

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE TITLE AND ESTATE OF A COUNT

Ceremony for the Acknowledgment/Investiture of a Count

PREPARATION: Before the ceremony, the Herald should discover the blazon of the arms of the new Count, if there is no scroll. The Herald should also determine, if the new Count/Earl is not already a peer, if he wishes to swear fealty at this time. The new Count/Earl should have gathered his escort (as described below), and have them ready at the back of Court, as this should be the first piece of business in Their Majesties' first Court.

Scroll/Promissory: Scroll of Arms, if prepared.

Token: County Coronet, if prepared.



(The new Count/Earl shall have as his honor guard a Count or worthy knight on his right bearing his banner, and another on his left bearing the Scroll of Arms.)

Herald: [Count | Earl] _____, approach the throne.

(The new Count/Earl and his honor guard shall come forward and the new Count/Earl shall present himself before the Throne. They shall make a reverence to Their Majesties.)

Spokesman/Herald: May it please Your Majesties, Your loyal subject, [Count | Earl] _____, having by his valor, skill, and strength at arms having won the Crown of this Kingdom, and having reigned as King of the West, and thus by his own ability having earned the title and rank of [a Count | an Earl] of this Realm, makes bold to approach You, that he may receive the same title of Your Majesty.

(Then the King shall place the coronet over the head of the new Count/Earl, saying:)



King: [Sir | Master] _____, be known henceforth as [Count | Earl] _____ in this, Our Realm.

(Places coronet on the head of the new Count/Earl, and raises him up.)


★ **FEALTY** - if the new Count/Earl is not already a Peer of the Realm, he should be offered a chance to swear fealty at this time.



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

(If the new Count 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 hand
fealty and service
to the Crown and Kingdom of the West
to speak and to be silent
to come and to go
to strike and to spare
to do and to let be
in matters as concern the Kingdom
on my honor
and the lawful commands of the Crown
in need or in plenty
in peace or in war
in living or in dying
from this hour henceforth
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,
death take us, or the world end.
So say We, _____, King of the West.**

 **Queen:** **So also say We, _____, Queen of the West.**

 **King:** **Let the Herald read the Scroll of Arms.**

*(The Count or knight 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 text on the next page:)

★ NO SCROLL PRESENT

This box is a place for the herald to place a Post-it with the arms of the new Count.

Herald: Know by these presents that We, _____ and _____, King and Queen of the West, in recognition that Our subject _____ has reigned as King in Our realm, do hereby style him [Count | Earl]. We do affirm his sole and exclusive right to bear the following Arms by Letters Patent in the Kingdom of the West. Blazon. By Our word and hand this ___ day of _____, Anno Societatis _____. _____, Rex; _____ Regina.

Herald: For [Count | Earl] _____, Hip, hip!

(The new Count/Earl shall thank the King, and the Counts in his honor guard shall congratulate him. Then the new Count/Earl and his honor guard shall stand to the side, if the person who reigned with him is being made a Countess. Otherwise, they leave.)

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE TITLE AND ESTATE OF A COUNTESS

Ceremony for the Acknowledgment/Investiture of a Countess

PREPARATION: If there is no scroll, the Herald should discover the blazon 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.

Scroll/Promissory: Scroll of Arms, if prepared.

Token: County Coronet, if prepared, 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 the West, 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 | Mistress] _____, 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.

★ **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.



Queen:

Do you wish 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 hand
fealty and service
to the Crown and Kingdom of the West
to speak and to be silent
to come and to go
to strike and to spare
to do and to let be
in matters as concern the Kingdom
on my honor
and the lawful commands of the Crown
in need or in plenty
in peace or in war
in living or in dying
from this hour henceforth
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,
death take us, or the world end.
So say We, _____, King of the West.**



Queen:

So also say We, _____, Queen of the West.

(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.)

(Acknowledgement of the Title and Estate of a Countess, Continued.)

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

This box is a place for the herald to place a Post-it with the arms of the new Count.

Herald: Know by these presents that We, _____ and _____, King and Queen of the West, 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 the West. Blazon. By Our word and hand this ___ day of _____, Anno Societatis _____. _____, Rex; _____ Regina.

Herald: For Countess _____, Lady of the Rose, Hip, hip!

 **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.)

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