

**Montana Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
2019 Bishop Election**

AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE

I authorize any reference, supervisors, ELCA entity (including congregation, synod, churchwide organization), or any other person or organization to give the Montana Synod any information (including opinions) regarding my character and fitness for ministry. I also release any individual, employer, reference, synod, congregation, ELCA entity or related organization, institution, organization, or official, or any other person or organization providing information, from any liability for damages of whatever kind or nature that may exist at any time on account of compliance or any attempts to comply with this authorization, excepting only the communication of knowingly false information.

I authorize any prospective employer to conduct reference and background checks and screening, and I agree to supply additional information or consents as requested.

A signed facsimile, electronic version, or photocopy of the Authorization and Release shall be as valid as the original.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*The Authorization and Release form is similar to the version used as part of the mobility forms that rostered ministers complete. It is intended for use by an ELCA congregation or other ELCA entity or related organization that is considering calling a rostered minister.*

*Most background checks will require a different and more complete form and disclosure of information to be signed by the nominee. Typically, such a form will be provided by the background check company.*