

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2018  
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2018-A120  
**TITLE:** Amend IV.19.30 to Create Discipline Database, Amend III.12.7(c) and IV.13.11  
**PROPOSER:** Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons  
**TOPIC:** Canons

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**Directly Related:** (Attached)

2015-A140 Amend Canon IV.14.12 [Of Accords and Orders]  
2015-A148 Amend Canon IV.19.30 [Of General Provisions]  
2015-D076 Collect Information on Title IV Proceedings  
2012-A033 Amend Canons IV.2, 5, 6, 11

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

2006-A145 Endorse the Archives Website and Digital Archives

**Supplemental Documents:** (Linked)

(Blue Book) Report to General Convention, [Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons](#), see pages 434-435.

*In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1976 through 2015, 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 at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.*

# A120 Amend IV.19.30 to Create Discipline Database, Amend III.12.7(c) and IV.13.11

<b>Proposer</b>	Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons
<b>Topic</b>	Canons
<b>Endorsed by</b>	
<b>Sponsored by</b>	
<b>Page numbers</b>	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. 175, 118, 152
<b>HiA / Leg. Cttee</b>	/
<b>Current Status</b>	Resolution Filed
<b>Version</b>	Original (as filed)
<b>Review Status</b>	Not yet reviewed

## RESOLUTION TEXT

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 79th General Convention hereby amends Canon IV.19.30 to read as follows by the addition of the following subsection:
- 2 *(d) The Archives of the Episcopal Church (the “Administrator”) shall create, administer and maintain a limited access secure central database registry to track data pertinent to proceedings under this Title (the “Database”) for the purpose of providing data and statistical information to assist in the furtherance of policymaking, education, ministry, and other governance objectives of the Church (collectively the “Database Purposes”).*
- 3 *(1) Database shall only include disciplinary matters under this Title that are referred to the Reference Panel pursuant to Canon IV.6.6 or IV.6.7.*
- 4 *(2) The Diocese, Disciplinary Board, Church Attorney and Respondent (or Respondent’s Advisor) as applicable shall complete and submit forms to the best of their knowledge, including questionnaires as proscribed and created by the Standing Commission on Structure Governance Constitution and Canons or its successor standing commission in consultation with the Administrator and Chief Legal Officer.*
- 5 *(3) The Database shall not contain: (i) the personal identifying information of the Respondents, Injured Persons, or witnesses; (ii) Privileged Communications; or (iii) other information that would be otherwise prohibited from disclosure under this Title or other applicable law.*
- 6 *(4) The Administrator shall make the Database accessible to the Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons, Chief Legal Officer, and Executive Council. The Administrator will also make the Database accessible to other Church governance bodies or other Church officials provided that such bodies and officials are seeking to use the Database in furtherance of the Database Purposes and have received the approval of the the Executive Council and the Chief Legal Officer of the Church. From time to time the Executive Council or the Standing Commission on Structure, Governance,*

*Constitution and Canons may publish statistical information and other reports derived in from the Database provided that such publication is consistent with this canon.*

7 And be it further

8 *Resolved*, that Canon III.12.7(c) is hereby amended as follows:

9 (c) In the case of the release and removal of a Bishop from the ordained Ministry of the Church as provided in this Canon, a declaration of removal and release shall be pronounced by the Presiding Bishop in the presence of two (2) or more Bishops, and shall be entered in the official records of the House of Bishops and of the Diocese in which the Bishop being removed and released is canonically resident. The Presiding Bishop shall give notice thereof in writing to the Secretary of the Convention and the Ecclesiastical Authority and the Standing Committee of the Diocese in which the Bishop was canonically resident, to all Bishops of this Church, the Ecclesiastical Authority of each Diocese of this Church, the Recorder, the Secretary of the House of Bishops, the Secretary of the General Convention, *The Archives of the Episcopal Church*, The Church Pension Fund, and the Board for Transition Ministry.

10 And be it further

11 *Resolved*, that Canon IV.13.11 be amended as follows:

12 Sec. 11. If the determination is to dismiss the matter, the Hearing Panel shall issue an Order which shall include the reasons for dismissal and which may contain findings exonerating the Respondent. A copy of the Order shall be provided to the Bishop Diocesan, the Respondent, the Respondent's Advisor, the Complainant, the Complainant's Advisor, and the Church Attorney, *and a record copy of the Order shall be kept by transmitting a copy to The Archives of the Episcopal Church.*

13 And be it further

14 *Resolved*, That the 79th General Convention request the Joint Standing Commission on Program, Budget, and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$25,000 to provide for the creation of the database.

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EXPLANATION

Creation of this database would provide access to information, consistency in the application of the canons, assistance in background screening, and would establish a body of precedence across the Church. Broader availability of this information supports our collective priority of safeguarding all of God's people.



**Resolution Number:** 2015-A140  
**Title:** Amend Canon IV.14.12 [Of Accords and Orders]  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That Canon IV.14.12 and Canon 14.12(a) be amended to read as follows:*

**Sec. 12.** *If there has been no objection by the Respondent or the Church Attorney to the Order(s), notice of Accords and Orders which have become effective shall be given without delay as follows:*

**(a)** *In the case of any Accord or Order pertaining to a Priest or Deacon, the Bishop Diocesan shall give notice of the Accord or Order to every Member of the Clergy in the Diocese, each Vestry in the Diocese, the Secretary of Convention, and the Standing Committee of the Diocese, which shall be added to the official records of the Diocese; to the Presiding Bishop, to all other Bishops of the Church, and where there is no Bishop, to the Ecclesiastical Authority of each Diocese of the Church; to the President of the House of Deputies; to the Recorder of ordinations; to the Office of Transition Ministry; the Archives; and to the Secretary of the House of Bishops and the Secretary of the House of Deputies.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), p. 715.



**Resolution Number:** 2015-A148  
**Title:** Amend Canon IV.19.30 [Of General Provisions]  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That Canon IV.19.30 be amended to read as follows:*

**Sec. 30. Records of proceedings shall be preserved as follows:**

(a)(1) Each Hearing Panel and Provincial Court of Review shall keep a complete and accurate record of its proceedings by any means from which a written transcript can be produced. When all proceedings have been concluded, the president of the Panel or Court shall certify the record. If the president did not participate in the proceeding for any reason, the Panel or Court shall elect another member of the Panel or Court to certify the record.

(b)(2) The Panel or Court shall make provision for the preservation and storage of a copy of the record of each proceeding in the Diocese in which the proceeding originated.

(c)(3) The Panel or Court shall promptly deliver the original certified record of its proceedings to The Archives of The Episcopal Church.

(d)(b) The Bishop Diocesan shall

(i)(1) promptly deliver to The Archives of The Episcopal Church a copy of any Accord or Order which has become effective and a record of any action of remission or modification of any Order and

(ii)(2) provide for the permanent preservation of copies of all Accords and Orders by means which permit the identification and location of each such copy by the name of the Member of the Clergy who is the subject thereof.

(c) *When printed records are submitted under this Canon, there shall be delivered to The Archives of The Episcopal Church an electronic copy or version of the records required to be preserved under this Section in such format as The Archives of The Episcopal Church may specify.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), pp. 716-717.



**Resolution Number:** 2015-D076  
**Title:** Collect Information on Title IV Proceedings  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 78th General Convention direct the Standing Commission on Constitution and Canons to study the need to collect information relating to all Title IV proceedings, identify the information to be collected, the methodology to collect and report the information, and the person or office responsible for administration of the process.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), p. 897.



**Resolution Number:** 2012-A033  
**Title:** Amend Canons IV.2, 5, 6, 11 as follows:  
Canon IV.2 [Of Terminology Used in This Title]  
Canon IV.5.3(i) [Resource Sharing for Disciplinary Boards' Rules of Operation]  
Canon IV.6.7 [Impanelment to Consider an Offense]  
Canon IV.11.5 [Confidentiality of Investigations]  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

[*Resolved*, that Canon IV.14.12 be amended to read as follows:]

**Sec. 12. If there has been no objection by the Respondent, notice of Accords and Orders which shall have become effective and are not subject to refusal by the Respondent shall be given without delay as follows:**

**(a) In the case of any Accord or Order pertaining to a Priest or Deacon, the Bishop Diocesan shall give notice of the Accord or Order to every Member of the Clergy in the Diocese, each Vestry in the Diocese, the Secretary of Convention, and the Standing Committee of the Diocese, which shall be added to the official records of the Diocese; to the Presiding Bishop, to all other Bishops of the Church, and where there is no Bishop, to the Ecclesiastical Authority of each Diocese of the Church; to the Recorder of ordinations; to the ~~Church Deployment Office~~ Office of Transition Ministry; the Archives; and to the Secretary of the House of Bishops and the Secretary of the House of Deputies.**

**Citation:** Canon IV.14.12 is excerpted from the Final Text of 2012-A033, which revised Canons IV.2, 5-9, 11-14, 19 and I.9. See General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 2012* (New York: General Convention, 2012), pp. 292-298.