## THE ECCLESIASTICAL COURT IN THE DIOCESE OF LEXINGTON 203 East 4th Street Lexington, Kentucky

THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE DIOCESE OF LEXINGTON

**PETITIONER** 

VS.

THE REV. CHRISTOPHER PLATT

RESPONDENT

## SENTENCE OF DEPOSITION

This matter comes before me on the question of the Sentence to be imposed upon the Rev. Christopher B. Platt. This Sentence is imposed on this date, before two priests of this Diocese, the Very Rev. Morris K. Thompson and the Rev. Canon Johnnie Ross. It appears to me from a review of the records of the Ecclesiastical Court of the Episcopal Diocese of Lexington that the Rev. Platt has been tried and convicted by the Ecclesiastical Court of the offense of crime and conduct unbecoming a member of the clergy. I have reviewed the records of the Ecclesiastical Court and the Presentment issued by the Standing Committee and I was present for the trial of the case involving the Rev. Platt. Based upon this information, based upon my knowledge of Christopher Platt and his actions in this case, and based upon the reasoning stated in the

memorandum on sentences filed by the Petitioner with the court, and after due reflection and prayerful consideration of all of the matters, I am prepared to enter sentence upon the Rev. Platt.

THEREFORE, BE IT ENTERED INTO THE RECORDS OF THE CHURCH that the decision of the Ecclesiastical Court of the Diocese of Lexington is accepted and found to be fairly and duly determined and in accord with the Canons of the Episcopal Church. I find, based upon that decision and based upon my own review of the evidence presented at the trial, that Christopher Platt is guilty of having committed crimes while a member of the clergy, that the Victim of those Crimes was the Episcopal Diocese of Lexington, and that he also committed conduct unbecoming a member of the clergy.

ALSO BE IT FURTHER ENTERED INTO THE RECORDS OF THE CHURCH THAT CHRISTOPHER PLATT IS HEREBY SENTENCED TO DEPOSITION FROM HIS MINISTRY. Christopher Platt was found guilty according to the laws and canons of the church and there is no adequate explanation for his behavior and he has expressed no remorse or regret for his behavior. Further, he has not accepted responsibility for his behavior and has undertaken no actions, or plans for action, to correct the problems that led to his behavior in this matter. Therefore, in accordance with Title IV, Canon 12, Section 1 of the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church, I, the Right Reverend Stacy F. Sauls, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Lexington, hereby adjudge and

pronounce a sentence upon The Rev. Christopher Platt, formerly Chaplain of St. Augustine's Chapel in Lexington, Kentucky, of deposition from his ordained ministry. By this sentence Christopher Platt is hereby deposed from any order of ordained ministry. Further, all ecclesiastical offices held by Christopher Platt and all related secular offices are hereby terminated and vacated. This Sentence of Deposition is based upon the verdict of guilt entered by the Ecclesiastical Court that the conduct of Christopher Platt consisted of crime and conduct unbecoming a member of the clergy.

IT IS SO ORDERED AND ADJUDGED, this 20th day of July, 2004.

The Right Reverend Stacy F. Sauls Bishop, Diocese of Lexington

, Presbyter

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