

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2022  
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2022-A040  
**TITLE:** Specify Electronic Transmission of Certain Documents and Records  
**PROPOSER:** Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons  
**TOPIC:** Canons

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**Directly Related:** (Attached)

2015-A119 Amend Canon III.5.2(b) [Testimonials]  
2012-A107 Amend Canon I.1.5 [Registrar of the General Convention]  
2009-A172 Amend Canons I.6.5(a) and I.1.5(f) [Journals and Records of Conventions]  
1982-A033 Amend Canon I.1.1 [Notification of Amendments to the Constitution and the Prayer Book]

**Indirectly Related:** (Available in the [Acts of Convention](#) database, searchable by resolution number)

None

*In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2018, selecting “direct” resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The “direct” resolutions are attached and “indirect” resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives through the [Research Request Form](#) or call 800-525-9329.*

# A040 - Specify Electronic Transmission of Certain Documents and Records

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**Final Status:** Not Yet Finalized

**Proposed by:** Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons

**Requests New Interim Body:** No

**Amends C&C or Rules of Order:** Yes

**Has Budget Implications:** No

**Cost:**

**HiA:** HB

**Legislative Committee Currently Assigned:** 02 - Constitution & Canons

**Completion Status:** Incomplete

**Latest House Action:** N/A

**Supporting Documents:** No

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## Resolution Text

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring,

That the 80th General Convention of The Episcopal Church amend Canon I.1.1.e to read as follows:

I.1.1.

**e.** It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the House of Deputies, whenever any alteration of the Book of Common Prayer or of the Constitution is proposed, or any other subject submitted to the consideration of the several Diocesan Conventions, to give notice thereof to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Church in every Diocese, as well as to the Secretary of the Convention of every Diocese, and written evidence that the foregoing requirement has been complied with shall be presented by the Secretary to the General Convention at its next session. All such notices shall be sent by *electronic means certified or registered mail*, with the Secretary's certificates to be returned. The Secretary shall notify all diocesan Secretaries that it is their duty to make known such proposed alterations of the Book of Common Prayer, and of the Constitution, and such other subjects, to the Conventions of their respective Dioceses at their next meeting, and to certify to the Secretary of the House of Deputies that such action has been taken.

And be it further

*Resolved*, That the 80th General Convention of The Episcopal Church amend Canon I.6.5.a to read as follows:

I.6

**Sec. 5**

a. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Convention of every jurisdiction to forward to the Secretary of the House of Deputies *by electronic means*, immediately upon publication, ~~two copies of the Journals~~ *one (1) copy of the Journal* of the Convention of the jurisdiction, together with episcopal charges, statements, and such other records in ~~paper or~~ electronic format as may show the state of the Church in that jurisdiction, and ~~two copies~~ *one (1) copy* to the Archives of the Church in *electronic a common* format as prescribed by the Archivist of the Church.

**Explanation**

Electronic transmission of these notices and of diocesan convention journals will save paper and money.



**Resolution Number:** 2015-A119  
**Title:** Amend Canon III.5.2(b) [Testimonials]  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That Canon III.5.2(b) is hereby amended to read as follows:*

**(b) Testimonials required of the Standing Committee by this Title must be signed by a majority of the whole Committee, at a meeting duly convened, except that testimonials may be executed in counterparts, *any of which may be delivered by facsimile or other electronic transmission*, each of which shall be deemed an original.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), p. 713.



**Resolution Number:** 2012-A107  
**Title:** Amend Canon I.1.5 [Registrar of the General Convention]  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That Canon I.1.5 be revised to read as follows:*

**Sec. 5**

(a) ~~The House of Deputies, upon the nomination of the House of Bishops, shall elect a Presbyter, to be known as Secretary of the General Convention shall, ex officio, be the Registrar of the General Convention, whose duty it shall be to receive all Journals, files, papers, reports, and other documents or articles that are, or shall become, the property of either House of the General Convention, and to transmit the same to the Archives of the Church as prescribed by the Archivist.~~

(b) It shall also be the duty of the said Registrar to maintain suitable records of the ordinations and consecrations of all the Bishops of this Church, designating accurately the time and place of the same, with the names of the consecrating Bishops, and of others present and assisting; to have the same authenticated in the fullest manner practicable; and to take care for the similar record and authentication of all future ordinations and consecrations *and installations* of Bishops in this Church; *and to transmit the same to the Archives of the Church when and as prescribed by the Archivist.* Due notice of the time and place of such ordinations and consecrations shall be given by the Presiding Bishop to the Registrar; and thereupon it shall be the duty of the Registrar to attend such ordinations and consecrations, either in person or by *appointing a clergy or lay deputy Registrar.*

(c) The Registrar shall prepare, in such form as the House of Bishops shall prescribe, the Letters of Ordination and Consecration in duplicate, shall have the same immediately signed and sealed by the ordaining and consecrating Bishops, and by such other Bishops assisting as may be practicable, shall deliver to the newly consecrated Bishop one of the said Letters, shall carefully file and retain the other, and shall make a minute thereof in the official records.

(d) The Registrar shall also be Historiographer, unless in any case the House of Bishops shall make a separate nomination; and in this event the House of Deputies shall confirm the nomination.

(e) The necessary expenses incurred under this Section shall be paid by the Treasurer of the General Convention.

(f) It shall be the duty of the secretaries of both Houses to deliver to the Registrar the minutes of both Houses, together with the Journals, files, papers, reports, electronic records, and all other records of either House in a manner prescribed by the Archivist. The minutes of both Houses shall remain filed until after the adjournment of the first General Convention following that at which such minutes shall have been taken; Provided, however, that any part of such minutes, for any reason unpublished in the Journal, shall remain filed in the Archives. The Secretary of the House of Deputies shall also deliver to the Registrar, as prescribed by the Archivist, when not otherwise expressly directed, all the Journals, files, papers, reports, and other published, unpublished or electronic documents specified in Canon I.6. The Secretaries shall require the Registrar to give them receipts

**for the Journals and other records. The Registrar shall transmit the records of the secretaries of both Houses to the Archivist of the Church.**

**(g) In the case of a vacancy in the office of Registrar, the Presiding Bishop shall appoint a Registrar, who shall hold office until the next General Convention.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 2012* (New York: General Convention, 2012), pp. 178-179.



**Resolution Number:** 2009-A172  
**Title:** Amend Canons I.6.5(a) and I.1.5(f) [Journals and Records of Conventions]  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That Canon I.6.5(a) [Of the Mode of Securing an Accurate View of the State of This Church] be amended as follows:*

**Sec. 5. (a) It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Convention of every jurisdiction to forward to the Secretary of the House of Deputies, immediately upon publication, two copies of the Journals of the Convention of the jurisdiction, together with episcopal charges, statements and such ~~other papers~~ other records *in paper or electronic format* as may show the state of the Church in that jurisdiction, and ~~one copy~~ *two copies* to the Archives of the Church *in a common format as prescribed by the Archivist of the Church.***

And be it further

*Resolved, That Canon I.1.5(f) [Of the General Convention] be amended as follows:*

**Sec. 5. (f) It shall be the duty of the secretaries of both Houses ~~within thirty days after the adjournment of the General Convention~~ to deliver to the Registrar, the ~~manuscript~~ minutes of both Houses, together with the Journals, files, papers, reports, *electronic records* and all other ~~documents~~ records of either House *in a manner prescribed by the Archivist.* The ~~manuscript~~ minutes of both Houses shall remain filed until after the adjournment of the ~~second~~ *first* General Convention following that at which such minutes shall have been taken; *Provided, however,* that any part of such minutes, for any reason unpublished in the Journal, shall remain filed in the Archives. The Secretary of the House of Deputies shall also deliver to the Registrar *as prescribed by the Archivist,* when not otherwise expressly directed, all the Journals, files, papers, reports and other published, unpublished or electronic documents specified in Canon I.6. The Secretaries shall require the Registrar to give them receipts for the Journals and other ~~papers~~ records. *The Registrar shall transmit the records of the secretaries of both Houses to the Archivist of the Church.***

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 2009* (New York: General Convention, 2009), p. 157.



**Resolution Number:** 1982-A033  
**Title:** Amend Canon I.1.1 [Notification of Amendments to the Constitution and the Prayer Book]  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That Title I, Canon 1, Section 1(e) be amended to read as follows:*

**(e). It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the House of Deputies, whenever any alteration of the Book of Common Prayer or of the Constitution is proposed, or any other subject submitted to the consideration of the several Diocesan Conventions, to give notice thereof to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Church in every Diocese, as well as to the Secretary of the Convention of every Diocese, and written evidence that the foregoing requirement has been complied with shall be presented by him to the General Convention at its next session. All such notices shall be sent by *certified or registered mail, return receipts being required with the Secretary's certificates to be returned.* He shall notify each Secretary that it is his duty to make known such proposed alterations of the Book of Common Prayer, and of the Constitution, and such other subjects, to the Convention of his Diocese at its next meeting, and to certify to the Secretary of the House of Deputies that such action has been taken by him.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, New Orleans, 1982* (New York: General Convention, 1983), p. C-72.