

**The Standing Committee
of the Episcopal Diocese of Nevada**

**Resolutions Setting Forth the Petition Process
for the Election of a Bishop Diocesan**

WHEREAS, the Episcopal Diocese of Nevada is conducting a discernment process to elect a new Bishop Diocesan; and

WHEREAS, the Episcopal transition process occurs under the supervision and jurisdiction of the Standing Committee of the Diocese; and

WHEREAS, a Search/Nominating Committee and a Transition Committee have been established by the Standing Committee to which specific responsibilities associated with the nomination/search process and the election/transition process, respectively, have been delegated; and

WHEREAS, among other responsibilities, the Standing Committee of the Diocese is responsible for one important aspect of the election of the new Bishop Diocesan—the “Petition Process”— for which the Standing Committee retains exclusive jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, by these resolutions, the Standing Committee desires to establish the procedures by which nominations may be submitted by means of the Petition Process in the Diocese.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Nevada does hereby establish and adopt the following Petition Process to apply to the election of a new Bishop Diocesan in this Diocese:

PURPOSE OF THE PETITION PROCESS

“Speak, lord, for your servant is listening.” 1 Samuel 3:10.

The Canons of the Episcopal Church provide for an election process in which laity and clergy join with the Holy Spirit to raise up new episcopal leadership. No one person or group knows whom God will choose, the people consenting, to lead this Diocese. Rather, the invitation to leadership is a process of discerning a call.

The principal method for calling candidates for election in this Diocese is the discernment work carried out by the Search/Nominating Committee. This Committee, comprised of a diverse and robust group of lay persons and clergy, has been appointed to carry out the important task of forming a slate of three to five candidates for election to serve as Bishop Diocesan.

The Petition Process, by contrast, is intended to address the narrow circumstance when a person called to candidacy has not been vetted in the Search/Nominating Committee process, or was not identified by the Search/Nominating Committee as one of the final candidates. There could be several reasons why a candidate did not become a discerned or final candidate but, instead, has a call through the Petition Process. We trust, though, that

the Search/Nominating Committee process will be the primary process through which the candidates participating in the election will be brought forward and ultimately selected as finalists.

WHO CAN BE NOMINATED BY PETITION PROCESS?

All Bishops and Priests in or affiliated with the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America (The Episcopal Church), who will lead the Episcopal Diocese of Nevada in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of the General Convention of The Episcopal Church and of this Diocese can be nominated by this Petition Process.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PETITION PROCESS CANDIDATES

The Standing Committee has developed the forms and established the requirements for the Petition Process in this Diocese. Copies of the forms developed by the Standing Committee for the Petition Process are attached to this Resolution as Exhibit A. Only the Standing Committee can waive any of the requirements established.

The slate of candidates identified by the Search/Nominating Committee for the position of Bishop of the Diocese was announced by the Standing Committee on the Diocesan website at 5:00 pm August 27, 2018. Accordingly, the Petition Period has commenced at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, August 27, 2018 and remain open for eight (8) business days closing at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time on Friday, September 7, 2018. Petitions must be supported by valid original signatures of eight (8) active clergy canonically resident in the Diocese and eight (8) lay communicants in good standing in the Diocese for a total of sixteen (16) required signatures. These sixteen (16) required individuals must represent at least four (4) different congregations (parishes or active missions) situated in at least three (3) different mission districts within the Diocese.

In order for a Petition candidate to be accepted by the Standing Committee, it is essential that the candidate submit the same information required of candidates discerned through the nominating process and consent to nomination in writing. These materials then will be used to supplement background checks and to develop published information on candidates on the ballot. The application materials required:

- Completed Petition Nomination Form (available at <https://bit.ly/2BPpxIz> and on the diocesan website [here](#))
- Consent to Nomination Form (please email office@epsicoaplnevada.org for form)
- Completed Consent and Authorization Form (please email office@episcopalnevada.org for form)
- Three letters of reference (at least one from an ordained person, one from your current bishop under whom the petition candidate is currently serving in a priestly role, and at least one from a lay person)
- Current resume/curriculum vitae
- A current photograph
- Updated Office For Transition Ministry (OTM) Clergy Portfolio
- Autobiographical statement (max. 500 words)

- A statement outlining why you believe yourself to be called through the Petition Process into discernment (max 250 words)
 - Answers to the four essay questions found on the diocesan profile (<https://episcopalbishopsearchnv.com>).
- Names and contact information for all previous bishops under whom the petitioner has served.
- Any other information the Standing Committee may require

The fully executed **originals** of the foregoing forms and requirements must be delivered for reception to The Episcopal Diocese of Nevada, 9480 South Eastern Avenue, Suite 236, Las Vegas, NV 89123-8037 - attention: Bonnie Polley. If any of these documents are received after 5:00 p.m. PDT on Friday, September 7, 2018, the nomination will be void and rejected by the Standing Committee.

Not every signatory is required to sign the same Petition Nomination Form. Instead, a Petition Nomination Form may be signed in counterpart, which means that all 16 signatories may sign separate Petition Nomination Forms as long as they are all affixed to the Petition Nomination Form at the time of reception. The original signatures of all 16 signatories are required to be affixed to the Petition Nomination Form by 5:00 p.m. EST on Friday, August 31, 2018 for the reception to be deemed complete. Once all original counterpart signature pages are affixed to the Petition Nomination Form, each separate counterpart signature page will be recognized as an original, but taken together they will be treated as one and the same original Petition Nomination Form. No signatory may be a member of the Standing Committee, Search/Nominating Committee or Transition Committee.

Requirements of Petition Candidate

Any Petition Process candidate must successfully complete the same background check process required of Search/Nominating Committee candidates. Any Petition Process candidate will participate in the pre-election processes, such as walkabouts, arranged by the Transition Committee. In addition, upon receipt of all required forms and additional information, the Chancellor of the Diocese will meet with any Petition Process candidate as will be done with all Search/Nominating Committee candidates.

Where can Petition Process forms be located?

All of the forms described in these resolutions that are related to the Petition Process may be located through the Home Page of the Diocese of Nevada or by email office@episcoplanevada.org.

Adopted by the Standing Committee on July 26, 2018

The Rev. Dn. Bonnie Polley
President of the Standing Committee
 Christ Episcopal Church, Las Vegas

Voting Members of the Standing Committee

The Rev. Dn. Marla Asson, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Elko, NV
 The Rev. Dn. Nancy Janess, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Fallon, NV
 The Rev. Canon Rick Millsap, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Reno, NV
 The Rev. Rick Smallwood, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Las Vegas, NV
 Leonard Baca, St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Ely, NV
 Dennis Kesner, Christ Episcopal Church, Las Vegas, NV
 Christine Marks, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Fallon, NV
 Tia Mittelstadt, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Sparks, NV
 Leah Negrete, Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, Bullhead City, AZ

Appendix 1. Mission Districts of the Diocese of Nevada and their affiliated Parishes

Southwest

<i>All Saints'</i>	<i>Las Vegas</i>
<i>Christ Church</i>	<i>Las Vegas</i>
<i>Epiphany</i>	<i>Las Vegas</i>
<i>Grace in the Desert</i>	<i>Las Vegas</i>
<i>St. Martin in the Desert</i>	<i>Pahrump</i>

Southeast

<i>Holy Spirit</i>	<i>Bullhead City</i>
<i>St. Christopher's</i>	<i>Boulder City</i>
<i>St. Luke's</i>	<i>Las Vegas</i>
<i>St. Matthew's</i>	<i>Las Vegas</i>
<i>St. Thomas'</i>	<i>Las Vegas</i>
<i>St. Timothy's</i>	<i>Henderson</i>

Frontier

<i>Christ Church</i>	<i>Pioche</i>
<i>St. Bartholomew's</i>	<i>Ely</i>
<i>St. George's</i>	<i>Austin</i>
<i>St. Mark's</i>	<i>Tonopah</i>
<i>St. Paul's</i>	<i>Elko</i>

Northwest

<i>Coventry Cross</i>	<i>Minden</i>
<i>St. Catherine of Siena</i>	<i>Reno</i>
<i>St. John in the Wilderness</i>	<i>Glenbrook</i>
<i>St. Patrick's</i>	<i>Incline Village</i>
<i>St. Paul's</i>	<i>Sparks</i>
<i>St. Peter's</i>	<i>Carson City</i>
<i>Trinity Cathedral</i>	<i>Reno</i>

Central

<i>Holy Trinity</i>	<i>Fallon</i>
<i>Grace-St. Francis</i>	<i>Lovelock</i>
<i>St. Alban's</i>	<i>Yerington</i>
<i>St. Hugh of Lincoln</i>	<i>Silver Spring</i>
<i>St. Mary the Virgin</i>	<i>Nixon</i>
<i>St. Paul the Prospector</i>	<i>Virginia City</i>
<i>St. Michael and All Angels'</i>	<i>Wadsworth</i>