

**THE PRESBYTERY OF THE MIAMI VALLEY  
REPRESENTATION AND DIVERSITY  
POLICY AND PRACTICE**

*(Note: Whenever the term “minister of the Word and Sacrament” is used in this Policy and Practice, it is deemed to be identical to the equivalent term “teaching elder” when that term is used in the Book of Order.)*

**ARTICLE I  
POLICY**

**Section 1.01: General**

The policies of the Representation and Diversity Committee represent the authority vested in it by the Presbytery of the Miami Valley. In carrying out such policies the Representation and Diversity Committee is acting as the presbytery in all measure and manner. All additions, deletions or changes to this policy must be approved by the presbytery. No policy of the Representation and Diversity Committee shall be contrary to the provisions of the *Book of Order*.

**Section 1.02: Function**

The Representation and Diversity Committee shall execute the various functions necessary to carry out the mission and ministry of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley with respect to *Section 3.12* of the *PMV Policy and Practice*. It shall fulfill, in accordance with *G-3.0103* of the *Book of Order*, the following functions: to advise the presbytery regarding the implementation of principles of unity and diversity; to advocate for diversity in leadership; and to consult with the presbytery on the employment of personnel in accordance with the principles of unity and diversity in *F-1.0403* of the *Book of Order*.

Specific functions of the committee shall include:

1. Consult with, advise, and counsel the Nominations Committee as part of the process of nominating persons for office in the presbytery and persons to serve on the presbytery's Leadership Council, committees and commissions.
2. Advise the Leadership Council, through the Staff Support Committee, on the employment of personnel in accordance with the principles of participation, diversity and representation.
3. Monitor the movement of the presbytery, its constituent churches, and its committees and agencies, toward the fulfillment of the church's commitment to participation, diversity and representation.

**Section 1.03: Committee Size**

Membership of the committee shall consist of:

- a. six (6) at-large members, elected two (2) per year over a period of three years, to serve in three separate annual classes for terms of three years renewable for one

- term, with equal numbers of elders and ministers serving as elected at-large members of the committee at any one time, and
- b. a representative from the following committees of the presbytery, who shall be chosen annually by that council or committee:
    - 1. Nominations Committee (1 member)
  - c. One member of the Committee on Representation and diversity shall be chosen by the committee to serve a one-year renewable term on the Leadership Council.
  - d. Members of the committee shall be appointed to serve as liaison to all other committees or councils and shall visit them at least 2 times per year.

**Section 1.04: Quorum**

One more than one-half of the current voting members shall constitute a quorum. All proceedings from meetings with no quorum present must be ratified at the earliest subsequent meeting in which there is a quorum.

**Section 1.05: Budget**

The operating budget for the Representation and Diversity Committee shall be determined and approved by the presbytery. As part of the budget process, the committee shall provide its funding request annually to the Presbytery Trustees.

**Section 1.06: Communication and Access**

The Representation and Diversity Committee shall be open to communication and access at all times to all persons within the presbytery.

**Section 1.07: Staff Support**

The Stated Clerk shall serve as staff support without vote.

**ARTICLE II  
PRACTICE**

**Section 2.01: Schedule of Meetings**

Not fewer than four (4) regular meetings shall be held annually, at a time determined by the committee. The committee may meet in special session as needed. All actions taken by the Representation and Diversity Committee shall be reported at the next meeting of the Leadership Council through the Council's representative on the committee.

**(End of Representation and Diversity Policy and Practice)**