

TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON ORDAINED MINISTRY

This past year the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry had to make some tough decisions based on the current situation of an abundance of ministers in relation to available appointments. This directly affects those going up for provisional approval. After receiving a recommendation from the BOM, only those who receive an appointment for that June will be commissioned that May at annual conference. (Due to this change in policy the board will interview those seeking provisional approval in January to give the cabinet plenty of time to know and hopefully appoint all those recommended by the Board for provisional approval.) This means that it is even more important than ever that the candidates seeking provisional approval are completely ready for those interviews. That is where you come in. It is your job to make sure those candidates are truly ready to come before the BOM.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1.** Please meet with all certified candidates that are seeking to go before the Spring meeting of the BOM by August 31.
- 2.** At this meeting please require all candidates to submit to you the questions found in the 2008 Book of Discipline on page 225-226 Paragraph 324 number 9 questions a-p.
- 3.** In order for all the DCOM members to be prepared we would suggest that you give all the candidates a deadline of submitting their paperwork at least two weeks before you are to meet. Please be clear to the candidates to whom they are to submit their paperwork to, whether it is the District Superintendent Administrative Assistant or the DCOM registrar. Also once you receive the paperwork please make sure it gets to all DCOM members in a timely matter.
- 4.** As you read this paperwork please examine it closely as these questions will be the basis of many questions they will be asked in their board interviews. If there are any red flags that come up, please ask the candidates questions to find out further information to clarify if this is truly an issue of concern.
- 5.** In your interview with the candidates please ask any questions designed to further learn about their theology. It is important that the candidates can articulate their theology without rambling or avoiding the question.

6. When they go before the board they will interview in three separate groups; theological, church and personal. Make sure you ask each candidate questions in all three of these areas.

7. After meeting with the candidate ask yourself these questions:

a. Is this person ready right now to go before the BOM?

YES- recommend them to the BOM whole heartedly.

Yes with reservation - This person may have not been able to articulate the way you wanted, maybe some red flags. The question you need to ask as a DCOM is will this person truly be ready in a few months? What will it take for this person to be ready and is it possible for them to accomplish what is needed to be ready to come before the BOM in January? If you recommend this person you need to let them know what exactly they need to work on in order to be ready. You may want to recommend they work on these with their mentor or you may want to assign them someone on the DCOM to work with them, for instance a theological mentor or whatever else you deem necessary. Remember it is important that they are at the top of their game when they appear before the BOM in January. If you have too many questions about their readiness for January the best thing to do for them would be to delay them a year. It is much better to get delayed on the DCOM level than the BOM level.

No not ready this year- This person is someone you think has the gifts and graces for ordained ministry but needs to work on something and then come back next year. If you delay them make sure you communicate to them what you expect of them in writing before they come back next year.

No - This person is someone who the committee feels will never be ready and as hard as it is, this person needs to be discontinued. It will be better for this person to be discontinued now then to continue on a journey that will not end favorably.

TEXAS CONFERENCE
BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY POLICY
FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING RESULTS

As seen on the summary of the Testing Process by the Samaritan Center after a candidate completes an evaluation they are assigned a category; Type I Candidate, Type II Candidate or Type III Candidate. If someone is a Type I nothing in the testing indicates that they should not be in ministry. They will go before the BOM and based on everything else will be recommended or not. Type II Candidates will be questioned and scrutinized greatly to see if they are truly psychologically fit for ministry. They may be recommended but it will definitely be questioned. If someone receives a Type III Candidate, it is the procedure of the board to not recommend a Type III candidate.

Type II Candidate

If someone comes before your District Committee on Ordained Ministry as a Type II candidate the BOM would encourage the committee to recommend that this person take an additional psychological in a year in order to move to a Type I. In that year you should recommend to the candidate something to help them work out whatever issue came up in their testing. For example you could recommend a CPE, counseling, or working on a church staff. If they come back the following year and did not receive a type I again at that point you may need to discontinue this person. If you continue them know that when they reach the BOM it will be strongly questioned and their chances of being approved for ordination will be strongly diminished.

TYPE III Candidate

If someone comes before you as a Type III candidate we recommend that you do not approve this person. This person will not be approved at the **BOM**.