



Manual of Personnel Policies, Procedures and Practices

(Ninth Edition)

Prepared by the Personnel Commission
And
Presented to the Diocesan Board of Trustees

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Addendums

- A Performance Improvement Plan
- B Employee Evaluation Form
- C Good Security Practices – to be added
- D Contents Checklist for Employee Personnel Files – to be added

100 INTRODUCTION

This edition of the personnel policies, procedures and practices (“Policies”) was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Diocese of El Camino Real (“Diocese”) and it supersedes any and all previous policy statements of the Diocese. The Policies are to be reviewed periodically by the Personnel Committee to ensure that they continue to reflect current legal requirements and that they are consistent with local, diocesan, and national trends. The intent is to provide the basis for clear understanding by all parties for reasonable and consistent working relationships with staff, and to provide guidelines for supervision. The Policies apply to all employees of the Diocese and to those of the missions and other entities coming under the jurisdiction of the Diocese.

The Policies are to be deemed a practical guide only and shall under no circumstances be construed to create a contractual relationship or support an argument that a contractual relationship exists.

The Diocese is strives for a working environment in which relationships are characterized by dignity, courtesy and respect. Further, the Diocese is committed to providing a clean, safe, and comfortable environment in which to work.

101 Equal Employment Opportunity Statement

The Diocese provides equal employment opportunities to all people regardless of race, color, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion (unless required by the position and allowed by law), veteran’s status, mental or physical disability, national origin, or marital status. Personnel policies and practices of the Diocese are administered in accordance with federal, state, and local employment laws – except when in conflict with church doctrine or policy or canons. It is the supervisor’s responsibility to ensure that all personnel actions are in accordance with this policy. The Diocese will reasonably accommodate an otherwise qualified individual who is known by the Diocese to have a disability, to the extent required by law.

200 EMPLOYMENT

All employees except temporary employees of the Diocese, whether clergy or laity, are employed under the legal principle of “employment at will.” As such, neither the Diocese nor the employee is bound to continued employment. Employees are free to terminate at will and may be terminated at the discretion of the Diocese, with or without cause.

No employee of the Diocese shall be additionally paid as a consultant to the Diocese.

201 New Positions Approval

When a new position is to be filled, a brief description of the key duties and responsibilities should be reviewed by the Personnel Commission, which will assign a temporary salary range to the position. A final position description will then be prepared by the Personnel Commission and given to the Board of Trustees for approval before any offer of employment is made.

202 Employment Procedure

New positions must be approved by the Board of Trustees *before* any offer of employment is made. Reference checks and background investigations, including criminal records check, verification of degrees, relevant licenses and certificates, and employment history will be completed for all candidates to whom an offer is contemplated. Offers of employment shall require the applicant's having given proof of eligibility to work in the United States. Hiring offers shall be in writing and include salary, position, starting date, any special contingencies and relocation coverage, if applicable. Any and all employment agreements must be approved in advance by the Personnel Commission.

203 Employment of Relatives

The Diocese affords equal employment opportunities to all people regardless of their relationship to others employed by the Diocese, subject to the restrictions described below.

Relatives are defined as spouses, members of the same household, domestic partners, natural or adopted parents, grandparents, children, brothers, sisters, first cousins, aunts, uncles, nephews, in-laws, or step-relationships.

Adverse or preferential treatment of relatives is expressly prohibited in all personnel decisions and practices. If two or more relatives are employed, one relative may not report directly to another or be employed in circumstances that otherwise pose difficulties for supervision, security, safety, or morale.

If during the course of their employment, employees marry or become relatives as defined above and work in a direct supervisory relationship with one another, the Diocese will try to reassign one of the employees to another position for which he/she is qualified. If no such position is available, then one of the employees will be required to leave the Diocese. The affected employees may make the decision as to which employee will leave. In the event that the affected employees cannot make the decision in a timely fashion, the Diocese will make the decision for them.

204 Salary Offers

All salary offers will be at or above the minimum of the rate range determined pursuant to Section 303. Offers above the midpoint should only be made in exceptional cases, after review with the Personnel Commission. The Bishop has the final authority on salaries.

Salary offers will be stated in weekly or monthly amounts. Annual figures will *not* be used.

205 Terminations

- a) All assignments and continued employment are at will unless specifically described otherwise in a written agreement approved by the Bishop or, in the case of the employment of the Bishop, or in the absence of the Bishop, the Standing Committee. Separation can be initiated by the Diocese or the employee. All terminations will include an exit interview using approved forms to the extent possible.

- b) Voluntary

Resignation is a voluntary permanent separation that the employee initiates. It is helpful to the Diocese to have early notice of an employee's intention to leave. Therefore, the Diocese requests that employees give at least 2 weeks' written notice of resignation. A voluntary termination shall also be considered to have occurred whenever there is an absence of 3 or more consecutive days without compliance with the attendance policies set forth in these Policies.

- c) Lay Off

When an employee is laid off at the will of the Diocese, up to 4 weeks' notice may be given when considered appropriate and feasible by the Diocese.

- d) Involuntary Discharge

The Diocese will follow appropriate human resources practices in determining when to discharge at will employees.

- e) Unemployment Insurance

Diocesan employees are not covered by state unemployment insurance.

- f) Accrued Vacation

Terminating employees will receive payment for accrued vacation time as required in accordance with state, federal and local laws. This payment does not include any medical leave accruals.

- g) Payment at Termination

An employee is entitled to immediate payment of salary and accrued vacation if terminated with cause by the Diocese (reference Section 205[d], Involuntary With Cause - Discharge). When an employee resigns, the Diocese will pay salary and accrued vacation within 72 hours of termination (reference Section 205[b], Voluntary). If the employee has given at least 72 hours' notice of resignation, the payment of salary and accrued vacation will be paid on the last day of work.

- h) Employees will receive information regarding cessation of benefits.

300 COMPENSATION

It is the Diocese's desire to compensate employees equitably within its means and strives to compare as favorably as possible with similar positions in comparable dioceses, commerce, industry, and non-profit organizations in the area contiguous to the Diocesan Office. A salary range for each position will be developed by the Personnel Commission. The salary range will be reviewed annually, based on local salary level movements and other applicable data.

301 Employee Classifications

Each employee shall be classified into one of the categories listed below.

- a) Full-Time. These are employees hired to work a regular schedule of 40 hours per week and who are hired as "at will" employees of the Diocese without specified term of employment. These employees are entitled to the full range of benefits outlined in this manual.
- b) Part-Time
 1. Employees hired to work between 20 and 39 hours per week are entitled to benefits on a pro-rated basis as described in these Policies.
 2. Employees hired to work fewer than 20 hours per week are not entitled to benefits.
- c) Temporary

Temporary employees are employees hired to work for a period of time less than 6 months in duration. They shall sign an employment agreement stipulating the complete terms of employment including duration, compensation, hours, place of work, job or project description, and supervisor identity. Temporary employees are not entitled to benefits.
- d) Exempt and Non-Exempt

Exempt. These are employees designated as exempt from overtime and compensatory time rules according to guidelines in the Fair Labor Standards Act and applicable orders of the Industrial Welfare Commission.

Non-exempt. These are hourly employees entitled to overtime and compensatory time.

Note: *The Personnel Commission will determine this exemption status as each position is described and evaluated.*

302 Position Descriptions

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- a) A position description shall be prepared for all positions under the Diocesan umbrella.
 - 1. Position descriptions should be prepared with a summary statement of the key duties and responsibilities, level of supervision given or recommended, prerequisite education, skills, competencies, and/or experience for the job.
 - 2. Each description will provide a listing of the essential functions and responsibilities.
 - 3. Position descriptions shall be submitted to the Personnel Commission for review prior to submitting the position description to the Board of Trustees for approval and prior to using the position description for employment or other purposes.
- b) The Personnel Commission will be responsible for reviewing the position description and development of any additional data needed. The Personnel Commission will determine whether the position is exempt or non-exempt under the Fair Labor Standards Act and applicable state and local laws(see Section 301d).
- c) Position descriptions should be reviewed at least annually by the employee's supervisor to ensure that the description is up to date and reflects the duties and responsibilities as performed by the employee.

303 Merit Increases

- a) Each year the Personnel Commission will develop a merit budget recommendation. This will be a sum of salary dollars to be divided among the Diocesan staff based on individual performance (reference Section 306, Performance Reviews). Since the increases are based on individual performance, employees may not all receive the same amount or percentage increase, and some or all may receive no increase at all.
- b) The merit budget recommendation will be submitted to the Board of Trustees for inclusion in the annual operating budget of the Diocese.
- c) The total amount of merit increases granted shall not exceed the amount approved by the Board of Trustees.

304 Salary Administration

- a) Working Hours
 - 1. A normal workweek consists of 40 hours.
 - 2. With the specific written approval of the supervisor, the working hours of a non-exempt employee may vary from normal office hours,

provided the normal workweek hours are fulfilled.

b) Record Keeping

1. Non-exempt employees are required to submit each week to the accounting office, through their supervisor, a time slip showing the hours worked each day. Time not worked will be explained on the slip, e.g., sick leave, vacation, etc., and the explanation must be signed off by the supervisor.
2. At the end of each month in which leave is taken, exempt employees will submit a slip to the accounting office, through their supervisor, showing the extent and categories of such leave.

c) Expense Reimbursements

The Diocese will reimburse employees for reasonable expenses incurred for Diocesan purposes. Generally, receipts must be provided to your supervisor for approval of expenses. You will be reimbursed the IRS standard mileage rate if you use your vehicle for Diocesan purposes. However, you are still responsible for any expenses associated with operating your own vehicle during business travel time, including but not limited to insurance deductibles.

Some employees may choose to use their personal cellular telephones and other devices for work purposes. The Diocese will provide a reasonable expense reimbursement for these devices. It may be in the form of a percentage of use for work or a flat fee based on average use. Employees who use a personal device for work are encouraged to discuss expense reimbursement with their supervisor.

d) Overtime

The nature of this organization and its budgetary limitations require every effort to accomplish essential work without resorting to overtime.

1. Should non-exempt employees be required by supervisors to work beyond the scheduled 8-hour day and/or 40-hour week, the following shall apply:
 - a. Work performed in excess of 8 hours in a day and/or 40 hours in the work week (but not in excess of 12 hours in a day or in excess of 8 hours on the seventh consecutive day worked in a work week) will be paid at the rate of one and one-half the regular hourly rate.
 - b. Work performed in excess of 12 hours in a day or in excess of 8 hours on the seventh consecutive day worked in a work week will be paid at the rate of two times the regular hourly rate.

2. Non-exempt employees performing overtime work without authorization will be subject to disciplinary action. An employee in a non-exempt position may request in writing the opportunity to work additional time in order to make up for unpaid time during the same workweek. An employee who requests make-up time must make up the time within the same workweek as the unpaid time was taken. The employee will not be paid overtime for these make-up hours, except for hours worked in excess of 12 in one workday or 40 in one workweek.

For example, if a full-time employee in a non-exempt position misses 2 hours of work on Monday for personal reasons, that employee could make up those 2 hours by working 10 hours on a later date during that same workweek. Make-up time requests must be in writing and require management approval.

e) Holiday Pay

Employees in a non-exempt position scheduled to work 8 hours a day and/or 40 hours per week who are required to work on a scheduled holiday will receive their regular hourly rate of pay for holiday pay, plus overtime pay, if any, at the above described applicable rate. Part-time employees in non-exempt positions who are required to work on a holiday on which they are regularly scheduled to work will receive their regular hourly rate of pay for the usual hours of work for that holiday, plus the applicable hourly rate of pay due based on the total hours reported for the holiday. Part-time employees in non-exempt positions who work on a holiday on which they are not typically scheduled to work will receive pay for hours worked.

f) Travel Time

When an employee in a non-exempt position travels to another location outside of normal working hours at the request of the Diocese, the actual time of travel is treated as normal work time and counts towards accumulation of 8 hours of work per day and 40 hours of work per week. If the travel occurs after a normal 8-hour day or 40 hour workweek, all of the travel time is paid at the applicable overtime rates.

g) Exempt Employees

Exempt employees are not eligible for overtime pay and are not normally entitled to compensatory time off. Under exceptional circumstances, and with the explicit approval of the Bishop or the person designated by the Bishop, in recognition of extraordinary efforts, time off may be granted.

h) Pay Day

All employees are paid in arrears twice a month on the 15th and the 26th of the month.

i) Paychecks

Each pay day the Diocese will pay you with a check [and/or direct deposit]. You will receive an itemized statement of earnings, typically referred to as a “paycheck stub.” The statement will show, for the pay period, gross wages earned, total hours worked (except for employees paid a salary and who are exempt from the payment of overtime compensation), all deductions, net wages earned, the dates of the pay period, your name and part of your social security number, the name and address of the business, and the applicable hourly rate. The Diocese will also provide you with the state mandated paid sick leave benefits you have accrued either on the paycheck stub on or a separate document distributed with your paycheck. Please assure that all personal information is correct. If changes need to be made, please contact your supervisor.

Processing payroll requires the Diocese to make many calculations for each employee, and it is possible that an error may occur. For this reason, we ask that you carefully review each paycheck stub for accuracy. If you have any questions, or if there is an error, please bring it to our attention immediately. No employee will suffer adverse action because (s)he expressed or made a written or oral inquiry or complaint regarding wages.

Your paycheck will be subject to payroll deductions. This will include federal and state income taxes which the Diocese is required to withhold, payroll taxes such as social security, and any other deductions which you have authorized for your benefit.

j) Payroll Records

The Diocese will keep payroll records showing hours worked daily and wages paid to each employee at the main office located at 154 Central Ave, Salinas, CA 93901. These records will be kept for at least three years. You may also keep a personal record of hours worked. If your record differs from the information the Diocese provides you on your paycheck, contact the Bishop’s or Bishop’s designee’s office immediately.

k) Meal Periods

Non-exempt employees who work five or more hours on a given workday will be provided with an unpaid meal period of 60 minutes in length; employees will be provided with a second meal break if they work more than ten hours during the day. Employees are relieved of all duties during their meal periods and may leave company premises if they wish to do so. Meal periods are to be taken by the conclusion of the employee’s fifth hour of work, and in the case of a second meal period, by the conclusion of the employee’s tenth hour of work.

Employees who work no more than six hours on a given day may waive their right to take a meal period on such days. Employees who work over ten hours on a given day may waive their right to a second meal period if they have taken the first meal period and do not work more than 12 hours

during the day. Employees who wish to waive a meal period must submit a written request to do so to their manager prior to the scheduled commencement of the meal period.

Employees must record the times at which they begin and end their meal periods on their timecards. Meal periods may not be combined with rest breaks or taken at the beginning or end of a work day.

Any employee who feels he or she is unable to take a meal period for any reason should notify their manager or the Bishop or Bishop’s designee immediately. A manager or supervisor that prevents or discourages an employee from taking a meal period is in violation of this policy and should be reported to the next level of management or the Bishop or Bishop’s designee immediately.

l) Rest Periods

The Diocese provides non-exempt employees with rest breaks of ten minutes in length in accordance with applicable law. To the extent possible, rest breaks will be provided in the middle of work periods. Employees are required to notify their manager or supervisor before beginning a rest break. Employees are relieved of all duties during their rest periods and may leave company premises if they wish to do so. Rest periods are paid and need not be recorded on timecards.

Non-exempt employees are provided with rest breaks based on the number of hours they work during the day, as follows:

Hours of work during day	Number of breaks provided
0 to 3.5	0
3.5 to 6	1
6 to 10	2
10 to 14	3

Rest breaks may not be combined with meal periods or taken at the beginning or end of a work day.

Any employee who feels he or she is unable to take a rest break for any reason should notify their manager or the Bishop or Bishop’s designee immediately. Any employee who is prevented from taking such a break by a manager should report that circumstance to the Bishop or Bishop’s designee immediately.

m) Lactation Accommodations

The Diocese will provide a location and a reasonable amount of time to accommodate an employee desiring to express breast milk for the employee’s infant child each time the employee has need to express milk.

1. Lactation Break

- a. The break time will ordinarily run concurrently with a non-exempt employee's paid rest break time.

The Diocese will work with the employee to accommodate requests for separate lactation breaks if it is not possible for the lactation time to run concurrently with the employee's existing break time. Non-exempt employees are required to clock out for any lactation breaks that do not run concurrently with normally scheduled rest periods. Any such lactation breaks that do not run concurrently with normally scheduled rest periods will be unpaid.

- b. Prior to any action on a request for lactation breaks, a representative of the Diocese and the employee will discuss a reasonable schedule.

2. Lactation Facilities

- a. The Diocese shall provide the employee with the use of a room or other location in close proximity to the employee's work area for the employee to express milk in private. Such space will meet the requirements of the California Labor Code including a surface to place a breast pump and personal items, a place to sit, and access to electricity or alternative devices needed to operate an electric or battery powered breast pump. The Diocese will also provide the employee with access to a sink with running water and a refrigerator for storing breast milk in close proximity to the employee's workspace.
- b. The location may be the place where the employee normally works if there is adequate privacy (e.g., the employee's private office or a lockable conference room).

3. Procedures

- a. An employee may request an accommodation for lactation breaks by submitting a lactation accommodation request the Bishop or the Bishop's designee who shall respond promptly.

4. Compliance

- a. The Diocese reserves the right to deny, in writing, an employee's request for a lactation break if the additional break time will seriously disrupt office operations.
- b. Lactation accommodations will be made on a case by case basis.
- c. Discrimination against and harassment of lactating employees in any form is prohibited.
- d. Nursing mothers who feel they have been denied proper and appropriate accommodations may contact the Bishop or Bishop's designee or file a complaint with the Labor Commissioner's Office for any violation of rights provided under Chapter 3.8 of the California Labor Code regarding lactation accommodations.

305 Performance Reviews

The performance review is a communication and evaluation process aimed at evaluating accomplishments, assisting in goal setting and measurement, and developing a better mutual understanding between supervisor and employee of the major work to be done. A review also serves to affirm and to modify a position description, as well as to enhance the equity of salary determinations.

a) Performance Review Intervals

The supervisor should conduct a written performance review with each new employee at the completion of 3 months of employment, and annually thereafter within 20 days after the anniversary date of employment. While formal performance reviews occur on an annual basis, positive or negative performance issues should be addressed in a timely manner.

b) Performance Review Form

Using the Performance Review Form approved by the Personnel Commission, the supervisor should meet personally with the employee and review the applicable job description and the employee’s performance.

c) During the performance review, the supervisor will provide a review of the performance since the last review, and with the employee articulate suggestions for improvement, as well as establish specific objectives or areas of emphasis to be pursued in the future. This is the appropriate forum for the employee to clarify his/her expectations and objectives for the future.

d) The Performance Review Form will be signed by both parties with comments added by either or both. The Performance Review Form will be placed in the employee’s personnel file.

e) See the Performance Improvement Plan in Appendix A to be used pursuant to Section 504.

400 BENEFITS

The following sections outline benefits provided by the Diocese for employees. Benefits provided through insurance are outlined only and are governed by the policies and materials issued by the insurer.

401 Holidays

a) The 11 official paid holidays of the Diocese of El Camino Real

are: New Year’s Day (January 1)	1 day
Martin Luther King Day	1 day
Easter Monday	1 day

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Memorial Day	1 day
Independence Day (July 4)	1 day
Labor Day	1 day
Thanksgiving Holiday	2 days
Christmas Holiday	2 days
Employee Birthday	1 day

- b) Unofficial Staff Holidays at the discretion of the Bishop for Diocesan Staff. The Diocese will not pay exempt employees for unused holidays.

402 Vacation

The Diocese provides annual vacation with pay for the purpose of rest and relaxation from work according to the chart below..

Part time staff will be given pro-rated vacations with pay in accordance with the Vacation Accrual Schedule below.

VACATION ACCRUAL SCHEDULE – 40 hour week		
During Service Year	Hourly Rate of Accrual per Month	Vacation Hours Accrued per Year
0.5	6.6666	40
1.0	6.6666	80
2.0	7.3333	88
3.0	8.0000	96
4.0	8.6666	104
5.0 but less	10.0000	120
10.0 or more	13.3333	160

- a) After six months, an employee may take one week of vacation. Vacation is accrued from the date of employment.
- b) Temporary employees are not eligible for vacation.
- c) Holidays falling within an employee’s scheduled vacation will not be charged as vacation.
- d) Should an employee become ill for at least three consecutive days during a scheduled vacation period, the working days of illness may be charged as personal absence pursuant to Section 406 leave rather than vacation upon presentation of a doctor’s certificate to the employee’s supervisor.
- e) Employees are encouraged to use their vacation for rest and renewal in the

year it which it is accrued. When an employee has accrued one and one-tenth percent of allotted accrual hours of unused vacation, accruals shall cease until the employee's accrued but unused vacation is less than one and one-tenth percent of allotted accrual. .

- f) On termination, all accrued vacation will be paid, regardless of cause of termination.

403 Insurance Benefits

- a) Life Insurance

The Diocese provides \$10,000 of Group Life and Accidental Death Insurance for clergy working on a regular schedule of 20 or more hours per week. Employees may purchase life insurance policies, and clergy may increase such coverage through Church Pension Group See informational booklet for details or contact the Diocesan Administrator.

- b) Medical and Dental Insurance

Medical Insurance is available for all full-time and part-time paid employees who work 20 hours or more per week and their eligible family members. For those working less than 40 hours, payment for such insurance for the employee will be on a prorated basis; payment for coverage of families of employees working less than 40 hours a week will be at the expense of the employee. There are several plan designs offered. Contact the diocesan office for coverage and enrollment information on each plan design. See summary plan descriptions for detailed coverage information.

- c) Dental Insurance is available for all employees who work 30 hours or more per week and their eligible family members.
- d) Contact the diocesan office for coverage and enrollment information on each plan design. See summary plan description for detailed coverage information. Dependent on plan design chosen, employee may be required to pay a portion of the premium beyond the basic plan for the employee which will be paid by employer. And employee may need to pay all or a portion of the premium for family coverage.

- e) Disability

Long Term and Short Term Disability Insurance coverage is available for all full-time and part-time paid employees who work 30 hours or more per week. See summary plan descriptions for detailed coverage information.

- f) Long Term Care

Long Term Care Insurance coverage is available for all full-time and part-time paid employees who work 30 hours or more per week. See summary plan descriptions for detailed coverage information.

- g) Worker's Compensation

All employees are covered by a diocesan policy for job related injuries or illness. The policy can be found in the Diocesan Office.

Note: The above programs are subject to change based on applicable tax laws and available church programs. Check booklets for current details.

404 Retirement Benefits

- a) Clergy pension rights and benefits are defined and governed by Title I, Canon 1.8, of the Canons of the Episcopal Church. The Diocese will contribute 18 percent of the qualified clerical employee's compensation to the defined benefits plan of the Church Pension Fund.
- b) The Diocese contributes 50% of the FICA for lay employees. The balance is paid by the employee to provide Social Security benefits at the time of retirement.
- c) In addition, the Diocese has a 403(b) plan available for use by lay employees. The Diocese will contribute 9% of the qualified lay employee's salary to this plan. The employee may contribute additional salary to his or her 403(b) plan within the allowable guidelines. See the Diocesan Financial Administrator for further information.

405 Authorized Absence

- a) Jury Duty

Employees who are legally summoned or subpoenaed for jury or witness duty during a normal work schedule will be paid the difference between jury pay and regular salary while on jury duty up to a maximum of 4 weeks. Mileage and other allowances will not be included in the calculation. Employees must notify supervisors of each summons or subpoena immediately upon receipt and are expected to return to work each day or portion of a day not engaged in witness or jury duty.

- b) Bereavement Leave

Full-time employees, or part-time employees scheduled to work 20 or more hours a week, are eligible for funeral attendance leave with pay. All Bereavement Leave requires the approval of the employee's supervisor based on the following guidelines:

1. A maximum of 5 working days shall be granted to an employee when the death is a member of the employee's immediate family (parent, spouse, domestic partner, sister, brother, child, step-relative, grandparent, grandchild, mother-in-law, or father-in-law.)
2. One working day may be granted to attend the funeral of a close relative not listed in #1, above.

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3. One-half (½) working day may be granted at supervisor discretion for the employee to attend the funeral of someone other than those listed above.
 4. If additional time is needed, personal time off must be used and arrangements are to be made with the employee's supervisor.
- c) All employees are expected to minimize absences, whenever possible, by using personal time to attend to personal affairs and obligations.
- d) Attendance Standards

The frequency, type, and length of absences or tardiness, along with the performance of the organization, are all factors that may be considered in the evaluation of attendance. Absences or instances of tardiness that negatively affect the employee's ability to fulfill his or her job responsibilities may be addressed by corrective action, up to and including termination.

- e) Notification of Absence

An employee who must be absent from work, or who will be late in arriving for work, must notify his or her supervisor within one hour of his or her regular starting time. An employee who expects to be absent from work due to a planned medical leave of absence should notify his or her supervisor in advance of the planned leave.

Any absence without notification by the employee to his or her immediate supervisor may be grounds for corrective action, up to and including termination.

Three consecutive work days of absence without notification by the employee to his or her immediate supervisor will be considered a voluntary termination by the employee of his or her job (see Section 205 on Terminations).

- f) Attendance Records

It is the employee's obligation to accurately and completely record attendance. Failure to do so may be grounds for termination. The Diocesan Administrator will keep copies of attendance records for reference.

- g) Voting Time

If the work schedule of employees would prevent them from voting on Election Day, the Diocese will give them up to 2 hours paid time off to vote. The employee must present a voter's receipt before he/she will receive paid time off to vote. Employees may also take unpaid time off to serve as an election official; provided that such employees give their supervisor at least two days' advance notice that they will need time off to vote or to serve as an

election official.

406 Personal Absence (sick and personal necessity) Leave

- a) Personal absence leave is time off, with pay, granted for periods covered by the next paragraph, time required for doctor/dentist visits, and other personal business.

An employee unable to work because of illness or injury of the employee or a family member (parent, child, spouse, grandparent, grandchild or sibling), or pregnancy must notify his or her supervisor immediately. This section shall also apply to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking who need time off for medical attention, to obtain services from a shelter or crisis center, or for counseling or safety planning. If the employee is unable to notify the supervisor, he or she may appoint a designee to provide notification.

An employee who is absent 5 or more consecutive work-days must provide a physician statement verifying his or her inability to work. This statement must be submitted to the Bishop or Bishop’s designee who when appropriate will verify the statement (i.e. possibly contact the physician’s office).

- b) The Diocese may require an attending physician’s statement for absences of less than 5 consecutive work-days.
- c) Personal absence credits are accrued at the rate of 1 day per completed month of employment and may be accumulated to a maximum of 20 working days. Accrual for part time employees will be a prorated portion.
- d) Such annual leave may be taken up to 20 working days for personal illness, with medical certification. All other absences are limited to a maximum of five days (if all 20 days have not been taken due to illness) the time to be arranged with the supervisor so as to minimize work disruption as much as possible.
- e) No payment shall be made beyond the amount accrued.
- f) No payment for unused personal necessity time will be made on termination.

407 Medical Leave (without pay)

- a) Unpaid medical leaves of absence of up to four months may be granted for employees. Such medical leave may be granted for any non-occupational injury or illness, including pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions. In the event of the birth or adoption of a child, an additional unpaid leave of two months may be granted if requested by the employee at least 30 days prior to start of leave.
- b) In the event of absence due to medical leave, the Diocese reserves the right

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to require written proof from a licensed physician of the beginning and ending dates of the employee's inability to work.

- c) Applications for medical leaves of absence should be submitted, when practical, at least two weeks before the start of the medical leave of absence.
- d) Health and life insurance benefits ordinarily provided by the Diocese, and for which the employee is otherwise eligible, will be continued during the medical leave at the employee's expense under the Episcopal Church Plan. The Administrator can provide the details of this plan upon request.
- e) Employees returning from medical leave will be required to provide a physician's release stating that the employee is fit to return to work, and including any medical restrictions relating to a disability.
- f) The leave period will not count as time worked for the purpose of calculating months served for vacation or personal absence accumulations.

408 Family and Parental Leave

- a) Unpaid medical leave of up to 12 workweeks may be taken by a parent, with at least 12 months of service during which the employee has worked at least 504 hours, for the birth or adoption of a child as personal necessity leave.
- b) Such leave must be taken in one or more periods within the first year of such birth or adoption (adoption shall include the initial placement of a child in preparation for adoption). Where practicable, notice of intent to take such leave must be given no later than 30 days prior to the start of such leave and preferably earlier than that time.
- c) If a parent receives disability payments for such birth and elects paid leave, the disability payment shall be turned over to the Diocese.
- d) Unpaid leave of up to 12 workweeks in any 12 month period may be taken by an employee with at least 12 months of service, during which the employee has worked at least 504 hours, to care for the employee or a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner with a serious health condition.
- e) In addition, employees may take additional unpaid leave as required by the California Family Leave legislation to the extent such leave is beyond that in this Section 408.

409 United States Military Service

All employees who are covered by the Veterans' Re-employment Rights Act ("Act")

and other applicable laws and regulations will be granted leaves of absence in accordance with the provisions of that Act for active duty training periods and extended active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces. The person seeking such leave shall give 2 weeks prior notice to his/her supervisor unless such notice is precluded by military necessity or is otherwise impossible or unreasonable, all pursuant to provisions of the Act.

Clarification of Benefits for Voluntary Enlistment (Categories 1-3 above)

Sick Pay

Employees on voluntary military leave of absence in Categories 1 & 2 are not eligible for personal leave benefits.

Vacation Accrual

Employees on voluntary military leave of absence in Categories 1 & 2 are not eligible for vacation accrual; Employees on voluntary military leave of absence in Categories 3 continue to accrue vacation as defined under the current Policy.

Group Health/Life Insurance

An employee on voluntary military leave of absence in Categories 1 & 2 may continue to participate in the health care plan under COBRA-like program by paying according to the terms of the life insurance policy; coverage is discontinued during active duty of more than 30 days. Employees on voluntary military leave of absence in Category 3 continue to be covered by their current health and life insurance.

Reinstatement

An employee will be reinstated in any of the above categories with the same seniority status and pay s/he would have had if s/he had not entered military service, unless circumstances have so changed as to make it impossible or unreasonable to do so.

Retirement Plans

A person re-employed after uniformed service shall be treated as not having incurred a break in any employee pension benefit plan that may then be in force.

500 PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION

This section includes policies, procedures, and practices to assist management and employees in maintaining a stable and communicative working relationship, and to provide formal steps in the solution of problems in the work place.

501 Personnel Records

- a) A personnel record is maintained for each current employee and kept for each former employee for the period required by state, local and federal law. Records indicate name, address, telephone number, pay rate, position and performance information, and insurance records,. Medical records shall be kept in a separate confidential file for each employee. For former employees, records should indicate reason for termination and eligibility for

rehire.

- b) Personnel files are confidential and are kept in locked file cabinets at the Diocesan Office. Access to information is restricted to legal administrative purposes. No files, or material within, may be removed from the office.
- c) Employees may review their personnel files at the site of the files and under general supervision of the Diocesan Administrator (or designated custodian of the files). Employees may also copy from their own files any documents on which that employee's signature appears. Employees may not remove original files or paperwork from the site where they are stored, but may add items upon approval of the Bishop or Bishop's designee.
- d) Response to request for information about an employee from outside sources should be limited to confirmation of most recent position and dates of employment. The Diocese may provide additional data, if necessary, but only if a written release is provided by the employee.
- e) The Diocese will cooperate with authorized representatives for federal and state governments only after proper identification is received. Investigators retained by the Diocese, a parish or other entity affiliated with the Diocese may review the file and make copies of information relevant to the investigation.

502 Anti-Harassment Policy

- a) The Diocese of El Camino Real is committed to creating and maintaining a community in which all employees of the Diocese can work together in an atmosphere free of tension caused by demeaning or harassing conduct, including animosity engendered by inappropriate religious, racial, ethnic, age, disability, or sexual conduct or comments. The Diocese will not tolerate verbal or physical conduct by any employee related to or because of a protected category that harasses, disrupts or interferes with another person's work performance or that creates an intimidating, offensive or hostile work environment. It is the intention of the Diocese to take whatever action may be needed to prevent, correct, and if necessary, discipline behavior that violates this policy.
- b) The California Fair Employment and Housing Commission regulations define sexual harassment as unwanted sexual advances, or visual, verbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature. It includes solicitation of sexual favors, unwelcome sexual advances, and creating or maintaining an intimidating, offensive, or hostile work environment, such as telling offensive jokes and engaging in offensive behavior in the workplace.
- c) Sexual harassment is specifically prohibited by the Diocese. It is the obligation of each person to report any conduct that violates these standards – whether the victim or not; whether the perpetrator is a supervisor, member of management, coworker, or business invitee; and regardless of the sex of the perpetrator.

- d) Other types of harassment are identified as verbal or physical conduct that denigrates or shows hostility toward another because of the protected characteristics described in the Fair Employment and Housing Act even though that Act is not applicable to the Diocese. his or her As with sexual harassment, this conduct is prohibited and should be reported immediately.
- e) The Diocese, ordinarily through the Diocesan Administrator, will conduct a prompt, thorough investigation of any complaint, protecting the identity of the complaining party, witnesses, and the individual alleged to have violated the policy, to the extent possible. A complaint made in good faith should not result in any retaliatory action. Appropriate action will be taken if a violation of policy has occurred, up to and including termination of employment.
- f) Procedure
 - 1. A person (the complainant) who believes that she or he has been harassed by another may, but is not required, to confront the offending party (respondent) and request that the harassing behavior cease. If the harassing conduct by another continues, or if the complainant doesn't feel comfortable confronting the offending party, the complainant should immediately contact the Bishop or a person designated by the Bishop.
 - 2. The complainant will report the offensive conduct to the designated person. The Bishop, or the person designated by the Bishop, shall promptly and thoroughly investigate the facts, review the incident as a whole and consider the totality of the circumstances, including the context in which the alleged incident occurred. The investigation shall include interviews and a review of relevant documents. Findings shall be reported to both the complaining party and the alleged harasser. Appropriate action which may follow this conference may include any of the following: 1) action to cause the cessation of the harassing behavior; or 2) other action deemed appropriate by the Bishop (e.g., training, probation, termination, etc.). The Bishop, or the person designated by the Bishop, may seek additional counsel from persons of his/her choice. The decision and action of the Bishop are final decisions for the Diocese.
 - 3. In the event that the Bishop of El Camino Real behaves in a manner that is perceived as harassment by a person who is offended by that behavior, the complainant may, but is not required to confront the Bishop and request that the behavior cease. Should the offensive behavior continue, or if the complainant does not feel comfortable confronting the Bishop, the complainant is then to ask that the Diocesan Standing Committee investigate the alleged action in accordance with the Canons of The Episcopal Church and the Diocese.
 - 4. If the Bishop believes he/she is being harassed she shall report the

circumstances to the Personnel Commission which will conduct an investigation and follow the procedures in subsection 2 above. A final decision shall be made by the Standing Committee.

503 Complaint Procedure

The complaint procedure is a systematic process for the objective hearing and orderly handling of staff complaints concerning the application of policies and procedures governing personnel practices or working conditions. Although many potential complaints can be anticipated and prevented by supervisors who understand the basic principles of employer/employee relations, some situations may still arise concerning the aforementioned policies and procedures or working conditions.

It is the employee's right to make complaints known. Any employee who feels he/she has a complaint is encouraged to do so. The exercising of this complaint procedure will *not jeopardize the job of the complainant*. During the handling of the employee will be expected to perform his or her job duties as directed by his or her supervisor.

There are several ways to approach the informal complaint procedure which include:

- a) A face-to-face discussion with the supervisor.
- b) A written memorandum to the supervisor.
- c) With the assistance of a mutually agreeable third person, the employee and the supervisor may try to work out an understanding satisfactory to both parties.
- d) In the event an amicable agreement cannot be reached, the matter shall be brought to the attention of the Bishop for resolution. The Bishop's decision shall be final. If the complaint involves the Bishop, the Personnel Commission or President of the Standing Committee shall substitute for the Bishop.
- e) There shall be written documentation of actions agreed upon, which will be filed in the accused person's personnel file.
- f) If a complaint is not settled, it should be formally presented, in written form, to the Bishop, or, in a case involving the Bishop, the Personnel Commission. Such complaint about the Bishop may be referred to the Diocesan Standing Committee by the Personnel Commission.

504 Disciplinary Procedure

- a) In order to assure orderly operations and to provide the best possible work environment, The Diocese of El Camino Real expects employees to follow standards of conduct that will protect the interests and safety of personnel.

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Nothing in these standards of conduct should be construed as abrogating the at-will nature of employment or as requiring cause for disciplinary action, including termination. It is not possible to list all the forms of behavior that are considered unacceptable in the workplace, but the following are examples of infractions of standards of conduct that may result in disciplinary action, including formal warnings, suspension, or termination of employment.

- b) To provide employees with some guidance concerning what constitutes unacceptable behavior, the following examples are provided:
1. Falsification of or making a material omission on forms, records, reports, or work or laboratory notebooks, including time cards, employment application documents, expense reports, or other Diocesan records, no matter when such conduct is discovered.
 2. Actual or threatened violence toward another employee or a Diocesan visitor.
 3. Insubordination, disruptive behavior, refusing to follow a directions, or other disrespectful conduct to another employee.
 4. Theft or embezzlement or unauthorized possession or removal of Diocesan, employee, or third party property, records, or other materials, including equipment, fixtures, or automobiles.
 5. Possessing or bringing firearms, weapons (including knives), alcohol (except when authorized), illegal drugs or hazardous chemicals on or to Diocesan property or while performing work for the Diocese.
 6. Provoking a physical fight or fighting on Diocesan property or while performing work for the Diocese.
 7. Using profane or abusive language at any time while on Diocesan property or while performing work for the Diocese.
 8. Destroying or damaging Diocesan or employee property, records, or other materials.
 9. Violating safety or health rules or practices, engaging in conduct that creates a safety health hazard, or failure to use appropriate personal protective equipment.
 10. Unauthorized disclosure of confidential or proprietary information.
 11. Violation of the Diocese's Use of Electronic Media Policy set forth in Section 505.4.a).
 12. Violation of the Diocese's Substance-free Workplace Policy,

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including using or possessing, alcohol (except when authorized) or unlawful substances while on Diocesan premises as defined in Section 505 3 or while performing work for the Diocese.

13. Failing to observe work schedules, including required rest and lunch periods.
 14. Failing to notify the appropriate supervisor when unable to report to work.
 15. Falsifying reasons for absences.
 16. Enabling or allowing an unauthorized person to enter Diocesan premises.
 17. Smoking in non-smoking areas.
 18. Refusal to permit a management representative to access Diocesan property, including desks, offices, lockers, or Diocesan vehicles.
 19. Discrimination against any person on the basis of any factor protected by law.
 20. Violation of the Diocese's policy against harassment.
 21. Committing acts that are fraudulent, dishonest, or illegal.
 22. Violating Diocesan policies or employee agreements.
 23. Failing to reimburse Diocesan overpayments, clear expense reports, or repay debts owed to the Diocese.
- c) The purpose of this policy is to provide for the fair handling of disciplinary and performance problems.
 - d) The immediate supervisor is responsible for taking immediate corrective steps in the event a performance or disciplinary problem arises.
 - e) Initially, and depending on the severity of the allegations, the supervisor may discuss the problem with the employee informally.
 - f) The supervisor will document the problem in writing, using the form in Appendix B, and determine appropriate steps to correct the problem.
 - g) If the misconduct is severe or the employee does not correct the misconduct after discussing it with his/her supervisor, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken, up to and including dismissal.

505 Diocesan Access Rights and Use of Electronic Media

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- a) The Diocese believes that a workplace free of illegal drugs, alcohol, and other harmful materials is vital to the health and safety of its employees and to the success of its operations. This statement does not apply to alcohol as used in the ordinary conduct of worship services or to the serving of alcohol for special events as approved in advance by the Bishop or the Bishop's designee.
- b) The Diocese also needs to protect itself against the unauthorized removal of property, and to assure its access at all times to documents, records and files, whether on paper or on magnetic media, such as tapes, computer disks, clouds, or other data storage mechanisms.
- c) Accordingly, the Diocese has established this policy concerning inspections, searches, and access to property on Diocese premises. This policy applies to all employees. The computer storage systems, voice mail systems, and electronic mail systems are Diocesan property and are to be used for Diocesan purposes only. They are subject to inspection, search, and access at any time.
- d) Guidelines – Certain terms pertaining to these guidelines are defined below:
 - 1. “Prohibited materials” means firearms or other weapons, explosives and/or hazardous materials or articles; illegal drugs or drug-related paraphernalia; legal but unauthorized drugs, and alcoholic beverages which the employee is not authorized to have in his/her possession.
 - 2. “Diocesan property” includes all documents, records, and files relating to the Diocese's operations, regardless of the mode of storage (paper, tape, computer data); and all equipment and other property of any kind, whether owned, leased, rented, or used by the Diocese.
 - 3. “Diocesan premises” include all premises and locations owned or leased by the Diocese, including parking lots, lockers, and storage areas.
 - 4. “Possession” means that the employee has the substance or item on his/her person or otherwise under his/her control.
- e) Inspections and Searches – Access to Diocesan Property:

The Diocese prohibits employees from bringing “Prohibited Materials” onto Diocesan property and/or vehicles. The Diocese reserves the right to access any and all Diocesan property at any time and for any operational need, including to conduct an inspection or search at any time for Diocesan property on Diocesan premises.

Routine searches or inspections for Diocesan property may include an

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employee's office, desk, file cabinets, computer or similar places where employees may place Diocesan property, whether or not those places are locked.

Because even a routine search for Diocesan property may result in the exposure of an employee's personal possessions, all employees are encouraged to refrain from bringing into the workplace any item of personal property that they do not wish to reveal to the Diocese.

Inspections or searches for prohibited materials may include an employee's office, desk, file cabinets, locker, or similar places where employees may place personal possessions, regardless of whether the places are locked or whether the employee is present. Inspections or searches for prohibited materials also may include an employee's vehicle when on Diocesan premises, or an employee's pockets, purse, briefcase, or other item of personal property that is worn or carried by the employee while on Diocesan premises. Searches of an employee's pockets, purse, briefcase, or other item of personal property worn or carried by the employee shall be conducted by requesting the employee to conduct a self-search, that is, by emptying pockets or other items in the presence of an observer.

Employees who refuse to cooperate during any inspection or search will not be forcibly detained or searched. However, the Diocese will base any disciplinary decision on the information that is available, including the basis for the search and the employee's failure to cooperate. The Diocese reserves the right to take appropriate action to prevent the unauthorized removal from Diocesan premises of Diocesan property.

f) Approval for Inspections:

- No approval for an inspection is necessary for a search to retrieve Diocesan property when an employee is unavailable.
- In cases where an employee's personal property will need to be searched, prior approval for the search should be obtained from the Bishop or the Bishop's designee.

g) Access to Computer Storage Devices, Voice Mail, Electronic Mail:

The Diocese's computer storage systems, voice mail systems, and electronic mail systems are Diocesan property, to be used for Diocesan purposes only, and are subject to inspection, search and access at any time, including but not limited to, after an employee terminates from the Diocese.

The Diocese reserves the right to access any messages transmitted or recorded over its voice mail and electronic mail systems, notwithstanding the ability of employees, in some cases, to use codes, personal identification numbers, or other techniques to restrict access to such systems. Likewise, the Diocese reserves the right to access any files, records, data, or other information stored on magnetic media which is Diocesan property, such as

computer disks, even though the employee also may be using codes, personal identification numbers, or other techniques to restrict access. Employees should be aware that personal voice mail, electronic mail, and data storage on magnetic media is not confidential, and that there is no expectation of privacy with respect to such information.

No employee, without authorization, may access computer storage systems, voice mail systems, or electronic mail beyond what is reasonably necessary to enable the employee to perform the essential functions of his or her job.

h) Disciplinary Action:

Employees who possess prohibited materials in violation of this or any other Diocesan policy are subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge, regardless of the Diocese's reason for conducting the search or inspection.

506 Drug Free Workplace Policy

a) Purpose and Goal of Policy

The Diocese is committed to protecting the safety, health and well-being of all employees and other individuals in the Diocese's workplace and, toward that end, the Diocese is committed to maintaining a drug-free workplace. The Diocese encourages employees to voluntarily seek help with drug and alcohol problems. For purposes of this policy, the following terms shall have the following meanings.

1) The term "Diocesan Work or Activities" means:

1. Work for the Diocese at any location;
2. At any time on the Diocesan premises;
3. At any Diocesan function or sponsored event;
4. At any function or event attended by employees as representatives of the Diocese or any other Episcopal or professional organization;
5. At any time traveling to and from any Diocesan location, event or work; and
6. At any time in Diocesan vehicles (whether owned, leased or rented).

(b) Clergy shall be subject to the same policies and consequences as employees.

(c) The term "illegal drug" means drugs and controlled substances, the possession or use of which is unlawful, pursuant to any federal, state and local laws and regulations in the United States. Drugs and controlled substances that are not

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legally obtainable, or that are legally obtainable but have not been legally obtained, are considered to be illegal drugs. Examples include street drugs such as cocaine, heroin, and other controlled substances such as stimulants, depressants and hallucinogenic products.

(d) All employees must comply with the Diocese's drug-free workplace policy. As a condition of continued employment with the Diocese, each employee must abide by this policy.

(e) Prohibited Behavior

(i) Illegal Drugs - The Diocese strictly prohibits at any time (whether during or before or after working hours) the manufacture, distribution, dispensation, use, sale, possession, purchase, trade, transfer, and/or offer for sale of illegal drugs by employees.

(ii) Prescription & Over-the-Counter Drugs - Prescription and over-the-counter drugs are not prohibited when taken in standard dosage and/or according to a physician's prescription. Any employee taking prescribed or over-the-counter medications will be responsible for consulting with the prescribing physician and/or pharmacist to ascertain whether the medication may interfere with safe performance of his/her job. If the use of a medication could compromise the safety of the employee, fellow employees or the public, it is the employee's responsibility to use appropriate personnel procedures (e.g., call in sick, use leave, request change of duty, notify supervisor) to avoid unsafe workplace practices. The illegal or unauthorized use of prescription drugs is prohibited. It is a violation of the Diocese's drug-free workplace policy to intentionally misuse and/or abuse prescription medications.

(iii) Use of marijuana while at work for the Diocese without a prior doctor's written notification of its medical use and approval by the Bishop.

(iv) Being impaired for any reason while working for the Diocese, on Diocesan property, or in Diocesan-owned, leased, or rented vehicles.

(v) Alcohol

1. During Diocesan Work or Activities, all employees shall refrain from using alcohol except for sacramental wine used as part of a religious service. The Diocese may, however, permit the responsible use of alcohol at social events regardless of the location. For purposes of this policy, "responsible use of alcohol" shall mean that, at all times, the employee:

a. Remains legally sober;

b. Does not operate a vehicle or other machinery while under the influence of any alcohol;

c. Conducts him/herself professionally, in accordance with general

standards of decency and, as applicable, Diocesan policies; and

- d. Makes certain that he/she does not become impaired and his/her behavior does not compromise his/her ability to perform his/her job.
 - i. If an employee has any doubts about whether he/she can comply with these requirements if he/she drinks socially, the employee must refrain from using alcohol.

(f) Notification of Convictions

1. Any employee who is convicted of a criminal drug or alcohol violation occurring in connection with Diocesan Work or Activities must notify the Bishop in writing within 5 calendar days of the conviction.

(g) Consequences

1. One of the goals of the Diocese's drug-free workplace program is to encourage employees to voluntarily seek help with alcohol and/or drug problems. If, however, an employee violates the policy, the consequences are serious. If an employee violates the policy, he or she may be subject to disciplinary action in a manner consistent with applicable law, up to and including immediate termination from employment.
2. This provision in no way limits the Diocese's right to discipline an employee under the other provisions of this Handbook.

(h) Assistance

1. The Diocese recognizes that early intervention and support improve the success of rehabilitation for alcohol and drug abuse and addiction. Whenever feasible, and subject to the limitations described in this policy, the Diocese will assist employees in overcoming alcohol and drug abuse and addiction. To support its employees, the Diocese's drug-free workplace policy:
 - a) Encourages employees to seek help if they are concerned that they or their family members may have a drug and/or alcohol problem.
 - b) Offers all employees assistance with alcohol and drug problems. To the extent possible, assistance is provided on a confidential basis. In certain circumstances, certain information may need to be shared with the Diocese, such as, for example, as required to process benefits or leaves. The Diocese is not provided with, nor does it request, any notification of a voluntary request for assistance or treatment by any employee. However, the employee may need to provide such information to qualify

for a leave of absence or other accommodation.

2. Treatment for alcoholism and/or other drug use disorders may be covered by Diocesan-provided health insurance. However, the ultimate financial responsibility for recommended treatment belongs to the employee.

(i) Confidentiality

1. The Diocese will treat and maintain as confidential all information received by the organization through the drug-free workplace program. Access to this information is limited to those who have a legitimate need to know in compliance with relevant laws and Diocesan policies.

(j) Employee's Responsibility

1. All employees are prohibited from reporting to work or duty while their ability to perform job duties is impaired due to on- or off-duty use of alcohol, illegal drugs, or other prescription or over-the-counter drugs.
2. In addition, employees are encouraged to:
 - a. Be concerned about working in a safe environment;
 - b. Support fellow employees in seeking help;
 - c. Report dangerous or unsafe behavior to the Bishop or Bishop's designee.

507 Management of Violence

Violence and/or threats of violence or other abusive or assaulting behavior by an employee against the life, health, well-being, family, or property of others, made directly or by implication, by words, gestures, symbols, intimidation, or coercion, shall be regarded as violating the fundamental rights of employees to a safe work environment and of the Diocese to operate in a safe and peaceful manner.

The Diocese has established a policy regarding violence and/or threats of violence by an employee against any other person. Such threats made while on Diocesan property or at Diocesan functions or under circumstances that may have an adverse impact on the Diocese's ability to operate, are unacceptable and grounds for immediate termination without any prior corrective action.

The following guidelines on violence and threats of violence are designed to inform employees of the procedures in place to deal with violent or potentially violent situations, as well as with employees who may be non-violent but who may be in crisis.

In the event of any hostile, violent, dangerous, disruptive, inappropriate,

threatening, or questionable behavior that appears to pose an imminent threat to the health and/or safety of others, summon help immediately by calling whoever is in charge of the office at the time and 911. Stay on the line until all necessary information has been obtained.

Confidentiality and concern for the dignity of an employee who may be experiencing an emotional crisis are paramount, along with ensuring his or her safety and that of all others who may be involved. When possible, the individual who is experiencing an emotional crisis should be taken to a private area where he or she can be helped. Co-workers and other personnel should be cleared from the immediate area. While taking precautions to minimize risk, do not leave the individual in crisis unattended.

If possible, the employee in crisis should be asked to seek medical help. Emergency response from 911 may be helpful here. The employee should not be left alone. Ask the employee if there is a relative or friend who should be called; the employee's personnel file should contain the name of someone to call in an emergency.

508 Confidentiality

Diocesan property includes not only tangible property, like desks and equipment, but also intangible property, such as information. Of particular importance are confidential information and proprietary information. Proprietary information includes all information produced by Diocesan employees during the course of their work. Confidential information is any Diocesan information that generally is not known to the public or to the industry. Personnel files, computer records, financial data, donor information, and trade secrets are examples of confidential information.

Given the nature of the Diocese's activities, protecting proprietary and confidential information is of vital concern to the Diocese and its employees.

Employees must not use or disclose any proprietary or confidential information obtained during employment with the Diocese, except as may be required by their Diocesan jobs. This obligation remains in effect even after an employee's employment relationship with the Diocese ends. In addition, all employees must observe good security practices. All employees are expected to keep proprietary and confidential information secure from outside visitors and all other persons who do not have a legitimate reason to see, know, access, or use such information.

509 Smoking

Pursuant to state and local law, employees, contractors, vendors, and other guests are not allowed to smoke in any building, outdoor eating area adjacent to a building, or enclosed area, or within 20 feet of an entrance to any building, outdoor eating area adjacent to a building, or enclosed area at any time.

510 Solicitation and Non-Disclosure

Any solicitation by employees or non-affiliated entities or people on Diocesan premises requires approval of the Bishop. In the case of an authorized solicitation

on behalf of a charitable organization, employee contributions are entirely voluntary. No pressure shall be exerted upon any employee, by any other employee, regardless of position, to make a contribution.

Lists or other documents, such as the Diocesan telephone book, organizational charts, names and/or addresses of employees, may not be given or disclosed to anyone outside the Diocese, unless as a Diocesan necessity. In such a case, both a nondisclosure agreement and approval by the Bishop are required.

511 Dispute Resolution Mediation

In the event that there is a dispute between an employee and the employer, and the procedures in other sections of these policies have been exhausted, the parties will both agree to bring the dispute resolved to a qualified mediator. If the dispute is not resolved by mediation within 14 days of initiation, the employee may request a hearing within 10 days after such 14-day period before the Personnel Commission or its designee whose decision shall be final.

512 Safe Use of Cellular Phones

Safety is the first priority when driving. Employees should avoid activities that distract them while driving. Wireless telephones may be used while driving for the Diocese only if that telephone is designed and configured to allow hands-free listening and talking and it is used in that manner while driving. Employees are expected to adhere to the following safety precautions:

- Comply with all driving laws, including those pertaining to the use of hands-free cellular telephones.
- Avoid placing calls while your vehicle is moving.
- Position your phone where it can be reached easily, without diverting your attention from the road.
- Use hands-free devices so that both hands can remain on the steering wheel while driving. Be sure to attach the device before pulling into traffic.
- Avoid taking notes or looking for phone numbers while driving. Try to use speed dial or place your call before pulling in to traffic.
- Avoid text messaging and interactive paging until you are safely off-road.
- Pause or discontinue the conversation if necessary due to hazardous conditions requiring your full attention.
- Refrain from emotional or complicated discussions.
- Use your phone to call for help.

APPENDIX A PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Informal Performance Improvement Plan

When an issue surfaces, deal with it promptly. By being informal, objective and supportive, you can motivate your employee to overcome and resolve the issue.

Identifying the Problem and Taking Appropriate Action:

- Define the issue. Determine if the issue is a performance problem (the employee has not been able to demonstrate mastery of skills/tasks) or a behavior problem (the employee may perform tasks but creates an environment that disrupts the workplace).

Potential Performance Issues:

Potential Behavior Issues:

- Attendance related issues (unscheduled absences, excessive absences, and tardiness), inappropriate behavior, insubordination, personality conflict, etc.
- Missed deadlines, poor quality work, not doing enough work, policy violation, etc.

- Define the tasks or behaviors where improvement is required.
- What are the aspects of performance required to successfully perform these duties?
- Which skills need improvement?
- What changes need to be made in application of skills an employee has already demonstrated?
- What behaviors need modification?
- Establish the priorities of the tasks.
- What are the possible consequences of errors associated with these tasks?
- How frequently are these tasks performed?
- How do they relate when compared with other tasks?
- Identify the standards upon which performance will be measured for each of the tasks identified. Are they reasonable? Are they attainable?
- Establish short range and long range goals and timetables for accomplishing change in performance/behavior with the employee. Are they reasonable? Are they attainable?

Documenting a need for improvement can be:

- verbal only; and/or
- by written memo to the employee, with a copy kept in the supervisor's file or
- on the employee's annual written performance review

To increase the chances of a positive outcome:

- choose a private setting;
- focus on the specific issue rather than the person;
- ask the employee for help in creating a plan to resolve the issue; and
- gain the employee's commitment to resolving the issue.

Formal Written Performance Counseling:

- If performance, behavior or attendance shows no signs of improvement or continues to decline after informal counseling, or if something happens to cause the escalation of the performance counseling process, the evaluator will document the situation in a written formal counseling memo.
- Confer with the Bishop in any situation where the formal written performance counseling may be appropriate, and discuss the content of the written document with the Bishop prior to delivering it to the employee.

This performance counseling document will contain:

- A description of the nature of the employee's new or continued poor performance. Use specific examples and explain the business impact of the unacceptable performance or behavior;
- Reference to all prior discussions and plans regarding performance;
- A description of the performance expectations or the improved behaviors required, including measurements;
- Identification of time frame for improvement (usually 30-60 days) along with specific time frames for progress reviews of performance during this period;
- Specification that failure to improve behavior/performance could lead to further corrective action up to and including termination;
- Include a statement, (if appropriate) that the employee may be terminated before the end of the time frame specified if performance does not improve as required at certain intervals during the overall time frame;
- State that if the employee's performance improves but subsequently reverts to the unacceptable level once the employee completes this Performance Counseling period, the employee may be subject to further corrective action up to and including immediate termination;
- The employee as an acknowledgment signs this plan that the information has been discussed. An employee signature does not indicate agreement with the plan. If the employee refuses to sign, the evaluator should document the employee's refusal on the memo; and
- The evaluator retains a copy, gives a copy to the employee, and sends the original signed copy to the Bishop to be placed in the employee's central personnel file.

Note: While an employee is on a Formal Written Performance Counseling, the evaluator should try to provide regular, timely and ongoing performance feedback to the employee throughout this period.

Termination:

- Termination may be initiated when an employee has failed to improve, or to sustain improvement as outlined in the Performance Counseling document. Terminations also may be initiated for serious violations of Diocesan policy.
- The Bishop or the Bishop's designee must concur with any termination and notice of termination before implementation. The evaluator typically communicates termination notice to the employee. Assure that the employee's final paycheck is ready at the time of termination.

APPENDIX C GOOD SECURITY PRACTICES

a) Implement a Security System

Statistics show that a security system can significantly reduce the chances of a burglary or break-in. These systems provide automatic monitoring of your facility, and signal an alarm or call for help in the event the building is breached. With advancements in technology, security systems have become more affordable, and with the lengthy list of benefits associated with their use, they are a great investment for organizations of all kinds. A well-marked security system is a deterrent in itself. Criminology studies have shown that most burglars will avoid buildings with a security system. Decals and window stickers provided by security companies warn criminals that your church is protected, making them less likely to break-in. Visible cameras and obvious wall-mounted systems can have the same effect.

b) Consider the “5 L’s” of Crime Prevention

Sometimes, a security system may not be feasible for your organization. In this situation, or to add additional security to your facility, consider the following crime prevention measures:

1. Lock Up

- 1 Make sure that doors and windows are locked when the building is unoccupied.
- 1 Maintain key control, particularly when there has been a turnover in employees.
- 1 Lock up ladders, tools, and flammable materials such as cleaning supplies and gasoline at the end of the day.

2. Lighting

- 1 Illuminate exterior buildings, doors, and parking lots from sunset to sunrise.
- 1 Keep interior entry light on during overnight hours.
- 1 Consider installing motion-activated lighting near doors and windows.

3. Landscaping

- 1 Keep shrubs and trees trimmed around windows and doors to eliminate potential hiding places for arsonists and criminals.
- 1 Pick up trash and other combustible materials from church property.

4. Lookout

- Establish a “Church Watch” program in which members volunteer to drive through the property at various times throughout the week and alert police to anything suspicious.
- 1 Ask neighbors to contact police to report suspicious persons or activities.

5. Law Enforcement

- 1 Develop positive relationships with local police and invite them to patrol the property at odd hours.

- 1 Familiarize police with times of worship and church activities so that they will be alerted when people are unexpectedly present.

c) Put Financial Safeguards in Place

The offerings and tithes collected by your church are essential to the operations of your ministry. To reduce the risk of member theft or individuals embezzling funds, consider the following safeguards:

- 1 Train church ushers on how to safeguard the collections during and after it is taken. Ushers should watch for suspicious activities and effectively communicate visually and verbally with other ushers.
- 1 Secure collections until it is counted, and use the two unrelated person rule whenever funds are being handled.
- 1 Count collection money in a locked room. Before or after counting, see that the funds remain in a safe or are brought to a bank.
- 1 Establish a collection team and rotate weekly or monthly.
- 1 Separate the duties between the counting team, treasurer and financial secretary.
- 1 Run background checks or check financial references for volunteers or employees who handle funds.

d) Preventing Theft and Protecting the Organization

Your church contains many valuables and resources that are important to the overall ministry. To protect the mission of your organization, make sure you are taking adequate measures to protect against theft, such as a security system, church watch program and financial safeguards. Do not allow criminals to think your church is an easy target.

<https://www.guideone.com/protecting-against-theft/>

APPENDIX D

CONTENTS CHECKLIST FOR EMPLOYEE PERSONNEL FILES

You should begin a personnel file for each employee on the date of hire. Most, but not all, important job-related documents should go in the file, including:

- 1 job description for the position
- 1 job application and/or resume
- 1 offer of employment
- 1 IRS Form W-4 (the Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate)
- 1 receipt or signed acknowledgment of employee handbook
- 1 performance evaluations
- 1 forms relating to employee benefits
- 1 forms providing next of kin and emergency contacts
- 1 complaints from customers and/or coworkers
- 1 awards or citations for excellent performance
- 1 records of attendance or completion of training programs
- 1 warnings and/or other disciplinary actions
- 1 notes on attendance or tardiness
- 1 any contract, written agreement, receipt, or acknowledgment between the employee and the employer (such as a noncompete agreement, an employment contract, or an agreement relating to a company-provided car), and
- 1 documents relating to the worker's departure from the company (such as reasons why the worker left or was fired, unemployment documents, insurance continuation forms, and soon).

What Not to Keep in a Personnel File

Your personnel files should not be a receptacle for every document, note, or thought about the employee. Here are some areas to be careful about:

Medical records. Do not put medical records into a personnel file. If your worker has a disability, you are legally required to keep all of the worker's medical records in a separate file -- and limit access to only a few people.

Form I-9s. Do not put Form I-9s into your employees' personnel files. (Form I-9 is a form from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), formerly the INS. You must complete an I-9 for all employees, verifying that you have checked to be sure that the employees are legally authorized to work in the United States.) You should put all Form I-9s into one folder for USCIS.