



21st ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

July 14-18, 2025

## Brief Biography for Election to Church-Wide Positions

Position (check one)



Metropolitan Council



Pension Board

Name of nominee: Fr. Athanasios (Nasi) Kombos

Parish/Institution/City, State: St. Paisios the Athonite Mission; Nacogdoches TX

Hierarch's Signature of approval: + Alexander

*Note: Keep information limited to the space provided on this page—be concise*

### Education:

B.A., History - Stephen F. Austin State University (Nacogdoches, TX)

M.P.A., Public Administration - Texas A&M (College Station, TX)

M. Div., St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary (South Canaan, PA)

### Relevant Professional Experience:

Over six years working in the local government sector, including time as an analyst in a municipal finance department and as an Assistant City Manager.

Restructured a municipal pension plan of similar size to the OCA's pension plan, reducing the plan's \$20 million unfunded liability by half in just a few months.

A vested member of Texas Municipal Retirement System (TMRS). TMRS is an exceptionally healthy defined benefit plan.

### Personal Statement

I hold to the position that the OCA's pension plan is substantially degraded financially and that mandated participation by OCA clergy and staff in the plan is therefore morally problematic. I also believe that honestly communicating the poor state of the plan to all plan stakeholders is the only appropriate first step towards a renewal of the plan's health and trustworthiness.

Should I be elected to the pension board I would advocate for significant policy and structural changes to the plan and a particular movement away from past precedents of over-emphasizing the wants and preferences of current pensioners (especially when these cause harm to the plan itself). The OCA's pension plan can reach an acceptable state of health longterm but only by systemic change and a thorough, ongoing commitment to financial transparency.

Signed: Alexander Kombos



## Brief Biography for Election to Church-Wide Positions

Position (check one)



Metropolitan Council



Pension Board

Name of nominee:

Fr. David F. Garretson

Parish/Institution/City, State: Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church, South River, NJ

Hierarch's Signature of approval: Archbishop Michael

*Note: Keep information limited to the space provided on this page—be concise*

Education:

1986-1987 St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary  
1987-1990 St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary

1996 through 2024: Numerous training and certifications in the management, operation and compliance of Pension, Annuity and Health & Welfare Funds under the very rigorous ERISA, IRS and Taft-Hartley regulations. These trainings included and are not limited to: Cornell School of Labor, George Meany Labor School, and the LATSE Officer Institute. The standards of operation, financial transparency and accountability for these plans far exceed those mandated for plans such as the OCA Pension Plan.

*Facilitated the first joint training session on pensions for the Lesser Synod, Metropolitan Council, Pension Board and Central Church Administration, as mandated by the 20th All-American Council in Baltimore.*

Relevant Professional Experience:

*From 1996 through 2024 I was a negotiator and mediator for IATSE the oldest and largest entertainment industry trade union in the world. (International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Motion Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts (IATSE.net). My responsibilities included negotiating contracts, ensuring compliance on wages & benefit contributions, and mediating disputes, throughout the US and Canada. At the center of this work was securing fully funded pension obligations for those who work in our industry. These pension plans ranged from our smaller locals who had less than 50 covered workers to our national plans that provided benefits for more than a quarter million workers. These assignments included: The Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta, the RNC & DNC conventions, Country Music Awards, Broadway tours, national arts centers and the recent Beyonce, Taylor Swift and Rolling Stones tours.*

*Additionally, I have appeared as a subject matter expert before numerous state legislatures, industry organizations and OSHA regarding worker's rights, safety, wages and benefits.*

Personal Statement

*We have made a morally and legally binding commitment to our present participants and beneficiaries in the pension plan. We also need to educate the entire church about why the OCA Pension Plan is needed and how it operates. I offer my professional experience along with deep institutional knowledge of the OCA obtained through serving on the parochial, diocesan and national church bodies since 1982. I respectfully ask for your prayers and support.*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Signed Electronically)



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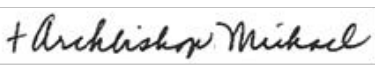
Metropolitan Council

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Pension Board

Name of nominee: Archpriest Eric George Tosi

Parish/Institution/City, State: St. Gregory the Theologian, Wappingers Falls, NY

Hierarch's Signature of approval: 

*Note: Keep information limited to the space provided on this page—be concise*

### Education:

BA - Fordham University, 1986 Dual Major: Economics and History

MA - Fordham University, 1993 Major: European History

MDiv - St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary (cum laude), 1996


DMin - University of Toronto (Trinity), 2014

### Relevant Professional Experience:

Served as Secretary of the Orthodox Church in America from 2008 to 2020. Managed and oversaw the administration of the Church in various areas such as meetings, legal affairs, communications, departments and offices of the Church. Among the responsibilities was to be the primary contact with the Pension Board assisting in organizing their meetings and interfacing with the Metropolitan, the Holy Synod, and the Metropolitan Council. Worked closely with the Pension Board on presenting their reports to the above bodies and communicating to the Orthodox Church in America. Interfaced with the Pension Board on their requests. Also, I presently serve as the Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology at St. Vladimir's Seminary, teaching courses which include instruction on the pension system.

### Personal Statement

For twelve years, I worked very closely and positively with the Pension Board and have come to know all of the members, both elected and appointed. I continue to have a close relationship with them and assist them in various questions and concerns. My goal would be to foster a close working relationship between the Pension Board and the Church, as we have had for many years; to provide the proper oversight as required by the Statute of the Orthodox Church in America; and to ensure compliance with all secular and canonical requirements, with which I am quite familiar.

Signed: 

July 10, 2025