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**ANGLICAN CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA**

A Letter from the Archbishop of the Anglican Church in North America to the Chaplains Domiciled in or Licensed by the Special Jurisdiction of the Armed Forces and Chaplaincy

September 21, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I write to you in my capacity as Archbishop and Primate of the Anglican Church in North America and as the canonical overseer of the Special Jurisdiction of the Armed Forces and Chaplaincy and its ministry.

I wish to inform you that I have received a number of credible complaints alleging conduct on the part of Bishop Derek Jones that, if substantiated, would constitute the basis of presentable charges against him. It is my duty to see that these complaints are carefully, fairly, and thoroughly investigated, and I have directed that such an investigation take place.

On September 12, 2025, Bishop Ray Sutton, Presiding Bishop of the Reformed Episcopal Church and Dean of the Province, and I met with Bishop Jones to discuss the complaints against him. At Bishop Jones's request, the meeting was held by videoconference. At that meeting, and with the written consent of three of the five most senior active diocesan members of the College of Bishops, I issued to Bishop Jones a Godly Admonition directing him to take, or refrain from taking, certain actions in order to ensure the integrity of the investigation. Additionally, I had the written consent of four of the five senior diocesan bishops of the College of Bishops to inhibit Bishop Jones at this meeting. Electing to pursue this as a pastoral matter, in our videoconference meeting, I informed Bishop Jones of the signed Inhibition in my possession as well as my decision to withhold its administration for the time being.

On September 21, 2025, having reasonable grounds to believe that Bishop Jones has engaged in conduct upon which he may be presented, and with the written consent of four of the five most senior active diocesan members of the College of Bishops, and believing it to be in the best interests of the Church, I inhibited Bishop Jones from the exercise of ministry with immediate effect for a period of sixty days, subject to further extension as provided by canon while an investigation is conducted into the complaints received.

In the days and weeks ahead, I will continue to provide you with important updates and pastoral communication regarding the Special Jurisdiction. To ensure that you are able to receive these

directly, I invite you to sign up for continued communications from the Archbishop's Office by [clicking here](#). This will allow us to remain in direct and transparent communication with you throughout this season.

To ensure that the chaplains of the Special Jurisdiction are well shepherded and pastorally supported during this season, I have appointed the Most Rev. Robert Duncan, founding Archbishop of the Anglican Church in North America, along with the Rt. Rev. Jay Cayangyang, to serve as pastoral and episcopal shepherds of the Special Jurisdiction. In addition, and in accordance with the canons of the Special Jurisdiction, given the inhibition of Bishop Jones, the Vicar General of the Special Jurisdiction will serve as the interim endorser of chaplains.

I wish to express my profound gratitude for your faithful service and ministry as chaplains of the Church. Your ministry in the Armed Forces, hospitals, prisons, colleges, and other institutions is a vital witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ. **I assure you of the continuation of the Special Jurisdiction, of your official endorsements as chaplains, and of the recognition of your holy orders as Anglican clergy within the Anglican Church in North America.**

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S. Wood", with two small crosses above the first letter.

The Most Revered Stephen D. Wood
Archbishop and Primate
Anglican Church in North America