

EXHIBIT A TO CHURCH ATTORNEY'S MOTION FOR SANCTIONS

From: Cayce Ramey <fightingfriar@gmail.com>

Date: October 31, 2023 at 4:19:33 PM EDT

Subject: Eucharistic Fast & Title IV Charges Update - Oct 2023

Dear Friends & Colleagues,

Grace and Peace to you this All Hallows Even / All Saints Day!

The Title IV process continues to reinforce the power structures and to maintain the status quo. Most recently, I have had my credentials for the Dioceses of Virginia Annual Convention revoked without explanation. When I reached out to determine what had happened, I was told incorrectly that Canon III, section (1), paragraph (b) forbade anyone in a Title IV process from being a delegate to Convention.

Canon II-1-b actually says, "The Clerical order shall consist of the Bishop or Bishops and all other ministers canonically resident in the Diocese of Virginia. No member of the Clerical order under ecclesiastical censure shall be entitled to a seat in the Convention."

(you can read from the source here: https://www.episcopalvirginia.org/Customer-Content/www/CMS/files/Governing_Bodies/CC_2021_English_7-8-22_.pdf , go to page 5)

While the term "ecclesiastical censure" is not defined in the canons, I can only assume that the "Restriction on Ministry" issued to me by Bishop Stevenson is being interpreted as such a censure.

I have been told that I will still be allowed to be present at my vendor's booth for Convention (for which I paid the external-to-the-diocese fee of \$400). So I hope still to see many of you there.

Truly, I'm not yet sure what I will do with this most recent situation. I do not want to be further separated from those members of the Diocese who have been my community for so many years. So I grieve. Yet I am encouraged by the threat I seem to pose to the systems of white supremacy within the Church that those systems must continue to work to excise me from this community. Raising an objection ("point of order") from the floor of Convention risks shifting the focus of this struggle from the theological to the personal, from the holy to the procedural, from Biblical truth to Robert's Rules of Order. Not raising an objection risks allowing the system to continue stifling calls for justice and to continue intimidating others who might make such calls.

I feel as though I am experiencing a mere micro-sample of what generations of BIPOC, women, queer and other ministers, prophets, and teachers of our Church have battled

as I, more and more, seek to guard the gifts of energy, relationship, and peace that God has granted me. I am convicted and humbled in this by their writings, music, and examples of faithful struggle throughout the ages - cast their pearls before swine? shake the dust off their sandals? proclaim from the watchtower? build their ark? warn of the plagues to come? So I wonder about the efficacy and cost of trying to take up a role in our Diocese that our Diocese does not want me to take.

Earlier this month, I was subjected to a deposition by the Church Attorney. The deposition began with me being sworn in by the person hired (I get to pay half the fee) to record verbatim the questions and answers of the deposition. I was shocked by her request to raise my right hand and swear to tell the truth. I went blank and stumbled my way through doing what she asked. Then I wondered, to what authority was I being asked to swear that my ordination vows or life with Christ or relationship with my siblings did not already cover? What aping of the secular justice system do we believe will get us the reconciliation we claim to want through Title IV that we don't believe we can get with the bonds of Church?

The questions of the deposition itself were no better. I felt attacked and pursued. The system was laying traps, trying to trip me or catch me or cause me to stumble rather than trying to discover the truth of the matter. Once again, I grieved and hurt. Once again I experienced micro-samples of the violence that I and my Church have visited on so so many before.

I have requested to change the dates of my hearing to accommodate the availability of some folks as witnesses. The final list of witnesses is still not settled, so I may still be in contact with some of you.

Thank you for all the prayers (and the prayers yet to come). If you'd like to chat more or hear more details, just let me know. If you'd like to not receive another one of these types of emails or if you didn't even want to receive this one, I apologize for my error. I will be happy to remove you from the list. Please just let me know.

Thank you again for your care and support.

Peace,
Cayce

On Sat, Sep 23, 2023 at 3:25 PM Cayce Ramey <fightingfriar@gmail.com> wrote:
Dear Friends & Colleagues,

Blessings to you as the Summer ends and Fall begins in earnest. You continue to be a blessing to me and my family as I see this ever-growing list of people willing to offer their love and compassion in the midst of this fraught time for us.

Because of the breadth of your support, it now seems reasonable to send some periodic updates to a blind-carbon-copy email list rather than to try and keep up with all of the

details with each one of you individually. I still value highly our individual interactions and want and plan to continue interacting with each of you one-on-one. This bulk email, hopefully, will keep folks updated in between the calls and coffees and txts.

The Title IV process grinds slowly on. We have set tentative hearing dates for Dec 12-15, though I suspect those will change to accommodate witness availability, etc. The diocesan attorney and my attorney have exchanged questions and answers based on our mutual review of the documents shared during "discovery".

On the off chance your name appeared in some email somewhere in the past few years and so you get contacted by the Diocesan attorney, Brad Davenport, please know you are under no obligation to speak with him or to not speak with him either way. If he does call you, I would appreciate knowing. Very few if any of you should get contacted.

The next step is formal depositions. I'll get asked questions by the church attorney with a court reporter present and then the transcript can be referenced during the hearing. Right now this is scheduled for Oct 4 in Richmond.

Otherwise, the ups and downs continue. Some days, confident and at peace. Other days hurt and saddened. Still far more peaceful days than sad and hurt days. And lots of days mixed and in-between.

I plan on being at the Diocese of Virginia Convention in November, so for those of you attending, I hope we get to connect in person.

I've included my Aug update below, as I've added a few folks to the list.

Thank you for all the prayers (and the prayers yet to come). If you'd like to chat more or hear more details, just let me know. If you'd like to not receive another one of these types of emails or if you didn't even want to receive this one, I apologize for my error. I will be happy to remove you from the list. Please just let me know.

Thank you again for your care and support.

Peace,
Cayce

On Tue, Aug 15, 2023 at 6:00 PM Cayce Ramey <fightingfriar@gmail.com> wrote:
Dear Friends & Colleagues,

Grace and peace to you from the one holy undivided Trinity of Love. Thank you all so very much for your support and care and love and support. I rejoice in the deepening relationships that God has gifted us through these past months and for the awareness of Grace-unbounded God has given me through you.

I have received so much compassion and connection from so many of you that it now makes more sense for me to send some periodic updates to a blind-carbon-copy email list than to try and keep up with all of the details with each one of you individually. I still value highly our individual interactions and want and plan to continue interacting with each of you one-on-one. This bulk email, hopefully, will keep folks updated in between the calls and coffees and txts.

I am doing wonderfully in so many ways. I am also grieved, hurt, and saddened at times. The Joyful times outnumber the sad times still. The God of compassion has sent me (through each of you much of the time) encouragement and support in some new form each and every week since this process started (officially) last November. Yes, it's been 10 months already and there is not an end coming anytime soon...

The Family is having its ups and downs as well. Yet in all ways and days we are being drawn more closely together as this process progresses. For that I am deeply grateful.

The Title IV process as outlined in the Canons of the Episcopal Church details multiple phases, all of which are supposed to be focused on reconciliation. To date, I have passed through two of the three (roughly) phases without finding such reconciliation. So a Hearing Panel has officially been convened and is working with the Church Attorney to move this all toward a trial (of sorts). And because we are at that Hearing Panel phase, much more of the process has become public.

Bishop Susan Goff is the named Complainant. You can read the statement of offenses and my response to that statement [HERE](#). (I have my very own section of the DioVA website!)

The charges might be summarized as:

- Denying communion to a group of people and failing to notify the Bishop I did so (something, like all of the following, I deny doing).
- violating my ordination vows (which vow is not specified)
- habitual neglect of public worship and of Holy Communion
- violating the Rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer

and, just added/amended officially today...

Heresy (my word, not theirs) - holding and teaching doctrine contrary to that of the Church.

I've attached my official response to this new statement of offenses.

Recently, multiple dear friends have expressed their concern over healing, when and where might I find healing, since they see no place of or for healing in the Title IV processes. I don't have a good answer for them and am yet very appreciative for their raising the question. Their insights have resonated deeply with the work of my DMin which included moral injury and have spurred me to a new posture of reflection.

Please continue in your prayers for me and my family and for the Diocese of Virginia, perhaps for the Church as a whole. And please know that your prayers have been answered in the joy and peace and even in the pain and sorrow (sometimes). These past months, I have experienced God and God's love in ways powerful and new, in ways that have strengthened my faith and that guide my ongoing vocation.

The best guess I have is, unless Bishop Stevenson and I are able to reach some accord, the "trial" with the Hearing Panel will be either toward the end of this year or early next year. Currently, (as per canonical process), the Church attorney and I are exchanging documents (emails, etc.) that could shed light on the charges. We will then go through a period of questions and answers and then more formal depositions before finalizing a date for the proceedings (which, I believe are public).

If you'd like to chat more or hear more details, just let me know. If you'd like to not receive another one of these types of emails or if you didn't even want to receive this one, I apologize for my error. I will be happy to remove you from the list. Please just let me know.

Otherwise, thank you, again, for your care and support. I will send another update in the coming weeks.

Peace,
Cayce