

[Note: This substitute resolution creates the office of Assistant Registrar.]

Title Election and Service of Diocesan Officers

Proposer Constitution & Canons Committee

1. Be it resolved that Articles III and IV of the Constitution of the Diocese of West
2. Missouri be amended as follows:

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4. **ARTICLE III - DIOCESAN OFFICERS**

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**TREASURER AND ASSISTANT TREASURER**

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10. SECTION 4. The Treasurer shall be an adult communicant of the Church in good
11. standing and a member of a Parish or Congregation in union with the Diocese. The
12. Treasurer shall perform such duties ~~and shall hold office for such length of time, and~~
13. ~~under such conditions,~~ as may be provided by this *Constitution*, ~~or by Canon, or by~~
14. ~~resolution of the Convention. The Treasurer shall hold office for a term of three years.~~
15. No Treasurer may serve more than two consecutive three-year terms.

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17. SECTION 5. The Assistant Treasurer shall be an adult communicant of the Church
18. in good standing and a member of a Parish or Congregation in union with the Diocese.
19. The Assistant Treasurer shall assist the Treasurer and perform such other duties as
20. may be provided by this *Constitution*, by Canon, or by resolution of the Convention.
21. The Assistant Treasurer shall hold office for a term of three years. No Assistant
22. Treasurer may serve more than two consecutive three-year terms.

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**SECRETARY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY**

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26. SECTION ~~56~~. The Secretary shall be ~~either~~ a Cleric of this Diocese, or an adult
27. communicant of the Church in good standing and a member of a Parish or
28. Congregation in union with the Diocese. The Secretary shall perform such duties as
29. may be provided by this *Constitution*, by Canon, or by resolution of the Convention.
30. The Secretary shall hold office ~~for a term of three years. No Secretary may serve~~
31. ~~more than two consecutive three-year terms. for such length of time, and under such~~
32. ~~conditions, as may be provided by this *Constitution* or by Canon.~~

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34. SECTION 7. The Assistant Secretary shall be either a Cleric of this Diocese or an
35. adult communicant of the Church in good standing and a member of a Parish or
36. Congregation in union with the Diocese. The Assistant Secretary shall assist the
37. Secretary and perform such other duties as may be provided by this *Constitution*, by
38. Canon, or by resolution of the Convention. The Assistant Secretary shall hold office

39. for a term of three years. No Assistant Secretary may serve more than two  
40. consecutive three-year terms.

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### **CHANCELLOR AND VICE CHANCELLOR**

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44. SECTION ~~6~~8. The Chancellor shall be an adult communicant of the Church in good  
45. standing and a member of a Parish or Congregation in union with the Diocese who is  
46. learned in civil and ecclesiastical law,~~an adult communicant of the Church in good~~  
47. ~~standing, and a member of a Parish or Congregation in union with the Diocese.~~ The  
48. Chancellor shall ~~be serve as~~ the legal adviser of the Bishops, the Convention, the  
49. Diocesan Council, and all Committees, ~~and The Chancellor~~ shall perform such other  
50. duties as may be provided by this Constitution, ~~required~~ by Canon, or by resolution of  
51. the Convention, ~~The Chancellor and~~ shall hold office for a term of three years. No  
52. Chancellor may serve more than two consecutive three-year terms.

53.

54. SECTION 9. The Vice Chancellor shall be an adult communicant of the Church in  
55. good standing and a member of a Parish or Congregation in union with the Diocese  
56. who is learned in civil and ecclesiastical law. The Vice Chancellor shall assist the  
57. Chancellor and perform such other duties as may be provided by this Constitution, by  
58. Canon, or by resolution of the Convention. The Vice Chancellor shall hold office for a  
59. term of three years. No Vice Chancellor may serve more than two consecutive three-  
60. year terms.

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### **REGISTRAR AND ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**

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64. SECTION ~~7~~10. The Registrar shall be either a Cleric of this Diocese, or an adult  
65. communicant of the Church in good standing and a member of a Parish or  
66. Congregation in union with the Diocese. The ~~duties of the registrar~~ Registrar shall  
67. perform such duties as may be provided by this Constitution, by Canon, or by  
68. resolution of the Convention. ~~be defined by Canon, and the term of office shall~~  
69. ~~be~~The Registrar shall hold office for a term of three years. No Registrar may serve  
70. more than two consecutive three-year terms.

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72. SECTION 11. The Assistant Registrar shall be a Cleric of this Diocese or an adult  
73. communicant of the Church in good standing and a member of a Parish or  
74. Congregation in union with this Diocese. The Assistant Registrar shall assist the  
75. Registrar and perform such other duties as may be provided by this Constitution, by  
76. Canon, or by resolution of the Convention. The Assistant Registrar shall hold office  
77. for a term of three years. No Assistant Registrar may serve more than two  
78. consecutive three-year terms.

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### **OTHER OFFICERS**

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82. SECTION ~~8~~11. The Convention shall have the power to create such additional

83. officers as may be necessary to perform the work of the Diocese; but shall not have  
84. any power to create any office, or to elect or appoint any officer with the authority to  
85. invade the province of any of the officers above mentioned.

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#### ARTICLE IV - ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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#### **SECRETARY AND TREASURER AND ASSISTANT TREASURER**

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93. SECTION 4. The Convention shall, ~~at its annual meeting,~~ elect ~~the Secretary and the~~  
94. ~~Treasurer,~~ to serve ~~as such until the next Annual Convention, and until their~~  
95. ~~successors are elected and qualified~~ a term of three years. The Convention shall also  
96. ~~elect an Associate Treasurer upon the nomination of the Ecclesiastical Authority to~~  
97. ~~serve until the next Annual Convention.~~ If a vacancy occurs in the office of Treasurer  
98. due to death, resignation, removal, or otherwise, the Diocesan Council shall have the  
99. power to appoint a Treasurer to serve until the next Annual Convention, at which time  
100. the Convention shall elect a Treasurer to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

101.

102. SECTION 5. ~~If the Secretary or Treasurer or Associate Treasurer resign or remove~~  
103. ~~from the Diocese, or become incapable of acting, the Diocesan Council shall have~~  
104. ~~power to appoint a Secretary or Treasurer or Associate Treasurer as the case may be,~~  
105. ~~to act until the next Annual Convention.~~ The Convention shall, on the nomination of  
106. the Ecclesiastical Authority, elect an Assistant Treasurer to serve a term of three  
107. years. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Assistant Treasurer due to death,  
108. resignation, removal, or otherwise, the Ecclesiastical Authority shall have the power  
109. to appoint an Assistant Treasurer to serve until the next Annual Convention, at which  
110. time the Convention shall, on the nomination of the Ecclesiastical Authority, elect an  
111. Assistant Treasurer to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

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#### **SECRETARY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY**

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115. SECTION 6. The Convention shall elect a Secretary to serve a term of three years.  
116. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Secretary due to death, resignation, removal, or  
117. otherwise, the Diocesan Council shall have the power to appoint a Secretary to serve  
118. until the next Annual Convention, at which time the Convention shall elect a  
119. Secretary to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

120.

121. SECTION 7. The Convention shall, on the nomination of the Ecclesiastical  
122. Authority, elect an Assistant Secretary to serve a term of three years. If a vacancy  
123. occurs in the office of Assistant Secretary due to death, resignation, removal, or  
124. otherwise, the Ecclesiastical Authority shall have the power to appoint an Assistant  
125. Secretary to serve until the next Annual Convention, at which time the Convention  
shall.

126. on the nomination of the Ecclesiastical Authority, elect an Assistant Secretary to serve  
127. the remainder of the unexpired term.

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**THE CHANCELLOR AND VICE CHANCELLOR**

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131. ~~SECTION 68. The Convention shall, on the nomination of the Ecclesiastical-~~  
132. ~~Authority, elect a Chancellor and a Vice Chancellor. If a vacancy in the office of the~~  
133. ~~Chancellor or the Vice Chancellor occurs, the Ecclesiastical Authority shall appoint a~~  
134. ~~qualified person to fill such office until the next Convention, which shall elect a~~  
135. ~~Chancellor and a Vice Chancellor for the full term of three years, on nomination of the~~  
136. ~~Ecclesiastical Authority. The Convention shall, on the nomination of the Ecclesiastical~~  
137. ~~Authority, elect a Chancellor to serve a term of three years. If a vacancy occurs in the~~  
138. ~~office of Chancellor due to death, resignation, removal, or otherwise, the Ecclesiastical~~  
139. ~~Authority shall have the power to appoint a Chancellor to serve until the next Annual~~  
140. ~~Convention, at which time the Convention shall, on the nomination of the~~  
141. ~~Ecclesiastical Authority, elect a Chancellor to serve the remainder of the unexpired~~  
142. ~~term.~~

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144. SECTION 9. The Convention shall, on the nomination of the Ecclesiastical  
145. Authority, elect a Vice Chancellor to serve a term of three years. If a vacancy occurs in  
146. the office of Vice Chancellor due to death, resignation, removal, or otherwise, the  
147. Ecclesiastical Authority shall have the power to appoint a Vice Chancellor to serve  
148. until the next Annual Convention, at which time the Convention shall, on the  
149. nomination of the Ecclesiastical Authority, elect a Vice Chancellor to serve the  
150. remainder of the unexpired term.

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152.

**THE REGISTRAR**

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154. ~~SECTION 710. The Convention shall, on the nomination of the Ecclesiastical-~~  
155. ~~Authority, elect the Registrar. If a vacancy in the office of the Registrar occurs, the~~  
156. ~~Ecclesiastical Authority shall appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy to serve~~  
157. ~~until the next annual meeting of the Convention at which a Registrar shall be elected~~  
158. ~~for a full term of three years. The Convention shall, on the nomination of the~~  
159. ~~Ecclesiastical Authority, elect a Registrar to serve a term of three years. If a vacancy~~  
160. ~~occurs in the office of Registrar due to death, resignation, removal, or otherwise, the~~  
161. ~~Ecclesiastical Authority shall have the power to appoint a Registrar to serve until the~~  
162. ~~next Annual Convention, at which time the Convention shall, on the nomination of~~  
163. ~~the Ecclesiastical Authority, elect a Registrar to serve the remainder of the unexpired~~  
164. ~~term.~~

## Explanation

This amendment addresses several issues.

-- It renames the Associate Treasurer position as Assistant Treasurer, as the term assistant appears to be more common than associate in other canons (including the national canons).

-- It creates an Assistant Secretary position. Currently, the canons only provide for “Assistants to the Secretary” for purposes of helping the Secretary at the Annual Convention. This amendment creates a subordinate diocesan office for an Assistant Secretary, similar to the Associate/Assistant Treasurer and the Vice Chancellor. One of the goals for these subordinate offices is to encourage succession planning in the various offices.

-- It creates an Assistant Registrar position so that all primary diocesan officers have an assistant officer.

-- It changes the terms of Treasurer and Secretary (as well as their assistants) from one year to three years. This is to harmonize the terms of office with those of the other diocesan officers (Chancellor/Vice Chancellor and Registrar/Assistant Registrar).

-- It sets term limits of two consecutive three-year terms for all diocesan officers. The goal is to encourage succession planning and to involve more individuals in the governance of the diocese. Note that it applies to consecutive terms; like with vestries, a person could serve additional terms after an appropriate interval has passed.

-- It clarifies how vacancies of diocesan offices are filled. Specifically, when a vacancy occurs, either the Bishop or the Diocesan Council (depending on the office) will make a temporary appointment until the next Annual Convention, at which time the Convention will elect an individual to fill the remainder of the officer’s term. This ensures that terms remain constant.

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