To: The Cuban Masons Grand Jurisdiction in Amity The Cuban People State and Government of Cuba

Declaration of the Grand Lodge of Cuba of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons.

Due to the situation in the country, we have advocated among the Masons so that extremism does not reign, so that threats are not uttered, nor is hatred or violence stoke between Cubans, so that the rights are firmly exercised in the proper way and that they will always be on the side of justice; all with the aim of preserving peace. The same has been urged to the Government so that dialogue and tolerance are the ways to resolve any difference and the respect for the rights of citizens is maintained.

Today we see with sadness that something that was seen coming due to the discontent and deficiencies among the population, has materialized in demonstrations throughout the country. It is not strange that the authorities and forces of order try to dissolve and contain them. But the excessive use of force by those in charge of order is worrying. Facts that Masons have seen throughout the country, we consider that they only tend to further exacerbate passions and in the long run harm the peace of the nation.

The call for a confrontation between Cubans is unacceptable. Errors should not become generalized because when they are implemented, they end up leading to discrimination, injustice, and segregation. They taught us for three centuries that Cuba is made with everyone and belongs to everyone and for the good of all.

On a day like today, July 14, our motto of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity was launched to humanity and we remember the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that makes it clear that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights; proclaims that all are equal before the Law and have, without distinction, the right to equal protection of the Law against all discrimination; it stresses that everyone has the right, under conditions of full equality, to be heard publicly.

The Grand Lodge of Cuba and the Masons, whatever their convictions, are at the side of the Cuban people and we advocate for peace, harmony and social justice. We urge that tolerance, the search for truth and brotherly love be the currency that prevail in any of the circumstances.

Ernesto Zamora Fernández GRAND MASTER Carlos A. Pírez Benítez GRAND SECRETARY

RS: GM 107