

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

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2018-D076  
**TITLE:** Amend Canon IV.6, add Section 4 to Provide Whistleblower Protection  
**PROPOSER:** The Rev. Karen Montagno  
**TOPIC:** Canons

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**Directly Related:** (Attached)

2009-A185 Amend Title IV [Ecclesiastical Discipline]

**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.*

# D076 Amend Canon IV.6, add Section 4 to Provide Whistleblower Protection

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<b>Proposer</b>	The Rev. Karen Montagno
<b>Endorsed by</b>	Getz, Ms. Pauline; James, The Rev. Dr. Molly
<b>Sponsored by</b>	
<b>Page numbers</b>	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. 139
<b>HiA / Leg. Cttee</b>	/
<b>Current Status</b>	Pre-Filed Resolution
<b>Version</b>	Original (as filed)
<b>Review Status</b>	Not yet reviewed

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## RESOLUTION TEXT

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Canon IV.6.3 hereby be amended to read as follows:
- 2 IV. Canon 6: Of Intake and Referral of Information Concerning Offenses
- 3 Sec. 2. Information concerning Offenses may be submitted to the Intake Officer in any manner and in any form.
- 4 Sec. 3. Any person other than the Intake Officer who receives information regarding an Offense shall promptly forward the information to the Intake Officer. A Bishop Diocesan shall forward information to the Intake Officer whenever the Bishop Diocesan believes that the information may contain conduct constituting one or more Offenses.
- 5 *Sec 4. If the information is brought to the Intake Officer by a Member of the Clergy under the requirements of IV.4.1(f), then the identity of the reporting Member of the Clergy shall be held in confidence by the Intake Officer, if so requested.*
- 6 Subsequent sections are to be renumbered.

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## EXPLANATION

The revision of Title IV in 2006 added the requirement that clergy become mandatory reporters; however, no action was taken to protect the identity of clergy who report offenses to the Intake Officer, resulting in an inadvertent chilling effect in reports. This proposal aims to give confidentiality to clergy who must, by virtue of the canons, report offenses, and yet would suffer for doing so.



**Resolution Number:** 2009-A185  
**Title:** Amend Title IV [Ecclesiastical Discipline]  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

[*Resolved*, that Canon IV.6 be amended to read as follows:]

**CANON 6: Of Intake and Referral of Information Concerning Offenses**

**Sec. 1. Each Diocese shall provide for and publicize methods and means of reporting information concerning Offenses.**

**Sec. 2. Information concerning Offenses may be submitted to the Intake Officer in any manner and in any form.**

**Sec. 3. Any person other than the Intake Officer who receives information regarding an Offense shall promptly forward the information to the Intake Officer. A Bishop Diocesan may forward information to the Intake Officer whenever the Bishop Diocesan believes that the information may indicate conduct constituting one or more Offenses.**

**Sec. 4. Upon receipt of such information, the Intake Officer may make such preliminary investigation as he or she deems necessary, and shall incorporate the information into a written intake report, including as much specificity as possible. The Intake Officer shall provide copies of the intake report to the other members of the Reference Panel *and to the Church Attorney*.**

**Citation:** Canon IV.6 is excerpted from the Final Text of 2009-A185, which revised Canon IV. See General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 2009* (New York: General Convention, 2009), pp. 227-266.