

The Permanent Judicial Commission

Purpose: In fulfillment of its duty's spelled out in the Book of Discipline chapter V the presbytery elects a Permanent Judicial Commission to hear disciplinary cases against members of the presbytery and remedial cases stemming from the action or failure to act of its member sessions.

Responsibilities:

In the cases transmitted to it, the permanent judicial commission shall have only the powers prescribed by and conduct its proceedings according to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church USA. See for reference D-5.0202

Membership:

The Permanent Judicial Commission ordinarily consists of no fewer than 7 and no more than 11 members, identified by the Nominating Team. The commission shall be composed of teaching elders and ruling elders in numbers as nearly equal as possible D-5.0101. In no case shall more than one ruling elder from any one church serve concurrently. Because a minimum of 7 members are required to hear a case, former members of the PJC may be called into service if needed. The former members who most recently completed their service will be called first.

Members of the Commission are elected by the presbytery to serve a six-year term, elected in three classes, with no more than one half of the members to be in one class. The quorum of a permanent judicial commission shall be a majority of the members.

Spiritual Gifts, Passion, Qualifications:

Members of the PJC should evidence spiritual maturity. They should be able to evaluate complex facts and circumstances. Members should be willing to evaluate evidence fairly. Members should have an understanding of conflicts of interest and be willing to recuse themselves when their participation in deliberation would not be appropriate. Self awareness is a key trait for members of the PJC. The exercise of discipline in our Church always serves the goal of restoration to relationship. PJC members should embody pastoral sensitivity and concern. It is vitally important that PJC members be able to maintain appropriate confidentiality.