

## **Synopsis of Part 3 Amendments**

### *10O – Decision of Permanent Judicial Commission on Amending D-13.0404*

Approved by GA219 by consensus

This amendment adds language addressing the ability of a prosecuting committee to appeal a verdict of not guilty. The rationale for consideration is to protect the integrity of the original super-majority vote by a trial courts.

Please pay particular attention to the editor's notes in regards to the impact of the approval of 10N and/or approval of 10O.

### *10N – appeal of Not Guilty Verdict*

Approved by GA219 by consensus

This amendment changes who may initiate the first level of an appeal in a disciplinary action to permit only the person found guilty to initiate an appeal. It also redefines the grounds for appeal.

### *10M – Time Limit*

Approved by GA219 by consensus

This amendment revises the language to increase the number of years in which changes may be filed. The rationale is to allow more time for the governing body to gain notice that an offense has been alleged.

### *10L – Reviewing the work of the Investigating Committee*

Approved by GA219 by consensus

An additional phrase is added to this section and the remaining phrases of D-10.0202 renumbered. The purpose is to clarify the role of the investigating committee in preventing repetitive allegations against one person for the purpose of harassment.

### *10K – Preliminary Questions*

Approved by GA219 by consensus

This amendment provides for the dismissal of a case if there is no challenge to the findings of the Moderator or the Clerk without further action by the PJC.

### *10J – Stay of enforcement*

Approved by GA219 by consensus

## ***Part Three Amendments Synopsis 2***

This amendment revised language that had an unintended consequence of placing too much responsibility and authority with the Stated Clerk. The change in wording clarifies procedures for obtaining a stay of enforcement.

### ***10I - Adding Prayer to Ordination and Installation Services***

Approved by Ga219 by consensus

Adding language to W-4.4004h, "Will you ***pray for and*** seek to serve..."

Also added language to W-4.4004a(2), "Do we agree to ***pray for them***, to encourage..."

### ***10H - Nominations process***

Approved by GA219 by consensus

Modifies the requirements for committees to include the following language, "ministers and elders (both women and men) in numbers nearly as equal as possible

### ***10G - Synod function***

Approved by GA219 on a voice vote

Allows process for adjacent synods to share some administrative functions with approval of 2/3 majority of its presbyteries. Also allows synods to reduce some functions with 2/3 majority vote of its presbyteries (cannot limit functions of judicial review and presbytery administrative overview)

### ***10F - Certified Christian educators***

Approved by GA219 on a vote of 570 affirmative, 67 negative and 10 abstentions.

Adds language that clarified that Certified Christian Educators who are ordained elders have voice and vote at presbytery meetings. Otherwise Certified Christian educators have voice but not vote

### ***10E - Presbytery rolls and registers***

Approved by GA219 by consensus

Adds requirement that in addition to the rolls including Certified Christian Educators and Associate Christian Educators that it also include commissioned lay pastors

### ***10D - Nominating committees***

Approved by GA219 by consensus.

Modifies the requirements for representation with the following language, "...with membership of ministers and elders, women and men in numbers as nearly equal as possible..."

### ***10C - Sexual misconduct policy***

### *Part Three Amendments Synopsis 3*

Approved by GA219 by consensus

Requires all governing bodies to adopt and implement a sexual misconduct policy.

#### *10B - Removing the Stated Clerk or Clerk of Session*

Approved by GA219 by consensus

Adds the following language, "A stated clerk may be removed from office prior to completion of his or her term of service through the use of the process outlined in G-9.0705."

#### *10A - Gifts and Requirements (Ordination)*

Approved by GA219 on a vote of 373 affirmative, 323 negative and 4 abstentions.

Provision on ordination standards removes the "requirement to live either in fidelity within the covenant of marriage between a man and a woman (W-4.9001), or chastity in singleness" language and includes the language, "...submit joyfully to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life..."