

**Louisiana Conference
Board of Ordained Ministry
Internal Policy Number 102
Board Members Relation to Candidates**

Persons serving as members of the District Committee on Ordained Ministry and/or the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry shall recuse and physically remove themselves from participating on the DCOM and CBOM interviewing, deliberating, and voting processes as it pertains to the candidate when one or more of the following exists or existed:

- Is a family member or relative by marriage of the candidate.
- Has been or is an assigned candidacy or clergy mentor to the candidate if, due to the confidential nature of the mentoring relationship, participating would not provide equitable treatment of the candidate.
- In the case of an established professional relationship between the member of the Board/Division/Committee and the candidate, (such as intern pastor, senior pastor, supervisor, fellow staff member, and District Superintendent), that member shall share the information as appropriate to the proceedings in evaluating the effectiveness of the candidate's ministry. However, it is incumbent upon the board and/or particular division or committee to hold one another accountable with such information. The board and/or division or committee shall discern in the discussion whether or not there is a possibility of a personality conflict, undocumented information, awkward staff relationship, or other non-professional information being shared. At that time, the other board/division/committee members shall name the concern and by consensus ask the member involved to recuse herself/himself from the proceedings.
- Other reasons which may not provide equitable treatment as determined by the chair of the appropriate body and/or help preserve the integrity of the discernment process.

**Original policy adopted by the Louisiana Conference Board of Ordained Ministry on January 25, 2011
Revised June 5, 2011 and adopted on January 23, 2012**