

Changes that are additions are in **bold italics** and removals are shown by ~~strikethrough~~.

**PRESBYTERY OF THE MIAMI VALLEY
PMV POLICY AND PRACTICE**

**ARTICLE III
STANDING COMMITTEES**

Section 3.05: Officers

Each standing committee shall have a chair ***or co-chairs***, nominated by the Nominations Committee and elected by the presbytery, and any other officers that may be specified in the specific committee's *Policy and Practice*.

RATIONALE: *we are currently following this practice so it needs to be corrected in our policy.*

**ARTICLE VI
PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO SEXUAL MISCONDUCT**

Section 6.02 Prohibition of Sexual Misconduct

..... *(beginning not changed)*

This policy is intended to apply to and govern the conduct of ministers of the Word and Sacrament who are members of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley; commissioned ruling elders serving at the direction of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley; Certified Christian Educators serving within the Presbytery of the Miami Valley; ***inquirers; candidates; and Christian educators in process to be certified***; employees, officers and agents of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley; and any other persons working for the presbytery in connection with any of its programs, ministries, organizations or activities.

RATIONALE: *The Book or Order now requires boundary training for inquirers, candidates and Christian Educators in process to become certified.*

(LAST PARAGRPH IN Section 6.02)

Whenever an allegation of sexual misconduct under this policy is received about a member of a church of the presbytery, then in addition to the other procedures called for by this policy in response to such complaints, the Pastor of the member's church will be notified of the complaint. Any session may choose to request referral of a case to presbytery (~~D-4.000~~). *(D-7.0401)*.

RATIONALE: *This is the updated reference: D-7.0401*

Section 6.04 Prevention

1. This policy shall be distributed to all ministers of the Word and Sacrament, certified Christian educators, commissioned ruling elders, employees, volunteers, and entities of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley. All ***inquirers, candidates, Christian Educators in certification process, Certified Christian educators***, ministers of the Word and Sacrament, volunteers, and employees of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley are required to read and agree to abide by the terms of this policy. A signed acknowledgement and agreement to abide by the policy will be kept in the appropriate file.

RATIONALE: *The Book of Order now requires boundary training for inquirers, candidates and Christian Educators in process to become certified.*

2. In addition, all ministers of the Word and Sacrament seeking new calls within the Presbytery of the Miami Valley shall complete the ***Personal Information Form Personal Discernment Profile (PDP)*** currently being distributed by the Call Referral Services of the PC (USA), including Part IV, Sexual Misconduct Information, or its successor form.

RATIONALE: *The names of the forms on CLC have been changed.*

4.a

- a. Within one year of call or employment, and at least every ***thirty-six (36) months*** ~~five years~~ thereafter, ministers of the Word and Sacrament who are members of the PMV; commissioned ruling elders serving at the direction of the PMV; certified Christian educators serving within the PMV; ***inquirers, candidates, Christian educators in certification process***, employees, officers and agents of the PMV; and any other persons working for the presbytery in connection with any of its programs, ministries, organizations or activities, whether paid or unpaid, are required to attend a Sexual Misconduct Prevention Training which the presbytery will provide. The presbytery will provide adequate notice of all such trainings.

RATIONALE: *The Book of Order now requires boundary training for inquirers, candidates and Christian Educators in process to become certified.*

b.

- c. The Committee on Ministry shall create a roll of ministers of the Word and Sacrament, and certified Christian educators permanently retired from ministry ***and no longer engaged in any form of ministry***. These persons shall be permanently exempt from the training requirement in (a) above. This list will include all persons known to be too infirm to attend training or conduct ministry. Any minister of the Word and Sacrament or certified Christian educator may ask to be included on this list provided that

they do so in writing and acknowledge that they will no longer engage in any form of ministry.

RATIONALE: *This is proposed for clarity.*

Section 6.06 Process for Reporting Sexual Misconduct

1. Initial Report

When a person believes that he or she has been the victim of sexual misconduct perpetrated by a minister of the Word and Sacrament who is a member of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley; a commissioned ruling elder serving at the direction of Presbytery of the Miami Valley; a certified Christian educator serving within Presbytery of the Miami Valley; an employee, officer or agent of the Presbytery of the Miami Valley; or any other persons working for the presbytery in connection with any of its programs, ministries, organizations or activities, the incident should first be reported to the Moderator of the Presbytery, Executive Presbyter, the chair of the Committee on Ministry (COM), or the Stated Clerk of the presbytery. These individuals shall contact each other after learning of an incident and shall proceed immediately to notify the Response Taskforce coordinator who shall then contact the alleged victim to determine what further action is necessary. Upon receiving a report the Moderator of the presbytery, Executive Presbyter, the chair of the Committee on Ministry, or the Stated Clerk of the presbytery may draft her or his own written complaint regardless of whether the alleged victim chooses to draft a complaint.

At any point when an accuser submits a written allegation to the Stated Clerk, the disciplinary procedures outlined in **Chapter 10 7 of Church Discipline Rules of Discipline** in the *Book of Order* will control the response of the presbytery.

RATIONALE: *Book of Order change in reference*