

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-D064
TITLE: Amend Canon IV.14.12(a) and IV.14.12(b)
PROPOSER: The Rev. Canon Paul Stephens
TOPIC: Canons

Directly Related: (Attached)

2015-A140 Amend Canon IV.14.12 [Of Accords and Orders]
2015-A141 Amend Canon IV.14.12(b) [Of Accords and Orders]

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 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.

D064 Amend Canon IV.14.12(a) and IV.14.12(b)

Proposer	The Rev. Canon Paul Stephens
Endorsed by	Johnstone, The Rev. Canon. Elise; Logue, The Rev. Canon Frank
Sponsored by	
Page numbers	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. 155
HiA / Leg. Cttee	/
Current Status	Pre-Filed Resolution
Version	Original (as filed)
Review Status	Not yet reviewed

RESOLUTION TEXT

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That Canon IV.14.12(a) is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 2 (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;~~ *and to the Office of Transition Ministry, which shall insert a notice of disciplinary action, and any changes noted thereto, on the Respondent's OTM Portfolio.*
- 3 And be it further
- 4 *Resolved*, That Canon IV.14.12(b) is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 5 (b) In the case of any Accord or Order pertaining to a Bishop, the Presiding Bishop shall give notice of the Accord or Order to the Ecclesiastical Authority of every Diocese of the Church, to the Recorder of Ordinations, ~~to the Office of Transition Ministry,~~ and to the Secretary of the House of Bishops, ~~and to all Archbishops and Metropolitans,~~ and to all Presiding Bishops of Churches in communion with this Church, *and to the Office of Transition Ministry, which shall insert a notice of disciplinary action, and any changes noted thereto, on the Respondent's OTM Portfolio.*

EXPLANATION

Presently, Bishops and/or Deployment Officers have no database through which one can verify whether an ordained person has been subject to a disciplinary action. The associated risk can be substantial, particularly if an ordained person has been the subject of proceedings involving sexual misconduct. Moreover, movement between dioceses and turnover in diocesan offices can contribute to older information not being known or readily accessible.

The resolution amends Canon IV.14.12(a) and (b) so that notice of any Accord or Order pertaining to a Deacon, Priest or Bishop will be included in the Respondent's OTM Portfolio, thus creating an accessible and easily searchable database and archive of disciplinary actions.



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-A141
Title: Amend Canon IV.14.12(b) [Of Accords and Orders]
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That Canon IV.14.12(b) be amended as follows:

(b) In the case of any Accord or Order pertaining to a Bishop, the Presiding Bishop shall give notice of the Accord or Order to the Ecclesiastical Authority of every Diocese of the Church, to the Recorder of Ordinations, to the ~~Church Deployment~~ Office of Transition Ministry, and to the Secretary of the House of Bishops, and to all Archbishops and Metropolitans, and to all Presiding Bishops of Churches in communion with ~~the~~this Church.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), pp. 715-716.