

PROPOSED RESOLUTION: #1

RESOLUTION: “Revised” DIOCESAN ALCOHOL USE POLICY

THE “REVISED” ALCOHOL USE POLICY OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN SOUTH CAROLINA REVISED 8/14/16, APPROVED BY THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL 10/27/16

RESOLVED,

1. That the Church must provide a safe and welcoming environment for all people, including people in recovery.
2. That all applicable federal, state and local laws must be obeyed, including those governing the serving of alcoholic beverages to minors, as well as any chemical usages other than alcohol that are also clearly controlled under the same laws.
3. That some congregations may decide not to serve alcohol at events or gatherings. Others may decide to permit a limited use of alcoholic beverages at church-sponsored events. Both can be appropriate if approached mindfully.
4. That whenever alcohol is served, the Rector, Vicar, or Priest-in-Charge must **insure that responsible persons are in control of the serving of alcohol.** Thus the church group or organization holding an event on church property must also assure that care is taken to insure this control, thus assuming responsibility for those who might become intoxicated.

The Rector, Vicar, or Priest-in-Charge must be sure that the person appointed **must not consume any alcoholic beverages during the time that they are overseeing a church event and take responsibility for recognizing that the use of alcohol may lead to unacceptable behavior in some people in which case that designated person or persons must monitor all those showing signs of intoxication, and for that person (or persons) arrange for responsible transportation home.**

Whether consumed in glass or in bottles, alcoholic beverages should be served rather than left on tables for “self-pour”.

5. That when serving alcoholic beverages at congregational events, (whether on or off church property) the presence of minors (those under the age of 21) is strongly

discouraged. Should minors be present, alcohol must be served at a separate station that is monitored at all times to prevent underage drinking.

6. That alcoholic beverages and food containing alcohol must be clearly labeled as such.

7. That whenever alcohol is served, appealing non-alcoholic alternatives must always be offered with equal prominence and accessibility.

8. That the serving of alcoholic beverages at church events (meaning ministries inside or outside the church proper) should not be publicized as an attraction of the event, e.g. "Wine and Cheese Reception," "Cocktail Party," and "Wine and Beer Tasting."

9. That food must always be served when alcohol is present, and when the event is concluded all alcoholic beverages are to be removed from the church premises as soon as possible afterwards.

10. That outside groups or organizations sponsoring an activity or event at which alcoholic beverages are served must have permission from the Clergy and/or the Vestry. Such groups or organizations must also assume responsibility for those persons who might become intoxicated and must provide alternative transportation for anyone whose capacity to drive may be impaired. Consulting with liability insurance carriers is advised.

11. That alcoholic beverages shall not be served when the business of the Church is being conducted, including Vestry meetings, and the meetings of authorized committees or sub-committees of the church.

12. That clergy shall consecrate an appropriate amount of wine when celebrating the Eucharist and perform ablutions in a way that does not foster or model misuse.

Explanation: In response to comments and suggestions about the alcohol policy presented at the diocesan convention of 2015, the following revised policy is now presented for further consideration. The initial issue was the use of the words "certified server" being in charge of serving alcoholic beverages, especially hard liquor. This particular item has been entirely deleted from the current policy.

The current revision deletes that term and instead mandates two items: that (1) "the Rector, Vicar, or Priest-in-Charge must assure that responsible persons are in control of the serving of alcohol" and (2) The Rector, Vicar, or Priest-in-Charge must be sure that the person appointed must not consume any alcoholic beverages during the time that they

are overseeing a church event and take responsibility for recognizing that the use of alcohol may lead to unacceptable behavior in some people in which case that designated person or persons must monitor all those showing signs of intoxication, and arrange for responsible transportation home for that person.

Mover: Sub-committee of the Diocesan Council (The Rev. Dr. David A. Williams , The Rev. Faith Bledsoe, The Very Rev. Lindsay, Ms. Barbara Mann, and The Rev. Cn. John Zahl)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION #2:

RESOLUTION IN THANKS FOR THE RT. REV. CHARLES G.
vonROSENBERG

RESOLVED, that the Convention extends its heartfelt thanks to the Right Reverend Charles G. von Rosenberg, our retired Provisional Bishop, for answering the call when this Diocese was in need, for his dedication to the mission of Episcopal Church in South Carolina, and for his inspiring leadership during a time of transition.

Explanation: In deferring his own retirement plans in order to continue service in the church, Bishop vonRosenberg was instrumental in our recovery from a brief period of Diocesan instability and uncertainty. It is appropriate to memorialize this service in the Convention minutes with a resolution.

Mover: Mrs. Rebecca Lovelace