

Hough Affidavit

Exhibit 1

1982 Constitution

The Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth

THE
CONSTITUTION
AND
CANONS

OF THE

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE
OF
FORT WORTH

ADOPTED AT
PRIMARY CONVENTION
NOVEMBER 13, 1982

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

INDEX TO THE CONSTITUTION

| | <u>Page</u> | |
|------------|--|----|
| Article 1 | The Authority of General Convention | 1 |
| Article 2 | The Members of Convention | 2 |
| Article 3 | The Annual Meetings of the Convention | 3 |
| Article 4 | Special Meetings of the Convention | 4 |
| Article 5 | A Quorum at the Convention | 5 |
| Article 6 | Permanent Officers of the Convention | 6 |
| Article 7 | President of the Convention | 7 |
| Article 8 | The Rules of the Convention | 8 |
| Article 9 | Congregations in Union with the Convention | 9 |
| Article 10 | The Standing Committee | 10 |
| Article 11 | Deputies to General Convention | 11 |
| Article 12 | The Principle of the Cathedral System | 12 |
| Article 13 | Title to Church Property | 13 |
| Article 14 | Power to Levy Assessments | 14 |
| Article 15 | Fund for Endowment of the Episcopate | 15 |
| Article 16 | Election of Bishop, Bishop Coadjutor, Suffragan Bishops, and Calling an Assistant Bishop | 16 |
| Article 17 | Alterations and Amendments to the Constitution | 17 |
| Article 18 | Canons | 18 |
| --- | Enabling Clause | 18 |

THE CONSTITUTION
OF THE
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH

Preamble

We, the Clergy and Laity of the Episcopal Church, resident in that portion of the State of Texas, constituting what is known as the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth, do hereby ordain and establish the following constitution:

ARTICLE 1

AUTHORITY OF GENERAL CONVENTION

The Church in this Diocese accedes to the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and recognizes the authority of the General Convention of said Church.

ARTICLE 2

The Diocese of Fort Worth entrusts its legislation to a Convention to consist as follows: First, of the Bishop, when there be one; of the Bishop Coadjutor, when there be one; of the Suffragan Bishops, Assistant Bishops, if there be any; Second, of all members of the Clergy canonically resident in the Diocese, and not under Ecclesiastical discipline, and who have not in contemplation of removal from this Diocese, applied for their letters of dimissory; and Third, of Lay Delegates chosen by and representing the several Parishes and Missions of this Diocese. Such lay Delegates and their Alternates shall be elected by the Congregations of their respective Parishes and Missions at the Annual Parish Meeting, and shall hold office until their successors are elected. The Rectors of Parishes and Vicars of Missions shall have authority to fill such vacancies as may occur in the list of Alternate Lay Delegates between the time of such election and any meetings of the Convention. Lay Delegates shall be confirmed persons in good standing, and at least 18 years of age.

Every Parish and Mission in union with the Convention shall be entitled to Lay Delegates determined by the number of confirmed persons reported in the Annual Parochial Report for the year ending December 31 next preceding the Diocesan Convention, as provided by Canon.

ARTICLE 3

THE ANNUAL MEETINGS OF CONVENTION

The Convention of this Diocese shall assemble on the first Friday in October.

All meetings of the Convention of this Diocese shall be held in Fort Worth, Texas; provided, however, that an Annual Convention shall have the authority, if it so chooses, to designate the place of the next meeting of the Convention; and for sufficient cause the Bishop, with the consent of the Standing Committee, may change the time of meeting, or appoint some other place for holding the Convention; provided that thirty days' notice of such change shall be given to each Parish and Mission in union with the Convention.

ARTICLE 4

SPECIAL MEETINGS OF CONVENTION

The Bishop, or a majority of all members of the Standing Committee, may call a special meeting of the Convention upon thirty days' notice thereof.

When there is no Bishop, the Standing Committee shall have power to call a special meeting of the Convention, giving thirty days' notice thereof. At any special meeting of the Convention, the business to be transacted shall be specified in the call, and no business shall be transacted except that so specified.

ARTICLE 5

QUORUM

At any meeting of the Convention of this Diocese a quorum necessary to transact business shall consist of one-third of the members of the Clergy entitled to seats therein, and the Lay Delegates from one-third of the Parishes and Missions in union with the Convention; but a smaller number shall have the power to adjourn from day to day until a quorum is obtained. If a quorum has been determined to exist and the business of the Convention has commenced, such business may continue to be transacted, even though less than a quorum actually remain present.

ARTICLE 6

PERMANENT OFFICERS OF THE DIOCESE

The permanent officers of the Diocese shall be: the Bishop of the Diocese; and Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, the Suffragan Bishop or Bishops, and Assistant Bishop or Bishops, if there be any; a Standing Committee; a Secretary; a Treasurer; a Chancellor; and a Registrar. All such officers who are members of the Clergy shall be canonically resident in the Diocese and Lay Officers shall be confirmed persons in good standing of a Parish or Mission of the Diocese.

Any such officers, who are not members of the Convention, shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of members, except the right of voting. If any officer, except a member of the Standing Committee, die or become incapable of acting, the duties of such officer shall be discharged, until the succeeding Convention, by some one appointed by the Bishop and confirmed by the Standing Committee. The term of office of all officers, unless provided for either by this Constitution or Canon, shall be for one year or until their successors are elected.

ARTICLE 7

PRESIDENT OF CONVENTION

At every meeting of the Convention, the Bishop shall be presiding officer; or in the event of the absence or inability to act of the Bishop, the Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, shall be presiding officer; or in the event of the absence or inability to act of both the Bishop and the Bishop Coadjutor, the Suffragan Bishops, if there be any, in order of seniority within the Diocese, or if there be none, the president of the Standing Committee shall be presiding officer. The presiding officer shall not participate in debate and shall not vote upon any question coming before the Convention, nor in any election. The presiding officer may, however, express his views to the Convention upon any subject after debate thereon has been closed and before the vote is taken.

ARTICLE 8

RULES OF CONVENTION

At every meeting of the Convention, the Clergy and Laity shall deliberate as one body, and each member of the Clergy present and each Lay Delegate present shall be entitled to one vote. Unless a vote by orders is determined or required or otherwise provided by the Constitution or Canons, a majority of the aggregate votes shall be decisive. Except where the Constitution or Canons require two-thirds vote, whenever a vote by orders is determined or required or otherwise provided, a concurrent majority in both orders shall be necessary. Upon demand of any seven members of the Convention, representing not less than three parishes or missions of the Diocese, the vote shall be taken by orders.

The Convention may adopt such reasonable rules of procedure as it may determine to be appropriate to regulate and expedite the orderly disposition of the business of such Convention, including the election of officers or persons to any office or position. Any method of voting prescribed by rules of procedure shall not apply to the election of a Bishop, Bishop Coadjutor, or Suffragan Bishop.

ARTICLE 9

CONGREGATIONS IN UNION WITH CONVENTION

Every Parish and Mission in the Diocese in existence at the time of the organization of the Diocese and every Parish and Mission which shall have been created and admitted in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of this Diocese, shall be deemed to be in union with and entitled to representation in the Convention of the Diocese, unless deprived of such right either through suspension or dissolution.

If a Parish or Mission shall fail to pay its assessments as levied by the Convention, it shall be suspended from the right of representation in the Convention, unless it be granted by a concurrent majority vote of both orders.

With the consent of the Bishop, any Parish or Mission which shall fail to conform with requirements prescribed by Canon or special resolution may be wholly dissolved by a concurrent two-thirds vote of both orders. Such action can be taken only at an Annual Convention.

ARTICLE 10

STANDING COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee shall consist of three Priests entitled to seats in the Diocesan Convention and three Lay persons who shall be confirmed persons of the Church in good standing in this Diocese, and who shall possess such other qualifications as may be prescribed by Canon.

When there is a Bishop in charge of the Diocese, the Standing Committee shall be his Council of Advice. If there be no Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor or Suffragan Bishop canonically authorized to act, the Standing Committee shall be the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese.

The members of the Standing Committee shall be elected by ballot, by a concurrent vote of a majority of each order, at an Annual Convention, and their terms of office shall be for three years, or until their successors are elected. At each Annual Convention, one Clerical and one Lay member of the Standing Committee shall be elected.

Vacancies occurring prior to the expiration of the term of any member of this Committee shall be filled by the vote of a majority of the remaining members of the Standing Committee, and the person so elected shall fill out the unexpired term of the member in whose stead such person was elected.

No one shall be eligible to re-election as a member of the Standing Committee during the year in which a second term of office expires, but election to an unexpired term shall not constitute a bar to eligibility.

The Standing Committee shall keep a record of all its official acts, and shall make a report of the same to the Convention.

ARTICLE 11

DEPUTIES TO GENERAL CONVENTION

The Annual Convention in the second year preceding a stated meeting of the General Convention shall elect by ballot four Priests or permanent Deacons and four Lay Persons to act as Deputies from this Diocese to the General Convention. The Annual Convention in the year preceding a stated meeting of the General Convention shall elect by ballot four Priests or permanent Deacons and four Lay Persons to act as Alternate Deputies from this Diocese to the General Convention. Deputies and Alternate Deputies shall take office on the first day of January in the year in which the General Convention is to be held and shall hold their representative offices until their successors take office. They shall possess the same qualifications as members of the Standing Committee and shall be elected by a concurrent vote of a majority of both orders.

In the event there is a vacancy in the deputation, the Bishop shall assign the Alternate Deputies according to the order of their election to supply any deficiency in the representation of the Diocese in the General Convention which may occur in any way. In case there be no Bishop or he is unable to act, this power shall be exercised by the Standing Committee.

ARTICLE 12

PRINCIPLE OF THE CATHEDRAL SYSTEM

The principle of organization underlying the Cathedral system (inaugurated in the Missionary District of Northern Texas) is approved by the Church in this Diocese.

The principle thus approved consists in a practical recognition of the fact that the Bishop is the center of unity of all his jurisdiction and his Cathedral is the symbol of that unity, and an instrument for the diffusion of his influence throughout the Diocese. In consequence of the Bishop's relations being naturally more intimate with the Cathedral parish there may by agreement be some administrative details peculiar to it. The Cathedral parish is in no essential particular different from any other Parish except as may be specified by the Canons of this Diocese.

For the more convenient administration of his office the Bishop has his seat of office in his Cathedral Church at the See City or Capitol of his Diocese.

The City of Fort Worth is hereby declared to be the See City of this Diocese.

ARTICLE 13

TITLE TO CHURCH PROPERTY

The title to all real estate acquired for the use of the Church in this Diocese, including the real property of all parishes and missions, as well as Diocesan Institutions, shall be held subject to control of the Church in the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth acting by and through a corporation known as "Corporation of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth." All such property as well as all property hereafter acquired for the use of the Church and the Diocese, including parishes and missions, shall be vested in Corporation of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth.

The Corporation of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth shall hold real property acquired for the use of a particular parish or mission in trust for the use and benefit of such parish or mission. The income from such property shall belong to such parish or mission, which will be responsible for expenses attributable thereto. Such property may not be conveyed, leased, or encumbered by the Corporation of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth without the consent of the Rector, Wardens and Vestry of such parish or mission. Upon dissolution of such parish or mission, property held in trust for it shall revert to said Corporation for the use and benefit of the Diocese, as such.

All other property belonging to the Diocese, as such, shall be held in the name of the corporation known as "Corporation of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth," and no conveyance or encumbrance of any kind shall be valid unless executed by such corporation and as may otherwise be provided by the Canons of the Diocese.

ARTICLE 14

POWER TO LEVY ASSESSMENTS

The Convention of this Diocese shall have power, either by Canon or special resolution, to raise money by assessment or other means upon the Parishes and Missions of the Diocese; and the manner of fixing such assessment upon the various Parishes and Missions may either be specified by Canon, or by a resolution of the Convention. The Convention may by Canon prescribe such regulations and penalties as it may deem expedient to secure the prompt payment of assessments.

ARTICLE 15

FUND FOR THE ENDOWMENT OF THE EPISCOPATE

There shall be a Fund for the Endowment of the Episcopate which shall be managed and controlled by a Board of Trustees consisting of not less than five, and not more than nine members of the Church in this Diocese, of whom two may be members of the Clergy and who shall be nominated by the Bishop and elected by the Convention at the Annual Meeting. They shall hold office for one year or until their successors are elected.

They shall be entrusted with the investment and management of the said Fund for the Endowment of the Episcopate. Securities purchased by the Trustees in their capacity as such may be registered in the names of such Trustees and their successors in office. They shall make an annual report of the affairs of the said Fund to the Annual Convention.

After paying the necessary expenses incident to the management of this Fund, ten percent of the net annual income remaining shall be returned to, and become a part of, the principal fund. The remainder of the said net income shall be applied, so far as may be necessary, toward the salary of the Bishop of this Diocese, and of the Bishop Co-adjutor, if there be one, and of the Suffragan Bishops, if there be any, after which any of said net income remaining shall, upon the approval of the Convention, either be returned to and become a part of the principal Fund or be made available in whole or in part for general Diocesan purpose.

ARTICLE 16

ELECTION OF A BISHOP, BISHOP COADJUTOR, SUFFRAGAN BISHOP, AND CALLING OF AN ASSISTANT BISHOP

The election of a Bishop, a Bishop Coadjutor, or a Suffragan Bishop for this Diocese shall take place at the regular meeting of the Convention, or at a special meeting of the Convention called for that purpose. In the election, the vote shall be by ballot and by orders and a concurrent majority of the two orders shall be necessary to a choice if two-thirds of all the Clergy entitled to vote and Lay Delegates from two-thirds of the Parishes and Missions entitled to representation are present and voting; otherwise, two-thirds of the votes in each order present shall be necessary to a choice. In any event, the election may not occur, unless a quorum be and remain present.

The Bishop, with the consent of the Diocesan Convention, may call a Bishop to serve as Assistant Bishop, who will serve at his pleasure.

ARTICLE 17
ALTERATIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The Constitution of this Diocese may be altered and amended as follows:

A proposal for an alteration or an amendment shall be presented in writing at an Annual Convention, and shall be referred to, and be reported upon, by the Committee on Constitution and Canons consisting of at least two members of the Clergy and two Lay Persons. If the proposal, together with any amendments pertinent thereto, receive the majority vote of the Convention, it shall be printed in the Journal and shall lay over until the next Annual Convention, and, if then approved by a concurrent majority of the vote of both orders, the Constitution shall be altered or amended accordingly, and such alteration or amendment shall take effect thirty days after the adjournment of the Convention.

ARTICLE 18

CANONS

Canons not inconsistent with this Constitution, or the Constitution and Canons of the General Convention, may be adopted, altered, amended, or repealed at any Annual Convention by a majority vote of the Convention; provided that no new Canon and no alteration, amendment, or repeal of an existing Canon shall be adopted unless the same shall have been filed in writing with the Secretary of the Convention not less than sixty days before the meeting of the Convention. The Secretary shall, not less than forty-five days before the meeting of the Convention, deliver copies of all proposed amendments or alterations to the Canons to the Chairman of the Committee on Constitution and Canons. The Committee shall report thereon to the Convention on the first day of the meeting. No other amendments or alterations to the Canons shall be considered at that meeting except by unanimous consent of the Convention.

Where any amendment of a Canon has been so proposed and referred to the Committee, amendments thereto may be made from the floor of the Convention, if, within the judgment of the presiding officer of the Convention, such amendments are germane to the pending amendment.

A new Canon or an alteration, amendment or repeal of an existing Canon shall take effect after the expiration of thirty days from the adjournment of the Convention at which such new Canon or such alteration, amendment or repeal of an existing Canon was adopted.

ENABLING CLAUSE

This Constitution shall commence and be in full force and effect on January 1, 1983.

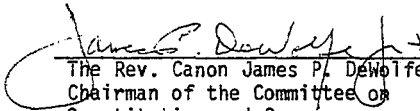
AUTHENTICATION

Pursuant to the authority conferred upon us by resolution duly adopted by the Primary Convention of the Diocese of Fort Worth on November 13, 1982, we hereby authenticate the foregoing as the official copy of the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Fort Worth of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

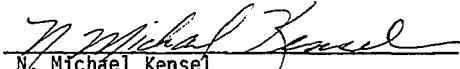
Witness our hands this 13th day of NOVEMBER, 1982.



The Rev. Logan E. Taylor
Secretary of Convention



The Rev. Canon James P. DeWolfe, Jr.
Chairman of the Committee on
Constitution and Canons



N. Michael Kensei
Chancellor