Diocesan Mission Area Structure

Canon 223.1: Number of Mission Areas. The Council will set up at least six but not more than nine mission areas in the Diocese, encompassing geographical and mission areas determined by Council and ratified by Convention.

Canon 223.2: Mission Area Boards. Each Mission Area must have a Mission Area Board responsible for planning, development, administration and evaluation of the Church’s work in the Mission Area.

Canon 223.3: Preparation of Convention Delegates. A fundamental objective of every Mission Area is to establish a process to help prepare informed and effective delegates to participate in the annual Diocesan Convention.

Canon 223.4: Duties of Mission Area Boards. The responsibilities of Mission Area Boards are prescribed by the Council, and include the establishing, assisting, and guiding Mission Congregations; special forms of ministry conducted within the Mission Area; and any other matter affecting the total impact and effectiveness of the Church in the Mission Area.
**Canon 223.5: Composition of Mission Area Boards.** Each Mission Area Board comprises the Priests-in-Charge and Assistant Clergy of each Congregation and elected Lay delegates and alternates to Diocesan Convention. Membership of other Clergy canonically resident in the Diocese and actually residing in the Mission Area is, however, at the discretion of each Mission Area Board.

**Canon 223.6: Open Meetings.** Meetings are open to all members of the Clergy who are both canonically resident in the Diocese and actually residing in the Mission Area, and to all Adult Communicants in Good Standing of the Church registered in a Congregation in the Mission Area, all of whom have a seat and a voice, but no vote.

**Canon 223.7: Filling of Vacancies.** At any meeting, the Priest-in-Charge of the Congregation concerned may fill vacancies in the delegation of any Congregation from among any suitable person present from that Congregation.

**Canon 224**

**Mission Area Boards: In General**

**Canon 224.1: Membership of Mission Area Teams.** From their membership, each Mission Area Board in the Diocese elects a Mission Area Team to the Council consisting of two members of the Clergy, preferably one priest and one deacon, and two Adult Lay Communicants.

a. Each Mission Area Board may in its bylaws prescribe additional qualifications of eligibility for its members on the Council.

**Canon 224.2: Structure and Composition of Mission Area Boards.** The structure and composition of Mission Areas are determined by the Council, but no change on these subjects may be made without approval of the Diocesan Convention.

**Canon 224.3: Terms.** Members of Mission Area Boards are elected for three-year terms.

**Canon 224.4: Mission Area Team Members Election.** The Boards of each Mission Area must elect their Mission Area Team members at mission area gatherings held after the program year and prior to annual Convention.

**Canon 224.5: Terms of Team Members.** The terms of office for the elected Mission Area Team Members shall be three years and shall begin at the next regularly scheduled meeting after their election, expect that those elected in November or December shall take office on January 1. The terms of office for the elected team members shall continue until their successors are elected.

**Canon 224.6: Eligibility for Re-Election.** No elected team member who has served two consecutive terms, or a majority of one term and then a full term, is eligible for re-election until one complete calendar year after the second term has elapsed.

**Canon 224.7: Vacancies.** Vacancies in either Clergy or Lay representations to the Council must be filled by special election of the Mission Area Board in which the vacancy occurred or by another method as the Mission Area provides in its bylaws.

**Canon 224.8: Meetings.** Each Mission Area shall meet at least three times a year. One meeting shall be held before March 1 of each year to elect Mission Area Team members and Mission Area Board officers.
Another meeting shall be held within sixty days before the annual Convention. Meetings shall be open to all Clergy canonically resident in the Diocese and residing in the Mission Area, and to all communicants in good standing registered in a congregation in the Mission Area, who shall have seat and voice.

**Canon 225**

**Mission Area Teams**

**Canon 225.1: Election of Mission Area Board Officers.** Officers of the Mission Area Board must be elected at the first meeting of the Mission Area Board according to a schedule determined by the Council.

**Canon 225.2: Mission Area Team Members.** In lieu of a Dean, each Mission Area must elect a four-person Mission Area Team, two of whom must be from the Clergy order, preferably one priest and one deacon, and two of whom must be from the Lay order. Each Mission Area Board may also elect a Secretary and a Treasurer, or a Secretary-Treasurer, and such other officers as the Mission Area Board determines.

**Canon 225.3: Term of Mission Area Board Officers.** Mission Area Board officers are elected to a three-year term.

**Canon 225.4: Eligibility for Re-Election.** No officer who has served either two complete terms, or a majority of one term and one complete term, is eligible for re-election until one complete calendar year has elapsed after the end of the last of the terms.

**Canon 226**

**Mission Area Teams**

**Canon 226.1: Duties of Mission Area Team Members.** The duties of Mission Area Team Members are defined in the Mission Area bylaws, but include at least the following: co-chair the Mission Area Board, co-chair the Executive Board (if there be one), call Mission Area Board and Executive Board meetings, set meeting agendas, appoint committees as needed, communicate to the delegates, preside at meetings, submit budgets to the Diocese, provide annual written reports to the Diocese, provide annual reports to Parish Congregations and missions of the Mission Area.

**Canon 226.2: Failure of Mission Area Team to Call Meetings.** If the Mission Area Team fails to call Mission Area Board and Executive Board meetings, such meetings may be called by the Bishop.

**Canon 226.3: Accountability of Mission Area Team.** The Mission Area Team is accountable to both the Mission Area Board and to the Bishop.

**Canon 227**

**Mission Area Boards: Committees**

**Canon 227.1: Executive Committee.** Each Mission Area Board may establish an Executive Committee comprising its officers and other members as needed, such responsibilities prescribed by the Board.
Canon 227.2: Other Committees. Each Mission Area Board may establish other committees in its discretion.

CANON 228
Authority of Mission Area Boards

No Mission Area Board has authority in the internal affairs of a Congregation.