

# Title IV Accountability & Standards

By virtue of Baptism, all members of the Church are called to holiness of life and accountability to one another. The Church and each Diocese shall support their members in their life in Christ and seek to resolve conflicts by promoting healing, repentance, forgiveness, restitution, justice, amendment of life, and reconciliation among all involved or affected. This Title applies to Members of the Clergy, who have by their vows at ordination accepted additional responsibilities and accountabilities for doctrine, discipline, worship and obedience. Canon IV.1

In order for any conduct or condition to be the subject of the provisions of this Title, the Offense complained of must violate applicable provisions of Canon IV.3 or IV.4 and must be material and substantial or of clear and weighty importance to the ministry of the Church. Canon IV.3.3

This sheet does not contain all relevant information and should only guide you to the Canons. Please read the actual Canons.

## Process Accountabilities

- The Clergy shall not fail (without good cause) to cooperate with any investigation or proceeding conducted under authority of this Title. Read Canon IV.3.1(b): Time Limits B.
- The Clergy shall not intentionally and maliciously bring false accusations, provide false accusations, testimony, or evidence. Read Canon IV.3.1(c): Time Limits B.
- The Clergy shall abide by the requirements of applicable Accords, Orders, Pastoral Directions, etc. Read Canons IV.4.1(d) & IV.2: Time Limits A.
- The Clergy shall report all matters which may constitute an Offense as defined in Canons IV.2 and IV.3.3 (except Confession). Read Canon IV.4.1(f): Time Limits A.

## Standards: Behaviors Enjoined

- The Clergy shall exercise ministry in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of the Church & Diocese, licensure, commission, and Community rule or bylaw. Read Canon IV.4.1(g): Time Limits A or C.
- The Clergy shall respect and preserve the confidences of others. Read Canon IV.4.1(a): Time Limits A.
- The Clergy shall conform to the Rubrics of the *Book of Common Prayer*. Read Canon IV.4.1(b). Time Limits A.
- The Clergy shall abide by the promises and vows made when ordained. Read Canon IV.4.1(c): Time Limits A or C.
- The Clergy shall safeguard the property and funds of the Church and Community. Read Canon IV.4.1(e): Time Limits B.

## Standards: Behaviors Prohibited

- ↔ • The Clergy shall not knowingly violate or attempt to violate the Constitution and Canons of the Church or of any Diocese. Read Canon IV.3.1(a): Time Limits A or C.
- The Clergy shall not engage in any act of Sexual Misconduct. Read Canons IV.4.1(h)(1) & IV.2: Time Limits A or C.
- The Clergy shall not publicly or privately, and advisedly hold or teach any doctrine contrary to that held by the Church. Read Canon IV.4.1(h)(2): Time Limits A.
- The Clergy shall not engage in secular employment, calling or business without the consent of his or her Bishop. Read Canon IV.4.1(h)(3): Time Limits A.
- The Clergy shall not be absent without leave from his or her Diocese more than two years. Read Canon IV.4.1(h)(4): Time Limits A.
- The Clergy shall not engage in criminal acts. Read Canon IV.4.1(h)(5): Time Limits A or C.
- The Clergy shall not engage in dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation. Read Canon IV.4.1(h)(6): Time Limits A.
- The Clergy shall not habitually neglect their ministerial office. Read Canon IV.4.1(h)(7): Time Limits A.
- The Clergy shall not engage in any Conduct Unbecoming a Member of the Clergy. Read Canons IV.4.1(h)(8) & IV.2: Time Limits A or C.

### Time Limits

Time Limits are calculated from the time of the alleged Offense or its continuation and the time that a report of the alleged Offense is made to the Intake Officer. Read Canon IV.19.4(e).

**Time Limits A** [Read Canon IV.19.4(a&c)]: 10 years (retroactive to January 1, 1996), or,

Up to three years after a conviction in Civil or Criminal Court of Record, or,

Up to the Injured Person's 25th birthday if the alleged acts occurred before the person was 21, or,

If an alleged Injured Person was under disability and did not discover/realize the effects of the abuse within 10 years, limits shall be extended two years but may not exceed 15 years from the time of the alleged offense.

**Time Limits B** [Read Canon IV.19.4(d)]: 2 years

**Time Limits C** [Read Canon IV.19.4(b)]: There are no time limits for alleged acts of physical violence, sexual abuse or sexual exploitation of persons under 21 years of age.