



## **CHRISTIAN MINISTERS ASSOCIATION**

### **Statement of Principle: Authority and Accountability**

The CMA has in its earliest history the purpose to be a place of encouragement and fellowship to ministers and Christian workers of like mind, purpose and doctrine.

CMA is an association and fellowship of ministers and is not a denomination. Ministers voluntarily choose to join the CMA based on a relational connectedness for the purpose of associating with other ministers and resources.

One of the belief and practices as outlined in our statement of Faith, is the conviction that every local Church/Ministry is autonomously self-governed, self-supporting and self-propagating. We as an association stand together in affiliation with the church/ministry leaders yet we do not violate their leadership and the authority of the local church or ministry.

As a result the CMA does not hold or administer the land or buildings of the local church or Para church ministries. CMA does not involve itself legally with any church or ministry or properties. All these functions belong to the local expression of the Churches or ministries. The CMA exists for the chief purpose of support to the ministers and the work they are involved in.

The CMA provides a context of accountability without control to all of its members. The CMA does not have any legal or official role or control over any of its ministers other than that of providing government registration for the purpose of officiating marriage ceremonies. Basic Scriptural guidelines as set out in our membership process are agreed upon which govern the minister's conduct during the tenure of their membership.

The CMA requires all ministers to be under the legal authority of and accountable to their own church or ministry government (elders, board, leadership team, etc.). If a minister does not have effective leadership accountability, then they are encouraged to come alongside the accountability of a covering church or ministry while in the process of establishing their own accountability team, or, to continue to walk in an accountability relationship with those who recommended them for membership in the CMA. If at any time a minister, ministry, or leadership team invites CMA leaders to be involved in an internal matter, any given suggestions would be submitted to that leadership as encouragement only. Any decisions or actions taken would be the function and sole responsibility of that local church or ministry government.

The CMA does not have the authority to remove a leader from any local ministry, church leadership or volunteer position. The CMA does hold the right to terminate a minister's membership in the association, in accordance with our bylaws, and cancel any governmental registration as a religious representative of the Christian Ministers Association.