



ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Michael Eaddy
CHAIRMAN

GENERAL COUNCIL OF PASTORS AND ELDERS
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.

September 28, 2021

Bishop Kurt Thompson, Jurisdictional Prelate
Texas Southeast First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction
Church of God in Christ
P.O. Box 88110
Houston, TX 77228-01110

RE: Petitioner, Texas Southeast First/ Bishop Kurt Thompson Vs Respondent: Pastor Rufus Kyles, Jr.

Dear Bishop Thompson,

Let me begin by acknowledging and commending the General Council of Pastors and Elders Judicial Review Committee on its deliberations concerning the Kyles matter. The time committed and the intellectual exchange invested into this process, to direct the judicial review, is indicative of the Council's commitment to fulfilling its judicial charge.

As Chairman of the General Council of Pastors and Elders, Church of God in Christ ("GCPE"), due to the premature publication of a July 28, 2021 recommendation of the GCPE's Judicial Review Committee, I must make this statement setting forth the GCPE's official position regarding the matter of Pastor Rufus Kyles, Jr. and the Evangelist Temple Church of God in Christ, Houston, TX, located in the Texas Southeast First Jurisdiction. I (with support of legal counsel) have engaged in an extensive review of both the deliberations of the Judicial Review Committee and the matter as a whole.

Let me first address the GCPE process. The premature publication of ruling of the Judicial Review Committee was improper and fell outside the parameters of paragraph 5, sections 6-10 of the Official Manual of the General Council of Pastors and Elders ("GCPE Official Manual"). According to the GCPE Manual, communications of this nature should emanate from the Chairman of the General Council ("The Court shall report its decision to the Chairman of the General Council", section 8).

Moreover, the GCPE Official Manual requires that the Judicial Review Committee report be brought "before the full General Council" for review. Such has not occurred in this case. Therefore, the Judicial Review Committee decision is merely advisory, not final, or conclusive.

Even if one were to conclude that this case is "less than capital in nature", it still requires that in order to be effective, the Judicial Review Committee's decision must be "reported to the Chairman and the Executive Committee". Again, such did not occur in this case. In short, there is no circumstance in which the report of the Judicial Review Committee should have been shared with the litigants or the public without consideration by the GCPE Chairman, the Executive Committee, and in some cases, the GCPE as a whole. Consequently, no one should consider that the Judicial Review Committee decision released on July 28, 2021, is final.

3570 WEST FIFTH AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60624

MICHAELEADDY@SBCGLOBAL.NET
T: 773-531-4411 | F: 773-553-1345