

Background Check Protocol established by Sierra Pacific Synod Council  
September 21, 2019

- S9.12.A19. The Synod Council Executive Committee shall provide for background checks for persons nominated for synod office prior to the Synod Assembly at which the election will take place or as soon as possible after the Synod Assembly for newly elected officers nominated from the floor who were not identified as nominees prior to the Assembly. The process shall be as follows:*
- a. Prior to the Synod Assembly appropriate notice of the background check requirement and protocol will be provided to voting members, potential nominees, and others as directed by the Synod Council.*
  - b. Nominees and newly elected officers are required to provide written consent to a background check and all information necessary to complete a background check, which should be completed prior to the Synod Assembly with respect to nominees and prior to assuming office for newly elected officers, if possible.*
  - c. The Synod Council's Executive Committee shall designate one Executive Committee or Synod Council member to obtain the background checks.*
  - d. Any member of the Synod Council Executive Committee or the synod staff who intends to stand for election shall not participate in any of this background check and screening process (except as a nominee). Any person who is an immediate family member of a nominee for election shall not be part of the process.*
  - e. All background checks for nominees and newly elected officers will entail a criminal background check. A financial background check will be completed for nominees for treasurer and bishop. The Executive Committee shall decide whether additional types of background checks are appropriate for each officer position.*
  - f. The background check results shall be provided to that nominee or elected officer and to the Synod Council's Executive Committee, which shall then take action as deemed appropriate. Further disclosure of the results may be determined by the Executive Committee.*
  - g. The Executive Committee may adopt other procedures or protocols as are necessary to provide for background checks for nominees and newly elected synod officers and shall report such actions to the Synod Council.*