

# New Form of Government (nFOG): What Does NOT Change

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Prepared by Donna Wells, Acting Stated Clerk, Greater Atlanta Presbytery

New Book of Order Reference	Content of the Reference	Old Book of Order Reference
F.3.0101	God alone is Lord of the conscience	G-1.0301
F.3.0205	Decisions are made by majority vote	G.4.0301e
F.3.0206	Higher bodies have the right of review over lower bodies	G-4.0301f
F.30207	The individual Council (governing body) is the ordaining body	G.4.0301g
G.1.02	Congregations can only be organized by authority of presbyteries	G.7.0101
G.1.0302	No person shall be denied membership not related to profession of faith	G-5.0103
G.1.0503	The business that may be conducted at congregational meetings	G-7.0304
G.1.0504	If moderators are unable to moderate	G-7.0306
G.2.0102	Governance of the church is representative and the rights of God's people to elect presbyters and deacons is inalienable	G-6.0107
G.2.0105	Freedom of Conscience within certain bounds	G-6.0108
G.2.0202	Deacons are under the authority of the session	G-6.0404
G.2.0401	Congregations elect deacons and elders	G-14.0221
G.2.0402	Elders and deacons to be trained by session	G-14.0240
G.2.0404	Terms of service for elders and deacons defined	G-14.0222
G.2.0406	Release from office	G-6.0600
G.2.0502	Presbytery validates the ministry of teaching elders	G-11.0403
G.2.0601	There are still two phases for those going into the Ministry: inquiry and candidacy	G-14.0401

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G.20602	6 month church membership requirement for a person, 1 year inquiry and one year candidacy for those seeking to go into ministry	G.14-4030
G.20610	Exceptions for ordination exams...alternate means still requires ¾ vote of presbytery	G-14.0470
G.2.0610	Inquiry/candidacy time frame of one year can be changed by ¾ vote of presbytery	G-14.0473
G.2.0801-02	PNC elected to fill a pastoral vacancy	G-14.0503-31
G.2.0803	Presbytery needs to be consulted before call extended	G-14.0532
G.2.0804	Terms of call must meet presbytery minimums including pension	G-14.0534
G.2.0901	Dissolution of installed call only by presbytery	G-14.0610
G.2.0904	Presbytery may dissolve a pastoral relationship in difficulty	G-14.0613
G.2.0905	Former pastors may officiate by invitation only	G-14.0603
G.3.0103	Committees on Representation still mandatory, but composition is up to the council	G-9.0105a
G.3.0105	The right of dissent and protest is preserved	G.9-0303-04
G.3.0106	Each council shall develop a manual of operations	G-9.0405
G-3.0106	Presbyteries may level Per Capita, but <b>new language is added:</b> in no case shall the authority of the session to direct its benevolences be compromised	G-9.0404d
G.3.0107	Records are the property of the council and clerk shall make arrangements to preserve them	G.9.0406
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Reference		Reference
G.3.0108	The right of review of higher councils to lower councils	G-9.0407
G.3.0108b	The right of special administrative review is maintained	G-9.0408
G.3.0109	Commission is empowered to conclude matters referred by a council	G-9.0502
G.3.0113	All councils shall have a full financial review	G-10.0401d
G.3.0205	Session elects treasurer	G-10.0401
G.3.0301	Minimum # of churches to form a presbytery - 10	G-11.0102
G.3.0302	Presbyteries: elect graders ord exams, est. minimum compensation, assume original jurisdiction when necessary, consider/ act on congregations requests re. property	G-11.0103
G.3.0401	Synods need to have 3 presbyteries	G-12.0101
G.3.0405	Synods need to meet at least biennially, can set its own quorum	G.12.0101
G.3.0501	GA...same formula for number of commissioners, same quorum, same guidelines for special called meetings	G.13-0102b
Chapter 4	Regarding civil law and property is essentially the same	G-8.000-8.0100ff
G4.0203	All property is held in trust for the denomination	G-8.0201
G.4.0302	Ministers, elders, deacons and Christian Educators are mandatory reports to both ecclesiastical and civil authorities	G-6.0204, 6.0304, 6.0402, 14.0732
G.6.02	An advisory committee to the constitution shall be in effect, same number of people	G-13.0112
G.6.04	Amending the constitution is the same process	G-18.0301ff