

Members of Hillcrest Presbyterian Church in America have the privilege and obligation to elect qualified men to the office of deacon and ruling elder at the congregational level. These elections shall proceed in the following manner:

- Public notice shall be made by the Session as to the commencement of a period of nomination for candidates to the office deacon and ruling elder.
- Members of the congregation shall then have a period of time to submit names of perspective officers to the Session.
- The names submitted shall be of communicant male members who meet the biblical qualifications of Godly leadership and character as delineated in I Timothy 3 and Titus 1.
- Realizing that no man is perfect, nominations should be made after considerate prayer, review of the biblical qualifications, observation of Christian virtue, and acquiescence by the prospective nominee to stand for office.
- Once names have been submitted and nominations are closed, those men who have been nominated will undergo a period of training. Each prospective officer shall then be examined by the Session in:
  - a. his Christian experience, especially in personal character and family management,
  - b. his knowledge of the system of doctrine, government, and discipline contained in the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in America,
  - c. his understanding of the duties of the office to which he has been nominated, and
  - d. his willingness to give assent to the questions required for ordination.
- The Session shall then report the names of those eligible for election to the congregation before the day of election. A simple majority vote, taken by secret ballot, shall be sufficient to elect a man to office. All officers are elected to serve a three-year term.
- One additional consideration should be made prior to submitting names to the Session for examination: **“Can you, as a member of Christ’s Church, acknowledge and receive this brother as a ruling elder or deacon and promise to yield to him all that honor, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord to which his office, according to the Word of God and the Constitution of this Church, entitle him?”**

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Having prayerfully considered the election procedures and criteria, and having received permission from the nominee to submit his name to the Session for examination, I submit:

\_\_\_\_\_ for the office of \_\_\_\_\_.

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(sign and submit to the Clerk of Session)