

IN THE DIOCESE OF VIRGINIA
BEFORE A HEARING PANEL
IN THE TITLE IV MATTER OF
THE REVEREND DR. B. CAYCE RAMEY, RESPONDENT

To: The Rev. Dr. B. Cayce Ramey, Respondent
The Rev. Edward O. Miller, Jr. Respondent's Advisor
Jack W. Burtch, Jr. Esquire, Counsel to Respondent
Bradfute W. Davenport, Jr., Esquire, Church Attorney
The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff, Complainant
The Rt. Rev. E. Mark Stevenson

HEARING WITNESS ORDER

On February 19, 2024, the Hearing Panel (hereinafter PANEL) issued DECISION AND ORDER PURSUANT TO CANON IV.13.11 (hereinafter DECISION/ORDER) that:

1. Ruled Respondent had violated a Title IV clergy "Standards of Conduct" disciplinary Canon because of his failure to ". . . abide by the requirements of any applicable. . . Order" within the meaning of Canon IV.4.1(d).¹
2. Ordered as an Infraction Sanction that when in compliance with Canon IV.13.9 Respondent's expected witnesses to be called to testify at the Hearing Panel hearing on the merits would be identified, Respondent's Counsel identify all matters as to which each identified expected witness would be called to testify; and,
3. Based on the identified matters as to which each of Respondent's expected witness would be called to testify the PANEL would rule as to permitted matters expected witnesses could testify.

1. Respondent deliberately refused to comply with a prior ordered corrective sanction. (DECISION/ORDER, p. 2)

On February 20, 2024, Respondent filed the required expected witness list with identifications of matters as to which expected witnesses would be called to testify. (RAMEY WITNESSES LIST, attached Exhibit A)

DISCUSSION

Following a hearing on the merits the Panel is directed pursuant to Canon IV.13.12 to reach a determination as to “(a) dismissal of the matter or (b) issuance of an Order.” If the Panel’s determination is to issue an Order, Canon IV.14.9(b) directs that the Order include “. . . reference to the Canon(s), section(s) and subsection(s) specifying the Offense.” Canon IV.2 defines “Offense” as “any act or omission for which a Member of the Clergy may be held accountable for under Canons IV.3 or IV.4.” The PANEL president is further directed by Canons IV.13.10(a) & (b)(1) to “regulate the course of the hearing so as to promote full disclosure of relevant facts” and “exclude evidence that is irrelevant, immaterial or unduly repetitious.”

For this matter the alleged Title IV violations are set out in AMENDED STATEMENT OF THE CHURCH ATTORNEY OF THE DIOCESE OF VIRGINIA TO THE HEARING PANEL OF ALLEGED OFFENSES OF THE REVEREND DR. CAYCE RAMEY, RESPONDENT, filed August 3, 2023. (Hereinafter ALLEGED OFFENSES) Therefore, to be relevant and material, witness testimony and other evidence to be considered by the PANEL must be germane and to the point of alleged Offenses.

ORDER

Having considered (1) Exhibit A; (2) RESPONDENT’S PRE-HEARING BRIEF, filed February 26, 2024; (3) CHURCH ATTORNEY’S PRE-TRIAL BRIEF AND RESPONSE and HEARING PANEL’S DECISION AND ORDER PURSUANT TO CANON

IV.13.11, filed February 26, 2024; (4) RESPONDENT'S RESPONSE TO CHURCH ATTORNEY'S STATEMENT ON RESPONDENT'S WITNESSES, filed February 27, 2024; and, (5) the entire Canon IV.13.11 sanctions record for this matter, including the PANEL and Disciplinary Board's prior findings as to Respondent's Title IV violations during consideration of this matter; and having deliberated fully the PANEL made its decision to issue the following ORDER.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

During the Offense determination portion of the hearing Respondent will be permitted to have fact witnesses testify as to only facts personally known to the witness or believed to be true by the witness including giving testimony as to actions or inactions taken by the Respondent that are material and relevant to alleged Title IV violations set out in ALLEGED OFFENSES.

The PANEL has already heard from the Respondent that he has undertaken his actions with sincerity and faithfulness. During the Offense determination portion of the hearing, Respondent, witness testimony and other evidence submitted for admission will be excluded if that testimony or submitted evidence includes purported justification(s) on any basis other than material and relevant facts as to Respondent's actions or inactions that are subjects for alleged Title IV violations, including exclusion of justification(s) testimony or submitted evidence directed to assertions of any past or present injustices attributed to having been or being condoned or committed by or on behalf of the Episcopal Church and/or the Diocese of Virginia.

During the Sentencing Proposal determination portion of the hearing Respondent will be permitted to have one or two witnesses testify as to justification(s) for Respondent's actions or inactions that are subjects for alleged Title IV violations, including justification(s) testimony directed

to assertions of any past or present injustices attributed to having been or being condoned or committed by or on behalf of the Episcopal Church and/or the Diocese of Virginia.

Respondent witnesses presenting repetitious testimony as to their own testimony or other witness testimony will be excluded.

Date: Feb 29, 2024

Brian Carr

Brian Carr, President
Hearing Panel of the
Diocese of Virginia

EXHIBIT A

Ramey Witnesses List
Submitted to Church Attorney and Hearing Panel
February 20, 2024

Jim Taylor
703.623.9744 (mobile)
jimetaylor@aol.com

Did not receive the September 23 email.

Anticipated testimony: Former Jr. and Sr. Warden of All Saints, Sharon Chapel (ASSC); can describe how the parish was and was not affected by Fr. Ramey's actions; can testify to the process of discernment with Fr. Ramey; can describe the vestry's unanimous support of Fr. Ramey and decisions to engage ASSC and Potomac Episcopal Community; can testify that Fr. Ramey never denied communion to anyone; can describe the faithfulness of Fr. Ramey's actions.

Kate Sonderregger
KSonderregger@vts.edu
703.472.8990

Did not receive the September 23 email.

Anticipated testimony: Systematic theologian at VTS; can describe the state of anti-white supremacy theology in the Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Church; can speak to the faithful nature of Fr. Ramey's Eucharistic Fast; can speak to the meaning of the ordination vows in the BCP with respect to Fr. Ramey's fast; can speak to how Fr. Ramey's fast has challenged and impacted her as a priest in the Episcopal Church; can speak to the faithfulness of Fr. Ramey's journey and process in deciding to engage in his fast.

Cindy Stanley
cbuxton7@yahoo.com
325.864.9662

Did not receive the September 23 email.

Anticipated testimony: Former Jr. and Sr. Warden of ASSC; can describe the state of the parish and how it was or was not affected by Fr. Ramey's actions; can state that Jeff Underwood never was a member of ASSC; can describe the vestry's unanimous support of Fr. Ramey's actions; can state that Fr. Ramey never denied anyone communion.

Corry Weirbach
703.956.0410
corryweierbach@gmail.com

Received the September 23 email.

Anticipated testimony: She is a priest of the Episcopal Church and was a partner in ministry with Fr. Ramey in the Potomac Episcopal Community; she was present for discussions among colleagues and decisions to support Fr. Ramey in his fast; can describe her experience of the movement of the Holy Spirit in Fr.

Ramey's life; can describe the faithfulness of his journey and process in making the decision to engage in a Eucharistic Fast.

Elizabeth Bonforte Gardner
702.737.9190

bishop@episcopalnevada.org

Received the September 23 email.

Anticipated testimony: She is a Bishop of the Episcopal Church and was a partner in ministry with Fr. Ramey in the Potomac Episcopal Community; she was present for discussions among colleagues and decisions to support Fr. Ramey in his fast; can describe her experience of the movement of the Holy Spirit in Fr. Ramey's life; can describe the faithfulness of his journey and process in making the decision to engage in a Eucharistic Fast.

Carolyn Lanier
203.969.5476

carolynlanier@hotmail.com

Received the September 23 email.

Anticipated testimony: Chair of the Diocesan Race & Reconciliation Committee; co-leader of Good Trouble in the Diocese of Virginia with Fr. Ramey; can describe the reparations organization they did; can describe the impact of Bp. Goff's decisions with respect to Fr. Ramey; can describe Fr. Ramey's work with racial justice and reparations in the Diocese; can describe the faithfulness of Fr. Ramey's decisions and process in deciding on the Eucharistic Fast.

Joyce Mercer
703.232.5304

joyce.mercer@yale.edu

Received the September 23 email.

Anticipated testimony: As a past VTS professor and currently Associate Dean of Yale Divinity School can describe Episcopal clerical formation; can describe her role as Fr. Ramey's thesis advisor for his Master's thesis in seminary; can describe her role as a consistent conversation partner throughout his journey; can describe the faithfulness of his journey and process towards his Eucharistic Fast.

Mark Jefferson
404.534.7577

mark@malekglobal.com

Did not receive the September 23 email.

Anticipated testimony: can describe the inadequacy of efforts of the Episcopal Church to address white supremacy; as a former VTS professor, can describe Episcopal clerical formation; can describe the movement of the Holy Spirit in Fr. Ramey's life.

John Kinney
804.307.6159
jwkinney@vuu.edu

Received the September 23 email.

Anticipated testimony: As Professor of Theology and the Director of the Center for African American Pentecostalism and Leadership Development at Virginia Union University, can describe the interdependence of academic theology and practical/parish-based theology and life; can describe Fr. Ramey's process in his three years of working on his D. Min thesis in seminary; can describe white supremacy and theology, racism and theology and Black liberation theology; can describe the working of the Holy Spirit in Fr. Ramey's life; can describe the faithfulness of his journey and process towards his Eucharistic Fast.

Paula Parker
804.350.7229
poparker.rootsmatter@gmail.com

Did not receive the September 23 email.

Anticipated testimony: Program Associate at The Katie Geneva Cannon Center for Womanist Leadership, Union Presbyterian Seminar, Richmond, Virginia; womanist theologian; can describe the generational trauma and ongoing effects of slavery on the Episcopal Church and others; can describe the inadequacy of the Episcopal Church's efforts to address white supremacy; can describe the process of Fr. Ramey's thesis project; can describe the movement of the Holy Spirit in Fr. Ramey's life; can describe the faithfulness of Fr. Ramey's journey and process towards his Eucharistic Fast.