

*My note: The following are the excerpts from the minutes of the PMA meeting of 5/21/2021.
In these actions, the Presbytery fixed the charge against Rev. VanD. and prepared to set a trial date.*

On motion, Presbytery accepted the following recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee:

- Find Charges re open letter out of order, i.e. H. and all similarly charged (per H. enumeration): Charge 1, Specification 5; Charge 2, Specification 4. (Recommendation 2)
- Find Charge 3, specifications 3 and 4 out of order. (Recommendation 3)
- Find charge (two counts) against Mr. VanD. in order but potentially in need of fixing [BD III.7.b], in the following revised form:

(Recommendation 4b):

Mr. VanD. did commit the 9th commandment offense of improperly disparaging Mr. R's good name (thereby failing to keep the peace, purity and the unity of the church and contrary to his ordination vow).

- Specification 1 (count 1): On February 11, 2020, Mr. VanD., in an open session meeting, gave examples of sins Mr. R. was alleged to have committed apart from the filing of formal charges.
- Specification 2 (count 2): On February 13, 2020, Mr. VanD., in an meeting of the congregation, gave examples of sins Mr. R. was alleged to have committed apart from the filing of formal charges.
- If Presbytery deems that a charge of charges by the accusers may not go to trial, defer the question of whether censure should be considered (for faulty charge[s]) until the completion of the [Jason] R. appeal. (Recommendation 5)
- Agree to assume prosecution. (Recommendation 6a)

As a consequence of the motion, all charges except for those against Mr. VanD. as per Recommendation 4b were dropped.

By common consent the charge against Mr. VanDelden was fixed to the following:

Mr. VanD. did commit the 9th commandment offense of improperly disparaging Mr. R's good name (thereby failing to keep the peace, purity, and the unity of the church and contrary to his ordination vow).

- Specification 1 (count 1): On February 11, 2020, Mr. VanD., in an open meeting, gave examples of sins Mr. R. was alleged to have committed apart from the filing of formal charges.
- Specification 2 (count 2): On February 13, 2020, Mr. VanD., in an open meeting, gave examples of sins Mr. R. was alleged to have committed apart from the filing of formal charges.

Witnesses those in previous (unfixed) charge [Clerk's note: These witnesses per the unfixed charge are Mr. William R., Ms. Paige P., Mr. VanD., Mr. M., Mr. K., and Mr. Jason R.].

Scripture: Ex. 20:16 inter alia

Constitution: WLC 145

Seriousness: See parentheses in charge proper [failure to keep the peace, purity, and the unity of the church and contrary to his ordination vow] and BD III.

Presbytery moved to adjourn the current discussion and consider the report of the Ad Hoc Committee to examine the Appeal in a special meeting, after which it will appoint prosecutors and determine the first date of trial.