THE DIOCESE OF CHURCHES FOR THE SAKE OF OTHERS,
THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA

CANONS

PREAMBLE

The Diocese, being part of the Anglican Church in North America, adheres to all standards, requirements, and the Constitution and Canons of the Province.

The Diocese acknowledges the authority and powers of the Province as set forth in the Constitution and Canons adopted thereby and adopts these Canons, which are in conformance therewith. All powers not granted to the Province are reserved to the Diocese. Wisely has the Church chosen the governance principle of subsidiarity; namely, that whatever can wisely be left to the Diocese should be left to the Diocese, and whatever the Diocese can wisely leave to the local congregation should be left to the local congregation.

TITLE I
Fundamental Declarations and Governing Principles of the Diocese

Canon 1
Structure of the Diocese

1. The Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese and the Diocesan Convention shall govern the Diocese.
2. The Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese shall be the Bishop who has been duly elected by the Convention, hereafter referred to as "the Bishop."
3. When the See is vacant, the Ecclesiastical Authority will be the Standing Committee.
4. The Ecclesiastical Authority is authorized to invite other Anglican bishops into the Diocese for the purpose of performing pastoral oversight and related duties under mutually agreeable licensing arrangements. In such a case, performing pastoral oversight and related duties shall not constitute the exercise of ecclesiastical jurisdiction.
5. The Ecclesiastical Authority shall take such actions, consistent with applicable federal and state laws, as are deemed appropriate to protect and secure the rights of the Diocese.

Canon 2
Mission and Worship

As a diocese, we want to establish beachheads of Jesus' person, word, and power in the midst of a grim and often hostile humanity. We want to create a family of churches that evermore perfectly lives into God's intention for the Church by finding our core meaning as ambassadors, embassies or outposts of the rule and reign of God. We want to foment "the journey inward and the journey outward" (Elizabeth O'Connor); the come-ness of followership and transformation and the sent-ness of mission.

Canon 3

Standing Committee

1. Subject to any limitations in the Articles of Incorporation or these Canons, the activities and affairs of the Diocese shall be conducted and all corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the direction of the Standing Committee which is the Board of Directors for all legal purposes. The Standing Committee may delegate the management of the activities of the Diocese to any person or persons, management company, or committee or committees however composed, provided that the activities and affairs of the Diocese shall be managed and all corporate powers shall be exercised under the ultimate direction of the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee of this Diocese, subject to ratification by the Convention, has power to make canons ordering our common life in respect to the following matters:

    a. Safeguarding the Faith and Order of the Diocese
    b. Supporting the Mission of the Diocese
    c. Clergy Support and Discipline
    d. Providing for the Proper Administration of the Diocese
    e. Budget

2. The Standing Committee shall be composed of one clergy person and one lay member per deanery serving three-year terms. Each deanery shall have an annual meeting at which it shall elect its representatives. No person holding a stipendiary position under the appointment of the Bishop shall be eligible for election or appointment to the Standing Committee. In addition, the Bishop may appoint up to two members at large, from among the communicants and canonically resident clergy of the Diocese, to serve three-year terms, subject to confirmation by the Standing Committee.

3. The Standing Committee may adopt, and from time to time amend, a Governance Document establishing its officers, meeting procedures, competency framework, eligibility expectations for membership, and additional procedures for member selection and removal, not inconsistent with these Canons.

Canon 4

On Holy Orders

1. Ordained Ministry in the Diocese shall be exercised only by Clergy, that is, bishops, priests, and deacons, duly ordained or licensed by the Bishop of the Diocese. This Diocese will ordain both men and women for the Vocational and Transitional Diaconate and Presbyterate. Furthermore, this Diocese celebrates men and women who serve the Church as rectors and church planters.
2. All licensed Clergy shall be subject to the discipline and order of the ACNA Constitution and Canons.
3. The identification, education, and ordination of candidates for Holy Orders shall be governed by the Ecclesiastical Authority in accordance with the Canons.

Canon 5

Ownership of Property

All property, both real and personal, owned by each fellowship or congregation now and in the future is and shall be solely and exclusively owned by said fellowship or congregation and, consistent with respective state law, shall not be subject to any trust interest or any other claim of ownership arising out of the canon law of any other ecclesiastical entity to whose ecclesiastical jurisdiction such fellowship or congregation may now or in the future be subject.

TITLE II
Organization and Administration of the Diocese and Congregations

Canon 1

Of Provincial Membership

Section 1. *Membership in the ACNA*

The Diocese is an association of fellowships and congregations, their Clergy and Laity, who hereby join together to be in full communion with the Anglican Communion. The Diocese is under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the ACNA and subscribes to its Constitution and Canons.

Canon 2

Order, Governance, and Discipline of the Diocese

The order and governance of, and discipline within, the Diocese shall be vested in the Bishop, the Convention, the Ecclesiastical Court and the Standing Committee as provided in the Provincial Constitution and Canons and in the Canons of the Diocese.

Section 1. *Ecclesiastical Authority*

The Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese shall be vested in the Bishop.

Section 2. *Legislative and Non-ecclesiastical Executive Authority*

The legislative authority and, except as provided in Section 4 of this Canon, the non-ecclesiastical executive authority, of the Diocese shall be vested in the Convention.

Section 3. *Judicial Authority*

The judicial authority of the Diocese shall be vested in the Ecclesiastical Court.

Section 4. *The Standing Committee*

The Standing Committee shall (i) be a council of advice to the Bishop, (ii) be the ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese in the absence of a Bishop authorized to act, (iii) exercise the non-ecclesiastical executive authority of the Diocese between meetings of the Convention, and (iv) have

such other authority and responsibility as the Convention of the Diocese may determine by canon or resolution.

Canon 3
Of the Convention

Section 1. *Composition*
The Convention shall consist of two houses: (a) all canonically resident Clergy of the Diocese (bishops, priests, and deacons) and (b) at least two Lay Delegates from each congregation of the Diocese.

Section 2. *Representation*

a. Each congregation shall be entitled to representation in the Convention.
b. Each congregation having more than two hundred eligible voters shall be entitled to an additional Lay Delegate for each additional one hundred eligible voters, except that the total number of Lay Delegates from any one Congregation or Mission shall not exceed six. The number of Eligible Voters of a Congregation or Mission shall be based upon the most recent Annual Report prepared and filed in accordance with Title I, Canon 6, Section 8 of the Provincial Canons and these canons.
c. Each congregation that establishes a new fellowship that itself becomes a congregation shall be entitled to one additional Lay Delegate for each such fellowship so established for the life of that fellowship but no longer than five years.
d. Any fellowship affiliated with the Diocese but which has not been accepted as a congregation by the Bishop under the process set forth in Canon 7, Section 1 of this Title, shall be entitled to one Lay Delegate who shall have seat and voice but no vote, unless granted by a vote of the Convention.

Section 3. *Lay Delegates*

a. Lay Delegates and Alternate Delegates from a congregation shall be elected as provided in the congregational Bylaws. Delegates shall be elected for two-year terms but no Delegate who has been so elected for two successive terms shall be eligible for re-election as a Delegate for one year.
b. The election of Delegates and Alternates to the Convention shall be certified in writing by the Rector or, in the absence of a Rector, the Senior Warden of the Vestry, to the officer designated by the Bishop. The certificate shall state the name, address, email address, and telephone number of each Delegate and Alternate and that each was chosen from the membership of said congregation. The certificate shall be given to the officer designated by the Bishop no later than fifteen (15) days preceding a meeting of the Convention.
c. If Delegates or Alternates are elected to fill vacancies, the election shall be certified in writing by forwarding an amended certificate to the officer designated by the Bishop not later than fifteen (15) days preceding a meeting of the Convention. Failure to give the certificate to the officer designated by the Bishop may result in the loss of that vote at a meeting of the Convention, as determined by the Bishop.

Section 4. *President of the Convention*
The Bishop of the Diocese shall serve ex officio as President of the Convention. In the Bishop's

absence, the Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, shall preside; in the absence of both, a Bishop Suffragan designated by the Bishop, if there be one, shall preside; and in the absence of all of them, the Vice President of the Standing Committee shall serve as President of the Convention. The President may delegate responsibilities to another individual as necessary.

Section 5. *Transaction of Business*

a. There shall be an Annual Meeting of the Convention, to be held at such time and place within the borders of the Diocese as the Bishop shall determine.
b. Fifty percent of the Clergy and fifty percent of the Lay Delegates representing at least fifty percent of congregations shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Bishop or a majority of the Standing Committee must be present.
c. Each Clergy or Lay Delegate to the Convention shall have one vote and must vote in person. Voting by proxy is prohibited.
d. The Clergy and Laity shall deliberate as one body and vote as such. On every question when the Convention is voting as a single body, the votes of a majority shall decide the question.
e. Lay members of the Standing Committee, if not elected Delegates to the Convention, shall have seat and voice at a meeting of the Convention, but no vote, unless granted by a vote of the Convention.

Section 6. *Ministries, Teams, and Task Forces*

a. The Convention may establish Ministries, Teams, and Task Forces of the Convention, which shall have such responsibilities and powers as are assigned by the Convention consistent with the Canons of the Diocese.
b. The Convention shall normally defer to the Standing Committee for the appointment of members to these Ministries, Teams, and Task Forces.

Section 7. *ACNA Annual Provincial Assembly*

Representatives to the ACNA Annual Provincial Assembly shall be selected by the Standing Committee in accordance with Title I, Canon 2 of the ACNA Canons.

Section 8. *Clergy Attendance*

All clergy canonically resident in the Diocese shall attend every meeting of the Convention or send to the Bishop a sufficient excuse for absence.

Canon 4

Of the Diocesan Standing Committee

Section 1. *Voice, Vote and Quorum*

Each member of the Standing Committee shall have voice and vote. The Bishop shall serve ex officio as President of the Standing Committee and shall preside at its meetings, with voice but without vote, and shall not be counted as a member for purposes of voting or quorum. The Standing Committee shall elect a Vice President from among its members, who shall preside in the Bishop's absence; in any matter arising under ACNA Canon III.8.7 or III.8.8, during which the Bishop shall not be present; and when the Standing Committee is acting as the Ecclesiastical Authority. Other officers of the Diocese may attend meetings of the Standing Committee at the invitation of the Bishop, but shall not be entitled to vote. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Secretary shall attend all meetings

of the Standing Committee. Two-thirds of the members of the Standing Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 2. *Powers and Duties*

Except as otherwise provided in the Canons of the Diocese, the Standing Committee of the Diocese shall have the following powers and duties:

a. Serve as a council of advice to the Bishop, particularly in matters of discipline and mediation;
b. Serve as the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese in the absence of a Bishop authorized to act;
c. Together with the Bishop, act to accept or deny an application for admission of a Congregation or Mission into the Diocese;
d. Interpret the Canons with the advice of the Chancellor;
e. Perform other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Bishop.

Canon 5
Officers of the Diocese

Section 1. *The Bishop*

The Bishop shall serve as the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese and the presiding officer of the Convention with the authority and responsibility as set forth in the Canons of the Diocese and those additional authorities set forth in the Constitution and Canons of the Province and the Diocese. The Bishop has the authority to appoint Task Forces and/or Commissions and all other non-stipendiary positions.

Section 2. *The Bishop Coadjutor*

The Convention may elect a Bishop Coadjutor, who is intended to succeed the Bishop upon the Bishop's retirement, death or removal. The Bishop shall prescribe the duties and responsibilities of the Bishop Coadjutor.

Section 3. *The Bishop Suffragan*

The Convention may elect one or more Bishops Suffragan whose duties shall be prescribed by the Bishop. The process for identifying and electing a Suffragan Bishop shall be governed by a customary, consistent with the Constitution and Canons of the Province as then in effect, adopted and from time to time amended by the Bishop with the consent of the Standing Committee. The customary, and any amendment to it, shall be provided in writing to the members of the Convention not less than thirty days before any election conducted under it.

Section 4. *The Chancellor and Vice-Chancellors*

The Chancellor of the Diocese, appointed by the Bishop, shall be learned in the law and licensed to practice law in one of the jurisdictions encompassed by the Diocese. The Chancellor shall have

responsibility for the legal affairs of the Diocese and shall serve as counsel to the Bishop and the Standing Committee. The Bishop may appoint vice-chancellors as necessary.

Section 5. *The Corporate Secretary*

The Corporate Secretary, elected by the Standing Committee for a one-year term and eligible for re-election, shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Standing Committee, shall certify the records of the Diocese as required by law, and shall submit such reports as the Bishop may request. The Standing Committee may appoint assistant secretaries as necessary. The Secretary serves at the pleasure of the Standing Committee.

Section 6. *The Corporate Treasurer*

The Corporate Treasurer, appointed by the Bishop, shall be the custodian for all of the funds of the Diocese. The Treasurer shall prepare the annual diocesan budget and shall file an annual report to the Convention on the financial status of the Diocese, including reports of account for all funds under his or her custody or control, profit and loss statements, and balance sheets. The Treasurer shall also be responsible for the preparation of such periodic financial reports as may be required by the Standing Committee.

Section 7. *Terms of Office and Convention Representation*

The Chancellor, the Chief Operating Officer, and the Treasurer shall serve at the pleasure of the Bishop. All Officers of the Diocese who are not otherwise members of the Convention shall have seat and voice, but no vote, at meetings of the Convention.

Section 8. *Deans and Deaneries*

This Diocese shall be composed of regional deaneries led by Deans appointed by the Bishop. The Deans shall serve at the pleasure of the Bishop, providing pastoral care and support to the clergy within the deanery and reporting to such officer(s) as the Bishop shall designate. The specific duties, scope of authority, and terms of service of the Deans shall be set forth in a job description adopted, and from time to time amended, by the Bishop. The Bishop shall determine the regions covered by each deanery as necessary for the mission of this Diocese.

Section 9. *Chief Operating Officer*

The Chief Operating Officer, appointed by the Bishop, shall be the custodian of official records of the Diocese and shall serve ex officio as an assistant secretary of the Diocese, with authority to certify its records.

Canon 6

Committees of the Diocese

Section 1. *Committee on Nominations for Bishops*

a. Nomination. When the Office of Bishop becomes vacant, the Standing Committee as

comprised on the day the vacancy occurs shall nominate candidates for the Office of Bishop.

b. Election. The Standing Committee shall nominate a minimum of two Clergy for the Bishop's office. At a special meeting of the Convention, called by the Standing Committee, the Bishop shall be elected from the candidates presented by the Standing Committee.

c. Consent of the ACNA. The name of the Bishop-elect shall be submitted to the ACNA College of Bishops for consent.

Canon 7

Congregations and Missions

Section 1. *Application*

Any fellowship of not less than forty people in rural communities or seventy in urban communities, who are at least eighteen years old and meeting regularly in the Diocese, who are receiving the administrations of the Church and worshipping Almighty God according to the faith and doctrine of the Church, and who have established a recognized leadership structure and embraced the mission of the Diocese, may apply to the Bishop for membership in the Diocese as a congregation.

Section 2. *Incorporation*

a. A congregation may or may not choose to be incorporated within its State of geographical residence.
b. If a congregation desires incorporation, it shall submit its Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws to the Bishop and Standing Committee for approval.
c. No amendment to the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws of any congregation shall be made unless it is approved in accordance with its Bylaws, and by the Bishop, and the Standing Committee.

Section 3. *Property*

a. The congregation is the sole owner of its assets and properties, as described in the Canons.
b. Each congregation, incorporated or unincorporated, may acquire, or commit itself to acquire, by purchase, exchange, or otherwise, any real estate. A congregation may alienate or encumber any real estate held by it or for its use.
c. In case any congregation shall be dissolved, it shall decide by a two-thirds majority vote of the congregation what shall be done with the property, real and personal. (Such properties and assets may not be given to private or personal ownership.)
d. Should a congregation request that its church or chapel buildings be deconsecrated so that it can sell the property, the Bishop shall do so as soon as practical.

Section 4. *Administration*

The administration of a congregation shall be conducted by a Vestry of not less than five persons to be elected according to the Bylaws of said congregation, unless otherwise arranged through the Bishop.

In the case of newly formed congregations, including church plants, where the size of the congregation makes it difficult to build a vestry of five persons, the diocese shall provide an initial Vestry which will consist of five designated vestry members of which one shall serve a one-year term, two shall serve a two-year term, and two shall serve a three-year term. These initial vestry

members shall be designated by the Bishop. At the end of each of the initial designated vestry members' terms, the congregation will elect new vestry members from the congregation to fill the vacancies in accordance with the congregation's bylaws.

Section 5. *Annual Diocesan Contribution*
In its Annual Report, each congregation shall provide an estimate of the amount it will give to the Diocese for its annual contribution.

Section 6. *Dissolution*
The Convention may, by a two-thirds vote, dissolve its union with any congregation.

Canon 8
Disruption of Pastoral Relationship

When, in the judgment of the Bishop, there are grounds for believing that a continued pastoral relationship between Clergy and congregation may not be in the best interests of the congregation or the Diocese, the Bishop shall first counsel with the Clergy and then the Vestry, and attempt to come to an amicable resolution. Failing an amicable resolution, the Bishop, or the Vestry, or the Clergy may take the case to the Standing Committee who shall effect a final disposition of the issue.

Canon 9
Congregation, Mission and Diocesan Property

Section 1. *No Denominational or Diocesan Trust in Congregation Property*

All real and personal property owned by or held for the benefit of a Congregation shall belong exclusively to that Congregation, free of any trust or other claim by the Diocese or the Province.

Section 2. *Ownership of Congregation and Mission-Church Property*

All church property, both real and personal, owned by each member congregation now and in the future is and shall be solely and exclusively owned by each member congregation and shall not be subject to any trust interest in favor of the Diocese or another claim of ownership arising out of the canon law of this Diocese.

Section 3. *Restriction on Right to Alienate, Sell, Exchange, Encumber or Transfer Real Property of Congregations and Missions*

Prior to the sale of consecrated property, the Governing Body shall first offer the property to the Standing Committee of the Diocese, which, unless waived, shall have sixty (60) days to accept the offer.

Section 4. *Diocese Empowered to Own Its Own Property*

Diocesan property shall not be subject to any trust, right of assessment or other claim by the

Province. The Diocese reserves the right to withdraw from the Province at any time with the consent of a two-thirds majority of the delegates entitled to vote at a meeting of the Convention called for that purpose. Upon any withdrawal, the Diocese shall give notice to the Province, including the date thereof, and shall retain all property, real, personal, tangible and intangible, owned or held by or on behalf of the Diocese.

TITLE III
Of Ministers, Their Recruitment, Preparation, Ordination, Office, Practice and Transfer

Canon 1
Of Licensed Lay Orders

Rectors and clergy overseeing congregations and missions may license members as Lay Church Planters, Lay Evangelists, Lay Pastors, Lay Preachers, Lay Catechists, Lay Readers, and Lay Eucharistic Ministers for ministry in the local congregation or mission. The Standing Committee shall establish minimum standards for training and licensing such Lay ministers.

TITLE IV
Ecclesiastical Discipline

Canon 1
Ecclesiastical Discipline

Section 1. *Of Courts, Membership and Procedures*
The Diocese will have a court that is guided by Title IV of the Provincial Canons in the constitution of the court, appointment of the canonical investigator and other procedures except as amplified in this section.

a. Concerning Courts for the Trial of a Presbyter or Deacon.

i. There shall be an ecclesiastical Trial Court established for the trial of any Presbyter or Deacon subject to the jurisdiction of this Diocese.
ii. It shall be the duty of the Diocese to provide by canon for the establishment of such court and the mode of conducting trials in the same.
iii. In case of conviction by the Trial Court, the Bishop shall not proceed to sentence the accused before the expiration of thirty days after he shall have been served with notice of the decision of the court, nor in case an appeal is taken shall sentence be pronounced pending the hearing and determination thereof.
iv. The ecclesiastical Trial Court shall be seven judges elected by the Standing Committee. Judges shall serve ten-year terms or until age 70 is reached, whichever occurs first. Each judge shall remain in his or her position until his or her replacement is elected by the Standing Committee.
v. When a claim is brought before the Trial Court, a panel of five judges from the Trial Court shall make up the panel for that claim. Whenever possible, the five most senior judges will make up the panel for a specific issue. Seniority requirements notwithstanding, at least one panelist shall be a licensed attorney, one panelist shall be an ordained presbyter, and no two panelists should be from the same deanery. Nor should any panelists be from the deanery of the accused. These requirements may be

waived if needed to assemble a panel of five from the seven members of the Trial Court. However, waivers should be used to the minimum extent possible.

vi. The Bishop and Standing Committee will establish the mode of trials in the ecclesiastical Trial Court.

vii. Pursuant to ACNA Canon IV.5.3, the entire presentment may be referred by the Bishop to the Provincial Court of Extraordinary Jurisdiction.

b. Concerning Procedures.

The ecclesiastical Trial Court shall establish its own procedures within the generally recognized history of ecclesiastical law, to include the appointment of a recorder of proceedings. Such procedures shall:

i. Acknowledge the presumption of innocence of the accused;

ii. Guarantee the right to representation by counsel;

iii. Be consistent with principles of fairness, due process and natural justice; and

iv. Require expeditious handling consistent with those principles.

No new rule of procedure shall be made while a matter is pending that would be affected by that rule. Inasmuch as the ecclesiastical Trial Court is a court of original jurisdiction, the standard of proof shall be by clear and convincing evidence. Unless a higher standard is required by canon, the affirmative vote of not fewer than a majority of the members of the Trial Court shall be required for any determination by this Court.

c. Concerning Appeal.

An appeal may be made within thirty (30) days of the decision of the ecclesiastical Trial Court for the Trial of a Presbyter or Deacon. The appeal shall be made in writing to the Bishop who is the Presiding Officer of the Provincial Tribunal, stating the nature of the case and the reason(s) for the appeal. The appeal will proceed as set forth in the Provincial Constitution and Canons.

Section 2. *Of a Member of the Clergy in Any Diocese Chargeable with Offense in Another.*

If a member of the Clergy belonging to any Diocese shall have conducted himself in another Diocese in such a manner as to be liable to presentment under the provisions of Section 1, the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof shall give notice of the same to the Ecclesiastical Authority where the member of the Clergy is canonically resident, exhibiting, with the information given, reasonable ground for proceeding. If the Ecclesiastical Authority of the alleged offender, after due notice given, shall omit, for the space of three months, to proceed against the offending member of the Clergy, or shall request the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese in which the offense or offenses are alleged to have been committed to proceed against him, it shall be within the power of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese within which the offense or offenses are alleged to have been committed to institute proceedings as provided by the canons of that Diocese.

Section 3. *Of Voluntary Resignation or Renunciation of Ministry*

If a member of the Clergy making a declaration of voluntary resignation of ministry under ACNA Canon III.6.4 or a renunciation of the ministry under ACNA Canon IV.7, be under accusation or presentment for any canonical offense, or if they shall have been placed on trial for the same, the Ecclesiastical Authority to whom such declaration is made shall not consider or act upon such declaration until after the accusation or presentment shall have been dismissed, or the trial shall have been concluded and sentence, if any, pronounced. If the Ecclesiastical Authority to whom such

declaration is made shall have ground to suppose that the member of the Clergy making the same is liable to presentment for any canonical offense, such member of the Clergy may, in the discretion of the Ecclesiastical Authority, be placed on trial for such offense, notwithstanding such declaration of renunciation of the ministry.

Section 4. *Of Sentences*

a. Concerning the Role of the Bishop in Sentencing. The Bishop alone has the authority to pronounce sentence on a Presbyter or Deacon convicted as indicated in these canons. If there is no Bishop, the Archbishop or another Bishop designated by the Archbishop shall pronounce sentence.
b. Concerning Pronouncement of Sentence. The College of Bishops, speaking through the Archbishop or his designate, has the sole responsibility and authority to pronounce sentence on a Bishop.
c. Concerning Range of Sentencing. Sentence shall be:
    i. Censure and/or admonishment;
    ii. Suspension, for a definite period, not to exceed five (5) years, with a review by the Bishop at the end of that time; or
    iii. Suspension for life; or
    iv. Deposition from the sacred ministry.

In addition, other measures for restoration of the accused may be required.

Section 5. *Concerning Length of Sentences.*

Upon a showing of good cause:

a. A sentence of suspension of a Presbyter or Deacon may be terminated or shortened by the Bishop of the Diocese in which the Presbyter or Deacon was convicted with the advice and consent of the Archbishop, in consultation with the Standing Committee;
b. A sentence of suspension of a Bishop may be terminated or shortened by the College of Bishops with the consent of the Archbishop.

Section 6. *Of Inhibitions*

The Bishop may inhibit a Presbyter or Deacon from the exercise of ministry for a 30-day period when the Bishop believes, upon reasonable grounds, that the Presbyter or Deacon has engaged, or is engaged, in conduct upon which a Presbyter or Deacon in this Church may be presented. With the advice and consent of the Standing Committee or its equivalent, such inhibition may be extended until such charge is dropped or action taken by a Trial Court. Upon application by a Presbyter or a Deacon who has been temporarily inhibited under this Canon and upon a showing of good cause, the Archbishop or his designate may modify or revoke the temporary inhibition. Such decision shall be rendered within thirty (30) days.

Section 7. *Of Notification of Disciplinary Action Taken*

The Bishop pronouncing sentence shall within thirty (30) days of the sentence notify the Provincial Office who shall notify all Bishops with jurisdiction and shall maintain a permanent record of the action. Should a sentence be amended or terminated, notification of that action shall also be reported to the Provincial Office who shall promptly give notice of and record the amendment or termination in the permanent record.

TITLE V
Enactment, Amendment, and Repeal of Canons

Canon 1
Amendments

All amendments to these Canons must be proposed in writing to the Convention and the Standing Committee. The Convention can ratify the proposed amendment in two ways: (a) with three-fourths affirmative vote of those present or (b) with a simple majority of two consecutive Convention meetings spaced no closer than three months apart. No proposed amendment may be considered for ratification unless it has first been submitted to the Standing Committee.