

# Nomination by Petition Process

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In addition to candidates nominated by the Search/Nomination Committee, candidates may be nominated by petition for 15<sup>th</sup> Bishop of the Diocese of Connecticut in accordance with the following timeline and requirements.

**1. Timing.** The process for nomination by petition commences the day after announcement of the Search/Nomination Committee's slate of nominees and will proceed according to the following timeline:

- 7/2/09: The Standing Committee announces commencement of period during which petition candidate applications will be accepted. (Announcement should be broadly disseminated via same means/channels used by Search/Nomination Committee to announce its nominees the previous day, with published links to website for further information and application materials.)
- 7/2/09-7/24/09: Standing Committee receives petition candidate application materials, including signature endorsements by required clergy and lay Diocesan Convention delegates. Background checks will commence upon receipt of each petition candidate's application materials.
- 8/7/09: Signature endorsements that were submitted electronically by the 7/24/09 application deadline must be submitted in paper form (i.e., with original signatures) in order to be considered for certification by the Standing Committee.
- 8/20/09: Standing Committee reviews and certifies petition candidates at its August meeting. Standing Committee certification will be conditioned on background check results. Any petition candidate whose background check is not completed prior to September 4, 2009 or whose background check results are determined by the Standing Committee to disqualify the candidate for nomination will be expected to withdraw as a candidate quickly and graciously.
- 9/4/09: Standing Committee announces nominees by petition for 15<sup>th</sup> Bishop of the Diocese of Connecticut in the same manner and through the same channels/outlets and including the same informational materials as was done previously for Search/Nomination Committee's announcement of its slate of nominees (e.g., e-mail and eWeekly News announcement with link back to website and nominee information materials)
- October 2009: Petition nominees participate equally with Search/Nomination Committee nominees in all activities designed to introduce nominees to the Diocese.
- 10/24/09: Diocesan Convention elects 15<sup>th</sup> Bishop of the Diocese of Connecticut at Christ Church Cathedral, Hartford

**2. Application Materials.** Application materials for petition candidates will be posted on the Diocesan website on **July 2, 2009** and will include:

- An application form that will require the same basic candidate information, signatures and certifications as set forth in the Search/Nomination Committee's application form.
- A resume that contains details of education, employment history (including secular employment) and any other information the candidate may deem pertinent.
- A request that the candidate's CDO profile be current and up to date by the application deadline.
- Written responses to the same essay questions required by the Search/Nomination Committee as well as the following additional questions specific to petition candidates:
  - Did you participate in the Search/Nomination Committee nominating process, and if not, why not?
  - Why are you petitioning to be included as a candidate now?
- Signature endorsements by clergy and lay members of the Diocese supporting the nomination of the petition candidate, in accordance with the requirements set forth in Section 3 below.
- Signature certification or consent by the petition candidate to the following:
  - Certification of eligibility per the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church
  - Consent to undergoing the same background check as Search/Nomination Committee nominees, and to disclosure of the results to the Standing Committee.
  - Consent to a speedy and gracious withdrawal if background check results are not received prior to **September 4, 2009** or if the Standing Committee determines that background check results are such that the candidacy should not go forward.

**3. Signature Endorsements.** Petition candidates should be widely known and have broad support within the Diocese, as this is the primary substitute for the Search/Nomination Committee's vetting of its nominees (e.g., by interviews, site visits, reference checks), to which petition candidates will not be subject. Accordingly, petition candidates will be required to obtain the following signature endorsements:

- 16 total endorsements from delegates to Diocesan Convention, which must include:
- 8 endorsements from clergy delegates and 8 from lay delegates
- Endorsements must be by delegates representing at least 6 of the 14 deaneries of the Diocese

Signature endorsements may be done in counterparts (not all signatures on same document) and initially may be submitted electronically if followed thereafter by paper originals, in accordance with the requirements set forth in section 4 below.

**4. Electronic or Paper Submission.** Application materials may be submitted by petition candidates either in paper form or electronically (by fax or e-mail) by the **July 24, 2009** deadline. If signature endorsements are submitted electronically by the application deadline, they must be submitted in paper form (i.e., with original endorsement signatures) no later than **August 7, 2009**.

**5. Next Steps.** Petition nominees will be announced to the Diocese and will participate in activities to introduce nominees to the Diocese in the same manner and on the same basis as the Search/Nomination Committee nominees, with the following exceptions:

- The initial announcement of the petition nominees by the Standing Committee will clearly state the similarities and differences between the nomination processes for petition nominees and Search/Nomination Committee nominees, including the vetting activities (interviews, site visits, reference checks) not required of petition nominees and the broad signature endorsements not required of Search/Nomination Committee nominees.
- Election procedures at Diocesan Convention require the Search/Nomination Committee Chairperson to nominate the Committee's nominees and the President of the Standing Committee to nominate petition nominees.

After initial announcement of petition nominees by the Standing Committee, a composite slate all nominees will be presented in alphabetical order (on the Diocesan website and on election ballots at Diocesan Convention) without differentiation between Search/Nomination Committee and petition nominees.

Plans for introducing the nominees to the Diocese and the Diocese to the nominees will be announced after **July 1, 2009**.

No nomination of petition candidates will be accepted unless in compliance with the requirements set forth herein. Nominations from the floor of the Diocesan Convention will not in order and will not be allowed.