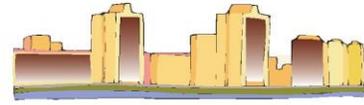


# METRO

“iron sharpening iron”

APOSTOLIC



NETWORK

*The following is an article written by Raul Rivera who is an expert in Church legal matters. Metro Apostolic Network has in place a legitimate plan for Ordination and Renewals to ensure that your ability to function in your Office is secure. I have edited this article for size and aspects that pertain to us.*

*Please read this carefully...*

*Apostle Frank Duprée*

## **What Every Minister Needs to Know About Ordination**

In ministry, there are milestones that every minister experiences.

For you, maybe it was when you first heard or felt the call of the Lord on your life. Perhaps it was when you preached your first sermon or officiated your first wedding.

What about the day you became ordained? That’s a big milestone I bet every minister vividly remembers; and rightfully so.

But what if I told you that there’s a good chance you don’t fully understand ordination. What if I told you that there’s a chance your ordination could be expired.

Would you believe me?

The truth of the matter is that **ordination is one of the most misunderstood subjects for both pastors and churches. And unfortunately, ministers have bought into some “myths” concerning ordination.**

Because of that, I want to take some time to address three of the most common myths ministers have regarding ordination.

### **Myth: “Once ordained, always ordained”**

One of the most common myths surrounding ordination is that it never expires. This could be true, but only if the church from which you received your ordination specifically and purposefully keeps your ordination and/or license valid.

It is important to know that the ordaining organization has the right to revoke your ordination without your knowing. In addition, if the ordaining organization itself dissolves, your ordination can then become invalid.

**So in other words, if the church or ministry that ordained you was forced to close its door, or simply no longer exists, then the ordination that you received from them would then be invalid.**

Now you may be asking, **“Is there even a reason or benefit for ordinations to have an expiration date?”**

Well there is, and I want to share with you the benefits that exists for both the ordaining body and the ordained minister.

### **Benefit to the ordaining church body**

Including expiration dates allows the church an opportunity to ensure that ministers being ordained in the church’s name continue to uphold the lifestyle and doctrines that are consistent with that of the church. Having a **“renewal process”** allows the church, and minister alike, to reaffirm an ongoing relationship with one another.

The last thing any ordaining church body wants is for one of its ordained ministers to hold its credentials while preaching and adhering to doctrines with which the church does not agree.

### **Benefit to the ordained minister**

As it is important to your ministry that the ministers you ordain be in agreement with the doctrines and teachings of your church, **it is necessary for your church show that an ongoing relationship exists between you and the ministers you ordain.**

Though this seems to be of little consequence, the Cramer v. Commonwealth case indicates otherwise.

In hearing a case about the validity of mail-in/online ordinations from a group of ministers, the Supreme Court of Virginia determined that the relationships between the ordained ministers and the ordaining body itself were nearly non-existent.

Therefore, when an ordaining church body includes expiration/renewal dates with the ordinations and licenses it issues, then the church is in some manner able to maintain a relationship with the ministers it ordains. [end of article]

If you desire to be a Member of Metro Apostolic Network and would like to transfer your Credentials or be Ordained please contact our Office.