**Area Conference Resolution Adopting Ministerial Misconduct Policy of MC USA**

(Name of Conference),

* Is thankful for the faithful service of credentialed leaders who respond to the call of Jesus on their life, walk by the Spirit in the fulfillment of that call, and voluntarily take on the mantle of ministry as a sacred trust.
* We acknowledge that, at times, credentialed leaders violate accepted norms and ministerial ethics[[1]](#footnote-1), which is a violation of that call and sacred trust.
* In order to respond to such violations consistently, and in step with other area conferences of Mennonite Church USA (MC USA), we adopt the **Prevention & Accountability** resource as our framework for abuse prevention and accountability in our area conference.

Therefore, we commit to

* Utilizing the Ministerial Leadership Information (MLI) process of MC USA as the primary vetting tool for all leaders credentialed by our area conference.[[2]](#footnote-2)
* Utilize *A Shared Understanding of Ministerial Leadership* and the definitions in *Prevention & Accountability Resource (2025)* as standard for ethical behavior for credentialed leaders and the basis for judgement relative to complaints of misconduct.
* Utilize the misconduct complaint response policy and process in the *Prevention & Accountability Resource (2025)* in response to all misconduct complaints against credentialed leaders.
* Participate, as a partner, in the MC USA prevention and accountability protocol by assigning a Conference Safety Liaison that oversees area conference implementation of the abuse prevention initiatives and participates, as requested, as a member of the national misconduct response team.
1. Pastoral expectations are laid out in A Shared Understanding of Ministerial Leadership, the Prevention and Accountability Resource, and documents required by the area conference holding their credential. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Conferences are free to use additional vetting criteria, but must use the MLI process with all credentialed leaders as a baseline. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)