

IN THE DIOCESE OF VIRGINIA
IN THE TITLE IV MATTER OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF
ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE AND OTHER ALLEGED VIOLATIONS
BY
THE REVEREND DR. B. CAYCE RAMEY, RESPONDENT

To: The Rt. Rev. Kevin S. Brown, Bishop Diocesan
The Rt. Rev. E. Mark Stevenson, Bishop Diocesan
The Rev. Dr. B. Cayce Ramey, Respondent
The Rev. Edward O. Miller, Jr. Respondent's Advisor
Bradfute W. Davenport, Jr., Esquire, Church Attorney

SCHEDULING ORDER

Background

On April 23, 2026, this Hearing Panel (Hereinafter PANEL) issued an Updated Mandatory Disclosures Notice (Hereinafter NOTICE) directing that each party supplement prior mandatory information disclosures as necessary with additional information that had become known to them in accord with Canon IV.13.5(a), and file a written statement within fifteen (15) days with the PANEL as to either there being no additional information or that additional information has been disclosed to the other party. The Church Attorney on May 3, 2026, filed a statement that "he has disclosed additional information to the Respondent." Respondent has not filed a statement.

Respondent's failure to file the statement continues Respondent's more than ten (10) months of consistent non-participation in this matter's proceedings.

Discussion

The PANEL in consequence of Respondent's continuous non-participation, directed in the NOTICE that:

If Respondent fails to file the written statement of supplemented disclosure exchange such failure will be understood by the PANEL to be a deliberate continuance on Respondent's part not to participate in this matter, and, consequently, affirmation on Respondent's part of an intention to so continue to neither respond nor appear in this matter. If Respondent does intend to participate at some time in this matter, then within fifteen (15) days from email receipt of this Notice Respondent is

to inform the PANEL in writing as to when and how he intends to participate. (NOTICE, p. 2)

Despite these directions and its stipulation that silence by Respondent would notify the PANEL that Respondent intends not to participate in this matter, Respondent has continued to not communicate with the PANEL. Thereby, Respondent has communicated his at least current intention to not appear, respond or otherwise participate in this matter.

Included among Respondent's failures to comply with canonical requirements and this PANEL's directions is his failure to file a written response to the Church Attorney's January 17, 2026, filed Updated Statement of Alleged Offenses (Hereinafter UPDATED STATEMENT) as required by Canon IV.13.2.a.3 that is referenced in this PANEL's Updated Notice issued, January 22, 2026. The Updated Notice additionally stated that "Respondent is advised, in accordance with Canon IV.19.6, that in the event of his failure to appear or timely respond in this matter, the Hearing Panel may proceed with the matter in the absence of the Respondent, as set forth in the Canon, notwithstanding his failure to appear or respond." (Updated Notice, p. 2)

After Respondent failed to file the required written response setting out denials and admissions to the UPDATED STATEMENT, the Church Attorney on March 31, 2026, filed a Response to Hearing Panel's Delinquency Notice (Hereinafter RESPONSE) wherein he requested the PANEL to exercise discretion afforded by Canon IV.19.6, namely:

Canon IV.19.6 ... allows the Hearing Panel to "consider the materials described in Canon IV.12.1, and any other types of evidence whose use is permitted in proceedings conducted before [Hearing and Conference] Panels." Here, the relevant Canon [IV].12.1 materials include the Intake and Investigator Reports, as set forth in paragraphs 18, 20, 28, 29 and 37 of the Church Attorney's Updated Statement of January 16, 2026. The Church Attorney expects that consideration of those materials will expedite the hearing, save some witnesses from having to appear in person, and otherwise move the case along. (RESPONSE, p. 2)

The PANEL's February 28, 2026, issued Delinquency Notice afforded Respondent fifteen (15) days to file a written reply to the Church Attorney's RESPONSE. Respondent has not filed a reply.

On this record the PANEL grants the Church Attorney's request under Canon IV.19.6 to submit the Intake and Investigator Reports as cited in the UPDATED STATEMENT. In granting this request the PANEL has taken into consideration not only expediting the hearing, but also Respondent's non-participation, which would include consequently not cross-examining hearing witnesses or presenting opposing witnesses.

The Church Attorney in his RESPONSE also moved for sanctions under Canon IV.13.11.

First, the Church Attorney moved to prohibit "Respondent from conducting discovery, per Canon IV.13.11(b)(2)." (RESPONSE, p 2) In these circumstances of Respondent's non-participation, there effectively can be no discovery. Respondent would not appear for his noticed deposition, he would not answer interrogatories, he would not notice a deposition, he would not cross-examine Church Attorney noticed witnesses, nor would he propound interrogatories. Respondent's non-participation forecloses discovery by *both* parties and, thereby, renders Canon IV.13.11(b)(2) overtaken. The PANEL as a result currently neither grants nor denies this motion.

Second, the Church Attorney moved to not "allow Respondent to support any defenses he may have raised or seek to raise." (RESPONSE, p 2) Again, Respondent's non-participation renders Canon IV.13.11(b)(3) overtaken. The PANEL as a result currently neither grants nor denies this motion.

Third, the Church Attorney moved to not "allow Respondent to introduce any matter into evidence, per Canon IV.13.11(b)(4)." (RESPONSE, p 2) Again, Respondent's non-participation renders Canon IV.13.11(b)(4) overtaken. The PANEL as a result currently neither grants nor denies this motion.

The integrity of proceedings is a PANEL responsibility (See Canon IV.13.11.a).

To provide proceeding integrity the PANEL will proceed in the absence of the Respondent as authorized by Canon IV.19.6. Such proceeding in the absence of the Respondent by the PANEL shall be in accord with Canon IV.19.6 direction that “failure of a Respondent to appear, or to fail to file a written response ... shall not in itself, provide the basis for a finding that any Offense has been committed, other than any Offense specifically arising from such failure to appear, or failure to file.”

Scheduling Order

Canon IV.13.5(c) directs that a “Scheduling Order ... provide for (1) a calendar for discovery, including depositions and written interrogatories ... ; (2) filing deadlines and hearing dates for preliminary motions and for dispositive motions; and (3) the date of hearing before the Hearing Panel.”

As addressed above, Respondent’s non-participation precludes discovery by *both* parties. In consequence of discovery being foreclosed by Respondent’s non-participation, the filing of and ruling on preliminary and dispositive motions also effectively are foreclosed. Respondent would not file a motion, he would not respond to a motion filed by the Church Attorney, nor would he appear for a motions hearing.

As a result, proceeding in the absence of Respondent in these circumstances results in the Scheduling Order being reduced to setting the date of hearing before the PANEL.

IT NOW IS HEREBY ORDERED that the hearing on the merits for this matter before the PANEL shall be held beginning at 9:30 o’clock in the morning on Wednesday, June 24, 2026, at Roslyn Conference Center, Tucker Hall, 8727 River Road, Richmond, Virginia, 23229.

Dated: 26 May 2026



Rev. Dina Widlake, President
Hearing Panel of the
Diocese of Virginia