

DISCIPLINARY BOARD FOR BISHOPS

Members

The Rt. Rev. Chilton Knudsen, Chair	Maryland, III	2027
The Hon. A. Joseph Alarid	Rio Grande, VII	2024
The Rt. Rev. Mark Bourlakas	Southwestern Virginia, III	2024
The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson	North Carolina, IV	2024
Canon Julie Dean Larsen	Los Angeles, VIII	2027
Mr. William Fleener, Jr.	Western Michigan, V	2027
The Rt. Rev. Wendell Gibbs	Michigan, V	2024
The Rt. Rev. Dena Harrison	Texas, VII	2024
The Rt. Rev. Susan Haynes	Southern Virginia, III	2027
The Rt. Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld	New Hampshire, I	2024
The Rt. Rev. Michael C.B. Hunn	Rio Grande, VII	2027
The Rev. Canon Gregory Jacobs	Newark, II	2027
The Rt. Rev. W. Nicholas Knisely	Rhode Island, I	2024
The Rev. Mally Ewing Lloyd	Massachusetts, I	2024
The Rt. Rev. Kevin Nichols	Bethlehem, III	2027
Melissa Perrin	Chicago, V	2024
The Rev. Irene Tanabe	Olympia, VIII	2024
The Rev. Chris Wendell	Massachusetts, I	2027

Changes in Membership

Canon Julie Dean Larsen of Los Angeles died of cancer In November 2023. We have asked twice for PHoD/Executive Council to appoint a new member to take Julie’s place.

Representation at General Convention

Bishop Knudsen and Bishop Nichols are authorized to receive non-substantive amendments to this report at the General Convention.

Mandate

Canon IV.17.3-5

Sec. 3.

The Disciplinary Board for Bishops is hereby established as a court of the Church to have original jurisdiction over matters of discipline of Bishops, to hear Bishops' appeals from imposition of restriction on ministry or placement on Administrative Leave and to determine venue issues as provided in Canon IV.19.5. The Disciplinary Board for Bishops shall consist of ten (10) Bishops elected by the House of Bishops at a regularly scheduled session of General Convention, and four (4) Priests or Deacons and four (4) lay persons elected by the House of Deputies. All lay persons elected or appointed to serve shall be confirmed adult communicants in good standing. Members of the Board shall serve staggered terms of six (6) years, with terms of one half of the Bishops and one half of the lay persons, Priests and Deacons collectively expiring every three (3) years.

A vacancy among the member Bishops shall be appointed by the Presiding Bishop with the advice and consent of the Bishop members of Executive Council. A vacancy among the lay or Priest or Deacon members shall be filled by the President of the House of Deputies with the advice and consent of the lay, Priest and Deacon members of Executive Council. Unless elected or appointed to fill the remainder of an unexpired term, each member shall serve from the first day of January following the adjournment of the General Convention at which the member was elected, until the last day of December of the sixth calendar year following election and until the member's successor is elected and qualifies; however, there shall be no change in the composition of any Hearing Panel while a matter is pending unresolved before the Hearing Panel.

Sec. 4. Within sixty days following each General Convention, the Board shall convene to elect a president for the following triennium. The president shall be a Bishop. If there is no president, the Bishop who is senior by consecration shall perform the duties of the president.

Sec. 5. The Conference Panel shall consist of three Bishops, one Priest or Deacon and one lay person. The Hearing Panel shall consist of three Bishops, one Priest or Deacon and one lay person, except that the Hearing Panel for the Offense specified in Canon IV.4.1.h.2 pertaining to Doctrine Offenses shall consist of five Bishops only.

Summary of Work

Since GC 80, The Disciplinary Board for Bishops has met, in whole or in part, 13 times by Zoom. We had an in-person training at the Maritime Center April 17-18, 2023. We appoint certain of the personnel who “staff” a Title IV case: Investigators, Church Attorney, Advisors, Conference Panel, Hearing Panel. The DBB reviews and approves (or not) the language of an Accord between the Presiding Bishop and the Respondent.

The DBB has compiled and forwarded specific suggestions for amendments to Title IV, based on our experience using it. The Chair has meet (once in person, also over Zoom calls) with members of the Standing Commission charged with amending Title IV.

Supplementary Materials

The DBB has made use of Supplementary Materials, largely internal church resources on Title IV. These are readily available.