**Special Rules of Order**

**for the Election of the Fifth Bishop of San Diego**
Special Electing Convention February 2, 2019

Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

1. These Special Rules of Order for the Election of the 5th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego, adopted pursuant to Title III.11.1(a), shall apply for the duration of the Special Electing Convention convened for the purpose of electing the 5th Bishop of San Diego, on February 2, 2019, and continuing until such time as the bishop has been elected, at St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church, in Poway, California. Except as these Special Rules provide otherwise, the Rules of Order of Convention shall continue in full force and effect.
2. The Special Electing Convention shall be presided over by the President of the Standing Committee, acting as President *pro tem* of the Convention. The Convention shall consider nominees of the Nominating Committee and any petition nominees pursuant to procedures for petition nominations published by the Standing Committee; such nominees shall have been subject to appropriate background checks supervised by the Nominating Committee and the Standing Committee; and the conclusion of the Standing Committee that the results of those background checks have not revealed any impediments to any nominee’s election shall be reported to Convention. Each nominee shall sign a written declaration of intent to accept office if elected and shall have acknowledged that the essential components of the compensation package approved by the Standing Committee and communicated to the finalists is satisfactory and acceptable. No others shall be eligible for nomination to Convention.
3. Persons entitled to vote with respect to the election of the Bishop shall be those entitled to vote on all other matters coming before the immediately preceding Annual Convention, either as a delegate or alternate delegate, except that no Clergy member of Convention may vote with respect to the election of the Bishop unless he or she shall have been physically and canonically resident in this Diocese, continuously, from and after October 16, 2018 and until the date of the Special Convention, and entitled during that time to a seat in Convention.

For purposes of the Special Convention, a quorum shall be calculated as two-thirds of all Clergy entitled to vote, two-thirds of all congregations entitled to vote and two-thirds of all lay delegates entitled to vote. The calculation of those entitled to vote shall first be reduced by those clergy who are excused by the Ecclesiastical Authority (i.e., the Standing Committee) by reason of age, illness or for other good cause.

1. Prior to the commencement of Convention, the Transition Committee shall insure that each nominee has been assigned a Shepherd to serve as the authorized representative of each nominee (whether a Committee nominee or a petition nominee). The Transition Committee shall inform the President of Convention of the representative for each nominee and shall inform the President promptly of any change in representatives. If a nominee is a Member of Convention, he or she may vote in the election.
2. At the beginning of the election process, the President of the Convention shall present the slate of candidates to the Convention, and that act shall constitute the placing of all names in nomination.
3. Written materials submitted by each nominee shall be provided to all members of Convention prior to Convention, and no nominating speeches or nominee information (other than that which is distributed by the Standing Committee) shall be permitted at Convention.
4. Following the acceptance of the slate of nominees, there shall be a First Ballot for the election of Bishop, and successive ballots thereafter as necessary, until the Bishop is elected. The time permitted between ballots, as well as the order of silence, prayer, music, or other activity between ballots, shall be determined by the President of the Convention. The order in which nominees’ names appear on the ballot shall be chosen by random drawing by the Standing Committee.
5. A nominee may withdraw from the election at any time before the election in person or by telephone, email, or through his or her authorized representative to Convention. Any such withdrawal shall first be communicated to the President of the Convention who may require such confirmation from the nominee as the President deems appropriate.
6. In each ballot, the Clergy and Lay Delegates shall vote separately by Orders. A concurrent majority of those voting in each Order shall determine the choice.
7. Immediately following the election, while Convention remains in session, the President of the Convention shall arrange to have the bishop-elect informed of the election and shall receive that person’s acceptance which shall then be communicated to the Convention. These communications may be accomplished by an authorized representative of the bishop-elect.
8. Immediately following receipt of acceptance of the election, a constitutional majority of the Convention shall affix their signatures to the testimonial required by Canon III.11.3 of the Episcopal Church, attesting to the due and lawful election of the Fifth Bishop of San Diego.
9. It is the express intent of this Convention that any election of a nominee to be the Bishop of San Diego is made in full, truthful and complete disclosures by that nominee to the Nominating Committee, the Standing Committee and the Convention. If, after such election but prior to consecration, the Standing Committee concludes that the Bishop-elect has failed in any material way to provide full, truthful and complete disclosures, or if the Standing Committee concludes that the Bishop-elect has omitted to disclose any material facts, then the Standing Committee may take action to rescind such election.
10. Members of Convention shall not have any conversations with members of the Press while on the floor of Convention, either directly, through social media, text messaging, email or otherwise. The only persons authorized to communicate with the Press regarding the actions of Convention are the President of the Standing Committee and the Diocesan Director of Communications.
11. Members of Convention shall refrain from communicating with people outside the Convention, directly, through social media, text messaging, email or otherwise, until the President of the Convention has made official announcements.
12. Voting shall be conducted by electronic means. Only Members of Convention who have been issued a unique code upon entering the Convention premises shall be allowed to vote. The Secretary of Convention shall make voting stations available to delegates who do not have a “smart phone” that is compatible with this procedure. All voting shall take place in the Convention venue.
13. These Special Rules shall be effective when adopted by the Standing Committee and then by majority vote of Annual Convention. Once adopted, they may not thereafter be suspended or amended except upon motion duly made and seconded, and approved by two-thirds of Special Convention.