

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Before the Disciplinary Board for Bishops
Hearing Panel

August 14, 2024

In the Matter of the Rt. Rev. Samuel Johnson Howard
(Discrimination Matter)

NOTICE

To: Rt. Rev. Samuel Johnson Howard, Respondent
Rt. Rev. Douglas E. Sparks, Advisor to Respondent
Steven Busey, Esq., Counsel for Respondent
Craig T. Merritt, Esq., Church Attorney

Please take notice that, this matter having been referred to this Hearing Panel for the conduct of a hearing and related proceedings pursuant to Title IV of the Canons of the General Convention, and the Hearing Panel having received the attached Statement of Alleged Offenses from the Church Attorney:

1. Respondent must file a written Response to the Church Attorney's Statement of Alleged Offenses with the Hearing Panel and the Church Attorney within thirty (30) days of the mailing date of this Notice, unless additional time is approved by the Hearing Panel for good cause. The written Response needs to be signed by the Respondent. Canons IV.13.2.a and IV.13.2.c.
2. Pursuant to Canon IV.19.6, if the Respondent fails to appear before the Hearing Panel or fails to file with the Hearing Panel in a timely manner the

written Response required by Canon IV.13.2.c, the Hearing Panel may, in its discretion, proceed in the absence of the Respondent and may consider the materials described in Canon IV.12.1 and any other types of evidence whose use is permitted in proceedings conducted before such Panels. The failure of a Respondent to appear or to fail to file a written Response shall not, in itself, provide the basis for a finding that an Offense has been committed, other than any Offence specifically arising from such a failure to appear or failure to file.


Rt. Rev. Wendell N. Gibbs, President

Judith Andrews, Member

Rt. Rev. Susan B. Haynes, Member

Rt. Rev. Kevin D. Nichols, Member

Rev. Mally Ewing Lloyd, Member

cc: [REDACTED] Complainant

[REDACTED], Advisor to Complainant