

Conference Policy on Crime Bond Coverage for Local Churches

Purpose: To establish guidelines for the provision of Conference crime bond coverage for local churches which have sustained loss by theft, embezzlement, defalcation, etc. by volunteers.

Applicable Disciplinary Reference: 258(4)(b) and 258(4)(c)

Background:

The North Georgia Annual Conference, pursuant to 2000 Book of Discipline section 613(1), provides a bond for the Conference Treasurer's Office that also includes all local churches and District Offices. The Conference bond coverage for local churches is predicated on the presumption that the local churches are adhering to 258(4)(b) and 258(4)(c). However, that presumption has been proven to be inaccurate in some cases, based on responses to the Conference Treasurer from an informal survey of local churches.

Policy:

It is the policy of the North Georgia Conference to allow local churches to access the Conference crime bond after suffering applicable loss ONLY if they can document compliance with 2000 Book of Discipline sections 258(4)(b) and 258(4)(c). Further, it is the policy of the North Georgia Conference to establish minimum bonding coverage guidelines as follows:

For churches whose Table II reported Operating (decimal) expenses are \$200,000 or less-\$10,000 bond.

For churches whose Table II reported Operating (decimal) expenses exceed \$200,000-bond must equal a minimum of five (5) % of reported Table II Operating Expenses.

NO coverage will be extended to churches who do not comply with ANY provision of this policy.