

## WHAT IS THE LOSS OF RANK, AWARDS AND TITLES?      FAQ 31

***What is the loss of rank, awards and titles?***

The By-laws specify that one form of punishment available in the Adrian judicial system is "loss of awards, order, ranks and/or titles". The right to register and bear arms is included in this provision.

***What does that mean?***

It means that if someone is found guilty in a judicial proceeding, their sentence could include the loss of an award, a rank, a title, membership in a order, or any combination of those.

***Is that what "Losing your belt" means?***

Yes. That person has lost the rank of knight. Because they are not considered to be a knight (for however long the sentence is), they may not have any of the rights or privileges of a knight. They may not display their arms, they may not wear the regalia (spurs, blue belt, etc.), and they may not exercise any voting privileges they may have as a result of knighthood. (Second level knights have a vote at the local estates, and third level knights have a vote at both local and Imperial Estates.)

***What is rebating arms?***

The person's arms may not be displayed for a set amount of time. The arms remain the property of the individual and are actively checked for conflict (so that others may not register arms that look like the rebated arms.)

***What are released arms?***

The owner of the registered arms has given permission to release copyright. The arms are no longer actively checked for conflict and may be re-registered by someone else. If someone's membership has lapsed for 3 years, their arms are automatically released.

***What if someone is wearing a blue belt and they're not supposed to?***

If someone has been sentenced to a loss of rank, but are ignoring that, then they are in violation of their sentence. The judicial system can be employed to make their sentence more serious (banishment, for example.) This rarely happens. The vast majority of people want to atone for their mistakes, and make it right.

***What if someone is flying their banner?***

Again, if someone has been sentenced to a loss of rank, but are ignoring that, then they are in violation of their sentence.

***What if someone's squire is wearing their knight's badge?***

If someone has been sentenced to a loss of rank, it includes the right of livery. The squire may not wear the badge until the knight is restored to the Order of Chivalry. In a worst-case scenario, the squire could be prosecuted in the Adrian Court system.