

## Particularizing (Organizing) a New PCA Church

Step	BCO Ref.
Training Possible Elder/Deacon Candidates - Usually six to nine months - All male members should be given the opportunity to receive training	5-9
Petition By Mission Church to Particularize - Petition signed by all members - Should request time and date for Organizing Service (See below to set)	5-8
Presbytery Approves Petition and Elects/Appoints Organizing Commission - Usually done at regular Presbytery Meeting with MNA Committee	5-8 15-1&2
Presbytery Commission Examines Elder Candidates - Candidates must have successfully completed elder training - Candidates should meet with church planter to assess theological, spiritual, and character readiness for serving as an elder. - Candidates must have agreed to serve if nominated and elected - Candidates that have been examined and approved by the Organizing Commission, in conjunction with church planter or organizing Pastor, shall present a list to the Mission church membership of all officer candidates who are found to be qualified.	5-9.2 24-1
Election Meeting Called by the Mission Church - At least one week's public notice given to congregation of time, place and purpose of the meeting - Stated purpose is to elect a Pulpit Nominating Committee and for nominating ruling elder candidates from the approved elder candidate list provided by the Presbytery Commission	5-11 5-9.2
Mission Church Election Meeting - Meeting should follow Chapter 25 of BCO - This meeting must be at least thirty days in advance of the Organizing Meeting - Only those who have made a written commitment to membership (or are communing members) are eligible to vote at this meeting - Pulpit Nominating Committee (for the Pastor) is elected. Duties will be to nominate (in most instances) the church planter to be the Organizing Pastor and to prepare and recommend the terms of his call (Call Letter). This call letter should be done with the help of the Presbytery Organizing Commission - Approved Ruling Elder candidates are nominated from the qualified list provided by the Presbytery Commission	25-1 5-9.2&3 5-11 20-6&7
Particularization (Organizing Meeting) Service - At least thirty days after the Election Meeting, the Organizing Meeting is held. The Presbytery Organizing Commission Chairman calls the Meeting to order, describes the process, and explains that it is a commission acting on behalf of the Presbytery. The Chairman introduces the members of the Commission	15-1&2

- ☐ A quorum should be ascertained and announced by the Secretary of the Organizing Commission
- After the worship service and the preaching of the Word, the organizing should proceed in this order:
  - o Organization of the Church 5-8.3&4
    - Questions to the Congregation
    - Pronouncement by the Presiding Pastor
  - o Election of the Ruling Elders 24-4,5&6
    - Election of the Elder Candidates 24-1&3
    - Presiding Pastor asks questions of elder candidates
    - Presiding Pastor asks questions of congregation (Show of hands)
    - Laying on of hands by all PCA elders present and prayer by one of the Elders
    - Right hand of fellowship by all PCA elders present
    - Pronouncement by Presiding Pastor
    - Charge to the newly ordained elders
  - o Election of the Pastor 20-4,5&6
    - Election of the Pastor
    - Reading of the Call by the Presiding Pastor
    - Questions to the Pastor 21-9
    - Questions to the Congregation 21-10
    - Pronouncement of Pastors Installation 21-7
    - Charge to the Pastor & Congregation and Prayer 21-7
  - o Closing of Service 21-7
    - Singing of Hymn
    - Dismissal with Benediction