

Canon XIX-B

Ecclesiastical Discipline - Regional 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-B applies to all proceedings under this Title commenced after January 1, 2021, the date that the Regional Disciplinary Board Compact became effective and while the Compact remains in effect.

Section 2. Disciplinary Board.

- a. Authority. The Diocese has since January 1, 2021 been a party to the Regional Disciplinary Board Compact among the Dioceses of Ohio, Southern Ohio, Pittsburgh, Northwestern Pennsylvania, Western New York, and West Virginia (“The Dioceses”) to maintain a joint Disciplinary Board for the purposes of implementing this Title. Effective January 1, 2027, the Diocese has approved certain amendments to the Regional Disciplinary Board Compact which shall be called the Amended and Restated Regional Disciplinary Board Compact. Because the Amended and Restated Regional Disciplinary Board Compact is a continuation of the Regional Disciplinary Board Compact, this canon uses the term “Compact” to refer to either or both of them, as the context requires. The Bishop of this Diocese shall be authorized to execute and implement the Compact and any amendments or modifications thereto consistent with this Canon XIX-B.
- b. Creation. As provided in the Compact, the Disciplinary Board shall consist of thirteen (13) persons, seven (7) of whom shall be members of the Clergy, and six (6) of whom shall be members of the Laity. Each of The Dioceses shall select one member of the Clergy and one member of the Laity to serve on the Disciplinary Board, and a thirteenth member, who shall be a member of the Clergy from one of The Dioceses, shall be nominated by and subject to the unanimous approval of the Bishops of The Dioceses (the “Thirteenth Member”). Beginning January 1, 2027, the Thirteenth Member shall serve from January 1, 2027 until December 31, 2029 (and for each three-year period thereafter). The Disciplinary Board shall constitute a Court for purposes of Article IX of the Constitution of the Episcopal Church.
- c. Selection of Members. The Clergy and Lay members of the Disciplinary Board from this Diocese shall be elected by the Diocesan Convention for the terms specified below.
 - i. The Clergy members of the Disciplinary Board from this Diocese must be canonically and geographically resident within the Diocese. The Lay members of the Disciplinary Board from this Diocese shall be adult members in good standing and geographically resident in the Diocese.

- Section 3. Preserving Impartiality.** In any proceeding under this Title, if any member of a Conference Panel or Hearing Panel of the Disciplinary Board shall become aware of a personal conflict of interest or undue bias, that member shall immediately notify the President of the Disciplinary Board and request a replacement member of the Panel. Respondent's Counsel and

Section 4. Delegated Officials

- 2026 Convention Journal Resolution No. 3: Proposed Amendments to Canon XIX-B Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh
to Implement Amended and Restated
Regional Disciplinary Board Compact (clean version after changes)
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- Section 5.* The Bishop shall see that each year public notice is given to the parishes and members of congregations about the methods and means of reporting Offenses.

Section 6. Costs. The Disciplinary Board shall use reasonable efforts to conduct its business using electronic means, including video conferences. When necessary to incur expense for Disciplinary Board business, members shall minimize such expense. Necessary administrative expenses of the Disciplinary Board other than expenses incurred for a particular matter under this Title shall be shared equally by The Dioceses. The following additional provisions apply to particular matters under this Title involving Clergy canonically resident in this Diocese or otherwise within the jurisdiction of the Diocese.

- a. Costs Incurred by the Church. The reasonable costs and expenses of the Disciplinary Board, the Intake Officer, the Investigator, the Church Attorney, the Board Clerk and the Pastoral Response Coordinator shall be the obligation of this Diocese subject to budgetary constraints as may be established by Convention or Diocesan Council.
- b. Costs incurred by the Respondent. In the event of a final Order dismissing the complaint, or by provision of a Covenant approved by the Bishop, the reasonable defense fees and costs incurred by the Respondent may be paid or reimbursed by this Diocese, subject to budgetary constraints as may be established by Convention or Diocesan Council.

Section 7. Records. Records of active proceedings before the Disciplinary Board, including the period of any pending appeal, shall be preserved and maintained in the custody of the Clerk, if there be one, otherwise by the Diocesan offices having jurisdiction over the matter under this Title. The Bishop shall make provision for the permanent storage of copies of the records of all such proceedings in the Diocesan Archives and for the submission of the original records to the Archives of the Episcopal Church as prescribed in this Title.

Section 8. Training and Shared Resources. It is the expectation that all members of the Disciplinary Board receive regular training in Title IV as determined by the President, but in no event no less than once during their current term. The Bishop, after consultation with Diocesan Council, may agree with The Dioceses or one or more other Dioceses to develop and share other resources necessary to implement this Title, including Church Attorneys, Intake Officers, Advisors, Investigators, Conciliators, Pastoral Response Coordinators, and administrative and financial support for proceedings under this Title.