

# Canons Governing the Commission on Ministry of the Diocese of Rhode Island

Constitution and Canons 2006, The Episcopal Church

Canon 2: Of Commissions on Ministry

Sec. 1. In each Diocese there shall be a Commission on Ministry ("Commission") consisting of Priests, Deacons, if any, and Lay Persons. The Canons of each Diocese shall provide for the number of members, terms of office and manner of selection to the Commission.

Sec. 2. The Commission shall advise and assist the Bishop:

- (a) In the implementation of Title III of these Canons.
- (b) In the determination of present and future opportunities and needs for the ministry of all baptized persons.
- (c) In the design and oversight of the ongoing process for recruitment, discernment, formation for ministry, and assessment of readiness therefor.

Sec. 3. The Commission may adopt rules for its work, subject to the approval of the Bishop; Provided that they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and Canons of the Church and of the Diocese.

Sec. 4. The Commission may establish committees consisting of members and other persons to report to the Commission or to act on its behalf.

Sec. 5. The Bishop and Commission shall ensure that the members of the Commission and its committees receive ongoing education and training for their work.

Canon VII.3, Diocese of Rhode Island

7.3 Commission on Ministry. The Commission on Ministry shall be composed of six clergy, at least four of whom shall be presbyters, and six lay members nominated by the Bishop and confirmed by Convention for three year terms.

(a) Powers The Commission shall have the powers prescribed in the Canons of The Episcopal Church, together with such additional powers, duties and responsibilities, not inconsistent with the Canons of The Episcopal Church, as the Bishop may from time to time specify.

(b) Procedures. Under the guidance and oversight of the Bishop, the Commission shall have primary responsibility for the selection, examination, interviewing and evaluation of all applicants for holy orders, as prescribed by the Canons of The Episcopal Church. The Commission may act through committees in the conduct of any or all such duties.

(c) Commission Reports. The Commission shall make a separate written report to the Bishop with respect to each applicant setting forth the results of all interviews and evaluations conducted by or for it. The Bishop shall transmit appropriate reports to the Standing Committee, which shall in no case recommend a postulant for admission as an applicant for holy orders or recommend an applicant for ordination until the report of the Commission has been considered by the Committee.

(d) Other Appointments. With the advice and consent of the Bishop, the Commission may designate other persons, both clerical and lay, to assist and act with any committee of the Commission.

(e) Annual Report. The Commission shall make an annual report concerning its work to the Diocesan Convention.