

Newark Administrative Commission Dissolution Language

Whereas Newark Presbytery voted on June 23, 2015 to request that the Synod of the Northeast assume original jurisdiction;

Whereas the Synod Mission and Ministries Commission voted on June 27, 2015 to assume original jurisdiction;

Whereas the Newark Administrative Commission assumed authority for the full operation of the Newark Presbytery and decision making for the presbytery beginning in August 2015;

Whereas the Newark Administrative Commission and the Vision Accountability Board have both worked to complete the Synod Benchmarks;

Whereas the Presbytery of Newark is ready, in general, to take back original jurisdiction;

Whereas, Elmwood United Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Newark currently have Administrative Commissions and civil law suits under way that require consistent attention and that the client remain in place; and

Whereas the financial audits of 2014 – 2016 are not yet complete,

Now, therefore, the Synod of the Northeast hereby dissolves the full Newark Administrative Commission with grateful appreciation and returns original jurisdiction to the Presbytery of Newark while keeping in place a smaller Administrative Commission with limited original jurisdiction. The limited jurisdiction shall:

- Oversee the Administrative Commissions at Elmwood United Church and First Presbyterian Church of Newark
- Maintain authority for decisions that need to be made related to the work of these Administrative Commissions
- Review ongoing civil court cases and provide any needed discussion and votes
- Create Investigating Committees, in consultation with the Synod Stated Clerk, if required
- Approve financial ecclesial expenses that may be required in relation to the Administrative Commissions
- Approve the encumbrance of unrestricted funds for ecclesial expenses that may be required in relation to the Administrative Commissions, including providing input for the annual budget, as needed

- Oversee financial and legal matters related to the 2014-2016 audits until they are complete

The Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Newark shall staff this Administrative Commission.

The Administrative Commission with limited jurisdiction shall report its activities regularly to the Vision Accountability Board and periodically to the Synod Mission and Ministries Commission through the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Newark.

Expenses incurred by the Administrative Commission for travel, postage, copying and for any Synod staff time will be borne by the Synod of the Northeast.

Expenses including but not limited to the areas of legal or mediation necessities will be borne by the Presbytery of Newark.

In consultation with the Vision Accountability Board, this Administrative Commission and the Synod Mission and Ministries Commission shall determine when the commission will cease to operate at which time the Vision Accountability Board and the Newark Presbytery will assume full jurisdiction. For this to take place the following must be completed:

- Elmwood United Presbyterian Church court cases are concluded and original jurisdiction has been returned to the session.
- First Newark Presbyterian Church court cases concluded, new session elected and installed and original jurisdiction returned to the session.
- 2014-2016 Audit concluded, audit accepted by Newark Presbytery and related actions have been taken, if any.