



**59th Annual Meeting of the Convention of the
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SAN JOAQUIN
October 19- 20th, 2018
Episcopal Conference Center Oakhurst (ECCO)**

RESOLUTION AS AMENDED AND ADOPTED

Title: Diocesan Policy for the Use of Alcoholic Beverages
Resolution No.: R-01-18
Sponsor: Mr. Terrance Goodpasture, The Rev. Carolyn Woodall, The Rev. Steve Bentley, Mr. Wilson Colon, Mr. Tom Hampson, Mr. Chris Helbling, The Rev. Nancy Key, Ms. Amy Larsen, Mr. Greg Maszta, Ms. Marilee Elliott Muncey, and The Rev. Teri Van Huss
Required Vote: Simple Majority

RESOLVED, that the Diocese of San Joaquin and its congregations, schools, young adult ministries and affiliated institutions shall adopt and implement a policy on alcohol and other substance misuse consistent with this resolution on or before March 1, 2019;

RESOLVED, that the Diocesan Council on behalf of the Diocese, each congregations' Vestry or Bishop's Committee, and each governing board or body of any school, affiliated institution, or youth group send a written or an electronic mail notification on or before April 1, 2019, to the Secretary of Convention and the Bishop's Office certifying that they have adopted or revised their policy consistent with this resolution along with a copy of such policy;

RESOLVED, that such policies shall apply to any and all functions, meetings, and gatherings of the Diocese and its congregations, schools, young adult ministries and affiliated institutions;
AND BE IT

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any new policy promulgated, or any existing policy be revised to include the following:

1. The Church must provide a safe and welcoming environment for all people.
2. All applicable federal, state and local laws must be obeyed, including those governing the serving of alcoholic beverages to minors.
3. When alcohol is served, it must be monitored and those showing signs of intoxication must not be served. Whenever alcohol is served, the clergy in charge must appoint an adult to oversee its serving. The adult must not drink alcoholic beverages during the time of her or his execution of her or his responsibilities. If hard liquor is served, a certified server is required.

4. Serving alcoholic beverages at congregational events where minors are present is strongly discouraged. If minors are present, alcohol must be served at a separate station that is monitored at all times to prevent underage drinking.
5. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages must be clearly labeled as such. Food prepared with alcohol does not need to be labeled provided the alcohol is completely evaporated by the cooking process; however, it is recommended that even in this case the use of alcohol in cooking be noted on a label.
6. Whenever alcohol is served, appealing non-alcoholic alternatives must always be offered with equal prominence and accessibility.
7. Ministries inside or outside of congregations will make certain that alcohol consumption is not the focus of the ministry and that drinking alcohol is not an exclusively normative activity.
8. Food must be served when alcohol is present.
9. The groups or organizations sponsoring the activity or event at which alcoholic beverages are served must have permission from the clergy or the vestry.
10. Recognizing the effects of alcohol as a mood-altering drug, alcoholic beverages shall not be served when the business of the Church is being conducted.
11. 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.
12. We encourage clergy to acknowledge the efficacy of receiving the sacrament in one kind and consider providing grape juice.

EXPLANATION:

The 78th General Convention of the Episcopal Church held in Salt Lake City in 2015, Resolution A-158 was passed, and the above-mentioned guidelines were adopted. In its resolution the 78th General Convention acknowledged The Episcopal Church's long-standing tolerance for the use of alcohol which, in some cases, has contributed to its misuse, and has undermined a climate of wholeness and holiness for all; that our Church culture too often avoids hard conversations about alcohol use, and the role for forgiveness and compassion in healing and recovery. The Episcopal Church now commits to create a new normal in our relationship with alcohol. We aspire to be a place in which conversations about alcohol, substance misuse, or addiction are not simply about treatment but about renewal, justice, wholeness and healing. The passage of this resolution will bring our diocese into partnership with The Episcopal Church as we join in this effort.

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.

FISCAL IMPACT: None