

## Modern Thedas - AU Details

The **Mage Registration Act** is a controversial law which requires all mages to register themselves with the government when their powers manifest. They must attend special schools that teach them to control their magic, and are subjected to random searches for “signs of corruption”. Under this law, all employers and educators are expected to report the number of mages they have on their roster or payroll. While it’s not outright *illegal* to perform magic openly in public, it is not considered socially acceptable and the MRA Taskforce are rather heavy handed with their orders. Neighborhood Watches often form solely to report back to them of any “suspicious” mages or magical activity. Finally, while Tranquility in its original form is outlawed, it’s a poorly kept secret that it still happens behind closed doors within the Circle system and in some Chantry based mental health facilities.

### Factions and governing bodies:

- MRA Taskforce - Mage Registration Taskforce. A federally funded bureau established in order to best enforce the mage registration laws and handle any magic or mage related disputes that are passed off to them by the KPD or which fall out of their jurisdiction. Originally created solely to handle extreme cases and deployed as a last resort, the taskforce has gotten heavy handed in more recent times and often come down too harshly on less serious infractions. Despite general consensus that their methods are questionable, nothing has been done about them as they have Chantry backing and the more wealthy or influential families continue to support them in favor of the task force turning a blind eye to any disputes they might become embroiled in.
- The Circle - A federally funded and Chantry-backed foster care system specifically targeted towards mage children who are given up, abandoned or otherwise removed from their home. Children are placed into a group home until such time that they are either adopted out into a *Chantry-approved* family, or “age out” of the system, usually upon reaching the age of majority. These mages are still actively monitored and assigned an “advisor” (a Templar basically) they must report to and are expected to go into schooling (college) or become gainfully employed. Per the MRA.
- Mage’s Advocacy Board - Headed by an elven man named Orsino Surana, the board exists to push back against oppressive legislation and fight for the rights of mages through the proper legal channels. While it isn’t well funded, and is often blocked at every turn by the Chantry and the KPD, Orsino continues his work to the best of his and his team’s ability.
- The Chantry - A federally funded religious institution based around the primary Andrastian faith that has existed for centuries and ages past. The faith itself and its doctrines have not evolved much over the years and only marginally adapted to the modern world due to necessity. Much of the Chantry’s practices are still rooted in outdated world views.
- The Wardens (aka The Grey, “Wardens”, the blue & silver, Griffons etc) - they are a special forces military unit funded solely by the state, outside the influence of the Chantry. Service is mostly voluntary, but recruits can be conscripted or drafted under certain circumstances.

- KPD (Kirkwall Police Department) - the local law enforcement branch in the city of Kirkwall. Often regarded as incompetent and not willing to stand up to the MRA Taskforce or the Chantry, the KPD under Captain Jevan Nord were far more complacent and less involved in the community, until he was sacked on charges of embezzlement, taking bribes and discrimination (mostly towards Fereldan migrants). Upon the change in authority, the KPD shows signs of improvement and a genuine interest in keeping the peace.
- The New Templar Order - Officially Unofficial and not on the records, the NTO is largely an extremist group composed of members of the Chantry, and the PD (current and former) who cling to the old ways from days past. Nothing can be done about them because the local government claims that these people don't exist or are just outliers who don't have any association to the PD or Chantry today.

### Notable Locations Around Kirkwall:

- Healing Hands Clinic - A rural health clinic for the low-income community and those without any viable insurance and otherwise can't afford care elsewhere. The clinic is located in the slums of Kirkwall (Darktown), subsisting mostly on word of mouth. There are rumors that it and its main provider (Anders - an R.N.) are involved with a movement called the Mage Underground, a group that exists to safely smuggle mages out of the city, or protect them from Chantry and KPD oversight. It's merely speculation, though mages and their sympathizers know it to be a safe house in times of need.
- The Hanged Man - the best diver bar in all of Kirkwall. It's situated in Lowtown between the industrial park and the Lowtown strip mall. Currently owned by a man named Corff (who seems to know anyone and everyone and always has the latest scoop), the bar used to be an old-fashioned Tavern and the rooms were turned into a hostel. They exist mostly as a place for the drunks, miners and dockworkers to crash for cheap. Yet renowned published author Varric Tethras has all but taken up permanent residence in one of the rooms.
- Ferelden Imports - A small second-hand boutique in the Lowtown strip mall. Run by a woman named Lirene Adler who recently came to Kirkwall when the economy took a sharp downturn. She runs the shop with her two sisters and a few volunteers. Most of the wares are sold on consignment and she donates most of what she makes to the local non-profit (and low key helps fund both the clinic and Mage's Advocacy board). Those in the know are aware that her shop functions as a safe house for mages and their sympathizers, much like the clinic.
- The Alienage - Just about every major city or town in Thedas has one of these, a specific low-income neighborhood which caters to the elven community. The KPD doesn't really bother with patrolling there very often so they self-police for the most part, are quite insular and close-knit.
- Hightown Square - heavily developed promenade that caters to the wealthier residents in Hightown. Composed of various high end boutiques and specialty businesses. Also includes private housing associations. Usually where the most prominent families live (such as the Amells, the Arenburgs, etc.)

## People of Note:

- Kirkwall City Mayor Marlowe Dumar
- Justinia V aka Dorothea Valence - former Divine who is a pope-like figure
  - Her assassination rocks the world and a scramble to appoint her successor cause something of a crisis within the Chantry
- Deacon/Grand Cleric of the Kirkwall Chantry: Elthina Stewart
- Petrice Murphy aka Mother Petrice who is a priest in the Kirkwall Chantry.
- City Commissioner Meredith Stannard
- Deputy Chief Cullen Rutherford
- Sergeants: Otto Alrik, Markus Thrask
- Officers Karras Hughes (corrupt, abuses the system, aggressive, but protected by Meredith),
  - Emeric Hoffman
  - Varnell Stewart (Petrice's brother)
  - Roderick Byrd (not fit to serve but has yet to be removed)
  - Conrad Vernhart
  - Maurevar Carver (retired, friend of Malcolm and Leandra)
- Junior Officers/Rookies: Keran Waters
- Duncan Navarro - former head of the Ferelden branch of the Grey Wardens
- Larius Graves - former head of the Free Marches branch of the Grey Wardens
- Clarel de Chanson - head of the Orlesian branch of the Grey Wardens
  - Jean-Marc Stroud - Warden Constable (2nd in command)
- (HoF) - Current head of the Ferelden branch
  - Nathaniel Howe - Warden Constable (2nd in command)
- Captain Aveline Vallen of the KPD
  - Rumored to be aligned with the Mages' Advocacy Board.
- Lt. Donnic Hendyr of the KPD
- Anna Hadley of the KPD
- Bartrand Tethras: Editor in Chief of the Kirkwall Tribune