

Appendix D: *Form for Paragraph 213 Assessment*

Paragraph 213 of the 2016 BOD states, in part, "The district superintendent may appoint [a task force to assist in an extensive study of the past, present, and potential ministry of a local church] when the future viability of the congregation is in question or whenever he or she deems it necessary for other reasons. The task force shall be composed of an equal number of lay and clergy persons and shall include persons from that congregation."

1. This study shall include, but not be limited to:
 - a. How long has the church been in the United Methodist denomination and its predecessors?
 - b. What are the unique missional opportunities and needs of the community?
 - c. What are the present ministries of the congregation?
 - d. How many leaders does the local church have and what is the style of leadership?
 - e. What is the growth potential of the surrounding community?
 - f. What are the fiscal and facilities needs?
 - i. What is the financial strength of the congregation? (Include the last two years of financial statements.)
 - ii. What is the state of the church facility and grounds?
 1. What real property and buildings belong to the church? (Include acreage, land maps, and square footage with photos)
 2. What, if any, are the deferred maintenance projects on the property?
 - iii. Is the current trajectory of the church's income versus expense sustainable?
 - g. What is the distance from other United Methodist churches?
 - i. Are there any other UM churches within a 25 mile radius?
 - ii. If so, which ones?
 - iii. If so, are any of those churches currently considering disaffiliation?
 - iv. How many United Methodist Churches are currently in the county?
 - v. What impact would the disaffiliation have on the United Methodist witness in the area?
 - h. List the number and size of churches of other denominations in the community.
 - i. What United Methodist connectional ministries would be impacted (Wesley Foundations, camping ministries, UMCOR, candidacy process, etc)

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- j. Would disaffiliation impact the diversity of the UMC in the area?
- k. What impact would disaffiliation have on the archives and history of the local area?
- l. List any other items that may impact the church's ability to fulfill the mission of the Church as stated in Chapter One, Section I.

For the purposes of this assessment, the task force may be the District Board of Church and Locations or other task forces appointed by the appointed by the District Superintendent. This decision is left at the discretion of the DS.

The group completing this assessment for the purposes of the Disaffiliation process must submit a report detailing the items listed above from paragraph 213. The assessment report should be on a separate document with numbering that matches the numbering above, for clarity.