Statement of Intellectual Integrity of Board of Ordained Ministry

North Georgia Conference – BOM approved – October 8, 2009

I have read the statement regarding plagiarism above and certify that none of the work that I have submitted to the Board of Ordained Ministry this year is plagiarized. I understand that the consequence of plagiarism in my paperwork would be deferral with deficiencies or such other action as the Board deems appropriate.
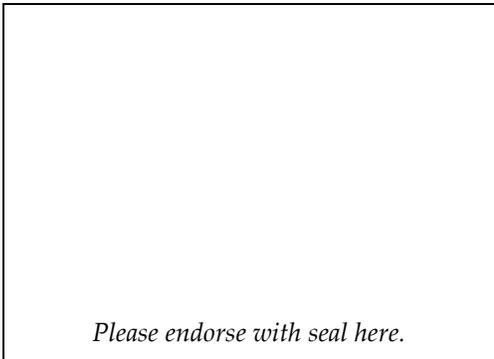
Signature:_____**Date:**_____

Printed Name:_____

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

_____day of_____,_____

Notary Public, State of_____

My commission expires_____

Please endorse with seal here.

From www.plagiarism.com

People think of plagiarism as copying another's work, or borrowing someone else's original ideas. But terms like "copying" and "borrowing" can disguise the seriousness of the offense: According to the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary, to "plagiarize" means:

- to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own
- to use (another's production) without crediting the source
- to commit literary theft
- to present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source.

In other words, plagiarism is an act of fraud. It involves both stealing someone else's work and lying about it afterward. But can words and ideas really be stolen? According to U.S. law, the answer is yes. The expression of original ideas is considered intellectual property, and is protected by copyright laws, just like original inventions. Almost all forms of expression fall under copyright protection as long as they are recorded in some way (such as a book or a computer file).

All of the following are considered plagiarism:

- turning in someone else's work as your own
- copying sentences or ideas from someone else without giving credit
- failing to put a quotation in quotation marks
- giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation
- changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit
- copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not (see our section on "fair use" rules)

Most cases of plagiarism can be avoided, however, by correctly citing sources. Simply acknowledging that certain material has been borrowed and providing your audience with the information necessary to find that source, is usually enough to prevent plagiarism.