

TE Fred Greco, Concur	RE Jeffrey Owen, Concur
TE Grover E. Gunn III, Concur	RE Calvin Poole, Concur
TE William W. Harrell Jr., Dissent	TE G. Dewey Roberts, Concur
RE Terry L. Jones, Concur	TE Danny Shuffield, Concur
RE Thomas F. Leopard, Concur	RE John B. White Jr., Concur

18 Concur, 3 dissent, 2 recused, 1 absent

**CASE 2008-13 COMPLAINT OF TE STEVEN MEYERHOFF
VS.
CHESAPEAKE PRESBYTERY**

I. SUMMARY OF THE FACTS

1. On December 10, 2007, the Session of Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church of Relay, Maryland sent a Reference to Chesapeake Presbytery seeking “the determination regarding the issue of Dorothy L. George’s request for membership release and transfer from GRPC.” The Reference cited 11 facts regarding the matters in its letter.
2. On December 11, 2007 Pasadena Evangelical Presbyterian Church and Aisquith Presbyterian Church in letters to Chesapeake Presbytery requested Presbytery to assume original jurisdiction under *Book of Church Order* 33-1 in the matter relating to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur George, members of Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church of Relay, Maryland.
3. At its Stated Meeting of February 16, 2008 Chesapeake Presbytery, acting on letters it received from Pasadena Presbyterian Church and Aisquith Presbyterian Church plus a subsequent letter from Chapelgate Presbyterian Church, appointed a commission empowered:
 - A. (1) to take original jurisdiction over Grace Relay Presbyterian Church* for those matters requested by two or more sessions in the Presbytery, (2) to charge the commission with conducting investigations, instituting process, and conducting other proceedings as duly required by our constitution, (3) to require the commission

* Note: The official name of the church is Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church of Relay, MD

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- to take sworn testimony of those parties and witnesses pertinent to its investigation as a matter of record for its proceedings, and (4) to rule on each matter *ad seriatim*; and
- B. to receive the Reference from Grace Relay and include it into the mandate for the new commission.
 - 4. On August 16, 2008 Chesapeake Presbytery held a called meeting “to read into the minutes (in accordance with *BCO* 15-1) the initial report of the Commission to Assume Original Jurisdiction over matters relating to Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church, Dorothy George and Russ Warner....”
 - 5. At the called meeting the Commission distributed copies of the [initial] report, answered questions regarding the report and Mrs. George addressed the executive session of Presbytery at which the report was considered.
 - 6. On September 14, 2008 TE Steven Meyerhoff complained against CP’s hearing of an initial report of the Commission, citing *BCO* 15-3.
 - 7. On September 20, 2008 Chesapeake Presbytery denied the Complaint.
 - 8. On October 16, 2008 the Complaint was filed with the Standing Judicial Commission.

II. STATEMENT OF THE ISSUES

1. Did Chesapeake Presbytery err when it called for a special meeting on August 16, 2008, and held such meeting to “read into the minutes (in accordance with *BCO* 15-1) the initial report of the commission to Assumed Original Jurisdiction over matters relating to Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church, . . .” and to allow “for the report to be discussed.”?
2. Did Chesapeake Presbytery err when it received the “initial report of the commission to Assume Original Jurisdiction” and “entertained questions from the floor”?

III. JUDGMENT

In view of the Judgment in Case 2008-11, this Complaint is moot and Presbytery is directed to make this notation in its Minutes of the August 16, 2008 meeting.

IV. REASONING AND OPINION

See the Judgment above.

JOURNAL

The decision was written by RE John White, with the concurrence of RE Calvin Poole and TE Bill Lyle and amended by the full Standing Judicial Commission.

TE Dominic A. Aquila, Concur
TE Howell A. Burkhalter, Recused
RE E.C. Burnett III, Concur
TE David F. Coffin Jr., Concur
RE Marvin C. Culbertson, Concur
RE J. Howard Donahoe, Concur
RE Samuel J. Duncan, Concur
TE Fred Greco, Concur
TE Grover E. Gunn III, Concur
TE William W. Harrell Jr., Dissent
RE Terry L. Jones, Concur
RE Thomas F. Leopard, Concur

TE William R. Lyle, Concur
RE J. Grant McCabe ,Concur
TE Charles E. McGowan, Concur
TE D. Steven Meyerhoff, Concur
TE Timothy G. Muse, Concur
RE Frederick J. Neikirk, Concur
RE Steven T. O'Ban, Absent
RE Jeffrey Owen, Concur
RE Calvin Poole, Concur
TE G. Dewey Roberts, Concur
TE Danny Shuffield, Concur
RE John B. White Jr., Concur

21 Concur, 1 dissent, 1 recused, 1 absent

CASE 2008-14 COMPLAINT OF TE WES WHITE VS. SIOUXLANDS PRESBYTERY

I. SUMMARY OF THE FACTS

- 09/26-27/02 66th Stated Meeting of Presbytery of Siouxlands. As a part of his trials for ordination ministerial candidate Greg Lawrence submitted a paper entitled “Covenant of Works: Toward a more Biblical understanding of Covenant” to the Candidates and Credentials Committee (CC) of Presbytery of Siouxlands (PS).
- 01/23-24/03 67th Stated Meeting of Presbytery of Siouxlands. Ministerial candidate Lawrence’s paper on the doctrine of the Covenant of Works recommended by CC and accepted by PS.
- 01/27/07 79th Stated Meeting of Presbytery of Siouxlands. PS approved a series of affirmations and denials comparing unfavorably the distinctive teachings of “the New Perspective(s) on Paul, the theology of Norman Shepherd and the Federal Vision” to the teaching of the *Westminster Standards*. With two others TE Greg Lawrence asked to have his negative vote recorded.
- 04/26-27/07 80th Stated Meeting of Presbytery of Siouxlands. Session of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church submitted a protest