

**Clerk's Tip**  
**The 224th General Assembly is Coming!!!!**



Although June 20, 2020, the opening day of the 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in Baltimore seems a long way off, there is a lot to do to get ready. Sessions in National Capital Presbytery who have overtures they wish to have considered at the General Assembly will have to write, adopt, and transmit them to me by certain due dates. The Bills & Overtures Committee will have to review each overture for form and substance and decide whether to make a recommendation to the presbytery that the overture be adopted. The presbytery will have to vote on each overture—and I will transmit approved overtures to the Office of the General Assembly.

But that is not all. Sessions that sponsor an overture will have to find one or more other presbyteries to concur with their overture. And sessions may also want to recommend that NCP concur with certain overtures adopted by other presbyteries.

The deadline for submitting to me (1) overtures amending the Book of Order, (2) overtures seeking an authoritative interpretation of the Book of Order, and (3) all requests for concurrences with other presbyteries' overtures amending the Book of Order or seeking an authoritative interpretation is November 30, 2019. These overtures will be voted on at the January 28, 2020 Presbytery meeting. I recommend that sessions strive to finalize their overtures well before that date to allow enough time to find concurring presbyteries.

**The deadline for submitting all overtures and requests for concurrences other than those in the three categories listed above is January 31, 2020. They will be voted on at the March 24, 2020 Presbytery meeting.**

Every General Assembly there are some churches who are disappointed because their overture came too late. The strict deadlines of the Office of General Assembly, the relatively new requirement that concurrences be obtained, and the presbytery meeting calendar require us to plan ahead. We have posted links to some helps regarding overtures and the General Assembly on presbytery home page: [www.thepresbytery.org](http://www.thepresbytery.org). Take a look.

**One last thing.** I get requests from time to time for samples of church **sexual misconduct policies and child protection policies**. If you have one you would be willing to share with a fellow NCP congregation, would you send it to me at [scoe@thepresbytery.org](mailto:scoe@thepresbytery.org). We are a connectional church!

Peace, Sara  
(240) 514-5352