

2009 DWMA Diocesan Convention - Resolution # 3 -- for the 2nd Convention digital mailing
Resolved, that Canon 4 ("Of The Deputies To The General Convention") be revised as indicated:

Section 1

(a) At the Annual Meeting of the Diocese in the calendar year two years preceding a triennial meeting of the General Convention, ~~four~~ eight members of the Clergy and ~~four~~ eight Laypersons shall be elected as Deputies and Provisional Deputies to represent the Diocese at the General Convention, the Deputies being the four in their order receiving the most votes, and the Provisional Deputies to serve as Deputies in their order according to the number of votes each receives.

(b) At the Annual Meeting of the Diocese in the calendar year immediately preceding a triennial meeting of the General Convention, the Convention shall fill any vacancies among the Deputies and Provisional Deputies for General Convention, ~~and shall elect four members of the Clergy and four Laypersons to act as Provisional Deputies to the General Convention.~~

Explanation: The Deputies to the most recent General Convention found that it is desirable that Deputies, and Provisional Deputies ("Alternates") have adequate time to prepare for serving at General Convention. It is common for at least one Deputy not to be available to serve, so electing Provisional Deputies the fall before General Convention makes it difficult for them to participate fully in the preparation. However, it is also desirable to allow for election of additional Deputies and Provisional Deputies as given in (b) to help guarantee that there will be four Deputies and at least one Provisional Deputy available to serve at General Convention.

The proposed change also brings our canons more in line with those of the Episcopal Church, which require the Deputies be elected at least one year before General Convention (Canon I-1.4(a) "All jurisdictions of this Church entitled by the Constitution or Canons to choose Deputies to the General Convention shall be required to do so not later than twelve months preceding the opening date of the General Convention for which they are chosen. Deputies of jurisdictions failing so to elect may not be seated unless permitted by ruling of the Presiding Officer."). As it is, a Provisional Deputy that advances to serve as a Deputy (or an alternate at General Convention) is elected less than 12 months prior to General Convention.

Submitted on behalf the of the DWMA 2009 General Convention deputation by

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