



Cooperative Baptist  
Fellowship North Carolina

## TIP SHEET: DENOMINATIONAL AFFILIATION

### KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR CHURCHES CONSIDERING DENOMINATIONAL AFFILIATION CHANGES

This summary is provided by our team as a practical overview of key considerations for churches considering or executing changes in denominational affiliation. Our team is available to provide practical support, sample documents or legal advising to your congregation. Please email us at [legal@cbfnc.org](mailto:legal@cbfnc.org).

- Regarding procedure, is a congregational vote appropriate either as a best practice or as required by the church's constitution/bylaws? What other steps are necessary or appropriate?
- Do the church's constitution/bylaws require an amendment to reflect the denominational changes?
- What formal communication or documentation is needed or appropriate to make applicable changes or confirm the status of existing relationships or partnerships?
- What considerations are there regarding employee benefits for the church's ministry staff or administrative personnel?
- To confirm, any change in denominational affiliation **will not** impact the church's tax-exempt status under federal or state law. Please refer to this [FAQ document](#) for more information about church tax-exempt status and incorporation.

### Additional Resources

- For retirement plan assistance, please contact Jenny Clore, director of benefits with Church Benefits Board at [jclore@cbf.net](mailto:jclore@cbf.net).
- For health and welfare benefits, please contact Jason Cogdill, CBFNC legal resource partner at [legal@cbfnc.org](mailto:legal@cbfnc.org).