

**Rules for the Election of a Bishop by the
131st Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Colorado
October 27, 2018**

**Submitted by the Standing Committee
of The Episcopal Diocese of Colorado**

(Approved by The Standing Committee on 28 August 2018)

Whereas, The Right Reverend Robert J. O'Neill, Tenth Bishop of The Diocese of Colorado, has announced his intention to resign and has called for the election of a Bishop.

Whereas, Article III, Diocesan Convention Sections 2 and 3, of the Constitution of this Diocese provides:

Section 2. The following shall be ex-officio members of the Diocesan Convention and shall have seat, voice, and vote therein: The Bishop (and the Bishop Coadjutor and the Suffragan Bishop if there be such), all clergy canonically resident in this Diocese and not under discipline, lay members of the Diocesan Standing Committee, lay Deputies to the General Convention, and lay regional missioners, lay canons of the Office of the Bishop, lay chair of Commission on Ministry, and lay chair of Board of Examining Chaplains, if there be any.

Section 3. Lay Delegates chosen from adult communicants of each Parish and Mission of this Diocese entitled to representation shall be members in the number specified by Canon.

Whereas, Canon 1, Lay Representation at the Diocesan Convention, Section 2 of the Canons of this Diocese provides:

Section 2. Lay delegates shall be appointed, no later than 45 days prior to the diocesan convention for which they are appointed, by the vestry of each parish or the bishop's committee of each mission. The delegation from each parish shall include at least one(1) vestry member, and the delegation from each mission shall include at least one(1) member of the bishop's committee. Each parish and mission of this diocese may appoint alternates to the diocesan convention, with the understanding that alternates shall not have seat, voice or vote unless and until they are called upon to serve as delegates.

Whereas, Canon 3, Conduct of Business, Section 6 of the Canons of this Diocese provides:

Section 6. A Member of the Clergy of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America who serves a congregation of the Diocese of Colorado shall have seat, voice and vote at the diocesan convention.

Whereas, Article VI, Election of a Bishop, of the Constitution of this Diocese provides:

The election of a Bishop, a Bishop Coadjutor, or a Suffragan Bishop shall take place only in a Diocesan Convention or in a Special Diocesan Convention and only by a concurrent vote by clergy and lay orders. Written notice of such election convention shall be mailed by the Secretary of the Diocesan Standing Committee at least sixty (60) calendar days prior to the date thereof to all clergy of this Diocese and to each Parish and Mission of this Diocese entitled to representation therein. Each clergy and lay member of the election convention present shall be entitled to one vote. If at least three-fourths of all the clergy entitled to membership and at least three-fourths of all Parishes and at least one-third of all Missions entitled to representation are present, a majority of the votes cast in each order shall determine a choice. Otherwise, two-thirds of the votes cast in each order shall be necessary to determine a choice.

Whereas, The slate of candidates for election as Bishop of this Diocese submitted to the Standing Committee by the Search Committee was announced on July 23, 2018 and at the same time, the Standing Committee announced the Petition Process for other candidates. Petition candidates, if any, were approved and announced by the Standing Committee in accordance with the Petition Process. The slate of candidates and Petition candidates announced by the Standing Committee shall be referred to hereafter as “Nominees.”

Therefore Be It Resolved, These Rules for the Election of A Bishop are adopted:

1. The election of the Bishop shall be held at the 131st Annual Convention of the Diocese of Colorado on October 27, 2018 commencing with Holy Eucharist at 9:00 AM MDT. The Bishop shall preside over the election as President of the Convention and shall direct the Convention in prayer and intercessions as deemed appropriate.
2. The Secretary of the Convention shall report at the beginning of the election session on the existence of a quorum and the exact number of clergy and laypersons who are members of the Convention present at the session with the right to vote in the election. The Secretary shall also report on the exact number of parishes and missions which are eligible for representation and are, in fact, represented at this session of the Convention.
3. The Chair of the Committee on Conduct of Elections shall report on whether a majority vote or a two-thirds vote in each Order is required to elect, in conformity with the Constitution of the Diocese (as set forth above).
4. Voting shall be by secret ballot taken separately in each Order in accordance with the instructions of the Chair of the Committee on Conduct of Elections and the

directives of the President. The use of pagers, cell phones, computers, and other communication devices and equipment on the floor shall be prohibited.

5. The business of this session shall be limited to the election of the 11th Bishop of Colorado.
6. Access to the floor of the Convention shall be limited to members of the Convention as set forth in the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese (as set forth above). In addition, lay members of the Search, Profile and Transition Committees and the search committee administrator shall have seat on the floor but no voice or vote.
7. The Bishop shall be elected from among the Nominees. The Standing Committee shall certify to the Convention that each of the Nominees is eligible for election and has signed a written declaration to accept the office of Bishop if elected and has acknowledged that the compensation package offered by the Diocese is satisfactory. There shall be no further nominees and nominations shall not be allowed from the floor. There shall be no nominating speeches or laudatory addresses in favor of a Nominee. A Nominee may withdraw from the election at any time in person, or by communication to the Bishop by telephone, email or verbally by a Nominee's designated and authorized representative.
8. The Chair of the Committee on Conduct of Elections shall report the results of each ballot by providing the number of votes cast in each Order, the number of votes necessary to elect in each Order, and the number of votes, by Order, received by each Nominee.
9. Upon receiving such report, the President will declare an election if any Nominee receives the required vote in each Order on the same ballot.
10. Immediately following the election the President shall instruct the members of the Convention to sign the testimonial required by Title III, Canon 11.3(a) of the Canons of The Episcopal Church attesting to the due and lawful election of the 11th Bishop of Colorado, such that a constitutional majority of such members shall be so affixed to the testimonial.
11. In the event the time provided for the Special Election Convention expires without a Bishop having been elected, the President may recess the convention to a date certain or to a date to be set in the future, or, with the consent of the Standing Committee, he may declare the election to be at an end, vacate the nominations, terminate the election session and order a new search and election process.
12. The date, time, and place of the consecration of the Bishop-Elect as the Bishop shall be designated by the Standing Committee in consultation with the Diocesan Bishop.

13. The Special Rules for the 131st Convention which were adopted on October 26, 2018 shall apply in all respects to this election session of the Convention, except, in the event of a conflict, these Rules for the Election of a Bishop shall control.
14. These Rules for the Election of a Bishop may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Convention voting as a whole, not by orders.