



PCUSA Update: Defending Ordination Standards

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- **Knox Overture:** Another assault on standards passed by the General Assembly in 2008
- Mandates that freedom of conscience apply to all standards.
- Some believe Knox permits presbyteries to waive any standard, including mandatory standards, on a case-by-case basis.
- Including G-6.0106b, the fidelity/chastity requirement for ordained officers.

➤ **Defending the Standards: Naegeli v. San Francisco Presbytery**

Case pending before the church’s “Supreme Court” challenges Knox and could determine once for all whether mandatory standards can be waived.

- In January 2008, San Francisco Presbytery voted to certify “ready for ordination” a self-identified lesbian who declared she would not comply with G-6.0106b
- The presbytery believed it could waive any ordination standard that it determined did not breach an “essential” of Reformed faith.
- *Naegeli* challenges the vote, asserting that a mandatory churchwide standard such as G-6.0106b can never be waived.
- The case will be heard by the GAPJC in October 30, 2009, with a decision expected later that week.

➤ **How can you help?**

- **Pray:** that the GAPJC will boldly stand for God’s standards and will uphold G-6.0106b as a requirement that cannot be waived.
- **Contribute:** The complainants need to raise \$50,000. Send tax-deductible contributions to:

Community Presbyterian Church
attn: Myra Samson
222 W. El Pintado Road
Danville, CA 94526

Make checks payable to “CPC-Denominational Relations”
Put “Legal Fund-Complaint” on the memo line.



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