

AMENDED AND RESTATED REGIONAL DISCIPLINARY BOARD COMPACT

WHEREAS, this Compact was originally made as of November 16, 2020, effective January 1, 2021, by and among the Dioceses of Northwestern Pennsylvania, Ohio, Pittsburgh, Southern Ohio, Western New York, and West Virginia (collectively “The Dioceses” or individually “The Diocese”) which have agreed to maintain a joint Disciplinary Board for the purposes of implementing Title IV of the Canons of The Episcopal Church (“Compact”);

WHEREAS, The Dioceses desire to amend and restate the Compact effective January 1, 2027 (“Amended Compact”), provided that all six Dioceses have approved the Amended Compact prior to such date.

1. The Regional Disciplinary Board (“RDB”) shall consist of thirteen (13) persons, seven (7) of whom are Clergy and six (6) of whom are Laity, and shall constitute a court for purposes of Article IX of the Constitution of The Episcopal Church. Each of The Dioceses shall elect one clergy member and one lay member on the RDB (the “Twelve Members”). One additional clergy member shall be nominated and approved unanimously by the Bishops (or the Ecclesiastical Authority) of The Dioceses (the “Thirteenth Member”).
 - a. The President shall be chosen pursuant to General Canon IV.5.1. On or before January 31 of each year, the President will convene an annual meeting of the RDB to elect by majority vote a President and Vice President from among its members, both of whom will serve one-year terms effective January 1. Beginning January 1, 2027, the Thirteenth Member will serve as the President for an initial one-year term. A President shall be eligible for re-election as President or election as Vice President. Each President and Vice President shall continue in office until their successors are elected at the annual meeting of the RDB.
 - b. Vice President. There shall be a Vice President of the Disciplinary Board who shall be selected by the Disciplinary Board from the membership on the Disciplinary Board at the annual meeting of the RDB for a one-year term. The Vice President shall be eligible for re-election as Vice President or election as President. The duties of the Vice President are to attend meetings of the Reference Panel without vote, preside at meetings of the Disciplinary Board in the absence of the President, and perform such other responsibilities as requested by the President. In the event of a disability rendering the President unable to act, the Vice President shall discharge the powers and duties of the President during the disability. In the event of the President’s death, resignation, or declination to serve, the Vice President shall become President.
 - c. Beginning January 1, 2027, the Twelve Members elected by the Dioceses shall be divided into the following classes and shall serve the following three-year terms:

Class:	Diocese:	Clergy/Laity
Class 1		
1/1/2027 – 12/31/2029 (and for each three-year period thereafter)	Southern Ohio	Laity
	Northwestern Pennsylvania	Clergy
	West Virginia	Clergy
	Ohio	Laity
Class 2		
1/1/2028 – 12/31/2030 (and for each three-year period thereafter)	Pittsburgh	Clergy
	Western New York	Clergy
	West Virginia	Laity
	Southern Ohio	Clergy
Class 3		
1/1/2029 – 12/31/2031 (and for each three-year period thereafter)	Ohio	Clergy
	Northwestern Pennsylvania	Laity
	Western New York	Laity
	Pittsburgh	Laity

Until the dates set forth above, the Twelve Members serving immediately prior to the effective date of this Amended Compact shall continue to serve on the RDB.

- d. Beginning January 1, 2027, the Thirteenth Member shall serve from January 1, 2027 until December 31, 2029 (and for each three-year period thereafter).
- e. Each Diocese will notify the President of the RDB of members elected to the RDB.
- f. Vacancies on the RDB shall be filled as follows:

- i. Upon becoming aware that a vacancy exists, the President of the Board shall notify the appropriate bishop of the vacancy and request appointment of a replacement member of the same order as the member being replaced.
- ii. Replacements shall be appointed and approved in accordance with the canons of the appointing Diocese.
- iii. The term of any person selected as a replacement member of the RDB shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term.

2. Other Offices.

- a. Each of The Dioceses will make such provision for Church Attorneys, Intake Officers, Advisors, Investigators, Conciliators, and other persons acting under Title IV as it may choose (“Procedural Participants”), and will notify the other Dioceses and President of the RDB of the names and contact information of the persons designated for those offices.
- b. Each of The Dioceses will also make available the names and terms of engagement of such of the Procedural Participants as may be available to The Dioceses for those services.
- c. Procedural Participants shall serve with respect to matters arising in their diocese in which Procedural Participants have been appointed or elected, except in matters of a Complaint that involves more than one diocese, in which case the affected bishops shall determine which Procedural Participants shall be involved.
- d. The Bishops (or Ecclesiastical Authority) shall appoint a Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor for a renewable one-year term to serve as an informal advisor to the President and Vice President of the RDB.
- e. It is the expectation that all members of the RDB receive regular training in Title IV as determined by the President, but in no event no less than once during their current term.

3. Conduct of Cases

- a. For any proceeding referred to a Reference Panel, the President will promptly select from the RDB, a Conference Panel and a Hearing Panel, and shall designate a president of each Panel, as appropriate.
- b. All RDB participants assigned to a panel are responsible for reporting promptly to the President on actions in the cases assigned to them.
- c. For each proceeding, the Reference Panel will consist of the Intake Officer for the diocese of canonical residence of the Respondent, the President of the RDB, and the bishop of that diocese.
- d. In addition to the provisions of Canon IV.19.14 of Title IV, the integrity of the RDB shall be maintained by permitting the Church Attorney or a Respondent to challenge a member of the RDB or Panel appointed for a proceeding on grounds of conflict of interest or undue bias. The remaining members of the RDB shall

determine whether a challenge is relevant and factually supported in accordance with Canon IV.19.15 of Title IV. Members of the RDB are otherwise eligible to serve on panels for their Diocese.

4. The RDB shall use reasonable efforts to conduct its business using electronic means, including video conferences. When it is necessary to incur expense for RDB business, members of the RDB shall make every effort to minimize such expense. Expenses incurred by the Procedural Participants for a particular disciplinary matter shall be borne by the diocese exercising jurisdiction. Any legal fees incurred by the Respondent shall be borne by the Respondent. In situations involving more than one diocesan member of the Compact, the bishops of the affected dioceses shall agree on venue and expense allocation, subject to Canon IV.19.5. Administrative expenses of the RDB shall be shared equally by The Dioceses. In accordance with Canon IV.19.30, all administrative requirements following the conclusion of a matter shall be the responsibility of the diocese exercising jurisdiction.
5. The Dioceses shall maintain this Compact until one or more of The Dioceses provides written notice of no less than one year to the bishops of all of The Dioceses that it wishes to terminate its participation in the Compact. If any proceeding has been commenced and is still ongoing as of the termination date, this Compact shall remain in effect solely with respect to such proceedings until the final disposition thereof.
6. Any amendment to this Compact must be in writing and signed by the bishops of each of The Dioceses and be concurred in by the Conventions of each of The Dioceses in the manner prescribed by the canons of the concurring diocese and will be effective not earlier than the first day of the year following the year in which the ratification of the amendment shall have been approved by all of The Dioceses.
7. In the event that any provision of this Compact is in conflict with or inconsistent in any way with Title IV of the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church, the provisions of Title IV shall prevail.
8. This Compact may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original and all of which together shall constitute one instrument. This Compact may be executed and transmitted by facsimile or other means of electronic communication, which signature shall be binding upon the parties as if they were original signatures.

[Signature Page Follows]

Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania

By: _____
President, Standing Committee

Diocese of Ohio

By: _____
The Rt. Rev. Anne B. Jolly

Diocese of Pittsburgh

By: _____
The Rt. Rev. Ketlen A. Solak

Diocese of Southern Ohio

By: _____
The Rt. Rev. Kristin Uffelman White

Diocese of Western New York

By: _____
The Rt. Rev. Stephen T. Lane

Diocese of West Virginia

By: _____
The Rt. Rev. Mathew Cawford