noble of the Year in 2014 and received the Legion of Honor in 2020. He served as the Imperial Deputy of the Oasis (2020-2024) and has been a member of the Desert of Texas Public Relations Committee since 2013.

PP Smith is also a proud member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, where he continues to embody the principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift.

Beyond his Masonic commitments, PP Smith is actively involved in community service. He was honored with the Daily Point of Light community service award by the late President George H.W. Bush committee in December 2018. He graduated from the FBI El Paso Division Citizenship Academy in 2022 and was recognized as the 2023 Black El Paso Voice Mentor of the Year and Man of the Year. In 2024, he received the Champion of Diversity award for the podcast Suite915 and currently serves as the host and moderator for the El Paso Black Roundtable podcast.

PP Smith holds an impressive academic background, including a Certificate in Homeland Security from Park University, an Associate of Science in General Education from Troy State University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from Park University. His dedication to service, leadership, and education exemplifies his commitment to making a positive impact in both the Masonic community and the broader society.