



July 21, 2025

To the Bishops, Clergy, Lay Leaders, and People of the Anglican Church in North America

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I greet you in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

As you have now heard from the Archbishop, the Provincial Prosecutor, who has been serving since April of 2024 in the disciplinary trial concerning Bishop Ruch, unexpectedly submitted his resignation and withdrew from the proceedings yesterday afternoon. A copy of the Prosecutor's [resignation letter is available here](#). This development, and certain statements in the Prosecutor's resignation letter, may raise questions in the minds of those involved in or following the trial. The purpose of this letter is to address a few of those questions.

At the outset, it is important to observe that the case has not been dismissed and remains an active matter before the Court. It is therefore important for all concerned to exercise care and discretion in what is said publicly. The integrity of the disciplinary process, the rights of all involved, and our commitment to truth and justice require that we refrain from speculation or commentary that could affect the ongoing proceedings. Furthermore, it is our duty as Christians to respect the motives and presume the goodwill of all concerned.

First, the Prosecutor's resignation leaves the Province unrepresented until a new Prosecutor is appointed. However, our Canons provide that the Archbishop appoints the Provincial Prosecutor, and I have informed the Court that the Archbishop intends to appoint a new Prosecutor as soon as one can be identified and they consent to serve.

Second, our Canons provide a means for addressing any errors that may occur at the trial of any bishop or presbyter by providing a right of appeal to the Provincial Tribunal once the trial court has reached its decision. The Provincial Tribunal is an independent body whose members are elected by the Provincial Council.

Third, the Prosecutor's resignation letter calls for the release of a redacted trial transcript. The disposition of trial records, including the transcript in this case, is a matter for the Court to decide, and the Provincial Office respects the prerogatives of the Court on this issue.

Brothers and Sisters, while the Court and the Province are facing a unique situation, I am confident that the Lord, and the processes we have established, grounded in the wisdom of our canons, provide us with an orderly path forward. I urge you to join me in continued prayer for all involved in this case and for our Archbishop. May the Lord grant us wisdom, patience, and grace as we seek to walk in faithfulness to Him.

Faithfully yours,

William Nelson, Esq.
Chancellor of the Anglican Church in North America