

THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION OF  
THE SYNOD OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND HAWAII  
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

DECISION & ORDER

PACIFIC PALISADES  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH *et al*  
Complainants

V.

PRESBYTERY OF THE PACIFIC  
Respondent

)  
) Case Number: 2017 R-1  
) Decision of the Permanent Judicial  
) Commission of the Synod of Southern  
) California and Hawaii after Request for  
) Dismissal  
)  
)  
)

This is a remedial case which has come before this Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii as a result of a complaint filed by the above-named Complainants against the Presbytery of the Pacific, Respondent. It is a complaint against the Presbytery of the Pacific for thirteen alleged irregularities.

The initial complaint was received on May 18, 2017. (See Attachment A.). An amended complaint was filed on May 22, 2017 (See Attachment B. and see Attachment C, footnotes 1-3 in the Settlement Agreement and Covenant of Cooperation for additional details.)

R. Winston Presnall, Vice Moderator and Izar Martinez, Clerk met on May 30, 2017 to review the complaint with respect to D- 6.0305. They concluded that the council has jurisdiction in the matter and that the complainant has standing to file. However, they ruled that the complaint was not timely filed and there was a request for relief which could not be granted. (See Attachment D.)

The complainants challenged the ruling of the Moderator and Clerk and the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission met on August 31, 2017 to hear the challenge. The Synod Permanent Judicial Commission ruled that there may be elements of the complaint that were timely filed, some relief might be granted and voted to hear the case.

The parties indicated that they would like to have time to come to an agreement and the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission granted requests for continuance throughout the settlement efforts.

The parties filed a Settlement Agreement and Covenant of Cooperation executed on or before June 19, 2018. (See the attached copy of the settlement agreement, Attachment C.)

After receiving a request for dismissal from the Complainant and the Presbytery of the Pacific , on July 5, 2018 at 10:20 a.m., the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii met via Zoom meeting service in order to consider the request for dismissal. Members of the Commission participating were Moderator R. Winston Presnall, Elder Pat Niles, Clerk, Elder Izar Martinez, Elder Geraldine Tayler, Elder Linda Therein and Rev. Bob Wendel. A quorum was present.

#### DECISION-AND ORDER

It was moved, seconded and voted by unanimous vote to concur with the Settlement Agreement and Covenant of Cooperation dated June 19, 2018 as negotiated by the parties, and to dismiss the Synod PJC Case No. 2017 R-1, Presbyterian Church of Pacific Palisades vs Presbytery of the Pacific.

The Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii concurs with the request for dismissal from the Complainant and the Presbytery of the Pacific, and the case is dismissed.

Rev. Shelby Larsen and Elder Peter K. Lee took no part in the proceedings in accordance with D-5.0205. Rev. John Langfitt and Rev. Lee Ireland were not present and took no part in the proceedings.

Dated this 5th day of July 2018.



Rev R. Winston Presnall,

Moderator of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission



Elder Pat Niles,

Clerk of the Synod Permanent Judicial Commission