

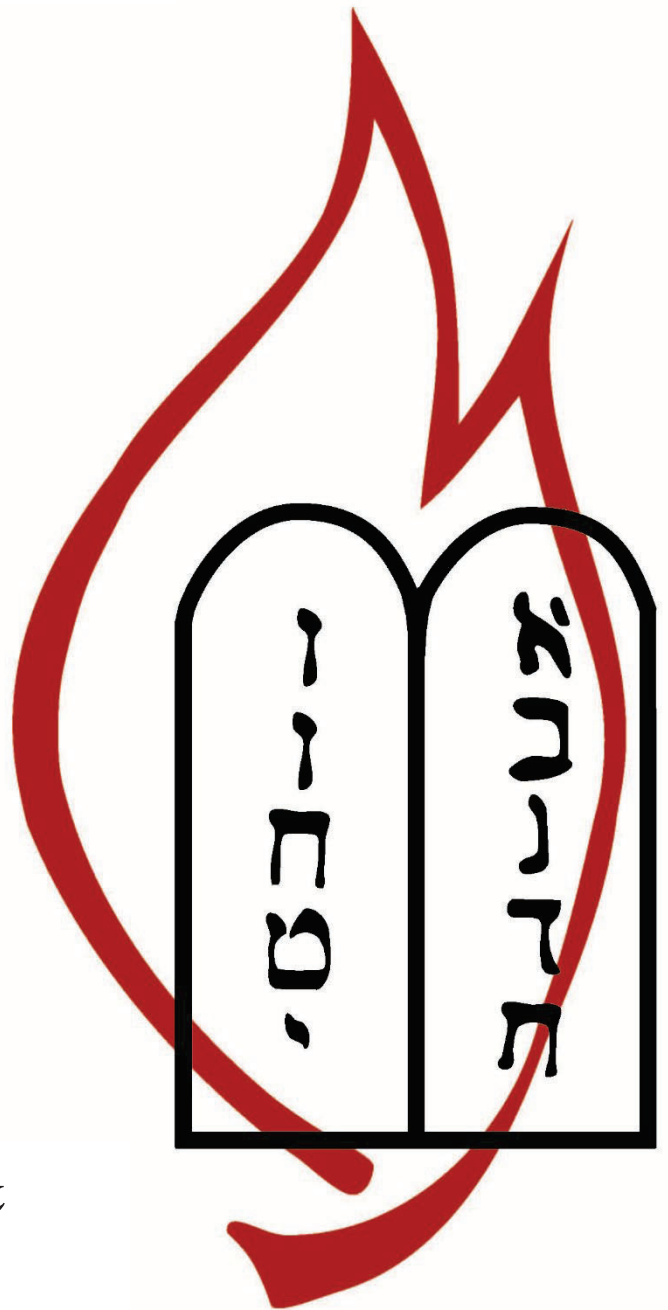
Canon Law Society of America

87th Annual Convention

October 13-16, 2025

Orlando, Florida

*The Role of Particular
and Proper Law*



**Convention Program &
2025 Annual Reports**

2025 CONVENTION OF THE CANON LAW SOCIETY OF AMERICA

The Role of Particular and Proper Law

The exciting 87th Annual Convention of the Canon Law Society of America will be a special joint convention with our sister society, the Canadian Canon Law Society, blending prayer, study, and canonical networking. We welcome canonists of both societies, both English-speaking and French-speaking, as we gather in sunny Orlando, Florida to explore numerous aspects of particular law affecting our nations and local churches as well as various elements of proper law governing institutes of consecrated life and societies of apostolic life.

Organized around the theme of “The Role of Particular and Proper Law,” presentations from members of both societies will address timely topics including the canonical implications between particular and proper law; religious proper law for diocesan canonists; whistleblower protection and policies; liturgical and marriage issues; penal law; best practices concerning boundary issues for church personnel; praxis of tribunals in handling allegations of sexual abuse; the reorganization of parishes; the CARA parish survey; Rotal jurisprudence; the maintenance of archives; and much more.

One significant Pre-Convention Workshop will be offered by the Dean of the Roman Rota examining the implementation and practice of *Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus* ten years after its promulgation.

We look forward to this unique convention and the opportunity to connect with fellow canonists from all over the United States and Canada!

Board of Governors

Rev. Patrick Cooney, OSB, JCL
President

Dr. Diane Barr, JD, JCD
Vice President

Sr. Rose Marie Timmer, RSM, JCL
Secretary

Very Rev. Jamin S. David, JCL
Treasurer

Very Rev. Kenneth Riley, JCL
Past President

Rev. Msgr. Stephen Doktorczyk, JCD
Consultor, 2022-2025

Mr. Benedict T. Nguyen, JCL
Consultor, 2022-2025

Dr. Jeannine Marino, JCD
Consultor, 2023-2026

Rev. Msgr. Robert Oliver, JCD
Consultor, 2023-2026

Dr. Felix Menendez, JCD
Consultor, 2024-2027

Very Rev. Peter Mottola, JCL
Consultor, 2024-2027



July 25, 2025
The Feast of St. James the Apostle

Dear Members of the Canon Law Societies of America and Canada:

Along with the clergy, religious, and laity of the Diocese of Orlando, I am pleased and honored to welcome you to our beautiful city, home to numerous world-renowned attractions, as you gather for the 87th Canon Law Convention.

The theme of this year's convention is "The Role of Particular and Proper Law," which I find both timely and highly relevant as ecclesiastical leadership continues to discern and implement various aspects of the law in our particular churches and religious communities. I am sure that the different presentations from our experts and the lively discussion that follows will enrich your own experiences and enhance your ministry of justice in the heart of the Church.

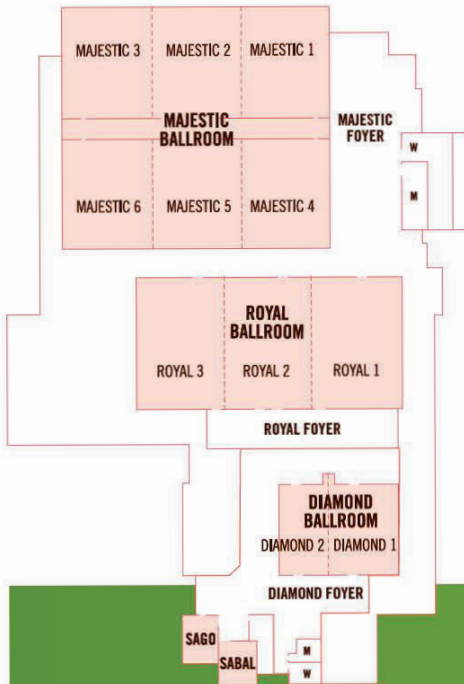
May your time together to pray, study, engage in dialogue, and share fellowship truly reflect the beautiful face of the Catholic Church envisioned by Pope Francis and Pope Leo XIV—a Church in which we walk together, seeking to become bridge-builders who connect the letter of the law to the diverse pastoral circumstances of God's flock. In doing so, may we demonstrate that "*The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart*" (Ps. 19:8).

Please know that our prayers will accompany you during these days. I also hope that, canonical business aside, you will take the opportunity to rest and enjoy many exciting things the City of Orlando has to offer.

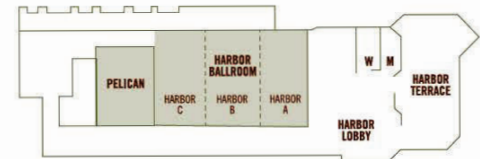
Sincerely yours, in Christ

+ John G. Noonan
Bishop of Orlando

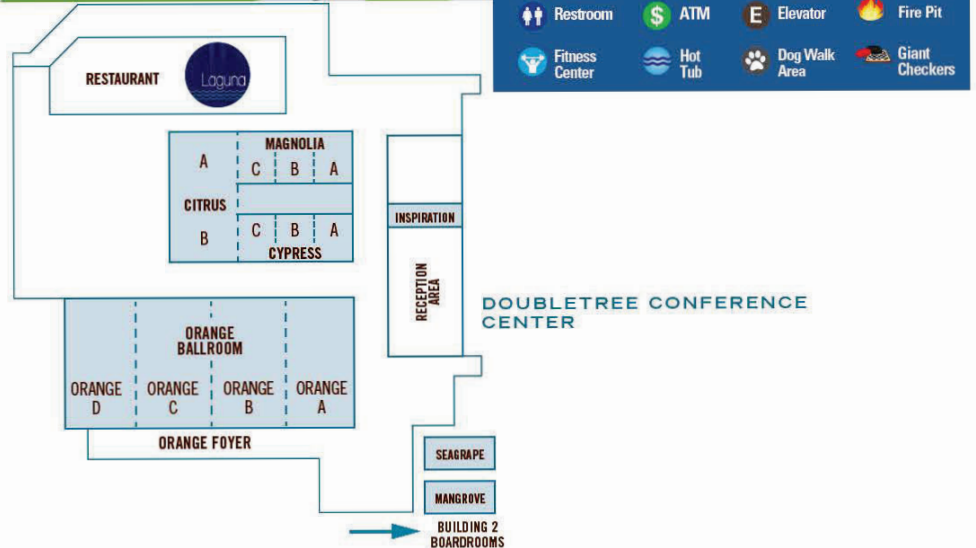
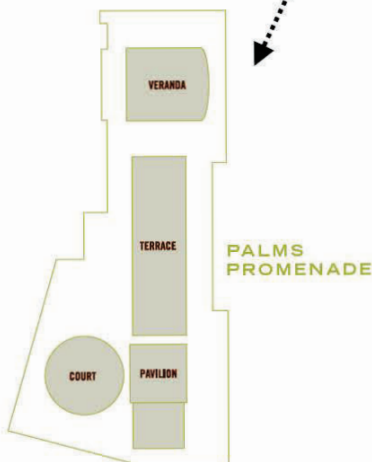
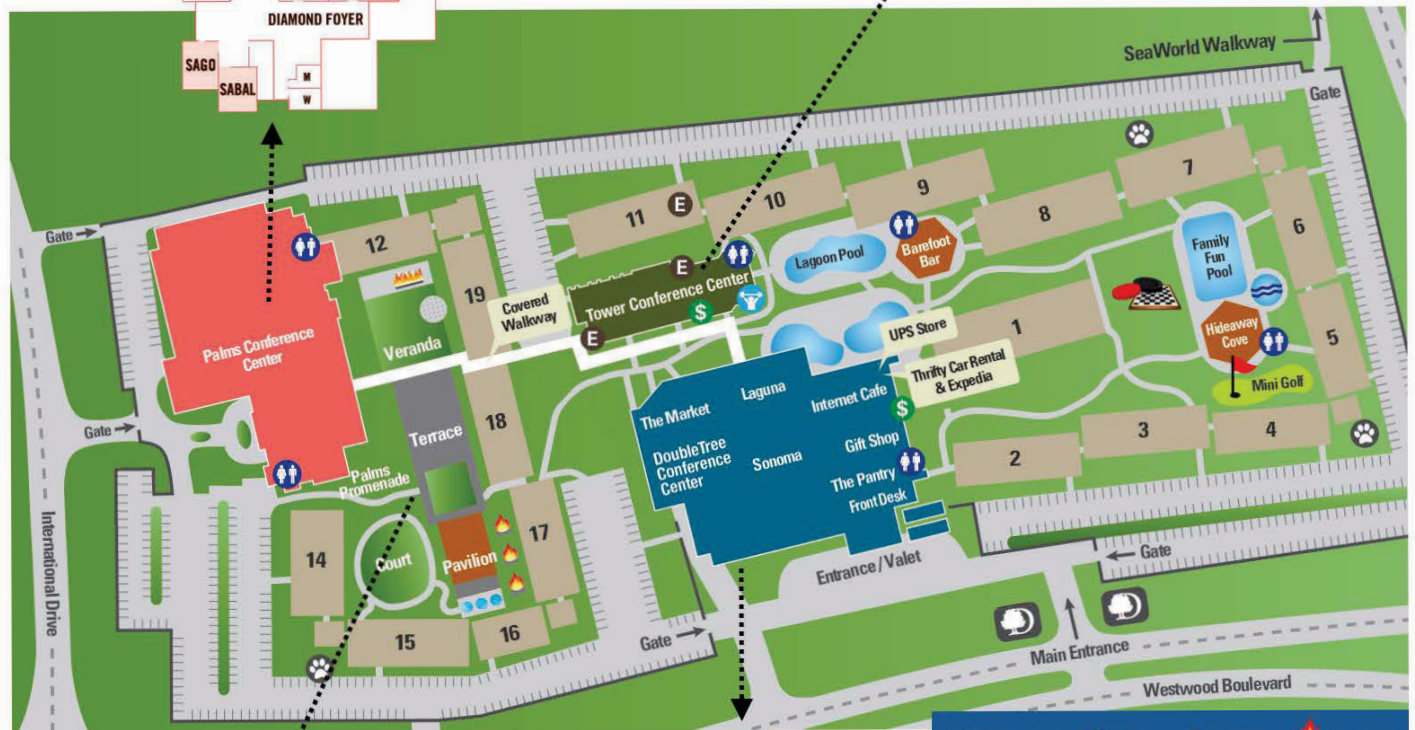
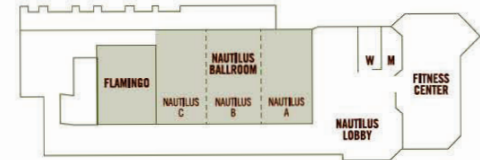
PALMS CONFERENCE CENTER



TOWER CONFERENCE CENTER SECOND FLOOR



TOWER CONFERENCE CENTER GROUND FLOOR



Canon Law Society of America
87th Annual Convention Program and Reports
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Pre-Convention Workshop

Sunday, October 12 – Monday, October 13

Ten Years of Mitis Iudex: Justice and Mercy in the Reform of the Marriage Nullity Process

*Most Reverend Alejandro Arellano Cedillo,
Dean of the Roman Rota*

On the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the *motu proprio*, *Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus*, this seminar offers a timely opportunity to reflect on the vision and impact of Pope Francis' reform of the marriage nullity process. Led by Archbishop Alejandro Arellano Cedillo, Dean of the Roman Rota, the seminar provides a clear, practical, and pastoral presentation of the reformed canonical norms and their implementation.

Over the course of the seminar, Archbishop Arellano will guide participants through six focused sessions. The seminar begins by exploring the administration of justice in the Church under Pope Francis, particularly the principles that inspired *Mitis Iudex*: accessibility, pastoral care, procedural simplicity, and the centrality of the bishop as judge. Following this, the seminar addresses the role of the Judicial Vicar as coordinator of tribunal activity, and the role of the judge, with special attention to impartiality, discernment, and fidelity to law.

A dedicated session will examine the preliminary investigation, emphasizing the importance of careful discernment and pastoral engagement at the outset of a case. The seminar then turns to the mission of the Defender of the Bond, who safeguards the presumption of validity and contributes to the objective search for truth. The final session addresses the instruction of the case, focusing on the collection of proofs, testimony, and the conduct of the process under the renewed procedural norms.

This seminar is intended for canonists, tribunal officers, clergy, and pastoral ministers involved in the work of ecclesiastical justice. Through the teaching and witness of Archbishop Arellano, participants will gain a deeper understanding of how *Mitis Iudex* continues to shape the Church's response to those seeking clarity and healing in matters concerning marital nullity.

Workshop Schedule

Saturday, October 11, 2025

5-6:30 p.m. Pre-Convention Workshop Attendee Check-in Royal Foyer

Sunday, October 12, 2025

7:30 a.m. Sunday Mass Royal 1

8:00 a.m. Pre-Convention Workshop Attendee Check-in Royal Foyer

Continental Breakfast for Workshop Attendees (*badges req'd*) Royal 2

9:00 a.m. Morning Session begins Royal 3

10:30 a.m. Break Royal 2

12:00 p.m. Lunch on your own

1:00 p.m. Afternoon Session begins Royal 3

5:00 p.m. Workshop ends for the day

5:30 p.m. Reception for Workshop Attendees (*badges req'd*) Veranda & Pavilion

Monday, October 13, 2025

7:30 a.m. Mass Royal 1

8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast for Pre-Convention Attendees (*badges req'd*) Royal 2

9:00 a.m. Monday Session begins Royal 3

12:00 p.m. Monday Session ends and Workshop concludes

Convention Schedule

Monday, October 13, 2025

- 7:30 a.m. Mass** Royal 1
- 1-4 p.m. Convention Attendee Check-in Begins** Royal Foyer
- Exhibits Open** Majestic Foyer
- 4:00 p.m. Evening Prayer and Welcome** Majestic Ballroom
Remarks: The Most Rev. John Noonan, Archbishop of the Diocese of Orlando
Rev. Patrick M. Cooney, JCL, CLSA President
- 4:30 p.m. Keynote Address** Majestic Ballroom
Understanding the Synodal Ecclesiology to Envisage its Canonical Implications
Sr. Nathalie Becquart, XMCJ
Synodality highlights the Church as People of God and Sacrament of Unity. This relational ecclesiology envisions the baptized journeying together, fulfilling the Church’s vocation as “sign and instrument of union with God and unity of humanity” (LG1). Synodality, as expression of communion ecclesiology and pathway for a more missionary and participative Church, necessitates new decision-making processes based on ecclesial discernment. This requires both spiritual renewal and structural reform, leading to canonical implications that the newly established Canonical Commission of the Synod now addresses.
- 6:00 p.m. Opening Reception for Convention Attendees (badge required)** Veranda & Pavilion

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

- 7:30 a.m. Mass for the Deceased Members of the CLSA** Royal 1 & 2
- 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast for Convention Attendees (badge required)** Majestic Foyer
- Candidate Meet & Greet** Majestic Foyer
View candidate videos linked on the [2025 Convention web page](#).
- 9:00 a.m. Seminars**
- A1 Who is Guilty? The Canonical Standards of Penal Imputability** Majestic Ballroom
Mr. Richard Verver, JCL
This presentation explores penal imputability in canon law, distinguishing among three forms: physical (the commission of an act), moral (personal responsibility), and legal (liability under the law). While moral imputability is generally required for penal sanctions, canon law now recognizes exceptions based on strict liability for delicts *contra Sextum* with minors. Delicts are analyzed in terms of both their objective (external act) and subjective (culpability) elements. Legal imputability typically presumes *dolus* (malice) as required for penalties, unless *culpa* (negligence) is expressly allowed. Canon law presumes imputability, but not *dolus*, and this is interpreted in the light of revised Book VI’s norm on the presumption of innocence. Exculpatory and mitigating factors – such as ignorance or duress – are examined within this framework, with case studies illustrating their practical application. *(Session repeats in French at C5.)*

- A2 Book V Meet Book VI – Financial Malfeasance in the Revised Penal Law Royal 3**
Rev. Msgr. John Renken, JCD, STD
 The revised penal law of the Latin Church, promulgated by *Pascite gregem Dei*, establishes several delicts of financial malfeasance – three penal canons are new, and three penal canons are revised. One canon identifies delicts of “institutional malfeasance” (i.e., acts that “directly” harm church property), and the others identify delicts of “personal malfeasance” (i.e., acts that, while perhaps harming church property, directly “benefit” the offenders). This seminar will discuss all these delicts and will suggest some best practices to avoid the “near occasions of ecclesiastical financial criminal activity.” (*Session repeats at B1*)
- A3 Ministering to Eastern Christians in Times of War and Migration..... Diamond 1**
Most Rev. David Motiuk, JCL, JCOD
 Most Eastern Christians live in unprecedented times – war, conflict, migration with more of their faithful living outside their original homelands. This seminar reflects on how the Church in North America can best respond to their pastoral needs by calling to mind significant differences between the Eastern and Latin Codes, in particular, in the area of sacramental law and in ensuring Latin parishes are prepared to care for Eastern Catholics in their midst. The seminar also reflects on the nature of canon law in general in how the universal Church not only allows for what was once considered particular law for the Eastern Churches then codified as general law, for example, in the divergent areas of initiation rites, marriage, and celibacy and married clergy in the Christian East and West, and what this might mean for the Church in the future by providing for a roadmap allowing for legitimate diversity while preserving unity.
- A4 Restoring Trust in the Church Diamond 2**
Dr. Karlijn Demasure, PhD and Rev. Valère Mbandji, SJ, PhD, JCD
 How to rebuild trust in the Church after the abuse scandal? This presentation is the result of semi-qualitative research. It will highlight the responses of 49 interviewees from Asia, India, Africa, Canada, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, and Latin America. These precious responses tell us much about what needs to be done to regain trust in the Church. (*Session repeats in French at D5.*)
- A5 Les références croisées entre les normes du CIC et du CCEO sur la séparation des époux et les canons modifiés par le motu proprio *Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus* et *Mitis et misericors Iesus* Nautilus A**
 Cross-referencing the Norms of the CIC/1983 and CCEO on the Separation of Spouses with the Canons Modified by the Motu Proprio *Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus* and *Mitis et misericors Iesus*)
Rev. Wojciech Kowal, OMI, PhD, JCD
This seminar will be delivered in French for the CCLS.
- 10:30 a.m. Break Majestic & Royal Foyers**

11:00 a.m. Seminars

- B1 Repeat: Book V Meet Book VI – Financial Malfeasance in the Revised Penal Law**..... Majestic Ballroom
Rev. Msgr. John Renken, JCD, STD
See session description at A2.

- B2 Is the Use of an Expert Ever Superfluous?** Diamond 2
Deacon Gerald Jorgensen, PhD, JCL
Canon 1678 §3, with reference to canon 1574, directs that a judge in a matrimonial nullity process in cases of impotence or defect of consent due to a psychic anomaly is to use the services of a qualified expert unless it is clear from the circumstances that it would be useless to do so. We will consider, with reference to canon 1678 §§1-2, if such circumstances ever exist and if they do exist, what might be some examples? What consequences, if any, exist for failure to use a qualified expert?

- B3 Cancelled Seminar**

- B4 Particular Law in Practice: Empowering Governance, Guiding Order, Shaping the Local Church**.....Royal 3
Rev. Msgr. Stephen Doktorczyk, JCD
Having particular law in place in a diocese, religious order, or other Church entity can be of great assistance to those tasked with the duty to govern and for the entity's proper ordering. In this seminar, the presenter will survey various canons in each Book of the Code of Canon Law where the Supreme Legislator mentions particular law. Having examined where the Code foresees its use, the presenter will offer practical considerations regarding the creation of particular law at the diocesan level, offering examples of what some dioceses have in place while presenting observations and suggestions of his own. *(Session repeats at C4.)*

- B5 La pastorale diocésaine du mariage, *Mitis iudex Dominus Iesus*, III, Article 2 Et les canons 1063-1064**..... Nautilus A
The Diocesan Pastoral Plan on Marriage, Section III, Article 2 of *Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus*
Mr. Robert Larivière, JCL
This session will be delivered in French for CCLS.

- 12:30 p.m. Networking Lunch**.....Pavilion
CLSA will provide a box lunch to allow attendees to network with colleagues in a variety of indoor and outdoor seating options. *Badges are required.*

- 1:30 p.m. Report from the Constitution Revision Commission** Majestic Ballroom
The Constitution Revision Commission (CRC) will share an update on the work they have been doing on behalf of the Society. As part of this process, the CRC has engaged with a professional parliamentarian, who is advising on various options the Society can consider in terms of structure, leadership, member engagement, and the general order of business at the convention and throughout the year. The parliamentarian will offer some insights to the Constitutional review process.

2:30 p.m. Seminars

- C1 Rumors, Rumbblings, Realities: The Challenge of Diocesan Parish Reorganization.....** Majestic Ballroom
Very Rev. Thomas Kunz, JCD
Few topics in the diocesan landscape are met with the passion that often goes along with the closing of church buildings and merging of parishes. In these cases there are plenty of rumors, met by rumbblings that go along with the reality that parishes and dioceses often face. This seminar will review the canonical challenges involved in reorganizing parishes in a diocese by examining the experience of the Diocese of Pittsburgh where from 2018-2024 that diocese reorganized all of its parishes. With the example of a completed diocesan parish reorganization, the seminar will address the canonical questions and practical issues involved with reorganizing parishes in a diocese.
- C2 The Challenge of Catholic-Muslim Marriage**
Rev. Leo A. Walsh, JCL, STD..... Diamond 1
Given the dynamic religious landscape in the United States, with increasing frequency, parish and tribunal staff are being approached to assist with marriages where one party is Catholic and the other is Muslim. This workshop will equip participants with the essential information needed to address the significant pastoral, canonical, and liturgical challenges presented by such unions.
- C3 Social Media: When Right of Opinion Teeters to Duty of Penal Action.....** Diamond 2
Very Rev. Kenneth A. Riley, JCL
A click, a post, a share, a YouTube video, a livestream... This seminar will consider the use of social communications as positive contributions by clerics and others – until they are not. From exploration of balancing one’s rights and obligations, the common good, faith, and morals (Books II, III, and VI, particularly c. 1368), the seminar will offer concrete, sanitized, or amalgamated examples of penal actions taken by competent ecclesiastical authorities.
- C4 Repeat Seminar: Particular Law in Practice: Empowering Governance, Guiding Order, Shaping the Local Church.....**Royal 3
Rev. Msgr. Stephen Doktorczyk, JCD
See description at B4.
- C5 Qui est coupable? Les normes canoniques de l’imputabilité pénale.....** Nautilus A
Who is Guilty? The Canonical Standards of Penal Imputability
Mr. Richard Verver, JCL
This session will be delivered in French for CCLS. Mr. Verver will present this seminar in English in seminar A1.

4:00 p.m. Break Majestic Foyer

4:30 p.m. Budget Report & Open Hearing on Resolutions Majestic Ballroom

6:00 p.m. Alumni Receptions

The Catholic University of America Pavilion & Terrace
Rome Universities..... Sonoma Lobby Bar
St. Paul University Harbor Terrace

7:00 p.m. Presidential Dinner (by invitation)

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

- 7:00 a.m. Friends of Bill Meeting**..... Nautilus C
- 7:30 a.m. Past Presidents' Breakfast** (*by invitation*) Flamingo
- 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast for Convention Attendees** (*badge required*) Majestic Foyer
- 9:00 a.m. Major Address**
The Experience of Married Clergy and the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada
Most Rev. David Motiuk, JCL, JCOD Majestic Ballroom
- The majority of Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada are married. This was not always the case. In the late 19th century when Ukrainian Catholics, soon followed by other Eastern Catholics, began immigrating to North America and other parts of the world, the Apostolic See of Rome prohibited married priests from ministering to their faithful in the New World. The results were devastating. Times have changed with the 1990 Eastern Code honouring both celibacy and the married priesthood. Can the experience of married clergy in the Christian East prepare the Latin Church for similar experiences should what is now considered disciplinary law become a reality with married Roman Catholic priests? What lessons can be learned from the past?
- 10:30 a.m. Break** Majestic Foyer
- 11:00 a.m. 87th Annual Business Meeting**..... Majestic Ballroom
Active CLSA Members should bring their yellow voting voucher to receive their ballots and voting cards from the scrutineers.
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch on your own**
- 1:30 p.m. Second Instance Judicial Vicars' Meeting**..... Flamingo
Chancellors' Meeting..... Nautilus C
- 2:30 p.m. Seminars**
- D1 Navigating the Gray: Best Practices and Canonical Considerations for Boundary Issues and Delicts Involving Adults** Majestic Ballroom
Rev. Matthew Duclos, Lic. Safeguarding
- This seminar will explore the “gray area” of boundary violations involving adults, focusing on both pastoral and canonical considerations. Drawing from survivor testimonies and pastoral encounters, we will examine interpersonal, emotional, spiritual, and sexual boundaries in ministry. The session will address how such violations are identified, when they may constitute canonical delicts, and how the Church can respond. The goal is to offer practical insights and a canonical framework for safeguarding in ministry while promoting healing for those who have experienced harm within the Church.
- D2 New “Religious Institutes”: Canon Law, Common Sense, and Communion** Diamond 1
Sr. Tracey Sharp, SCRH, JCL
- It is not unusual for diocesan officials to be approached by founders of new “religious institutes.” This seminar provides some orientation to the various forms of consecrated life, current canonical requirements for the processes involved in the foundation of a new institute of consecrated life, questions that might be raised in terms of finances, immigration and other practical matters, and pastoral considerations of accompaniment and mutual relations (diocesan bishop and community).

D3 Parish Closures: Caring for Catholics Where They Are..... Diamond 2
Rev. Thomas Gaunt, SJ, PhD

This presentation will offer an overview of the demographic changes among Catholics in the United States in the past 50 years and how it impacts dioceses and parishes. Recent CARA research on parish openings, mergers, and closures in eleven dioceses between 1970 to 2020 will be examined with a detailed look at changes in the parish population and socioeconomic status. The seminar will focus on the challenge of caring for the Catholic community “where they are.”

D4 Marriage Tribunal Praxis for the Reporting of Sexual Abuse of Minors.....Royal 3
Mr. Jay M. Conzemius, JCL and Very Rev. Luke Millette, JCL

Every Tribunal receives several allegations of child abuse each year. Each time this occurs, a significant situation arises for the Tribunal to handle it correctly. Depending on what is involved with the allegation, the time of the alleged abuse and in what state you reside, the reporting obligations will vary. This seminar will take an in-depth look at how two different (arch)dioceses have addressed how to handle these reports by reviewing the each (arch)diocese’s process created and the modifications made to paperwork that were created.

D5 Restaurer la confiance dans l’Église Nautilus A
Restoring Trust in the Church

Dr. Karlijn Demasure, PhD and Rev. Valère Mbandji, SJ, PhD, JCD

This session will be delivered in French for CCLS. Dr. Demasure and Fr. Mbandji will present this seminar in English in seminar A4.

5:30 p.m. Convention Mass and Installation of Officers

Mass will be held at:

*The Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe
8300 Vineland Avenue
Orlando, Florida 32821.*

Important notes:

- The Basilica is about a 15-minute drive from the hotel.
- We will provide bus transportation for convention attendees.
- Buses depart from the front of the hotel, starting at 4:00 p.m.
- The buses will *not* shuttle back and forth between the hotel and the Basilica. You are encouraged to ride earlier buses and explore the Basilica and grounds before Mass.
- Concelebrating clergy should ride an early bus.
- You do not have to reserve a seat on the bus.

7:30 p.m. Convention Banquet..... Majestic Ballroom
Convention attendees and their paid guests are welcome to attend. Badges are required to attend. There will be a cash bar. The Role of Law presentation will take place at the conclusion of dinner.

Thursday, October 16, 2025

- 7:30 a.m. Mass** Royal 1 & 2
- 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast for Convention Attendees (*badge required*)** Majestic Foyer
- 9:00 a.m. Major Address** Majestic Ballroom
Particular Law and the Sanctifying Office of the Church
Most Rev. Brian J. Dunn, JCD
One of the unique characteristics of the 1983 Code of Canon Law involves the possibility of particular law on a number of levels. In fact, during Vatican II, a new awareness developed of the appropriateness of restoring the proper role of particular legislation in the life of the Church. This address will discuss the issue of particular law as it relates to the *munus sanctificandi* as found in the canons of Book IV and outside the Code and review some of the possibilities that are inherent in the Code.
- 10:30 a.m. Closing Remarks**..... Majestic Ballroom

Candidates for Office

Office of the Vice President/President-Elect



Anna Marie Chamblee
Ecclesiastical Judge
Archdiocese of Milwaukee, WI

Education

- JCL The Catholic University of America, 2006
- MA, The University of the Incarnate Word, 1998
- BS, Texas Woman's University, 1983

Ministerial Experience

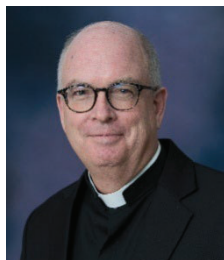
- Judge, Archdiocese of Milwaukee 2023-present
- Teach Introduction to Canon Law, Diaconate Formation Program
- Co-present Canon Law presentations to seminarians studying in Archdiocese of Milwaukee
- Defender of the Bond, then Judge, Archdiocese of Atlanta 2018-2023
- Judge/Assessor, Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth, 2007-2017
- Taught canon law for St. John Paul II Institute, School of Lay Ministry – Diocese of Fort Worth
- Advocate program creator and trainer - Diocese of Fort Worth
- Numerous presentations on Tribunal Processes – Diocese of Fort Worth
- Catholic Schools Teacher 20 years – Dioceses of Fort Worth and Dallas

Service to the Society

- Member since 2006
- Co-Presenter with Sr. Victoria Vondenberger, Pre-Convention Workshop – “Best Practices for Locally Training Procurator/Advocates,” October 2023
- Presenter, Webinar “Creating an Advocate Training Program,” February 2022
- Member, Committee on Sacramental Law – former member
- Member, Committee on Laity – former member

Other Relevant Experience

- Completed the Sentence Writing Course offered by the Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland (February 2024)
- Assisted as an Advocate in individual cases in various Tribunals



Rev. Msgr. Robert Oliver
Judicial Vicar
Archdiocese of Boston, MA

Ordained: Priest of the Archdiocese of Boston, 2000

Education

- JCD, JCL, The Catholic University of America
- STD, STL, The Pontifical Gregorian University
- MBA, Northeastern University

Ministerial Experience

- Judicial Vicar, Archdiocese of Boston (2022-present)
- Judge, various dioceses (2003-2012, 2022-present)
- Faculty, Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary (2021-2023)
- Consultor, Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life (2018-2023)
- Secretary, Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors (2014-2021)
- Safeguarding Coordinator, Vatican City State (2019-2021)
- Promoter of Justice, Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (2012-2014)
- Visiting Professor of Canon Law, The Catholic University of America (2010-2012)
- Special Assistant to Vicar General/Moderator of the Curia, Archdiocese of Boston (2002-2005, 2010-2012)
- Coordinator of Pastoral Planning Commission, Archdiocese of Boston (2010-2012, 2004-2006)
- Faculty, St. John's Seminary (2002-2010)
- Director, Master of Arts in Ministry Program, St. John's Seminary (2004-2006)

Service to the Society

- Member since 1997
- CLSA Revised Commentary on Prelatures and Associations (2025)
- Consultor, Board of Governors (2023-present)
- BOG Liaison to the Constitution Revision Commission and several committees (2023-present)
- Convention Address on Reform and Renewal in the Holy See (2022)
- Committee on Research and Development (2009-2013)
- Pre-Convention Workshop on Implementation of SST (2009), Convention Seminar on SST (2003)
- Convention Seminar on Associations of the Faithful (2008)

Office of the Treasurer



Very Rev. Jeffrey Cabral
Judicial Vicar,
Diocese of Fall River
Pastor, Santo Christo Parish,
Fall River, MA

Ordained: Priest of the Diocese of Fall River, 2002

Education

- JCL, The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC (2010)
- M.Div., B.Phil., St. John's Seminary, Brighton, MA (2002, 1998)
- BA in Mathematics, University of Massachusetts–Dartmouth, N. Dartmouth, MA (1995)

Ministerial Experience

- Judicial Vicar, Diocese of Fall River, 2013 – present
- Pastor, Santo Christo Parish, Fall River, MA, 2018 – present
- Administrator of Saint John of God, Somerset, MA, 2012
- Judge and Promotor of Justice, Diocese of Fall River, 2010 – 2013
- In Residence at Various Parishes, 2010-2012, 2012-2015, 2017-2018
- Administrator of Holy Name Parish, Fall River, MA, 2010
- Parochial Vicar in Various Parishes, 2002-2007, summer 2008 & 2009, 2015-2016
- Member of the Presbyterial Council, 2024-present
- Member of the Personnel Board, 2004 - 2007
- High School Chaplain, 2003-2007
- Deanery Vocation Coordinator, 2002-2007

Service to the Society

- Member since 2010
- Attended the Conventions in 2011, and then from 2013 to the present
- Served as Judge and Assessor in several clergy penal trials

Other Relevant Experience:

- Translator from Portuguese
- Served on Team for various Youth Retreats
- High School Math Teacher, 1995-1997
- Part-Time Assistant Bookkeeper, 1994-1996



Rev. W. Chris Palladino
Pastor, St. Martin de Porres Parish
Dorchester, MA

Ordained: Priest for the Archdiocese of Boston 2006

Education

- JCL, Catholic University of America (2013)
- M. Div, St. John Seminary, Boston (2006)
- B. Phil, St. John Seminary, Boston (2002)
- BS Business Administration, Emmanuel College, Boston (2000)
- AS Bank Branch Management, New England College of Finance (1996)

Ministerial Experience

- Pastor, 2021 – Present
- Adjunct Professor, Deacon Program and Affiliates – Archdiocese of Boston 2013 – Present
- Advocate, Judge and past Adjutant Judicial Vicar - Metropolitan Tribunal of Boston 2009 – 2021 and 2023 - 2025
- Various Parish Assignments 2006 – 2021

Work Experience

- Bank Branch Management and related – now known as Bank of America 1985 – 2001

Membership

- CLSA – Student 2009-2013 and Full 2013 – Present
- Eastern Regional Conference of Canonists (ERCC) 2017 – Present
 - Secretary 2023 – Present

Service to the Society

- Member, RAM Committee 2023 – Present
- Member, Sacramental Law Committee 2019 – 2023

Office of Consultor



Mrs. Amanda Crawford
Moderator of the Tribunal
and Judge
Diocese of Little Rock, AR

Education

- JCL/MCL, St. Paul University, Ottawa, ON (2023)
- BA, Theology, Newman University, Wichita, KS (2018)
- BA, Business/Accounting, University of Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ (2011)

Ministerial Experience

- Moderator of the Tribunal and Judge in the First and Second Instance, Diocese of Little Rock (2023-Present)
- Director of Non-Canonist Tribunal Advocate Program, Diocese of Little Rock (2023 to Present)
- Moderator of the Tribunal, Diocese of Little Rock (2017-2023)
- Ecclesiastical Notary and Tribunal Secretary, Diocese of Little Rock (2014-2017)

Service to the Society

- Member since 2021
- Student advisor regarding the possible updates to the CLSA database (2022)

Other Relevant Experience

- I have been married for 24 years, 23 as an active-duty military spouse living in six different states.
- I am the mother of three boys ranging in age from 10 to 24.
- I served as a Key Spouse and Key Spouse Mentor for six years acting as a liaison between the Squadron Commander and active duty spouses, a mentor to other Key Spouses, and a point of reference for available resources to active duty spouses.



Rev. Msgr. Jason Gray
Pastor, St. Thomas,
Peoria Heights, IL
Judicial Vicar,
Diocese of Peoria, IL

Ordination: Priest of the Diocese of Peoria, 1997

Education

- STL, Biblical Theology, Pontifical Gregorian University, 1998
- JCL, Catholic University of America, 2004
- JCD, Pontifical Lateran University, 2015

Ministerial Experience

- Pastor, 20 years since 2001
- Judge, 2004-present
- Judicial Vicar, 2008-2012, 2019-present
- Official, Causes of Saints, 2012-2015

Service to the Society

- Member, and now chair, of the Publication Advisory Board, 2021-present
- Pre-Convention Workshop presenter
- Webinar presenter
- Contributor to the upcoming *Clergy Procedural Handbook*
- Contributor to the upcoming revised new commentary on the Code of Canon Law

Other Relevant Experience

- Various experience in clergy penal trials
- Resource regarding Causes of Saints

Office of Consultor



Rev. Alexander Laschuk
Judicial Vicar, Toronto
Regional Tribunal

Ordination: Eparchy of Toronto and Eastern Canada, 2012

Education

- JCD/PhD Saint Paul University 2016
- JCL/M.C.L. Saint Paul University 2011
- S.T.B./B.Th. Saint Paul University 2009
- B.Forensic Sci. University of Windsor 2007

Ministerial Experience

- Judicial Vicar, Toronto Regional Tribunal – 2018-Present
- Judicial Vicar, Archdiocese of Toronto – 2018-Present
- Judicial Vicar, Eparchy of Toronto and Eastern Canada – 2016-Present
- Associate Judicial Vicar, Toronto Regional Tribunal, 2012-2018
- Parochial Vicar, St Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, 2013-2022
- Director, Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies, 2020-Present

Service to the Society

- Past member of Convention Planning Committee
- Past member of Eastern Law Committee
- Regular presenter at conventions, preconventions, and workshops of the CLSA

Other relevant experience

- Instructor of Canon Law at Saint Paul University since 2016
- Instructor of Canon Law at CUA Summer Marriage since 2022
- Instructor of Canon Law at the University of St Michael's College since 2018
- Engage in canonical support for numerous dioceses in clerical misconduct cases
- Previous experience with delegated tribunals of for causes of saints
- Previous member of the North American Orthodox-Catholic Theological Consultation
- Consultor to the CCCB's canon law commission



Ms. Lori A. Peery
Vice Chancellor
Diocese of San Antonio, TX

Education

- Southwestern University, Georgetown, Texas BBA-Accounting 1985
- St. Mary's University School of Law San Antonio, Texas, Juris Doctorate 1988
- Oblate School of Theology, San Antonio, Texas, Masters Theology 2015
- St. Paul University, Ottawa, Canada, JCL 2018

Ministerial Experience

- Catechist – St. Joseph Catholic Church, Devine, Texas 2004 – 2011
- Cemetery Board – St. Joseph, Devine, Texas 2011-2014

Service to the Society

- Convention Speaker (2016) 78th Annual Convention, Houston, Texas
- Laity Committee: 2023- Present

Other Relevant Experience

- Elected Official, State of Texas 1998-2008 Devine Independent School District, School Board Trustee; Served a term as Board President and Vice President

Office of Consultor



Mr. Benjamin Roodhouse
Chancellor
Diocese of Jefferson City, MO

Education

- JCL, The Catholic University of America
- JD, Ave Maria School of Law
- BA, Hillsdale College

Ministerial Experience

- Chancellor, 2022 – present
- Tribunal Judge 2022 – present
- Director of Canonical Services 2021 – present
- Promotor of Justice, *ad causam*
- Defender of the Bond, *ad causam*
- Member of: Bishop's Cabinet, Diocesan Finance Council, Diocesan Pastoral Council, Board of Directors for Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri, several diocesan civil corporations
- Advisor to: Council of Deans, Diocesan Presbyteral Council, College of Consultors

Service to the Society

- Member since 2020
- Clergy Committee Member 2025

Other Relevant Experience

- Husband and Father
- 9 years of small business experience in practice of civil law (contract and real estate law)

Presenters

Pre-Convention Workshop

Most Rev. Alejandro Arellano Cedillo, JCD, Dean of the Roman Rota

Keynote

Sr. Nathalie Becquart, XMCI, Undersecretary for the General Secretariat of the Synod

Major Addresses

Most Rev. David Motiuk, JCL, JCOD, Bishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton, AB

Most Rev. Brian J. Dunn, JCD, Archbishop of Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth, NS

Seminars

Mr. Jay M. Conzemius, JCL, Moderator of the Tribunal, Diocese of Pittsburgh, PA

Dr. Karlijn Demasure, PhD, Professor Em., Saint Paul University, Ottawa, ON

Rev. Msgr. Stephen Doktorczyk, JCD, Local Secretary, Apostolic Nuncio

Rev. Matthew Duclos, Lic. Safeguarding, Parochial Vicar, Diocese of Albany, NY

Rev. Thomas Gaunt, SJ, PhD, Executive Director, Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA)

Rev. Dr. Jerry Jorgensen, PhD, JCL, Judge and Consulting Psychologist, Archdiocese of Dubuque, Iowa

Rev. Wojciech Kowal, OMI, PhD, JCD, Associate Professor, Faculty of Canon Law, Saint Paul University, Ottawa, ON

Very Rev. Thomas W. Kunz, JCD, Vicar for Canonical Affairs/Services, Diocese of Pittsburgh, PA

Mr. Robert Larivière, JCL, Director of Canonical Services, Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie, ON

Rev. Valère Mbandji, SJ, PhD, JCD, Vice Dean, Director of Studies, Saint Paul University, Ottawa, ON

Very Rev. Luke Millette, JCL, Judicial Vicar, Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, Metropolitan Tribunal

Most Rev. David Motiuk, JCL, JCOD, Bishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton, AB

Rev. Msgr. John A. Renken, JCD, STD, Professor, St. Paul University, Faculty of Canon Law, Ottawa, ON

Very Rev. Kenneth A. Riley, JCL, Vicar General-Chancellor, Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, MO

Sr. Tracey Sharp, SCRH, JCL, Associate Vicar for Women Religious, Archdiocese of Los Angeles, CA

Mr. Richard Verver, JCL, Judge, Toronto (Ontario) Regional Tribunal

Rev. Leo A. Walsh, JCL, STD, Judicial Vicar, Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau, AK

2025

Annual Reports



REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Rev. Patrick M. Cooney, OSB

Welcome to Orlando!

Conventions are a great time for use to learn and touch base with those colleagues who we worked with and went to school with. It is a time to network and make new connections. This year as we have done in the past, we are joined by our canon law colleagues from our neighbor to the north, the Canadian Canon Law Society (CCLS).

This year's convention seems to be shaping up to be another great event. Our pre-convention workshop, Ten Years of *Mitis Iudex*: Justice and Mercy in the Reform of the Marriage Nullity Process, presented by the Dean of the Roman Rota, Most Reverend Alejandro Arellano Cedillo is drawing considerable interest. I'm looking forward to hearing our keynote address: Understanding the Synodal Ecclesiology to Envisage its Canonical Implications, presented by Sr. Nathalie Becquart, XMCJ, Undersecretary of the General Secretariat of the Synod; as well as major addresses and seminars that address topics from the Eastern Code, sacraments, finances and religious law, just to name a few. It will be a convention that offers something for everyone. CCLS is offering seminars in French, so if you're a Francophone, you're welcome to attend those.

This year, our Constitution Revision Commission (CRC) has been diligently working on their important task. As you may remember, last year the membership approved a resolution that tasked the Board of Governors to initiate a comprehensive Constitution Revision. This commission is made up of Fr. Luke Millette (chair); Deacon Matthew Glover; Msgr. Michael Souckar; Miss Mary Gen Blittschau; and Dr. Susan Mulheron. I truly appreciate the important work that the commission has undertaken and the dedication that they have to this project. The commission will update the membership following lunch on Tuesday.

As you may remember, this year the President, Vice President, and Executive Coordinator visited fifteen of the sixteen Roman Dicasteries, Councils, and Tribunals during our biennial Rome visit. I mentioned in the June newsletter that one of the high points of the visit was meeting with the then Cardinal Prefect of the Dicasteries for Bishops, His Eminence Robert Cardinal Prevost, who just weeks later became Pope Leo XIV.

After the 2023 Roman visit, we published our report in the 2023 edition of *Roman Replies and Advisory Opinions*. This year, due to requests from the curial offices to review and approve anything published and related time constraints, the 2025 Rome report is not included in this year's *Roman Replies and CLSA Advisory Opinions*.

In June, the CLSA was contacted by the USCCB Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life, and Youth (LMFLY) and invited to participate in conducting listening sessions on an upcoming document on the laity, especially in light of growing trends and realities regarding lay people as well as the Church's work with synodality and co-responsibility. The Board of Governors tasked the Laity Committee to follow up on this request. I think it speaks highly of our Society that we were asked to participate, seeing that CLSA includes a large and growing number of professional laity in the Church.

In July, the Board of Governors approved an update to the internal procedures when a professional responsibility complaint is received. These changes were made because of lessons learned when the procedures created several years ago were implemented. You can view the updated procedure in your online Member Center under Documents and Downloads/Organizational Documents. It also accessible on the convention Guidebook under the Documents header.

We have been meeting with a professional parliamentarian about efficiencies in our convention as well. You will meet Lucy Johnson at the convention. She has been advising the CRC, and the Board has engaged her to assist to ensure that our Business Meeting is efficiently run according to our governing documents and respectful of the rights of the members. To save time at the Business Meeting, we posted the 2024 Business Meeting minutes on the convention page of the CLSA website and in Guidebook for the membership to review in advance.

In accordance with Robert's Rules (48:12), going forward, the minutes of the Business Meeting will be approved by an appointed committee in a timely manner and will be available in your Member Center to review as soon after the convention as possible. Fr. Greg Luyet will chair this committee for the 2025 Convention. Fr. Paul Counce and Miss Mary Gen Blittschau will serve with Fr. Greg this year.

As my term comes to an end, I would like to thank the Board of Governors for their hard work this year. As a membership-driven Society, resolutions can – and have – set the direction of the Society, and this year has been no different with the passing of the constitution revision resolution. The Board of Governors rose to the task as we appointed the commission to begin the difficult task of moving our governing documents into this modern era. A special thanks to Msgr. Robert Oliver and Dr. Jeaninne Marino, who have served as Board of Governors liaisons to the commission.

Lastly, I could not do what I do, and the Society could not do what it does, if not for the dedication and diligent work of our staff. So, to Donna, Mark, and especially Kathleen, thank you!

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Very Reverend Jamin Scott David, JCL

Have you been able to stay current with the constant stream of change in economic policy? Fluidity continues to be the norm in the global economic situation that evolves daily. Variables concerning US monetary policy, inflation, and treasury yields (which are clearly interrelated) have not always correlated this past year. These variables have moved in different directions in some iterations; in others, they have moved in tandem.

As always, to lighten the mood with our economic rollercoaster, a joke might be helpful. For years, a couple put money into a savings account. One day, the wife told her husband, “Honey, we finally have enough money to buy the thing for which we started saving back in 1965.” Her husband was overly excited at the thought and said, “You mean a brand-new Cadillac?” She responded, “No, a 1965 Cadillac.”

This is my last report to write to you as Treasurer, and I wanted to give a realistic understanding of the financial position of the Society throughout these past three years, to free us from what often feels to be constant instability.

Foremost, it has been a privilege working alongside the various members of the Board of Governors and their predecessors in the work that we collaboratively do for the Canon Law Society of America! While numbers and financial metrics might seem tedious and boring to some, I am passionate about assuring financial literacy for our constituents – in the Society and in the Church – so that, together, we can align our core values and goals of our mission with prudent financial decision making. Much of my time as Treasurer has been spent working alongside our staff (especially Kathleen Butler, our General Secretary), mitigating financial risks with a goal of making the Society fiscally efficient and sustainable.

Many of these comments aim to prepare for a new Treasurer and to point out potential risks. It contains my understanding of the history of what has been done in the recent past to address fiscal challenges, principles for consideration regarding fiscal management, and robust details regarding revenue and expenses moving forward. I also hope that these concerns will also aid the Constitution Revision Committee in their proposals about how the Society might operate moving forward.

Budgeting

The General Secretary and I have strived over these years to create a comprehensive budget that is reviewed and approved by the Resource and Asset Management Committee (RAM) and then is approved by the BOG that is data-driven and that realistically tracks revenue and expenses based on standard financial practice; success has been realized in demonstrating the real cost of business in specific projects.

Budgets are planning documents that fiscally track goals, priorities, and expectations. More strategic thinking and vision from the BOG would be helpful in creating a budget that realistically matches the Society’s fiscal situation and priorities in a given fiscal year.

Transparency and Reporting

I hope that I have reported and summarized the Society's financial position and activity in a meaningful and understandable way. Financial literacy is a most important trait in today's economic world. I also hope that I have been able to comprehensively report on the overall fiscal health of the organization, the composition of assets (especially investments), the Society's ability to service debts and projects, sources of income and expense, the fiscal capacity to launch initiatives and programs, risks to stability, and the ability to track financial performance over time.

Understanding and articulating these reports is essential for the new Treasurer since these reports assist in identifying programs and initiatives that are not performing optimally; these reports also assist in determining the effectiveness of intended outcomes.

To assist in this, the BOG authorized that I meet with the incoming Treasurer outside of the immediate period after the election for intentional conversation and transition. This meeting will also include the General Secretary. The purpose of this meeting is to review organizational structures, policies for financial management, roles and responsibilities of staff, processes for approval, and risk management strategies.

I also believe that the BOG should work toward onboarding for any newly constituted BOG regarding fiduciary responsibilities of all board members, assuring the Society's funds are managed appropriately and used as intended, focusing on the interdependence of the board, staff, and the membership for appropriate management.

Fiscal Concerns Regarding Revenue and Expenses

What follows are my observations regarding necessary prioritization to increase revenue and control expenses for the BOG and membership to consider both now and moving forward into future fiscal periods:

Revenue

Membership

The addition of the Membership Coordinator to the staff has been crucial to managing the Society's primary asset – members. The past three fiscal years saw improved metrics related to increased membership combined with increases in membership dues. This has realized year over year gains of 6.3% (FY 21-22), 3.7% (FY 22-23), and a whopping 39% (FY23-24). Investing in recruiting and retention of membership while examining the need to periodically increase membership dues should continue.

However, while financial metrics are positive, they do tell a deceitful tale. The number of members who renew is down overall, though new members continue to increase. In other words, there is a net loss trend: a loss of 100 members in FY 21 and 81 members in FY 24; a gain of 105 members in FY 22 and 5 members in FY23. In the four-year period, 71 members were lost.

Demography in the Society continues to change. Members are aging, and many members whose membership dues were formerly paid by their diocese, religious congregation, or employer find

this benefit no longer provided. Addressing retention of this specific demographic is crucial. In principle, a new status of membership is possible. However, this may be of fiscal detriment to the Society. Fiscal liability should be carefully explored before being enacted.

Concomitantly, new member trends have been positive, and active recruitment of new members should continually be explored. Attainable goals for new member recruitment would specifically assist in budget preparation.

Scholarship Contributions

Historically, it has been a value of the Society to offer financial assistance to potential canonists otherwise unable to afford a canonical education. Substantial investments have been acquired for licentiate scholarships; a more meager investment pool generates revenue for doctoral scholarships.

The BOG has actively discussed the priority of offering scholarships, including the process by which recipients are chosen, standards for awards, and the monies available for award, both to protect the corpus of the investment but also to provide a maximum award for potential applicants.

There must be a concerted effort to grow the corpus through annual contributions. Institutional priority for a scholarship program has waned, and this might be attributed to a lack of education. Contributions to the funds have been relatively flat, ranging between \$12 and \$18k annually. Many of these contributions are gained from contributions given by regional conferences. Efforts to increase giving, such as the encouragement of full BOG participation annually, are crucial in developing other fundraising opportunities, especially those outside of the Society.

Securing large gifts, such as bequests from members in the future, should be the starting point of a major solicitation campaign.

Investment Income

Proper accounting standards demand unrealized gains and losses (the increase or decrease in value of an investment or asset that has not yet been sold) be recorded. I hope that I have been proficient in translating to leadership and membership that these gains and losses only reflect market fluctuations and only impact the fair value or assets without resulting in actual cash flow until the asset is sold.

We have begun to create an investment strategy by partnering with UBS to actively manage our investments. Formerly, investments were held with Christian Brothers Investments. The managers at UBS will provide benchmarks, offer advice, and facilitate appropriate transactions. Growth is usually the trajectory of a strategy, but given current headwinds, creating a strategy to venerate investment for income – not solely growth – is warranted. A portfolio that can produce a usable cash stream seems desirable. The BOG has this fiduciary responsibility. Market performance for at least two fiscal years has been positive; current investment strategies should be revisited to capture opportunities for positive cash growth. Conversations about the degree of investment risk will continue to be crucial in this planning.

Policies for use of investment funds should also be reviewed and crafted to protect the Society moving forward and to allow investments to generate cashflow.

Annual Convention/Meeting

In terms of revenue, more attention should be given regularly to consciously adjust fees for convention and pre-convention registration so that revenue sufficiently offsets expenses related to the convention. Traditionally, participation by members has been subsidized by the Society as much as \$150 per convention participant.

The value of the convention and the structure of how it operates should be examined to provide the most robust return for participants and the Society.

Sponsorships

Creating dynamic partnerships with similar organizations and other Catholic institutions could potentially provide a much-needed cash injection to assist with operations. Such sponsorships could offset not only convention costs but other projects. This would be necessary to create a dynamic strategic vision aimed at accomplishing certain strategic initiatives, especially those related to electronic publications.

Publications

For most of the Society's history, publications have provided a profit that would offset the cost of operations. Over time, the volume of publications has decreased, and the cost of publications has increased. Consumers digest data differently, and there has been a strong desire to move toward digital publications. The advent of print on demand organizations has also changed how the Society disseminates its publications.

In collaboration with the PAB, I have asked the BOG to consider setting realistic expectations regarding the number of publications it intends to sponsor for fiscal planning purposes. It may be most advantageous for the Society to consider partnering with another Catholic organization who can produce these publications more cost effectively.

Total Revenue Generated

Excluding unrealized gains and losses, the Society generated \$501,661.75 in revenue (FY 20-21), \$593,623.20 (FY 21-22), \$661,043.45 (FY 22-23), and \$749,924.68 (FY 23-24).

Expenses

Total Annual Losses

Excluding unrealized gains and losses, the Society profited \$13,996.32 (FY 20-21), but lost \$89,902.89 (FY 21-22), \$129,954.81 (FY 22-23), and \$67,080.71 (FY 23-24). Currently, the practice of "borrowing" from the General Operations Investment Account has funded deficit spending for the Society. Strategic planning, fundraising, and cost savings can all mitigate the possibility of a future reduction in benefits and services and/or potential operational challenges.

Scholarships

More robust revenue would undoubtedly assist in growing both the licentiate and scholarship funds, providing CLSA with the opportunity to offer more robust, attractive grants. This would likely best be accomplished by a concerted educational campaign about the importance of raising more funds. Should renewed efforts to generate revenue not be successful, the BOG should revisit the norms regarding the computation of annual awards.

Annual Convention

A concerted effort has been undertaken in recent years to reduce the cost of the annual convention. The Convention generated net revenue of \$32,588.36 (FY20-21) but lost \$34,900.35 (FY 21-22) and \$22,097.96 (FY22-23). Due to cost-cutting measures and more robust sponsorships, net revenue totaling \$19,163.81 was generated in FY23-24.

Convention registration fees should match the actual cost per participant of the convention. Admittedly, this can be risky. Increasing registration fees dramatically can impact registration numbers. Other efforts at cost savings can be realized to mitigate for participants inflating costs.

Publications

The creation and sale of publications can create positive cash flow. In fact, the following net revenue has been generated historically: \$59,013.98 (FY20-21); \$47,982.15 (FY21-22); \$98,557.43 (FY22-23); \$51,882.23 (FY23-24). However, profit margins have been uneven due to the unpredictability of the number and kind of publications generated annually. Historically, there has not been an effort to determine the exact cost of a publication to set a sales price with an appropriate mark-up for the benefit of the Society. There can be great potential here.

Currently, a metric has been developed to capture this cost, and this tool should continue to be refined and utilized as a professional way to set appropriate sales prices.

Other options to control raw costs could be to consider outsourcing publications entirely with the expectation of reducing or eliminating direct costs while still producing a royalty.

Salaries and Benefits

Perhaps the greatest addition to the Society's expenditures have been costs associated with employment. Three professional staff members today do much of the work of the Society! It is important that the BOG and membership understand the value of each of these employees and competitively strive to reduce institutional turnover. While this is a substantial investment, this is a necessary one to continue to develop the Society professionally as most members are consumed with growing demands from their life away from the CLSA.

Administration and Operations

The Treasurer, General Secretary, and BOG have all actively and attentively observed operational costs to control these, and there has been much success. From examining upcoming lease agreements to reducing the need for equipment and other supplies, small changes have contributed

to substantial savings. A large investment is made through contracting professionals for accounting services and legal review; however, these services are necessary to professionally and legally carry out the work of the CLSA.

Summary

The obvious fiscal goal would be to ensure that CLSA's income, at minimum, matches its planned expenses to create financial equilibrium. However, it is necessary for the BOG and the Society to begin to think strategically not only to avoid deficit spending but to allow the Society to operate sustainably and to prepare for increasing costs while meeting its vision for mission moving forward.

From a revenue perspective, this might best be accomplished through membership growth, investment strategy to create usable cash, the establishment of dynamic partnerships, seeking sponsorships for projects or conventions and meetings, growing investments especially those used to award scholarships and grants, growing revenue from predictable publications, and raising convention fees to reflect the actual cost of participation.

From a perspective regarding expenses, further good stewardship, the addition of appropriate controls, and fixing costs more stably are all necessary.

Conclusions

Please do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions about our financial statements. On a personal note, I am grateful for your trust in my service to the Society as its Treasurer! I have participated in every convention since beginning studies in Canon Law at The Catholic University of America, and I always look forward to these opportunities to learn and to network. The foundation of our success with the CLSA rests with your work and diligence. Challenges will continue to be encountered, but I know that the next decades of our ministry and work will be the cause of our rejoicing if we partner toward a future filled with hope! I look forward to continuing to offer my assistance to make these lofty ideas and projects the reality for our Society moving forward, albeit in a different role.

Canon Law Society of America

Balance Sheet
As of June 30, 2025

	JUL 2024	AUG 2024	SEP 2024	OCT 2024	NOV 2024	DEC 2024	JAN 2025	FEB 2025	MAR 2025	APR 2025	MAY 2025	JUN 2025
ASSETS												
Current Assets												
Bank Accounts												
1010 TD Operating Account - 9622	232,244.76	273,041.99	295,539.09	168,918.79	109,688.87	83,696.77	37,382.02	39,426.04	28,747.38	28,046.63	126,260.37	237,582.28
1050 Cash Box	502.65	937.65	552.65	552.65	472.65	477.65	477.65	483.75	458.75	378.75	438.75	458.75
1072 Bill.com Money Out Clearing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Bank Accounts	\$232,747.41	\$273,979.64	\$296,091.74	\$169,471.44	\$110,761.52	\$84,174.42	\$37,859.67	\$39,909.79	\$29,206.13	\$28,425.38	\$126,699.12	\$238,041.03
Accounts Receivable												
Accounts Receivable	2,200.19	6,442.90	3,750.19	1,798.03	1,531.55	928.00	1,171.73	1,409.20	1,321.70	1,341.70	4,348.89	4,317.50
Total Accounts Receivable	\$2,200.19	\$6,442.90	\$3,750.19	\$1,798.03	\$1,531.55	\$928.00	\$1,171.73	\$1,409.20	\$1,321.70	\$1,341.70	\$4,348.89	\$4,317.50
Other Current Assets												
1200 Accounts Receivable	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,315.36	236.28	236.28	236.28	236.28
Total 1200 Accounts Receivable	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,315.36	236.28	236.28	236.28	236.28
1400 Prepaid Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1410 Prepaid/Rent Insurance	336.60	224.40	112.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,169.00	1,063.58	966.16	868.74	771.32	673.90
1420 Other Prepaid Expenses	3,869.94	6,067.10	5,428.20	4,789.30	4,150.40	2,740.38	4,038.88	5,355.55	4,818.84	4,447.93	8,727.05	16,318.55
1422 Other Prepaid Ex (Convention)	89,447.61	112,425.22	116,333.32	30,422.13	30,130.46	29,838.79	57,347.12	54,550.63	54,258.96	53,967.29	57,175.62	56,883.95
Total 1400 Prepaid Expenses	93,654.15	118,716.72	121,873.72	35,211.43	34,280.86	32,579.17	62,555.00	60,969.76	60,043.96	59,283.96	66,673.99	73,876.40
1500 Inventory Asset												
1510 Inventory - Books & CDs (Publication in Process)	16,157.00	14,670.15	33,972.97	42,831.58	41,357.92	39,063.01	36,351.37	35,346.29	34,538.45	33,479.03	33,423.01	37,079.97
1520 Commentary	74,133.33	144,133.33	144,133.33	144,133.33	144,133.33	144,133.33	144,133.33	144,133.33	144,133.33	144,133.33	144,133.33	144,133.33
Total 1500 Inventory Asset	90,290.33	158,803.48	178,106.30	186,964.91	185,491.25	183,196.34	180,484.70	179,479.62	178,671.78	177,612.36	177,556.34	181,213.30
Undeposited Funds												
1700 Accumulated Depreciation (contra	3,633.94	23,096.20	1,631.55	2,154.69	1,348.75	249.00	3,816.52	1,147.28	532.25	14,173.91	5,950.62	7,177.25
Total Other Current Assets	\$187,578.42	\$300,616.40	\$301,611.57	\$236,331.03	\$233,120.86	\$228,024.51	\$258,856.22	\$253,912.02	\$239,484.27	\$251,306.51	\$250,417.23	\$262,503.23
Total Current Assets	\$422,526.02	\$581,038.94	\$601,453.50	\$407,600.50	\$345,413.93	\$313,126.93	\$237,887.62	\$295,231.01	\$270,012.10	\$281,073.59	\$381,465.24	\$504,861.76
Fixed Assets												
1700 Fixed Assets												
1710 Furniture and Equipment (Ops)	31,471.00	31,471.00	31,471.00	31,471.00	31,471.00	31,471.00	31,471.00	31,471.00	31,471.00	31,471.00	31,471.00	31,471.00
1720 Technology Equipment	8,301.92	13,186.98	13,186.98	13,186.98	13,186.98	13,186.98	13,186.98	13,186.98	13,186.98	13,186.98	13,186.98	13,186.98
1790 Accumulated Depreciation (contra	-32,122.07	-32,582.98	-33,043.89	-33,504.80	-33,965.71	-34,426.62	-34,887.53	-35,348.44	-35,809.35	-36,270.26	-36,731.17	-37,192.08
Total 1700 Fixed Assets	7,650.85	12,075.00	11,614.09	11,153.18	10,692.27	10,231.36	9,770.45	9,309.54	8,848.63	8,387.72	7,926.81	7,465.90
Total Fixed Assets	\$7,650.85	\$12,075.00	\$11,614.09	\$11,153.18	\$10,692.27	\$10,231.36	\$9,770.45	\$9,309.54	\$8,848.63	\$8,387.72	\$7,926.81	\$7,465.90
Other Assets												
1230 Security Deposit (Ops)	2,094.40	2,094.40	2,094.40	2,094.40	2,094.40	2,094.40	2,094.40	2,094.40	2,094.40	2,094.40	2,094.40	2,094.40
Total 1600 Investment	1,009,543.81	1,025,000.94	1,041,424.14	1,020,170.59	954,898.56	931,496.17	953,158.87	901,107.08	874,578.76	823,255.37	855,382.41	885,099.92
1650 Investment - Scholarship Fund	1,304,149.24	1,324,117.07	1,345,332.90	1,317,877.12	1,364,052.74	1,330,622.89	1,361,567.61	1,357,689.52	1,317,729.26	1,321,597.35	1,373,171.88	1,420,878.32
1622 CUIT Magnus-Licentiate (.2002)	117,311.05	119,107.20	121,015.61	118,545.91	122,693.50	119,692.42	122,475.97	122,128.02	118,532.61	118,880.56	123,519.80	127,811.10
Total 1650 Investment - Scholarship Fund	1,421,460.29	1,443,224.27	1,466,348.51	1,436,423.03	1,486,752.24	1,450,315.31	1,484,043.58	1,479,827.54	1,436,261.87	1,440,477.91	1,496,691.68	1,548,689.42

Canon Law Society of America

Balance Sheet
As of June 30, 2025

	JUL 2024	AUG 2024	SEP 2024	OCT 2024	NOV 2024	DEC 2024	JAN 2025	FEB 2025	MAR 2025	APR 2025	MAY 2025	JUN 2025
1800 Finance Right of Use (net)	41,994.42	39,379.98	36,759.48	34,132.35	31,499.11	28,859.57	26,213.17	23,566.77	20,901.34	18,311.11	15,714.50	13,111.49
Total Other Assets	\$2,475,092.92	\$2,509,699.59	\$2,546,626.53	\$2,492,820.37	\$2,475,244.31	\$2,412,765.45	\$2,465,510.02	\$2,406,595.79	\$2,353,836.37	\$2,264,138.79	\$2,369,882.99	\$2,448,995.23
TOTAL ASSETS	\$2,905,269.79	\$3,102,813.53	\$3,159,694.12	\$2,911,574.05	\$2,831,350.51	\$2,736,123.74	\$2,773,168.09	\$2,711,136.34	\$2,612,697.10	\$2,573,600.10	\$2,759,275.04	\$2,961,322.89
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY												
Liabilities												
Current Liabilities												
Accounts Payable												
Accounts Payable (A/P)	8,255.87	20,549.96	6,811.24	18,539.74	7,197.19	3,250.07	32,128.62	8,949.89	26,788.70	22,095.49	26,351.48	4,313.06
Total Accounts Payable	\$8,255.87	\$20,549.96	\$6,811.24	\$18,539.74	\$7,197.19	\$3,250.07	\$32,128.62	\$9,949.89	\$26,788.70	\$22,095.49	\$26,351.48	\$4,313.06
Credit Cards												
2160 Bank of America - 7812	-98,517.07	-103,907.02	-106,033.65	-110,657.65	-115,228.54	-118,122.10	-118,602.22	-124,203.20	-128,519.33	-135,519.33	-136,616.61	-136,616.61
2161 BoA Credit Card K. Butler Visa -5317	73,117.45	74,573.81	76,601.73	84,189.05	86,791.79	87,047.83	87,466.54	88,191.24	90,107.96	91,518.63	95,303.44	97,313.56
2162 BoFA Credit Card D. Miller Visa - 6414	29,426.82	29,664.43	30,108.38	30,688.89	30,887.74	31,094.26	32,396.04	39,219.97	41,560.27	40,604.23	40,798.66	40,997.39
Total 2160 Bank of America - 7812	4,027.20	331.22	676.46	4,220.29	2,450.99	19.99	1,800.36	3,208.01	3,148.90	-3,396.47	65.49	1,694.34
Total Credit Cards	\$4,027.20	\$331.22	\$676.46	\$4,220.29	\$2,450.99	\$19.99	\$1,800.36	\$3,208.01	\$3,148.90	\$-3,396.47	\$65.49	\$1,694.34
Other Current Liabilities												
2115 Accrued Scholarships Licensitate	55,914.69	52,497.36	52,497.36	52,497.36	51,983.79	48,650.46	43,066.46	43,066.46	41,663.34	41,663.34	73,079.34	0.00
2120 Accrued Expenses - Royalties												0.00
2121 AccruedExp-Holy See COEO (8%)	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2123 Accrued Exp-Holy See Dignit(6%)	0.00	3.00	5.40	8.40	13.20	15.60	14.04	16.44	16.44	16.44	16.44	16.44
2126 QUOQEU, Code - 4th Edition	87.00	424.60	801.60	967.40	1,154.60	1,306.00	532.08	613.44	701.12	832.92	976.44	1,029.44
2127 AccruedExp-Holy See COEO (6%)				122.40	422.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	34.20	0.00	0.00
Total 2120 Accrued Expense - Royalties	97.00	437.60	817.00	1,108.20	1,599.90	1,331.60	546.12	629.88	717.56	883.56	992.88	1,045.88
2130 Accrued Payroll												
2131 Accrued Wages	12,154.81	14,002.16	15,205.48	18,836.54	20,353.65	22,415.66	15,034.29	15,542.83	17,089.86	19,591.60	12,615.38	13,518.97
Total 2130 Accrued Payroll	12,154.81	14,002.16	15,205.48	18,836.54	20,353.65	22,415.66	15,034.29	15,542.83	17,089.86	19,591.60	12,615.38	13,518.97
2135 Accrued Expenses	7,800.00	4,709.09	21,364.07	128,304.48	2,814.14	4,114.12	5,414.10	5,808.08	6,806.06	7,804.04	11,002.02	12,610.00
2136 Accrued Commentary Contributors	48,933.33	110,999.14	110,497.15	85,297.15	85,297.15	83,162.29	57,162.29	55,115.64	52,853.04	26,853.04	25,602.34	25,602.34
2150 Short Term Lease Liability	32,193.32	32,349.56	32,506.19	32,436.96	32,593.76	29,931.96	27,037.61	24,143.26	21,681.26	18,993.54	16,299.94	13,598.94
2155 Lease Clearing Account	0.00	-0.01	-0.02	-0.03	-0.04	-0.04	-0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2200 Deferred Revenue												
2201 Deferred Revenue (Conv. Reg.)	89,848.00	206,155.00	244,958.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	53,656.00
2204 Deferred Rev - Membership Dues	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,400.00	29,225.00	172,650.00	296,625.00
Total 2200 Deferred Revenue	89,848.00	206,155.00	244,958.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,400.00	29,225.00	172,650.00	350,281.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$246,941.15	\$421,149.90	\$477,845.23	\$318,480.66	\$194,642.35	\$189,606.05	\$148,260.83	\$144,306.15	\$142,211.12	\$145,014.12	\$312,241.40	\$489,736.47
Total Current Liabilities	\$259,224.22	\$442,031.08	\$465,332.93	\$341,240.69	\$204,290.53	\$192,876.11	\$182,189.81	\$156,464.05	\$172,148.72	\$163,713.14	\$339,276.37	\$495,743.87
Long-Term Liabilities												
2700 Long Term Lease Liability	10,892.08	8,178.74	5,458.95	2,732.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$10,892.08	\$8,178.74	\$5,458.95	\$2,732.70	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Liabilities	\$270,116.30	\$450,209.82	\$490,791.88	\$343,973.39	\$204,290.53	\$192,876.11	\$182,189.81	\$156,464.05	\$172,148.72	\$163,713.14	\$339,276.37	\$495,743.87
Equity												
3101 Unrestricted	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3102 Undesignated	762,779.07	734,881.68	708,610.84	734,298.57	679,458.91	710,503.11	722,298.90	716,802.21	676,029.58	683,181.96	707,926.92	762,000.46
3103 Board designated - Publications	-164,689.78	-158,806.37	-155,909.77	-152,722.02	-150,066.57	-147,792.84	-125,810.36	-124,479.71	-123,767.75	-122,499.09	-122,855.28	-127,964.41
Total 3101 Unrestricted	598,089.29	576,075.31	552,701.07	581,576.55	529,392.34	562,710.27	596,488.54	592,322.50	552,261.83	580,682.87	585,071.64	634,036.05
3120 Temporarily restricted	1,303,921.40	1,325,935.38	1,349,309.62	1,320,434.14	1,372,618.35	1,339,300.42	1,305,522.15	1,309,688.19	1,349,748.86	1,341,327.82	1,316,939.05	1,267,974.64
3126 Unrestricted Retained Earn-Scho	384,353.93	384,353.93	384,353.93	384,353.93	384,353.93	384,353.93	384,353.93	384,353.93	384,353.93	384,353.93	384,353.93	384,353.93
Net Income	348,788.87	366,239.09	382,537.62	281,236.04	340,695.36	256,883.01	304,613.66	268,307.67	154,183.76	123,522.34	133,632.05	179,214.40
Total Equity	\$2,635,153.49	\$2,652,603.71	\$2,668,902.24	\$2,567,600.66	\$2,627,059.98	\$2,543,247.63	\$2,590,978.28	\$2,554,672.29	\$2,440,546.38	\$2,409,886.96	\$2,419,996.67	\$2,465,579.02
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$2,905,269.79	\$3,102,813.53	\$3,159,694.12	\$2,911,574.05	\$2,831,350.51	\$2,736,123.74	\$2,773,168.09	\$2,711,136.34	\$2,612,697.10	\$2,573,600.10	\$2,759,275.04	\$2,961,322.89

Note

General Investment Fund
FY2024 Investment Account Transfers to be Replenished:
Remaining to replenish \$183,000

Canon Law Society of America
Balance Sheet
As of June 30, 2025

FY2025 Investment Account Transfers to be Replenished:
Remaining to replenish \$100,000

Unaudited: For Management Purposes Only
These financial statements are the property and responsibility of the management of Canon Law Society of America. These financial statements have not been audited or reviewed and accordingly no opinion or any other form of assurance is expressed on them.

Canon Law Society of America

Budget Overview: FY 2025-2026 - FY26

July 2025 - June 2026

	TOTAL
Income	
4100 Stewardship	
4110 Membership Dues	
4111 New Member Dues	20,000.00
4112 Annual Dues Renewal	340,000.00
Total 4110 Membership Dues	360,000.00
4130 Scholarship Contributions	
4131 Licentiate Scholarship	13,500.00
4132 Doctoral Scholarship	4,500.00
Total 4130 Scholarship Contributions	18,000.00
4140 Investment Income	
4141 Interest & Dividend-Operations	14,000.00
4142 Interest & Dividend-Licentiate	18,000.00
4143 Interest & Dividend - Doctoral	1,600.00
4160 Unreal. Gains/Loss - Gen Ops (001)	80,000.00
4161 Unreal Gains/Loss-Licentiate Sch (002)	100,000.00
4162 Unreal Gains/Loss-Doctoral Sch (003)	8,500.00
Total 4140 Investment Income	222,100.00
Total 4100 Stewardship	600,100.00
4300 Membership Development	
4310 Annual Convention-Members Mtg	
4311 Exhibitors/Sponsorships	4,000.00
4312 Banquet Fees (Additional)	1,250.00
4313 Convention Registration	240,000.00
4314 Pre-Convention Fees	40,000.00
4316 One Day Registration	700.00
4317 Sponsorship Donations	10,000.00
4318 Contract Commission	25,000.00
4350 Discounts/Refunds Given	-5,000.00
Total 4310 Annual Convention-Members Mtg	315,950.00
Total 4300 Membership Development	315,950.00
4400 Product Development	
4410 Publication and Resources	
4411 Publications Sales	50,000.00
4413 Product Partnership Royalties	2,500.00
4420 Publications - Amazon sales	5,500.00
4430 Publication shipping income	6,500.00
Total 4410 Publication and Resources	64,500.00
Total 4400 Product Development	64,500.00
Total Income	\$980,550.00
GROSS PROFIT	\$980,550.00
Expenses	
5100 Stewardship Expense	

Canon Law Society of America

Budget Overview: FY 2025-2026 - FY26

July 2025 - June 2026

	TOTAL
5120 Scholarships	
5121 Licentiate Scholarship Awards	33,000.00
5122 Doctoral Scholarship Awards	3,000.00
5123 Other Scholarship Expenses	500.00
Total 5120 Scholarships	36,500.00
Total 5100 Stewardship Expense	36,500.00
5200 Professional Developmnt	
5223 Networking	3,000.00
Total 5200 Professional Developmnt	3,000.00
5300 Convention and workshops (Membership Dev)	
5310 Membership Outreach	0.00
5313 Membership Expenses	5,500.00
Total 5310 Membership Outreach	5,500.00
5320 Annual Convention - Members Mtg	
5321 Convention Exhibit/Advertising	500.00
5322 Convention Hotel, Food Events	110,000.00
5323 Convention Audio Visual Contractor	68,000.00
5324 Convention Supplies	3,000.00
5325 Convention Travel	3,500.00
5327 Convention Postage/Shipping	1,000.00
5328 Convention Printing/Copying	1,000.00
5329 Promotion; Program Materials/Banner	3,500.00
5330 Liturgy & Environment	4,500.00
5331 Speaker Honoraria/ Stipends	18,400.00
5332 Speaker/Travel	6,000.00
5333 Convention Lodging/Meals	5,000.00
5334 Convention Planner	60,000.00
Total 5320 Annual Convention - Members Mtg	284,400.00
5340 Board of Governors	
5345 BOG Travel	10,000.00
5346 BOG Lodging/Meals	15,000.00
5347 Officers' Expenses	6,000.00
5348 President Discretionary Fund	2,000.00
Total 5340 Board of Governors	33,000.00
Total 5300 Convention and workshops (Membership Dev)	322,900.00
5350 Committees	
5357 Constitution Revision Commission	40,000.00
Total 5350 Committees	40,000.00
5400 Product Dvelopment	
5420 Expenses-Publication & Resource	
5423 Books/Media/Materials	113,000.00
5424 Membership Dues/Subscription/Licensing	1,000.00
5427 Publications Postage/Shipping	500.00

Canon Law Society of America

Budget Overview: FY 2025-2026 - FY26

July 2025 - June 2026

	TOTAL
5428 Supplies	500.00
Total 5420 Expenses-Publication & Resource	115,000.00
5430 Logistech-Outsourcing Pub & Res	
5434 Rent-Storage Space (Pallet/Quic	1,000.00
5435 Ordering Processing	3,000.00
5438 Prof Services (Projects/Warehouse Support)	100.00
5440 Postage/Shipping	10,000.00
Total 5430 Logistech-Outsourcing Pub & Res	14,100.00
5450 Expenses-Royalties Pub & Resour	
5451 Royalties for CCEO (8% of NR)	500.00
5452 Royalties for CIC (8% of NR)	400.00
Total 5450 Expenses-Royalties Pub & Resour	900.00
5460 Product Partnerships	
5461 CLSA Research Database Hosting	1,600.00
Total 5460 Product Partnerships	1,600.00
Total 5400 Product Development	131,600.00
6100 Canon Law Society Operating Exp	
6110 Salaries and Benefits	
6111 Salaries	231,000.00
6112 Employer Payroll Taxes	18,720.00
6113 Professional Development (Staff	1,000.00
6114 Employee Health Benefit Plan	25,000.00
6115 Pension Plan Administration	240.00
6116 403b Obligations	11,000.00
Total 6110 Salaries and Benefits	286,960.00
6120 Operating Expenses	
6121 Publication/Media Materials	200.00
6127 Rent	33,000.00
6130 Printing/Copying	1,000.00
6132 Professional Services (Contract	4,000.00
6134 Accounting/Audit Fees	80,000.00
6135 Legal Fees	2,000.00
Total 6132 Professional Services (Contract	86,000.00
6133 Bank/Financial Fees/PayrollFees	25,000.00
6138 CMS and Website Licensing	5,000.00
6145 Other Business Expenses	
6122 Software/Subscription/Licenses	6,000.00
6123 Advertising/Marketing/Graphic Design	100.00
6124 Awards/Gifts	1,000.00
6125 Equipment Lease/Purchase/Maint	2,000.00
6126 Business Insurance	1,200.00
6128 Telecommunications	6,000.00
6129 Postage/Shipping	1,000.00

Canon Law Society of America

Budget Overview: FY 2025-2026 - FY26

July 2025 - June 2026

	TOTAL
6131 Supplies	1,000.00
6136 Executive Coordinator/Travel	1,500.00
6137 Lodging/Meals	1,000.00
6140 Depreciation Expense	4,000.00
Total 6145 Other Business Expenses	24,800.00
6150 Miscellaneous Expenses	-16,000.00
Total 6120 Operating Expenses	159,000.00
Total 6100 Canon Law Society Operating Exp	445,960.00
Total Expenses	\$979,960.00
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$590.00
NET INCOME	\$590.00

Canon Law Society of America

Budget vs. Actuals

July 2024 - June 2025

	FY25 Actual Total	FY25 Budget Total	over Budget	% of Budget
Income				
4100 Stewardship	-	-	-	
4110 Membership Dues	-	-	-	
4111 New Member Dues	16,975.00	20,000.00	(3,025.00)	84.88%
4112 Annual Dues Renewal	362,950.00	350,000.00	12,950.00	103.70%
Total 4110 Membership Dues	379,925.00	370,000.00	9,925.00	102.68%
4120 Donations	-	-	-	
4122 General Donations	139.08	-	139.08	
Total 4120 Donations	139.08	-	139.08	
4130 Scholarship Contributions	-	-	-	
4131 Licentiate Scholarship	11,729.25	15,000.00	(3,270.75)	78.20%
4132 Doctoral Scholarship	4,739.75	3,000.00	1,739.75	157.99%
Total 4130 Scholarship Contributions	16,469.00	18,000.00	(1,531.00)	91.49%
4140 Investment Income	-	-	-	
4141 Interest & Dividend-Operations	30,156.78	11,000.00	19,156.78	274.15%
4142 Interest & Dividend-Licentiate	43,078.33	15,000.00	28,078.33	287.19%
4143 Interest & Dividend - Doctoral	3,874.99	1,300.00	2,574.99	298.08%
4144 Int & Div - Scholarship (TD Bank)	-	20.00	(20.00)	0.00%
4150 Realized Gains/Loss	(814.49)	-	(814.49)	
4160 Unreal. Gains/Loss - Gen Ops (001)	66,501.30	42,000.00	24,501.30	158.34%
4161 Unreal Gains/Loss-Licentiate Sch (002)	99,858.54	45,000.00	54,858.54	221.91%
4162 Unreal Gains/Loss-Doctoral Sch (003)	8,982.50	1,950.00	7,032.50	460.64%
Total 4140 Investment Income	251,637.95	116,270.00	135,367.95	216.43%
Total 4100 Stewardship	648,171.03	504,270.00	143,901.03	128.54%
4300 Membership Development	-	-	-	
4310 Annual Convention-Members Mtg	858.00	-	858.00	
4311 Exhibitors/Sponsorships	4,800.00	2,500.00	2,300.00	192.00%
4312 Banquet Fees (Additional)	800.00	800.00	-	100.00%
4313 Convention Registration	200,500.00	150,000.00	50,500.00	133.67%
4314 Pre-Convention Fees	32,250.00	23,500.00	8,750.00	137.23%
4315 Convention Workbook Purchases	-	250.00	(250.00)	0.00%
4316 One Day Registration	-	500.00	(500.00)	0.00%
4317 Sponsorship Donations	6,500.00	-	6,500.00	
4318 Contract Commission	13,325.11	12,000.00	1,325.11	111.04%
4350 Discounts/Refunds Given	-	(7,700.00)	7,700.00	0.00%
Total 4310 Annual Convention-Members Mtg	259,033.11	181,850.00	77,183.11	142.44%
4320 Events	-	-	-	
4321 Miscellaneous income	(0.02)	-	(0.02)	
Total 4320 Events	(0.02)	-	(0.02)	
Total 4300 Membership Development	259,033.09	181,850.00	77,183.09	142.44%

4400 Product Development	-	-	-	
4410 Publication and Resources	-	-	-	
4411 Publications Sales	123,453.68	24,000.00	99,453.68	514.39%
4413 Product Partnership Royalties	3,095.51	-	3,095.51	
4420 Publications - Amazon sales	6,011.39	6,000.00	11.39	100.19%
4430 Publication shipping income	16,703.35	4,000.00	12,703.35	417.58%
Total 4410 Publication and Resources	149,263.93	34,000.00	115,263.93	439.01%
Total 4400 Product Development	149,263.93	34,000.00	115,263.93	439.01%
Uncategorized Income	-	-	-	
Total Income	1,056,468.05	720,120.00	336,348.05	146.71%
Gross Profit	1,056,468.05	720,120.00	336,348.05	146.71%
Expenses				
5100 Stewardship Expense	-	-	-	
5120 Scholarships	-	-	-	
5121 Licentiate Scholarship Awards	33,000.00	49,000.00	(16,000.00)	67.35%
5123 Other Scholarship Expenses	100.00	-	100.00	
Total 5120 Scholarships	33,100.00	49,000.00	(15,900.00)	67.55%
Total 5100 Stewardship Expense	33,100.00	49,000.00	(15,900.00)	67.55%
5200 Professional Developmnt	-	-	-	
5223 Networking	13,007.56	20,000.00	(6,992.44)	65.04%
Total 5200 Professional Developmnt	13,007.56	20,000.00	(6,992.44)	65.04%
5300 Convention and workshops (Membership Dev)	-	-	-	
5310 Membership Outreach	-	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	0.00%
5311 Outreach Projects	8,291.46	-	8,291.46	
5313 Membership Expenses	-	15,000.00	(15,000.00)	0.00%
Total 5310 Membership Outreach	8,291.46	16,000.00	(7,708.54)	51.82%
5320 Annual Convention - Members Mtg	-	-	-	
5321 Convention Exhibit/Advertising	15.00	300.00	(285.00)	5.00%
5322 Convention Hotel, Food Events	114,930.92	90,000.00	24,930.92	127.70%
5323 Convention Audio Visual Contractor	45,601.93	37,000.00	8,601.93	123.25%
5324 Convention Supplies	3,044.87	3,000.00	44.87	101.50%
5325 Convention Travel	6,958.09	6,000.00	958.09	115.97%
5327 Convention Postage/Shipping	2,135.85	1,500.00	635.85	142.39%
5328 Convention Printing/Copying	1,561.53	1,500.00	61.53	104.10%
5329 Promotion; Program Materials/Banner	7,455.65	5,000.00	2,455.65	149.11%
5330 Liturgy & Environment	4,323.93	3,500.00	823.93	123.54%
5331 Speaker Honoraria/ Stipends	15,818.25	14,000.00	1,818.25	112.99%
5332 Speaker/Travel	3,627.10	4,000.00	(372.90)	90.68%
5333 Convention Lodging/Meals	2,659.06	5,000.00	(2,340.94)	53.18%
5334 Convention Planner	57,635.17	63,500.00	(5,864.83)	90.76%
Total 5320 Annual Convention - Members Mtg	265,767.35	234,300.00	31,467.35	113.43%
5340 Board of Governors	-	-	-	
5341 BOG Telecommunications	664.20	-	664.20	
5342 BOG Postage/Shipping	29.57	-	29.57	
5345 BOG Travel	8,505.00	10,400.00	(1,895.00)	81.78%
5346 BOG Lodging/Meals	33,245.35	22,000.00	11,245.35	151.12%

5347 Officers' Expenses	-	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	0.00%
5348 President Discretionary Fund	-	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	0.00%
Total 5340 Board of Governors	42,444.12	35,400.00	7,044.12	119.90%
Total 5300 Convention and workshops (Membership Dev)	316,502.93	285,700.00	30,802.93	110.78%
5350 Committees	-	-	-	
5351 Constitutional Committees	410.73	3,500.00	(3,089.27)	11.74%
5352 Standing Committees	-	3,000.00	(3,000.00)	0.00%
5353 Convention Planning Committee	23,234.89	10,000.00	13,234.89	232.35%
5355 Strategic Visioning	-	5,000.00	(5,000.00)	0.00%
5356 Publication Advisory Board Comm	8,660.14	12,000.00	(3,339.86)	72.17%
5357 Constitution Revision Commission	6,007.39	30,000.00	(23,992.61)	20.02%
Total 5350 Committees	38,313.15	63,500.00	(25,186.85)	60.34%
5400 Product Development	-	-	-	
5410 COGS - Publication & Resources	-	-	-	
5411 Cost of Goods Sold	20,902.58	-	20,902.58	
Total 5410 COGS - Publication & Resources	20,902.58	-	20,902.58	
5420 Expenses-Publication & Resource	-	-	-	
5421 Administrative Expenses	100.00	-	100.00	
5423 Books/Media/Materials	(403.38)	171,000.00	(171,403.38)	-0.24%
5424 Membership Dues/Subscription/Licensing	-	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	0.00%
5426 Bank/Financial Services Fees	-	4,000.00	(4,000.00)	0.00%
5427 Publications Postage/Shipping	296.11	1,000.00	(703.89)	29.61%
5428 Supplies	-	500.00	(500.00)	0.00%
Total 5420 Expenses-Publication & Resource	(7.27)	177,500.00	(177,507.27)	0.00%
5430 Logistech-Outsourcing Pub & Res	-	-	-	
5434 Rent-Storage Space (Pallet/Quic	891.97	1,000.00	(108.03)	89.20%
5435 Ordering Processing	3,212.08	3,000.00	212.08	107.07%
5438 Prof Services (Projects/Warehouse Support)	3.10	100.00	(96.90)	3.10%
5440 Postage/Shipping	12,759.19	10,000.00	2,759.19	127.59%
Total 5430 Logistech-Outsourcing Pub & Res	16,866.34	14,100.00	2,766.34	119.62%
5450 Expenses-Royalties Pub & Resour	-	-	-	
5451 Royalties for CCEO (8% of NR)	-	-	-	
5452 Royalties for CIC (8% of NR)	-	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	0.00%
5453 Royalties for Dignitas Connubbii (6% of NR)	32.04	150.00	(117.96)	21.36%
5454 Royalties for Selected Issues (60% of NR)	-	-	-	
5456 QUQEI, Code - 4th Edition	2,335.44	-	2,335.44	
5457 Royalties for CCEO (6% of NR)	1,457.10	-	1,457.10	
Total 5450 Expenses-Royalties Pub & Resour	3,824.58	1,150.00	2,674.58	332.57%
5460 Product Partnerships	-	-	-	
5461 CLSA Research Database Hosting	1,457.79	1,600.00	(142.21)	91.11%
Total 5460 Product Partnerships	1,457.79	1,600.00	(142.21)	91.11%
Total 5400 Product Development	43,044.02	194,350.00	(151,305.98)	22.15%
6100 Canon Law Society Operating Exp	-	-	-	
6110 Salaries and Benefits	-	-	-	
6111 Salaries	219,634.60	220,000.00	(365.40)	99.83%
6112 Employer Payroll Taxes	16,486.13	15,750.00	736.13	104.67%

6113 Professional Development (Staff	3,915.90	1,000.00	2,915.90	391.59%
6114 Employee Health Benefit Plan	22,922.44	25,000.00	(2,077.56)	91.69%
6115 Pension Plan Administration	242.25	235.00	7.25	103.09%
6116 403b Obligations	10,009.68	11,000.00	(990.32)	91.00%
Total 6110 Salaries and Benefits	273,211.00	272,985.00	226.00	100.08%
6120 Operating Expenses	13.77	-	13.77	
6121 Publication/Media Materials	200.00	1,000.00	(800.00)	20.00%
6127 Rent	-	33,000.00	(33,000.00)	0.00%
6130 Printing/Copying	1,250.00	2,000.00	(750.00)	62.50%
6132 Professional Services (Contract	4,036.25	6,000.00	(1,963.75)	67.27%
6134 Accounting/Audit Fees	67,471.15	65,000.00	2,471.15	103.80%
6135 Legal Fees	180.00	5,000.00	(4,820.00)	3.60%
Total 6132 Professional Services (Contract	71,687.40	76,000.00	(4,312.60)	94.33%
6133 Bank/Financial Fees/PayrollFees	29,203.86	30,000.00	(796.14)	97.35%
6138 CMS and Website Licensing	4,317.76	5,000.00	(682.24)	86.36%
6144 Operating Lease Expense	32,299.83	-	32,299.83	
6145 Other Business Expenses	-	-	-	
6122 Software/Subscription/Licenses	6,129.99	3,000.00	3,129.99	204.33%
6123 Advertising/Marketing/Graphic Design	47.70	100.00	(52.30)	47.70%
6124 Awards/Gifts	623.72	1,000.00	(376.28)	62.37%
6125 Equipment Lease/Purchase/Maint	775.03	2,000.00	(1,224.97)	38.75%
6126 Business Insurance	1,035.90	1,200.00	(164.10)	86.33%
6128 Telecommunications	5,514.65	5,500.00	14.65	100.27%
6129 Postage/Shipping	1,536.43	1,500.00	36.43	102.43%
6131 Supplies	110.29	4,000.00	(3,889.71)	2.76%
6136 Executive Coordinator/Travel	168.10	1,500.00	(1,331.90)	11.21%
6137 Lodging/Meals	517.25	1,000.00	(482.75)	51.73%
6140 Depreciation Expense	5,449.50	4,500.00	949.50	121.10%
6151 Cash back rewards	(1,108.13)	-	(1,108.13)	
Total 6145 Other Business Expenses	20,800.43	25,300.00	(4,499.57)	82.22%
Total 6120 Operating Expenses	159,773.05	172,300.00	(12,526.95)	92.73%
Total 6100 Canon Law Society Operating Exp	432,984.05	445,285.00	(12,300.95)	97.24%
Uncategorized Expense	301.94	-	301.94	
Total Expenses	877,253.65	1,057,835.00	(180,581.35)	82.93%
Net Operating Income	179,214.40	(337,715.00)	516,929.40	-53.07%
Net Income	179,214.40	(337,715.00)	516,929.40	-53.07%

Note

Unaudited: For Management Purposes Only

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Canon Law Society of America

Profit and Loss by Class

July 2024 - June 2025

	CONVENTIONS AND WORKSHOPS	GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE	MEMBER SERVICES	PUBLICATIONS	SCHOLARSHIP FUND	TOTAL
Income						
4100 Stewardship						\$0.00
4110 Membership Dues			0.00			\$0.00
4111 New Member Dues			16,975.00			\$16,975.00
4112 Annual Dues Renewal	0.00		362,950.00			\$362,950.00
Total 4110 Membership Dues	0.00		379,925.00			\$379,925.00
4120 Donations						\$0.00
4122 General Donations		239.08			-100.00	\$139.08
Total 4120 Donations		239.08			-100.00	\$139.08
4130 Scholarship Contributions			100.00		-100.00	\$0.00
4131 Licentiate Scholarship					11,729.25	\$11,729.25
4132 Doctoral Scholarship					4,739.75	\$4,739.75
Total 4130 Scholarship Contributions			100.00		16,369.00	\$16,469.00
4140 Investment Income						\$0.00
4141 Interest & Dividend-Operations		30,156.78				\$30,156.78
4142 Interest & Dividend-Licentiate					43,078.33	\$43,078.33
4143 Interest & Dividend - Doctoral					3,874.99	\$3,874.99
4150 Realized Gains/Loss		-814.49				\$ -814.49
4160 Unreal. Gains/Loss - Gen Ops (001)		66,501.30				\$66,501.30
4161 Unreal Gains/Loss-Licentiate Sch (002)					99,858.54	\$99,858.54
4162 Unreal Gains/Loss-Doctoral Sch (003)					8,982.50	\$8,982.50
Total 4140 Investment Income		95,843.59			155,794.36	\$251,637.95
Total 4100 Stewardship	0.00	96,082.67	380,025.00		172,063.36	\$648,171.03
4300 Membership Development						\$0.00
4310 Annual Convention-Members Mtg	858.00					\$858.00
4311 Exhibitors/Sponsorships	4,800.00					\$4,800.00
4312 Banquet Fees (Additional)	800.00					\$800.00
4313 Convention Registration	200,500.00					\$200,500.00
4314 Pre-Convention Fees	32,250.00					\$32,250.00
4317 Sponsorship Donations	6,500.00					\$6,500.00
4318 Contract Commission	13,325.11					\$13,325.11
Total 4310 Annual Convention-Members Mtg	259,033.11					\$259,033.11
4320 Events						\$0.00
4321 Miscellaneous income				-0.02		\$ -0.02
Total 4320 Events				-0.02		\$ -0.02
Total 4300 Membership Development	259,033.11			-0.02		\$259,033.09
4400 Product Development						\$0.00
4410 Publication and Resources						\$0.00
4411 Publications Sales		50.00	625.00	122,778.68		\$123,453.68
4413 Product Partnership Royalties		2,218.71		876.80		\$3,095.51
4420 Publications - Amazon sales		366.06		5,645.33		\$6,011.39
4430 Publication shipping income				16,703.35		\$16,703.35
Total 4410 Publication and Resources		2,634.77	625.00	146,004.16		\$149,263.93
Total 4400 Product Development		2,634.77	625.00	146,004.16		\$149,263.93
Uncategorized Income	7,506.00		-7,205.52	-300.48		\$0.00
Total Income	\$266,539.11	\$98,717.44	\$373,444.48	\$145,703.66	\$172,063.36	\$1,056,468.05
GROSS PROFIT	\$266,539.11	\$98,717.44	\$373,444.48	\$145,703.66	\$172,063.36	\$1,056,468.05
Expenses						
5100 Stewardship Expense						\$0.00
5120 Scholarships						\$0.00
5121 Licentiate Scholarship Awards					33,000.00	\$33,000.00
5123 Other Scholarship Expenses		100.00				\$100.00
Total 5120 Scholarships		100.00			33,000.00	\$33,100.00
Total 5100 Stewardship Expense		100.00			33,000.00	\$33,100.00

Canon Law Society of America

Profit and Loss by Class

July 2024 - June 2025

	CONVENTIONS AND WORKSHOPS	GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE	MEMBER SERVICES	PUBLICATIONS	SCHOLARSHIP FUND	TOTAL
5200 Professional Developmnt						\$0.00
5223 Networking		13,007.56				\$13,007.56
Total 5200 Professional Developmnt		13,007.56				\$13,007.56
5300 Convention and workshops (Membership Dev)						\$0.00
5310 Membership Outreach						\$0.00
5311 Outreach Projects	2,625.64	0.00	5,167.82	498.00		\$8,291.46
Total 5310 Membership Outreach	2,625.64	0.00	5,167.82	498.00		\$8,291.46
5320 Annual Convention - Members Mtg						\$0.00
5321 Convention Exhibit/Advertising	15.00					\$15.00
5322 Convention Hotel, Food Events	114,930.92					\$114,930.92
5323 Convention Audio Visual Contractor	45,601.93					\$45,601.93
5324 Convention Supplies	3,044.87					\$3,044.87
5325 Convention Travel	6,958.09					\$6,958.09
5327 Convention Postage/Shipping	2,135.85					\$2,135.85
5328 Convention Printing/Copying	1,561.53					\$1,561.53
5329 Promotion; Program Materials/Banner	7,455.65					\$7,455.65
5330 Liturgy & Environment	4,323.93					\$4,323.93
5331 Speaker Honoraria/ Stipends	15,818.25					\$15,818.25
5332 Speaker/Travel	3,627.10					\$3,627.10
5333 Convention Lodging/Meals	2,659.06					\$2,659.06
5334 Convention Planner	57,635.17					\$57,635.17
Total 5320 Annual Convention - Members Mtg	265,767.35					\$265,767.35
5340 Board of Governors						\$0.00
5341 BOG Telecommunications		664.20				\$664.20
5342 BOG Postage/Shipping		29.57				\$29.57
5345 BOG Travel	473.02	8,031.98	0.00			\$8,505.00
5346 BOG Lodging/Meals	8,527.16	24,718.19				\$33,245.35
Total 5340 Board of Governors	9,000.18	33,443.94	0.00			\$42,444.12
Total 5300 Convention and workshops (Membership Dev)	277,393.17	33,443.94	5,167.82	498.00		\$316,502.93
5350 Committees						\$0.00
5351 Constitutional Committees	410.73					\$410.73
5353 Convention Planning Committee	19,767.78	3,467.11				\$23,234.89
5356 Publication Advisory Board Comm	2,193.39	1,226.83		5,239.92		\$8,660.14
5357 Constitution Revision Commission		3,507.01		2,500.38		\$6,007.39
Total 5350 Committees	22,371.90	8,200.95		7,740.30		\$38,313.15
5400 Product Development						\$0.00
5410 COGS - Publication & Resources						\$0.00
5411 Cost of Goods Sold				20,902.58		\$20,902.58
Total 5410 COGS - Publication & Resources				20,902.58		\$20,902.58
5420 Expenses-Publication & Resource						\$0.00
5421 Administrative Expenses		100.00				\$100.00
5423 Books/Media/Materials	0.00	156.68	278.10	-838.16		\$ -403.38
5427 Publications Postage/Shipping				296.11		\$296.11
Total 5420 Expenses-Publication & Resource	0.00	256.68	278.10	-542.05		\$ -7.27
5430 Logistech-Outsourcing Pub & Res						\$0.00
5434 Rent-Storage Space (Pallet/Quic				891.97		\$891.97
5435 Ordering Processing				3,212.08		\$3,212.08
5438 Prof Services (Projects/Warehouse Support)				3.10		\$3.10
5440 Postage/Shipping				12,759.19		\$12,759.19
Total 5430 Logistech-Outsourcing Pub & Res				16,866.34		\$16,866.34
5450 Expenses-Royalties Pub & Resour						\$0.00
5453 Royalties for Dignitas Connubbii (6% of NR)				32.04		\$32.04
5456 QUQQEI, Code - 4th Edition				2,335.44		\$2,335.44
5457 Royalties for CCEO (6% of NR)				1,457.10		\$1,457.10
Total 5450 Expenses-Royalties Pub & Resour				3,824.58		\$3,824.58
5460 Product Partnerships						\$0.00
5461 CLSA Research Database Hosting				1,457.79		\$1,457.79
Total 5460 Product Partnerships				1,457.79		\$1,457.79
Total 5400 Product Development	0.00	256.68	278.10	42,509.24		\$43,044.02

Canon Law Society of America

Profit and Loss by Class

July 2024 - June 2025

	CONVENTIONS AND WORKSHOPS	GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE	MEMBER SERVICES	PUBLICATIONS	SCHOLARSHIP FUND	TOTAL
6100 Canon Law Society Operating Exp						\$0.00
6110 Salaries and Benefits						\$0.00
6111 Salaries	35,740.40	90,418.80	28,678.03	63,017.19	1,780.18	\$219,634.60
6112 Employer Payroll Taxes	2,670.42	6,797.97	2,145.89	4,737.10	134.75	\$16,486.13
6113 Professional Development (Staff		3,915.90				\$3,915.90
6114 Employee Health Benefit Plan	3,604.52	9,482.75	3,030.98	6,611.06	193.13	\$22,922.44
6115 Pension Plan Administration		242.25				\$242.25
6116 403b Obligations	1,486.93	4,335.81	1,100.73	3,014.94	71.27	\$10,009.68
Total 6110 Salaries and Benefits	43,502.27	115,193.48	34,955.63	77,380.29	2,179.33	\$273,211.00
6120 Operating Expenses	13.77					\$13.77
6121 Publication/Media Materials				200.00		\$200.00
6130 Printing/Copying			1,250.00			\$1,250.00
6132 Professional Services (Contract	385.00	3,651.25				\$4,036.25
6134 Accounting/Audit Fees		67,471.15				\$67,471.15
6135 Legal Fees		180.00				\$180.00
Total 6132 Professional Services (Contract	385.00	71,302.40				\$71,687.40
6133 Bank/Financial Fees/PayrollFees		29,188.85		15.01		\$29,203.86
6138 CMS and Website Licensing			4,317.76			\$4,317.76
6144 Operating Lease Expense		32,299.83				\$32,299.83
6145 Other Business Expenses						\$0.00
6122 Software/Subscription/Licenses		5,994.85		135.14		\$6,129.99
6123 Advertising/Marketing/Graphic Design		47.70				\$47.70
6124 Awards/Gifts	4.47	619.25				\$623.72
6125 Equipment Lease/Purchase/Maint		775.03				\$775.03
6126 Business Insurance		1,035.90				\$1,035.90
6128 Telecommunications		5,514.65				\$5,514.65
6129 Postage/Shipping		500.00	957.35	79.08		\$1,536.43
6131 Supplies		110.29				\$110.29
6136 Executive Coordinator/Travel	54.76	113.34				\$168.10
6137 Lodging/Meals	474.59	42.66				\$517.25
6140 Depreciation Expense		5,449.50				\$5,449.50
6151 Cash back rewards		-1,108.13				\$ -1,108.13
Total 6145 Other Business Expenses	533.82	19,095.04	957.35	214.22		\$20,800.43
Total 6120 Operating Expenses	932.59	151,886.12	6,525.11	429.23		\$159,773.05
Total 6100 Canon Law Society Operating Exp	44,434.86	267,079.60	41,480.74	77,809.52	2,179.33	\$432,984.05
Uncategorized Expense		301.94				\$301.94
Total Expenses	\$344,199.93	\$322,390.67	\$46,926.66	\$128,557.06	\$35,179.33	\$877,253.65
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -77,660.82	\$ -223,673.23	\$326,517.82	\$17,146.60	\$136,884.03	\$179,214.40
NET INCOME	\$ -77,660.82	\$ -223,673.23	\$326,517.82	\$17,146.60	\$136,884.03	\$179,214.40

Note

FY2024 Investment Account Transfers to be Replenished:
General Investment Fund \$183,000
FY2025 Investment Account Transfers to be Replenished:
General Investment Fund \$100,000

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REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR

Donna Miller, JD, JCL

The last year since our 2024 convention has been a busy one. The completion of several publications during this calendar year are a testament to our Society's commitment toward fulfilling three of the purposes stated in our CLSA Constitution:

- To encourage and participate in canonical research and study toward a constant renewal of canon law.
- To respond to the practical canonical needs of all the people of God in the respective capacities in which they serve and benefit from the Church.
- To facilitate the interchange of canonical ideas, practices and decisions among canon lawyers and other members of the Society.

In this report, I report on the four publications that were brought to fruition this year: *The Tribunal Handbook*, *Proceedings 86*, the *Clergy Procedural Handbook*, and *Roman Replies and CLSA Advisory Opinions*.

The Tribunal Handbook

The Tribunal Handbook finally went to press in January of 2025, and preordered copies began shipping at the end of that month. Sales have far exceeded the original print run of 400 copies, which sold out within three weeks. Since then, we have printed 250 more copies, and, with steady sales ongoing, we likely will have to order another print run in early 2026.

Several purchasers of the text have commented on how helpful the summaries are that CLSA member Kelly Littleton prepared. We are grateful to Kelly for allowing us to include her detailed summaries of the stages of the marital nullity process, both the ordinary process and that in second instance. The sample documents are also proving to be immensely helpful, particularly to tribunal staff who have little or no experience in processing a case or determining what goes into the acts of the case.

When Fr. Patrick Cooney, Dr. Diane Barr, and I traveled to Rome in February of this year, we took copies of *The Tribunal Handbook* to Archbishop Alejandro Arellano Cedillo, Dean of the Roman Rota, and to Rotal Judge Msgr. David-Maria Jaeger, who wrote the preface to the handbook at the request of Sister Victoria Vondenberger, RSM. They indicated their appreciation for the text and were happy that CLSA produced this text to help those who work in tribunal ministry.

I want to express gratitude again to Sister Victoria Vondenberger, RSM, for her unwavering efforts in bringing this project to fruition in the face of adversity and challenges. She continues to contribute her time and talents to the Society, and her dedication reminds us of the reasons why she was our 2017 Role of Law Award recipient!

Proceedings 86

The 2024 *Proceedings* was completed at the earliest date since I have been Executive Coordinator. This is, in part, because all of the authors submitted their written texts by the November deadline—another first since I have been on the administrative staff.

Some people have asked why it takes up to six months to prepare *Proceedings* for publication, which is a fair question to ask. *Proceedings* is, if you will, the “face” of the CLSA. It is our principle annual publication that showcases our members’ professionalism, knowledge, and expertise. Now that *Proceedings* is included in HeinOnline’s online libraries, it is even more important that we meticulously protect the integrity of this publication; we must make every effort during the editing phase to strive for consistency across the published talks, ensure that proper attribution is given to sourced materials, provide complete citations to sources, and to correct errors in style and formatting.

Another major factor that plays into production is the fact that the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays fall just weeks after our convention, and this naturally slows down the process. We all deserve to spend time with our families and friends during the holidays. Although I do work on initial reviews of these texts during November and December, it is usually early January before I can earnestly immerse myself in the tasks of reviewing, editing, and formatting these texts.

It goes without saying that some writers produce more polished texts than others. While we ask all speakers to follow the CUA style guide when they write their texts, I understand how hard it is to try to use an unfamiliar guide and get everything right. Our speakers come from many different faculties of canon law, and each of them tends to use the style guide with which they are most familiar. Some have said, “Send it back and tell them they need to make the changes to conform to the style guide.” Two reasons dictate against such a proposal: first, this would delay the process even further since learning the style guide and making the necessary changes often takes days on end even for me—and I know the style guide quite well. I suspect we would never get some of the texts back if I sent them back. The threat of not paying a speaker the \$600 stipend has no bearing on them having the time to perfect their texts. Second, if this became our praxis, the pool of willing speakers would dry up. A number of canonists have candidly shared that they will not be convention speakers because they do not have time to produce a written text. If we compounded the task by requiring them to perfect their texts in accord with a styleguide, the refusals would multiply—understandably so. I will continue to make the edits until a better streamlined process can be implemented. Ideally, the Society would maintain a team of trained editors who could work on all of our publications, just as we are doing with the commentary. Unfortunately, such an endeavor will not work on a volunteer basis, and at this time in the Society’s history we do not have the financial resources to hire or contract with such a skilled group to assist with our publications.

In addition to the three major talks and up to sixteen seminar talks (last year we had fourteen), our other office staff and I have to review, edit, and format all of the reports and varia that are found in every issue of *Proceedings*. Although these do not have to conform completely to the style guide, there is stringent formatting that we must implement because we follow the *Chicago Manual of Style* for this part of the book as well. Ensuring consistency across a 400+ page book is an essential component of the editing process. If I began listing the minutiae that we look for, it

would cause most eyes to glaze over.¹ Most of these are taken for granted because you never see the “raw” texts with which we start, compared to the finished product that we produce.

This year in particular was hectic in January and February as I also was tasked with organizing, preparing for, and participating in the biennial trip to Rome for CLSA’s representatives. I will say more about that toward the end of this report, but I mention it here because it simply highlights the fact that all of us who serve the Church as canonists have to juggle multiple tasks at any given moment in time. If *Proceedings* was the only thing that I had to work on, I could have completed it by mid-February. But attention this year had to be given to *RRAO*, *The Tribunal Handbook*, and the Rome trip in those first two months of 2025. So, the fact that we finished the volume by mid-April was noteworthy.

Clergy Procedural Handbook

At long last, this book has been printed, pre-orders have been taken, and by the time you read this, many of you will have received your copy. Please thank Fr. Peter Mottola and Tim Olson for their efforts in helping to finalize the text. The authors deserve a special round of applause since they produced their texts over three years ago and have been extremely receptive to what has been asked of them since that time. CLSA members are receiving a significant savings on the sale price of the 374-page handbook, which can be ordered through our website [at this link](#). I am including the table of contents here for those who are not aware of the authors’ names and the content covered in this very helpful and informative compilation.

1) Principles Governing Processes and Procedures Concerning Clerics (John Beal)

PART ONE: Foundational and Relational Matters

- 2) 2 Incardination of Clerics (James Bradley)
- 3) 3 Administration of Sacraments and Public Ministry (Alexander Laschuk)
- 4) 4 Ecclesiastical Offices (Fredrik Hansen)
- 5) 5 Suitability and Restrictions (Diane Barr/Stephen Doktorczyk)
- 6) 6 Departure and Readmission
 - Part A: Departure from the Clerical State (Kevin Bazzel)
 - Part B: Readmission to the Sacred Ministry (William Agley)
- 7) Recourse Against Administrative Acts (Gianpaolo Montini)

PART TWO: Penal Law and Penal Processes

- 8) Grave Delicts Reserved (John Paul Kimes)
- 9) Essential Norms (John Renken)
- 10) Penal Judicial Processes (Jason Gray)
- 11) Special Faculties (Peter Mottola/Timothy Olson)

¹ For example, ensuring that documents that are published in *AAS* are properly cited to their primary source and that all English translations of original Latin texts are attributed to the translator; checking every URL to make sure it works, that it supports the material it references, that anything quoted directly is properly styled and attributed to the author, and that an accessed on date is included; making sure there are no widows and orphans in paragraphs and lists, and that headlines do not get orphaned; checking tables of contents for accurate numbering; ensuring author names and credentials match what each author prefers; and checking styling on every committee report to make sure they are styled properly.

PART THREE: Special Considerations

- 12) Religious Clergy (Pius Pietrzyk)
- 13) Immigration Issues (Matthew Glover)
- 14) Access and Maintenance of Files (Susan Mulheron)

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Sample Documents

Roman Replies and CLSA Advisory Opinions (RRAO)

This rather lengthy segment of my report on *RRAO* is intended to summarize the recent history of this publication and raise a question about its future. This annual publication traditionally has several sections in recent years, and I have abbreviated the following for ease of reference: Roman replies (RRs); advisory opinions (AOs); Other Documents (ODs); and *Excerpta Argumentorum* from *Decisiones seu Sententiae* (*EA*).

RRAO was first published in 1983 as a more formal way for members to share the materials that they had been providing to one another as handouts at the convention—namely, their replies from dicasteries and their opinions on specific canonical questions that could be of interest to others. It was common for *RRAO* to have thirty AOs in the first fifteen to twenty years of its publication.² A committee was commissioned to solicit RRs and AOs from members; however, that committee sunsetted when the PAB was established, following the Future Initiatives Project in 2008.

Over time, in the early 2010s, *RRAO* began to include certain other documents (ODs) of the Roman Curia that were high profile and whose English translations needed a citable reference point for inclusion in research, especially after the CLSA stopped publishing Canon Law Digest in hard format (vol. 14 in 2012).³ An English translation of the pope's annual Rotal allocution is one such document that has been a staple in the ODs section of *RRAO*.

Needless to say, technology has changed the world in the last twenty years in ways that were unimaginable at the turn of the millennium. We now have online discussion groups and other fora where canonists can share questions and get immediate feedback. Few people see the need to write a formal advisory opinion to share with others in the way that was done prior to the Internet. Similarly, individual replies from the dicasteries require the recipient to seek permission to publish them, and it takes time to redact and prepare these submissions for publication. In the busyness of life, it is understandable that few people give any thought or time to sharing the Roman replies that they receive from the dicasteries. Moreover, when it comes to ODs, in recent years, most of the dicasteries and tribunals of the Roman curia have begun publishing online their own English translations of the documents that they release. So it is not as critical to have these in print format.

The essential question that follows from all of these changes is whether *RRAO* is sustainable in terms of its overall value compared to the time and effort that go into producing each issue, the number of people who contribute to its production, and the amount of income that it generates.

² In 2004 there were forty-four AOs!

³ The CLSA Research Database is a very valuable research tool, but it is not a practical source for a citation, especially since only CLSA members have access.

Certainly, there are people tell us that they like, use, and even appreciate the publication. But the question that must be asked is whether the Society continue to produce a publication that depends solely on the efforts of a few individuals, particularly when their time is needed for other projects and publications that can equally advance the Society's mission without exhausting time and resources disproportionately.

When I became Executive Coordinator in May of 2019, the then-General Secretary, Colleen Crawford, was working to pull together that year's issue of *RRAO* because there had been no Executive Coordinator for over six months. When Colleen decided to leave CLSA in mid-September of that year—days before *RRAO* was going to print—she left me a note that said I should probably review the text before it went to print. The issue needed extensive editing which I was able to do in a few days; that was because the entire issue was only 60 pages long. (It takes 100 pages minimum to comfortably fit the title on the spine of a book, so that year the printing on the spine is barely readable.) There were four RRs and five AOs submitted that year; three ODs accounted for eight pages. One-third (20) of the pages were taken up by titles, headings, section introductions, blank pages, and the contributors' list. So only thirty-two pages actually contained a RR or an AO that year.

Over the last five years, as the chart below shows, we have not managed to significantly increase the number of AOs or RRs that our members submit.

YEAR	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total pages	163	167	117	219	267	237
# RRs	10	4 (+10) ⁴	6	3	7	6
# ODs	9	11	6	9	8	7
# AOs	14	14	9	11	13	17
<i>EA</i> pgs	-	-	(34) ⁵	34	57 ⁶	(56) ⁷
# translators	-	-	(13)	13	8	(4)
Contributors (not editors)	11	11	7	10	10	10
Misc	PDF due to Covid		Prepared <i>EA</i> , no approval	+Rome Report	+Synod Report	Prepared <i>EA</i> , no approval

4 The +10 is separated out because they are the 10 rescripts sent in by one member at the last minute when a request was made by CLSA staff, due to only 4 RRs having been submitted.

5 This was the first year that we received permission to translate the *EA*. We did not receive approval from the Rota in time to publish the translations that year, so the translations were saved and published in 2023.

6 Approval came from the Rota at the last minute in September, so we delayed printing to include the *EA* in 2024.

7 We did not receive approval from the Rota this year, so the completed *EA* are not included.

Prep time ⁸	80 hrs	80 hrs	160 hrs	160 hrs	160 hrs	160 hrs
Printing + shipping*	\$372	\$2183	\$1525	\$1822 +\$437	\$2855	TBD
# ordered	100	600	600	525	600	
# given at convention	PDF only	300	375	410	425	[450 projected]
# office distributed	-	50	25	115	25	TBD
# shipped (warehouse)	228 (5 yrs)	359 (4 yrs)	209 (3 yrs)	146 (2 yrs)	111 (1 yr)	[150 projected]
# online store	169	306	119	81	78	TBD
# free	59	53	90	65	33	TBD

Sadly, the most revealing number in the chart is the column that tells how many contributors sent in RRs and AOs each year. When you realize that out of more than 1200 members in the Society, only ten or eleven people (.8 %) contribute content to *RRAO* each year, that speaks volumes.

Having said that, there are a few dedicated people who contribute at least one AO nearly every year; this year, of the seventeen AOs sent in, one canonist (a 2024 JCL recipient) contributed *seven* of them. In 2024, one canonist contributed *six* of the thirteen published AOs. In 2023 we also began publishing AOs that are longer than the normal length of standard AOs, more akin to articles, so this has enhanced the size of the last few volumes. Note also that the 2023 and 2024 page counts are elevated because we published the Rome Report in 2023 and the CLSA's Synod Response Report in 2024.

The actual time and costs to produce *RRAO* over the past five years are hard to state with certainty. There is a column in the chart for "Time prep." These are very rough time estimates that include prep time for the *Excerpta Argumentorum* (time spent securing the excerpta, soliciting translators, performing translations, monitoring others' translations, formatting texts, preparing letters to the Dean and the Nuncio, and more), which we started in 2022. Preparing the *EAs* has consumed at least 80 hours of my time each year for the last four years, with only two years resulting in successful publication of *EAs*.

8 These are rough but conservative estimates for time spent by the Executive Coordinator. In recent years the time investment has doubled due to preparations of the *EA*, a Rome Report, and contributions of lengthier AOs. Hours spent by staff (e.g., proofreading, soliciting printing bids, preparing a product description and text for website) and volunteers are not tracked. It also does not include preparing the text for print-on-demand through Kindle Direct Publishing.

The actual printing costs for the past three years are another stat that is hard to compute. Complete figures are not readily available. We have printed and reprinted various vendors over the years, when inventory is low and after we bid out the printing costs. I have provided in the table the printing and shipping costs for the initial print run for each year. We use local companies mostly for initial runs, but sometimes we use Amazon's printing service. The numbers for restocking are not included since we have ordered as few as twenty and as many as 100 copies of past editions.

The last column of the table shows how many copies have been distributed by our warehouse (Logistech), which includes both paid products and those sent free of charge to new members, *gratis* to contributors, and to the office for sale to walk-in customers. I have no way to differentiate from the Logistech inventory numbers the sales versus free disbursements. Thus, the last column of the table shows only the numbers of copies that flowed through Logistech.

We maintain inventory of *RRAO* for five years so that we can maintain a discounted member price for those years. After that, when inventory is depleted, we are able to sell back issues of *RRAO* through print-on-demand on Amazon, with no member discount.

There is a very real possibility that *RRAO*, like the AO committee, will be sunsetted. Recently a new canonist reached out to volunteer to solicit AOs and RRs, which is an admirable offer. Unfortunately, increasing the number of either or both of these contributions will not solve the problem. Instead, it will actually increase the workload of the people who work to format, edit, style, and compile *RRAO*. Without an increase in the editorial mechanisms, adding content is not the answer. We saw this with the EAs, which added 30-35 pages of content but doubled the time that I spend on preparing the content for publication. Unfortunately, it is too little too late.

Commentary

We are making steady progress on the commentary. All content that was originally assigned to an author who is a member of the CLSA has been submitted; all but one of these texts have been reviewed by the General Editor, Msgr. Ronny Jenkins, and sent to our copyeditors, where the texts undergo intensive scrutiny.

Since the first of the year, we have had to re-assign some canons to new authors to write the commentary; those new authors have worked diligently to produce their respective texts, and we have completed the content editing phase for all but three of those texts as well.

This next year will be critical as our production company continues with line editing (improving clarity, readability, and style at the sentence level), copyediting (correcting grammar, punctuation, spelling, and style consistency), fact-checking (verifying accuracy of facts, sources, and URLs), and proofreading (a final check for errors—including a review by the authors—before publication). These steps are not strictly linear, but they are going on at the same time, with each text being tracked as it proceeds from one step to the next. Multiple rounds of editing and professional review may be involved to ensure a polished, coherent, and accurate final manuscript.

My own role in the review of the texts after the first round of line editing consists of tedious attention to detail, such as sorting out dates, ensuring source titles and author names are accurate and complete, locating *AAS* citations for texts that have been published therein after the author submitted the text, verifying other source locations, confirming full page ranges and pinpoint

pages, identifying English translations and their sources, ensuring the accuracy of and proper attribution given to quoted text, and much more. In recent weeks, I have been meeting weekly with the principal agent of our production company to iron out issues and determine how to handle situations that do not fit the rules that we have developed to guide the entire copyediting process. Every text raises unique issues, so we are constantly collaborating on best practices.

Finally, we are making adaptations as we go along, as space-saving measures matter when you are trying to stay within the budgeted number of words. You may wonder why we do not simply let the text expand without limitation; the restraint is because we are paying copyeditors and indexers according to a predetermined number of words. Every word that we exceed the allotted number costs us money, and that subsequently will increase the price of the final commentary when it comes to setting the price for which we will sell the commentary. So, we are making efforts to trim commentaries that exceeded the allotted word count while maintaining the author's intent. All authors will have a final opportunity to see their respective commentaries when all of the copyediting and proofreading is complete.

One of the final steps will be indexing of all of the material in the commentary. Hopefully that will get underway in 2026; if so, a 2027 publication date will be possible.

Rome trip

The final segment of this report summarizes the Rome trip that Fr. Patrick Cooney, Dr. Diane Barr, and I undertook from February 22 until March 6, 2025. We made requests of sixteen dicasteries and tribunals for meetings, and fifteen of them were receptive. Below is our schedule of meetings.

Itinerary

Monday, the 24th of February

11:30 a.m. Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith
3:00 p.m. Dicastery for Legislative Texts

Tuesday, the 25th of February

9:00 a.m. Roman Rota
12:30 p.m. Synod of Bishops
6:00 p.m. Casa S. Maria of the Pontifical North American College;
Dinner and student colloquium session (Fr. James Conn, SJ)

Wednesday, the 26th of February

10:00 a.m. Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura
11:30 a.m. Dicastery for Eastern Churches
5:00 p.m. Secretariat of State

Thursday, the 27th of February

2:00 p.m. Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors

Friday, the 28th of February

10:00 a.m. Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life
11:30 p.m. Dicastery for Bishops

Monday, the 3rd of March

10:00 a.m. Dicastery for Laity, the Family, and Life
12:00 p.m. Dicastery for Communication

Tuesday, the 4th of March

8:30 noon Dicastery for Culture and Education
10:30 a.m. Dicastery for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments
12:15 a.m. Meet Msgr. D-M Jaeger at Rota for lunch
4:00 p.m. Dicastery for the Clergy

One of the highlights of the trip for me would not be solidified for me personally until two months after our trip concluded. That is the fact that on February 28 we met with the Prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops, Cardinal Robert Prevost. Because of that visit, I was very familiar with his name when my husband and I stood in St Peter's Square and waited on May 8 with thousands of other members of the faithful for the introduction of the newly elected pope. It was a momentous day that I will never forget.

The last thing that needs to be explained is why there is no Rome report being published in this year's issue of *RRAO*. A few months after we returned from Rome, we received letters from two offices in the Roman curia. Officials from both of these curial offices indicated that they had only recently reviewed the Rome Report published in *RRAO* 2023; they expressed concern over the summaries in the Rome Report. The officials indicated that we are to seek permission before publishing our summaries of the visits we undertook earlier this year; we quickly realized that we could not accomplish all of that in the two months remaining before *RRAO* went to the printer.⁹ No decision has been made by the Board of Governors as to whether or how we will proceed with summarizing the other dicastery and tribunal visits.

Thank you to all who have offered words of encouragement and support over the last year. I am blessed to call so many of you my friends and to serve all of you as Executive Coordinator. Enjoy the convention!

⁹ The only dicastery that provided written responses to our questions—which responses were delivered to us during our visit—was the Dicastery for the Eastern Churches. Their responses are included in the Roman Replies section of *RRAO* 2025.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Kathleen Butler

This week offers all of us a reason to turn away from emails and video meetings for a couple of days and meet in real life. The CLSA Convention can become that long-lost “third place” we used to have. The third place is the place after home (your first place) and work (your second place) where you can informally connect with friends and colleagues and build community. That is my hope for you during this jam-packed week.

Based on your evaluation comments, we have tried this year to give you more time to connect and network with your former (or current) classmates and colleagues and to create new connections. The Networking Lunch on Tuesday will offer you an opportunity to just sit and relax over a meal in Orlando’s splendid October weather. (Disclaimer: I’m writing this in late September with one eye on the NOAA website.) This year, we have more than sixty first-time convention attendees. If you’re a seasoned convention pro, I encourage you to introduce yourself to someone new. If you’re a first-time attendee, wear your green ribbon, so we can welcome you.

How can the CLSA support you and your work? What can we do to make your membership (or your time at a convention) more valuable? You can message me through Guidebook or email me at generalsecretary@clsa.org. Our Membership Coordinator, Mark Francisco, is creating a New Member Guide that we hope to debut this winter. Not only does this document introduce Mark as the point of contact, but it provides new members (or those who just want a refresher) with a greater understanding of what the Society offers and how to make the most of your membership.

Exploring all the nooks and crannies of the CLSA website can reveal an array of resources that are part of your membership. Admittedly, parts of our website are not as intuitive as we might like, and where we can, we try to make it easier to navigate. If fortune favors the bold, then I promise you that a little sleuthing around on our site may very well surprise you with what is at your fingertips – for free as a member!

CLSA is at an important moment in our shared history as we start to envision the Society’s future structure. This is a time to consider how you are supporting the Society, because the reality is that we cannot live on a one-way street. I’d ask you to consider how you can share your expertise with the greater CLSA membership – on a podcast, a webinar, or even a convention seminar. If your finances allow, make a contribution to our scholarship fund to assist your future colleagues.

Membership Trends

At the last few conventions, I’ve shared membership trends, and it hasn’t always been a rosy picture. At the end of the last dues year (6/30/25), our renewal rate was 76.4%. Of the 1144 members eligible to renew, 875 renewed by the deadline. This is significantly lower than FY24’s renewal rate. As I’ve mentioned before, this is not sustainable for the long term.

If you look at our Budget vs Actual report in the workbook, you can see that income line 4112 (Member Dues) was actually a bit higher than budgeted. On paper that looks like good news. Behind the scenes, however, it’s because we lowered our expected renewal rate when we built the

budget to account for our reality. If you look at line 4111, New Member Dues, you can see we fell well short of our projections – and that took into account an average 2% year-over-year decrease. In FY25, our new member growth was the lowest in five years. With a declining member base and rising costs, I don't have to tell you where this is going. And so...

In July, I challenged the Board members to personally reach out to every member who was eligible to renew – but who didn't – to find out why. The Board contacted all 269 people either by phone or email. The result? Our renewal rate rose from 76.4% to 94.4%, the highest renewal rate in my five years at CLSA.

What did we learn from this effort? Most importantly, I believe this work reinforced the value of relationships. One of CLSA's hallmarks is the interchange of ideas that comes from a strong network of relationships. That's why events like the convention are so important. We learned that there are some basic hurdles we have to contend with: address changes; email changes; retirements; and the inevitable financial realities our members face. A few things for the future:

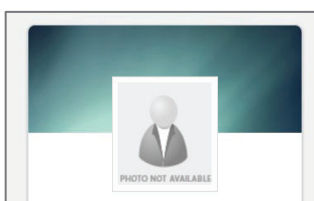
1. Please, please, please contact us if any of your information changes. You can update the information in your profile at any time, or you can always call Mark or me in the office.
2. I suspect I'll ask the Board to make calls again next July. Paying your dues by June 30 will reduce the number of calls they have to make. We will still mail paper invoices; see #1 regarding keeping your information current.
3. The income from the additional renewals helped our bottom line, so thank your BOG members for taking on this task.
4. Do you know someone who would benefit from a CLSA membership? Help us build our base by telling our story to your non-CLSA colleagues. A canonical degree is not a requirement; for those without a JCL or JCD, an Associate membership could be helpful. Is your diocese sponsoring a student working on a degree? Could you convince the bishop to sponsor that person's Student membership?

Profile Photos

Since we'll all about networking, could you please verify that you have a reasonably current photo of yourself in your CLSA profile so we can recognize one another? If you need help logging in or uploading your photo, come find me or Mark; we'd be happy to help!

And finally, thank you all for being here and for your ongoing support of CLSA. As I'm writing this, we have broken registration records with **416** attendees! Reconnect, connect, network, and enjoy the warm hospitality from the Diocese of Orlando.

**Does your
member profile photo
look like this?**



If your profile photo is looking a little "generic," here's what to do.

1. Log in to your CLSA account.
2. Click on **My Profile** in the red bar at the top.
3. Move your cursor over the generic photo graphic like the one at left. It will say "Edit" when you do this. Click the graphic.
4. Navigate to the desired photo on your computer and click on it.
5. That's it! Your photo will show up on your profile.

CANON LAW SOCIETY OF INDIA

August 13, 2025

Rev. Patrick M. Cooney, OSB/JCL
President
415 Michigan Avenue, NE Suite 101
Washington, DC 20017
U.S.A.

Dear Rev. Fr. Patrick,

Greetings from India.

Kindly accept my sincere thanks for your letter dated June 25, 2025, inviting me to the 87th Convention of CLSA, which will be held from October 13-16, 2025, in Orlando, Florida.

This convention presents a unique opportunity for someone like me from India to gain deeper canonical knowledge and connect with canonists from the US and Canada.

This invitation from CLSA to attend the Annual Convention is first of a kind in my experience, and I see it as a significant opportunity to build a “cordial connectivity” between CLSA and CLSI. Although both may be separated by distance, jointly CLSA and CLSI can explore ways to collaborate and establish exchange programs.

This year, the 38th Annual Conference of the Canon Law Society of India (CLSI) will be held from October 13 to 18, 2025, in Bangalore, and so my inability to participate in the convention in Florida. The theme of the conference is “Temporal Goods of the Church.” Typically, five papers would be presented on the main theme, along with five papers on other themes proposed by members during last year’s Annual Conference. There will be 130 participants, and the numbers are limited due to space constraints.

His Eminence, Oswald Cardinal Gracias, the Founder-President of CLSI, attends the Annual Conference every year. This year, he will present a paper on the topic “Synod Implications for Canon Law.”

I extend best wishes for the success of the 87th CLSA Annual Convention.

Fraternally,

Rev. Tharigopala Lourdusamy, DCL
President - Canon Law Society of India
Centre of Canon Law Studies
St Peter’s Pontifical Institute
Malleswaram West Post
Bangalore, India.



JOSÉ BERNAL PASCUAL
Presidente
Facultad de Derecho Canónico, Universidad de Navarra
31009 Pamplona

Pamplona, a 30 de agosto de 2025

Rev. Fr. Patrick M. Cooney
Presidente
Canon Law Society of America

Dear Rev. Fr. Patrick M. Cooney,

As president of the Spanish Association of Canonists (AEC), I thank you for the invitation to participate in the 87th Convention of the Canon Law Society of America, in Orlando, Florida.

Since I heard about the Convention, I have taken an interest in the programme and studied it carefully. I believe it is a very well-designed programme that addresses topics of great interest to any scholar of canon law and anyone involved in the practice of Church law at the present time.

I am pleased to see that collaborative contacts have been initiated between the CLSA and the AEC, which I hope will continue in the future and become more intense. In this way, we will be able to work together to serve the Church in different areas of canon law.

I send my best wishes and prayers to you and all the members of the CLSA. I hope that the 87th Convention will be a resounding success.

With warm regards,

José Bernal

Canon Law Society of America
Eighty-Sixth Annual Business Meeting
Albuquerque, New Mexico
October 16, 2024

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING PRAYER

The Very Reverend Kenneth Riley, President, called to order the Eighty-Sixth Annual Business Meeting of the Canon Law Society of America (CLSA) on October 16, 2024 at the Clyde Hotel in Albuquerque, NM at 11:16 a.m. He presided over the meeting as Chair.

The Chair led the assembly in an opening prayer. He announced that the parliamentarian for the meeting would be Aldean Hendrickson and that *Robert's Rules of Order* would be used in matters not included in the CLSA *Constitution* or *Bylaws*.

The Chair entertained a motion that Associate Members present at the meeting would have the opportunity to address the assembly as called for in Article 5.3 of the *CLSA Constitution*. The motion was made and seconded and passed by the assembly.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

The Chair invited the Secretary, Sr. Rose Marie Timmer, RSM, to read the minutes of the Eighty-Fifth Annual Business meeting of the CLSA found on pages 439-445 of the 2023 *Proceedings*. The Chair entertained a motion to dispense with reading the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed by the assembly. The Chair called for any corrections to the minutes as submitted; none were proposed. The Chair entertained a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded and passed by the assembly. The Chair announced that the minutes of the Eighty-Fifth Annual Business Meeting were approved.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND CONSULTORS

Fr. Riley invited Dr. Susan Mulheron, Chair of the Committee on Nominations, to present the slate of nominees for officers and consultors. Dr. Mulheron inquired if there were additional nominations from the floor. Rev. Msgr. John Lessard, Diocese of Springfield, MA, nominated Rev. Msgr. Robert Oliver, Archdiocese of Boston, to the office of Vice President/President-Elect. Msgr. Oliver declined the nomination. There were no additional nominations from the floor.

Fr. Riley read the provisions of the CLSA's *Bylaws* regarding elections. Following the reading of the election procedures, Dr. Mulheron invited the Active members to cast their ballots.

For the Office of Vice President/President-Elect

214 valid ballots were cast; it was reported that 117 were needed for election. There were 0 invalid ballots and 14 abstentions. The votes cast were as follows:

Dr. Diane Barr received 108
Dr. Eileen Jaramillo received 106

The Chair of the Business Meeting declared that there was not an election.

The President invited those members eligible to vote to use the run-off ballot provided to write the name of the preferred candidate. 196 valid ballots were cast with 0 invalid ballots and 18 abstentions. It was reported that in the runoff election, the absolute majority needed for election was 107. The votes cast were as follows:

Dr. Diane Barr received 97
Dr. Eileen Jaramillo received 99

The Chair of the Business Meeting declared that there was not an election.

The Chair invited those members eligible to vote to use the paper provided to write the name of the preferred candidate. 191 ballots were cast with 0 invalid ballots and 14 abstentions. It was reported that in the runoff election, the absolute majority needed for election was 107. The votes cast were as follows:

Dr. Diane Barr received 97
Dr. Eileen Jaramillo received 94

The Chair of the Business Meeting declared that there was not an election.

After a spirited discussion regarding various possible ways forward proposed by the assembly, Dr. Diane Barr offered to withdraw her nomination. The CLSA Board of Governors, after discussing Dr. Barr's offer, did not accept it. The Chair moved to elect the Vice President/President-Elect by lot; it was seconded and passed by the assembly. Dr. Diane Barr was elected by lot as Vice President/President-Elect.

For the Office of Consultor

225 valid ballots were cast; 117 votes were needed for election. There were 0 invalid ballots and 6 abstentions. Dr. Felix Menendez and Very Rev. Peter Mottola received an absolute majority and were elected on the first ballot.

The votes cast were as follows:

Sr. Janice Grochowsky, CSJ received 86
Dr. Felix Menendez received 143
Very Rev. Peter Mottola received 124
Meg Romano-Hogan received 78

The Chair declared an election with Dr. Felix Menendez and Very Rev. Peter Mottola elected as Consultors.

REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Chair of the Business Meeting referred the assembly to the complete text of the President's Report in the convention booklet and on Guidebook. The Chair expressed gratitude to the Board

of Governors and Strategic Visioning Task Force, particularly to Fr. Paul Counce and Dr. Lynda Robitaille. He reported on the expansion of the Role of Law nomination process, which now includes nominations from the membership with the Board of Governors determining the recipient during its spring meeting. He encouraged members to update their CLSA online profile in order to identify possible members for participation on committees. The Chair reported on the Board of Governors' work to develop job descriptions for officers and consultants.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Chair invited the CLSA Treasurer, the Very Rev. Jamin David, to present the Treasurer's report. Fr. David referred to the written version of his report in the convention booklet. He explained that the printed publications continue to evolve, and decreasing quantities of published work continue to impact the Society economically. He reported that the CCEO and Commentary will be forthcoming, which will help the financial reality of the Society.

Fr. David encouraged the membership to continue to donate to the scholarship funds, emphasizing the need to educate more canonists for the future. He reported that every member of the Board of Governors contributed to the scholarship fund.

The Treasurer reported that the market performed much better than expected last year as the Society had budgeted \$116,000 unrealized gains. This contributed to positive gains for investments. He informed the assembly that the budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year was reviewed and approved by the Resource and Asset Management Committee and forwarded to the Board of Governors, who approved it. It includes revenue primarily from membership dues, investment income, conference fees, and minimal publication sales. Expenses primarily include the annual convention; Board of Governors and committee work; publications including storage and shipping; salaries and operating expenses; and replenishing investments. A notable deficit is evident, and this is included to show the membership the necessity to rethink the 'conventional' in order to prepare for the future.

Fr. David noted the various ways in which the Society has attempted to reduce costs of the convention. Some of the changes included a print-on-demand option for the convention booklet and next year's discontinuation of the tote bags. The BOG routinely considers cost-reduction measures, including limiting the number of host cities for the conventions.

Fr. David indicated that an independent accounting firm reviewed the financials of the CLSA and there were no anomalies discovered in the review.

A member asked about the cost for Guidebook. Kathleen Butler, General Secretary, reported that we pay \$2,000 per year for a five-year subscription to Guidebook.

EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR'S REPORT

The Chair of the Business Meeting invited Mrs. Donna Miller, the Executive Coordinator of the CLSA, to present her report to the members. She highlighted items from her written report in the convention booklet. Mrs. Miller shared the resource of IUSCANGREG.IT with the membership, which had been mentioned during the Major Address. Mrs. Miller encouraged membership to look

forward to the publication of *The Tribunal Handbook* in the near future. She reported that the *Clergy Procedural Handbook* is underway as well and encouraged members to thank the peer reviewers. She likewise extended gratitude to the Publications Advisory Board (PAB) for input and their collaboration. Mrs. Miller reported on the task force's work on the finance handbook, which was the result of the resolution passed last year. The task force sent a survey to 1,100 members and received 45 responses.

Mrs. Miller indicated that under the store tab of the CLSA website, there are new free resources available to the general public as well as members of the Society. She likewise reported that the new *CCEO* is forthcoming and thanked Chorbishop John Faris for his contributions. She announced the new elevated prices for the *CIC* given the cost for publishing. The price for the *CIC* will change on January 1, 2025. She reported that members of the Society now have access to HeinOnline through their Member Center on the CLSA member website.

A member asked about the copyright laws concerning the CLSA's edition of the Code, which can be found on the IUSCANGREG.IT website. Mrs. Miller responded by indicating that there is a friendly agreement between the Society and the Pontifical Gregorian University that is not contained in writing. She reported that research concerning copyright laws is underway in this regard. Another member asked about the possibility of increasing canonical resources produced in Spanish. Mrs. Miller said that further research in this area ought to be undertaken.

Lastly, Mrs. Miller reported on the robust sales of the 4th edition of the *CIC*. She announced changes made to the composition of the editorial board of the new commentary which will be announced in the December newsletter. Mrs. Miller thanked all who contributed in any way to the CLSA publications.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Chair invited Ms. Kathleen Butler, General Secretary, to the podium to present her report. Ms. Butler provided a distinction between her role and the role of Mrs. Donna Miller, Executive Coordinator. Ms. Butler reported that at the end of the fiscal year, 82% of members had renewed their membership. She encouraged active members to invite previous members back to the CLSA.

Ms. Butler reminded the membership that the scholarship program is important to build up the Church and the CLSA and encouraged members to donate to this cause. Ms. Butler encouraged the members to fill out their evaluations for the speakers and hotel and convention through Guidebook.

A member asked if there were trends among the members who did not renew their membership. Ms. Butler indicated that the trends that influence non-renewal are not entirely evident due to the a lack of valid data in our system. Few members have completed all the information in their profile. She encouraged everyone to do this and to keep it current so that we can glean better data for decision-making. Another member pointed to the possible implications of the cost differential of student and non-student membership. The same requested the CLSA to prepare language that could be used to explain to major superiors the benefits of having their own members participate at conventions.

RESOLUTIONS

Fr. Riley read the applicable CLSA *Bylaws* that govern the proposal of resolutions from the floor and asked if there were any such resolutions to be presented. There were none. The President called Mrs. Amy Tadlock, Chair of the Resolutions Committee, to the podium to present the resolutions. After reading the first resolution, Mrs. Tadlock moved the resolution. She invited Fr. Donovan, Past President of the Board of Governors, to present the resolution. He announced that the resolution had been withdrawn by the Board of Governors given the newly created resolution 2a concerning a comprehensive Constitution revision. The Strategic Visioning Task Force withdrew Resolutions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 for the same reason.

RESOLUTION 1 (WITHDRAWN)

PROPOSED BY: BOARD OF GOVERNORS

TITLE: Expanding the Committee on Nominations to Six Voting Members and Separating the Resolutions Committee into a New Item

STATEMENT OF RATIONALE:

In recent years, there has been a concerted effort by the Board of Governors and Committee on Nominations to seek out diversity on multiple levels of candidates for the Board of Governors. In the recent work of the Strategic Visioning Task Force, the expressed opinion received from the membership is that diversity is lacking and needs to be addressed. It is a real concern that too few people are involved in the process.

WHEREAS the Committee on Nominations is a Constitutional Committee of the Canon Law Society of America, its membership is dictated by the Constitution, (Article X, numbers 4 & 5); and

WHEREAS the current structure does not reflect the evolving diversity of the membership; and

WHEREAS, it would seem practical to separate in the Constitution the composition of the Committee on Nominations and the Committee on Resolutions, with their respective functions and other subsequent numbers under Article X renumbered as necessary.

BE IT RESOLVED that the “Nominations Committee” and the “Resolutions Committee” be separate committees and that the “Nominations Committee” consist of six voting members and the “Resolutions Committee” consist of three voting members, and that the CLSA Constitution be amended to reflect these changes and provide further clarity regarding the mandate of each committee.

Article X 4 of the CLSA Constitution is amended as follows:

4. The Committee on Nominations ~~and the Committee on Resolutions~~ shall consist of ~~three~~ six voting members appointed by the President. Consultative members may be appointed at the discretion of the President.
 - a. The term of office of committee members shall be for three years but shall be so arranged so that each year, the term of ~~one~~ two members of the committee will expire with the close of the Annual General Meeting; the new members of the committee shall be appointed by the new President within thirty days after the close of the Annual General Meeting.
 - b. The President appoints a senior member of the ~~each committee who is senior by appointment shall act~~ as chairperson ~~of each respective committee within thirty days after the close of the Annual General Meeting.~~
 - c. In the event of death or resignation of a committee member, the President shall appoint a new member to complete the unexpired portion of the term of office.
 - d. In addition to its members, the Committee on Nominations shall have the Past President as a non-voting member (unless a tie-breaking vote is required) with an active voice, and who also serves as secretary to the committee.
 - e. The functions of the Committee on Nominations shall be:
 - i. To submit to the Active members, at least ~~one~~ three months prior to the date of election, the names of nominees as provided for in Article IX of this Constitution.
 - ii. To formulate and recommend to the Board of Governors plans for maintaining and increasing the membership of the Society.
5. ~~The functions of the Committee on Nominations shall be:~~
 - a. ~~To submit to the active members, at least one month prior to the date of election, the names of nominees as provided for in Article IX of this Constitution.~~
 - b. ~~To formulate and recommend to the Board of Governors plans for maintaining and increasing the membership of the Society.~~
5. The Committee on Resolutions shall consist of three voting members appointed by the President. Consultative members may be appointed at the discretion of the President.
 - a. The term of office of committee members shall be for three years but shall be so arranged that each year the term of one member of ~~each~~ the committee will expire with the close of the Annual General Meeting; the new member of ~~each~~ the committee shall be appointed by the new President within thirty days after the close of the Annual General Meeting.
 - b. The member of ~~each~~ the committee who is senior by appointment shall act as chairperson of ~~each respective the~~ committee.
 - c. In the event of death or resignation of a committee member, the President shall appoint a new member to complete the unexpired portion of the term of office.
 - d. ~~In addition to its members, the Committee on Nominations shall have the Past President as a non-voting member and secretary.~~ The functions of the Committee on Resolutions shall be:

- i. To solicit, develop, and draft proposed resolutions which will express the concerns of the Canon Law Society of America;
- ii. To consult with the membership at large and, in particular, with the Board of Governors, the standing and ad hoc committees of the Society and the organizers of the convention;
- iii. To formulate proposed resolutions on given points in response to requests of the members of the Society;
- iv. To compose differences in the formulation of similar proposals and to revise all proposals so that the meaning of each is clear;
- v. To encourage resolutions which authentically express in a positive way the activities and concerns of the Society.

So that it reads:

- 4. The Committee on Nominations shall consist of six voting members appointed by the President. Consultative members may be appointed at the discretion of the President.
 - a. The term of office of committee members shall be for three years but shall be so arranged so that each year, the term of two members of the committee will expire with the close of the Annual General Meeting; the new members of the committee shall be appointed by the new President within thirty days after the close of the Annual General Meeting.
 - b. The President appoints a senior member of the committee within thirty days after the close of the Annual General Meeting.
 - c. In the event of death or resignation of a committee member, the President shall appoint a new member to complete the unexpired portion of the term of office.
 - d. In addition to its members, the Committee on Nominations shall have the Past President as a non-voting member (unless a tie-breaking vote is required) with an active voice, who also serves as secretary to the committee.
 - e. The functions of the Committee on Nominations shall be:
 - i. To submit to the Active members, at least three months prior to the date of election, the names of nominees as provided for in Article IX of this Constitution.
 - ii. To formulate and recommend to the Board of Governors plans for maintaining and increasing the membership of the Society.
- 5. The Committee on Resolutions shall consist of three voting members appointed by the President. Consultative members may be appointed at the discretion of the President.
 - a. The term of office of committee members shall be for three years but shall be so arranged that each year the term of one member of the committee will expire with the close of the Annual General Meeting; the new member of the committee shall be appointed by the new President within thirty days after the close of the Annual General Meeting.
 - b. The member of the committee who is senior by appointment shall act as chairperson of the committee.

- c. In the event of death or resignation of a committee member, the President shall appoint a new member to complete the unexpired portion of the term of office.
- d. The functions of the Committee on Resolutions shall be:
 - i. To solicit, develop, and draft proposed resolutions which will express the concerns of the Canon Law Society of America;
 - ii. To consult with the membership at large and, in particular, with the Board of Governors, the standing and ad hoc committees of the Society and the organizers of the convention;
 - iii. To formulate proposed resolutions on given points in response to requests of the members of the Society;
 - iv. To compose differences in the formulation of similar proposals and to revise all proposals so that the meaning of each is clear;
 - v. To encourage resolutions which authentically express in a positive way the activities and concerns of the Society.

And the subsequent paragraphs in Article X be renumbered accordingly.

IMPLEMENTATION BY MEANS OF

1. In order to comply with the amendment, the President shall appoint members to the Committee on Nominations within 30 days of the close of the 2024 Annual General Meeting as follows:
 - a. One new member to serve one year (term ending 2025)
 - b. One new member to serve two years (term ending 2026)
 - c. Two new members to serve three years (term ending 2027).

ANTICIPATED COST:

1. Staff time in communication
2. If travel by the Committee on Nominations is deemed necessary, an additional \$4,000 in the FY 25 budget
- 3.

Cost Supplied By: CLSA Budget

RESOLUTION 2 (WITHDRAWN)

TITLE: Appointment of a Constitutional Task Force

PROPOSED BY: The Strategic Visioning Task Force

WHEREAS, the current Constitution and By-Laws of the CLSA may no longer adequately reflect the evolving needs and challenges of the Society and its members;

WHEREAS, the proposed resolutions approved at this assembly necessitate, if passed, a comprehensive review and potential revision of the Constitution and By-Laws to ensure consistency and effective governance;

WHEREAS, appointing a Constitutional Task Force will ensure a thorough and thoughtful review process, involving study and consultation with necessary experts, including a civil attorney;

WHEREAS, updating the governing documents of the Society is essential for its growth, stability, and responsiveness to its membership's needs and aspirations.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Governors appoint a Constitutional Task Force, whose mandate would be (after study and consultation as necessary) to incorporate the resolutions approved at this assembly and move on to draft and propose by one or more resolutions a new and revised Constitution—and, if needed or desired, corresponding By-Laws. The Constitutional Task Force would consist of no more than five members (one of whom should be a civil attorney), complete its work over a 2-year period, and propose its revisions at the 2026 Convention.

IMPLEMENTATION BY MEANS OF: Task Force appointed by the Board of Governors for two years

ANTICIPATED COST: Based on the expenses and experience of the Strategic Visioning Task Force, the anticipated costs are \$15,000 for two years.

COST SUPPLIED BY: CLSA operating expenses

RESOLUTION 2.a

DATE SUBMITTED: October 16, 2024

PROPOSED BY: Board of Governors with the support of the Strategic Visioning Task Force

TITLE: Initiate a Comprehensive Constitution Revision

STATEMENT OF RATIONALE: The Board of Governors is indebted to the contributions of the Strategic Visioning Task Force and wants to build upon the work of the Task Force by proposing a comprehensive constitution revision.

WHEREAS the Canon Law Society of America is interested in preserving its longstanding history in its service to the Church;

WHEREAS members have been requesting changes to the governing and functioning of the society for many years;

WHEREAS the Board of Governors, Strategic Visioning Task Force, and the membership of the Society desire to build upon the work of the Strategic Visioning Task Force and the other numerous studies and consultations with the membership regarding the strengths and areas of growth within the Society;

WHEREAS in order to govern the Society effectively, the current Constitution is in need of revision or even replacement;

WHEREAS the Society is composed of volunteers who have various other responsibilities outside of the scope of the Society's work;

WHEREAS the Society employs a limited number of staff members who are instrumental to the current work of the Society;

WHEREAS the current and projected financial realities of the Society must be considered;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors initiate a Comprehensive Constitution Revision.

IMPLEMENTATION BY MEANS OF: A small, focused Constitution Revision Commission is to be appointed by the Board of Governors for a term of two years. The mandate can be extended for an additional year upon request by the Commission and approval of the Board of Governors.

The Constitution Revision Commission is to propose a comprehensive renewal of the Constitution to the members at the 2026 Convention such that the Canon Law Society of America's Constitution will more effectively express the purpose and mission of the Society.

The work of this Commission is to build upon the consultations and the studies undertaken over the past years and to incorporate the guiding principles identified by the Strategic Visioning Task Force including the goals of creating more streamlined structures such as committee formats and the delineation of committee responsibilities, terms for the Board of Governors, promoting transparency and accountability, providing opportunities to involve more members in the Society, and offering opportunities for increased service to the Church.

The Constitution Revision Commission shall provide the membership with a report at the 2025 Convention.

ANTICIPATED COST: Using metrics provided by the Treasurer to anticipate actual costs of in-person meetings, costs are not to exceed \$50,000 over a two-year period.

COST SUPPLIED BY: Budget projections from the Treasurer.

RESOLUTION 3(WITHDRAWN)

TITLE: Dissemination of Minutes

PROPOSED BY: The Strategic Visioning Task Force

WHEREAS, there is a general sense among the membership that the internal workings of the Society, particularly those of the Board of Governors (BOG), committees, task forces, and subcommittees, are not widely understood;

WHEREAS, improving transparency and accountability in the decisions made by the BOG is crucial for fostering trust and engagement among the members;

WHEREAS, recent attempts at improving transparency and accountability, such as opening nominations for the Role of Law awardee, have been well-received and should be continued and expanded;

WHEREAS, there is a uniform, concise template for Recording and Archiving Committee Minutes approved by the BOG and issued in February 2024 to be utilized, that would be helpful in preparing other materials;

WHEREAS, better communication regarding issues such as copyright and intellectual property is necessary to address the increasing concerns and challenges faced by the Society;

WHEREAS, enhancing the transparency and accountability of the Society's governance will align with the desires expressed by the membership in the Strategic Visioning surveys and listening sessions;

BE IT RESOLVED that moving forward an executive summary of minutes, reports and relevant handouts of meetings of the Board of Governors, committees, task forces, and subcommittees be posted on the CLSA website for all members to view, according to the accepted CLSA protocol and in conformity with civil laws.

IMPLEMENTATION BY MEANS OF: Actions of the Board of Governors

ANTICIPATED COST: Digital posting should not add additional costs beyond staff time.

COST SUPPLIED BY: CLSA operating expenses

RESOLUTION #4 (WITHDRAWN)

TITLE: Consultors to take on the role of standing committee chairs

PROPOSED BY: The Strategic Visioning Task Force

WHEREAS, there is a recognized need to increase transparency and accountability within the committees that manage much of the Society's work;

WHEREAS, the current nomination process for committee positions is perceived as too insular and lacking sufficient membership input;

WHEREAS, of the four constitutional committees, Resource and Asset Management, Professional Responsibility, and Nominations Committees already have a strong BOG presence; and the Resolutions Committee needs to act independently;

WHEREAS, electing Chairs of the six standing committees directly by the membership will provide a more democratic and inclusive process, better ensuring diverse representation and fresh perspectives;

WHEREAS, combining the roles of Committee Chairs and Consultants should enhance the effectiveness of the committees and strengthen the connection between the committees and the BOG;

WHEREAS, such a structure should better provide for the Committee Chairs to pursue aspirational goals and long-term projects, benefiting the Society's mission and activities;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Chairs of the six standing committees be elected to these positions by the membership. These elected Chairs shall simultaneously serve as the six Consultants on the BOG. The details of this change are to be designed and implemented by a task force appointed by the BOG over a 3-year period until in place.

IMPLEMENTATION BY MEANS OF: Task Force mandated by the Board of Governors

ANTICIPATED COST: Based on the expenses and experience of the Strategic Visioning Task Force, the anticipated costs are \$7,500 for a planning meeting.

COST SUPPLIED BY: CLSA operating expenses

RESOLUTION #5 (WITHDRAWN)

TITLE: Elimination of Research and Development Committee

PROPOSED BY: The Strategic Visioning Task Force

WHEREAS, the Task Force identified overlapping responsibilities between the Research and Development Committee and other committees, leading to inefficiencies;

WHEREAS, the work done by the Research and Development Committee could be managed by the Publications Advisory Board and the Convention Planning Committee;

WHEREAS, eliminating redundancy in committee functions will streamline operations and better allocate resources within the Society;

WHEREAS, a more focused committee structure will enhance the Society's ability to meet its objectives and address the needs of its members;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Research and Development Committee be eliminated, its duties then subsumed into other committees or by others. The details of this change are to be designed and implemented by the BOG.

IMPLEMENTATION BY MEANS OF: Action of the Board of Governors

ANTICIPATED COST: There is no cost in addition to a regular meeting of the BOG.

COST SUPPLIED BY: CLSA operating expenses

RESOLUTION #6 (WITHDRAWN)

TITLE: Emeritus Membership Category

PROPOSED BY: The Strategic Visioning Task Force

WHEREAS, there is significant interest among members for the development of an emeritus membership category to recognize and accommodate long-standing members who may have retired from active ministry or professional roles;

WHEREAS, members upon retirement may no longer be funded for CLSA membership and activities, causing a considerable number to leave the Society, and reducing fees would retain their membership to continue to provide income for the Society;

WHEREAS, creating an emeritus membership category would acknowledge the valuable contributions of senior members while addressing concerns about the cost of membership dues and convention attendance;

WHEREAS, the introduction of this category could help maintain engagement and support from senior members, ensuring their continued involvement and contribution to the Society's mission;

BE IT RESOLVED that a task force appointed by the BOG develop a new emeritus membership category, the details of which must be presented for a resolution at the Convention in October 2025.

IMPLEMENTATION BY MEANS OF: Task Force appointed by the Board of Governors for one year

ANTICIPATED COST: Based on the expenses and experience of the Strategic Visioning Task Force, the anticipated costs are \$7,500 for one year.

COST SUPPLIED BY: CLSA operating expenses

RESOLUTION #7 (WITHDRAWN)

TITLE: Renaming Nominations Committee

PROPOSED BY: The Strategic Visioning Task Force

WHEREAS, the current nominations process for BOG positions is perceived as overly secretive and exclusive, limiting member participation and transparency;

WHEREAS, renaming the Nominations Committee to the Elections committee will reflect a broader and more inclusive approach to the nomination and election processes;

WHEREAS, the new procedures, including increasing the number of voting members on the committee and ensuring clear eligibility requirements, will enhance fairness and transparency;

WHEREAS, the proposed changes aim to increase member engagement and ensure that the leadership of the Society more accurately reflects its diverse membership;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Nominations Committee be renamed as the Elections Committee and that the new procedures recommended in the CLSA Strategic Visioning Task Force Report of June 10, 2024, III.H Roles of Committees (p. 11) be implemented.

IMPLEMENTATION BY MEANS OF: Action of the Board of Governors

ANTICIPATED COST: There is no cost in addition to a regular meeting of the BOG.

COST SUPPLIED BY: CLSA operating expenses

Mrs. Tadlock read Resolution 8 and announced that the Resolutions Committee moved the resolution. She invited Fr. Michael Joyce, CM, to present the resolution. Two members of the assembly spoke against the resolution. Hearing no further discussion, the Chair called for the vote and declared that the assembly did not pass the resolution.

RESOLUTION #8

PROPOSED BY: Michael Joyce, CM

TITLE: Naming of Scholarship Funds

STATEMENT OF RATIONALE:

Whereas the CLSA established a scholarship fund in 1970 in memory of Monsignor Clement Bastnagel who served as General Secretary of the Society from its beginning in 1939 until 1966 and who was succeeded by Rev. James Coriden, and

WHEREAS, the Reverend James Coriden moved forward a resolution in 1985 for the establishment of the current scholarship fund,

BE IT RESOLVED the Canon Law Society of America name its scholarship funds for students studying for the licentiate the Coriden Fund and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Society name its scholarship fund for students studying for the doctoral decree the Bastnagel Fund.

IMPLEMENTATION BY MEANS OF: The use of the names in publication of the scholarship.

ANTICIPATED COST: \$0.00

COST SUPPLIED BY: Budget for Publication about Scholarships

Mrs. Tadlock read Resolution 9 and announced that the Resolutions Committee moved the resolution. She invited Fr. Peter Mottola, Diocese of Rochester, to present the resolution. Several members from the assembly spoke in support of the resolution. Fr. Jamin David, CLSA Treasurer, spoke against the resolution, pointing to dynamic pricing, scouting funds already used for the services of Nix and CLSA staff, and contractual obligations in excess of \$105,000 already in place.

Another member of the assembly spoke against the resolution. Hearing no further discussion, the Convention Chair called for the vote. The Chair declared that the assembly did not pass the resolution.

RESOLUTION #9

PROPOSED BY: Very Rev. Peter B. Mottola

TITLE: Inquiry into 2027 Convention Location

STATEMENT OF RATIONALE:

WHEREAS, the members of the Society greatly value the opportunity to interact with fellow members socially at the annual convention, and;

WHEREAS, the location of the 2027 convention has been announced as an airport hotel thirty minutes away from restaurants and other amenities;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Governors make an inquiry into whether it is possible, at this juncture, to move the 2027 convention location to a hotel located closer to a city, if this can be done without significant negative financial impact to the Society and its members.

IMPLEMENTATION BY MEANS OF: Action at the discretion of the Board of Governors

ANTICIPATED COST: \$0 for information-gathering; possible increased expense in 2027

COST SUPPLIED BY: CLSA operating expenses

OLD BUSINESS

The Chair opened the floor to discuss any Old Business of interest to the assembly; there was none.

NEW BUSINESS

The Chair opened the floor to discuss any New Business of interest to the assembly; there was none.

VARIA

The Chair welcomed the representatives of the sister canon law societies and invited them to come forward and address the assembly.

Fr. Frank Bradley of the Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland thanked the CLSA for its hospitality and invited members to attend the Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland. Fr. Bradley reported that the canon law abstracts are kept current on the website and in print. He provided a report about the conference held in Krakow, Poland. He cordially invited the members to attend the next CLSGBI conference being held in England and provided the slate of speaker topics.

Rev. Msgr. Brendan Daly of the Canon Law Society of Australia and New Zealand extended greetings from his Society. He welcomed members of the CLSA to join the Canon Law Society of Australia and New Zealand and indicated that they held their conference in Brisbane in September. He reported that Fr. Paul Clark was elected as president during that conference. Msgr. Daly likewise commented on the various topics presented during the conference, including an update report on the Commission regarding sexual abuse of minors as well as psychological, physical, and emotional abuse in the Church. He concluded his remarks by thanking the CLSA for the hospitality and welcome.

Mr. Robert Larivière, President of the Canadian Canon Law Society (CCLS), provided a report. He reported that the Canadian Canon Law Society is in the process of rebuilding itself, particularly its website and newsletter. The CCLS convention is next week, and he invited the members of the CLSA to attend. He thanked, once again, the members for their welcome and that he looks forward to the joint convention next year in Orlando.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and approved by the assembly. The 86th Annual Business Meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sister Rose Marie Timmer, RSM
Secretary

**CLSA Resolution - 87th Annual Convention
Orlando, Florida**

PROPOSED BY: Board of Governors

TITLE: Dues Increase Resolution

DATE SUBMITTED: May 1, 2025

STATEMENT OF RATIONALE:

WHEREAS, the *Constitution*, “Article IV – Dues,” number 1 states: “any change in the amount of the annual dues of active, associate, and student members shall be proposed by the Board of Governors but shall be determined by a majority vote of those active members present and voting at a General Meeting at which the proposal is made”;

WHEREAS, the Constitution, “Article IV – Dues,” number 2 states: “during the third year of the Treasurer’s term of office, he or she, with the assistance of the General Secretary and the Society accountant, shall conduct a thorough review of membership dues; evaluate income and expense trends; lead discussion of these findings with the Board of Governors; and if necessary, propose to the Board of Governors any adjustments that may be required to ensure solvency and to provide high-quality services to the membership”;

WHEREAS the Board of Governors at its April 2025 meeting addressed the need to review and increase membership dues;

WHEREAS the last review and increase of dues occurred in 2023, during which time the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) between 2022 and 2025 increased by 14.4% and the Consumer Price Index (consumer purchasing power) between 2022 and 2024 increased by 32.77%;

WHEREAS the Society does not profit from the annual convention, while the CLSA Office maintained by the Society is run economically, and while the cost of doing business and maintaining the salaries of the Executive Coordinator, the General Secretary, Membership Coordinator, and contracting accounting services continue to increase;

WHEREAS the Treasurer, the General Secretary, the Society accountant, and members of the Committee on Resource and Asset Management (RAM) discussed the issues of budgeted expenses exceeding income for fiscal years 2023 and 2024, the latter balanced by realized gains in investments, and

WHEREAS the membership supports the need to maintain high-quality services to fulfill the Society’s established purposes;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT beginning with the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the membership of the CLSA increases the Active and Associate membership dues from \$350.00 to \$400.00 per year and the Student membership dues increase from \$175.00 to \$200.00 per year.

IMPLEMENTATION BY MEANS OF: The General Secretary shall direct any efforts needed to implement the change in the dues structure and shall modify any CLSA documents that specify the amount of the annual dues.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Expense: There is staff time necessary to make the modifications to CLSA documents and online systems.

Income: Based on the budget estimations for FY26, this increase would add \$52,375 to the FY27 income budget.

CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee:	Nominations
Constituted:	Constitutional Committee
Mandate:	Articles IX and X of the Constitution 1. To submit to the active members, at least one month prior to the date of election, the names of nominees as provided for in Article IX of the Constitution 2. To formulate and recommend to the Board of Governors plans for maintaining and increasing membership in the Society. And, in accord with Article X, revise all proposals so that the meaning of each is clear.
Members:	Dr. Zabrina Decker (Chair) (2025) Rev. Greg Luyet (2026) Mr. Timothy Olson (2027) Very Rev. Kenneth Riley <i>ex officio</i> , Past President
Consultants:	Mrs. Shannon Fossett Mr. Stephen Garbitelli Very Rev. Luke Millette

REPORT

The Nominations Committee met virtually over the summer. We held multiple Zoom sessions and were able to successfully update the slate of candidates who agreed to stand for election at the 2025 Convention:

Vice President/President-Elect

Rev. Msgr. Robert Oliver (Braintree, MA)
Ms. Anna Marie Chamblee (Milwaukee, WI)

Treasurer

Rev. Chris Palladino (West Roxbury, MA)
Very Rev. Jeffrey Cabral (Fall River, MA)

Consultor

Ms. Amanda Crawford (North Little Rock, AR)
Rev. Msgr. Jason Gray (Peoria Heights, IL)
Rev. Alexander Laschuk (Toronto, ON)
Ms. Lori Peery (Bigfoot, TX)
Mr. Benjamin Roodhouse (Jefferson City, MO)

The committee is always mindful of balancing the need for qualified candidates with representing the diverse demographics of the Society. With this in mind, we discussed the possibility of finding three candidates for Vice President/President-elect, three for Treasurer, and six for Consultor. Many members of the Society were considered and asked but were not able to run. Hence, we have the slate listed above. We will take the nomination of five consultors into account when considering the metrics of the election itself. We contacted a great variety of members for office:

lay and cleric, male and female, various schools and geographic locations. It is clear that our members wish to share their gifts and be generous with the Society but, in many cases, simply do not have the time.

The committee was also mindful of the “electability” of candidates who may be talented and helpful for diversity in leadership, but who are not well-known by the membership. Our experience is that these candidates tend to have difficulty not only in getting elected, but in garnering more than a relatively small number of votes. We have found that presentations and committee work greatly enhance a candidate’s chance of being elected (or conversely, to demonstrate why they might not yet be considered as a candidate for office). For this reason, we do consider committee membership and past presenter lists for possible BOG candidates as well as raising new names.

It is important to note that the addition of consultants to the Nominations Committee was a great success! They brought more knowledge of the members of the Society and suggested many possible candidates. The committee would encourage that this practice continues in the future.

We have a list of other candidates who were considered, and whose names will be kept for reference in future years. We also have a list of members we’d recommend for presentations or committee membership.

This year we will have a parliamentarian in attendance. It was determined that this would be advantageous.

Special thanks to Very Rev. Jamin David for taking the time to speak to the committee regarding the position of Treasurer. A discussion that took place was the possibility, due to such specialization, of moving the Treasurer position out of the BOG and hiring a professional.

Submitted By: Zabrina Decker (chair)
August 18, 2025

- Committee:** Resolutions
- Constituted:** Constitution, Article X (2009)
- Mandate:** The mandate of the Committee on Resolutions is as follows:
1. To solicit, develop and draft proposed resolutions which will express the concerns of the Canon Law Society of America;
 2. To consult with the membership at large and, in particular with the Board of Governors, the standing and *ad hoc* committees of the Society, and the organizers of the annual convention;
 3. To formulate proposed resolutions on given points in response to requests of the members of the Society;
 4. To compose differences in the formulation of similar proposals and to revise all proposals so that the meaning of each is clear; (and)
 5. To encourage resolutions which authentically express in a positive way the activities and concerns of the Society.
- Members:** Rev. Langes Silva, Salt Lake City, UT (*Chair*)
Dr. Sofia Markovich, Washington, DC
- BOG Liaison:** Sr. Rose Marie Timmer, RSM

REPORT

The committee met via Zoom. We discussed the strategies that we have been using throughout the year to obtain more resolutions from the members: the invitation through the CLSA e-newsletter and the invitation made through the regional meetings and some other correspondence I sent to Judicial Vicar and members of the WCLSA.

We received one resolution, which the committee reviewed. Other resolutions may be presented at the convention, and it will be up to the committee to accept those or not.

We agree that the dues resolution seems well founded given the raising of general operation costs and maintaining salaries. The Treasurer, indeed, is also fulfilling his duties by conducting a thorough review of the membership dues during his third year. Dr. Sofia Markovich shared her experience in dealing with costs for civil litigation and how we should keep up with our own procedures, although the cost of canonical business is minimal compared to civil litigation.

The committee will meet during the convention to ensure we are following proper parliamentary procedure. If necessary, the committee will meet again after the Resolutions Hearing on October 14. Those bringing resolutions to the hearing should ensure they provide complete information (including costs for implementation) and follow the proper format, which can be found on the convention page online.

We are very grateful for the support and guidance provided by the General Secretary, Kathleen Butler.

Submitted By: Rev. Langes Silva
August 20, 2025

Committee:	Resource and Asset Management
Constituted:	Constitutional (See Article X)
Mandate:	It is the function of the Committee on Resource & Asset Management to: 1. Develop a comprehensive budget for all the activities of the Society and report on the funding available for projects; 2. To submit the proposed budget for the coming fiscal year to the Board of Governors for approval at its spring meeting; 3. To conserve, invest, and disperse the monies of the Scholarship Fund in accord with the criteria established by the Society; (and) 4. To advise the Treasurer on all matters pertaining to the Society's investments (Article X, 7).
Members:	Very Reverend Jamin Scott David (2025); <i>Chair, Treasurer</i> Reverend Chris Palladino (2025) Mrs. Danielle Dunleavy (2027) Dr. David Long (2027) Dr. Diane Barr (2025); <i>Ex officio, Vice President</i> Msgr. Stephen Doktorczyk (2025); <i>Ex officio, Consultant</i>

REPORT

The Committee on Resource and Asset Management met on 18 June 2025 virtually via the Go To Webinar platform. The meeting began at 12:03PM Central Time. Present were Father Jamin David, Msgr. Stephen Doktorczyk, Reverend Chris Palladino, Mrs. Danielle Dunleavy, Dr. Diane Barr, Dr. David Long, and Ms. Kathleen Butler.

After Father David led the group in an opening prayer, he asked members to introduce themselves since this was a first-time meeting for Dr. Long. Father David reminded the group of the functions of the Committee on Resource and Asset Management as defined by the CLSA, namely to:

1. Develop a comprehensive budget for all the activities of the Society and report on the funding available for projects;
2. To submit the proposed budget for the coming fiscal year to the Board of Governors for approval at its spring meeting;
3. To conserve, invest, and disperse the monies of the Scholarship Fund in accord with the criteria established by the Society; (and)
4. To advise the Treasurer on all matters pertaining to the Society's investments (Article X, 7).

Two guests were then invited to participate in the meeting from UBS: Steven West (Senior Vice President of Wealth Management) and Ronald Chesney (Senior Vice President of Wealth Management). Father David and Ms. Butler have engaged the Board of Governors about the need to move the Society's investments to another firm because of customer service difficulties encountered with Christian Brothers Investments and the need to work with an advisor for growth with our investments.

Engaging UBS will bring a tailored investment strategy that will both honor Catholic values and respect needs to increase cash flow. These advisors will provide monthly updates, client education, and investing advice and recommendations. They will also assist CLSA in creating an investment policy statement that honors the current needs of the CLSA.

Currently, the investment allocation consists of 60% equity and 40% fixed income at an expense of 63 base points. Investments have yielded a 10.55% increase in 2024, or a 7.18% increase over five years. Nearly 70% of the overall equity allocation is currently in the Magna Alpha fund with heavy concentration in technology and the “magnificent seven” stocks – Apple, Alphabet, Amazon, Meta, Microsoft, Nvidia, and Tesla. In 2022 – a volatile year – funds were down nearly 22%, and the Magna Alpha fund was down 16%. CBIS does adhere to screens including life ethics, violence, pornography, and tobacco.

UBS has a higher fee of 88 basis points. Passive investing would include Catholic and ESG screens, and a similar allocation could be observed. There is a recommendation that gold can be included as a holding to hedge inflation. The attraction to their proposal is that currently, CLSA has no investment advisor. Having active advisors give the RAM and BOG an active sounding board and monthly updates. This switch would add value, performance, clarity and guidance. It would also allow CLSA to change or adjust investments as necessary.

Several members of the committee asked questions regarding appropriate screening, passive ETF’s, and contractual obligations. The committee also discussed differing risk allocations for the General Operations Investments versus Scholarship Investments; given the cash position of the society, it seems that less risk would be acceptable for the former rather than the latter.

After Steve and Ron left the meeting, and after internal discussion, Dr. Barr made a motion that the BOG move the CLSA’s investments from CBIS to UBS and entrust them to assist the treasurer with creating a dynamic portfolio allocation that appropriately respects Catholic screenings. This motion was seconded by Father Palladino. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Father David then reviewed the Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Statement as of 30 April 2025. The Society’s cash position at this time of the year remains tenuous; by May, income from dues and convention registration will begin to be captured. Prepaid expenses for publications, rent, future conventions, and other needs totaled \$58,323. Only \$823,55 remains in the General Operations Investment Account. Total liabilities and equity are \$2,573,449. In FY 2024, a remaining total of \$183,000 was withdrawn from the investment account to assist with operations; in FY, a total of \$100,000 was withdrawn from the same fund for the same purpose.

Scholarship funds totaling \$4,205 were received in April 2025. Unrealized gains in all investment accounts totaled \$2,893 for the month. Thus, total income for the month was \$15,908, inclusive of unrealized gains.

Expenses for the month included \$3,398.60 for an in-person BOG meeting, \$3,004.33 for a Convention Planning Committee Meeting, normal employment and rent costs, and other expenses totaling \$47,421 for the month. For the period, a positive net income of \$137,470 was realized.

Included in materials disseminated to the group before the meeting was the final FY 2025-2026 Budget approved by the Board of Governors, and the final text of a proposed resolution to the CLSA Membership to increase dues.

Finally, several questions about copyright and digital publications were entertained.

With no further business, the committee agreed to meet again on Thursday, 21 August 2025 at 12:00PM Central Time. With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 1:25PM Central Time after the *Glory Be* was led by Father David.

Again, the Committee on Resource and Asset Management met on 21 August 2025 virtually via the Go To Webinar platform. The meeting began at 12:00PM Central Time. Present were Father Jamin David, Msgr. Stephen Doktorczyk, Reverend Chris Palladino (Present for Part of the Meeting), Mrs. Danielle Dunleavy, Dr. Diane Barr (Present for Part of the Meeting), Dr. David Long, and Ms. Kathleen Butler.

Father David invited Msgr. Doktorczyk to lead an opening prayer in which we invoked the intercession of St. Pius X.

The financial report, including a balance sheet as of 31 July 2025, and a Profit and Loss Statement for the first month of the fiscal year were reviewed. Current assets of the Society increase during this period of the year with the collection of dues revenue and convention registration. Liabilities and equity of the Society total \$3,085,750.40. Prepaid expenses for publications, rent, future conventions, and other needs totaled \$195,371.43, and \$215,333.98 remains in the General Checking Account. Operating investments total \$990,184.04 while scholarship investments total \$1,558,526.83. A remaining total of \$157,000 was withdrawn in FY24 and FY25 from the investment account to satisfy operational obligations.

Scholarship funds are meager during the summer months. Unrealized gains in all investment accounts totaled \$ 14,921.53 for the month. Total income for the month was \$373,965.25, inclusive of unrealized gains, convention registration fees, and dues collected.

Expenses for the month included \$4,564.27 for an in-person BOG meeting, \$23,869.03 for normal employment costs, and other expenses totaling \$53,363.80 for the month. For the period, a positive net income of \$320,601.45 was realized.

Mrs. Dunleavy suggested that in addition to the information provided, in the future, this data be presented as a comparative report to the budget.

Father David also presented the annual financial report for FY24-2025. Highlights included \$2,961,322.89 in total assets at the end of the fiscal year. Income, including unrealized gains, totaled \$1,056,468.05, and expenses totaled \$877,253.65, for a profit of \$179,214.40 (which includes realized gains and investment income totaling \$251,637.95).

Both reports were unanimously accepted without any further discussion.

Father David reported that the RAM's motion that the BOG move the CLSA's investments from CBIS to UBS and to entrust UBS in assisting the treasurer with creating a dynamic portfolio

allocation that appropriately respects Catholic screenings was accepted by the BOG. Ms. Butler and Father David are working with representatives of UBS and Christian Brothers Investments to execute the change within the next several weeks.

Ms. Butler previously distributed the final text of a resolution to increase dues that has been approved by the Resolutions Committee and will be published to the membership and discussed at the Orlando Convention in October. Father David reminded the RAM of the importance of publicly speaking in support of the ratification of the resolution that was born at the Treasurer's recommendation after consultation with the RAM.

It was reported to the RAM that to continue to serve as good stewards of the Society's resources, the BOG has modified the policy regarding audits and financial reviews. Currently, a full audit is required at the conclusion of the fiscal year in which there is a change of treasurers; this policy remains. However, in intermittent years between the election of a treasurer, policy called for financial review. This policy was born before the Society engaged Walsh Associates in their professional accounting services. Since this seems superfluous, there is no requirement in policy for such financial reviews. Also, formerly, an audit was required as a new Executive Coordinator is hired. Since the Executive Coordinator does not have access to the Society's funds, but rather the General Secretary does, an audit is not required as a new General Secretary is hired. The BOG still has the prerogative to call for a review or audit at any time.

Ms. Butler reported that the BOG recently assisted in a project to remind members of the need to consider remaining current in their membership dues. This project has been successful; as of 30 June, 875 members have renewed. Mrs. Dunleavy inquired about the possibility of gathering historical statistical data to forecast membership attrition and its impact on the CLSA budget.

Fr. David and Ms. Butler also reported that the *Clergy Procedural Handbook* will soon be sent to print and will hopefully be available for pre-order in September 2025.

With no further business, the committee agreed to meet again on Wednesday, 08 October 2025 at 8:00AM Central Time. With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 12:53PM Central Time.

Submitted By: Very Reverend Jamin Scott David, JCL
Treasurer & Chairperson of the Committee on Resource & Asset Management
22 August 2025, The Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- Committee:** Professional Responsibility
- Constituted:** Constitutional (See Article X)
- Mandate:** The mandate of the committee is as follows:
1. Regarding complaints:
 - To receive complaints of any party aggrieved with respect to provisions of the Code of Professional Responsibility of the CLSA;
 - To make an initial finding that the complaint is not frivolous but is serious in character;
 - By majority vote, to refer the matter to one of the Hearing Officers;
 2. To issue advisory opinions and decisions on the application of the Code of Professional Responsibility; (and)
 3. To advise on all other questions concerning the professional responsibility of canonists.
- Members:** Mr. Ben Nguyen, *Chair*
Mr. Michael Dunnigan, *Hearing Officer*
Dr. Andrea Ponzone, *Hearing Officer*
Reverend Monsignor Stephen Doktorczyk, *ex officio*
Dr. Jeannine Marino, *ex officio*

REPORT

No complaints of the violation of the provisions of the Code of Professional Responsibility having been received in the past year, it was deemed unnecessary to convene a meeting. Over the past several months, Mr. Nguyen, Dr. Marino, and Msgr. Doktorczyk spent time examining procedural steps connected with the handling of accusations of violations of the Code of Professional Responsibility made against members of the CLSA. Some slight modifications were made to the procedural process (rendering the steps more precise), and these were approved by the Board of Governors during its July 2025 meeting.

Submitted By: Rev. Msgr. Stephen Doktorczyk
Date: 28 August 2025

Procedure for Adjudicating Alleged Violations of the Code of Professional Responsibility (CPR)

1. Accusation of Code of Professional Responsibility violations by CLSA members shall be referred to the General Secretary for purposes of recording and filing the accusation. Accusations may be brought forward by members and those who claim to be aggrieved by members within three years of the alleged violation of the Code of Professional Responsibility. Prior efforts should be made to resolve disputes by alternate, informal means.
2. Within 15 useful days, the General Secretary shall inform the accused and refer the accusation to the Chair of the Committee on Professional Responsibility. The Chair, in turn, shall convene the Committee (in person or virtually), to make an initial finding that the complaint does not appear to be frivolous in nature and, if true, would constitute a violation of the Code of Professional Responsibility. If the Committee's determination is negative, he/she the Chair shall

inform the EC General Secretary, who in turn, shall inform the complainant and the accused. In this scenario, the complainant will have 15 useful days to appeal to the Board of Governors (BOG). If it is judged that the matter (complaint) would constitute a violation, by majority vote of the Committee, a senior consultant on the Board of Governors shall refer the case to a Hearing Officer, known for his/her wisdom, knowledge of canon law, and sense of justice and fairness.

3. Within 15 useful days, the Hearing Officer shall investigate the matter, hearing the complainant, the accused, and other useful witnesses, and also collect relevant documents and other data. The investigation shall consider whether the accusation has the semblance of truth and, if so, any circumstances that mitigate or exacerbate the violation. If extenuating circumstances (for example but not limited to serious illness of the accused, parties out of the country for a prolonged period of time, illness or family emergency of the Hearing Officer, global pandemic) prevent the prompt investigation of the accusation, the President of the CLSA may direct that an exception be made and more time given for the matter to be investigated.
4. Within 15 useful days from the close of the investigation, the Hearing Officer shall report his/her results to the Committee Chair, who will convene the Committee to meet (in person or virtually), within 15 useful days from receipt of the report. The Committee may consult further with the Hearing Officer and/or seek further information.
5. Within 15 useful days, the Committee shall arrive at a finding of innocent (*constat de non*), guilty (*constat*), or not guilty (*non constat*). In the case of a guilty finding, the Committee shall recommend a penalty to the Board of Governors, based in part on anything specified in the *Code of Professional Responsibility*. Otherwise, the conclusion shall be communicated in writing to the General Secretary, who shall inform the accused and the complainant and record the matter in the membership files.
6. In the case of a guilty finding, the Board of Governors, after giving the accused a further opportunity to be heard, within 15 useful days shall review the Committee's finding and either confirm or reverse it. The Board of Governors shall consider the recommendations of the Committee and impose the penalty. Penalties may include warning/censure, suspension (from committee service and voting privileges), and dismissal from the CLSA. There is no appeal/recourse against the decision of the Board of Governors.
7. The CLSA President shall inform the accused and the complainant of the action.
8. The General Secretary will record the matter in the membership files.

Approved by the Board of Governors 7/2025

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee: Clergy

Constituted: 2009

Mandate:

1. To initiate as needed any projects pertinent to the study of canon law pertaining to the life and ministry of bishops, priests and deacons or the implementation thereof, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - o canonical issues related to the sexual abuse of minors,
 - o clergy personnel issues and resources,
 - o advocacy for clergy in penal cases;
2. To oversee projects referred to the committee by the BOG;
3. To oversee its subcommittees working on projects concerning clergy; and
4. To collaborate with national organizations and other groups dealing with clergy issues.

Members: Rev. Sean Bransfield, Chairperson, (Archdiocese of Philadelphia)
Most Rev. Edward Lohse (Diocese of Kalamazoo)
Rev. John Dickinson (Diocese of Portland, ME)
Rev. Robert Hyde (Diocese of Syracuse)
Mr. Michael Mazza (Wisconsin)
Mr. Benjamin Roodhouse (Diocese of Jefferson City)
Rev. Jeffrey Tudgay (Diocese of Scranton)

BOG Liaison: Msgr. Robert Oliver (Archdiocese of Boston)

REPORT

At the first meeting in January 2025, the new members were offered context regarding what work had been more recently accomplished by the committee. Discussion then began and continued during our monthly meetings about what the scope and focus of its work would be moving forward. A consensus quickly emerged that the committee's work be limited in scope to one project so our efforts could be concentrated and thus, hopefully, be made more effective and fruitful.

In time it was agreed upon that the topic of "unassignable priests" would become the committee's focus. This general term of "unassignable priests" leads to varied considerations as to its meaning, but in at least a general way, the term speaks to situations of priests deemed "unassignable" for public ministry due to varied canonical as well as non-canonical reasons. We then discussed how our work on this topic could be done in a way that would be most beneficial to the membership of the CLSA as a whole. After some continued deliberations we decided that the committee would dedicate its efforts to producing a written "reference resource" on this topic to be made available to the entire membership of the Society. As this project has continued to develop, our goal is to produce a "reference resource," rather than an in-depth, scholarly article, something that will succinctly address (in a format still to be determined) the key "angles" or "facets" of the issue. A particular goal of this project will be that the resource not be seen as "one-sided" in nature, but

rather as a helpful reference regarding rights, duties and considerations for all involved (i.e. bishops, diocesan officials, those accused, advocates, the community as a whole, etc.). It is also foreseen that the document will make reference to relevant jurisprudence so that the readers can be directed towards pursuing their own further study on this challenging topic.

The committee intends to continue meeting on a monthly basis as it engages more deeply the work involved in pursuing the writing of this “reference resource.” In more recent meetings, the committee has begun working on an initial outline that is intended to guide the formulation and writing of this “reference resource.”

- Committee:** Convention Planning
- Constituted:** 1971
- Mandate:** It is the function of the Committee on Convention Planning:
1. To receive from the Board of Governors the approved general theme of the next convention as well as any suggestions from the Committee on Research and Development for the development of the theme;
 2. To recommend to the BOG, in accord with the general theme, topics for major addresses, seminars or other presentations at future conventions, as well as a list of potential speakers and the honoraria for such speakers;
 3. Following BOG approval, to arrange for the speakers, addresses and seminars for the annual convention;
 4. To oversee the planning of all convention liturgies and prayer services in cooperation with its subcommittee for Convention Liturgies; (and)
 5. To review the evaluations of the most recent Convention and assist the Convention Chairperson in planning future arrangements, as needed.
- Members:** Dr. Eileen Jaramillo, Chair (2027)
Mr. Chad Glendinning (2025)
Rev. Christopher Sherren (2025)
Mrs. Adrienne Yates (2025)
Rev. Mr. Gerry Jorgenson (2026)
Rev. Msgr. Stephen Pedone (2026)
Very Rev. Kenneth Riley (ex officio, Past President)
Mrs. Donna Miller (ex officio, Executive Coordinator)
Ms. Kathleen Butler (ex officio, General Secretary)
- BOG Liaison:** Dr. Diane Barr, Vice President/President-Elect

REPORT

CLSA members might be interested in some of the practical details regarding the mandate. Virtual meetings lasting 1½ hours are held every six weeks, along with one annual all-day in-person meeting. A secretary is appointed to take brief notes during these meetings. The chair prepares the agenda, mainly to review each convention's slate. The slate covers seminar slots, topics, BOG confirmation, status, agreement letter, notes, and current position. The committee makes suggestions about the keynote address, the major presentation, sixteen seminars, and two pre-convention workshops. The chair submits a written report on the recommendations to the BOG at each one of their meetings. If approved, the President contacts the keynote speaker. The committee members handle other speaker contacts. The General Secretary maintains updated slates and follows up on various matters. The chair deals with issues that arise between meetings.

The theme of the 2026 convention in St. Louis is "The Art of the Administration of Justice." The committee has crafted a program designed to provide comprehensive support for individuals serving the Church as canonists and other staff members. Presentations will be given on topics such as:

- Sede vacante
- Ascription

- Advancement of lay people
- Relegation of church buildings to profane but not sordid use
- Wellness
- Justice within institutes and societies
- Intercultural competencies
- Review boards
- Rotal jurisprudence
- OCIA issues
- Dilatory appeal
- Financial crimes
- Cremation
- Tribunal models
- Demystifying Chapter 11
- Psychological issues

The 2027 convention in Ft. Worth will focus on the theme “Good Stewards of the Gifts of the Church.” The committee has identified topics and potential speakers, with several individuals already approved by the BOG and currently being contacted. If a speaker declines the invitation, alternative candidates are selected and submitted for approval prior to outreach.

The committee also reviewed evaluations from previous conventions and decided to create a document providing suggestions for speakers. This document, titled “Tips for Speakers,” has been approved by the members and is available in the document section of the CLSA Member Center. It has also been used by CLSA members in preparation for non-CLSA events.

In addition, a form has been created for CLSA members to recommend potential speakers. It can be accessed on the website. A comprehensive list of all proposed speakers is prepared for review during each committee meeting.

Over the past year, the committee focused on developing quality convention presentations. Several members will complete their terms at the upcoming convention: Rev. Christopher Sherren, Mrs. Adrienne Yates, Very Rev. Kenneth Riley, and Dr. Diane Barr. The committee is grateful for the service these individuals have given to the society. Join us in thanking them.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Eileen Jaramillo, DMin, JCL, MCL, MDiv
Chair

- Committee:** Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life
- Constituted:** 2009 (Revised Mandate 2019)
- Mandate:** The mandate of the committee is as follows:
1. To initiate as needed any projects pertinent to the study of canon law pertaining to the life and ministry of Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life or the implementation thereof, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. sponsorship;
 - b. mergers and restructuring of institutes;
 - c. governance;
 - d. membership;
 - e. new forms of consecrated life;
 - f. the process for private and public associations to be established as Institutes of Consecrated Life or Societies of Apostolic Life.
 2. To initiate as needed any projects pertinent to the study of canon law pertaining to the life and ministry of solitary forms of consecrated life, including but not limited to, the following:
 - a. eremitic or anchoritic life;
 - b. hermits;
 - c. consecrated virgins;
 - d. widows.
 3. To oversee projects referred to the committee by the BOG.
 4. To oversee its subcommittees working on projects concerning any form of religious life listed in 1 or 2 above.
 5. To collaborate with national organizations and other groups dealing with issues of any form of religious life listed in 1 or 2 above.
- Members:** Sr. Mariette Moan, ASCJ, chair, New Britain, Connecticut (2025)
Andrew Bartell, Chicago, Illinois (2027)
Dr. Christina Hip-Flores, Brentwood, Maryland (2027)
Sr. Lystra Long, OP, Trinidad and Tobago (2027)
Sr. Tracey Sharp, SCRH, Los Angeles, California (2027)
- BOG Liaison:** Dr. Feliz Menendez

REPORT

The ICLSAL Committee held three online meetings in February, April, and June, and will meet again in September, 2025.

At the beginning of committee work this year, there was a reorganization of members constituting the committee, including the BOG liaison, which provided the opportunity for in-depth discussions regarding the various aspects of the mandate for this committee by the CLSA. The committee aimed to utilize the experience and background of its members to examine how it might best contribute to the life of the Church, in general, and offer assistance in areas that touch upon and involve consecrated life, in particular.

The committee chose to focus efforts on providing webinars or podcasts around specific and timely topics pertinent to consecrated life and to entertain a multifaceted approach. The committee is willing to offer presentations for colleagues within the CLSA, but also wishes to do so for non-members, that is, for leadership teams of institutes of consecrated life or members of other forms of consecrated life and to make these available for offices that deal with consecrated life on the diocesan level. The committee feels strongly about providing both, if possible. A wide net of topics was suggested and refined and members of the committee have volunteered to present. They include: 1) the juridic aspects of consecrated virginity (pt. 1) with a follow-up online open discussion of questions pertaining to the presentation (pt. 2); and 2) charism and sponsorship. It was the hope and intention that the first webinar take place in late spring, 2025. Due to various factors, including members' work outside of the country, this could not take place and the target is now late fall, 2025 and winter, 2026.

A subgroup, consisting of the chair and two other members, from the Committee, invited by the Office of Religious for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, has met multiple times online from May-August, 2025 to prepare presentations for a 2-day workshop in September, 2025 entitled "Walking with God in Care and Accountability: Canon Law at the Service of Consecrated Life." The presentations will address canonical aspects of the evangelical counsels, fraternal life in community, authority, rights and obligations of members, finances, acquisition and alienation of property, and the changes to Book VI as they pertain to members of consecrated life. Although this is not sponsored by the CLSA, there is a great willingness from the members of the committee who are involved and a conviction that this is, in fact, a concrete example of action springing from our mandate.

Lastly, the committee discussed at length to consider a future proposal for a revision of the name of the committee from "Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life" to simply "Consecrated Life." The rationale is simple and clear. The umbrella that is "consecrated life" covers much more than "institutes" or "societies," as is the case with consecrated virgins and hermits.

Submitted By: Sr. Mariette Moan, ASCJ
August 15, 2025

- Committee:** Laity
- Constituted:** 2009
- Mandate:** The mandate of the committee is as follows:
1. To initiate as needed any projects pertinent to the study of canon law pertaining to the life and ministry of lay persons or the implementation thereof, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. Lay ecclesial ministry;
 - b. Collaboration with clergy;
 2. To oversee projects referred to the committee by the Board of Governors;
 3. To oversee its subcommittees working on projects concerning the laity, (and)
 4. To collaborate with national organizations and other groups dealing with the role of the laity in the Church.
- Members:** Deacon Andrew Haskins, Chair, Halfmoon, New York (2027)
Claire Breaux, Baton Rouge, Louisiana (2026)
Lori Peery, San Antonio, Texas (2027)
Nicole Delaney, Phoenix, Arizona (2027)
Marie Hilliard, Washington, DC (2027)
Joseph McQuaide, Wilmington, Delaware (2025)
Tyler Ross, Hixson, Tennessee (resigned)
- BOG Liaison:** Ben Nguyen

REPORT

This year, the Laity Committee met online to prepare a proposal for a CLSA Canonist Mentoring Program (CMP). This proposal has been in various stages of development for several years. The committee revised the proposal based on the most recent feedback from the Board of Governors and completed a draft Handbook and application form, both of which were presented to the Board at their July meeting. The Board affirmed the proposal and indicated a desire to move forward. The committee will now turn its attention to implementation of the CMP, making recommendations to the Board for a Director of Mentoring and to implement a pilot program within the next few months.

The second project for the committee is identifying and implementing resources for addressing canonist wellness, with recommendations for making these resources available to members. The committee has been developing ideas for resources who could assist canonists struggling with burnout and second-hand trauma, through convention presentations, webinars or podcasts, and/or information shared on the CLSA website. We have identified some potential resource persons who are willing to assist us with programming if an opportunity is presented. We have also been in contact with the chair of the Convention Planning Committee to discuss the possibility for convention presentations and are exploring ways to leverage CLSA resources to create podcasts or webinars if needed.

Submitted By: Deacon Andrew Haskins
August 18, 2025

- Committee:** Publications Advisory Board
- Constituted:** Board of Governors (2007)
- Mandate:** It is the function of the Committee on the Publications Advisory Board:
1. To advise the BOG about all aspects of current, periodic and proposed CLSA publication projects, including financial, literary, educational and marketing issues;
 2. To monitor the progress of all CLSA publication projects;
 3. To implement the procedures for peer review of CLSA publications;
 4. To make the final recommendation to the Board of Governors regarding specific publications.
 5. To review the coordination and management of the CLSA's publications activity on the part of the Office of the Executive Coordinator; (and)
 6. To provide a written report to the CLSA membership at the annual convention.
- Members:** Rev. Msgr. Jason Gray, Peoria Heights, Illinois (Chair) (2027)
Fr. Peter Akpoghiran, New Orleans, Louisiana (2025)
Mrs. Kelly Littleton, Happy Valley, Oregon (2026)
Very Rev. Peter Mottola, Rochester, New York (2026)
Dr. Sarah Lauhead Ariza, Cheyenne, Wyoming (2027)
Rev. Msgr. Robert Oliver, Braintree, Massachusetts (2027)
Rev. Msgr. Michael Souckar, Coral Springs, Florida (2027)
Ms. Donna Miller, The Villages, Florida (*ex officio*)

REPORT

Since the last convention report, the Committee of the Publications Advisory Board (PAB) has met three times, both online and in person.

1. The PAB has been kept apprised of and has offered input on the following publications that reached completion in recent years.
 - After several recent changes to the Latin code, the *Code of Canon Law*, 4th revised printing was published (2023). This has been a very popular publication.
 - In addition to the Latin code, changes to the CCEO have led to a publication of the new *Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches*, 2nd printing (2024).
 - A revision of *The Tribunal Handbook: Judicial Procedures in Marriages Nullity Cases* was published, especially acknowledging the procedural changes for annulments introduced by Pope Francis (2024).
 - A revision of the *Clergy Procedural Handbook* was recently published (2025), bringing up to date revisions in penal law and other changes in recent decades.
 - After twenty years, an update of the *Procedural Handbook for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life* was published (2021).

- *A New Commentary on the Code of Canon Law* is in the production stage. The PAB has monitored and advised on the assignment of portions of the Code to a variety of authors, the selection of new content editors as required, and the process for submitting reviewed articles to the general editor. The work on this project continues and additional updates are expected in the future.
 - The PAB has received the recommendations of the Church Finance Task Force and will explore ways of addressing these topics in upcoming convention presentations or webinars. Individual topics may be addressed in upcoming *Advisory Opinions*, and possibly in a future updated *Church Finance Handbook* if there is enough author interest.
2. The PAB considered other proposals for various publications. This included a potential handbook regarding married clergy, though this project did not seem to have sufficient interest to carry forward. Research was undertaken into a history of the CLSA, which may develop into a future publication. Efforts were made to publish some jurisprudence from the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith on more grave delicts, though various issues, including copyright obstacles, did not allow this project to advance.
 3. The PAB reviewed our ongoing publications including *Roman Replies* and *CLSA Advisory Opinions*, the *Excerpta Argumentorum* from *Decisiones seu Sententiae* of the Roman Rota, and *Proceedings of the Canon Law Society of America*. As many of these publications are free for convention attendees, they create a production cost for the Society without generating substantial income. The PAB is considering ways to improve efficiency, including the possibility of digital publications.
 4. The rollout of the relationship between the CLSA and HeinOnline took place in 2024. Over time, a variety of CLSA publications will be made available to members digitally. Currently *Proceedings* is included in the Religion and the Law Library. This agreement also allows CLSA members to have access to *The Jurist*, as well as other journals and resources in Religion and the Law.
 5. The PAB reviewed the sales of existing publications and the inventory of printed books. Books kept in stock can be made available to members at a discount. Other publications not kept on hand can be available through print-on-demand services but without a member discount. The PAB has also discussed the possibility of making additional publications available digitally.
 6. The PAB discussed the challenge of finding authors and editors to work on publications, the challenge of finding authors to write for *Advisory Opinions*, the challenge of increasing costs of publication, and the limitations on the budgets of individual canonists and Tribunals. The PAB discussion included ways of reversing the trend that publications now tend to generate less revenue for the Society. This is an ongoing concern.
 7. The possibility of additional future webinars was discussed to address pressing topics.

Submitted By: Msgr. Jason Gray, Chair
9 September 2025

- Committee:** Sacramental Law
- Constituted:** 2009
- Mandate:** The mandate of the committee is as follows:
1. To initiate as needed any projects pertinent to the study of canon law pertaining the sacramental life of the Church or the implementation thereof;
 2. To oversee projects referred to the committee by the BOG;
 3. To oversee its subcommittees working on projects concerning the sacramental life of the Church;
 4. To offer suggestions to the BOG for marriage topics for pre-convention workshops; (and)
 5. To collaborate with national organizations and other groups dealing with the sacramental life of the Church.
- Members:** Cecilia Brennan, Chair, Monterey, CA (2025)
Ann Bryant, Houston, TX (2027)
Luis Capacetti, Raleigh, NC (2026)
Anthony Saiki, Kansas City, KS (2026)
James Salamy, Syracuse, NY (2025)
Chris Seibt, Syracuse, NY (2027)
Vincent Woo, San Francisco, CA (2027)
- BOG Liaison:** Jeannine Marino, Washington, DC (2025)

REPORT

The Sacramental Law Committee met at the CLSA convention in Albuquerque, NM in October, 2024 and seven additional dates throughout the year. Two new members were appointed for a three-year term. One member was reappointed for another three-year term and Jeannine Marino continued as BOG liaison.

The Sacramental Law Committee continued our work on a summary of the validity and celebration of the sacraments and related issues such as sponsors, proofs, affidavits, recording, etc. Initially, our final product was going to be posted on the CLSA website as a resource for tribunals and parish leadership. The BOG recommended this work be made available as a CLSA publication and is intended as a shelf resource primarily for those without canonical training. The final project will comprise several sections, each addressing a given sacrament. We may limit it to the sacraments of initiation only. We welcome any input from the membership concerning questions or scenarios frequently encountered in their daily practice that could provide helpful to parish leadership or other tribunals.

Respectfully Submitted By: Cecilia Brennan

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT

- Committee:** Constitution Revision Commission (CRC)
- Constituted:** 2025
- Mandate:** The purpose of the CRC shall be to propose a comprehensive revision of the Constitution to the members of the CLSA including, if necessary, a proposed revision to the purpose and mission of the Society.
- The CRC shall also recommend related changes to the bylaws, including moving specific passages from one document to the other or to other related CLSA documents.
- The revision process shall include CLSA-wide conversations, led by the BOG and CRC in collaboration. These conversations shall be built upon the guiding principles identified by the Future Initiatives Project, the Schlageter Report, and the Strategic Visioning Task Force with its accompanying consultations and studies.
- Members:** Very Rev. R. Lucien Millette (Chair)
Miss Mary Gen Blittschau (Secretary)
Dcn. Matt Glover
Dr. Susan Mulheron
Msgr. Michael Souckar
- BOG Liaisons:** Dr. Jeannine Marino
Msgr. Robert Oliver

REPORT

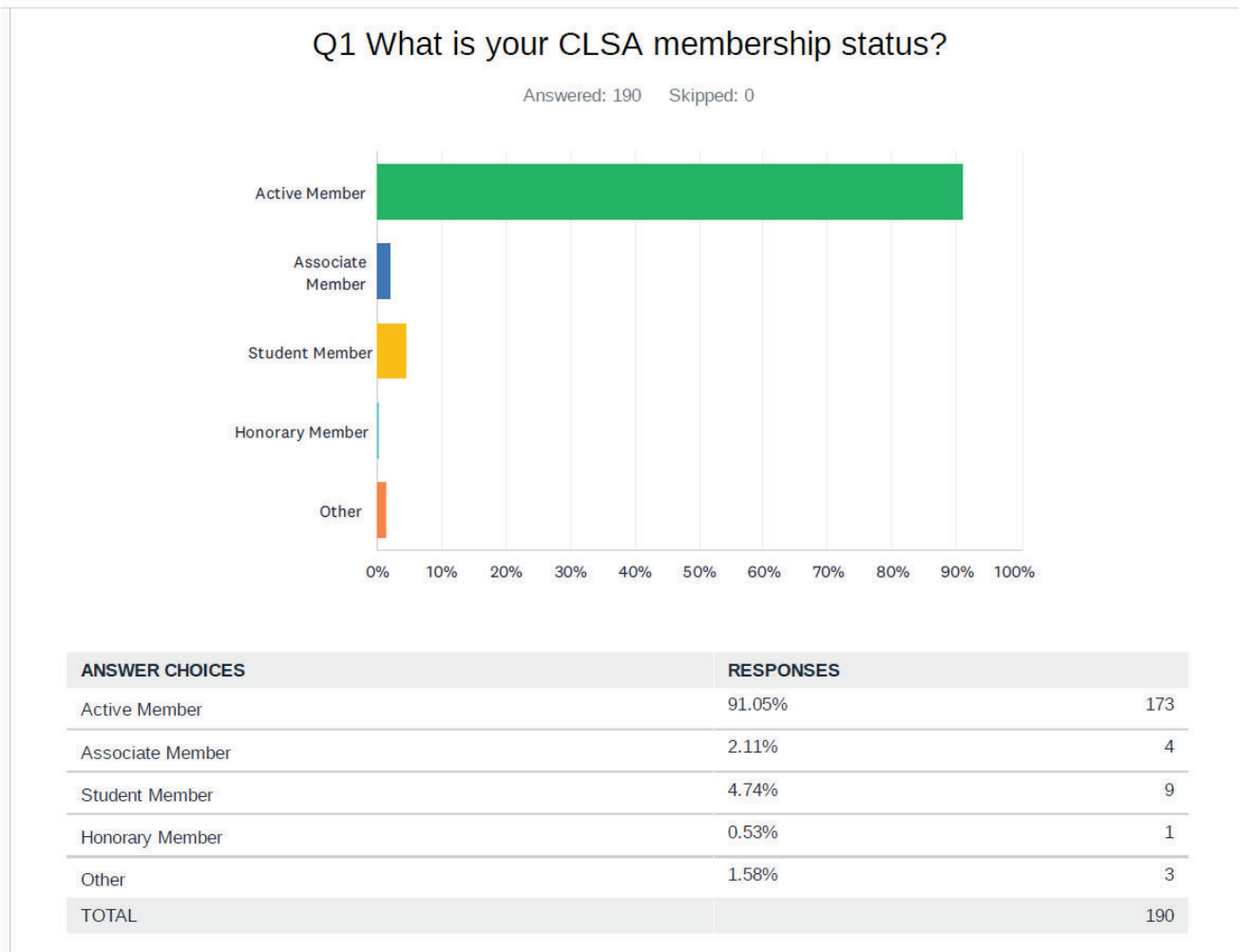
Since its formation, the members of the CRC and our BOG liaisons met weekly. One of these meetings was in-person which also included an in-person meeting with the BOG. One of our earliest tasks was to research the Constitutions used by similar Societies and to identify similarities and differences. This helped us to formulate ideas and questions for possible revisions for our own Constitution. Consultation was sought from both membership and outside experts. For example, consultation was sought from Past Presidents as well as a professional parliamentarian as well as a DC-based civil lawyer. Our internal discussions and external consultations were used to create surveys to be sent to the membership. At the time of this writing, one survey has been sent to the membership with additional surveys planned for the future. Our first survey was already useful in helping us to understand the opinions of the membership and guide our discussions. The survey results will be shared with the membership in greater detail (see pages immediately following this report). Discussion at our upcoming Annual Convention will be used to solicit membership feedback to guide the writing of the proposed Constitution revisions.

Submitted By: Fr. Luke Millette, Chair
18 August 2025

Report of the Constitution Revision Commission - September 2025 Report

We're grateful to have received 190 responses to the member survey sent out this past July. Overall, the responses indicated a high degree of support for the proposals. There were several thoughtful comments and questions made that we would like to highlight and respond to here briefly. We also plan to discuss these with membership at the convention in Orlando.

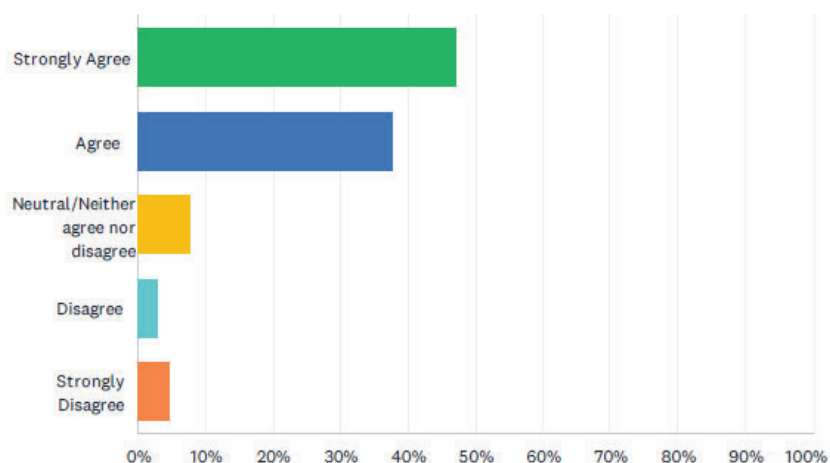
Question 1 - CLSA Membership Status:



Question 2 - Revising the Term of the President from One to Two Years:

Q2 Office of President: Revising the term of the President from one year to two years. Some primary reasons for this change are to promote continuity of leadership and foster the ability to implement a longer-term strategic vision and the action items proposed and accepted by the membership. Further recommendations would allow this to be reduced to a total commitment of only two years, if the office of Vice President is no longer President-elect, or a maximum of four years. Based on the information above, what is your current opinion about a two-year Presidency?

Answered: 170 Skipped: 20



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Agree	47.06%	80
Agree	37.65%	64
Neutral/Neither agree nor disagree	7.65%	13
Disagree	2.94%	5
Strongly Disagree	4.71%	8
TOTAL		170

As will be seen below, many comments supported this change in order to provide more continuity, stability, and effectiveness in leadership of the Society. Some thought that a 3 year term for President would be even better. Concerns were expressed about the amount of work currently required of the President, and whether it would be realistic to find qualified candidates who could give a second year under those circumstances. If the incoming President previously served as Vice President, this would entail a 4-year commitment, which many comments noted

may be too much. We acknowledge the concerns and agree that an extended term would require a restructuring of the current role by revisioning of the roles and responsibilities for members of the BOG and CLSA office staff.

#	COMMENT
1	I have served on the BOG. I recognize the need for continuity in leadership. The constant turn-over does not allow much to be accomplished by a single individual.
2	I strongly agree with the maximum of four years for President.
3	Stability of office is good, especially if the Vice President does not become President - elect. Learning curve annually is not efficient.
4	Although this may increase the challenge of finding people willing to serve, it would increase the stability of leadership, which would outweigh any negative aspects
5	Extending the presidency to two active years rather than one active year with one preparatory year would be much more onerous. It would require every president to oversee two annual conventions rather than one. Keeping the term of the presidency to one year is much more manageable. Let me suggest instead modifying the president-elect, president, and past-president model such that the past-president remains a voting member of the board of governors rather than a non-voting ex officio member. That gives the presidency the same term on the board as all the other governors, allows for the "extended vision" of a longer term due to continued active presence on the board, allows the past-president to feel that their participation still matters as they retain a vote after their term as president, and keeps the president's active involvement to a manageable level (one convention rather than several).
6	I'll comment on this later, but for the sake of continuity, I do think that the "Past President" serving on the board seems like a good idea. If we need to adjust the responsibilities, maybe we could have a "Consultor - Past President" role that would reduce the requirements of the "Past President" while allowing for continuity and fostering institutional memory.
7	My question would be whether CLSA has actually had an issue with continuity from president to president. If there has not been an issue with the new president continuing the work of the prior president, then I am less in favor of this change.
8	One year is barely enough time to get the arms around the position.
9	The way you describe the proposed 2-year terms for Pres and Veep would be disastrous, for several reasons. Anyone who endorses a 2-year presidency has likely not been on the BOG for the last 4-6 years. The roles of the executive officers have changed immensely from years ago when many of our members served on the BOG and had very little to do except attend a couple of meetings and maybe be present at convention. The BOG is now a more professional entity that acts in accord with what civil law calls for. The Society is not a canonical organization, but it seems that some people think it should be one. Every past president whom I have talked to from the last six years said at the time they were leaving office that they would NOT have wished for a second year as president. Burnout is real. If one of them now

says differently, then it's the classic "times heals all wounds" situation. They remember the good things about being president and have pushed the hard times into the background. The role of president in particular is now an immense time commitment, and there are issues that arise that are very stressful, necessitating weekly meetings with staff to stay on top of things. Another downside is that of the veep not being the person who moves into the presidency. We would be electing someone who will immediately become president—possibly without having been involved in the Society for years—and s/he will have to spend the first year getting oriented to the role; it then will fall to the staff to orient and teach the president what s/he is supposed to do. This is even more true if you are eliminating the past-president position—the person who could help if s/he still has the willingness to be involved after coming off of a two-year term. Currently the vice-president is supposed to learn from the president, but under a plan where the veep is not president-elect, this person will be as in the dark as the president. Staggering their terms is not the answer either—in terms of electing a president one year and a veep the next—as the veep would end up being more competent than the president during the first year of the president's term. The answer is not to make terms longer but to create a plan, a roadmap, for where the Society needs to go and what projects to undertake. Each of those goals and objectives would be spelled out, and would not be left at the whim of whoever is president at a given time. The person who "presides" as president will merely take the reins and oversee what the members are tasked with doing under the strategic plan. I hope the research you have done on other Catholic organization shows how the staff—particularly an Executive Director (not the Executive Coordinator as we are set up)—run things based on the goals set by the Board, such that the Board is there for big picture "dreaming", for organizing and preparing the members to take the lead in these projects, and for focusing on growing the membership and developing benefits. In essence, the whole structure of a "member-driven" society based on resolutions needs to be pitched. Our members are not driven or involved the way the founding members and successors were in the 20th century. Until the 1980s, the members were mostly priests and academics, and their whole worlds evolved around canon law. They wrote voraciously—thus publications abounded—and they were motivated by the Council and the new Code. Nearly 9 decades after our founding, that is not our demographic.

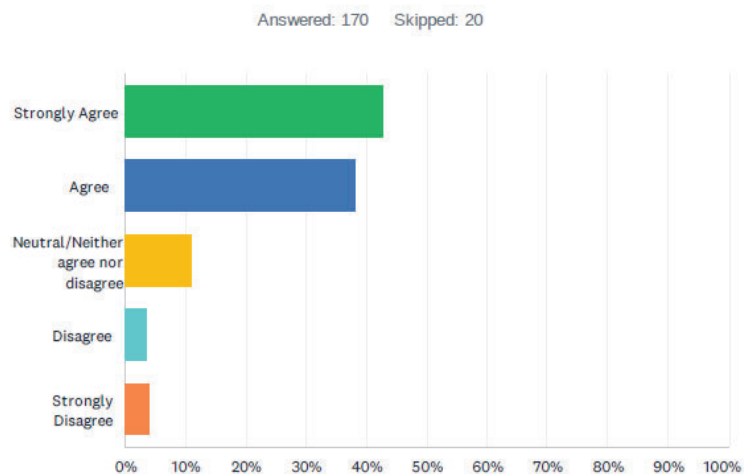
Our members today generally want the society to do things for them, not the other way around. So, the Society needs to evolve also. If you have not already done so, look at the governing and administrative structures of RCRI, RFC, NRVC, and even CMSM and LCWR. All of the religious-related entities are far more adept at how administrative staff, elected leadership, and membership work together for the good of all.

10	If it were to change to a two year term, are there considerations for realistic time expectations of the President given that the President, like other members of the Board, have various other commitments? I see this is considered below.
11	One year terms are just too short to be effective. I see no reason why the President and Vice-President offices should be linked.
12	Makes the most sense.
13	But not to go into effect until the end of the terms of the present officers.
14	It is hard enough to get people to agree to run for president. If you make it a two-year term, it will be even harder. You will argue that if President-elect is eliminated this will solve the problem. But it would be unwise to allow the election of someone who perhaps has NO idea what the issues and challenges are facing leadership. This would leave a lot of power in the hands of the (unelected) office staff at CLSA.

15	No term limits...I doubt we will have a career president. However, if that person is leading the group well, the President ought to be able to continue, at the vote of the people. Fundamentally, term limits impede the will of voters.
16	A one year presidency of any organization is merely a popularity position. Little can be done in one year.
17	I think one year is too short a time to have any effective leadership. Also, by eliminating the "past president" position, the commitment of time remains the same.
18	having served on the BOG I know it was a hardship for some presidents to remain that third year. I like VP not in line to be P because some members would be great at VP but prefer not to be P with all the necessary travel including to sister societies conventions.
19	The problem is not the term of office. The person has two terms: VP and President. The problem is the amount of work. It has increased dramatically. Eliminate the work. Give it to others.
20	It sounds like it could be a worthy change, but my biggest fear is that people will be even more reluctant to be considered for this position if it entails an inherently longer commitment than it already does.
21	I agree, on the conditions that the past-president is no longer committed to an ex officio position on the BOD, and that the VP is no longer President-elect
22	Need additional time to be more effective.
23	Most other professional associations use a two year term.
24	For anyone working full-time one year is already a great deal to ask. This dynamic is even more true because there are greater expectations than there were in the past.
25	Although the idea of a two-year term is a very good idea for the reasons given, there is great benefit to the incoming president having served as Vice-President and thus having the opportunity to become familiar with the operations, priorities, issues and struggles of the society. If the incoming president lacks this prior knowledge, they will be less effective and much more reliant on staff to bring them up to speed. What that means in practice is that staff is running the society, not elected officers.
26	I worry about the possibility of having candidates who are able to commit to the term with ministerial and other personal constraints.
27	While understanding the longer commitment, from experience in other groups it seems a lot of time is likely wasted by the president figuring out the role so having a longer term would provide better continuity and allow the president to better fulfill the office.
28	Methinks the experiences of past presidents would constitute an important indicator of whether the change is necessary. An aside: if a Vice President were NOT elected President after her/his term, that might appear to imply a vote of "no confidence" in her/his leadership....
29	First, we do not know whether the newly elected person is capable or available for two (or more) years. Second, i hope for more people, including younger, newer, etc., have an opportunity to get involved in the selection of candidates for better, potentially more capable in a genuine leadership based on not the person's knowledgeable or extroverted traits but the person's authentic integrity as a canon lawyer.

30	I have always thought a one-year term for the CLSA President was improvident. Actually, I wonder if a three-year term could provide greater stability and realization of goals.
31	I prefer the idea of shifting to a three year presidency.
32	Is two years long enough to develop and implement a longer-term strategic vision and the action items needed?
33	it takes a lot of time now, extending that to two years just complicates one full time job - which is not the CLSA
34	I agree but have hesitations about the president coming into office with no understanding of what issues have been before the BOG for the prior year. The one advantage of having a vice-president / president elect is that that person has a year to learn what the issues are before the BOG, who the personalities are on the BOG, etc.
35	Have been the President of the CLSA I think that this better assist the Society by have a two-year term.
36	The continuity secured by vice president becoming president seems much better
37	I cannot agree to a four-year commitment. Either two years for the presidency without the VP as president-elect, or it should remain one year in each position.

Question 3 - Revising the Term of the Vice President from One to Two Years:



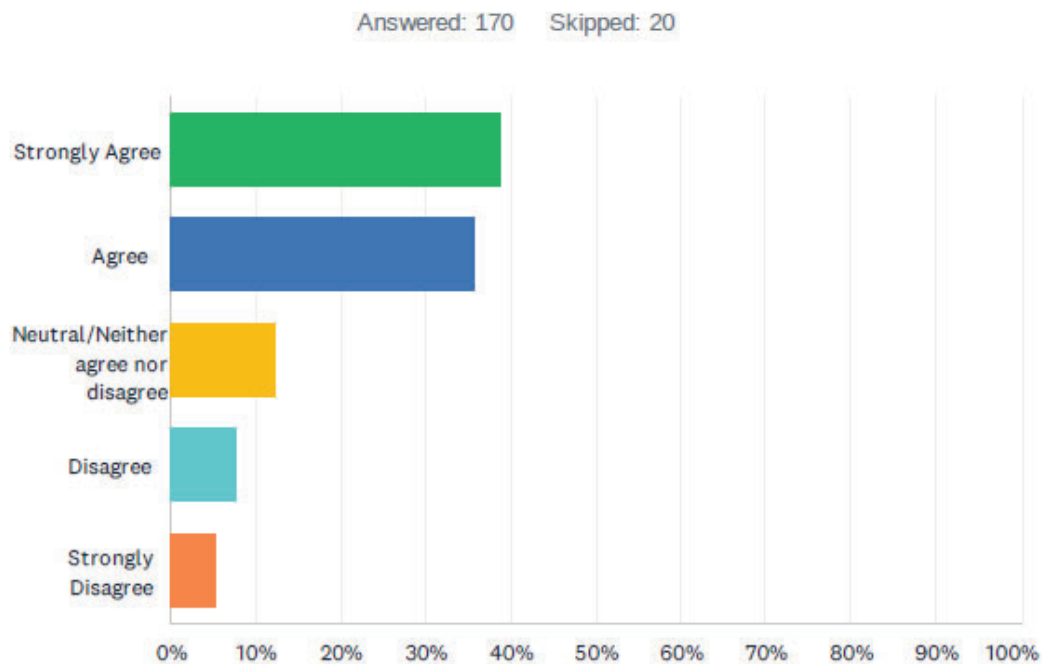
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Agree	42.94%	73
Agree	38.24%	65
Neutral/Neither agree nor disagree	11.18%	19
Disagree	3.53%	6
Strongly Disagree	4.12%	7
TOTAL		170

The survey responses as well as the majority of the comments support keeping the term length of the President and Vice President consistent such that if the term length of the President is 1 year, the term length of the Vice President should be 1 year, etc. There are some comments that highlight a concern that the office of Vice President and President should remain linked.

#	COMMENT
1	This will most likely create a four-year presidency in practice or an even longer depending on the team. One year vice-presidency with two-year presidency following seems ample and helps to avoid a four-year "lock in".
2	Same reasons as above regarding stability and consistency toward goals.
3	The existing system whereby the vice president is a president-elect that prepares for their term as president is very sensible. It allows a person to get used to the functions of a president and allows them to prepare for taking charge of their convention in two years. I would instead change the vice-president to be called a president-elect and retain the president-elect, president, and past-president model but would give the past-president remains a voting member of the board of governors rather than a non-voting ex officio member. That gives the presidency the same term on the board as all the other governors, allows for the "extended vision" of a longer term due to continued active presence on the board, allows the past-president to feel that their participation still matters as they retain a vote after their term as president, and keeps the president's active involvement to a manageable level (one convention rather than several).
4	It seems fine, but what would the role of the Vice-President be in such an arrangement? Would such a role even be necessary? I'm not voting higher because it seems to me that the purpose of the Vice-President is unclear if we move the presidency to a 2-year term and de-link the position from 'President-Elect.'
5	This allows for the President and vice President to work as a team for the betterment of the CLSA.
6	For the same reasons above. I do not see this as a way to foster continuity of leadership. As long as we have a nominations committee that hand picks the nominees--based on the wishes of the past president in most cases at present--the prospect of being stuck for two years with a president and vice-president who do not get along and/or cannot work together is not in the best interest of the society. Even if the past-president is eliminated, the push for diversity in recent has led us to electing people who are not ideal leaders, for various reasons like being too busy in their daily work and family commitments, being too timid or too lazy (there, I said it), not being committed to the mission of the society but desiring more to build their own resume, and more. We will never have the "perfect board," but when you get a bad one in an executive role, prolonging the bad will cause the society to suffer.
7	One year terms are just too short to be effective. I see no reason why the President and Vice-President offices should be linked.
8	Again, makes great sense.
9	But not to go into effect until the end of the terms of the present officers.
10	Do you really want to be open to the possibility of having two "newbies" to office run the CLSA? It would take too long for elected officials to "come up to speed." This would negate the benefits of having people serve two years - it would take them a year to come up to speed. And besides, it is the BOG who are supposed to drive changes and effect the action items proposed by members. BOG members already serve three years.
11	Same as above.

12	I am not opposed to keeping the vice president as president elect, but I'm fine with either decision.
13	If VP remains in charge of committees and task forces, it would help to know the chairs as well as members with a two year time.
14	Once again, the job description is overwhelmingly. Revise the job description. Delegate to others. The person has two terms: VP and President. It is important to learn the job as VP.
15	Same comment as previous
16	What if the VP and President were elected in different years? So that there was greater continuity. However it has it's drawbacks as the team would still be changing every year.
17	Same conditions as above.
18	See comment on Presidential term.
19	One year is long enough for anyone working full-time. The expectations of the VP have increased over the years. The VP can hardly keep up with them.
20	For reasons mentioned above, I think it important for the office of Vice-President to remain connected with the future presidency of the society, allowing the VP to gain a practical awareness of the society's operations and issues before becoming president.
21	The longer length of term for the Vice President is of less concern than the proposed two-year term for President, especially now the the Vice President is no longer "automatically" President-elect. Therefore, I hold a neutral position.
22	I worry about the possibility of having candidates who are able to commit to the term with ministerial and other personal time constraints
23	Actually, if the Constitution changes the term of the President, changing the term of the Vice President would appear to be necessary; and if the Constitution does NOT change the term of the President, changing the term of the Vice President would seem pointless.
24	As commented above regarding in two-year presidency
25	Keep VP elections to every year; Pres. has a two year term; VP is not Pres. elect; Pres. term limits = 3 terms (6 years)
26	I prefer the idea of a three year vice-presidency.
27	I think it should match that of the president's term.
28	If the VP isn't elected for 2 years, it would create a problem if the VP succeeds to the office of President. If the VP doesn't succeed to become P, then the the VP could serve a one year term, but it will change the VP/P dynamic.
29	The way this is written it sounds like the President and vice-president would serve terms at the same time, not staggered. If that is the case, I have hesitations. Especially since you propose to get rid of the past president role. Where would the knowledge of what happened in the past year come Yes, the staff, but is that enough?
30	Provided that this office is separate and not a President-Elect position. The average person is generally unable to work for the Society for four years.
31	the continuity of vice-president and then president is much better. Especially when both terminate at the same time, this could pose a major challenge

Question 4 – Delinking the Office of Vice President from President Elect:



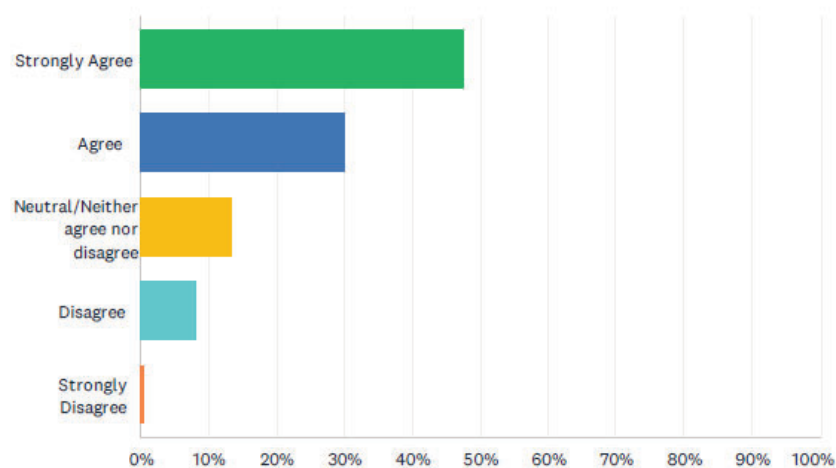
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Agree	38.82%	66
Agree	35.88%	61
Neutral/Neither agree nor disagree	12.35%	21
Disagree	7.65%	13
Strongly Disagree	5.29%	9
TOTAL		170

While this proposal had widespread support, concerns related to separating the office of Vice President from President-elect included that it could be possible for a President to be elected without previously serving on the Board of Governors, or for both the Vice President and President to be new to the Board, which would be difficult for leadership continuity. The current setup is largely seen as valuable for the incoming President to gain familiarity with the role, although some comments noted that the current Vice President position has its own responsibilities and might not be as helpful for orienting the incoming President as would be envisioned. The comments rightly noted the need to make possible longer terms and to redesign the office of Vice President. We will take this into consideration as we prepare our formal proposals for revisions to the Constitution.

#	COMMENT
1	This is not much of an issue in my mind given that in most organizations the vice-president is always elected as president unless there is some exceptional cause to argue otherwise.
2	Currently there is a reasonably clear role for the Vice-President; that of President-in-waiting, to acclimatise and prepare for the role. It is entirely unclear what would be the fundamental role of the Vice-President in the new proposal; how would it be significantly distinct from other BoG roles?
3	Primarily due to the burden this places on those who wish to run for this office. It may open it up as less of a long-term obligation.
4	No, allowing the vice president/president-elect to have a year to prepare to be president is very sensible as it gives the vice president/president-elect time to prepare for their time as the head of the organization and the point person for the convention. The constitution and bylaws already allow the president to give the vice president/president elect some of their duties, which could already include representing the society to other organizations. Decoupling the office presumes that the previous vice president will be nominated and will become president. That might not happen. Instead, someone who has not served as vice president might become president without the opportunity to gain the experience of being on the board of governors for at least a year learning how the organization works and to prepare for their term as president and their convention. It could thus very well backfire to the detriment of the members and the organization. Decoupling would also make there be no reason for the vice president. A separately-elected VP has little incentive to assist the president if they are not going to succeed to that role.
5	With such a short term (one or two years) the year of preparation for the office of President is important.
6	You say: "By delinking the office of Vice President from that of President-elect, this would allow for a shorter term in office for both the President and Vice President..." Would it? Currently the term is 2 years + 1(?) year of service to the board as Past President. So, sure, 2 years is shorter than 3. But if we want qualified candidates to run for the office, it's going to be 2 years of service as Vice-President, 2 as President, and 2(?) as Past President? I think this change would serve continuity of leadership, and expanding the role of the Vice-President as described in the question prompt could work, but if the goal is "for a shorter term in office for both the President and Vice President and make it easier to find suitable candidates" then I think you're not going to be successful - for the overall period of service (if we want Vice-Presidents to often become Presidents) we're actually lengthening the time of required/typical service.
7	The option to run should be left open but allowing others to run for President should be there.
8	Rather than decreasing the years, you would be increasing from 3 years to 4 years. If you do not make it a qualification that the president have held the vice-president role, you are creating chaos. ... [Redacted to protect personal information] ... That is why contemporaneous utterances are more reliable in a court of law than what someone says when they have the benefit of time to dull the bad memories.
9	If the terms were to change for both offices then I agree with delinking them.

10	Separating them makes since and does not hinder a Vice President from running later for President based on experience gained, etc.
11	I can see it going either way. But yes, it may be easier to get candidate if not automatically linked. However, the President needs to have some BOG experience. The times the President had no BOG experience, which has happened due to avoidable changes, it did not work well.
12	There is no way you will get ecclesiastical superiors (or work supervisors, or spouses) to agree to let someone spend four years in office given the responsibilities of these two offices. And I think it will be difficult to get people to be willing to serve two years with so much work to do. Also, this leaves open the possibilities that the president and vice-president will both be "newbies" with no prior experience. It will take these folks long enough to "come up to speed" that you will lose whatever advantage a two year term gives you. The BOG (with three-year terms) should be driving the implementation of new initiatives, etc. If you restore the "three-times-a-year-in person" meeting schedule for the BOG you may find it better able to carry out this work.
13	I would put this to a vote of the membership, ask people if they'd be willing to serve 4 years. But I am fine with either choice.
14	The person learns the role as VP. Bringing in a President who has had no experience on the BOG or experience from years past is unjust. The added responsibility has changed so much.
15	An election could be held anyhow if there were another candidate/s in the event no one steps forward or the VP is considered capable (and willing to do it), s/he would then assume the role.
16	I don't love the comment: "then be seen as a preferred qualification for ... election as President". Now it sounds like being VP is a 4 year commitment, rather than the 3 it is now. And I would want to be clear that the Association is free to choose whomever for President. If we are dividing the roles, let's divide the roles. Any "tipping the scales" that a VP is now fit to serve as President is adding more of a burden to the VP.
17	There is value in both continuity and stability of leadership under the current system but the proposed changes reflect the reality of modern commitments.
18	The VP learns the ropes and is ready to assume the presidency. A newcomer would not be ready or as effective.
19	Ut supra, this might lead to hurt feelings. If "continuity of leadership" is the value we are seeking, does not the automatic succession of the Vice President/President-elect foster it?
20	As commented above
21	It's fascinating that, in canon law, we have many examples of auxiliary bishops, vicars general and episcopal, parochial vicars, etc. Yet, we never applied our lived experience to our Constitution. None of these examples presume transition to diocesan bishop or pastor.
22	These reasons make sense.
23	The present arrangement guarantees some experience for the President while the proposal potentially removes this guarantee. While speaking of a shorter term, you are also proposing lengthening the terms.
24	The experience of past P & VP would best speak to this. It would seem that being VP would be a good preparation for becoming P. However, it may be difficult to find someone to accept a 3 or 4 year commitment as VP and then P for several years.
25	It depends on the delegation of responsibilities
26	Again, I have hesitations if the terms are the same for president and vice-president. I would prefer to see their terms staggered, which would then help with the continuity of knowledge.

Question 5 – Eliminating the Office of Past President:



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Agree	47.65%	81
Agree	30.00%	51
Neutral/Neither agree nor disagree	13.53%	23
Disagree	8.24%	14
Strongly Disagree	0.59%	1
TOTAL		170

Support for this provision appears based to be on the condition that terms for Vice President and President are extended. Some comments noted that a clean break from governance would be helpful once a President has fulfilled the term, while acknowledging that the Past President could still be available as a resource in an informal capacity if the President desired. Other comments questioned the potential loss of valuable input from the Past President, and noted that the level of work and time commitment for this role is much less than that of President. We will take these comments into consideration as we think of the overall makeup of the Board.

#	COMMENT
1	If the term of the vice-president and president is, in fact, extended, then this provision should change. Otherwise, we have quite the influence for an extended period of the vice-president who becomes president and then becomes past president.
2	They have already given much time in office by the time they are past-president. Also, if there is a two year term for President and Vice President, the need for the Past-President is lessened in terms of consistency and experience.
3	The past president should instead retain a vote on the board of governors rather than be ex officio. That way, everyone on the board knows that they will be involved for three years and will have a vote for three years. It is incongruous for those who fulfill the presidency (holding president elect, president, and past-president) to have less of a vote on the board than the secretary, treasurer, and consultants.
4	There is a valuable contribution when you have past-president as part of the BOG since this can ensure a good transition and especially sharing informations that might be un-clear or need more explanation. Maybe what could be done is leave it a bit open for the past-president to accept or not this possible position in the BOG. A past-president still part of the BOG does not prevent the president to reach out to any past-president for advice.
5	I'm almost at "agree" here. If we think that the position is not necessary, fine. But I do wonder about continuity and my initial response is that it seems like this would eliminate one beneficial safeguard of institutional continuity on the BOG.
6	The immediate past President should remain a resource but not in an official capacity.
7	If you eliminate it without changing the other terms, no problem. But if go to two-year terms and no succession of veep into presidency, you would be eliminating one of the only people on the BOG who could possibly give support to the president who comes in without any prior experience as veep and, quite possibly, without any BOG experience at all.
8	The position of Past President does help persevere institutional knowledge but our society has quite competent people keeping records, managing things, etc. As long as we have staff and people like Kathleen, we maintain consistency and that knowledge of what came before, which reduces the benefit gained from a Past President position. It might not eliminate it entirely, but the past president can usually be reached by phone or email even without holding a position.
9	The other changes make this office unnecessary.
10	What does a past President really do anyway, besides give advice? Is it all that great a time commitment?
11	This would eliminate the "old guard is always in conrol image" that the CLSA projects. Once you have served in an office you ought to be considered part of the general memebership only an dnot have furthur imput into policy making.
12	With a longer term for president, this would seem unnecessary.
13	I cannot imagine a past president not willing to be contacted if there are questions about continuity with what was done last year during the first year of a new president.
14	The person cannot let go of being President. It affects the BOG and committee work negatively.
15	Suggest past president be included as non-voting member of BOG for 6 months.

16	I like the idea of reducing this time commitment of the (now past) President, especially if the President's term is changed to two years.
17	I like this the best. While I get the continuity, I imagine it could create an awkward situation when the new President wants to move a different direction than the President before them.
18	Makes President's job much easier.
19	Cultivating leadership is every member's responsibility.
20	By the time the person reaches past-president the individual is exhausted. Some try to control the BOG making it difficult for the current president to act.
21	Having the living memory of the Past President has been helpful to the BOG and to the Society. However, making the presidency a two-year office (and, as I believe is important), continuing the link with the office of Vice-President/President Elect, would make the length of office too taxing.
22	I am wondering how active the Past-President has been in recent years. Does the Past-President usually get involved in current business?
23	I agree with elimination of the Office of Past President. Why do past presidents stay on the Nomination Committee? Even if they are ex-officio, is there really a need for this?
24	I don't have experience to know the Past-President's role and responsibilities and how eliminating this office would impact the CLSA. This limits my ability to make an informed response, but the rationale seems valid.
25	Whoever is willing to serve as president should understand that his/her experience will be especially valuable to the successor. I understand that this is a 4 year commitment for each new president, but it does provide stability to the organization.
26	The only draw back is that if each position is 2 years, so the 3 offices running consecutively would require a 6 year commitment.
27	Have former Presidents complained about occupying the office of Past-President? If so, fixing it seems a good idea. If not, "if it ain't broke..."
28	The person in this office would have much to offer to the President and Vice- President. This has been a unique role and should not be eliminated simply because other groups do not have it!
29	Do not think the office of post-presidency is ever needed
30	Again, our lived ecclesial experience, and our law, typically underline the importance of a former bishop, superior or pastor absenting him or herself from governance and administration of his/her former office.
31	Past VP / P can speak to this. If the Past President doesn't contribute much direction in practice and/or if they are burnt out from their main responsibilities... let them go in peace.
32	The Past-President can be a good sounding board and someone to consult on how things are or have been done.

33	The year as past-president was one of the nicest years of the 3 year term. It is nice to be able to give an understanding to the BOG of why certain decisions were made, and not to have the responsibilities. I do not think that this 3rd year is what is preventing people from choosing to run. The continuity of knowledge is important and we want to make sure that we do not lose this.
34	With a two year term of President the office is no longer needed.
35	I would keep the office of past-president as a one-year term, giving some stability for the current president without being overly burdensome on the past-president.

Question 6 – Additional Comments:

There were numerous constructive comments submitted which are being used to help guide the work of the CRC. There were numerous proposals about the structure of the leadership of the BOG. As was noted, many of the proposals for which we sought input would require other related changes such as a restructuring of the duties for other BOG members and CLSA office staff. Future surveys will examine these possibilities. Some comments related to the possibility of remote voting and absentee voting at the Convention. We have verified that these are allowed according to DC Law, but further issues must be studied such as the costs associated with remote and absentee voting, how it would impact nominations from the floor, and guidance from the Holy See for virtual meetings.

#	RESPONSES
1	By eliminating the Past President for the BOG, this reduces the BOG to an even amount of members (10 = Prez, Vice Prez, Treas & Sec, and 6 Consultors), which could result in tie votes. How to deal with tie-breaker?
2	Retaining the present structure of president-elect, president, and past president but allowing the past president to have a vote rather than be an ex officio member solves much of the problems that are identified here (eg, extended vision and the participation of the past president) without resorting to the major changes and avoids many of the problems (two conventions) that extending the term of the presidency would cause. As to other issues for revising the society's bylaws, there should be ways for those who cannot be present at the convention to cast at least an initial vote for resolutions and candidates. Perhaps absentee balloting could be introduced.
3	None. Pretty straight forward for above.
4	I have no questions. These proposals seem to be reasonable and similar other similar organizations in the Church.
5	I appreciate all the work you all are doing in service to the Society, thank you. I do think that one option could be to make the changes you suggested and have 2 Vice-Presidents, each of whom would be in charge of committees. This would (in theory) increase the number of suitable candidates for President, while also not having our system "require" VPs to become Presidents, in order to continue to have qualified leaders. The nice thing about the 1 year of President-Elect before 1 year of President is that the entire term is 2 years (and then the year [?] as Past President), which is effectively a 3 year term, and then one is done. I do think that having 2-3 Vice Presidents and approving the proposals presented may serve the goals of making each position distinct from the others while not having a 'leadership vacuum' if someone is qualified and capable of service, but can only serve 2 years.

6	These proposals were well researched. Thanks for your diligent work on the revision.
7	None at this time.
8	Will the committee look at dividing out overarching goals, role, and objectives from the lower level details so 2/3 vote is not required for basic changes that need to be made so the CLSA and it's constitution can react to our changing environment.
9	Why an amendment? I thought a new Constitution was being written.
10	I always thought the veep>president>past-president triad was an excellent blend of new>mature>old. If these three people could work together as a team, it would be even better. The past-president has been basically shut out in recent years because of burnout, not wanting to step on the new president's toes, feeling unappreciated, not having time to debrief after the presidency, and on and on. If the presidency was not thought of as a proprietary position where agendas are to be fulfilled, and if we had a strategic plan in place where everyone who assumes the leadership role is focused on the goals and objectives that come before him/her, then we could have the continuity that we desire. I think that you are going to reduce the number of willing candidates and/or the number of truly qualified candidates if you go the two-year-term route.
11	N/A
12	Thank you all for your work on this, for thinking this through, and for all of the dedicated hours thus far spent. Your work and collaboration is appreciated and for the good of the Society and the Church.
13	We absolutely need to make sure we have a better way to deal with ties in elections :)
14	None.
15	These should not go into effect until after the turn of the present officers and the present officers
16	The other Societies who use this sort of model are "orders-of-magnitude" smaller than the CLSA and being President or Vice-President does not involve nearly a much time and energy commitment. I don't think it would work for us, and we have a hard enough time getting people to run for office as it is. However, I think the Office of Executive Coordinator needs to be returned to a full-time, in-the-office-in-D.C. position, and paid commensurately. This person would provide the continuity and historical perspective to the BOG and the President and VP. (It has worked well in the past, my friends.)
17	I would like to thank the CRC & BOG for their diligent work on these revisions.
18	I think there is wisdom in at least a year of BOG membership prior to becoming president. Maybe one option would be in the president's second term, elect the president elect? That would then be a 3 year commitment.
19	sounds very good to me.
20	You need to focus on streamlining the positions before any amendments. I am not in favor of the current direction.

21	I would respectfully suggest exploring the feasibility and possibility of amending the bylaws and/or the Articles of Incorporation to allow all members of CLSA to vote remotely at the annual meeting, whether physically present or not. I believe remote voting is now permissible in a nonprofit corporation under the DC Code. The District of Columbia Code allows D.C. nonprofit organizations to hold remote member meetings if the organization is expressly permitted to do so in its articles of incorporation or bylaws. The communication equipment used must allow members to read or hear the proceedings live, pose questions, make comments, and vote. Under temporary legislation that was in effect until February 4, 2022, D.C. nonprofit organizations could hold member meetings remotely, even if their articles of incorporation or bylaws do not have such a provision with respect to remote member meetings. Therefore, even if an organization's governing documents only permit member meetings to be held in person or are silent on the matter, member meetings for D.C.-incorporated membership organizations could have been held remotely until February 4, 2022. An organization whose articles of incorporation or bylaws do not expressly authorize remote member meetings will need to amend its articles of incorporation or bylaws to include this express authorization in order to hold remote member meetings beginning February 4, 2022. Remote voting is called for today, especially as some members may no longer be able to attend the annual meeting because of advanced age, declining health, or if they simply do not have the resources to attend the annual conference. Their full voting participation should not be unintentionally restricted simply on account of old age, disability, or economic challenges. Thank you for your consideration.
22	Would someone who is elected for Vice President run for President taking on a 4 or 5 year commitment.
23	I think that 2 year president frees up VP position to be one year. Makes the position more of a possibility for many.
24	None at this time
25	I have no questions. I have only one comment: Heartfelt Thanks for all your hard work - for us and on our behalf. You have presented the wisdom of each point's recommendation with clarity. I am grateful, ... [redacted to protect personal information] ...
26	think the VP's role needs to be clearly defined. Do we have to have a VP? Could there be another title that might better describe the task they do? This would also help distinguish their role from what it is now, which is "future President."
27	Again, I would here only reiterate that, in seems to me, for these changes to work they all have to pass together, except the de-linking of the President and VP (as Pres-elect).
28	None
29	None options are well articulated.
30	ou are going in the wrong direction. If there are proposals I hope they get defeated!!!
31	The longer terms make good sense and will allow the President and Vice President time to know and work with issues, etc. before their terms are up.
32	None
33	I support this modifications

34	The offices and terms of office and essential responsibilities of officers and the like are not unimportant, but far more important are the nature and purpose(s) of the society itself. Once we know what the society is for, we can more easily decide how the society should govern itself.
35	The office of the past president should have some requirements such as the person's ability to offer insights into situations encountered
36	All of these proposals make sense. One concern I have with them is that, if I understand everything correctly, someone could be nominated for President who has had no previous experience on the BOG, since the President would no longer automatically have been serving on the BOG as VP. I suppose this consideration would be factored into the discussions and decisions made in future years by the Nominations Committee, but I thought it important to at least mention this concern of mine, that a future President could be someone with no previous BOG experience.
37	everything sounds great.
38	In this question, i need time to think over, and so i hope this question come up at the national convention again.
39	I would have to study the Constitution more carefully to suggest any other edits.
40	no questions
41	None
42	None
43	1) What do past Presidents have to say from their experience? 2) How is the role of VP different from P? I'm not sure the average member knows this information.
44	Thank you for your hard work!
45	If the purpose of this commission is to present new constitutions, why is his question focused on amendments instead of a new constitution that would include these changes?
46	None
47	none

Finally, we are especially grateful to those of you who offered to engage in this work in more detail. The CRC will be reaching out to you in the future for your thoughts on future proposals and next steps. We look forward to discussing or work in more detail with everyone at the upcoming Annual Convention.

Canon Law Society of America

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October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025

Sister

Mary Ann Bartolac, SCL
Leavenworth, Kansas
+November 21, 2024

The Reverend

Lawrence G. Wrenn
Sarasota, Florida
+December 14, 2024

The Very Reverend

John Selwin Ledford, VF
Glen Dale, West Virginia
+January 10, 2025

The Reverend

John W. Robertson
Helena, Montana
+February 4, 2025

The Reverend

James Coriden
Washington, District of Columbia
+February 7, 2025

The Reverend

Thomas J. Fransiscus, CSSR
Tucson, Arizona
+February 13, 2025

The Reverend Monsignor

Bruce Miller
Covington, Louisiana
+February 25, 2025

Sister

Mary Wright, IBVM
Hawthorn, Victoria, Australia
+March 29, 2025

The Reverend

Ladislav Orsy, SJ
Baltimore, Maryland
+April 3, 2025

Sister

Eloise Rosenblatt, RSM
Saratoga, California
+April 14, 2025

Sister

Rose Mary Kuklok, OSB
St. Joseph, Minnesota
+May 18, 2025

The Reverend

David L. Deibel II
Indian River, Michigan
June 16, 2025

For the repose of the soul of our Supreme Legislator

Pope Francis

December 17, 1936 - April 26, 2025

*May our colleagues and
all the faithful departed
rest in peace.*

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acknowledges its*

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as of September 18, 2025***

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Mr. Ben Altenhofen Shoreline, WA	Very Rev. Ronald Barusefski Harrisburg, PA	Rev. Michael Bradley Chicago, IL
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