ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE TITLE AND ESTATE OF A COUNTESS FOR A CANDIDATE NOT A PEER

Ceremony for the Acknowledgment/Investiture of a Countess

PREPARATION: If there is no scroll, the Herald should discover the blason of the arms of the new Countess in advance of the ceremony. The Herald should have discovered, if the new Countess is not already a peer, if during the Order of the Rose ceremony, the new Countess will wish to swear fealty. The new Countess should have gathered at the back of Court with her escort, and be prepared.

NOTE: The estate of Countess is automatic for a Queen completing his reign at the regular and published events and it is assumed on stepping down to his successor.

Scroll/Promissory: Scroll of Arms , if prepared.

Tokens: County Coronet, a Rose (Order of the Rose)

(The new Countess shall have as her escort a Countess or noble lady on her right bearing her banner, and another on her left bearing the Scroll of Arms.)

Herald: Countess _____, approach the Throne.

(The new Countess and her escort shall come forward and the new Countess shall present herself before the Throne. They shall make a reverence to Their Majesties.)

Spokesperson/Herald: May it please Your Majesty, Your loyal subject, Countess _____, having by her beauty, grace, and virtues inspired her champion to win her the Crown of this Kingdom, and having reigned as Queen of Lochac, and thus by her own ability having earned the title and rank of a Countess of this Realm, makes bold to approach You, that she may receive this same title of Your Majesty.

(Then the King (or the Count/Duke who made her Queen) shall take the Coronet of the new Countess and hold it above her head, and the King shall say:)

King: Lady _____, be known henceforth as Countess in this Our Realm.

(The King/Count/Duke shall place the Coronet on her head.)

King: Wear this coronet as token of your rank.

ORDER OF THE ROSE

(Then the Queen shall present the new Countess with a red rose, saying:)

Queen: My lady Countess _____, be welcomed into the Order of the Rose.

Queen: Do you wish to swear fealty at this time?

FEALTY -- if the new Countess is not already a Peer of the Realm, she should be offered a chance to swear fealty at this time.

(If the new Countess wishes to swear fealty at this time, do the following fealty oath:)

Herald: To your Liege and before your peers repeat after me:
               Here do I swear, by mouth and hands
               fealty and service
               to the Crown and Kingdom of Lochac,
               to speak and to be silent
               to do and to let be,
               to come and to go
               to strike and to spare
               in all matters as concern the Kingdom
               upon my honour
               and the lawful command of the Crown
               in need or in plenty,
               in peace or in war
               in living or in dying
               until the King depart from His Throne
               or death take me, or the world end,
               so say I .

King: This do We hear,
               nor fail to remember,
               and We for Our part do swear fealty to you,
               , and to all your household,
               to protect and defend you with all Our power,
               until We depart from Our Throne,
               or death take us, or the world end.
               So say We, (kname), King of Lochac.

Queen: So also say We, (qname), Queen of Lochac.

(The new Countess rises. She may be joined by the Count who made her Queen or not.)

King: Let the Herald read the Scroll of Arms.

(The Countess or lady bearing the Scroll of Arms shall present it to the Herald. The Herald shall read it and then return it.)

(If there is no Scroll of Arms, the Herald shall read the following text:)

NO SCROLL PRESENT

Herald: Know by these presents that We, (kname) and (qname), King and Queen of Lochac, in recognition that Our subject has reigned as Queen in Our realm, do hereby style her Countess and do admit her to the right noble Order of the Rose. We do affirm her sole and exclusive right to bear the following Arms by Letters Patent in the Kingdom of Lochac. Blazon.

By Our word and hand this _____ day of _____, Anno Societatis _____. ,

(kname) Rex;

(qname) Regina.

CONTINUE

Herald: For Countess _____, Lady of the Rose, Hip, hip! (*3)

King/Queen: You have Our leave to depart.

(The Countess and her entourage, as well as the Count, if he is there, and his entourage, leave.)