

Proposed Amendments to Canon XIX-A to suspend the Diocesan Disciplinary Board

Rationale for proposed changes: Currently, the Canons provide for the existence of both a Diocesan Disciplinary Board (Canon XIX-A) and a Regional Disciplinary Board (Canon XIX-B). The multi-diocesan Regional Disciplinary Board has jurisdiction over all current and future disciplinary cases. The Diocesan Disciplinary Board had jurisdiction of various cases but those are now closed; it remains in existence on paper, but the Diocese has not elected or appointed its members for several years. This amendment would declare that the Diocesan Disciplinary Board is suspended in favor of the Regional Disciplinary Board, but would allow for it to be reconstituted if the Regional Disciplinary Board were to be dissolved. The amendment consists of the addition of a new sentence to the end of current section 1 of Canon XIX-A, shown below in underline format, and the addition of a new section 9 to that Canon, also shown below in underline format.

Amendment – addition of new language in Section 1 of Canon XIX-A

Canon XIX-A

Ecclesiastical Discipline - Diocesan Disciplinary Board

Section 1. This canon incorporates the Disciplinary Title of the Canons of the Episcopal Church. To the extent, if any, that any provision of this diocesan canon is in conflict or inconsistent with the provisions of the Canons of the Episcopal Church, the provisions of the Canons of the Episcopal Church shall govern. This canon and the Disciplinary Title of the Canons of the Episcopal Church are referred to in this canon collectively as “this Title.” This Canon XIX-A applies: (a) to all proceedings under this Title commenced prior to the date that the Regional Disciplinary Board Compact shall become effective; and (b) to any proceedings under this Title otherwise not within the scope of Canon XIX-B. The provisions of this Canon are subject to Section 9 hereof, Relationship to Canon XIX-B.

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Amendment – addition of a new section to Canon XIX-A

Section 9. Relationship to Canon XIX-B. The Regional Disciplinary Board Compact that is the basis for Canon XIX-B became effective January 1, 2021, and all proceedings under this Title commenced since that date have been administered pursuant to Canon XIX-B, Ecclesiastical Discipline – Regional Disciplinary Board. Effective January 1, 2025, all proceedings under this Title that had been commenced prior to January 1, 2021, and thus within the jurisdiction of the Diocesan Disciplinary Board, have been concluded. While the Regional Disciplinary Board Compact remains in effect, the provisions of this Canon XIX-A, including the election or appointment of the members of the Diocesan Disciplinary Board and Delegated Officials under this Canon, shall be suspended. Upon notice of termination of the Regional Disciplinary Board

Compact pursuant to Section 6 thereof, the Diocesan Disciplinary Board shall be reconstituted in accordance with this Canon XIX-A. Members of the Diocesan Disciplinary Board shall be elected at the next Diocesan Convention for staggered terms or, if necessary for proceedings under this Title, appointed by the Standing Committee, and thereafter Delegated Officials shall be appointed for the positions under this Canon XIX-A.