

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-A123
TITLE: Amend Canon IV.3.1 - Addressing Misrepresentation in Ordination Process and Clarify Sexual Misconduct
PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons
TOPIC: Canons

Directly Related: (Attached)

2015-D031 Refer a Resolution on Title IV [Ecclesiastical Discipline] (Referred)

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

2009-A185 Amend Title IV [Ecclesiastical Discipline]

Supplemental Documents: (Linked)

(*Blue Book*) Report to General Convention, [Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons](#), see page 439.

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.

A123 Amend Canon IV.3.1 - Addressing misrepresentation in Ordination process and clarify sexual misconduct

Proposer	Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons
Topic	Canons
Endorsed by	
Sponsored by	
Page numbers	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. 135
HiA / Leg. Cttee	/
Current Status	Resolution Filed
Version	Original (as filed)
Review Status	Not yet reviewed

RESOLUTION TEXT

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That Canon IV.3.1 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 2 Sec. 1. A Member of the Clergy shall be subject to proceedings under this Title for:
- 3 (a) knowingly violating or attempting to violate, directly or through the acts of another person, the Constitution or Canons of the Church or of any Diocese;
- 4 (b) failing without good cause to cooperate with any investigation or proceeding conducted under authority of this Title; or
- 5 (c) intentionally and maliciously bringing a false accusation or knowingly providing false testimony or false evidence in any investigation or proceeding under this Title; or
- 6 (d) *intentionally misrepresenting or omitting any material fact in applying for admission to Postulancy, for admission to Candidacy, for ordination as a Deacon or Priest, for reception from another Church as a Deacon or Priest, or for nomination or appointment as a Bishop.*

EXPLANATION

This amendment will make it clear that Title IV will apply to failures to disclose and to misrepresentations made during the ordination process, when seeking reception or appointment as a bishop. While individuals who have not yet been ordained are not subject to the provisions of Title IV, these misrepresentations are clearly contrary to the manner of life expected of ordained persons and should have consequences.



Resolution Number: 2015-D031
Title: Refer a Resolution on Title IV [Ecclesiastical Discipline]
Legislative Action Taken: Referred
Final Text:

[*Resolved*, That Canon IV.3.1 be amended to read as follows:]

Sec. 1. A Member of the Clergy shall be subject to proceedings under this Title for:

(a) knowingly violating or attempting to violate, directly or through the acts of another person, the Constitution or Canons of the Church or of any Diocese; *or*

(b) ~~failing without good cause to cooperate with any investigation or proceeding conducted under authority of this Title;~~ or (c) intentionally and maliciously bringing a false accusation or knowingly providing false testimony or false evidence in any investigation or proceeding under this Title.

Citation: Canon IV.3.1 is excerpted from the Final Text of 2015-D031, which referred a resolution on revising Canon IV. See General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), pp. 441-444.