

Below is an objection pursuant to Episcopal Church Canons, Title III.11.8 sent by the following lay and clergy delegates:

1. Gerald G. Alexander (clergy delegate)
2. Pam Jordan Anderson (lay delegate - St. John's Tallahassee)
3. Robert L. Bailey (lay delegate - St. John's, Jacksonville)
4. Thomas H. Bateman, III (lay delegate - St. John's, Tallahassee)
5. John R. Borg (lay delegate - Redeemer, Jacksonville)
6. Kristen J. Bryant (lay delegate - Holy Trinity, Gainesville)
7. Susan Callender (lay delegate - Good Shepherd, Jacksonville)
8. Carole Clifford (lay delegate - St. John's, Jacksonville)
9. Jon Coffee (clergy delegate)
10. Christopher Collinworth (lay delegate - St. John's, Jacksonville)
11. Roseanne (Rosie) G. Connolly (lay delegate - Holy Trinity, Gainesville)
12. Robert Cowperthwaite (clergy delegate)
13. Irene Crocker (clergy delegate)
14. Dee Dugger (lay delegate - Holy Trinity, Gainesville)
15. Kurt Dunkle (clergy delegate)
16. J. Byron Greene (lay delegate - General Convention)
17. Lenora Gregory (lay delegate - Diocesan Council and General Convention)
18. Bob Griffith (clergy delegate)
19. Glenn J. Guiler (lay delegate - St. John's, Jacksonville)
20. Deborah Hardman (lay delegate - Christ Church, Ponte Vedra Beach)
21. George Raymond Henderson (clergy delegate)
22. Brooke S. Kennelry (lay delegate - St. John's, Tallahassee)
23. Sandra Kidd (clergy delegate)
24. Christopher Martin (clergy delegate)
25. Nancee Martin (clergy delegate)
26. Michael Moore (clergy delegate)
27. Ron Owen (clergy delegate)
28. Brent Owens (clergy delegate)
29. Marty Pfab (clergy delegate)
30. Penny Pfab (clergy delegate)
31. Ann E. Pierson (lay delegate - Holy Trinity, Gainesville)
32. Linda Rosengren (clergy delegate)
33. Susan Schantz (lay delegate - Christ Church, Ponte Vedra Beach)
34. Arthur V. Shults (lay delegate - St. Mary's, Jacksonville)
35. Jack Tull (lay delegate - General Convention)
36. Emily Waters (lay delegate - St. Mary's, Jacksonville)
37. Courtney Wilson (lay delegate - Good Shepherd, Jacksonville)

**The Undersigned Lay Delegates and Clergy Delegates to the
May 14, 2022 Special Convention to Elect a Bishop Coadjutor**

May 23, 2022

The Secretary/Secretary of the Convention of the Episcopal Church in the
Diocese of Florida
325 Market Street
Jacksonville, FL 32201

Re: Episcopal Church Canon for written objection to the May 14, 2022
election of a bishop coadjutor pursuant to Episcopal Church Canons, Title
III.11.8

Dear Secretary:

Pursuant to Episcopal Church Canons, Title III.11.8, please consider this a
written objection to the May 14, 2022 election of a bishop coadjutor.

1. There was not a clergy quorum at the May 14, 2022 election as the governing documents (i.e. Constitutions, Canons, and Articles of Reincorporation) of the Diocese of Florida were not followed.
2. The Agenda for the May 14, 2022 convention stated there would be two ballots then a break for lunch. There was no break between the second and third ballot. At least one candidate was not given an opportunity to withdraw between the second and third ballots.
3. For clergy on the remote Zoom, there were procedural and technical flaws which preventing voting and which prevented in-person attendees from seeing and hearing those on Zoom.

Details of each of these overriding issues are listed below.

I. No Clergy Quorum

The election on May 14, 2022 occurred without the necessary quorum in the clergy order.

1. The Diocese of Florida Articles of Reincorporation provide that a quorum to elect a bishop is two-thirds of each order. Florida Articles VII, Section 4.
2. It has been reported that there are 174 Canonically Resident Clergy in Florida. This is the same number as stated by the election officials on May 14, 2022.
3. Two-thirds of 174 is 116.
4. The Canons of the Diocese of Florida provide that it "... shall be the duty of every clergy delegate to the *Diocesan* Convention to attend every meeting thereof." Florida Canon 2, Section 1.
5. There is nothing specific in the Florida Canons about clergy attendance at *Special* Conventions.
6. The Florida Canons and other governing documents may only be revised by *Diocesan* Convention. Florida Canon 31, Section 1.
7. The Florida Articles of Reincorporation may only be revised by two successive Annual *Diocesan* Conventions. Florida Articles of Reincorporation; Florida Article X.
8. The Diocesan Council is empowered to promulgate rules. Yet, "The procedural rules so adopted shall not be in conflict with the Constitution or Canons of the Diocese." Florida Canon 10, Section 7.
9. The Diocesan Council is specially deprived of the ability to revise the governing documents: "The Council shall have all the powers of the Diocesan Convention when the latter is not in session except the power to elect a Bishop, to amend the Articles of Reincorporation or the Canons or to adopt rules of Convention." Florida Canon 10, Section 9(a).
10. The April 7, 2022 registration for lay delegates and clergy stated: "In a manner heightened above the Annual Conventions we have enjoyed of late, the integrity of the election at this Special Convention will require that we pay very close attention to who is present. Therefore, **if you do not register by the deadline, you will not be allowed to attend. There will be no exceptions.**" (Emphasis original as in the email notice from the Diocese)

11. Registration ended at noon on Monday, May 9, 2022 and cost \$55.00 per delegate.
12. At that time, there were fewer than 89 in-person clergy registrations.
13. In-person registration was permitted to continue in limited circumstances after the registration deadline.
14. Two days before the Special Convention, on Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 1:25pm the Diocese announced there was a lack of quorum in the Clergy order for the Special Convention on Saturday, May 14, 2022.
15. At that time, the Diocese announced that clergy who had not yet registered were eligible for registration by Zoom. Registration would not be \$55.00 per delegate but rather be free.
16. At the same time, the Diocese announced that remote voting available for clergy would not be available for lay delegates. Similarly, if clergy delegates had previously registered in-person, they may not appear by Zoom but must attend in-person.
17. On Friday, May 13, 2022 at 12:28pm the Diocese announced a clergy quorum had been achieved: "...literally all around the world - who will be joining us remotely."
18. Friday, May 13, 2022 at 12:28pm was approximately 20 hours prior to the start of the electing convention.
19. The Friday, May 13, 2022 announcement also stated "The Call to Order will be at 9 a.m. EDT - we will establish a quorum of clergy and laity, and adopt the Special Rules of Order and the Agenda for the day."
20. Ultimately 89 clergy registered and attended the Special Convention. By the third ballot, that number was announced as 87.
21. The Florida Canons do not provide for remote voting for lay or clergy.
22. As recently as registration for the Special Convention, in-person attendance was required due to the "... manner heightened above the Annual Conventions we have enjoyed of late..." (quoting email from Diocese on April 7, 2022).

23. The Florida Canons do not differentiate between clergy and laity voting rights and procedures.
24. At the Special Convention, clergy and laity had different voting procedures.
25. The Florida governing documents have never provided for remote voting.
26. The Florida governing documents have never been interpreted as allowing remote voting.
27. The call to Special Convention to elect a bishop coadjutor only allowed in-person voting for lay and clergy.
28. The Florida governing documents can only be changed by a Diocesan Convention. As stated above, the Articles of Incorporation (which establish the quorum requirement) can only be changed by two successive Diocesan Conventions.
29. Special Conventions are specifically excluded from considering any matter other than that for which the Special Convention was called. Florida Canon 1, Section 2(b).
30. The Saturday, May 14, 2022 Special Convention was called only to elect a bishop coadjutor.
31. All conventions, whether Special or regular, must have a quorum in both clergy and lay orders.
32. On the morning of Saturday, May 14, 2022 at approximately 8:30am immediately prior to the start of the Special Convention, the Diocesan Council met and attempted to change in governing documents.
33. Any actual or attempted change in rules the morning of an electing convention violated Episcopal Church Canon III.11.1(a) as it was not "... sufficient time preceding the election of the Bishop...". This canon regarding "sufficient time preceding the election..." applies to the election of a Bishop Coadjutor. Episcopal Church Canon, Title III.9(a)(1).
34. When the Special Convention was called to order minutes thereafter, "*Amended* Special Rules of Order" were presented. Presumably, these were different from the "Special Rules of Order" referenced in the Diocesan email the day before on Friday, May 13, 2022.

35. Later that morning, the assembly attempted to consider a change in governing documents.
36. The May 14, 2022 assembly was a Special Convention.
37. The May 14, 2022 Special Convention. was called solely to elect a bishop coadjutor.
38. Any actions taken at the May 14, 2022 Special Convention were ineffective.

Therefore, because there was no clergy quorum, no bishop coadjutor was elected on May 14, 2022.

II. The rules of the electing convention were not followed

The Agenda for the May 14, 2022 convention stated there would be two ballots then a break for lunch. There was no break between the second and third ballot. At least one candidate was not given an opportunity to withdraw between the second and third ballots.

III. Procedural and technical Issues prevented remote voting

For clergy who were attempting to be present on remote voting, there was no orientation of how to vote, no testing of communications systems, no 'trial vote' to test whether all could vote, and in fact, at least two clergy could not see or hear the proceedings. When voting was taken, in at least one instance, the votes were not registered.

Also, in-person delegates could not see nor could they hear the Zoom clergy.

Further Action

The final ballot purporting to elect the Bishop Coadjutor had 87 in-person voting clergy, 38 remote clergy attempting to vote, and 142 in-person lay delegates voting for a total of 267 purported voters. Ten percent of that number is 27 delegates. The undersigned is at least ten percent of the number casting votes on the final ballot.

Therefore, pursuant to Episcopal Church Canons, Title III.11.8, this letter is a written objection to the election process. We anticipate you will distribute this letter to the Bishop Diocesan, Chancellor, and Standing Committee of this

Diocese and the Presiding Bishop within ten days as provided in section (a) of that Canon.

May this action for order bring healing to our divided diocese.

Peace,

[Signatures follow below and may be on multiple pages]