

NOTICE OF RESULT OF PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE OF February 27, 2024

Please be advised that the Hearing Panel in the **Matter of The Episcopal Church in Connecticut v. Rev. Amjad Samuel, ECCT Title IV Matter 2021-1** conducted a pre-Hearing Conference on February 27, 2024. at 3:00 p.m.

The following is a summary of the Hearing:

- 1) We were advised via an email from Respondent's Council on February 26, 2024, at approximately 6:00 p.m. that his client, Rev. Samuel, was seeking to "resign" from the Episcopal Church and that Respondents' Counsel and his team, were withdrawing from representation of Respondent as Counsel.
- 2) The Hearing proceeded with the Panel and with the Church Attorney, Mr. Don Allison in attendance, along with others from the public who requested to observe the proceedings. Respondent and his former attorney team did not attend despite having received notice.
- 3) Mr. Allison informed the Hearing Panel that the canons of the Episcopal Church do not allow for "resignation" when a Title IV proceeding is pending and that it was likely that the Church would pursue abandonment proceedings which, if successful, would result in the eventual deposition of Rev. Samuel, removing him as a priest in the Episcopal Church. and thus, rendering as moot any further proceedings under Title IV.
- 4) As such, the Church Attorney requested an adjournment of the matter until **April 10, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.** when he will advise as to whether the Title IV matter will proceed with the Hearing Panel or if proceedings under abandonment would be commenced by the Bishop Diocesan and the ECCT Standing Committee.
- 5) The request for an adjournment was so granted.

..Mr. Tom Smith

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President of the Hearing Panel

February 27, 2024