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These Flow Charts are presented to aid you in working your way through the Title IV procedures. They do not contain all the relevant information and should only guide you to the Canons. Please read the actual Constitution and Canons, 2009 Edition.

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Title IV Accountability & Ecclesiastical Discipline

"By virtue of Baptism, all members of the Church are called to holiness of life and accountability to one another. The Church and each Diocese shall support their members in their life in Christ and seek to resolve conflicts by promoting healing, repentance, forgiveness, restitution, justice, amendment of life, and reconciliation among all involved or affected. This Title applies to Members of the Clergy, who have by their vows at ordination accepted additional responsibilities and accountabilities for doctrine, discipline, worship and obedience." Canon IV.1

"In order for any conduct or condition to be the subject of the provisions of this Title, the Offense complained of must violate applicable provisions of Canon IV.3 or IV.4 and must be material and substantial or of clear and weighty importance to the ministry of the Church.” Canon IV.3.3

This sheet does not contain all relevant information and should only guide you to the Canons. Please read the actual Canons.

Process Accountabilities

- The Clergy shall not fail (without good cause) to cooperate with any investigation or proceeding conducted under authority of this Title. Read Canon IV.3.1(b): Time Limits A.

- The Clergy shall not intentionally and maliciously bring false accusations, provide false accusations, testimony, or evidence. Read Canon IV.3.1(c): Time Limits A.

- The Clergy shall abide by the requirements of applicable Accords, Orders, Pastoral Directions, etc. Read Canons IV.4.1(d) & IV.2: Time Limits A.

- The Clergy shall report all matters which may constitute an Offense as defined in Canons IV.2 and IV.3.3 (except Confession). Read Canon IV.4.1(f): Time Limits A.

Standards: Behaviors Expected

- The Clergy shall exercise ministry in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of the Church & Diocese, licensure, commission, and Community rule or bylaw. Read Canon IV.4.1(g): Time Limits B.

- The Clergy shall respect and preserve the confidences of others. Read Canon IV.4.1(a): Time Limits A.

- The Clergy shall conform to the Rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer. Read Canon IV.4.1(b): Time Limits A.

- The Clergy shall abide by the promises and vows made when ordained. Read Canon IV.4.1(c): Time Limits A or C.

- The Clergy shall safeguard the property and funds of the Church and Community. Read Canon IV.4.1(e): Time Limits B.

Standards: Behaviors Prohibited

- The Clergy shall not knowingly violate or attempt to violate the Constitution and Canons of the Church or of any Diocese. Read Canon IV.3.1(a): Time Limits B.

- The Clergy shall not engage in any act of Sexual Misconduct. Read Canons IV.4.1(h)(1) & IV.2: Time Limits A or C.

- The Clergy shall not publicly or privately, and advisedly hold or teach any doctrine contrary to that held by the Church. Read Canon IV.4.1(h)(2): Time Limits B.

- The Clergy shall not engage in secular employment, calling or business without the consent of his or her Bishop. Read Canon IV.4.1(h)(3): Time Limits A.

- The Clergy shall not be absent without leave from his or her Diocese more than two years. Read Canon IV.4.1(h)(4): Time Limits A.

- The Clergy shall not engage in criminal acts. Read Canon IV.4.1(h)(5): Time Limits A or C.

- The Clergy shall not engage in dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation. Read Canon IV.4.1(h)(6): Time Limits A.

- The Clergy shall not habitually neglect their ministerial office. Read Canon IV.4.1(h)(7): Time Limits A.

- The Clergy shall not engage in any Conduct Unbecoming a Member of the Clergy. Read Canons IV.4.1(h)(8) & IV.2: Time Limits A or C.

Time Limits (see also the chart, Limitations on Proceedings)

Time Limits are calculated from the time of the alleged Offense or its continuation and the time that a report of the alleged Offense is made to the Intake Officer. Read Canon IV.19.4(e).

Time Limits A [Read Canon IV.19.4(a&c)]: 10 years (retroactive to January 1, 1996), or, Up to three years after a conviction in Civil or Criminal Court of Record, or, Up to the Injured Person's 25th birthday if the alleged acts occurred before the person was 21, or, If an alleged Injured Person was under disability and did not discover/realize the effects of the abuse within 10 years, limits shall be extended two years but may not exceed 15 years from the time of the alleged offense.

Time Limits B [Read Canon IV.19.4(d)]: 2 years

Time Limits C [Read Canon IV.19.4(b)]: There are no time limits for alleged acts of physical violence, sexual abuse or sexual exploitation of persons under 21 years of age.
Title IV Limitations on Proceedings

The designations, "Time Limits A, B, C" as used on the Accountability & Ecclesiastical Discipline chart are not a part of Title IV but were created for clarity's sake. Here are Time Limits in further detail.

A Member of the Clergy shall not be subject to proceedings under this Title for acts committed more than ten years before the initiation of proceedings except . . .

**Canon IV.19.4(a)**

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**Less time**

- **Things and Processes**
  - If the allegation is failing to safeguard the property and funds of Church and Community, charges may only be brought within 2 years of the act or its continuation. **Canon IV.19.4(d)**
  - If the allegation is violating the C&X of TEC or the Diocese, charges may only be brought within 2 years of the act or its continuation. **Canon IV.19.4(d)**
  - If the allegation is failing to conform to the rubrics of the BCP, charges may only be brought within 2 years of the act or its continuation. **Canon IV.19.4(d)**
  - If the allegation is failing to abide by ordination vows and promises, charges may only be brought within 2 years of the act or its continuation. **Canon IV.19.4(d)**
  - If the allegation is holding or teaching "contrary doctrine", charges may only be brought within 2 years of the act or its continuation. **Canon IV.19.4(d)**

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**Additional time**

- **Specific Events**
  - **Civil or Criminal Conviction:** If the Clergy Person is convicted in Criminal Court or judgment in a Civil Court in a case involving immorality, proceedings may be initiated within 3 years after the conviction or judgment becomes final. **Canon IV.19.4(a)(1)**
  - **Disability of Injured Person:** If the Injured Person was under disability at the time of the alleged acts, the time within which proceedings may be initiated shall be extended to 2 years after the disability ceases, provided that the time within which proceedings may be initiated does not extend beyond 15 years from the date of the alleged acts. **Canon 19.4(a)(3)**
  - **Discovery of Acts or Realization of Effects:** If the Injured Person did not discover the alleged acts, or realize the effects of the same, during the ten years immediately following the date of the alleged acts, the time within which proceedings may be initiated shall be extended to 2 years after the disability ceases, provided that the time within which proceedings may be initiated does not extend beyond 15 years from the date of the alleged acts. **Canon 19.4(a)(3)**

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- **People**
  - If an alleged Injured Person was under 25 at the time of the alleged acts, proceedings may be initiated at any time prior to that person turning 25. **Canon IV.19.4(a)(2)**

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- **Particular Ages**
  - If an alleged Injured Person was under 21 at the time of alleged acts of physical violence, sexual abuse, or sexual exploitation, proceedings may be initiated at any time. **Canon IV.19.4(b)**

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**Canon IV.3.3**

"In order for any conduct or condition to be the subject of the provisions of this Title, the Offense complained of must violate applicable provisions of Canon IV.3 or IV.4 and must be material and substantial or of clear and weighty importance to the ministry of the Church."
The Basic Shape of Title IV

Complainant

Intake Officer

Decides if the allegations would constitute an offense, if they were true

If no, then dismissal

If yes, send to Reference Panel

The Reference Panel

No Action other than Pastoral Response

Terms of Discipline (agreed to with Bishop)

Send to Conciliation

Further Investigation

The Reference Panel may refer directly to the Conference Panel or may refer to the conference when any of these actions fail to provide resolution

The Conference Panel

May Dismiss

Send to Conciliation

Issue an Order

Complainant & Respondent may enter an Accord

Should Conciliation fail, an Order be refused, or an Accord not be obtained, the Conference Panel refers the matter to the Hearing Panel

The Hearing Panel

May Dismiss

Issue an Order

The Church Attorney or the Respondent may appeal an Order to the Provincial Court of Review

Provincial Court of Review

May dismiss the appeal

Uphold the Order

Reverse the Order entirely

Reverse the Order in part

Order a New Hearing

Bishop pronounces any sentences contained in the Order

The Matter returns to the Hearing Panel
Participants Chart: The Composition of Boards & Panels for Allegations of Misconduct by Priests and Deacons

Disciplinary Board
At least 7 people chosen as specified in diocesan canons lay persons, priests and deacons majority priests and deacons by no more than one President elected by members for 1 year or in another way as specified by diocesan canons Read Canon IV.5

Reference Panel
Composition
- President of Disciplinary Board
- Bishop
- Intake Officer
Function
- Appropriate pastoral response (no other action) IV.8
- Conciliation IV.10
- Investigate IV.11
- Referral to Bishop Diocesan for possible agreement on terms of discipline IV.9
- After investigation can refer to Conference Panel; Conference Panel can then refer to Hearing Panel IV.12.1

Conference Panel (CP)
1-3 members of Disciplinary Board hold "informal conferences” Read Canons IV.6.7 & IV.12

Hearing Panel (HP)
3 members of Disciplinary Board hold hearings -more formal than conference Read Canons IV.6.7 & IV.13

No one person can serve on both CP and HP for a single matter

Title IV
Stage 1: The Title IV Intake Process

Intake Officer IV.2 & IV.6.1
receives information IV.6.2 & 3
may conduct preliminary investigation IV.6.4
shall write an intake report—copies to other members of Reference Panel and Church Attorney IV.6.4

Decision: if information is true, would/would not constitute an offense IV.6.5 & 7

I.O. refers promptly to Reference Panel IV.6.7
The President of the Disciplinary chooses, by lot or other random means, members of the D.B. to serve as a Conference Panel and Hearing Panel, selecting a President for each panel IV.6.7

I.O. informs Bishop of intention to dismiss IV.6.5

Bishop Agrees/Objects

O Not specified in Canons

I.O. dismisses the matter: written notice to Complainant, Bishop Diocesan, & President of the Disciplinary Board (including notice of Complainant’s right to appeal within 30 days) IV.6.5

Complainant may appeal the dismissal—I.O. assists Complainant in preparation of the appeal IV.6.5

D.B. President reviews intake & appeal documents IV.6.6

President affirms or overrules dismissal IV.6.6

President of D.B. notifies Complainant, I.O. & Bishop IV.6.6

President of D.B. notifies Complainant, I.O. & Bishop IV.6.6
Matter is referred to the Reference Panel IV.6.6

All documents may be retained by I.O. for consideration should additional information regarding the cleric become available IV.6.5
Stage 2: The Reference Panel [Remember to read and follow the indicated Canons]

Intake Report → The Reference Panel...

...makes a determination as to which process might best resolve the situation.

The Reference Panel is determining how to refer the Intake Report, consequently neither evidence nor witnesses are heard. The Panel deals exclusively with the Intake Report. Canon IV.6.8

Appropriate Pastoral Response (with no other action) Canons IV.6.8 & IV.8

Terms of Discipline (agreed to with the Bishop) Canons IV.6.8 & IV.9

Conciliation Canons IV.6.8 & IV.10

Investigation Canons IV.6.8 & IV.11

The Reference Panel shall notify the Complainant and the subject Member of the Clergy of its determination and the basis for the determination. No provisions exist for the Complainant to appeal the Reference Panel’s decision. Canon IV.6.9

The Bishop & subject Member of the Clergy may reach agreement regarding terms of discipline. Canon IV.9.1

The subject Member of the Clergy (now Respondent) shall have adequate time to consult with his/her counsel. Canon IV.9.2

The Accord may be withdrawn by the Respondent within 3 days of execution. Canon IV.9.3

The Bishop appoints a Conciliator Canon IV.10.2

Accord signed by Complainant, Respondent, and, lastly, Conciliator Canon IV.14.2

The Bishop may pronounce the sentence or pronounce a lesser sentence (and/or a reduced burden on the terms of the Accord) Canon IV.14.4

Diocesan Investigator(s) investigate all facts pertinent to the factual claims of the Intake Report Canon IV.11.1&2

A written report is presented to the Reference Panel Canon IV.11.3

This matter is concluded

...to Reference Panel

Return to the Reference Panel Process (above)

Send to the Conference Panel
Stage 3: The Conference Panel [Remember to read and follow the indicated Canons]

The Disciplinary Board President forwards the Intake Report & all other materials to the Church Attorney Canon IV.12.1

The Church Attorney prepares written charges for each offense, forwarding the written charges and all materials received to the Conference Panel Canon IV.12.1

The Conference Panel reviews materials & decides who, in addition to those listed in Canon IV.12.3, should be directed to participate; all are notified in writing Canon IV.12.2 see also IV.12.3 to 6

The Respondent shall attend the Conference Panel Canon IV.12.4

Conference Panel proceedings are informal, conversational, & closed; no record of proceedings is kept Canon IV.12.7 & 8

An Accord may be entered Canon IV.12.9

Complainant & Complainant’s Advisor shall have the opportunity to be heard re: the terms of the Accord Canon IV.14.3

Accord signed by Respondent, Church Attorney and, lastly, President of the Conference Panel; it is distributed Canon IV.14.3 & 4

Dismissal Canon IV.12.9

C.P. writes an Order including reasons for dismissal & may include findings exonerating the Respondent Canon IV.12.10

Order of Dismissal distributed according to Canon IV.12.10

to Conciliation Canon IV.12.9

The Bishop appoints a Conciliator Canon IV.10.2

Accord signed by Complainant, Respondent, and, lastly, Conciliator Canon IV.14.2

The Respondent may refuse the Order Canon IV.14.11

to Hearing Panel Canon IV.12.9

President of the Conference Panel promptly notifies the President of the Disciplinary Board Canon IV.13.1

The Bishop may pronounce the sentence or pronounce a lesser sentence (and/or a reduced burden on the terms of the Accord) Canon IV.14.4

Order Canon IV.12.9

Complainant & Bishop Diocesan shall be given opportunity to be heard re: the terms of the proposed Order Canon IV.14.7

The Bishop may pronounce the sentence or pronounce a lesser sentence (and/or a reduced burden on the terms of the Order) Canon IV.14.8
Stage 4: The Hearing Panel [Remember to read and follow the indicated Canons]

Church Attorney receives referral for Hearing Panel, reviews all information and, if necessary, revises or updates written statement(s) of Offense(s) and provides same to Hearing Panel
Canon IV.13.2

Hearing Panel sends notice to Respondent, Respondent's Advisor, Church Attorney, Complainant and Complainant's Advisor—includes date by which Respondent must file written response and states that failure to participate may result in a finding of default
Canon IV.13.2

Respondent files written Response, copy forwarded by President of Hearing Panel to Church Attorney
Canon IV.13.2(C)

The H.P. may obtain legal counsel to give opinions on law, procedure, or evidence, but not to vote
Canon IV.19.22

President of Hearing Panel approves plan and issues order of discovery and scheduling
Canon IV.13.5(c & f)

President of Hearing Panel hears from Church Attorney & Respondent's Advisor & issues order of discovery & scheduling
Canon IV.13.5(c & f)

A

Church Attorney and Respondent's Advisor agree or disagree to Discovery Plan

D

Church Attorney and Respondent's Advisor meet to develop discovery plan, including list of witnesses and evidence, etc.
Canon IV.13.5(a & b)

Following the hearing, the Hearing Panel members confer privately to reach a determination
Canon IV..13.7

Dismissal
Canon IV.13.7

Order
Canon IV.13.7 & 9

Complainant & Bishop Diocesan shall be given opportunity to be heard re: the terms of the proposed Order
Canon IV.14.7

Hearing Panel proceedings are public (though parts may be closed at Panel's discretion to protect a person's privacy), formal and recorded
Canon IV.13.4

Testimony taken orally, hearsay not excluded, argument, cross-examination and rebuttal allowed
Canon IV.13.6

The Respondent or the Church Attorney may appeal the Order
Canon IV.15.2

To Provincial Court of Review
Canon IV.15.2

H.P. writes an Order including reasons for dismissal & may include findings exonerating the Respondent
Canon IV.13.8

Order of Dismissal distributed according to Canon IV.13.8

The Bishop may pronounce the sentence or pronounce a lesser sentence (and/or a reduced burden on the terms of the Order)
Canon IV.14.8
Abandonment of the Episcopal Church by a Priest or Deacon: Canon IV.16(B)

If a Priest or Deacon

- openly renounces the Doctrine, Discipline, or Worship of the Church
  IV.16(B).3
- is formally admitted into any religious body not in communion with the Church
  IV.16(B).3
- or in any other way abandons the Episcopal Church
  IV.16(B).3

The Standing Committee shall determine that the Priest or Deacon did or did not use the provisions of Canon III.7.8-10 or III.9.8-11. IV.16(B).3

- did not
  The Standing Committee does not affirm the Standing Committee’s determination. IV.16(B).3
  - does not specified in the Canons
  - does
    The Bishop Diocesan places a restriction on the Priest or Deacon’s exercise of ministry for sixty days, sends the Priest or Deacon a copy of the determination and statement from the Standing Committee, and informs her/him of the rights specified below. IV.16(B).3
  - did
    The Standing Committee notifies the Bishop Diocesan in writing or, if there is no Bishop Diocesan, notifies the Bishop Diocesan of an adjacent Diocese. IV.16(B).3

The Bishop Diocesan does or does not affirm the Standing Committee’s determination. IV.16(B).3

Renounce: Within 60 days the restricted Priest or Deacon, in writing to the Bishop Diocesan, renounces the ordained ministry. IV.16(B).4

Retract: Within 60 days, the restricted Priest or Deacon, in writing to the Bishop Diocesan, makes a good faith retraction of the declarations or acts relied upon in the Standing Committee’s determination. IV.16(B).4

Deny: Within 60 days, the restricted Priest or Deacon, in writing to the Bishop Diocesan, makes a good faith denial that s/he made the declarations or committed the acts relied upon in the Standing Committee’s determination. IV.16(B).4

Within 60 days, the restricted Priest or Deacon does not respond in writing to the Bishop Diocesan. IV.16(B).4

The Bishop Diocesan receives the renunciation letter and, in accordance with Canon III.7.8-10 or III.9.8-11, releases the Priest or Deacon from the ordained ministry. IV.16(B).4

The Bishop Diocesan decides if s/he is satisfied that a good faith retraction or denial has been made. IV.16(B).4

- satisfied
  The Bishop Diocesan withdraws the notice and the restriction expires. IV.16(B).4
- not satisfied
  The Bishop Diocesan deposes the Priest or Deacon. IV.16(B).4
After a 60 day delay in the Hearing Panel's work, the Church Attorney or Respondent may submit a written request for resumption of proceedings to the Provincial Court of Review. Canon IV.15.1

The Filer of the request provides copies of the request to the Presidents of the Hearing Panel and the Disciplinary Board. Canon IV.15.1(a)

The Provincial Court of Review convenes, in person or by telephone, to consider the request and Hearing Panel's response. Canon IV.15.1(c)

The President of the Hearing Panel shall file a response to the request with the Provincial Court of Review, copying the Church Attorney, Respondent, and President of the Disciplinary Board. Canon IV.15.1(b)

The Provincial Court of Review issues an order directing the proceedings to resume. Canon IV.15.1(c)

The Provincial Court of Review declines to direct the resumption of proceedings with an explanation of the reasons therefore. Canon IV.15.1(c)

No further action required.

The Hearing Panel accepts the Order and proceedings resume.

The Hearing Panel refuses to resume proceedings or is unable to do so.

The Church Attorney or Respondent may request the Provincial Court of Review to transfer the proceedings to a Hearing Panel of another Diocese within the Province, including the transfer of complete records. Canon IV.15.1(d)
The Provincial Court of Review: When an Order is Appealed

Within 40 days after an Order is issued, the Church Attorney or Respondent may appeal in writing to the Provincial Court of Review. Canon IV.15.2

The Bishop Diocesan provides copies to the Respondent, Church Attorney, President of the Hearing Panel, and the President of the Province. Canon IV.15.2

Filer provides copies to the Bishop Diocesan, President of the Hearing Panel and the President of the Province. Canon IV.15.2

Within 40 days after a Hearing Panel finds that a Respondent did not commit an Offense involving a question of the Doctrine, Faith, or Worship of the Church, the Bishop Diocesan may appeal the finding to the Provincial Court of Review. Canon IV.15.3

This appeal may only occur at the written request of at least 2 Bishops Diocesan within the Province who are not members of the Provincial Court of Review. Canon IV.15.3

The Hearing Panel shall produce the record on appeal, including transcripts, documentary and tangible evidence, etc. Canon IV.15.7

The President of the Provincial Court of Review shall give notice of the determination to the appealing party, the party in opposition, the Bishop Diocesan, the Church Attorney, and the Hearing Panel. Canon IV.15.15

Upon receiving a copy of the Record, the appealing party has 30 days to deliver 2 copies of the Record, the notice of appeal, and the appealing party's brief to the opposing party. Canon IV.15.7

Within 30 days of receiving the Record, the party opposing the appeal shall serve the brief, if any to the appealing party and 5 copies to the President of the Provincial Court of Review. Canon IV.15.7

The Provincial Court of Review hears the appeal based on the Record of the Hearing Panel & according to the standards and conditions found in Canon IV.15.6. The Respondent and the Church Attorney are afforded an opportunity to be heard. Canons IV.15.5,6,10

If the appeal is dismissed, Order Reversed in Part, Order Reversed in Whole, Grant a New Hearing before the Hearing Panel. Appeal Dismissed Canon IV.15.13, Canon IV.15.3, Canon IV.15.3, Canon IV.15.3.
Participants Chart: The Composition of Boards & Panels for Allegations of Misconduct by Bishops

Disciplinary Board for Bishops
10 Bishops elected at a regularly scheduled meeting of the House of Bishops, 4 Priests or Deacons & 4 Lay People elected by the House of Deputies
Read Canon IV.17.3
The President shall be a Bishop
Read Canon IV.17.4

Reference Panel
Composition
- The Presiding Bishop
- The President of the Disciplinary Board for Bishops
- Intake Officer

Function
- Appropriate pastoral response (no other action) IV.8
- Conciliation IV.10
- Investigate IV.11
- Referral to Bishop Diocesan for possible agreement on terms of discipline IV.9
- After investigation can refer to Conference Panel;
- Conference Panel can then refer to Hearing Panel IV.12.1

Conference Panel (CP)
3 Bishops
1 Priest or Deacon
1 Lay Person
Read Canons IV.17.5
No one person can serve on both CP and HP for a single matter

Hearing Panel (HP)
3 Bishops
1 Priest or Deacon
1 Lay Person
(Unless charge is "holding and teaching contrary doctrine," then HP is 5 Bps only)
Read Canon IV.17.5

TITLE IV
The Title IV Process when Charges are Brought against a Bishop for Holding & Teaching, or having Held & Taught, Publicly or Privately, & Advisedly, any Doctrine Contrary to that Held by the Church

This sheet does not contain all relevant information and should only guide you to the Canons. Please read the Canons.

Ten Bishops file a request for disassociation: Read IV.17.7(a)

The Presiding Bishop sends copy(ies)

The Bishop who is the subject of the request may file a response

The Presiding Bishop transmits copies to each member of the House of Bishops. The request for a statement of disassociation is considered at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the House of Bishops (which is at least one month after copies were transmitted to the members)

Amend Statement

Issue Statement of Disassociation

Do not Issue Statement of Disassociation

Ten Bishops issue a request for proceeding under Title IV with regard to the same doctrine as gave rise to the statement of disassociation: Read IV.17.7(b)

The Presiding Bishop sends copy(ies)

The Bishop who is the subject of the request may file a response

The Presiding Bishop transmits copies to each member of the House of Bishops. The Bishops have 60 days to respond in writing

At least 1/3rd of Bishops consent to Title IV proceedings

At least 1/3rd of Bishops do not consent to Title IV proceedings

The President of the Disciplinary Board for Bishops notifies the President of the Disciplinary Board for Bishops

The President of the Disciplinary Board for Bishops assembles a Hearing Panel of nine Bishops (randomly selected) and designates a President of the Hearing Panel. Copies of all relevant documents are sent to the President of the Hearing Panel and the Church Attorney

Continue with Hearing Panel
The Title IV Process when Charges are Brought against a Bishop for Reasons other than Holding or Teaching "Contrary Doctrine"

This sheet does not contain all relevant information and should only guide you to the Canons. Please read the Canons.
Abandonment of the Episcopal Church by a Bishop: Canon IV.16(A)

- If a Bishop
  - openly renounces the Doctrine, Discipline, or Worship of the Church
  - is formally admitted into any religious body not in communion with the Church
  - exercises Episcopal acts in and for a religious body other than the Church or those in communion with the Church, thereby extending Holy Orders or Confirmation to the same without express consent & permission of the proper authority in the Church

- The Disciplinary Board for Bishops, by a majority vote, certifies the facts to the Presiding Bishop with a statement of the acts or declarations which show the abandonment.

- The Presiding Bishop places a restriction on the exercise of ministry of said Bishop, who shall not perform any Episcopal, ministerial, or canonical acts until such time as the House of Bishops shall investigate and act on the matter.

- The Presiding Bishop, or presiding officer, notifies the Bishop of the certification and restriction.

- Renounce: Within 60 days the restricted Bishop, in writing to the Presiding Bishop, renounces the ordained ministry.

- Retract: Within 60 days, the restricted Bishop, in writing to the Presiding Bishop, makes a good faith retraction of the declarations or acts relied upon in the certification to the Presiding Bishop.

- Deny: Within 60 days, the restricted Bishop, in writing to the Presiding Bishop, makes a good faith denial that the Bishop made the declarations or committed the acts relied upon in the certification to the Presiding Bishop.

- Within 60 days, the restricted Bishop does not respond in writing to the Presiding Bishop.

- The Presiding Bishop lays the matter before her/his Advisory Council.

- If reasonably satisfied, the Presiding Bishop seeks the advice and consent of the Disciplinary Board for Bishops.

- If not reasonably satisfied, the Presiding Bishop presents the matter to the House of Bishops at their next regular or special meeting.

- With the advice and consent of a majority of the members of the Advisory Council, the Presiding Bishop, shall pronounce that the renunciation is accepted, in the presence of two or more bishops, making the notifications required in Canon III.12.7(c), III.12.7(a).

- With consent
  - The Presiding Bishop ends the restriction.

- Without consent
  - If the Presiding Bishop presents the matter to the House of Bishops at their next regular or special meeting.

- If the House of Bishops, by a majority of the whole number of members entitled to vote, gives its consent, the Presiding Bishop shall depose the Bishop.

- If the House of Bishops, by a majority of the whole number of members entitled to vote, gives its consent, the Presiding Bishop shall depose the Bishop.