

The Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming
RESOLUTION FOR ELECTING CONVENTION MARCH 20, 2010

TOPIC: Special Rules for the Election of a Bishop Diocesan

1 WHEREAS, the Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming will elect a Bishop Diocesan on
2 or about March 20, 2010, and Special Rules of Order for that election should be in
3 place prior to that election convention in order to govern the nominating procedures,
4 credentialing of delegates and other organizational matters;

5 RESOLVED: That the 43rd Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of
6 Wyoming adopt the following Special Rules for the Election of a Bishop Diocesan:

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WYOMING
SPECIAL ELECTION CONVENTION
MARCH 20, 2010

SPECIAL RULES FOR THE ELECTION OF A BISHOP DIOCESAN

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CONVENTION

13 **1)** Clergy and delegates will gather for the 2010 Special Election Convention of the
14 Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming on or about March 20, 2010 beginning with Eucharist at
15 9:00 a.m. and the special order of business following immediately thereafter at the
16 Cathedral Church of St. Matthew in Laramie, WY. Registration and credentialing will
17 begin at 8:00 a.m.

18 **2)** The election of a Bishop Diocesan shall be in conformity with the provisions of the
19 Constitution of the Diocese of Wyoming, the Canons of the Diocese of Wyoming, and
20 these Special Rules of Order.

II. CONVENTION FLOOR

22 An appropriate portion of the Cathedral shall be reserved and designated as the Floor of
23 the Convention where delegates and clergy shall be seated. No person shall be admitted
24 to the Floor of the Convention without the appropriate identifying badge. All other
25 persons including alternates, guests, media, etc., shall be seated as otherwise designated,
26 and shall not enter upon the Floor of the Convention during its deliberations.

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28 The Electing Convention is being held at St Matthew's Cathedral and is in the nature of a
29 religious service as well as a meeting. As a religious service, decorum is to be
30 maintained and the use of cellular phones and other electronic devices are to be used in
31 that spirit. Official communications about balloting and communication with nominees
32 are the responsibility of the Transition Committee who will carry out all functions
33 assigned to that committee.

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35 **III. ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS**

36 As provided by the Constitution of the Diocese of Wyoming, the special Election
37 Convention shall be composed of the Clergy and Lay Delegates prescribed in the
38 Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Wyoming as follows:

39 **1)** Clergy shall be voting members of Convention as described in Canon 3 of the Canons
40 of the Diocese of Wyoming.

41 **2)** Lay Delegates shall consist of delegates elected as described in Canon 3 of the
42 Canons of the Diocese of Wyoming

43 Delegates shall be Adult (16+) Communicants in Good Standing.

44 **3)** The Convention shall be the final judge of the qualification of its members.

45 **4)** Names of Lay Delegates shall be forwarded to the Secretary at least thirty (30) days
46 prior to the meeting of Convention. Such certificates shall be the source of the
47 Secretary's list of Lay Delegates.

48 **IV. CREDENTIALS/REGISTRATION**

49 An identifying badge will be issued at the credentials desk at the time of registration
50 identifying each person as clergy or lay delegate entitled to vote. In addition to the
51 identifying badge, each Member of Convention shall receive at the credentials desk, a
52 copy of the Report of the Oversight, Search and Transition Committees, a copy of these
53 Special Rules, and such other materials as may have been approved by the Presiding
54 Officer and Secretary of the Special Convention. Distributed with the Report of the
55 Search Committee shall be a copy of a declaration of intent by each Nominee to accept
56 office if elected, and an acknowledgement that the compensation package approved by
57 Diocesan Council and the Standing Committee and communicated to the final Nominees
58 is satisfactory and acceptable.

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Others allowed the privilege of the Floor, but not entitled to vote, will be given an appropriate identifying badge. This category includes:

- members of the Oversight Committee, Search Committee and Transition Committee who are not delegates or clergy;
- members of the Committee on Dispatch of Business;
- members of the Credentials Committee;
- tellers, pages and arrangements staff;
- sergeant-at-arms and assistants.

If a nominee is a Member of Convention, he or she may vote but shall not be present on the Convention Floor during the election portion of the Special Convention.

V. SUBSTITUTION OF ALTERNATES

No vote may be cast by proxy.

If a member of the clergy entitled to vote is absent, no substitute is qualified to cast a vote.

At the time of registration, alternates may be substituted for delegates only upon written authorization of the chairperson of the delegation or the rector of the parish, submitted to the Committee on Credentials. Upon verification by the Committee on Credentials, the Secretary or Assistant Secretary of Convention will certify and substitute the alternate's name on the delegate list, and issue a new identifying badge.

If a delegate leaves the Convention the delegate shall go the Credentialing desk with his/her credentials and with an alternate who has previously been certified by the Committee on Credentials as an alternate from his/her parish. The delegate and alternate shall turn in their badges, the name of the alternate shall be substituted on the delegate list being used at the appropriate ballot box, and the alternate shall receive a delegate's badge. Once a delegate has been replaced by an alternate, that delegate may not return to the Floor.

VI. NON-DELEGATE SEATING

Sessions of the Convention shall be open to the public to the extent seating is available.

VII. ORDER OF CONVENTION

89 The Bishop or other Presiding Officer will call the Convention to order immediately
90 following the celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 20,
91 2010.

92 The Chancellor shall present these Special Rules of Order to the Convention as adopted
93 by the 2009 Annual Convention of the Episcopal Church in Wyoming and any
94 amendments thereto.

95 The Standing Committee shall report the actions taken to provide for the election of a
96 Bishop Diocesan.

97 The Presiding Officer shall report to the Convention the names of those serving on the
98 Committee on Credentials and request that those so named to the Committee on
99 Credentials be confirmed by the Convention. Following confirmation of the Committee
100 on Credentials, that Committee shall present a report of the clergy and delegates entitled
101 to vote, and a determination that a quorum is present, after which the report shall be
102 submitted to the Convention for adoption.

103 The Presiding Officer shall report to the Convention the names of the tellers for the
104 Convention, and request that those named as tellers be confirmed by the Convention.

105 The Presiding Officer shall report to the Convention the names of those serving on the
106 Committee on Dispatch of Business and appoint a timekeeper.

107 The Committee on Dispatch of Business will have the responsibility for the order of
108 business of the Convention once it is formally convened.

109 The Presiding Officer shall appoint a sergeant-at-arms and such assistants as the
110 Presiding Officer deems necessary for the safeguarding of the Convention.

111 The sole order of business shall be the election of a Bishop Diocesan.

112 When the Presiding Officer shall announce that nominations for the election of a Bishop
113 Diocesan are in order, he or she shall first recognize a member of the Search Committee
114 to present, in alphabetical order, the nominations of the committee which have been
115 published and distributed to all members of the Convention as Nominees of the Search
116 Committee, whereupon such persons shall be deemed to have been duly nominated and
117 seconded. Candidates from the Petition Process will then be nominated and seconded by
118 two (2) delegates to the Convention.

119 There shall be no nominating speeches or speeches in support of any Nominees. No
120 printed material regarding nominees and petition candidates, other than the Report of the
121 Search Committee and official ballots shall be allowed on the floor.

122 At the conclusion of the report of nominations, the nominations shall be closed and the
123 names of all candidates—those nominated by the Search Committee and the Petition
124 candidates—shall be listed in alphabetical order and the list shall be projected on a
125 screen or otherwise displayed to the members of the Convention. The list shall be on
126 display until the conclusion of the final ballot.

127 The Convention shall proceed to ballot, by order, in writing, until a Nominee receives a
128 majority in both orders of those voting, providing a quorum shall be present as provided
129 by the Canons, and a Nominee is thereby elected Bishop Diocesan. There shall be no
130 proxy voting and no write-in votes; any ballot with a write-in will be included in the
131 total of ballots cast, but the vote for the person written in will be invalid.

132 A Nominee may remove his or her name from the ballot at any time during the voting by
133 advising the Secretary in writing, by telephone or by fax message signed by the
134 Nominee. Once a Nominee has withdrawn, his or her name may not be re-entered on the
135 ballot.

136 Clergy and lay delegates shall vote at designated ballot boxes, with ballot cards
137 designated by color for lay and clerical orders. A list of Convention members voting at
138 each ballot box shall be kept beside the ballot box, and the name of the voter shall be
139 checked off the list by a teller before s/he shall deposit a ballot in the box.

140 The counting of ballots shall not begin until all ballots have been cast. When balloting
141 has been completed, the ballots shall be counted by the tellers and results shall be
142 reported in writing to the Presiding Officer who shall cause the results to be announced
143 and displayed to the Convention.

144 The Special Convention may recess from time to time as it shall vote. Otherwise, voting
145 shall continue until an election occurs or the Presiding Officer requests a response to the
146 question: “Shall the Special Convention continue to ballot?” If the question is answered
147 in the affirmative, by a majority of the delegates present and entitled to vote, the Special
148 Convention shall act accordingly and continue the election process. If the question is
149 answered in the negative by a majority of delegates present and entitled to vote, the

150 election process shall end and the Special Convention shall consider what further course
151 it wishes to follow.

152 After the Presiding Officer shall have declared that an election has taken place, he or she
153 shall notify the elected person, obtain the elected person's acceptance of election, and
154 shall make provision to notify the other candidates. No motion to elect by acclamation
155 shall be in order prior to the acceptance being received and reported to the Convention.
156 The Presiding Officer shall direct all delegates to sign the canonical Testimonials to the
157 Election of a Bishop Diocesan before leaving the floor of the Convention, and s/he shall
158 ask that a motion be made from the floor that the Standing Committee of the Diocese be
159 instructed to forward to the House of Bishops and to the Standing Committees of all
160 dioceses in The Episcopal Church the canonical testimonials and certificates required by
161 the Canons of General Convention evidencing the election, and to do all other things
162 necessary to ensure the ordination of the Bishop Diocesan-elect.

163 It is the express intent of the Special Convention that any election of a Nominee to be the
164 Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Wyoming is made in reliance upon full, truthful and
165 complete disclosures by that Nominee to the Oversight Committee, Search Committee,
166 Transition Committee, Office of the Chancellor and the Special Convention. If, after the
167 election but prior to consecration, the Special Convention concludes that the Bishop-
168 elect has failed in any material way to provide full, truthful and complete disclosures, or
169 if the Special Convention concludes that the Bishop-elect has omitted to disclose
170 material facts, then the Special Convention, acting pursuant to a notice of Special
171 Convention called for such purpose, may take action to rescind such election.

172 Two-thirds of the members present and voting as a single house shall be required to
173 amend or suspend any of these rules of order, or to make any change in the order of
174 business.

175 It is the responsibility of the Standing Committee to approve the minutes of the Special
176 Convention.

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Date: March 12, 2010
Committee on Constitution and Canons
of the Diocese of Wyoming

