

ANNUAL CONFERENCE
PETITION TO THE 2006 ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE
GENERAL CONFERENCE 2008

TITLE: CHARGE CONFERENCE POWERS AND DUTIES

2004 BOOK OF DISCIPLINE REFERENCE: 247.13

ACTION TO BE VOTED ON:

1 The charge conference shall in consultation with the district superintendent and the pastor in
2 charge set the compensation of the pastor and other staff appointed by the bishop. Consultation
3 in this instance shall not be notification, either face-to-face or electronically, but shall be a more
4 intense involvement by all parties leading to charge conference action. Consultation is a verbal
5 exchange of words in a face-to-face meeting.

NOTE: UNDERLINE WORDS ARE ADDITION TO CURRENT STATEMENT

ORIGINATOR OF THE PETITION

Ray Jones

PERSON TO PRESENT PETITION TO CONFERENCE:

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RATIONALE: Not debatable

6 The rationale for this change is to ensure that pastors and other appointive staff are consulted
7 about compensation before decisions are made. Consultation should be face to face not by
8 electronic mail or written, but face-to-face with an exchange of words. These meetings should be
9 followed up with documentation and become part of the minutes of the staff pastor-parish
10 committee. Decisions that may adversely affect a clergy's compensation, i.e., reduction in salary,
11 should be shared with the congregation prior to the charge conference and with an adequate
12 amount of time to have input from the members. The district superintendent should facilitate
13 any dialogue about adverse compensation adjustments and make sure that all means to protect
14 the compensation level have been exhausted before this extreme action is finalized and voted at
15 charge conference. The charge conference is not the time for "surprises" or "tense" moments for
16 lack of essential information.