CALL TO A MINISTRY BEYOND THE CONGREGATION
Validated Ministries

A call to a ministry beyond the congregation shall be validated, i.e., shall be deemed a Validated Ministry, under the following conditions:

I. Requirements of the Ministry

A call shall be validated if the ministry:

A. Is in conformity with the mission of God's people as expressed in the Holy Scriptures, The *Book of Confessions*, and the *Book of Order* of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); and,
B. Is accompanied by a complete job description that meets the criteria of paragraph A above.
C. Is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) or with a denomination in correspondence with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), or involves service beyond the jurisdiction of the church that is consonant with the mission of the presbytery in an organization, agency, or institution in which this church has no official participation.

II. Requirements of the Minister

A call shall be validated if the individual:

A. Is an ordained Minister of the Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in good standing.
B. Is accountable to a legally constituted and incorporated governing body with oversight responsibility for the ministry (e.g., a Board of Directors or Trustees); Is willing to submit a detailed annual report to the Presbytery of the James through the Committee on Ministry.
C. Participates regularly in the worship and service of the appropriate local congregation, and performs the sacraments when called upon to do so; and
E. Is active in the work of the Presbytery of the James.

III. POJ Approval Process

The responsibility for the **approval and oversight** of a validated ministry beyond the jurisdiction of the church (PCUSA) rests with the Presbytery, while the responsibility for a **thorough review** of the proposed ministerial function rests with the Committee on Ministry.

The request for the validation of a ministry shall be submitted in writing by the minister, and forwarded to the Administration Subcommittee of the Committee on Ministry. Such request should ordinarily be made prior to the start of the call to / employment with the proposed validated ministry. The written request must include a description and explanation of the proposed validated ministry, along with comments on how the proposed validated ministry meets each requirement of all validated ministries, as outlined at G-11.0403 of The Book of Order, as well as the requirements listed in Sections I and II above.

The Subcommittee will meet with the minister to further discuss the proposed validated ministry, the call, and how the proposed validated ministry meets the requirements of all validated ministries.

After its deliberation on the request, the Subcommittee will make a recommendation to the Committee on Ministry. If so approved, the recommendation of the Committee shall be made to the Presbytery at its next meeting.

IV. Annual Reporting

On behalf of the Presbytery, the Committee on Ministry (through the Administration Subcommittee) shall request and require the completion of an annual report from each minister serving a call to an approved validated ministry beyond the call of the congregation. Information to be requested may include, but not be limited to, the current status with regard to the validated ministry and the minister's call to the ministry, the current level of participation by the minister in the life of a congregation and of the presbytery, and other items that may be deemed pertinent to such a ministry and call and to an annual review.

The Administration Subcommittee shall review the contents of all annual reports, and make a recommendation to the Committee on Ministry that the Committee recommend or not recommend the approval of the continued validation of the ministry beyond the call of the congregation. If so approved, the recommendation of the Committee shall be made to the Presbytery at its next meeting.

Book of Order references: G-6.0201; G-60203; G-11.0403; G-11.0408; G-11.0409; G-11.0410, G-11.0411, G-14.0517a.
Approved: POJ Stated Meeting #41, August 24, 1999; revised January, 2002, Feb, 2004 COM; June 19, 2012

I have read and agree to the requirements as outlined above.

_____ _____
Signature **Date**

_____ _____
Stated Clerk **Date**