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# Kairos of Texas

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*Changing Hearts – Changing Lives – Impacting the World*

## **KAIROS CLERGY REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE OF TEXAS, KAIROS CHAPTER**

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Accepted Saturday, July 14, 2012

### **REQUISITE FOR QUALIFIED TEXAS KAIROS CLERGY**

#### **PREAMBLE**

Kairos Prison Ministry, Intl. (KPMI) seeking to bring Jesus Christ to the incarcerated, their families and loved ones recognizes the importance of spiritual leadership finds the utilization of qualified clergy a necessity for the fulfillment of its mission.

#### **1. KAIROS CLERGY as defined by KPMI.**

##### **A. Any Kairos clergy:**

1. Should have received formal training from their denomination or church authority (by this we usually mean seminary or Bible College), **or**
2. Be ordained by their denomination or church authority, or be licensed by their states clergy, **or**
3. Be recognized as clergy in good standing by a religious order (usually refers to a community of priests, nuns, (monks), **or**
4. Be actively engaged in or retired from ministry by a recognized church authority.

*And*

- B. Be able to work effectively in an ecumenical or interdenominational setting.**

*And*

- C. Qualify under their state as being covered by the privileged communication statute.**

**Everyone else is considered a lay person”.<sup>1</sup>**

“To Kairos, a person designated as clergy is the person who meets **all of the above three major criteria**”.<sup>2</sup>

“Kairos is not non-denominational. It is ecumenical. Kairos does not ask volunteers to give up Christian practices that they hold dear, but it does require that they do not use those Christian practices which are not universally held by all denominations while working in the ministry. Kairos does not permit, either in Team formation or during the Weekend the following:

<b>Altar Calls</b>	<b>Communion</b>	<b>Praying the Rosary</b>
<b>Speaking in Tongues</b>	<b>Baptism</b>	<b>Slaying in the Spirit</b>
<b>Stations of the Cross</b>	<b>Healing services</b>	<b>Anointing with Oil</b>

Clergy who participate in Kairos must be willing to support and uphold the ecumenical and interdenominational nature of Kairos”.<sup>3</sup>

“The decision as to whether an individual is a lay or clergy person is left to the judgment of the State Chapter Committee; however, to be labeled as clergy on a KPMI event, the person must meet the three-pronged test. No Exceptions”. 4

## **2. CLERGY AND CLERGY COMMUNICATION AS DEFINED BY THE STATE OF TEXAS**

### **TEXAS RULES OF EVIDENCE**

#### **“Rule 505. Communications to members of the clergy**

##### **A. Definitions, as used in this rule:**

1. A member of the clergy “is a minister, priest, rabbi, accredited Christian Science Practitioner, or other similar functionary of a religious organization or an individual reasonably believed to be the person consulting with such individual”. 5
2. Communication is ‘confidential’ if made privately and not intended for further disclosure except to other persons present in furtherance of the purpose of communication. 6

**B. General rule of Privilege.** A person has the privilege to refuse to disclose and to prevent another from disclosing a confidential communication by the person to a member of the clergy in the member’s professional character as spiritual advisor. 7

**C. Who May claim the Privilege.** The privilege may be claimed by the person, by the person’s guardian or conservator, or by the personal representative of the person if the person is deceased. The member of the clergy to whom the communication was made is presumed to have authority to claim privilege but only on behalf of the communicant”. 8

## **3. FACTORS HAVING NO CONFIDENTIALITY**

- A. Cases of child neglect or abuse. 9
- B. Inmate’s threat to harm self.
- C. Inmate’s threat to harm another inmate or staff must be reported immediately.
- D. All confessions of planned fight, riot or other security concerns must be reported immediately.
- E. When the clergy testifies as a character witness for the confidante. 10

## **4. THE ROLE OF THE CLERGY IN THE KAIROS MINISTRY.**

### **A. Responsibilities of an AC Clergy/Spiritual leader.**

1. Assumes the role of Spiritual Leader for the local Advisory Council and helps it stay focused on the Lordship of Jesus Christ; and assists in meeting spiritual needs of the Council. 11
2. Be responsible for 5 minute devotion at each AC meeting.
3. Pray for the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Advisory Council.
4. Pray for harmonious relationships between the warden, chaplain and the AC.
5. Lead AC members in prayer for the Weekend Leaders, participants and guests.
6. Pray that the focus of the AC is upon Jesus and upon the Lordship of Christ, not human agendas.
7. Oversee that denominational practices are not promulgated.
8. Pray for the Support Team.
9. Agree and comply with KPMI principals as set forth in the current Kairos Prison Program Manual.
10. Supports/assists the unit Liaison and Chaplain in facilitating the Kairos ministry in the unit.

11. Send the Warden and Chaplain invitations to the weekend closing ceremonies (Kairos Inside and Torch only). <sup>12</sup>
12. Assist the Weekend Leader and Outreach/Recruiting Coordinator in identifying and recruiting qualified clergy to serve on weekends. (Based on KPMI Guidelines). <sup>13</sup>
13. Enjoin the principle "Listen, Listen; Love, Love". Good listening is more important than speaking.

## 5. THE TENTATIVE ROLE OF TABLE CLERGY.

- A. Pray the Holy Spirit upon the Table Leader that he/she might fulfill His function.
- B. Pray the assistant Table Leader assists the table Leader in staying focused on the task at hand.
  1. Help maintain a spirit of Espirit de' Corps among the family members.
  2. Assist the Table Leader in maintaining discipline at the table.
  3. Be a model at "Note taking" by taking notes.
  4. Answer Theological questions **ONLY** and **IF** asked.
  5. Remember that the weekend is for the participants. They give the suggestions for and produce the posters.
  6. **Be a good listener.** (For some this may be a monumental task).
  7. **DO NOT** do a "one on one" at the table. Opportunity for a "one on one" will be provided as directed by the Weekend Leader.
  8. Do not participate in shouting encouragement. Applause is acceptable at the proper time; such time will be designated by the weekend Leader.
  9. If no clergy is available to sit at the table, the lay person filling that seat must be identified as a lay person with no standing to claim the confidentiality privilege. It must be clearly indicated that the lay person at the clergy seat is not an ordained clergy.
  10. Speak only when appropriate.
  11. Listen, Listen; Love, Love!

### References:

1. Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc., Program Manual, 2011 edition, section II-25.
2. Ibid, section II-253.
3. Ibid. Section II-254.
4. Ibid. Section II-27.
5. Texas Rules of evidence, Rule 505, Privilege update 2002, Chapter 18, page 8.
6. Texas Rules of evidence, Rule 505c, page 8.
7. Ibid. Rule 505b, page 8.
8. Ibid. Rule 505c, page 8.
9. Texas Family Code 34.04.
10. Privilege update 2002; Rule 505, chapter 18, page 9.
11. KPMI Advisory Council Operating Procedure, Chapter 13; 13a & b, page 12.
12. Ibid. 13c, page 12.
13. Ibid. 13d, page 12.