



Northeastern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Authorization and Release for Background Checks, Screening Authorization, and Release for Nominees for Bishop of the Northeastern Minnesota Synod

I authorize any reference, supervisors, ELCA entity (including congregation, synod, churchwide organization), or any other person or organization to give the Northeastern Minnesota Synod any information (including opinions) regarding my character and fitness for ministry. I also release any individual, employer, reference, synod, congregation, ELCA entity or related organization, institution, organization, or official, or any other person or organization providing information, from any liability for damages of whatever kind or nature that may exist at any time on account of compliance or any attempts to comply with this authorization, excepting only the communication of knowingly false information.

I authorize the Northeastern Minnesota Synod to conduct reference and background checks and screening, and I agree to supply additional information or consents as requested. Furthermore, I waive any rights I may have to confidentiality.

A signed facsimile, electronic version, or photocopy of the Authorization and Release shall be as valid as the original.

I have read this waiver and the entire information form, and I am fully aware of its contents. I sign this consent freely and under no duress or coercion.

Date

Signature

Printed Name

Disclosure Form For Nominees For Bishop

Out of care for this church, the following questions are asked of all who are making themselves available for election of Bishop for the Northeastern Minnesota Synod:

1. Have you ever engaged in, been accused of, charged with, or convicted of illegal conduct or a crime, including conduct resulting in suspension or revocation of your driver's license?

Yes No If yes, please explain on the attached paper.

2. Do you have any health conditions (physical or psychological) or any addictive behavior, including a history of drug, alcohol, or pornographic addictions that might interfere with your ability to serve or continue serving as a leader?

Yes No If yes, please explain on the attached paper.

3. Have you ever engaged in, been accused of, investigated for, sued, or charged with sexual misconduct, sexual harassment, substance abuse, child or spousal neglect or abuse, or financial improprieties?

Yes No If yes, please explain on the attached paper.

4. While on the roster, have you ever engaged in, been accused of, investigated for, charged with, or disciplined for any conduct proscribed in *Definitions and Guidelines for Discipline*?

Never Rostered Yes No

If yes, please explain on the attached paper.

5. Are you living in accord with *Vision and Expectations* and *Definitions and Guidelines for Discipline* for rostered persons in the ELCA and do you intend to continue to live in compliance?

Never Rostered Yes No

If no, please explain on the attached paper.

6. Have you ever engaged in any behavior or been involved in any situations that, if they became known, might seriously damage your ability to begin or continue in leadership and ministry?

Yes No If yes, please explain on the attached paper.

I have read the above statements and my replies are true and accurate.

Print Name

Date _____ Signature _____

I have attached additional page(s). Yes No

Additional Information for Disclosure Form

Please provide as complete an answer as you deem appropriate on this sheet. Please make sure you number your answers to correspond to the questions above. If more than one page is needed, please indicate that information is continued on another page.

Please write “Continued” if more pages are needed and see blank space after References...

References

As part of the disclosure and background check process, we ask that you identify two references of people to whom are not related to you. Please make sure that at least 1 reference is a rostered minister and 1 reference is a lay person. A designated individual connected to the Synod's bishop election process will be contacting these references.

Please provide the following information for each of your references:

Reference #1:

Name: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Role within the church (if applicable): _____

Email: _____

Phone number: _____

Secondary Phone number: _____

Reference #2:

Name: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Role within the church (if applicable): _____

Email: _____

Phone number: _____

Secondary Phone number: _____

Additional Information/Explanations: