

**THE PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION  
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**

<b>PRESBYTERY OF SHENANGO</b>	)	
<b>Complainant</b>	)	
	)	
<b>v.</b>	)	<b>Remedial Case 212-4</b>
	)	
<b>GENERAL ASSEMBLY COUNCIL</b>	)	
<b>of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)</b>	)	
<b>Respondent</b>	)	

On or about July 19, 1999, the Presbytery of Shenango (“Complainant”) filed a complaint against the General Assembly Council (“Respondent”) alleging an irregularity. The complaint asserted that on June 17, 1999, the Respondent concurred with a decision of the Executive Committee of the General Assembly Council reinstating a “Woman of Faith” award conferred by the Women’s Ministries Program Area on the Reverend Jane Spahr. The complaint alleged that the Respondent’s action could be construed as an endorsement of ministry not in keeping with constitutional standards.

Pursuant to D-6.0307, the Moderator, Clerk, and Executive Committee of the General Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission have made a preliminary determination that the complaint should be dismissed for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted. The *Constitution* does not address the issuance of awards or their revocation or reinstatement. The action challenged in the complaint is not subject to review through remedial process and the complaint does not, therefore,

allege an irregularity under D-2.0202a. See Remedial Case 210-5, *Presbytery of National Capital v. Office of the General Assembly (Minutes, 1998, p. 136)*.

The Commission has examined the papers in this matter and heard oral argument in a hearing requested by Complainant, pursuant to D-6.0308, and find that Complainant has failed to state a claim upon which relief may be granted as set forth in D-6.0307d. Therefore, the complaint is dismissed.

Catherine Borchert, member of the Commission was not present for the deliberations and final decision.

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1999.