

Judiciary Board Order
Case #BOB-2015-1
Paragraph
IV

Removal as Pastor

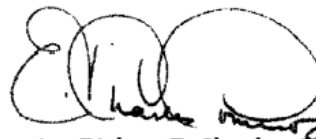
The respondent also argued that he was illegally removed from his post as pastor. Pursuant to the Board of Bishops Rule No. 3, paragraph (b) “[I]f the Complaint is being brought against the Bishop for his conduct in his capacity as a pastor of a local congregation, the Complainant *must* certify in writing that the Complaint is being brought by a majority of the members of the local congregation. (Emphasis added).” A review of the record from the proceedings below reflects that no such certification was ever referenced, presented or made part of the record. Furthermore, the order entered by the Board of Bishops does not include any language that pertains to restrictions or reprimands pertaining to the Respondent’s role as Pastor. Accordingly, no action taken against him as Pastor can stand, as no charge was levied against him in that capacity and no order has been entered against him infringing upon his functioning in that role. Furthermore, any action taken against the respondent in his capacity as Pastor is void ab initio.

For the foregoing reasons, the “Final Order and Judgment” of the lower court is vacated and the matter is remanded for a new trial.

Be it so ordered this 27th day of May 2016.



Chief Justice Thomas Jackson, Jr.
Judiciary Board
Church of God in Christ, Inc.



Justice Bishop E. Charles Connor
Secretary
Judiciary Board
Church of God in Christ, Inc.