# Ben K. Perry
# FOP Lodge # 61 Bylaws

## Constitution

The Constitution of the Grand Lodge and the Indiana Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police and the respective amendments thereto are hereby adopted and are to stand for the Constitution of the Ben K. Perry Lodge # 61 and amendments made subsequent and this date in the Grand Lodge and Indiana State Lodge Constitution shall be adopted for use by this lodge.

## Preamble

WHEREAS: By association we have facility of mutual interchange of thought, information, and the experience of each becomes common to all, which always results in a higher development of our intellectual, moral, and social facilities, and enables us to share in the gains and honors of advancing civilization.
THEREFORE: We, the members of the various police departments of the Nation convinced that it is to the best interests of our members, hereby unite under the name of FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, and believing that intelligence, industry and normal worth are the true standard of greatness, do hereby pledge ourselves to use all honorable means to promote sociality and fraternity among the members of the ORDER.

## A NATIONAL, STATE, AND LOCAL POLICE ORGANIZATION

On June 1st, 1930 a charter was granted by the Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police, in cooperated at Pittsburgh, P., May 14th, 1915, and under the charter Ben K. Perry Lodge #61, Fraternal Order of Police, was on June 1st, 1930 constituted a Subordinate Lodge with full power to work under their jurisdiction at the City of Gary, Indiana.

### History of Ben K. Perry

Gary Lodge No.61 was installed on June 1, 1930. Two years later, Ben K. Perry was elected president and attended his first national convention. He made his mark at Pittsburgh when he convinced the delegates to select Gary as the site for the 1933 convention. This “extremely bold venture,” coming as it did in the midst of the Depression was a huge success. Perry was a prime mover of the resolution creating state lodges, a resolution adopted without dissent. He then took the lead in forming the Indiana Fraternal Order of Police in 1934. He was elected as the first vice-president of the State Lodge and in 1936 became state president. He was elected grand president for the first time in 1938.