

# 2022

# ANNUAL REPORT

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS



SECRETARIAT  
OF CHILD  
AND YOUTH  
PROTECTION

NATIONAL  
REVIEW BOARD

UNITED STATES  
CONFERENCE OF  
CATHOLIC BISHOPS

JULY 2023

Report on the Implementation of the

## CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

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## FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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SECRETARIAT OF CHILD  
AND YOUTH PROTECTION

NATIONAL REVIEW BOARD

UNITED STATES CONFERENCE  
OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS  
WASHINGTON, DC



The *2022 Annual Report on the Implementation of the “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People”* was prepared by the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection for the National Review Board (NRB) and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). It was authorized by the USCCB President, Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D. It has been directed for publication by the undersigned.

Rev. Michael J. K. Fuller  
General Secretary, USCCB

First Printing, July 2023

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His Excellency Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D.  
Archbishop of the Military Services, USA  
President

# Preface

The *2022 Annual Report on the Implementation of the “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People,”* is a milestone accounting of the continued efforts in the ministry of protection, healing, and accompaniment. It was June of 2002 when the bishops of the United States approved the seventeen articles of the *Charter*, articles which are the basis for the protection, healing and accompaniment of our children and youth. We have made enormous progress, thanks to the courage and fortitude of our sisters and brothers who were harmed, abused, or molested by a trusted clergy member, and who made reports and shared their stories. It is also through the grace and blessings of Almighty God that has prompted us to do what is right – be accountable for the hurt and pain caused by the abuse, make amends so that abuse would not happen again, and strive to make for right relationships by publicly offering statements of sorrow and responsibility for allowing such horror to happen in the first place.

This Annual Report includes the independent audit, carried out by StoneBridge Business Partners, which documents the on-site diocesan and eparchial audits from 2019 to 2022. It was during this period, that the Church in the United States was continuing to deal with, in addition to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the revelations of Theodore McCarrick, the release of the Pennsylvania Grand Jury Report, the Apostolic Letter *motu proprio Vos estis lux mundi*, the numerous States Attorney General investigations and reports, and the implementation of the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service (CBAR). Even though the Church has systems in place: Victim Assistance Coordinators, Safe Environment Coordinators, and policies and procedures, it is a core value, responsibility, and obligation, that the Church remains vigilant. It is also important that we learn from our mistakes and experiences. We must adapt and learn to improvise as needed to make sure that the needs of our sisters and brothers who have been harmed are being met with competence, compassion, and consistency.

I wish to acknowledge gratefully the victim survivors who have allowed us to work with and journey alongside them. We have learned much and continue to value the relationships created out of courage, trust and care, compassion and need, and healing and reconciliation. I continue to pray for our victim survivors and their offenders. Pray for the needed change in our culture and understanding of the sin and crime of sexual abuse. Pray for the conversion, transformation, and understanding that as the spiritual leaders of the Church, my brother bishops and I take responsibility for this crisis. On behalf of my brothers, I am sorry for the pain you experienced and for the suffering you endured. I am sorry for the Church’s lack of open accountability in the past and am grateful for your patience as we, the Church, work to get this right. May God continue to bless, comfort, and heal you. May our Mother Mary nurture you and hold you close to her heart.



## National Review Board for the Protection of Children and Young People

3211 FOURTH STREET NE • WASHINGTON DC 20017-1194 • 202-541-5413 • FAX 202-541-5410

April 4, 2023

Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D.  
President, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Your Excellency,

In accordance with Article 10 of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (Charter)*, the National Review Board (NRB) is charged with reviewing the results of the annual audit, assessing compliance and consulting with the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People (CPCYP) on any recommendations that emerge from the annual audit.

Much has been accomplished to create safe environments for children, young people and the people of God as a whole. This year, there was again the downward trend in total allegations: 2,704. 82% of those allegations came from attorneys regarding allegations of abuse from many years ago. There was also a downward trend in the allegations of current minors. There were 16 allegations from current minors this audit year and all were reported to law enforcement. Certainly, one is always one too many. The body of bishops continues to promote the policies and practices created and are committed to the implementation of safe environment efforts with the advice and counsel of the NRB.

The National Review Board continues to make the following recommendations which will further strengthen future audit results:

- Mentor dioceses and eparchies that are not participating in the audit to achieve 100% compliance. This year, 194 of 196 dioceses and eparchies participated in the audit.
- Increase the percentage of parish audits to ensure policies and practices are in place which reduce the possibility of abuse. Although the percent increased this year to 70% of the dioceses conducting parish audits, the remainder of 30% is poor risk management.
- Review diocesan and eparchial web pages for relevant child protection information. Digital transparency and ease in finding reporting procedures along with information helpful to victim survivors is paramount to increasing transparency, accountability, and trust. The NRB has developed a resource to identify relevant information.
- Evaluate the efficacy of Safe Environment training programs across dioceses and eparchies.
- Reduce the recurring non-compliance of diocesan and eparchial review boards not meeting regularly during the audit period. The NRB and the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection (SCYP) offer to assist with the training of review boards and in developing sound practices to implement policy review when there are no allegations needing review.
- Integrate findings of ongoing research studies from other organizations and academic institutions in assessing causes or contexts for child abuse in the Church.

The body of bishops has begun the process of another *Charter* revision due in 2024. The NRB is grateful to be participating with the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People in the revision of this essential document. While the *Charter* is specifically to address matters of clergy child abuse, there is confusion in reporting matters pertaining to *Vos estis lux mundi* and

Book VI of Canon Law. The NRB recommends the pursuit of a separate auditable resource with specific guidelines for these adult and lay matters of abuse.

Yes, much has been accomplished in the arena of safe environments efforts, but the work of the *Charter* is never finished and there is still much to be done to meet the commitments focused on healing, response, accountability, and transparency. The challenge is to balance the tension between the successful implementation of safe environments with the lifelong needs of healing for victim survivors, which is of the utmost importance.

The NRB continues to call for a cultural change to take place in the Church's response to victim survivors. In order to facilitate ongoing healing, the voices and needs of the victim survivors must continue to be affirmed and heard by all in the church; their participation in discussions must be solicited for solutions that will restore trust; and a spirituality of radical accompaniment is called for as the Church walks side by side with them in their healing.

Anticipating this twentieth anniversary year of the *Charter*, the NRB had previously recommended a singular day in which every parish in every diocese and eparchy would offer a liturgy of lament for victim survivors of clergy abuse and their families. While this recommendation was not accepted, the NRB wants to acknowledge that there were many diocesan/eparchial liturgies, listening sessions and acts of accompaniment dedicated to healing and reconciliation of victim survivors and their families. The NRB recommends local leaders in every parish to honor victim survivors each year during Child Abuse Prevention Month in April.

The NRB affirms and thanks the ministry of Victims Assistance Coordinators, Safe Environment Coordinators, along with an army of laity and ordained throughout the Church whose ongoing efforts daily reinforce the commitments of the *Charter* and live the Gospel spirit of walking with those who suffer. May the Lord bless and preserve our efforts to make good on our promise to protect and pledge to heal.

With God's grace for peace and healing,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne Healy". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

Suzanne Healy  
Chair, National Review Board



## Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection

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2 May 2023

Most Reverend Timothy Broglio, J.C.D.  
Archbishop of the Military Services, USA  
President, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Mrs. Suzanne Healy  
Chair, National Review Board (NRB)

Your Excellency and Mrs. Healy,

Peace be with you!

This 2022 Annual Report documents the efforts and endeavors of our dioceses and eparchies in the United States to protect the children and young people and to bring healing to victims of sexual abuse. The audit findings from StoneBridge Business Partners and the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate show a steady decline in the number of current allegations involving minors, and allegations of a historical nature. The Victim Assistance Ministry and the Safe Environment Programs of dioceses and eparchies have demonstrated their efficacy and efficiency in enforcing policies and procedures that aim to protect the children and youth in the Catholic Church.

I am grateful for the dedication and hard work of the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection that continues to promote the ongoing promise to protect and pledge to heal victim survivors and the faith community. Our resources, trainings, and audits that we provide to the bishops, the Victim Assistant Coordinators (VACs), and the Safe Environment Coordinators (SECs), along with the online educational materials help to prevent abuse within the Catholic Church. We must work together for the healing of the Church.

Increased transparency by the Church has made it easier for victim survivors to come forward with their stories and seek reconciliation and compensation. The Church's transparency is paramount for anyone who has experienced abuse. Please consider reporting the abuse you have suffered to civil authorities. Please know that your suffering is heard, and you are not alone. The Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection along with the bishops strive to restore the trust that was lost through the implementation of regulations, policies, and procedures that protect the most vulnerable and nurtures a spirit of accountability within the Church.

The potential for abuse is a reality in our society wherever there are minors or vulnerable individuals involved. Therefore, this accountability is applicable to all institutions who deal with minors and those who are vulnerable. We need to continue to create opportunities for dialogue and build relationships with victim survivors.

This past April, VACs, SECs, Diocesan Review Board members, deacons, priests, and bishops, along with industry vendors, attended the Child and Youth Protection Catholic Leadership Conference (CYPCLC) in San Diego, California. Everyone who attended the conference is actively working together towards directing, shaping, and focusing the potential of the Church's efforts in the United States fostering a spirit and culture of safety and healing. The Church can and must lead the way in modeling safe environments and practices, and victim survivor assistance and accompaniment.

The CYPCLC participants are committed to remind everyone that the responsibility to protect children and youth involves all of God's people. The message communicated at this year's gathering addresses the Church's

sorrow for the hurt and pain caused by the abuse of clergy members and church employees. We, the Catholic Church, acknowledge and commit to ongoing improvement, development, and providing healing accompaniment to victim survivors and all who have been affected by this crisis.

Thank you for your commitment to lead and to lead by example. May God bless our efforts as we continue to provide outreach and lasting solutions towards reconciliation, healing, health, and holiness.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bernie", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Deacon Bernie Nojadera  
Executive Director  
Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection





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February 24, 2023

Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D.  
President, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Suzanne Healy  
Chairwoman, National Review Board

Archbishop Broglio and Mrs. Healy,

The 2022 audit period marked the twelfth consecutive year that StoneBridge Business Partners completed *Charter* audit procedures on behalf of the Conference. COVID-19 continued to present challenges to visiting dioceses and eparchies to perform on-site audit procedures. Over the past year, we physically visited 48 dioceses and utilizing remote technologies visited 14 dioceses and eparchies for a total of 62 on-site audit visits. 194 of 196 dioceses and eparchies participated in the audit process.

In an on-going effort to improve the audit process, we continued to build upon the online resources available to dioceses/eparchies by delivering additional presentations to the USCCB to educate safe environment coordinators and other diocesan/eparchial representatives on our audit process and approach. This year's training documents along with prior year efforts are available on the USCCB website.

Our work is supported by the efforts of diocesan/eparchial personnel who dedicate their working lives to making a difference in maintaining safe environments. We are grateful for their work in implementing and administering the programs and safeguards that are instrumental to this process. None of this would be possible without the support and prioritization from the bishops who are fulfilling the promise made in creating this *Charter* in 2002. We appreciate the support and confidence that the Conference has demonstrated in our organization.

The 2022 Annual Report that follows compiles the information we gathered during our audits and our related findings and comments.

Sincerely,

*StoneBridge Business Partners*

Thomas F. Englert, CPA, CGMA  
Courtney S. Brock, CPA, CFE  
StoneBridge Business Partners



## Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY • <http://cara.georgetown.edu>

2300 WISCONSIN AVENUE, NW • SUITE 400 A • WASHINGTON, DC 20007

March 2023

Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D.  
President, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Ms. Suzanne Healy,  
Chair, National Review Board

Dear Archbishop Broglio and Ms. Healy,

In November 2004, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) commissioned the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University to design and conduct an annual survey of all dioceses and eparchies whose bishops and eparchs are members of the USCCB. The purpose of this survey is to collect information on new allegations of sexual abuse of minors and the clergy against whom these allegations were made. The survey also gathers information on the amount of money dioceses and eparchies have expended as a result of allegations as well as the amount they have paid for child protection efforts. The national level aggregate results from this survey for each calendar year are reported in the *Annual Report of the Implementation of the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People."*

The questionnaire for the *2022 Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs* was designed by CARA in consultation with the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection and was only slightly different from the versions used for the 2004 through 2021 *Annual Surveys*. As in previous years, CARA prepared an online version of the survey and provided bishops and eparchs with information about the process for completing it for their diocese or eparchy. In collaboration with the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM), major superiors of religious institutes – including brother-only institutes – were also invited to complete a similar survey for their congregations, provinces, or monasteries.

Data collection for 2022 took place between August 2022 and January 2023. CARA received responses from all but two of the 196 dioceses and eparchies of the USCCB and 149 of the 224 member religious institutes of CMSM, for response rates of 99 percent and 67 percent, respectively. CARA then prepared the national level summary tables and graphs of the findings for 2022, which are presented in this *Annual Report*.

We are grateful for the cooperation of the bishops, eparchs, and major superiors and their representatives in completing the survey for 2022.

Sincerely,

*Thomas Gaunt, S.J.*

Fr. Thomas P. Gaunt, SJ  
Executive Director

Phone: 202-687-8080 • Fax: 202-687-8083 • E-mail: [CARA@georgetown.edu](mailto:CARA@georgetown.edu)

*PLACING SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH AT THE SERVICE OF THE CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1964*

# SECTION I

2022





# CHAPTER ONE

## SECRETARIAT OF CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION 2022 PROGRESS REPORT

### BACKDROP OF NATIONAL EVENTS

**T**he audit year of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022 was like an awakening from a two-year slumber. The shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact nearly every aspect of life, and our society made major adjustments to these realities as it emerged from the many health restrictions implemented in prior years. The long-term impact of the pandemic became increasingly clear with significant turnover in staff and volunteers. The time of isolation prompted people to re-evaluate their ministerial roles, leading some to retire or pursue other avenues. This shift of personnel (both employee and volunteer) has brought us back to the foundations of our work. The new Safe Environment and Victim Assistance staff are examining policies and procedures as they become familiar with their roles. They brought a healthy evaluation of work being done and new energy to grow the ministry of protection and healing. Increased use of technology appears to be a sustained shift that brings with it the need for safety in the virtual world to evolve accordingly. Looking to the future, virtual reality and its impact on social development and interaction is evolving into an area of potential harm. Research has begun to address some of these issues but much more is still unknown. As the Church grows increasingly comfortable with the use of technology, the Church is also becoming increasingly aware of the dangers. Safe environment trainings are incorporating more information about this topic for youth and adults. It is anticipated that this aspect of training

will continue to develop well beyond December 8, 2021, when the revised Book VI Code of Canon Law went into effect. Book VI addresses Penal Sanctions in the Church. Significant changes include issues specifically identified as unique and requisite of special attention, including sexual abuse of minors; sexual abuse of other protected persons; abuse of office or function; production, distribution, and possession of pornography, and clarification of various terms. Additionally, attention was given to the expectation of laity in ministerial roles to abide by these behavioral standards. These changes to Canon Law coupled with several documents released in the preceding years, are a strong indication of commitment by the Catholic Church to confront the horrors of child sexual abuse on a global scale. In March 2022, Pope Francis established within the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith, the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors. In response to the announcement, Cardinal Seán O'Malley, President of the Pontifical Commission stated, "For the first time, Pope Francis has made safeguarding and the protection of minors a fundamental part of the structure of the Church's central government: the Roman Curia."

With so many changes occurring on the national and global stage, the body of bishops overwhelmingly agreed in November 2021 to review the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. This document is recognized as the frame upon which safeguarding and healing ministries in the United States are built. Scheduled for review in 2025, the bishops demonstrated an eagerness to expedite the review and bolster their promise to protect and pledge to heal. The Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People (CPCYP), with the expert advice of the National Review Board (NRB), established a

plan for the review. The review will provide opportunity for input from all bishops in the USA, representatives from institutes of men and women religious, experts in the fields of psychology, victimology, theology, education, canon law, civil law, and more. Efforts will be made to conduct a thorough review and draft potential revisions, which will be put before the body of bishops for approval. The process of this review is being coordinated by the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection (SCYP) and will be a multi-year process.

## DATA

Details of audit methodology and findings conducted by StoneBridge Business Partners can be found in Chapter Two of this Annual Report. The format introduced in the previous audit cycle continues to be well received. The format changes have shined a light on the need for continued education of Review Board members and church personnel responsible to the activities of the Review Board. StoneBridge identified that the vast majority of dioceses and eparchies implement policies and procedures that are well beyond those established in the *Charter*. Key elements reflecting this diligence also reflect improvement over the prior audit year. The number of dioceses and eparchies requiring renewal of safe environment training increased from 80% to 85%. Dioceses requiring renewal of background checks increased from 90% to 95%. StoneBridge identifies several areas of concern which are listed in OTHER AUDIT FINDINGS AND COMMENTS. Six of the twelve items are related to documentation: outdated policies, availability/display of policies or procedures, and items not being translated into language used by congregants.

Chapter Three: Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) – Survey of Allegations and Costs is a report that provides additional data collected from dioceses and eparchies across the nation. This report also includes data gathered from religious institutes of men which is not included in the *Charter* audit. Several anomalies are identified during this audit period. Of particular note are the total number of allegations compared to the prior two years. Table 1 shows a precipitous drop in the absolute number of allegations (2020-1,539 allegations; 2021-968 allegations; 2022- 245 allegations). The data does

not explain the reason for this change nor indicate whether the trend will or will not continue. Another statistic of note is that for the first time the number of allegations of abuse that began during the relevant audit year is zero. Again, we cannot infer the reason for this nor predict that future years will find the same result. But this does give hope that there may be a trend and the diligent efforts of so many both within and outside of the Church are having an impact.

## ARTICLES 8-11 OF THE CHARTER

Articles 8 through 11 of the *Charter* ensure the accountability of procedures for implementing the *Charter* across the United States, and therefore are not subject to the audit. General information regarding the implementation of these articles on a national level can be found below.

### ARTICLE 8

The *Charter* establishes the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People (CPCYP). The CPCYP is to advise the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) with comprehensive planning and recommendations on all matters related to child and youth protection. The CPCYP meets on four occasions each year. There are two additional meetings with the National Review Board. The following list identifies the bishops, the regions they represented and consultants with particular expertise:

November 2020 - November 2021

November 2021 - November 2022

**Bishops**

Bishop James V. Johnston, Jr., Chair  
*Term expires in 2023*

Bishop Mark O’Connell (I)  
*Term expires in 2023*

Bishop John J. O’Hara (II)  
*Term expired in 2022*

Bishop Elias R. Lorenzo O.S.B. (III)  
*Term expires in 2023*

Bishop Adam Parker (IV)  
*Term expires in 2023*

Bishop Fernand Cheri, III OFM (V)  
*Term expired in 2022*

Bishop David Walkowiak (VI)  
*Term expired in 2021*

Bishop Donald J. Hying (VII)  
*Term expired in 2021*

Bishop John T. Folda (VIII)  
*Term expired in 2021*

Bishop Thomas Zinkula (IX)  
*Term expires in 2023*

Bishop David A. Konderla (X)  
*Term expired in 2022*

Bishop John P. Dolan (XI)  
*Term expired in 2022*

Bishop Peter Smith (XII)  
*Term expires in 2023*

Bishop Stephen J. Berg (XIII)  
*Term expired in 2021*

Bishop Enrique Delgado (XIV)  
*Term expires in 2023*

Bishop Joy Alappat (XV)  
*Term expires in 2024*

Bishop James V. Johnston, Jr., Chair  
*Term expires in 2023*

Bishop Mark O’Connell (I)  
*Term expires in 2023*

Bishop John J. O’Hara (II)  
*Term expired in 2022*

Bishop Elias R. Lorenzo O.S.B. (III)  
*Term expires in 2023*

Bishop Adam Parker (IV)  
*Term expires in 2023*

Bishop Fernand Cheri, III OFM (V)  
*Term expired in 2022*

Bishop David Bonnar (VI)  
*Term expires in 2024*

Bishop Jeffrey Grob (VII)  
*Term expires in 2024*

Bishop Daniel Felton (VIII)  
*Term expires in 2024*

Bishop Thomas Zinkula (IX)  
*Term expires in 2023*

Bishop David A. Konderla (X)  
*Term expired in 2022*

Bishop John P. Dolan (XI)  
*Term expired in 2022*

Bishop Peter Smith (XII)  
*Term expires in 2023*

Bishop Edward Weisenberg (XIII)  
*Term expires in 2024*

Bishop Enrique Delgado (XIV)  
*Term expires in 2023*

Bishop Joy Alappat (XV)  
*Term expires in 2024*

## Consultants

Rev. Michael J. K. Fuller  
*Associate General Secretary*  
*USCCB*

Dcn. Steve DeMartino  
*Director for Safeguarding Initiatives*  
*Conference of Major Superiors of Men*

Rev. Luke Ballman  
*Executive Director*  
*Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life*  
*and Vocations, USCCB*

Ms. Heather Banis, Ph.D.  
*Victims Assistance Ministry Coordina-*  
*tor, Archdiocese of Los Angeles*

Mr. Rod Herrera  
*Director, Office of the Protection of*  
*Children and Youth*  
*Diocese of Camden*

Mr. Jeffrey Hunter Moon  
*Director of Legal Affairs*  
*Office of General Counsel, USCCB*

Ms. Chieko Noguchi  
*Executive Director of Public Affairs,*  
*USCCB*

Ms. Regina E. Quinn  
*Director, Safe Environment Office*  
*Diocese of Columbus*

Ms. Siobhan Verbeek  
*Director*  
*Canonical Affairs, USCCB*

Rev. Michael J. K. Fuller  
*Associate General Secretary*  
*USCCB*

Dcn. Steve DeMartino  
*Director for Safeguarding Initiatives*  
*Conference of Major Superiors of Men*

Rev. Luke Ballman  
*Executive Director*  
*Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life*  
*and Vocations, USCCB*

Ms. Heather Banis, Ph.D.  
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*tor, Archdiocese of Los Angeles*

Mr. Rod Herrera  
*Director, Office of the Protection of*  
*Children and Youth*  
*Diocese of Camden*

Mr. Jeffrey Hunter Moon  
*Director of Legal Affairs*  
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Ms. Chieko Noguchi  
*Executive Director of Public Affairs,*  
*USCCB*

Ms. Regina E. Quinn  
*Director, Safe Environment Office*  
*Diocese of Columbus*

Ms. Siobhan Verbeek  
*Director*  
*Canonical Affairs, USCCB*

## ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People (CPCYP) is one of only two USCCB committees with representation from all fifteen episcopal regions. The Committee Chair, Bishop James V. Johnston, Jr., Bishop of Kansas City – St. Joseph, welcomed four new members this year. They are Bishop David J. Bonnar, Bishop of Youngstown; Bishop Jeffrey S. Grob, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago; Bishop Daniel Felton, Bishop of Duluth; and Bishop Edward J. Weisenberger, Bishop of Tucson.

The CPCYP works closely with the National Review Board in the pursuit of advanced knowledge and development of resources related to child abuse and child safety. In addition to the review of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, the CPCYP continues to explore potential areas for research-based studies on issues related to safeguarding and the examination of studies conducted by other professional organizations. The CPCYP has proposed a revision of the *Diocesan Review Board Resource Booklet* and it is under review by the Committee on Canonical Affairs and Church Governance.

### ARTICLE 9

The *Charter* specifically created the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection (SCYP) and assigned to it three central tasks:

- To assist each diocese/eparchy in implementing Safe Environment programs designed to ensure necessary safety and security for all children as they participate in church and religious activities.
- To develop an appropriate compliance audit mechanism to assist the bishops and eparchs in adhering to the responsibilities set forth in the *Charter*.
- To prepare a public annual report describing the compliance of each diocese/eparchy with the provisions of the *Charter*.

The SCYP provides administrative staffing for the CPCYP and the NRB. It is a resource for bishops in

the implementation of safe environment programs and a resource for training and development of diocesan personnel responsible for child and youth protection programs. The Secretariat also serves as a resource to dioceses and eparchies on all matters of child and youth protection, including outreach to victims/survivors and child protection efforts. SCYP provides monthly reports to reflect the activities of the office within the USCCB, the external support to dioceses and eparchies on *Charter* related matters, and the work of the CPCYP and NRB as supported and facilitated by the Secretariat.

In developing an effective audit mechanism, the Secretariat works closely with a third party, independent auditor, StoneBridge Business Partners, to ensure compliance with responsibilities as set forth in the *Charter*. Details of the audit are set forth in this Annual Report.

The Secretariat's support of dioceses and eparchies includes sponsoring web-based communities to assist the missions of Victim Assistance Coordinators, Safe Environment Coordinators, and Diocesan Review Boards; preparing resource materials extracted from the audits; creating materials to assist in both healing and *Charter* compliance; and providing resources for the Child Abuse Prevention Month in April. In keeping with the Conference's emphasis on collaboration, during the month of October, SCYP also focuses on the sanctity and dignity of human life as it joins with the Office of Pro-Life in offering prayers and reflections. The SCYP consults with the Committee for Clergy, Consecrated Life, and Vocations to aid the development of Church leadership in living out their vocations in a manner that honors their commitment to our Lord and his people.

When invited, the staff will visit dioceses and eparchies to assist and provide necessary training. On a limited basis and as needed, the staff provides support to and referral of victims/survivors to resources that can aid them in their healing. Staff makes efforts to stay current of national and global events as well as advances in the field of child abuse prevention and healing. Relationships with other child serving organizations and professionals are constantly being developed to build upon advancements in the field and efforts beyond the Church.



## SECRETARIAT OF CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION STAFF

The following four staff members served in the Secretariat during the audit period of July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021.

Deacon Bernie Nojadera, Executive Director, has served as the Executive Director of the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection at the USCCB since 2011. Formerly, he served as Director of the Office for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults with the Diocese of San Jose, California from 2002-2011. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Joseph College, Mountain View, California; a Master of Social Work degree specializing in health and mental health services from San Jose State University; and a Master of Arts in Theology from St. Patrick's Seminary and University, Menlo Park, California. He has been a member of the San Jose Police Department's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, the County of Santa Clara Interfaith Clergy Task Force on the Prevention of Elder Abuse, and the County of Santa Clara Task Force on Suicide Prevention. He enjoys offering national and international workshops/trainings on safe environment/victim accompaniment, safe-guarding, HRO (high reliability organization) principles, and topics on leadership and communication. He is married and has two adult children.

Molly Fara, Associate Director, has been with the Secretariat since September of 2020. From 2012-2020 she worked for the Diocese of Joliet where she established the Office of Child and Youth Protection and served as the director. She has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Dayton, Ohio with a major in psychology and minor in criminal justice. Molly earned a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is recognized as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and has a Professional Educator License with School Social Work Endorsement. Prior work experience includes psychiatric hospital, in-patient/out-patient substance abuse treatment, residential treatment center for emotionally disturbed youth, adult protective services, and employee assistance programs.

Lauren Sarmir, Coordinator for Resources & Special Projects joined the staff of the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection in August 2019. Before joining the team, Lauren served as Advancement Operations Manager for the Pontifical

North American College's Office of Institutional Advancement. Her previous work experience includes: The Heritage Foundation, United States House and Senate, and United Kingdom House of Commons. Lauren holds a Master's degree in International Politics, and a Bachelor's degree in Politics specializing in Latin American Affairs/Hispanic Studies, both from The Catholic University of America. She is married and has one daughter.

Laura Garner, Executive Assistant, joined the staff of the Secretariat on January 3, 2011. Previously, Ms. Garner served as a Staff Assistant in the Office of the General Counsel with the USCCB since 2008. Ms. Garner holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Loyola College and a Master of Arts in Art Therapy from George Washington University. She is married with four adult children and four grandchildren.

## ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARIAT OF CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION

### *Protection and Healing*

The SCYP interacts daily with diocesan staff and the public and is a vital resource for all who have an interest in protecting our most vital resource, children. Throughout the year, but specifically in April, which is Child Abuse Prevention Month, resources are provided to promote awareness and safety. Consultation is available to assist bishops and diocesan staff in their work with those who have been so gravely harmed. Their desire to skillfully walk with victims down a path of healing is critical to their spiritual well-being and transformation into thriving survivors. Liturgical resources are designed and available to all dioceses to foster a relationship with our Lord and comfort all who have been spiritually harmed.

### *Educational Resources*

A multitude of educational resources have been developed and continue to expand. SCYP attempts to engage the public using social media platforms and the USCCB website. Podcasts and webinars have become an integral part of connecting with people. Interviews with subject matter experts are recorded and posted for general consumption. Topics include

the role of social media in abuse prevention, exploring safeguarding from a bishop's perspective, and revisions to Book VI Code of Canon Law.

SCYP collaborated with The Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) and StoneBridge Business Partners to develop effective means of providing detailed training for diocesan and eparchial staff involved in the annual CARA study and *Charter* audit. This culminated in a series of recordings in conjunction with the Congregation for Major Superiors of Men (CMSM). The end product was well received and resulted in more detailed submissions with dioceses and eparchies better prepared for the scheduled on-site audits.

Child Abuse Prevention Empowerment (CAPE) level one was completed and launched in September of 2021. Demand was so high that additional sessions were added and by the end of the audit year nearly 100 child and youth protection staff had enrolled in the program. Level 2 was released in September of 2022, and it is anticipated that Level 3 will be completed and launched by Fall 2023. This digital asynchronous program provides the foundational information for child and youth protections staff. Each level provides increasingly advanced subject matter and incorporates current developments as the Church continues her efforts to heal and learn from the past and provide a safe environment for the future.

## CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The Child and Youth Protection Catholic Leadership Conference (CYPCLC) was hosted by the Diocese of Grand Rapids in Grand Rapids, MI on June 5-8, 2022. Hybrid attendance was again an option, allowing for nearly 200 participants. Colleagues had the opportunity to convene for professional development, networking, and camaraderie. Appreciation is extended to the USCCB National Collections: Catholic Home Missions Office, for providing financial assistance to over 30 participants who would have not otherwise been able to attend. This assistance is one more example of the extent to which bishops and staff in other departments are committed to the safeguarding and healing of those who have been harmed.

## BEYOND OUR BORDERS

SCYP has been an active participant in the International Safeguarding Conference (ISC) sponsored by the Pontifical Gregorian University Institute of Anthropology Interdisciplinary Studies on Human Dignity and Care. In preparation for the 2022 conference, SCYP staff were selected to host three pre-conference workshops with experts from the United States. The three topics focused on *Vos estis lux mundi*, barriers to reporting, and making reporting easier and trauma informed. Information from these sessions was incorporated into presentations for the final event in Rome. Global participants shared their experiences and explored differing approaches in caring for victim survivors and the larger community that has been egregiously harmed. Recognizing the similarities in needs but also the challenges of cultural norms was enlightening.

As a direct result of the ISC events, SCYP was invited to participate remotely in a training workshop for victim assistance coordinators in Ukraine. During the audit year, SCYP was consulted by Church representatives in American Samoa, Guam, the Philippines, and France. The Episcopal Conference in Germany also sent a delegation to the USCCB who were very interested in how the United States is addressing the issue of safeguarding and rebuilding a Church that has been morally wounded.

## ARTICLE 10

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops established the National Review Board (NRB) during their meeting on June of 2002. The NRB is to collaborate and advise the CPCYP on matters pertaining to the protection of youth. The NRB meets four times each year as well as two joint meetings with the CPCYP. There are four standing subcommittees including Research and Trends, Audit, Communications, and Nominations. Ad hoc committees are established as the need arises. This all-volunteer Board is comprised of individuals with expertise in fields relevant to the work of the CPCYP. Potential candidates are nominated by their local bishops and go through an extensive evaluation process. Finalists are appointed by the Conference President to serve four-year terms. National Review Board members during this audit period were:

Ms. Suzanne Healy, Chair  
*Term expires 2024*

Dr. Julie Rubio  
*Term expires 2025*

Ms. Vivian Akel  
*Term expires 2024*

Ms. Stacie  
Schrieffer-LeBlanc  
*Term expired 2022*

Mr. James Bogner  
*Term expires 2024*

Dr. John Sheveland  
*Term expires 2023*

Hon. Elizabeth Hayden  
*Term expires 2023*

Ms. Theresa Simak  
*Term expired 2022*

Mr. Steven Jubera  
*Term expires 2024*

Ms. Jan Slattery  
*Term expired 2022*

Dr. Christopher McManus  
*Term expired 2022*

Ms. Belinda Taylor  
*Term expires 2023*

Ms. Thomas Mengler  
*Term expires 2024*

## ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL REVIEW BOARD

The CPCYP is reliant on the expertise and advice of the NRB. Utilizing a rigorous selection process, new members are forwarded by the CPCYP to the Conference president for appointments to this advisory group. Dr. Julie Rubio, Diocese of San Diego, was appointed to a four-year term, while Ms. Suzanne Healy, former Victim Assistance Coordinator in Los Angeles, continues as the Chair.

The NRB proposed revision of the *Diocesan Review Board Resource Booklet* continues to be reviewed by the Committee on Canonical Affairs and Church Governance. Ms. Suzanne Healy gave a presentation about the NRB along with Bishop James V. Johnston, Jr., Chair of the CPCYP, at the Child and Youth Protection Catholic Leadership Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The NRB successfully collaborated with the CPCYP in pursuit of an expedited review of the *Charter* in advance of the scheduled review in 2025. The dedicated members of the NRB are actively engaged in the identification of new research and studies regarding safeguarding

and the advancement of knowledge in understanding the causes of abuse and the societal elements that allow abuse to occur. The Board continues to be ever mindful of their ongoing role to assist the bishops in healing the wounds that have been inflicted and promoting communal trust grounded in faith.

## ARTICLE II

In accord with the *Charter*, the President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D., Archbishop of the Military Services, USA has shared a copy of this Annual Report with the Holy See.

## CONCLUSION

The audit and study submissions contained in this Annual Report are indicative of the cultural changes in our Church. The year-over-year trends are encouraging as the number of current minor allegations within the Church in the USA remains low. This might lead us to believe that the same is true outside of the Church and beyond our national borders. Other countries reaching out to the USCCB are proof that this is not true. Research indicates that this is not true. Abuse occurs in many forms. Abuse continues to occur in our nation and throughout the world. It happens in every community and every socioeconomic group.

The changes occurring within the Catholic Church are encouraging but are not the sole solution. The programs implemented in the U.S. Catholic Church are being used as a blueprint for other organizations and they are developing the programs even further and implementing even more sophisticated efforts of safeguarding. Working in collaboration and in support of other organizations and other countries, the devastation of child sexual abuse can be minimized or even eradicated. Failure to be vigilant leads to errors that could leave yet another child in harm's way. We strive daily to be the hands and feet of our Lord, Jesus. He is always vigilant. He would never rest easy, and neither should we.



Chapter Two of this Annual Report was authored by StoneBridge Business Partners. Given the independent nature of its charge, the report is reprinted as submitted to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). The USCCB does not edit or correct the contents of the auditor's report.

# CHAPTER TWO

## STONEBRIDGE BUSINESS PARTNERS 2022 AUDIT REPORT

### INTRODUCTION

This Audit Report summarizes the results of the 2022 *Charter* audits for inclusion in the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection's Annual Report, in accordance with Article 9 of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*.

StoneBridge Business Partners (StoneBridge) was first contracted in 2011 to provide audit services and collect data from the 196 Catholic dioceses and eparchies in the United States on behalf of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the USCCB Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People, and the National Review Board. For the USCCB, StoneBridge worked with the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection (SCYP) to develop a comprehensive audit instrument, revise the charts used to collect data, and train StoneBridge staff and diocesan/eparchial personnel on the content, expectations and requirements of the *Charter* audits.

For the 2022 audit year, StoneBridge physically visited 48 dioceses/eparchies and utilized remote technologies to perform 14 additional remote visits to dioceses/eparchies, for a total of 62 on-site audit visits ("on-site audits") and collected data ("data collection process") from 132 others. Of the 62 dioceses/eparchies that participated in the on-site audits, there were three findings of non-compliance with certain aspects of the *Charter*. Compliance with the *Charter* was determined based on implementation efforts from the date of the last audit visit through 2022. On-site audits took place between the months of February and December 2022.

To be found compliant with the data collection process, the dioceses/eparchies only needed to submit Charts A/B and C/D. 194 dioceses/eparchies fully participated in the 2022 data collection process and two eparchies did not participate. Data included in Charts A/B and C/D were compiled between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

#### INSTANCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE

For the 2022 audit period, there were three findings of Non-Compliance.

The Diocese of Lubbock, TX was found non-compliant with Article 2 due to the Review Board not meeting during the audit period. Subsequent to the audit period, the Diocese convened a meeting of the Review Board which brings the Diocese into compliance with Article 2 of the *Charter*.

The Diocese of St. Thomas, VI was found non-compliant with Article 2 due to the Review Board not meeting during the audit period. Subsequent to the audit period, the Diocese convened a meeting of the Review Board which brings the Diocese into compliance with Article 2 of the *Charter*.

The Diocese of Birmingham, AL was found non-compliant with Article 2 due to the composition of the Review Board not being primarily lay persons or persons not employed by the Diocese.

## INSTANCES OF NON-PARTICIPATION

The following locations did not participate in either the on-site or data collection process, thus no information on these locations could be included in this report:

Chaldean Eparchy of St. Peter the Apostle  
St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy

## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS REGARDING THE AUDIT ENVIRONMENT

### Implementation of *The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*

*The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* was first published in 2002 and was subsequently revised in 2005, 2011, and 2018. As noted, “It is to be reviewed again after seven years by the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People with the advice of the National Review Board. The results of this review are to be presented to the full Conference of Bishops for confirmation. Authoritative interpretations of its provisions are reserved to the Conference of Bishops.” In November 2021, the Conference voted to accelerate the review of the *Charter* ahead of the planned 2025 review date.

The implementation of the *Charter* in 2002 is specific to the United States Conference as are the Essential Norms promulgated on June 17, 2005 and put into effect on May 15, 2006. The Preamble to the norms states, “*The norms are complementary to the universal law of the Church and are to be interpreted in accordance with that law.*”

As independent auditors of *The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, StoneBridge Business Partners have observed the implementation of the *Charter* since our appointment in 2011. As stated in Norm 2, “*Each diocese/eparchy will have a written policy on the sexual abuse of minors by priests and deacons, as well as other church personnel.*” The current 196 dioceses and eparchies that make up the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops each implement the *Charter* per their own policies, procedures and interpretation of the document. The result is 196 different implementations of the *Charter*.

## Vulnerable Adults

The *Charter* does not contain a definition to be used for vulnerable adults. The notes to the *Charter* state “*a person who habitually lacks the use of reason is to be considered equivalent to a minor.*”

### Implementation of *Vos Estis Lux Mundi*

StoneBridge has observed confusion within dioceses/eparchies in applying this statement in light of other documents of the Universal Church Law such as *Vos estis lux mundi* and the revised Book VI of the Code of Canon Law which contain a definition of a vulnerable adult. The confusion has led to delays in applying diocesan procedures or misapplication of diocesan procedures regarding *Charter* allegations. These situations have not risen to the level of non-compliance with the *Charter*, however, are notable when considered within the audit environment.

## COMMENTS ON SELECTIVE AUDIT TOPICS

### ADDITIONAL ACTIONS OF DIOCESES AND EPARCHIES

Dioceses and eparchies have taken certain measures that go beyond the specific requirements of the *Charter*. We believe these activities provide for a stronger safe environment and we encourage the continuation of these activities. During the 2022 on-site visits we noted the following:

- 97% of on-site visits requested an optional management letter from the auditors during the period. These letters provide suggestions to the bishops for their consideration while implementing *Charter* procedures within their diocese/eparchy.
- Approximately 70% of dioceses/eparchies indicated that they perform parish audits in some form on a regular or “as needed” basis. It is our observation that Chancery offices who maintain regular face-to-face contact with parishes have better results in implementing training and background check procedures than those

who do not. StoneBridge continues to suggest to dioceses/eparchies that they consider the feasibility of implementing a formal process to periodically visit parish and school locations in order to review documentation and assess compliance with Safe Environment requirements. These visits allow the diocese/eparchy to gain a better understanding of how policies and procedures are being implemented at the parish and school level and assist in ensuring compliance with Safe Environment requirements. We believe the key element in this process is the development of a relationship that enhances communications between the parish and chancery locations.

- Over 85% of dioceses/eparchies indicated that they require some type of reoccurring adult training. Although not required by the *Charter*, StoneBridge continues to suggest to dioceses/eparchies that they consider implementing a policy for renewing Safe Environment training for all clergy, employees, and volunteers on a periodic basis.
- Over 95% of dioceses/eparchies indicated that they require background check renewals. Although not required by the *Charter*, StoneBridge continues to suggest to dioceses/eparchies that they consider renewing background checks periodically.
- 31 dioceses/eparchies elected to have StoneBridge conduct optional parish/school audits as part of their on-site audit visit.

### LIMITATIONS OF THE AUDIT METHODOLOGY

The following topics represent limitations within both the on-site audit process and the data collection process performed by StoneBridge during the 2022 audits:

#### Failure to Participate in the Audit Process

Participation in the audit process is not required under the *Charter*. StoneBridge has yet to witness full participation from all dioceses and eparchies during

the eleven audit years we have been engaged. Until there is full participation, we are limited in our ability to opine on whether or not the *Charter* has been fully implemented within the U.S. conference.

#### Resources of Dioceses/Eparchies and Submission of Data on Charts A/B and C/D

We have noted in past years that each dioceses/eparchies have different levels of resources available to implement the *Charter*. Some dioceses and eparchies continue to struggle with outdated information, lack of cooperation at the parish/school level, and inefficient processes for the information gathered. Dioceses/eparchies cannot effectively monitor implementation without being able to verify the number of people being reported from parishes/schools each year.

Upon review of the information presented, we noted instances of incomplete or inaccurate information being provided on Charts A/B and C/D. StoneBridge has observed a history of incomplete or inaccurate data in the submission of the Charts. For the current audit year, 20% of dioceses and eparchies submitted the Charts past the due date. It is important to note that while there is a review of the information submitted, StoneBridge does not audit the data collected from Charts A/B and C/D.

## OTHER AUDIT FINDINGS AND COMMENTS

The following are observations StoneBridge auditors made during the on-site audit process in the 2022 audit year. We believe that if each topic is addressed proactively by dioceses and eparchies, improvements can be made to safe environments. The topics are categorized by *Charter* article.

Topics observed in *more than 30%* of dioceses/eparchies visited during 2022:

#### Article 2

- Review Board Functioning - We observed a variety of topics indicating some dysfunction of Review Boards including lack of meetings, inadequate composition or membership, not following the by-laws of the Board, members not confident in their duties, lack of rotation of members, and

a lack of review of diocesan/eparchial policies and procedures.

The Review Board is intended to be a confidential consultative body to assist the Bishop. Dioceses/eparchies are encouraged to use the resources and talents of their review board members to ensure that *Charter* related policies and procedures are relevant.

Articles 2, 4, and 6 – Policies and Procedures/Codes of Conduct

- The Child Protection Policy did not include language regarding Child Pornography or individuals who habitually lack the use of reason per the 2011 *Charter* revision.
- The Codes of Conduct did not include language regarding Child Pornography or individuals who habitually lack the use of reason per the 2011 *Charter* revision.

Other topics observed in *less than 30%* of dioceses/eparchies visited during 2022:

Article 2

- Reporting procedures were not available in printed form in all principal languages in which the liturgy is offered. This potentially limits the ability of non-English speaking populations to report instances of abuse.
- Reporting procedures were not consistently displayed at parishes and schools.
- There were instances where the Victim's Assistance Coordinator was a member of clergy or was performing duties that could be considered a conflict of interest when coordinating pastoral care for those sexually abused.

Articles 5 and 14

- There was no formal plan in place to monitor the whereabouts or activities of clergy removed from active ministry.
- There were no documented policies regarding one of the following items regarding accused clergy: presumption of innocence, retention of civil and canonical counsel, steps to restore good

name if allegation is deemed not substantiated, or transfer of clergy.

Article 7

- There was no formal policy concerning communications with the public regarding sexual abuse of minors by clergy.

Articles 12 and 13

- Some clergy, employees, and volunteers were not trained or background checked, but had contact with minors.
- Article 12 requires dioceses/eparchies to maintain a "safe environment" program which the diocesan/eparchial bishop deems to be in accord with Catholic moral principles. This is typically documented through a promulgation letter. We observed either outdated letters that were not inclusive of programs in use by parishes and schools, letters from a previous bishop, or no documented promulgation.
- We noted dioceses/eparchies that were not effectively monitoring compliance with their own internal policy requirements for renewal training or renewal of background checks.

## AUDIT PROCESS

The following paragraphs provide an overview of the on-site audit and data collection process.

Prior to the start of the audit year, StoneBridge and the SCYP distribute presentation materials to all Safe Environment Coordinators and other diocesan/eparchial representatives to educate them on our audit process, changes and approach. Training materials and recordings developed by StoneBridge are also available to assist safe environment coordinators and other diocesan/eparchial representatives prepare for the on-site audit.

Whether participating in an on-site audit or the data collection process, each diocese and eparchy is asked to complete two documents; Chart A/B and Chart C/D annually. These Charts were developed by StoneBridge and the SCYP, and are used to collect the information necessary from each diocese/eparchy for inclusion in the Annual Report: Findings and Recommendations.



Summary information from Charts A/B and C/D are presented in Data Collection Statistics at the end of the 2022 Audit Report.

During the data collection process, StoneBridge reviews both Charts A/B and C/D for completeness and clarified any ambiguities. Afterward, the Charts are forwarded to the SCYP as proof of participation from the dioceses/eparchies.

On-site audit participants are required to complete the Audit Instrument, which asks a diocese or eparchy to explain how they are compliant with each aspect of the *Charter*, by Article. During the audit, StoneBridge verifies Audit Instrument responses through interviews with diocesan/eparchial personnel and review of supporting documentation.

Parish audits are an optional, but nonetheless an important part of the audit methodology. During parish audits, StoneBridge auditors, sometimes accompanied by diocesan/eparchial personnel, visit a random selection of diocesan/eparchial parishes and schools to assess the effectiveness of the *Charter* implementation.

At the completion of each on-site audit, a Compliance Letter is prepared by the auditors. This letter communicates to bishops and eparchs whether their dioceses/eparchies are found to be in compliance with the *Charter*. Any specific instances of non-compliance, if applicable, would be identified in this communication and expanded upon accordingly.

The Management Letter, which is at the request of the bishop, communicates to the bishop or eparch any suggestions that the auditors wish to make based on their findings during the on-site audit. Any comments made in this letter do not affect compliance with the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*; they are simply suggestions for consideration. Suggestions for improvements are delivered verbally during the on-site audit at the exit interview with the bishop.

A list of all the dioceses and eparchies that completed on-site audits and those that included parish/school visits during 2022 can be found at the end of this report.

At the completion of the data collection process, the bishop or eparch will receive a Participation Letter. This letter communicates that the diocese/eparchy has submitted Chart A/B and Chart C/D. It also indicates the year of the next scheduled on-site audit. Receipt of the Participation Letter does not imply that a diocese or eparchy is compliant with the *Charter*. Compliance with the *Charter* can only be effectively determined by participation in an on-site audit.

## CONCLUSION

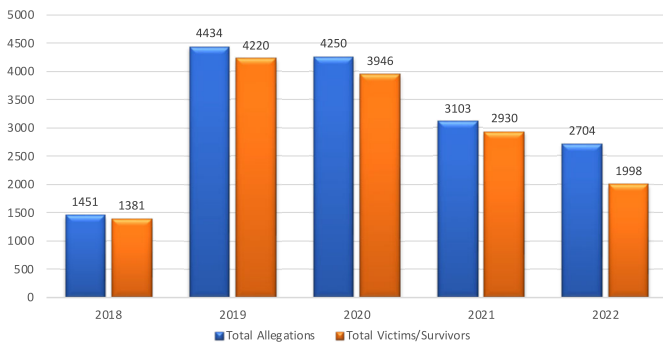
By authorizing the audit process, the bishops and eparchs of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops demonstrate their commitment to the protection of children and the prevention of sexual abuse of the vulnerable among us. Prevention is made possible by the commitment and effort of the personnel involved in the *Charter's* implementation. We recognize the dedication of these individuals and we are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with them throughout the year. Finally, we thank the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People, the National Review Board, and the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection for their ongoing support of the audit process.

## DATA COLLECTION STATISTICS

### TOTAL ALLEGATIONS

Between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, 2,704 allegations were reported by 1,998 victims/survivors of child sexual abuse by clergy throughout 194 Catholic dioceses and eparchies that reported information. These allegations represent reports of abuse between an alleged victim and an alleged accused, whether the abuse was a single incident or a series of incidents over a period of time. The abuse was alleged to have occurred from the 1930’s to the present. Chart 1-1 below summarizes the total allegations and total victims/survivors by audit year from 2018 through 2022.

**Chart 1-1: Total Allegations 2018 - 2022**



As initially reported in 2019 and continued through 2022, the high number of allegations is in part due to a number of allegations received as a result of lawsuits, compensation programs, and bankruptcies, making up approximately 83% of allegations during 2022. These programs allow those who have previously reported allegations as well as those who have not yet come forward, to be considered for some type of monetary compensation. Additionally, 1% of allegations were a result of clergy file reviews during the current audit period.

For purposes of this audit, the investigation of an allegation has five potential outcomes. An allegation is “substantiated” when the diocese/eparchy has completed an investigation and the allegation has been deemed credible/true based upon the evidence

gathered through the investigation. An allegation is “unsubstantiated” when the diocese/eparchy has completed an investigation and the allegation has been deemed not credible/false based upon the evidence gathered through the investigation. An allegation is “unable to be proven” when the diocese/eparchy was unable to complete the investigation due to lack of information—this is generally the outcome of an investigation when the accused cleric is deceased, or his status or location is unknown. Since the information collected was as of June 30, 2022, some allegations were still under investigation and categorized as “investigation ongoing.” In other cases, an investigation had not yet begun for various reasons, or the allegation had been referred to another diocese/eparchy or is still in the compensation/bankruptcy process. These were categorized as “Other.” Chart 1-2 below summarizes the status of the 2,704 allegations as of June 30, 2022.

**Chart 1-2: Status of Allegations as of June 30, 2022**

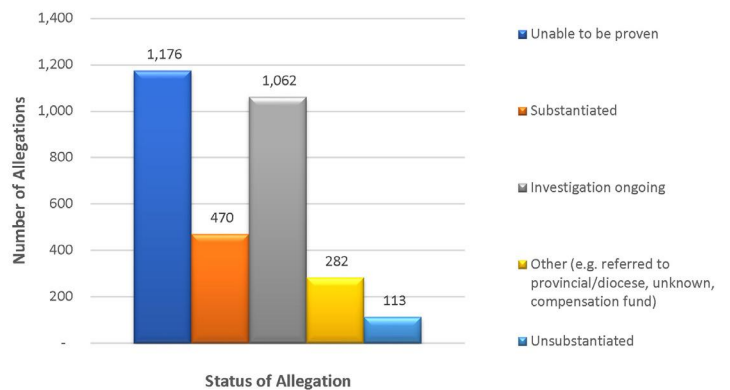
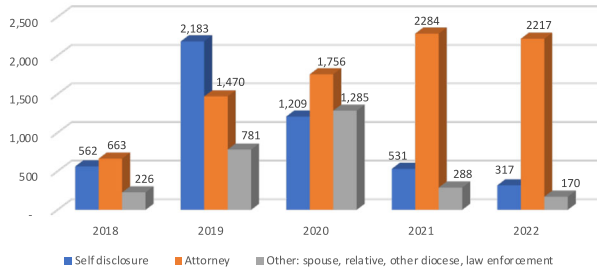


Chart 1-3 below summarizes the ways in which allegations were received from 2018 through 2022. Out of the 2,704 allegations, a total of 2,217, or 82%, were brought to the attention of the diocesan/eparchial representatives through an attorney, making this the principal reporting method during the 2022 audit period. Allegations made by spouses, relatives, or other representatives such as other dioceses/eparchies, religious orders, clergy members, or law

enforcement officials on behalf of the victim/survivor were additional methods of reporting, totaling 170 allegations. The remaining 317 allegations were made by self disclosure.

**Chart 1-3: Methods of Reporting Allegations 2018 - 2022**



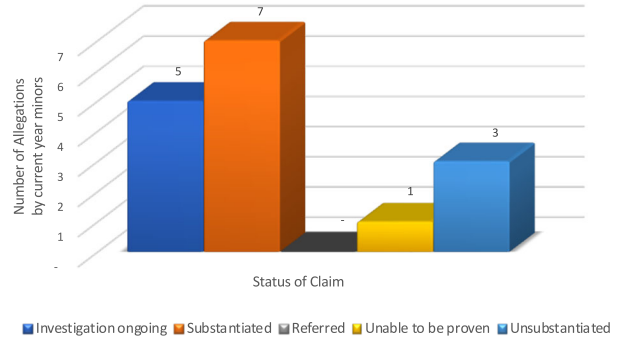
During the current audit period, dioceses/eparchies provided outreach and support services to 254 victims/survivors and their families who reported during this audit period. Continued support was provided to 1,589 victims/survivors and their families who reported abuse in prior audit periods.

As part of the audit procedures, StoneBridge asked dioceses and eparchies to report on Chart A/B the date the abuse was reported, and the date outreach services were offered. StoneBridge compared these dates to determine how prompt outreach services were offered to victims/survivors from the dioceses and eparchies as required by Article 1.

**Allegations involving Minors**

Out of the 2,704 allegations, 16 involved current year minors—consisting of 1 male, 11 females, and 4 were unknown and related to child pornography. Of these allegations 7 were substantiated, 5 were categorized as investigation ongoing, 3 were unsubstantiated, and 1 was categorized as unable to be proven. Chart 4-1 below summarizes the status of each of the 16 claims made by current year minors as of June 30, 2022.

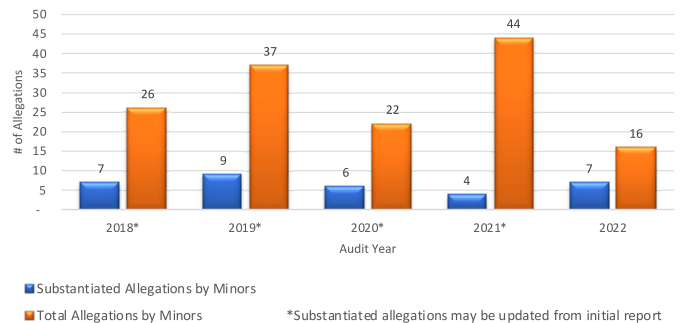
**Chart 4-1: Status of claims by current year minors as of June 30, 2022**



Revisions to the *Charter* in 2011 included classification of allegations to expand to those who “habitually lack the use of reason” and the acquisition, possession, and distribution of child pornography. There was one allegation involving an adult who “habitually lacks the use of reason” and four allegations involving child pornography. Of the four child pornography allegations, one was unable to be proven, two were referred to the provincial, and one was substantiated as of June 30, 2022.

Part of StoneBridge’s audit procedures is to follow up with the prior years’ allegations that involved minors where the investigation was identified as ongoing. StoneBridge followed up on three allegations which continue to remain ongoing in their investigations. Chart 4-2 below compares the total number of allegations by minors with substantiated claims by minors over the last five years.

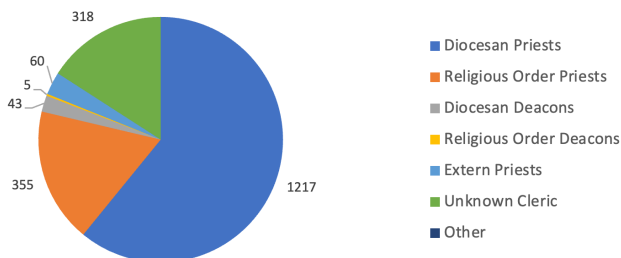
**Chart 4-2: Total Allegations by Minors vs. Substantiated Allegations 2018 - 2022**



## Accused Clerics

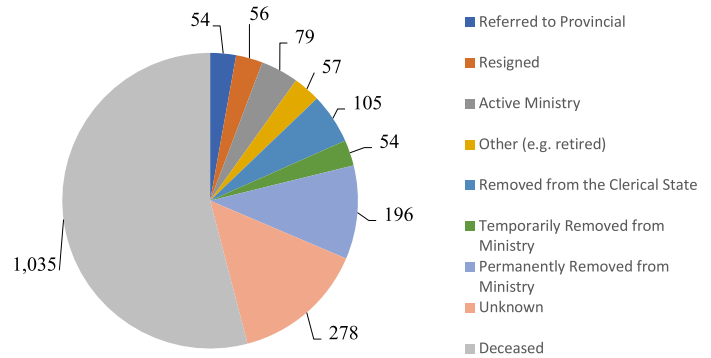
The number of clerics accused of sexual abuse of a minor during the audit period totaled 1,998. The accused clerics were categorized as priests, deacons, unknown, or other. An “unknown” cleric is used for a situation in which the victim/survivor was unable to provide the identity of the accused. “Other” represents a cleric from another diocese for which details of ordination and/or incardination were not available/provided. Accused priests of the audit period totaled 1,632. Of this total, 1,217 were diocesan priests, 355 belonged to a religious order, and 60 were incardinated elsewhere. There were 48 deacons accused during the audit period. Of this total, 43 were diocesan deacons, and 5 were religious order deacons. Allegations brought against “unknown” clerics totaled 318. Of the total identified clerics, 827, or 41%, had been accused in previous audit periods. See Chart 4-3 below for summary of accused type.

**Chart 4-3: Accused Type for June 30, 2022**



See Chart 5-1 below for a summary of the status of the 1,914 accused clerics as of June 30, 2021.

**Chart 5-1: Status of Accused Clerics as of June 30, 2022**



## Training and Background Check Statistics

StoneBridge collected current year safe environment training for each diocese/eparchy. The figures provided by dioceses/eparchies for Article 12 were not audited by StoneBridge. The *Charter* does not require clergy, employees, and volunteers to renew safe environment training or background check information. However, some dioceses/eparchies choose to require some form of refresher training and background check renewal. A complete list of safe environment training programs used in dioceses and eparchies can be found on the SCYP website. It is important to note that the figures reported in the categories below, excluding the children category, represent individuals who have been trained at least once.



**TRAINING**

<b>Children</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Dioceses/eparchies participating	194	191	195	194	194	194	194	190
Total children	3,073,741	2,960,677	3,661,972	4,008,467	4,209,857	4,411,279	4,538,756	4,666,507
Total children trained	2,929,581	2,466,346	3,100,151	3,685,276	3,914,972	4,117,869	4,267,014	4,371,211
Percent trained	95.3%	83.3%	84.7%	91.9%	93.0%	93.3%	94.0%	93.7%
Percent opted out	1.2%	1.3%	1.0%	1.0%	1.3%	1.0%	1.1%	1.2%

<b>Priests</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Total priests	31,846	32,264	33,469	33,628	33,814	33,917	35,815	36,158
Total priests trained	31,674	32,101	32,600	33,244	33,542	33,448	35,475	35,987
Percent trained	99.5%	99.5%	97.4%	98.9%	99.2%	98.6%	99.1%	99.5%

<b>Deacons</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Total deacons	16,790	32,264	33,469	33,628	33,814	33,917	35,815	36,158
Total deacons trained	16,769	32,101	32,600	33,244	33,542	33,448	35,475	35,987
Percent trained	99.9%	99.5%	97.4%	98.9%	99.2%	98.6%	99.1%	99.5%

<b>Candidates for Ordination</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Total candidates	5,529	5,547	6,662	6,564	6,787	7,028	6,902	6,577
Total candidates trained	5,474	5,509	6,617	6,482	6,677	6,944	6,847	6,473
Percent trained	99.0%	99.3%	99.3%	98.8%	98.4%	98.8%	99.2%	98.4%

<b>Educators</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Total educators	152,078	155,209	164,279	173,236	175,151	172,832	162,988	164,628
Total educators trained	150,818	154,093	163,112	170,611	173,611	170,678	159,764	162,803
Percent trained	99.2%	99.3%	99.3%	98.5%	99.1%	98.8%	98.0%	98.9%

<b>Other Employees</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Total other employees	254,623	251,293	256,538	273,156	267,052	270,750	269,250	269,090
Total other employees trained	250,155	247,198	250,480	264,847	261,215	263,606	258,978	260,356
Percent trained	98.2%	98.4%	97.6%	97.0%	97.8%	97.4%	96.2%	96.8%

<b>Volunteers</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Total volunteers	1,731,351	1,608,976	2,107,964	2,218,853	2,205,252	2,088,272	1,984,063	1,976,248
Total volunteers trained	1,694,604	1,581,808	2,069,213	2,136,439	2,163,099	2,041,019	1,912,152	1,930,262
Percent trained	97.9%	98.3%	98.2%	96.3%	98.1%	97.7%	96.4%	97.7%

## BACKGROUND CHECKS

Priests	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Dioceses/eparchies participating	194	191	195	194	194	194	194	190
Total priests	31,846	32,264	33,469	33,628	33,814	33,917	35,815	36,158
Total priests background checked	31,754	31,824	32,923	33,195	33,592	33,540	35,346	35,720
Percent checked	99.7%	98.6%	98.4%	98.7%	99.3%	98.9%	98.7%	98.8%

Deacons	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Total deacons	16,790	16,592	16,457	16,344	16,414	16,328	16,423	16,300
Total deacons background checked	16,770	16,486	16,417	16,320	16,389	16,222	16,050	16,257
Percent checked	99.9%	99.4%	99.8%	99.9%	99.8%	99.4%	97.7%	99.7%

Candidates for Ordination	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Total candidates	5,529	5,547	6,662	6,564	6,787	7,028	6,902	6,577
Total candidates background checked	5,498	5,505	6,634	6,506	6,711	6,971	6,841	6,577
Percent checked	99.4%	99.2%	99.6%	99.1%	98.9%	99.2%	99.1%	100.0%

Educators	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Total educators	152,078	155,209	164,279	173,236	175,151	172,832	162,988	164,628
Total educators background checked	151,188	152,223	163,442	170,163	173,706	170,719	157,468	158,556
Percent checked	99.4%	98.1%	99.5%	98.2%	99.2%	98.8%	96.6%	96.3%

Other Employees	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Total other employees	254,623	251,293	256,538	273,156	267,052	270,750	269,250	269,090
Total other employees background checked	251,308	240,253	254,766	268,417	263,915	265,599	260,409	263,690
Percent checked	98.7%	95.6%	99.3%	98.3%	98.8%	98.1%	96.7%	98.0%

Volunteers	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Total volunteers	1,731,351	1,608,976	2,107,964	2,218,853	2,205,252	2,088,777	1,984,063	1,976,248
Total volunteers background checked	1,687,643	1,518,365	2,083,752	2,156,234	2,163,670	2,022,360	1,927,053	1,935,310
Percent checked	97.5%	94.4%	98.9%	97.2%	98.1%	96.8%	97.1%	97.9%

## ON-SITE AUDITS PERFORMED BY STONEBRIDGE DURING 2022

- Diocese of Alexandria, LA
- Diocese of Arlington, VA
- Diocese of Beaumont, TX
- Diocese of Birmingham, AL
- Diocese of Brooklyn, NY
- Diocese of Cleveland, OH
- Diocese of Columbus, OH
- Diocese of Des Moines, IA
- Archdiocese of Dubuque, IA
- Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma, OH
- Diocese of Erie, PA
- Diocese of Fall River, MA
- Diocese of Fargo, ND
- Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, IN
- Diocese of Gallup, NM
- Diocese of Gary, IN
- Diocese of Grand Rapids, MI
- Diocese of Great Falls, MT
- Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, LA
- Diocese of Jackson, MS
- Diocese of Kalamazoo, MI
- Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, MO
- Diocese of Knoxville, TN
- Diocese of Lafayette, IN
- Diocese of Las Vegas, NV
- Diocese of Lexington, KY
- Diocese of Lubbock, TX
- Diocese of Madison, WI
- Diocese of Marquette, MI
- Archdiocese of Miami, FL
- Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA
- Archdiocese of Mobile, AL
- Archdiocese of New Orleans, LA
- Archdiocese of New York, NY
- Diocese of Oakland, CA
- Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon, LA
- Diocese of Palm Beach, FL
- Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee, FL
- Diocese of Peoria, IL
- Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, PA
- Archdiocese of Portland, OR
- Diocese of Providence, RI
- Diocese of Pueblo, CO
- Diocese of Rapid City, SD
- Diocese of Rockford, IL
- Archdiocese of San Antonio, TX
- Diocese of San Diego, CA
- Diocese of San Jose, CA
- Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, MO
- Diocese of St. Cloud, MN
- Romanian Eparchy of St. George in Canton, OH
- Archdiocese of St. Louis, MO
- Eparchy of St. Maron of Brooklyn, NY
- Diocese of St. Thomas, VI
- Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford, CT
- Diocese of Tulsa, OK
- Diocese of Tyler, TX
- Diocese of Victoria, TX
- Archdiocese of Washington DC
- Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, WV
- Diocese of Wichita, KS
- Diocese of Yakima, WA

## ON-SITE AUDITS INVOLVING STONEBRIDGE PARISH/SCHOOL VISITS DURING 2022

- Diocese of Alexandria, LA
- Diocese of Arlington, VA
- Diocese of Columbus, OH
- Diocese of Erie, PA
- Diocese of Fall River, MA
- Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, IN
- Diocese of Gary, IN
- Diocese of Grand Rapids, MI
- Diocese of Jackson, MS
- Diocese of Kalamazoo, MI
- Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, MO
- Diocese of Lafayette, IN
- Diocese of Las Vegas, NV
- Diocese of Lexington, KY
- Archdiocese of New Orleans, LA
- Archdiocese of New York, NY
- Diocese of Palm Beach, FL
- Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee, FL
- Diocese of Pueblo, CO
- Archdiocese of St. Louis, MO
- Diocese of St. Thomas, VI
- Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford, CT
- Diocese of Tulsa, OK
- Diocese of Victoria, TX
- Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, WV
- Diocese of Yakima, WA

# SECTION II

2022





Chapter Three of this Annual Report was authored by Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University. Given the independent nature of its charge, the report is reprinted as submitted to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). The USCCB does not edit or correct the contents of the auditor's report.

# CHAPTER THREE

## 2022 SURVEY OF ALLEGATIONS AND COSTS

### A SUMMARY REPORT FOR THE SECRETARIAT OF CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

FEBRUARY 2023, JONATHON L. WIGGINS, PH.D., MARK M. GRAY, PH.D.

#### INTRODUCTION

**A**t their Fall General Assembly in November 2004, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) commissioned the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University to design and conduct an annual survey of all the dioceses and eparchies whose bishops or eparchs are members of the USCCB. The purpose of this survey is to collect information on new allegations of sexual abuse of minors and the clergy against whom these allegations were made. The survey also gathers information on the amount of money dioceses and eparchies have expended as a result of allegations as well as the amount they have paid for child protection efforts. The national level aggregate results from this survey for each calendar year are prepared for the USCCB and reported in its *Annual Report of the Implementation of the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People."* A complete set of the aggregate results for ten years (2004 to 2013) is available on the USCCB website.

Beginning in 2014, the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection changed the reporting period for this survey to coincide with the July 1 - June 30 reporting period that is used by dioceses and eparchies for their annual audits. Since that time, the annual survey of allegations and costs captures all allegations

reported to dioceses and eparchies between July 1 and June 30. This year's survey, the 2022 Survey of Allegations and Costs, covers the period between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. Where appropriate, this report presents data in tables for audit year 2022 compared to audit year 2021 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021), 2020 (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020), 2019 (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019), 2018 (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018), 2017 (July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017), 2016 (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016), 2015 (July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015), and 2014 (July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014).<sup>1</sup>

The questionnaire for the *2022 Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs* for dioceses and eparchies was designed by CARA in consultation with the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection. While the versions of the questionnaire used from 2004 to 2019 were nearly identical, this is the third survey year with revised questions concerning the details of the allegations (but the questions about the alleged perpetrators and the costs remain the same). In 2014 to 2019, details about the allegations and the alleged perpetrators were only gathered about the credible allegations that were both reported and classified as credible in that fiscal year. This and the past two

<sup>1</sup> Before 2014, this survey was collected on a calendar year basis. For discussion of previous trends in the data, refer to the 2013 Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs as reported in the *2013 Annual Report on the Implementation of the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People,"* published by the USCCB Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection.

year's surveys, on the other hand, collect those details about those allegations and alleged perpetrators that were deemed credible during a relevant fiscal year (July 1 to June 30) regardless of when they were first reported to the archdiocese, eparchy, or religious community. Where equivalent, comparisons are made to the previous year's data. Where the data is not equivalent, no comparisons are made.

As in previous years, CARA prepared an online version of the survey and hosted it on the CARA website. Bishops and eparchs received information about the process for completing the survey in their mid-August correspondence from the USCCB and were asked to provide the name of the contact person who would complete the survey. The Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM) also invited major superiors of religious communities of men to complete a similar survey for their congregations, provinces, and monasteries. Religious communities of brothers also participated in the survey of men's communities, as they have since 2015. This year's questionnaire was the fifth to have alterations in sections of the survey for religious communities to measure the diagnoses of the alleged offenders. In addition, two new questions were added about accreditation by Praesidium and religious communities that have members who are themselves survivors of minor sexual abuse.

CARA completed data collection for the fiscal year 2022 annual survey in January 2023. All but two of the 196 dioceses and eparchies of the USCCB completed the survey, for a response rate of 99 percent.<sup>2</sup> A total of 149 of the 224 religious communities<sup>3</sup> that belong to CMSM for which CARA had contact information responded to the survey, for a response rate of 67 percent. The overall response rate for dioceses, eparchies, and religious communities was 82 percent, higher than the response rate of 78 percent for this survey last year. Once CARA had received all data, it then prepared the national level summary tables and graphs of the findings for the period from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

2. The Dioceses of Rockville Centre (New York) and Charlotte (North Carolina) did not provide a response.

3. This year, for the first time in its reporting, to better be inclusive of the different types of religious communities that belong to CMSM – including Institutes of Consecrated Life, Societies of Apostolic Life, and Independent Monasteries – CARA has begun referring to the member units of CMSM as “religious communities” instead of as “religious institutes.”

## DIOCESES AND EPARCHIES

### *The Data Collection Process*

CARA and the Secretariat contacted every diocese or eparchy that had not sent in a contact name by late September 2022 to obtain the name of a contact person to complete the survey. Dioceses and eparchies began submitting their data for the 2022 survey in September 2022. CARA and the Secretariat sent multiple reminders by e-mail and telephone to these contact persons, to encourage a high response rate.

By January 2023, all but two of the 196 dioceses and eparchies of the USCCB had responded to the survey, for a response rate of 99 percent.<sup>4</sup> The participation rate among dioceses and eparchies has been nearly unanimous each year of this survey. Beginning in 2004 and 2005 with response rates of 93 and 94 percent, respectively, the response reached 99 percent each year from 2006 to 2014, was 100 percent for 2015 and 2016, and was 99 percent for 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021.

A copy of the survey instrument for dioceses and eparchies is included in this report in Appendix B.

### *Credible Allegations Received by Dioceses and Eparchies*

As is shown in Table 1, the responding dioceses and eparchies reported that between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, they judged 245 allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by a diocesan or eparchial priest or deacon to be credible.<sup>5</sup> These allegations were made by 237 individuals against 211 priests or deacons. Of the 245 allegations deemed credible during this reporting period (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022), 20 allegations involved children under the age of 18 since 2000. Nearly all of the other allegations were made by adults who are alleging abuse when they were minors.

4. The Dioceses of Rockville Centre (New York) and Charlotte (North Carolina) did not provide a response.

5. As was mentioned in the Introduction, the 2020 survey was the first to collect details about all allegations that were deemed credible during that past fiscal year (July 1 to June 30) regardless of when they were first reported to the archdiocese, eparchy, or religious community. Thus, comparisons in this subsection are only shown for the three surveys using the same criteria for credible allegations. Previous year's numbers can be viewed in the 2019 report available on the USCCB website at [https://cdn.ymaws.com/usccb.site-ym.com/resource/group/1560f0d7-fee7-4aff-afd2-4cf076a24943/resource\\_toolbox/audit/2019\\_annual\\_report\\_final.pdf](https://cdn.ymaws.com/usccb.site-ym.com/resource/group/1560f0d7-fee7-4aff-afd2-4cf076a24943/resource_toolbox/audit/2019_annual_report_final.pdf)

**Table I. New Allegations Deemed Credible in FY 2022: Dioceses and Eparchies**

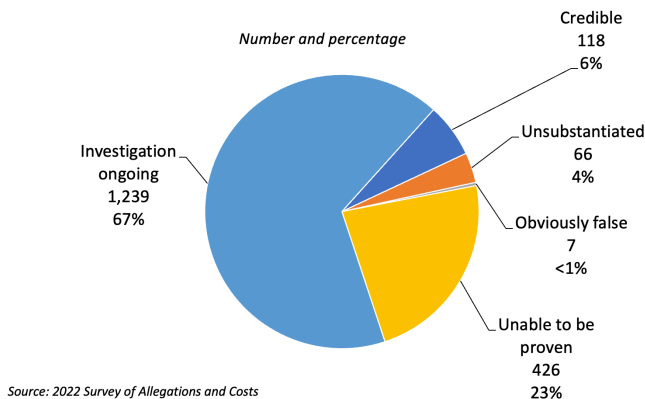
	Victims	Allegations	Offenders
FY 2022	237	245	211
FY 2021	967	968	569
FY 2020	1,529	1,539	1,115

Sources: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2020-2022

**Determination of Credibility for Allegations First Received in Previous Fiscal Years**

Each diocese and eparchy follows a process to determine the credibility of any allegation of clergy sexual abuse, as set forth in canon law and the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. Figure 1 shows those allegations received before July 1, 2021 (1,856 in total). Two-thirds of the previously received allegations were categorized as investigation ongoing (67 percent), nearly a quarter were unable to be proven (23 percent), one in 15 was found to be credible (6 percent), one in 28 was unsubstantiated (4 percent), and less than 1 percent was determined to be obviously false.

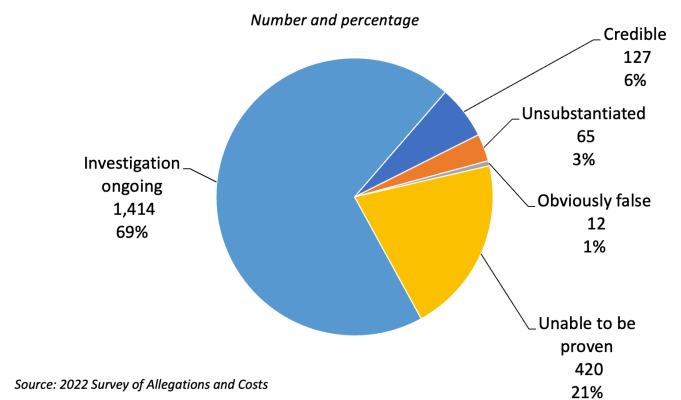
**Figure 1. Resolution in Fiscal Year 2022 of Allegations Received before July 1, 2021: Dioceses and Eparchies**



**Determination of Credibility for Allegations First Received in This Fiscal Year**

Figure 2 presents the outcome for 2,038 allegations first received between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. Dioceses and eparchies were asked to categorize these new allegations into one of these categories: credible, unsubstantiated, obviously false, unable to be proven, and investigation ongoing. As can be seen below, seven-tenths of new allegations received in fiscal year 2022 require more investigation before they can be classified (69 percent), two in ten were deemed unable to be proven (21 percent), one in 20 was designated credible (6 percent), and between 1 and 3 percent were unsubstantiated (3 percent) or determined to be obviously false (1 percent).

**Figure 2. Determination of Credibility for New Allegations First Received in Fiscal Year 2022: Dioceses and Eparchies**

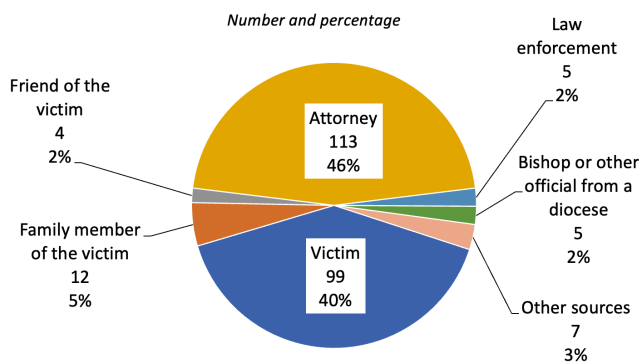


The remainder of this subsection of the report for dioceses and eparchies details the 245 allegations that have been classified as credible during this fiscal year, both those first received in a previous fiscal year (the 118 credible allegations shown in Figure 1) and those first received during this fiscal year (the 127 credible allegations shown in Figure 2).<sup>6</sup>

6. The credible allegations are not evenly distributed among dioceses and eparchies. Fifty-nine percent of dioceses or eparchies did not judge any allegations as credible in fiscal year 2022. In contrast, four dioceses account for 37 percent of all credible allegations.

Figure 3 illustrates the way in which these 245 allegations of abuse were reported to the dioceses or eparchies between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. Nearly half of new allegations were first reported by an attorney (46 percent), four-tenths by a victim (40 percent), and about one in 20 combined by a family member of the victim (5 percent) or a friend of the victim (2 percent). Two percent each were first reported by law enforcement or by a bishop or other official from a diocese. Although it was offered as a choice (not shown in Figure 3), no respondents say they first learned of an allegation when it was reported through a government investigation. Three percent were reported by an “other” source, such as a former youth minister, a lawsuit, their own investigation, a paralegal working independently, and a parishioner in the diocese.

**Figure 3. Method of Reporting Allegations of Abuse: Dioceses and Eparchies**

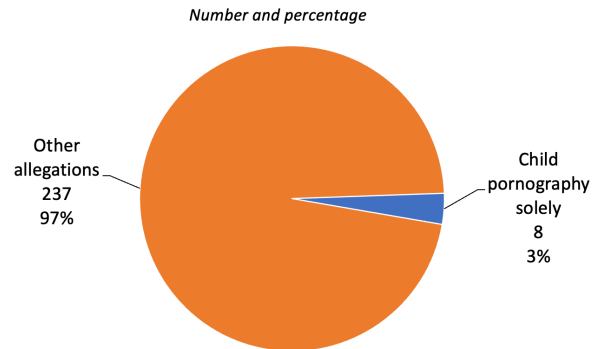


Source: 2022 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Compared to report year 2021, slightly fewer allegations were reported by an attorney (54 percent in fiscal year 2021 compared to 46 percent in fiscal year 2022) and more were reported by a victim (30 percent in 2021 compared to 40 percent in 2022).

Figure 4 presents the percentage of all allegations of abuse that were cases solely involving child pornography. Eight of the 245 total allegations deemed credible from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 solely involved child pornography.

**Figure 4. Percentage of Allegations Solely Involving Child Pornography: Dioceses and Eparchies**



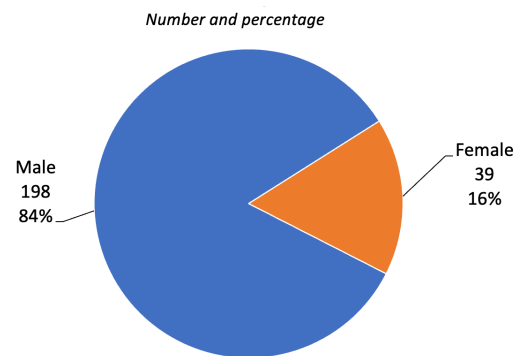
Source: 2022 Survey of Allegations and Costs

In the previous year (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021), one allegation (1 percent) solely involved child pornography.

### Victims, Offenses, and Offenders

As illustrated in Figure 5, more than eight in ten of the 237 victims were male (84 percent), with 16 percent female.<sup>7</sup>

**Figure 5. Gender of Abuse Victim: Dioceses and Eparchies**



Source: 2022 Survey of Allegations and Costs

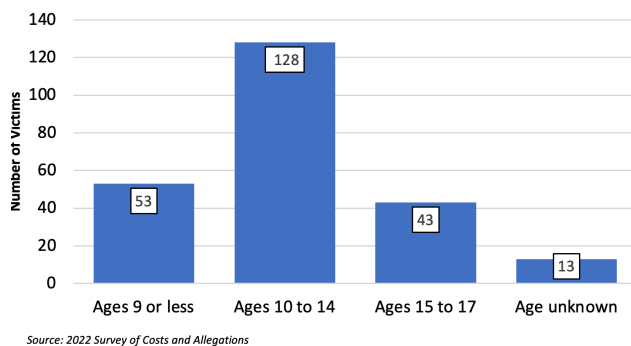
The percentages reported for year 2021 are similar to those reported for this year: 82 percent of abuse victims were male and 18 percent were female.

<sup>7</sup> Details about the gender, age, and year the alleged offense occurred or began are not reported for the eight allegations that solely involved child pornography.



Thirteen of the 237 credible allegations that did not solely involve child pornography did not include information about the alleged victims' ages (5 percent). Among those 224 where the ages are known, more than half of allegations involved victims who were between the ages of 10 and 14 (57 percent) when the alleged abuse began. Roughly two in ten each were under age 10 (24 percent) or between the ages of 15 and 17 (19 percent). Figure 6 presents the distribution of victims by age at the time the alleged abuse began.

**Figure 6. Age of Victim When Abuse Began: Dioceses and Eparchies**

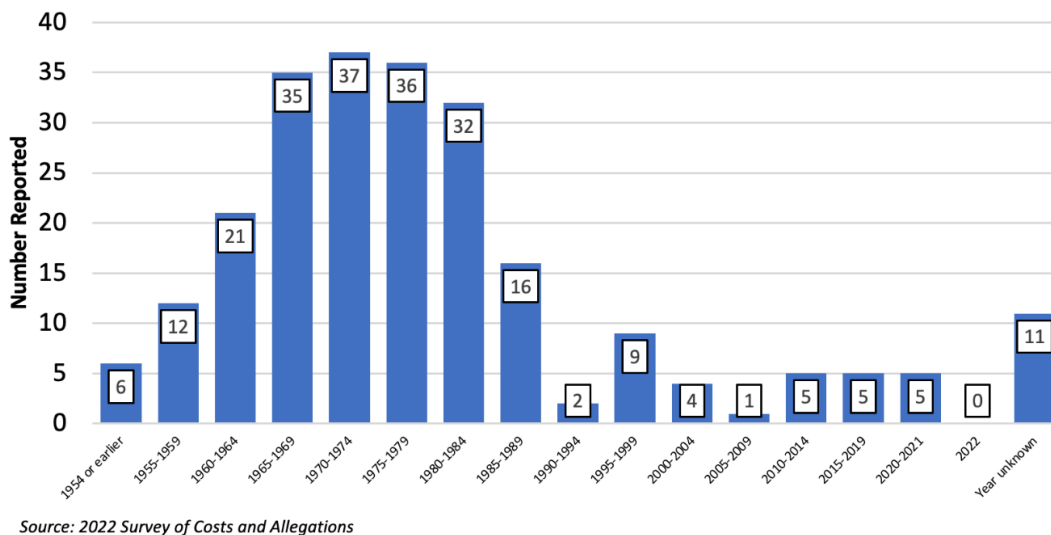


This year's percentages differ somewhat from those in year 2021 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021). For that time period, 31 percent of allegations involved victims ages 9 or younger, 54 percent involved victims between the ages of 10 and 14, and 15 percent involved victims between the ages of 15 and 17.

Figure 7 shows the years in which the abuse reported was alleged to have occurred or begun. For 11 of the allegations (5 percent) deemed credible between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, no time frame for the alleged abuse could be determined. Among those 226 where a time frame could be determined, 49 percent of all new allegations were said to have occurred or begun before 1975, 42 percent between 1975 and 1999, and 9 percent since 2000. The most common time period for allegations reported was 1970-1974 (37 allegations), followed by 1975-1979 (36 allegations).<sup>8</sup> Looked at another way, about four-fifths (78 percent) of all allegations able to be classified by year were said to have occurred or begun in the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s.

Proportionately, the numbers reported in Figure 7 for year 2022 are similar to those reported for year 2021 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021). For that time period, 52 percent of alleged offenses occurred or began before 1975, 44 percent between 1975 and 1999, and 4 percent after 2000.

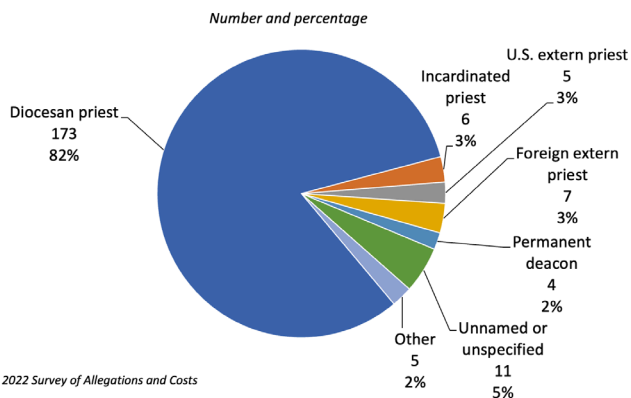
**Figure 7. Year the Alleged Offense Occurred or Began: Dioceses and Eparchies**



8. Note that this distribution is similar to the one on page 41, figure 29 of this report, which shows the cumulative distribution since 2004.

The survey for 2022 again asks for details about the priests and deacons who were alleged perpetrators. More than four-fifths of the 211 diocesan or eparchial priests or deacons had been ordained for the diocese or eparchy in which the abuse was alleged to have occurred (82 percent were diocesan priests and 2 percent were permanent deacons). Three percent of those identified were priests incardinated into that diocese or eparchy at the time of the alleged abuse (3 percent), extern priests from another country (3 percent), or extern priests from another U.S. diocese or eparchy (3 percent). Two percent of alleged perpetrators were classified as “other,” most commonly because they were either unnamed in the allegation or their name was unknown to the diocese or eparchy. Figure 8 displays the ecclesial status of offenders at the time of the alleged offense.

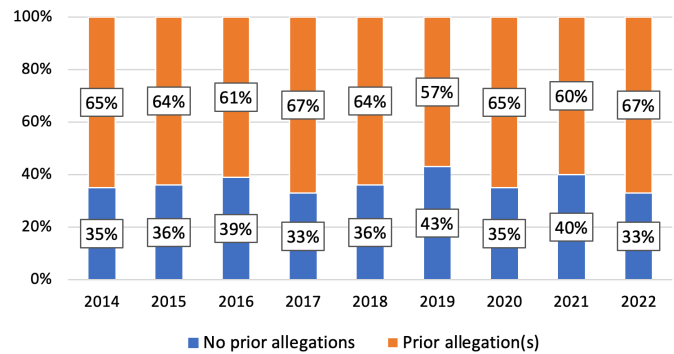
**Figure 8. Ecclesial Status of Alleged Perpetrator: Dioceses and Eparchies**



The percentages in Figure 8 for year 2022 differ only slightly from those reported for year 2021 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021), where 77 percent of alleged perpetrators were priests (75 percent) or deacons (2 percent) who had been ordained for the diocese or eparchy in which the abuse was alleged to have occurred. All other categories reported for that time period represented 1 to 4 percent of alleged perpetrators, similar to the percentages shown above.

Consistent with most of the previous fiscal years shown in Figure 9, two-thirds (142 priests and deacons or 67 percent) of the priests and deacons identified as alleged offenders between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 had already been identified in allegations in previous years.

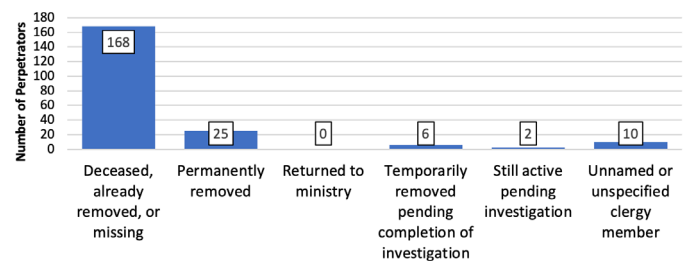
**Figure 9. Percentage of Alleged Perpetrators with Prior Allegations: Dioceses and Eparchies**



Source: 2022 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 10 shows the current status of the alleged offenders. Ten of the 211 alleged perpetrators are not able to be classified (5 percent). Among those classified, about eight in ten alleged offenders identified between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 are deceased, already removed from ministry, already laicized, or missing (84 percent). Another 25 priests or deacons identified during year 2022 were permanently removed from ministry during that time (12 percent). Eight alleged offenders were temporarily removed from ministry pending investigation of the allegations (3 percent) or remain in ministry pending further investigation of the allegations (1 percent).

**Figure 10. Current Status of Alleged Perpetrators: Dioceses and Eparchies**



Source: 2022 Survey of Allegations and Costs

The proportions for year 2022 are similar to those for 2021, where 91 percent of alleged perpetrators were deceased, already removed, or missing. All other categories contained between 1 to 5 percent of the alleged perpetrators.

### Costs to Dioceses and Eparchies

Dioceses and eparchies that responded to the survey and reported costs related to allegations, paid out \$157,052,143 between July 1, 2021 and June 30,

2022. Like in previous years' surveys, this includes payments for allegations reported in previous years. Table 2 presents payments by dioceses and eparchies according to several categories of allegation-related expenses for the fiscal years 2014 to 2022.

**Table 2. Costs Related to Allegations: Dioceses and Eparchies**

	Settlements	Other Payments to Victims	Support for Offenders	Attorneys' Fees	Other Costs	GRAND TOTAL
<b>FY 2014</b>	\$56,987,635	\$7,176,376	\$12,281,089	\$26,163,298	\$3,890,782	<b>\$106,499,180</b>
<b>FY 2015</b>	\$87,067,257	\$8,754,747	\$11,500,539	\$30,148,535	\$3,812,716	<b>\$141,283,794</b>
<b>FY 2016</b>	\$53,928,745	\$24,148,603	\$11,355,969	\$35,460,551	\$2,020,470	<b>\$126,914,338</b>
<b>FY 2017</b>	\$162,039,485	\$10,105,226	\$10,157,172	\$27,912,123	\$2,761,290	<b>\$212,975,296</b>
<b>FY 2018</b>	\$180,475,951	\$6,914,194	\$20,035,914	\$25,990,265	\$5,755,823	<b>\$239,172,147</b>
<b>FY 2019</b>	\$200,963,319	\$15,890,882	\$12,054,682	\$43,294,968	\$9,407,966	<b>\$281,611,817</b>
<b>FY 2020</b>	\$219,792,758	\$12,096,388	\$11,960,504	\$56,958,656	\$11,172,360	<b>\$311,980,666</b>
<b>FY 2021</b>	\$118,516,493	\$13,103,280	\$9,972,414	\$45,597,100	\$6,930,931	<b>\$194,120,218</b>
<b>FY 2022</b>	\$95,930,064	\$6,801,054	\$9,484,728	\$40,578,200	\$4,258,097	<b>\$157,052,143</b>
<b>Change (+/-) 2021-2022</b>	<b>-\$22,586,429</b>	<b>-\$6,302,226</b>	<b>-\$487,686</b>	<b>-\$5,018,900</b>	<b>-\$2,672,834</b>	<b>-\$37,068,075</b>
<b>Percentage Change</b>	<b>-19%</b>	<b>-48%</b>	<b>-5%</b>	<b>-11%</b>	<b>-39%</b>	<b>-19%</b>

Sources: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2022

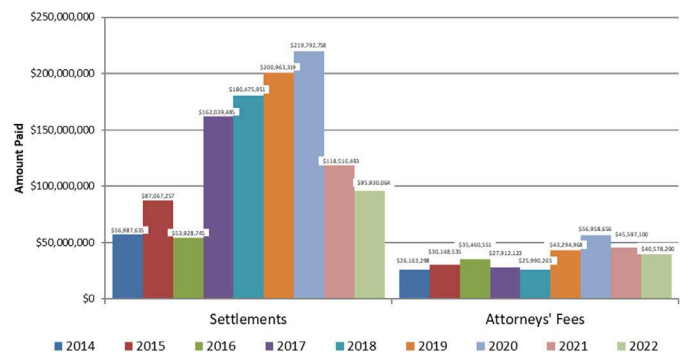
Six-tenths of the payments made by dioceses and eparchies between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 were for settlements to victims (61 percent) and a quarter of the total cost is for attorney's fees (26 percent).<sup>9</sup> Other payments to victims – those not already included in the settlement – account for 4 percent of all allegation-related costs, and support for offenders (including therapy, living expenses, legal expenses, etc.) amounts to another 6 percent.<sup>10</sup>

Among the \$2,672,834 (or 3 percent) of “other” allegation-related costs reported by dioceses and eparchies are payments for items such as investigations of allegations, USCCB compliance audit costs, review board costs, staff and administrative costs, mediating services, monitoring services for offenders, consulting fees, and court costs.

As can be seen in Table 2, the total costs for year 2022 (\$157,052,143) is 19 percent lower than that reported for year 2021 (\$194,120,218). That decrease is mostly due to the decrease in the amount paid in settlements for the year 2022.

Figure 11 displays the costs paid by dioceses and eparchies for settlements and for attorneys' fees for audit years 2014 through 2022. Compared to year 2021, settlements have decreased by 19 percent and attorneys' fees have decreased by 11 percent.

**Figure 11. Payments for Settlements and Attorneys' Fees: Dioceses and Eparchies**



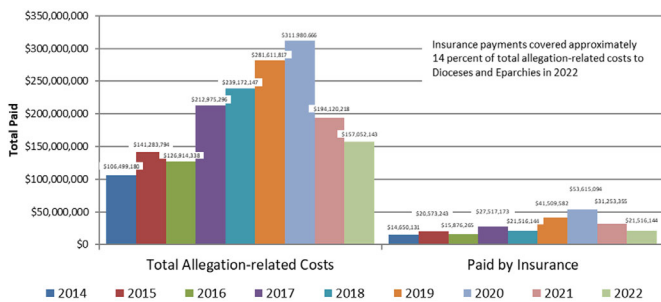
Source: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2022

9. Attorneys' fees include all costs for attorneys paid by dioceses and eparchies between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 as the result of allegations of sexual abuse of a minor.

10. These costs are not evenly distributed among dioceses and eparchies. The six dioceses with the greatest total costs related to allegations account for half (50 percent) of all reported costs. On the other hand, 40 dioceses and eparchies report paying no allegation-related costs, with another 22 paying out less than \$10,000.

In Figure 12, the total allegation-related costs paid by dioceses and eparchies are shown as well as the approximate proportion of those costs that were covered by diocesan insurance. Diocesan insurance payments covered approximately \$21,516,144 (14 percent) of the total allegation-related costs paid by dioceses and eparchies between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. Insurance had covered 16 percent of the total allegation-related costs during year 2021 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021).

**Figure 12. Proportion of Total Allegation-related Costs Paid by Insurance: Dioceses and Eparchies**



Source: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2022

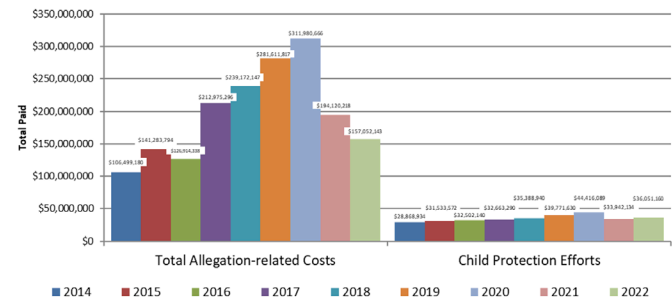
Some 68 dioceses and eparchies that had made a financial settlement to victims in the past audit year (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022) responded to a series of questions concerning what monetary sources or changes were used to pay for those settlements. The sources or changes they indicated include insurance pay-outs (37 percent or 25 dioceses or eparchies), sale of property (10 percent or seven dioceses or eparchies), restructuring of debt (4 percent or three dioceses or eparchies), bankruptcy filing (4 percent or three dioceses or eparchies), staff reductions (3 percent or two dioceses or eparchies), and the elimination of some programs or services (1 percent or one diocese or eparchy).

Of the 68 dioceses, 45 wrote in an “other” source, including: their savings or reserves, funds from their self-insurance reserves, loans, payments from their investments, lines of credit, victim assistance funds, and their general operating budget.

In addition to allegations-related expenditures, at least \$36,051,160 was spent by dioceses and eparchies for child protection efforts such as safe environment coordinators, training programs and background checks. This represents a 1 percent increase from

the amount reported for child protection efforts (\$33,942,134) for year 2021 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021). Figure 13 compares the allegation-related costs to child protection expenditures paid by dioceses and eparchies in audit years 2014 through 2022.

**Figure 13. Proportion of Total Allegation-related Costs and Child Protection Efforts: Dioceses and Eparchies**



Source: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2022

Adding together the total allegation-related costs and the amount spent on child protection efforts reported in year 2022 for dioceses and eparchies, the total comes to \$193,103,303. This is a 15 percent decrease from the \$228,062,352 reported during audit year 2021.

## RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

The Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM) also encouraged the major superiors of religious communities of men to complete a survey for their congregations, provinces, and monasteries. Since 2014, brother-only communities were also invited to participate in the survey. Much of the survey was nearly identical to the survey for dioceses and eparchies and was also available online at the same site as the survey for dioceses and eparchies. CMSM sent an email about the survey to all member major superiors in September 2022, requesting their participation. CARA and CMSM also sent several reminders by email to major superiors to encourage them to respond. By January 2023, CARA received responses from 149 of the 224 communities that belong to CMSM, for a response rate of 67 percent. This is higher than the response rate from the 2021 survey (60 percent). It is more in line with the response rate from previous years: 68 percent in 2020, 79 percent



in 2019, 85 percent in 2018, 74 percent for 2017, 78 percent in 2016, 77 percent in 2015, 73 percent in 2014, 2012, 2011, 2009, 2008, and 2007, 72 percent in 2010, 71 percent in 2004, 68 percent in 2006, and 67 percent in 2005.

A copy of the survey instrument for religious communities is included in Appendix C.

### Credible Allegations Received by Religious Communities

The responding religious communities reported that between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 they judged 149 allegations of sexual abuse of a minor committed by a priest, brother, or deacon of the community as credible. These allegations were made by 148 persons against 133 individuals who were priest, brother, or deacon members of the community at the time the offense was alleged to have occurred.<sup>11</sup>

Table 3 presents these numbers. Of the 149 new allegations reported by religious communities between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, two involved a child under the age of 18 since 2000. Nearly all of the other allegations were made by adults who are alleging abuse when they were minors.

**Table 3. New Allegations Deemed Credible in FY 2022: Religious Communities**

	Victims	Allegations	Offenders
FY 2022	148	149	133
FY 2021	252	252	242
FY 2020	383	383	230

Sources: *Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2020-2022*

### Determination of Credibility for Allegations First Received in Previous Fiscal Years

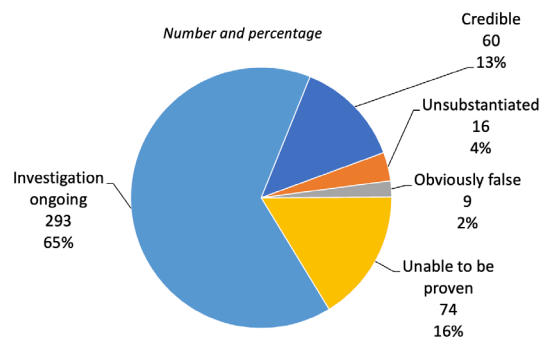
Every religious community follows a process to determine the credibility of any allegation of clergy sexual

11. As was mentioned in the Introduction, the 2020 survey was the first to collect details about all allegations that were deemed credible during the past fiscal year (July 1 to June 30) regardless of when they were first reported to the archdiocese, eparchy, or religious community. Thus, comparisons in this subsection are only shown for the three surveys using the same criteria for credible allegations. Previous year's numbers can be viewed in the 2019 report available on the USCCB website at [https://cdn.ymaws.com/usccb.site-ym.com/resource/group/1560f0d7-fee7-4aff-afd2-4cf076a24943/resource\\_toolbox/audit/2019\\_annual\\_report\\_final.pdf](https://cdn.ymaws.com/usccb.site-ym.com/resource/group/1560f0d7-fee7-4aff-afd2-4cf076a24943/resource_toolbox/audit/2019_annual_report_final.pdf).

abuse, as set forth in canon law and as advised in the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*.

Figure 14 shows those allegations received before July 1, 2021 that were resolved by June 30, 2022 (452 in total). More than one-tenth of the previously received allegations was found to be credible (13 percent). Among the others, nearly two-thirds need further investigation (65 percent), one in six was found to be unable to be proven (16 percent), one in 20 was found to be unsubstantiated (4 percent), and less than one in 20 was determined to be false (2 percent).

**Figure 14. Resolution in Fiscal Year 2022 of Allegations Received before July 1, 2021: Religious Communities**



Source: 2022 Survey of Allegations and Costs

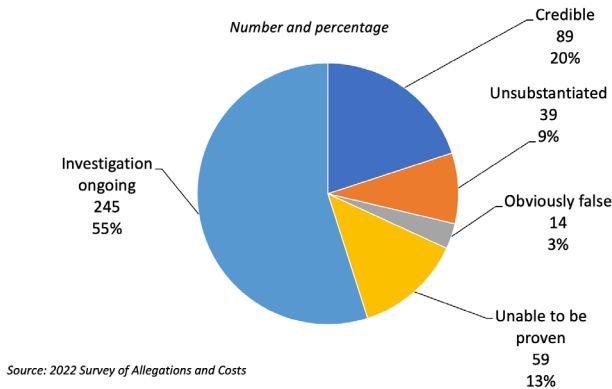
### Determination of Credibility for Allegations First Received in This Fiscal Year

Figure 15 presents the outcome for 446 allegations first received between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. Religious communities were asked to categorize these new allegations into one of these categories: credible, unsubstantiated, obviously false, unable to be proven, and investigation ongoing. As can be seen in Figure 15, more than half of new allegations received in fiscal year 2022 require more investigation before they can be classified (55 percent), two-tenths were deemed credible (20 percent), about one



in ten was classified as unable to be proven (13 percent), or unsubstantiated (9 percent), and less than one in 20 was classified as obviously false (3 percent).

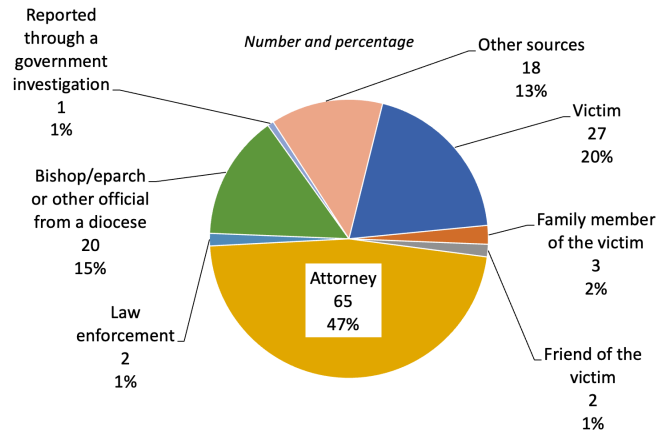
**Figure 15. Determination of Credibility for New Allegations First Received in Fiscal Year 2022: Religious Communities**



The remainder of this subsection of the report for religious communities details the 149 allegations that have been classified as credible during this fiscal year, both those first received in a previous fiscal year (the 60 credible allegations shown in Figure 14) and those first received during this fiscal year (the 89 credible allegations shown in Figure 15).<sup>12</sup>

Figure 16 displays the way in which the 149 credible allegations of abuse were reported to the religious communities between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. About half of the allegations were reported to the community by an attorney (47 percent), two-tenths by the victim (20 percent), and about one in seven by a bishop/eparch or official from a diocese (15 percent). Combined, 3 percent were first reported by a family member of the victim (2 percent) or by a friend of the victim (1 percent). Finally, 1 percent each were reported by law enforcement or through a government investigation. Among the 13 percent who wrote in an “other” source, only three wrote in a source: New York State – Child Victim Act – court filing, a pastoral assistance coordinator, and a school.

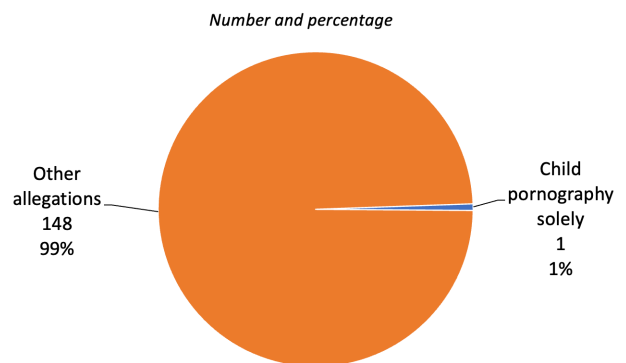
**Figure 16. Method of Reporting Allegations of Abuse: Religious Communities**



Compared to fiscal year 2021 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021), fewer allegations were reported by an attorney (47 percent in survey year 2022 compared to 72 percent in 2021), but more were reported by a bishop/eparch or other official from a diocese (15 percent in 2022 compared to 6 percent in 2021) and by “other” sources (13 percent in 2022 compared to 2 percent in 2021).

One of the 149 new allegations was a case solely involving child pornography, as is shown in Figure 17.

**Figure 17. Percentage of Allegations Solely Involving Child Pornography: Religious Communities**



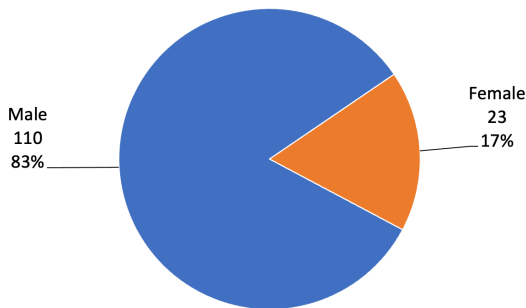
<sup>12</sup> The victims and allegations are not evenly distributed among religious communities. The four religious communities with the greatest number of victims and allegations account for 44 percent of all allegations among religious communities; in addition, 107 religious communities identified zero credible allegations during this fiscal year.

In report year 2021 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021), none of the allegations solely involved child pornography.

### Victims, Offenses, and Offenders

For 15 of the 148 allegations that are not solely child pornography possession, the gender of the alleged victim is unknown (10 percent). Among the 133 allegations where the gender of the victim was reported, more than eight-tenths were male (83 percent) and one-sixth was a female (17 percent). These proportions are displayed in Figure 18.

**Figure 18. Gender of Abuse Victim: Religious Communities**

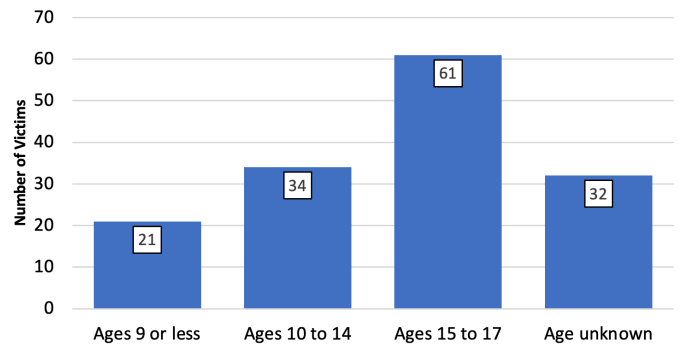


Source: 2022 Survey of Allegations and Costs

The percentage male among victims (83 percent) is similar to that reported for year 2021 (85 percent).

The age of 32 of the victims when the alleged abuse occurred is unknown. Among those 116 allegations where the age was known, more than half were ages 15 to 17 (53 percent) when the alleged abuse began, three in ten were ages 10 to 14 (29 percent), and about two in ten were under age ten (18 percent). Figure 19 presents the distribution of victims by age at the time the alleged abuse began.

**Figure 19. Age of Victim When Abuse Began: Religious Communities**



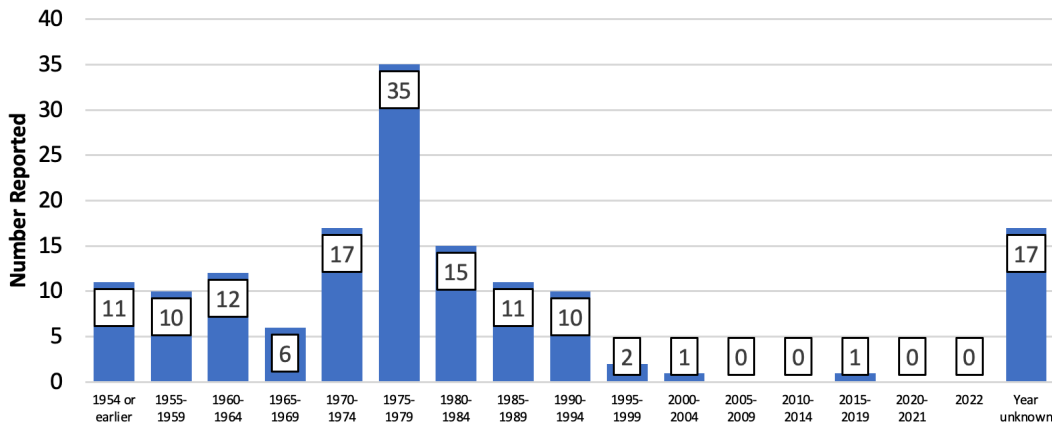
Source: 2022 Survey of Allegations and Costs

The proportions for the previous reporting year (2021) differ somewhat from those presented in Figure 19. Between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021, 40 percent of the victims were between 15 and 17 (compared to 53 percent in fiscal year 2022), 46 percent were between the ages of 10 and 14 (compared to the 29 percent reported in 2022), and 14 percent were under age 10 (compared to 18 percent in 2022).

Seventeen of the allegations did not include a time frame. Among those 131 allegations where a time frame was known, more than four-tenths of the allegations deemed credible between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 are alleged to have occurred or begun before 1975 (43 percent), 56 percent occurred or began between 1975 and 1999, and 2 percent (two allegations) occurred or began since 2000. Religious communities reported that 1975-1979 (35 allegations) was the most common time period for the alleged occurrences. Figure 20 illustrates the years when the allegations classified in year 2022 were said to have occurred or begun.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>13</sup> Note that this distribution resembles the one on figure 29, p. 41 of this report, which shows the cumulative distribution since 2004.

**Figure 20. Year the Alleged Offense Occurred or Began: Religious Communities**



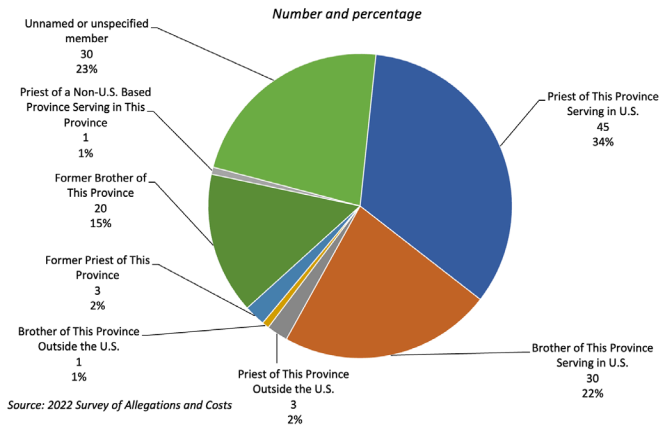
Source: 2022 Survey of Allegations and Costs

In the previous reporting year (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021), 55 percent of allegations occurred or began before 1975, 42 percent between 1975 and 1999, and 3 percent in 2000 or later.

The survey for 2022 again asked about religious priests, brothers and deacons who were alleged perpetrators. Of the 133 alleged offenders reported, 51 (or 38 percent) had one or more previous allegations reported against them prior to July 1, 2021.

Of the 133 religious priests, brothers, and deacons against whom credible allegations were determined between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, 30 (or 23 percent) were unable to be classified as of June 30, 2021, frequently due to current civil investigations or litigation. Figure 21 displays the ecclesial status of all 133 identified alleged offenders at the time of the alleged abuse. A third were priests of a U.S. province of the religious community serving in the United States (34 percent), about a fifth were religious brothers of a U.S. province of the religious community (22 percent). Another one in six combined was a former brother of the province (15 percent) or a former priest of the province (2 percent). One to 2 percent each were priests of the province outside the U.S. (2 percent), brothers of the province serving outside the U.S. (1 percent), or as a priest of a non-U.S. based province serving in their province (1 percent). None were deacons of their province or brothers of a non-U.S. based province serving in their province.

**Figure 21. Ecclesial Status of Alleged Perpetrator: Religious Communities**



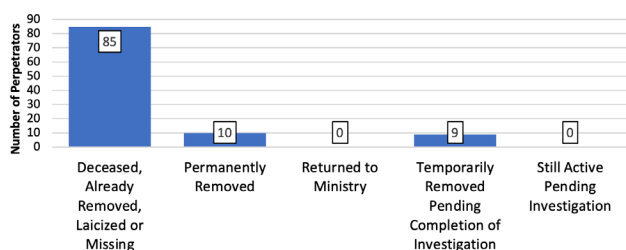
Source: 2022 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Compared to the previous reporting year (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021), the percentages reported in 2021 differ somewhat. In 2021, 43 percent of the alleged perpetrators were brothers of the province, 25 percent were priests of the province, and a combined 7 percent were former brothers of the province (4 percent) or former priests of the province (3 percent).

The status of 29 of the alleged offenders is unknown (22 percent), not shown in Figure 22. Figure 22 shows the current status of the other 104 alleged offenders. About eight in ten alleged offenders (82

percent) identified between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 are deceased, already removed from ministry, already laicized, or missing. Another 10 priests, brothers or deacons identified during fiscal year 2022 were permanently removed from ministry during that time (10 percent). Nine alleged offenders were temporarily removed from ministry pending investigation of the allegations (9 percent).

**Figure 22. Current Status of Alleged Perpetrators: Religious Communities**



Source: 2022 Survey of Allegations and Costs

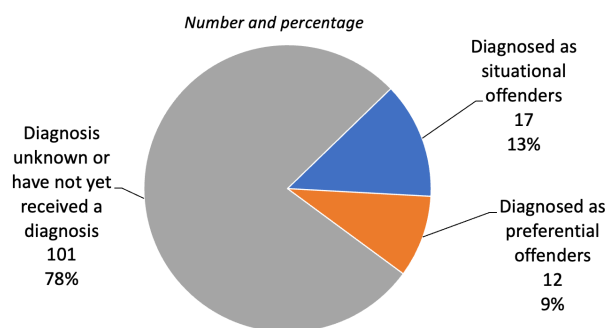
Last year’s survey had similar percentages, with 89 percent deceased, already removed from ministry, laicized or missing; 8 percent permanently removed from ministry during that fiscal year; and 2 percent were temporarily removed from ministry pending an investigation.

This year, for the fifth time, questions were added to the survey for religious communities concerning the psychological diagnoses of the alleged perpetrators reported in the current year, with definitions provided to responding religious communities. Those diagnosed as situational offenders were defined as those who molest “the child for various reasons – most often because of availability – whether male or female – but do NOT have a preference for pre-pubescent children.” Perpetrators diagnosed as preferential offenders “are most often ‘pedophiles,’ who prefer and seek out jobs or ministries with pre-pubescent children.” Finally, those whose diagnosis is not known are those whose records are too “unclear to distinguish any type.”

The proportion of alleged perpetrators from the 2022 reporting year that fit each definition is presented in Figure 23 below.

Almost four in five do not have diagnoses (78 percent) and about one in ten each has been identified as a situational offender (13 percent) or as a preferential offender (9 percent).

**Figure 23. Diagnosis of Alleged Perpetrators Reported in 2022: Religious Communities**



Source: 2022 Survey of Allegations and Costs

In the survey for the past fiscal year, 79 percent had an unknown diagnosis, 13 percent were diagnosed as situational offenders, and 8 percent were diagnosed as preferential offenders.

Among those reported in Figure 23, responding religious communities were also asked how many from each category were known to have reoffended. Among the 17 offenders diagnosed as situational offenders, eight re-offended (47 percent). Among the 12 offenders diagnosed as preferential offenders, nine re-offended (75 percent). Finally, among the 101 whose diagnosis is unknown, 19 re-offended (19 percent).

### Costs to Religious Communities

The responding religious communities reported paying \$44,921,552 between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 for costs related to allegations. Like in previous years’ surveys, this includes costs paid during this period for allegations reported in previous years. Table 4 presents the payments by religious communities across several categories of allegation-related expenses.<sup>14</sup>

14. These costs are not evenly distributed among religious communities. The four religious communities with the greatest total costs related to allegations account for 51 percent of all costs related to allegations. In contrast, 74 religious communities report having no allegation-related costs for fiscal year 2022 and an additional 14 had costs less than \$10,000.



**Table 4. Costs Related to Allegations: Religious Communities**

	Settlements	Other Payments to Victims	Support for Offenders	Attorneys' Fees	Other Costs	GRAND TOTAL
<b>FY 2014</b>	\$5,950,438	\$570,721	\$3,121,958	\$2,611,220	\$326,130	<b>\$12,580,467</b>
<b>FY 2015</b>	\$5,451,612	\$337,696	\$2,507,513	\$3,592,233	\$446,696	<b>\$12,335,750</b>
<b>FY 2016</b>	\$6,451,112	\$533,626	\$2,887,150	\$4,427,186	\$106,389	<b>\$14,405,463</b>
<b>FY 2017</b>	\$6,749,006	\$466,591	\$2,869,490	\$5,097,723	\$798,569	<b>\$15,981,379</b>
<b>FY 2018</b>	\$13,870,340	\$403,710	\$3,330,931	\$4,527,393	\$1,315,016	<b>\$23,447,390</b>
<b>FY 2019</b>	\$30,131,119	\$930,972	\$3,594,140	\$5,899,252	\$851,705	<b>\$41,407,188</b>
<b>FY 2020</b>	\$14,835,324	\$1,103,112	\$4,726,637	\$9,031,682	\$588,381	<b>\$30,285,136</b>
<b>FY 2021</b>	\$15,059,613	\$382,035	\$4,203,407	\$8,783,079	\$1,024,167	<b>\$29,452,301</b>
<b>FY 2022</b>	\$30,742,002	\$553,237	\$4,416,504	\$8,827,778	\$382,031	<b>\$44,921,552</b>
<b>Change (+/-) 2021-2022</b>	<b>+\$15,628,389</b>	<b>+\$171,202</b>	<b>+\$213,097</b>	<b>+\$44,699</b>	<b>-\$642,136</b>	<b>+\$15,469,251</b>
<b>Percentage Change</b>	<b>+104%</b>	<b>+45%</b>	<b>+5%</b>	<b>+1%</b>	<b>-63%</b>	<b>+53%</b>

Sources: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2022

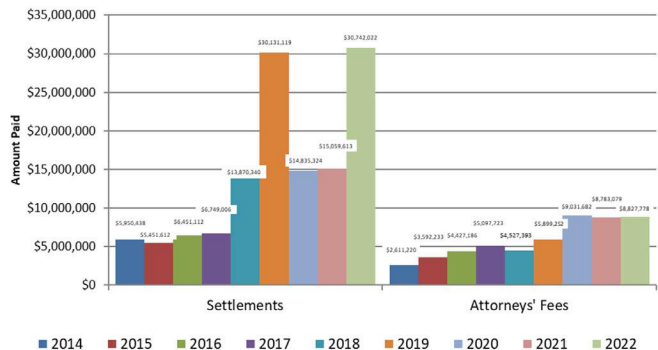
Two-thirds of the payments made by religious communities between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 were for settlements to victims (68 percent of all costs related to allegations reported by religious communities). Other payments to victims, outside of settlements, were \$553,237 (1 percent). Attorneys' fees were almost an additional \$8.8 million (20 percent). Support for offenders (including therapy, living expenses, legal expenses, etc.) amounted to \$4,416,504 (10 percent).

An additional \$382,031 (1 percent) was for other costs. Payments designated as "other costs" reported by religious communities included investigators and investigations, Review Board costs, and external monitors.

Compared to the previous fiscal year (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021), total costs related to allegations were up 53 percent for fiscal year 2022, mostly due to an increase in the amounts of settlements.

Figure 24 illustrates the settlement-related costs and attorney's fees paid by religious communities during reporting years 2014 through 2022. Compared to report year 2021, settlement-related costs in 2022 increased by about \$16 million, an increase of 104 percent. Attorneys' fees in year 2021 increased modestly by about \$45 thousand compared to year 2021, a half a percentage point increase.

**Figure 24. Payments for Settlements and Attorneys' Fees: Religious Communities**

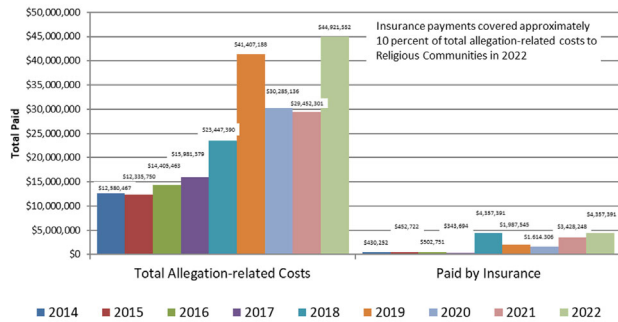


Source: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2022

Religious communities that responded to the question reported that 10 percent of the total costs related to allegations between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 were covered by religious communities' insurance. Figure 25 displays the total allegation-related costs paid by religious communities for reporting years 2014 to 2022 as well as the costs that were covered by insurance (\$4,357,391). The percentage covered by insurance in year 2022 (10 percent) was slightly less than the percentage in year 2021 (12 percent).



**Figure 25. Proportion of Total Allegation-related Costs Paid by Insurance: Religious Communities**



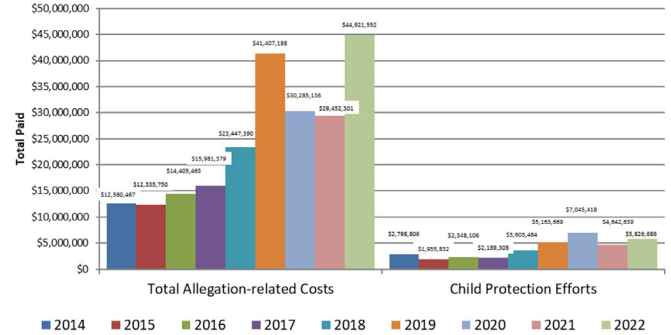
Source: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2022

Some 36 religious communities that had made a financial settlement to victims in the past audit year (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022) responded to a series of questions concerning what monetary sources or changes were used to pay for those settlements. The sources or changes they indicated include insurance pay-outs (25 percent or nine religious communities), sale of property (3 percent or one religious community), and staff reductions (3 percent or one religious community).

Some 86 percent of the 36 responding religious communities (31 religious communities) wrote in an “other” source or change, including: their savings, their investments, their general operating budget, and a province tax.

In addition to allegation-related expenses, religious communities spent about \$6 million (\$5,826,686) for child protection efforts between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, such as for training programs and background checks. This is a 25 percent increase compared to the \$4,642,639 reported spent on child protection efforts in year 2021. Figure 26 compares the settlement-related costs and child protection expenditures paid by religious communities in audit years 2014 through 2022.

**Figure 26. Total Allegation-related Costs and Child Protection Efforts: Religious Communities**



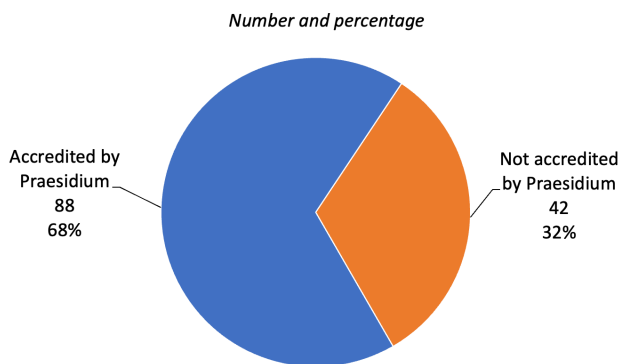
Source: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2022

Altogether, religious communities reported \$50,748,238 in total costs related to child protection efforts as well as all costs related to allegations that were paid between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, a 49 percent increase from the \$34,094,940 combined total reported by religious communities in these two categories last year.

### Accreditation and Members Who Are Survivors of Minor Sexual Abuse

At the request of CMSM, three new questions were added to this year’s survey. The first, presented in Figure 27 below, shows that two-thirds of all responding religious communities (68 percent) are accredited by Praesidium.<sup>15</sup>

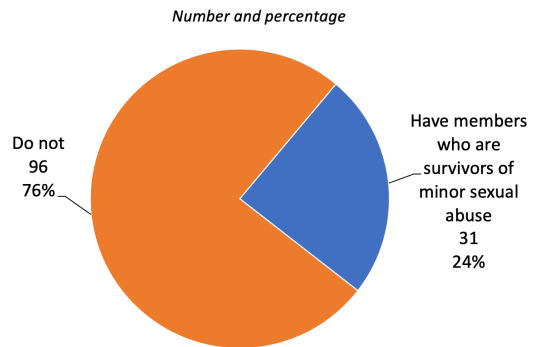
**Figure 27. Jurisdictions Presently Accredited by Praesidium: Religious Communities**



Source: 2022 Survey of Allegations and Costs

A second added question, whose findings are presented in Figure 28 below, concerns whether the religious community has any members of their jurisdiction that have disclosed to leadership or to their local community that they are survivors of minor sexual abuse. Among the 127 responding communities, 24 percent report having such members.<sup>16</sup> These 31 religious communities altogether report having 76 members that fit that description (not shown in the figure below).

**Figure 28. Religious Communities with Members Who Are Survivors of Minor Sexual Abuse**



Source: 2022 Survey of Allegations and Costs

## TOTAL COMBINED RESPONSES OF DIOCESES, EPARCHIES, AND RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

Tables 5, 6, and 7 present the combined total responses of dioceses, eparchies, and religious communities. These tables depict the total number of allegations, victims, offenders, and costs as reported by these groups for the period between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. Dioceses, eparchies, and religious communities combined judged as credible 394 allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by a diocesan, eparchial, or religious priest, religious brother, or deacon. These allegations were made by 385 individuals against 344 priests, religious brothers, or deacons.<sup>17 18</sup> Of the 394 reported new allegations, 22 (or 6 percent) are allegations that are reported to have occurred since calendar year 2000.

<sup>15</sup> Twenty-one percent did not provide a response to this question.  
<sup>16</sup> Twenty-four percent did not provide a response to this question.

<sup>17</sup> As was mentioned in the Introduction, this year’s survey is the third to collect details about all allegations that were deemed credible during this past fiscal year (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022) regardless of when they were first reported to the archdiocese, eparchy, or religious community.  
<sup>18</sup> The victims and allegations are not evenly distributed among dioceses, eparchies and religious communities. Four dioceses and four religious communities, taken together, account for 35 percent of all allegations. In contrast, 222 dioceses, eparchies, and religious communities did not judge any allegations as credible in fiscal year 2022.

**Table 5. New Allegations Deemed Credible in FY: 2022 Combined Totals**

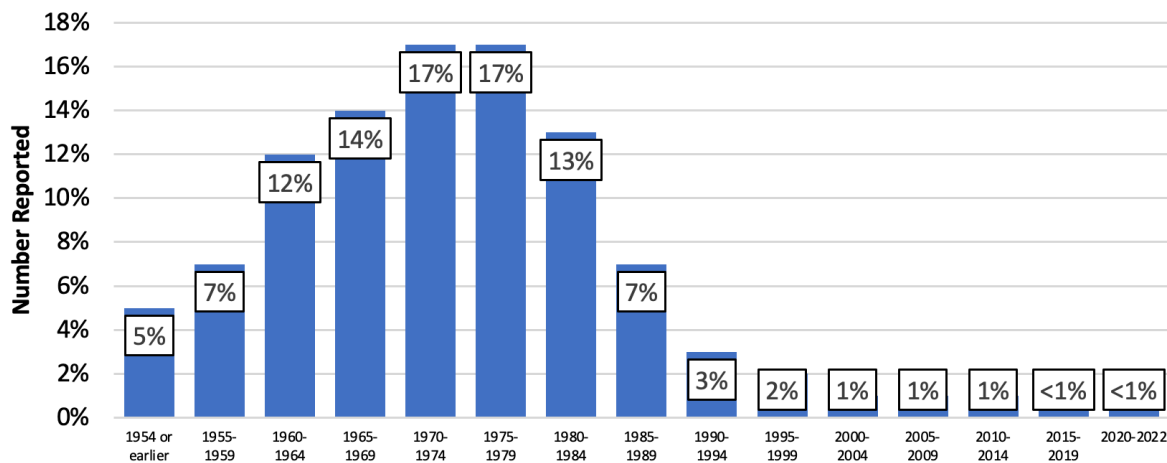
	Victims	Allegations	Offenders
FY 2022	385	394	344
FY 2021	1,219	1,220	811
FY 2020	1,912	1,922	1,345

Sources: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2020-2022

*Cumulative View of Year the Alleged Offenses Occurred or Began – 2004 to 2022*

Using data that CARA has been collecting from dioceses, eparchies and religious communities since 2004, Figure 29 presents the period that each alleged offense occurred or began for all data collected from 2004 to 2022.<sup>19</sup> Of necessity, the figure only displays those allegations for which the year the alleged offenses occurred or began was known. As can be seen, 55 percent of cumulative credible allegations occurred or began before 1975, 41 percent occurred or began between 1975 and 1999, and 3 percent began or occurred since 2000.

**Figure 29. Year Alleged Offenses Occurred or Began Cumulatively for 2004-2022: Dioceses, Eparchies and Religious Communities**



Among all new credible allegations reported by dioceses/eparchies and religious communities to CARA from 2004-2022:

- 12 percent occurred or began in 1959 or earlier
- 26 percent occurred or began in the 1960s
- 34 percent occurred or began in the 1970s
- 20 percent occurred or began in the 1980s
- 5 percent occurred or began in the 1990s
- 2 percent occurred or began in the 2000s
- 1 percent occurred or began in the 2010s
- Less than 1 percent occurred or began between 2020 and 2022

<sup>19</sup> As the data collection periods for dioceses, eparchies, and religious communities changed from a calendar year period for the 2004 to 2013 surveys to a fiscal year calendar of July 1 to June 30 for the 2014 to 2021 surveys, there is some double counting during the years 2013 and 2014. Any over count would have a negligible effect on this analysis.

## Combined Costs Related to Allegations for 2022

Dioceses, eparchies, and religious communities reported paying out \$201,973,695 for costs related to

allegations between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. As in previous years' surveys, this includes payments for allegations reported in previous years. Table 6 presents the payments across several categories of allegation-related expenses.

**Table 6. Costs Related to Allegations: Combined Totals**

	Settlements	Other Payments to Victims	Support for Offenders	Attorneys' Fees	Other Costs	GRAND TOTAL
<b>FY 2014</b>	\$62,938,073	\$7,747,097	\$15,403,047	\$28,774,518	\$4,216,912	<b>\$119,079,647</b>
<b>FY 2015</b>	\$92,518,869	\$9,092,443	\$14,008,052	\$33,740,768	\$4,259,412	<b>\$153,619,544</b>
<b>FY 2016</b>	\$60,379,857	\$24,682,229	\$14,243,119	\$39,887,737	\$2,126,859	<b>\$141,319,801</b>
<b>FY 2017</b>	\$168,788,491	\$10,571,817	\$13,026,662	\$33,009,846	\$3,559,859	<b>\$228,956,675</b>
<b>FY 2018</b>	\$194,346,291	\$7,317,904	\$23,366,845	\$30,517,658	\$7,070,839	<b>\$262,619,537</b>
<b>FY 2019</b>	\$231,094,438	\$16,821,854	\$15,648,822	\$49,194,220	\$10,259,671	<b>\$323,019,005</b>
<b>FY 2020</b>	\$234,628,082	\$13,199,500	\$16,687,141	\$65,990,338	\$11,760,741	<b>\$342,265,802</b>
<b>FY 2021</b>	\$133,576,106	\$13,485,315	\$14,175,821	\$54,380,179	\$7,955,098	<b>\$223,572,519</b>
<b>FY 2022</b>	\$126,672,066	\$7,354,291	\$13,901,232	\$49,405,978	\$4,640,128	<b>\$201,973,695</b>
<b>Change (+/-) 2021-2022</b>	<b>-\$6,904,040</b>	<b>-\$6,131,024</b>	<b>-\$274,589</b>	<b>-\$4,974,201</b>	<b>-\$3,314,970</b>	<b>-\$21,598,824</b>
<b>Percentage Change</b>	<b>-5%</b>	<b>-45%</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>-9%</b>	<b>-42%</b>	<b>-10%</b>

Sources: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2022

More than six-tenths of the costs (63 percent) were for settlements to victims. Attorneys' fees accounted for an additional 24 percent. Support for offenders (including therapy, living expenses, legal expenses, etc.) amounted to 7 percent of these payments. An additional 4 percent were for other payments to victims that were not included in any settlement. A final 2 percent of payments were for "other" allegation-related costs.<sup>20</sup>

## Combined Costs Related to Child Protection Efforts and Allegations

Dioceses, eparchies, and religious communities paid \$41,877,846 for child protection efforts between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. This is a 9 percent increase from the amount spent on such child protection efforts in the previous reporting year. Dioceses, eparchies, and religious communities expended a total of \$201,973,695 for costs related to allegations between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. Table 7 presents the combined allegation-related costs and child protection expenditures paid by dioceses, eparchies, and religious communities

<sup>20</sup> These allegation-related costs are not evenly distributed among dioceses, eparchies, and religious communities. The six dioceses and four religious communities with the greatest total costs related to allegations account for 50 percent of all costs related to allegations. In contrast, 116 dioceses, eparchies, and religious communities report having no allegation-related costs for fiscal year 2022.

**Table 7. Costs Related to Child Protection Efforts and to Allegations: Combined Totals**

	<b>Total Amounts for All Child Protection Efforts, Including SEC/VAC Salaries and Expenses, Training Programs, Background Checks, etc.</b>	<b>Total Costs Related to Allegations</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>FY 2014</b>	\$31,667,740	\$119,079,647	<b>\$150,747,387</b>
<b>FY 2015</b>	\$33,489,404	\$153,539,897	<b>\$187,029,301</b>
<b>FY 2016</b>	\$34,850,246	\$141,319,801	<b>\$176,170,047</b>
<b>FY 2017</b>	\$34,852,598	\$228,956,675	<b>\$263,809,273</b>
<b>FY 2018</b>	\$39,290,069	\$262,619,537	<b>\$301,909,606</b>
<b>FY 2019</b>	\$44,935,299	\$323,019,005	<b>\$367,954,304</b>
<b>FY 2020</b>	\$51,461,507	\$342,265,802	<b>\$393,727,309</b>
<b>FY 2021</b>	\$38,584,773	\$223,572,519	<b>\$262,157,292</b>
<b>FY 2022</b>	\$41,877,846	\$201,973,695	<b>\$243,851,541</b>
<b><i>Change (+/-)</i></b>			
<b>2021-2022</b>	+\$3,293,073	-\$21,598,824	<b>-\$18,305,751</b>
<b><i>Percentage Change</i></b>	<b>+9%</b>	<b>-10%</b>	<b>-7%</b>

*Source: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2014-2022*

Altogether, dioceses, eparchies, and religious communities reported \$243,851,541 in total costs related to child protection efforts as well as costs related to allegations that were paid between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. This represents a 7 percent decrease from that reported for year 2021 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021).



# APPENDICES

2022

The revised *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* was developed by the Ad Hoc Committee for Sexual Abuse of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). It was approved by the full body of U.S. Catholic bishops at its June 2005 Plenary Assembly, and this third revision was approved at the June 2018 Plenary Assembly. The revised *Essential Norms for Diocesan/Eparchial Policies Dealing with Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests or Deacons* was developed by the Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse of the USCCB and by the Vatican-U.S. Bishops' Mixed Commission on Sex Abuse Norms. They were approved by the full body of bishops at its June 2005 General Meeting, received the subsequent *recognitio* of the Holy See on January 1, 2006, and were promulgated May 5, 2006. The revised *Statement of Episcopal Commitment* was developed by the Ad Hoc Committee on Bishops' Life and Ministry of the USCCB. It was approved by the full body of U.S. Catholic bishops at its November 2005 Plenary Assembly and then again in 2011 and 2018. This revised edition, containing all three documents, is authorized for publication by the undersigned.

Msgr. J. Brian Bransfield  
General Secretary, USCCB

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# APPENDIX A

## 2018 CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

### PREAMBLE

Since 2002, the Church in the United States has experienced a crisis without precedent in our times. The sexual abuse<sup>1</sup> of children and young people by some deacons, priests, and bishops, and the ways in which these crimes and sins were addressed, have caused enormous pain, anger, and confusion for victims, their families, and the entire Church. As bishops, we have acknowledged our mistakes and our roles in that suffering, and we apologize and take responsibility again for too often failing victims and the Catholic people in the past. From the depths of our hearts, we bishops express great sorrow and profound regret for what the Catholic people have endured.

We share Pope Francis' "conviction that everything possible must be done to rid the Church of the scourge of the sexual abuse of minors and to open pathways of reconciliation and healing for those who were abused" (Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to the Presidents of the Episcopal Conferences and Superiors of Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life Concerning the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors, February 2, 2015).

Again, with this 2018 revision of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, we re-affirm our deep commitment to sustain and strengthen a safe environment within the Church for children and youth. We have listened to the profound pain and suffering of those victimized by sexual abuse and will continue to respond to their cries. We have agonized over the sinfulness, the criminality, and the breach of trust perpetrated by some members of the clergy. We have determined as best we can the extent of the problem of this abuse of minors by clergy in our country, as well as its causes and context. We will use

what we have learned to strengthen the protection given to the children and young people in our care.

We continue to have a special care for and a commitment to reaching out to the victims of sexual abuse and their families. The damage caused by sexual abuse of minors is devastating and long-lasting. We apologize to each victim for the grave harm that has been inflicted on him or her, and we offer our help now and for the future. The loss of trust that is often the consequence of such abuse becomes even more tragic when it leads to a loss of the faith that we have a sacred duty to foster. We make our own the words of St. John Paul II: that the sexual abuse of young people is "by every standard wrong and rightly considered a crime by society; it is also an appalling sin in the eyes of God" (Address to the Cardinals of the United States and Conference Officers, April 23, 2002). We will continue to help victims recover from these crimes and strive to prevent these tragedies from occurring.

Along with the victims and their families, the entire Catholic community in this country has suffered because of this scandal and its consequences. The intense public scrutiny of the minority of the ordained who have betrayed their calling has caused the vast majority of faithful priests and deacons to experience enormous vulnerability to being misunderstood in their ministry and often casts over them an undeserved air of suspicion. We share with all priests and deacons a firm commitment to renewing the integrity of the vocation to Holy Orders so that it will continue to be perceived as a life of service to others after the example of Christ our Lord.

We, who have been given the responsibility of shepherding God's people, will, with his help and in full collaboration with all the faithful, continue to work to restore the bonds of trust that unite us. We

have seen that words alone cannot accomplish this goal. We will continue to take action in our Plenary Assembly and at home in our dioceses and eparchies.

We feel a particular responsibility for “the ministry of reconciliation” (2 Cor 5:18) which God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, has given us. The love of Christ impels us to ask forgiveness for our own faults but also to appeal to all—to those who have been victimized, to those who have offended, and to all who have felt the wound of this scandal—to be reconciled to God and one another.

Perhaps in a way never before experienced, we feel the power of sin touch our entire Church family in this country; but as St. Paul boldly says, God made Christ “to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him” (2 Cor 5:21). May we who have known sin experience as well, through a spirit of reconciliation, God’s own righteousness. We know that after such profound hurt, healing and reconciliation are beyond human capacity alone. It is God’s grace and mercy that will lead us forward, trusting Christ’s promise: “for God all things are possible” (Mt 19:26).

In working toward fulfilling this responsibility, we rely, first of all, on Almighty God to sustain us in faith and in the discernment of the right course to take.

We receive fraternal guidance and support from the Holy See that sustains us in this time of trial. In solidarity with Pope Francis, we express heartfelt love and sorrow for the victims of abuse.

We rely on the Catholic faithful of the United States. Nationally and in each diocese/eparchy, the wisdom and expertise of clergy, religious, and laity contribute immensely to confronting the effects of the crisis and taking steps to resolve it. We are filled with gratitude for their great faith, for their generosity, and for the spiritual and moral support that we receive from them.

We acknowledge and re-affirm the faithful service of the vast majority of our priests and deacons and the love that people have for them. They deservedly have our esteem and that of the Catholic people for their good work. It is regrettable that their committed ministerial witness has been overshadowed by this crisis.

In a special way, we acknowledge and thank victims of clergy sexual abuse and their families who have trusted us enough to share their stories and to help us understand more fully the consequences of this reprehensible violation of sacred trust. With Pope Francis, we praise the courage of those who

speak out about their abuse; their actions are “a service of love, since for us it sheds light on a terrible darkness in the life of the Church.” We pray that “the remnants of the darkness which touch them may be healed” (Address to Victims of Sexual Abuse, July 7, 2014).

Let there now be no doubt or confusion on anyone’s part: For us, your bishops, our obligation to protect children and young people and to prevent sexual abuse flows from the mission and example given to us by Jesus Christ himself, in whose name we serve.

As we work to restore trust, we are reminded how Jesus showed constant care for the vulnerable. He inaugurated his ministry with these words of the Prophet Isaiah:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring glad tidings to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.  
(Lk 4:18-19)

In Matthew 25, the Lord, in his commission to his apostles and disciples, told them that whenever they show mercy and compassion to the least ones, they show it to him.

Jesus extended this care in a tender and urgent way to children, rebuking his disciples for keeping them away from him: “Let the children come to me” (Mt 19:14). And he uttered a grave warning that for anyone who would lead the little ones astray, it would be better for such a person “to have a great millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea” (Mt 18:6).

We hear these words of the Lord as prophetic for this moment. With a firm determination to restore the bonds of trust, we bishops recommit ourselves to a continual pastoral outreach to repair the breach with those who have suffered sexual abuse and with all the people of the Church.

In this spirit, over the last sixteen years, the principles and procedures of the *Charter* have been integrated into church life.

- The Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection provides the focus for a consistent, ongoing, and comprehensive approach to creating a safe

environment for young people throughout the Church in the United States.

- The Secretariat also provides the means for us to be accountable for achieving the goals of the *Charter*, as demonstrated by its annual reports on the implementation of the *Charter* based on independent compliance audits.
- The National Review Board is carrying on its responsibility to assist in the assessment of diocesan/eparchial compliance with the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*.
- The descriptive study of the nature and scope of sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy in the United States, commissioned by the National Review Board, was completed in February 2004. The resulting study, examining the historical period 1950-2002, by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice provides us with a powerful tool not only to examine our past but also to secure our future against such misconduct.
- The U.S. bishops charged the National Review Board to oversee the completion of the *Causes and Context* study. The Study, which calls for ongoing education, situational prevention, and oversight and accountability, was completed in 2011.
- Victims' assistance coordinators are in place throughout our nation to assist dioceses and eparchies in responding to the pastoral needs of the abused.
- Diocesan/eparchial bishops in every diocese/eparchy are advised and greatly assisted by diocesan and eparchial review boards as the bishops make the decisions needed to fulfill the *Charter*.
- Safe environment programs are in place to assist parents and children—and those who work with children—in preventing harm to young people. These programs continually seek to incorporate the most useful developments in the field of child protection.

Through these steps and many others, we remain committed to the safety of our children and young people.

While the number of reported cases of sexual abuse has decreased over the last sixteen years, the harmful effects of this abuse continue to be experienced both by victims and dioceses/eparchies.

Thus it is with a vivid sense of the effort which is still needed to confront the effects of this crisis fully and with the wisdom gained by the experience of the last sixteen years that we have reviewed and revised the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. We now re-affirm that we will assist in the healing of those who have been injured, will do all in our power to protect children and young people, and will work with our clergy, religious, and laity to restore trust and harmony in our faith communities, as we pray for the Kingdom of God to come, here on earth, as it is in heaven.

To make effective our goals of a safe environment within the Church for children and young people and of preventing sexual abuse of minors by clergy in the future, we, the members of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, have outlined in this *Charter* a series of practical and pastoral steps, and we commit ourselves to taking them in our dioceses and eparchies.

## TO PROMOTE HEALING AND RECONCILIATION WITH VICTIMS/SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINORS

**ARTICLE 1.** Dioceses/eparchies are to reach out to victims/survivors and their families and demonstrate a sincere commitment to their spiritual and emotional well-being. The first obligation of the Church with regard to the victims is for healing and reconciliation. Each diocese/eparchy is to continue its outreach to every person who has been the victim of sexual abuse as a minor by anyone in church service, whether the abuse was recent or occurred many years in the past. This outreach may include provision of counseling, spiritual assistance, support groups, and other social services agreed upon by the victim and the diocese/eparchy.

Through pastoral outreach to victims and their families, the diocesan/eparchial bishop or his



representative is to offer to meet with them, to listen with patience and compassion to their experiences and concerns, and to share the “profound sense of solidarity and concern” expressed by St. John Paul II, in his Address to the Cardinals of the United States and Conference Officers (April 23, 2002). Pope Benedict XVI, too, in his address to the U.S. bishops in 2008 said of the clergy sexual abuse crisis, “It is your God-given responsibility as pastors to bind up the wounds caused by every breach of trust, to foster healing, to promote reconciliation and to reach out with loving concern to those so seriously wronged.”

We bishops and eparchs commit ourselves to work as one with our brother priests and deacons to foster reconciliation among all people in our dioceses/eparchies. We especially commit ourselves to work with those individuals who were themselves abused and the communities that have suffered because of the sexual abuse of minors that occurred in their midst.

**ARTICLE 2.** Dioceses/eparchies are to have policies and procedures in place to respond promptly to any allegation where there is reason to believe that sexual abuse of a minor has occurred. Dioceses/eparchies are to have a competent person or persons to coordinate assistance for the immediate pastoral care of persons who report having been sexually abused as minors by clergy or other church personnel. The procedures for those making a complaint are to be readily available in printed form and other media in the principal languages in which the liturgy is celebrated in the diocese/eparchy and be the subject of public announcements at least annually.

Dioceses/eparchies are also to have a review board that functions as a confidential consultative body to the bishop/eparch. The majority of its members are to be lay persons not in the employ of the diocese/eparchy (see Norm 5 in *Essential Norms for Diocesan/Eparchial Policies Dealing with Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests or Deacons*, 2006). This board is to advise the diocesan/eparchial bishop in his assessment of allegations of sexual abuse of minors and in his determination of a cleric’s suitability for ministry. It is regularly to review diocesan/eparchial policies and procedures for dealing with sexual abuse of minors. Also, the board can review these matters both retrospectively and prospectively and give advice on all aspects of responses in connection with these cases.

**ARTICLE 3.** Dioceses/eparchies are not to enter into settlements which bind the parties to confidentiality, unless the victim/survivor requests confidentiality and this request is noted in the text of the agreement.

## TO GUARANTEE AN EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TO ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINORS

**ARTICLE 4.** Dioceses/eparchies are to report an allegation of sexual abuse of a person who is a minor to the public authorities with due regard for the seal of the Sacrament of Penance. Diocesan/eparchial personnel are to comply with all applicable civil laws with respect to the reporting of allegations of sexual abuse of minors to civil authorities and cooperate in their investigation in accord with the law of the jurisdiction in question.

Dioceses/eparchies are to cooperate with public authorities about reporting cases even when the person is no longer a minor.

In every instance, dioceses/eparchies are to advise victims of their right to make a report to public authorities and support this right.

**ARTICLE 5.** We affirm the words of St. John Paul II, in his Address to the Cardinals of the United States and Conference Officers: “There is no place in the priesthood or religious life for those who would harm the young.” Pope Francis has consistently reiterated this with victims of clergy sexual abuse.

Sexual abuse of a minor by a cleric is a crime in the universal law of the Church (CIC, c. 1395 §2; CCEO, c. 1453 §1). Because of the seriousness of this matter, jurisdiction has been reserved to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (*Motu proprio Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela*, AAS 93, 2001). Sexual abuse of a minor is also a crime in all civil jurisdictions in the United States.

Diocesan/eparchial policy is to provide that for even a single act of sexual abuse of a minor—when it occurred—which is admitted or established after an appropriate process in accord with canon law, the offending priest or deacon is to be permanently removed from ministry and, if warranted,

dismissed from the clerical state. In keeping with the stated purpose of this *Charter*, an offending priest or deacon is to be offered therapeutic professional assistance both for the purpose of prevention and also for his own healing and well-being.

The diocesan/eparchial bishop is to exercise his power of governance, within the parameters of the universal law of the Church, to ensure that any priest or deacon subject to his governance who has committed even one act of sexual abuse of a minor as described below (see notes) shall not continue in ministry.

A priest or deacon who is accused of sexual abuse of a minor is to be accorded the presumption of innocence during the investigation of the allegation and all appropriate steps are to be taken to protect his reputation. He is to be encouraged to retain the assistance of civil and canonical counsel. If the allegation is deemed not substantiated, every step possible is to be taken to restore his good name, should it have been harmed.

In fulfilling this article, dioceses/eparchies are to follow the requirements of the universal law of the Church and of the *Essential Norms* approved for the United States.

**ARTICLE 6.** There are to be clear and well publicized diocesan/eparchial standards of ministerial behavior and appropriate boundaries for clergy and for any other paid personnel and volunteers of the Church with regard to their contact with minors.

**ARTICLE 7.** Dioceses/eparchies are to be open and transparent in communicating with the public about sexual abuse of minors by clergy within the confines of respect for the privacy and the reputation of the individuals involved. This is especially so with regard to informing parish and other church communities directly affected by sexual abuse of a minor.

TO ENSURE THE  
ACCOUNTABILITY OF OUR  
PROCEDURES

**ARTICLE 8.** The Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People is a standing committee of the United States Conference of Catholic

Bishops. Its membership is to include representation from all the episcopal regions of the country, with new appointments staggered to maintain continuity in the effort to protect children and youth.

The Committee is to advise the USCCB on all matters related to child and youth protection and is to oversee the development of the plans, programs, and budget of the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection. It is to provide the USCCB with comprehensive planning and recommendations concerning child and youth protection by coordinating the efforts of the Secretariat and the National Review Board.

**ARTICLE 9.** The Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection, established by the Conference of Catholic Bishops, is to staff the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People and be a resource for dioceses/eparchies for the implementation of “safe environment” programs and for suggested training and development of diocesan personnel responsible for child and youth protection programs, taking into account the financial and other resources, as well as the population, area, and demographics of the diocese/eparchy.

The Secretariat is to produce an annual public report on the progress made in implementing and maintaining the standards in this *Charter*. The report is to be based on an annual audit process whose method, scope, and cost are to be approved by the Administrative Committee on the recommendation of the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People. This public report is to include the names of those dioceses/eparchies which the audit shows are not in compliance with the provisions and expectations of the *Charter*. The audit method refers to the process and techniques used to determine compliance with the *Charter*. The audit scope relates to the focus, parameters, and time period for the matters to be examined during an individual audit.

As a member of the Conference staff, the Executive Director of the Secretariat is appointed by and reports to the General Secretary. The Executive Director is to provide the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People and the National Review Board with regular reports of the Secretariat’s activities.

**ARTICLE 10.** The whole Church, at both the diocesan/eparchial and national levels, must be

engaged in maintaining safe environments in the Church for children and young people.

The Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People is to be assisted by the National Review Board, a consultative body established in 2002 by the USCCB. The Board will review the annual report of the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection on the implementation of this *Charter* in each diocese/eparchy and any recommendations that emerge from it, and offer its own assessment regarding its approval and publication to the Conference President.

The Board will also advise the Conference President on future members. The Board members are appointed by the Conference President in consultation with the Administrative Committee and are accountable to him and to the USCCB Executive Committee. Before a candidate is contacted, the Conference President is to seek and obtain, in writing, the endorsement of the candidate's diocesan bishop. The Board is to operate in accord with the statutes and bylaws of the USCCB and within procedural guidelines developed by the Board in consultation with the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People and approved by the USCCB Administrative Committee. These guidelines set forth such matters as the Board's purpose and responsibility, officers, terms of office, and frequency of reports to the Conference President on its activities.

The Board will offer its advice as it collaborates with the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People on matters of child and youth protection, specifically on policies and best practices. For example, the Board will continue to monitor the recommendations derived from the *Causes and Context* study. The Board and Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People will meet jointly every year.

The Board will review the work of the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection and make recommendations to the Executive Director. It will assist the Executive Director in the development of resources for dioceses.

**ARTICLE 11.** The President of the Conference is to inform the Holy See of this revised *Charter* to indicate the manner in which we, the Catholic bishops, together with the entire Church in the United States, intend to continue our commitment to the protection

of children and young people. The President is also to share with the Holy See the annual reports on the implementation of the *Charter*.

## TO PROTECT THE FAITHFUL IN THE FUTURE

**ARTICLE 12.** Dioceses/eparchies are to maintain “safe environment” programs which the diocesan/eparchial bishop deems to be in accord with Catholic moral principles. They are to be conducted cooperatively with parents, civil authorities, educators, and community organizations to provide education and training for minors, parents, ministers, employees, volunteers, and others about ways to sustain and foster a safe environment for minors. Dioceses/eparchies are to make clear to clergy and all members of the community the standards of conduct for clergy and other persons with regard to their contact with minors.

**ARTICLE 13.** The diocesan/eparchial bishop is to evaluate the background of all incardinated priests and deacons. When a priest or deacon, not incardinated in the diocese/eparchy, is to engage in ministry in the diocese/eparchy, regardless of the length of time, the evaluation of his background may be satisfied through a written attestation of suitability for ministry supplied by his proper ordinary/major superior to the diocese/eparchy. Dioceses/eparchies are to evaluate the background of all their respective diocesan/eparchial and parish/school or other paid personnel and volunteers whose duties include contact with minors. Specifically, they are to utilize the resources of law enforcement and other community agencies. Each diocese/eparchy is to determine the application/renewal of background checks according to local practice. In addition, they are to employ adequate screening and evaluative techniques in deciding the fitness of candidates for ordination (see USCCB, *Program of Priestly Formation* [Fifth Edition], 2006, no. 39 and the *National Directory for the Formation, Ministry and Life of Permanent Deacons in the United States*, n.178 j).<sup>2</sup>

**ARTICLE 14.** Transfers of all priests and deacons who have committed an act of sexual abuse against a minor for residence, including retirement,



shall be in accord with Norm 12 of the Essential Norms (see *Proposed Guidelines on the Transfer or Assignment of Clergy and Religious*, adopted by the USCCB, the Conference of Major Superiors of Men [CMSM], the Leadership Conference of Women Religious [LCWR], and the Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious [CMSWR] in 1993).

**ARTICLE 15.** To ensure continuing collaboration and mutuality of effort in the protection of children and young people on the part of the bishops and religious ordinaries, two representatives of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men are to serve as consultants to the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People. At the invitation of the Major Superiors, the Committee will designate two of its members to consult with its counterpart at CMSM. Diocesan/eparchial bishops and major superiors of clerical institutes or their delegates are to meet periodically to coordinate their roles concerning the issue of allegations made against a cleric member of a religious institute ministering in a diocese/eparchy.

**ARTICLE 16.** Given the extent of the problem of the sexual abuse of minors in our society, we are willing to cooperate with other churches and ecclesial communities, other religious bodies, institutions of learning, and other interested organizations in conducting research in this area.

**ARTICLE 17.** We commit ourselves to work individually in our dioceses/eparchies and together as a Conference, through the appropriate committees, to strengthen our programs both for initial

priestly and diaconal formation and their ongoing formation. With renewed urgency, we will promote programs of human formation for chastity and celibacy for both seminarians and priests based upon the criteria found in *Pastores dabo vobis*, no. 50, the *Program of Priestly Formation*, and the *Basic Plan for the Ongoing Formation of Priests*, as well as similar, appropriate programs for deacons based upon the criteria found in the *National Directory for the Formation, Ministry and Life of Permanent Deacons in the United States*. We will continue to assist priests, deacons, and seminarians in living out their vocation in faithful and integral ways.

## CONCLUSION

As we wrote in 2002, “It is within this context of the essential soundness of the priesthood and of the deep faith of our brothers and sisters in the Church that we know that we can meet and resolve this crisis for now and the future.”

We reaffirm that the vast majority of priests and deacons serve their people faithfully and that they have their esteem and affection. They also have our respect and support and our commitment to their good names and well-being.

An essential means of dealing with the crisis is prayer for healing and reconciliation, and acts of reparation for the grave offense to God and the deep wound inflicted upon his holy people. Closely connected to prayer and acts of reparation is the call to holiness of life and the care of the diocesan/eparchial bishop to ensure that he and his priests and deacons avail themselves of the proven ways of avoiding sin and growing in holiness of life.

## IT IS WITH RELIANCE ON THE GRACE OF GOD AND IN A SPIRIT OF PRAYER AND PENANCE THAT WE RENEW THE PLEDGES WHICH WE MADE IN THE 2002 *CHARTER*:

We pledge most solemnly to one another and to you, God's people, that we will work to our utmost for the protection of children and youth.

We pledge that we will devote to this goal the resources and personnel necessary to accomplish it.

We pledge that we will do our best to ordain to the diaconate and priesthood and put into positions of trust only those who share this commitment to protecting children and youth.

We pledge that we will work toward healing and reconciliation for those sexually abused by clerics.



Much has been done to honor these pledges. We devoutly pray that God who has begun this good work in us will bring it to fulfillment.

This *Charter* is published for the dioceses/eparchies of the United States. It is to be reviewed again after seven years by the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People with the advice of the National Review Board. The results of this review are to be presented to the full Conference of Bishops for confirmation. Authoritative interpretations of its provisions are reserved to the Conference of Bishops.

### NOTES

1 For purposes of this *Charter*, the offense of sexual abuse of a minor will be understood in accord with the provisions of *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela* (SST), article 6, which reads:

§1. The more grave delicts against morals which are reserved to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith are:

1° the delict against the sixth commandment of the Decalogue committed by a cleric with a minor below the age of eighteen years; in this case, a person who habitually lacks the use of reason is to be considered equivalent to a minor.

2° the acquisition, possession, or distribution by a cleric of pornographic images of minors under the age of fourteen, for purposes of sexual gratification, by whatever means or using whatever technology;

§2. A cleric who commits the delicts mentioned above in §1 is to be punished according to the gravity of his crime, not excluding dismissal or deposition.

In view of the Circular Letter from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, dated May 3, 2011, which calls for “mak[ing] allowance for the legislation of the country where the Conference is located,” Section III(g), we will apply the federal legal age for defining child pornography, which includes pornographic images of minors under the age of eighteen, for assessing a cleric’s suitability for ministry and for complying with civil reporting statutes.

If there is any doubt whether a specific act qualifies as an external, objectively grave violation, the writings of recognized moral theologians should be consulted, and the opinions of recognized experts should be appropriately obtained (*Canonical Delicts Involving Sexual Misconduct and Dismissal from the Clerical State*, 1995, p. 6). Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the diocesan bishop/eparch, with the advice of a qualified review board, to determine the gravity of the alleged act.

2 In 2009, after consultation with members of the USCCB Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People and the Conference of Major Superiors of Men and approval from the USCCB Committee on Canonical Affairs and Church Governance, additional Model Letters of Suitability, now available on the USCCB website, were agreed upon and published for use by bishops and major superiors in situations which involve both temporary and extended ministry for clerics.



# ESSENTIAL NORMS FOR DIOCESAN/ EPARCHIAL POLICIES DEALING WITH ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINORS BY PRIESTS OR DEACONS

Most Reverend William S. Skylstad, D.D,  
Bishop of Spokane

May 5, 2006

## DECREE OF PROMULGATION

On November 13, 2002, the members of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops approved as particular law the *Essential Norms for Diocesan/Eparchial Policies Dealing with Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests or Deacons*. Following the grant of the required *recognitio* by the Congregation for Bishops on December 8, 2002, the *Essential Norms* were promulgated by the President of the same Conference on December 12, 2002.

Thereafter, on June 17, 2005, the members of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops approved a revised text of the *Essential Norms*. By a decree dated January 1, 2006, and signed by His Eminence, Giovanni Battista Cardinal Re, Prefect of the Congregation for Bishops, and His Excellency, the Most Reverend Francesco Monterisi, Secretary of the same Congregation, the *recognitio* originally granted to the *Essential Norms* of 2002 was extended to the revised version *donec aliter provideatur*.

As President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, I therefore decree the promulgation of the *Essential Norms* of June 17, 2005. These *Norms* shall obtain force on May 15, 2006, and so shall from that day bind as particular law all Dioceses and Eparchies of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Most Reverend William S. Skylstad  
Bishop of Spokane  
President, USCCB  
Reverend Monsignor David J. Malloy  
General Secretary

## PREAMBLE

On June 14, 2002, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops approved a Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. The charter addresses the Church's commitment to deal appropriately and effectively with cases of sexual abuse of minors by priests, deacons, and other church personnel (i.e., employees and volunteers). The bishops of the United States have promised to reach out to those who have been sexually abused as minors by anyone serving the Church in ministry, employment, or a volunteer position, whether the sexual abuse was recent or occurred many years ago. They stated that they would be as open as possible with the people in parishes and communities about instances of sexual abuse of minors, with respect always for the privacy and the reputation of the individuals involved. They have committed themselves to the pastoral and spiritual care and emotional well-being of those who have been sexually abused and of their families.

In addition, the bishops will work with parents, civil authorities, educators, and various organizations in the community to make and maintain the safest environment for minors. In the same way, the bishops have pledged to evaluate the background of seminary applicants as well as all church personnel who have responsibility for the care and supervision of children and young people.

Therefore, to ensure that each diocese/eparchy in the United States of America will have procedures in place to respond promptly to all allegations of sexual abuse of minors, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops decrees these norms for diocesan/eparchial policies dealing with allegations of sexual abuse of minors by diocesan and religious priests or deacons.<sup>1</sup> These norms are complementary to the universal law of the Church and are to be interpreted in accordance with that law. The Church has traditionally considered the sexual abuse of minors a grave delict and punishes the offender with penalties,

not excluding dismissal from the clerical state if the case so warrants.

For purposes of these Norms, sexual abuse shall include any offense by a cleric against the Sixth Commandment of the Decalogue with a minor as understood in CIC, canon 1395 §2, and CCEO, canon 1453 §1 (*Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela*, article 6 §1).<sup>2</sup>

## NORMS

1. These Essential Norms have been granted *recognitio* by the Holy See. Having been legitimately promulgated in accordance with the practice of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on May 5, 2006, they constitute particular law for all the dioceses/eparchies of the United States of America.<sup>3</sup>

2. Each diocese/eparchy will have a written policy on the sexual abuse of minors by priests and deacons, as well as by other church personnel. This policy is to comply fully with, and is to specify in more detail, the steps to be taken in implementing the requirements of canon law, particularly CIC, canons 1717-1719, and CCEO, canons 1468-1470. A copy of this policy will be filed with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops within three months of the effective date of these norms. Copies of any eventual revisions of the written diocesan/eparchial policy are also to be filed with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops within three months of such modifications.

3. Each diocese/eparchy will designate a competent person to coordinate assistance for the immediate pastoral care of persons who claim to have been sexually abused when they were minors by priests or deacons.

4. To assist diocesan/eparchial bishops, each diocese/eparchy will also have a review board which will function as a confidential consultative body to the bishop/eparch in discharging his responsibilities. The functions of this board may include

- a. advising the diocesan bishop/eparch in his assessment of allegations of sexual abuse of minors and in his determination of suitability for ministry;
- b. reviewing diocesan/eparchial policies for dealing with sexual abuse of minors; and
- c. offering advice on all aspects of these cases, whether retrospectively or prospectively.

5. The review board, established by the diocesan/eparchial bishop, will be composed of at least five persons of outstanding integrity and good judgment in full communion with the Church. The majority of the review board members will be lay persons who are not in the employ of the diocese/eparchy; but at least one member should be a priest who is an experienced and respected pastor of the diocese/eparchy in question, and at least one member should have particular expertise in the treatment of the sexual abuse of minors. The members will be appointed for a term of five years, which can be renewed. It is desirable that the Promoter of Justice participate in the meetings of the review board.

6. When an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest or deacon is received, a preliminary investigation in accordance with canon law will be initiated and conducted promptly and objectively (CIC, c. 1717; CCEO, c. 1468). During the investigation the accused enjoys the presumption of innocence, and all appropriate steps shall be taken to protect his reputation. The accused will be encouraged to retain the assistance of civil and canonical counsel and will be promptly notified of the results of the investigation. When there is sufficient evidence that sexual abuse of a minor has occurred, the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith shall be notified. The bishop/eparch shall then apply the precautionary measures mentioned in CIC, canon 1722, or CCEO, canon 1473—i.e., withdraw the accused from exercising the sacred ministry or any ecclesiastical office or function, impose or prohibit residence in a given place or territory, and prohibit public participation in the Most Holy Eucharist pending the outcome of the process.<sup>4</sup>

7. The alleged offender may be requested to seek, and may be urged voluntarily to comply with, an appropriate medical and psychological evaluation at a facility mutually acceptable to the diocese/eparchy and to the accused.

8. When even a single act of sexual abuse by a priest or deacon is admitted or is established after an appropriate process in accord with canon law, the offending priest or deacon will be removed permanently from ecclesiastical ministry, not excluding dismissal from the clerical state, if the case so warrants (SST, Art. 6; CIC, c. 1395 §2; CCEO, c. 1453 §1).<sup>5</sup>

a. In every case involving canonical penalties, the processes provided for in canon law must be observed, and the various provisions of canon law must be considered (cf. *Canonical Delicts Involving Sexual Misconduct and Dismissal from the Clerical State*, 1995; Letter from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, May 18, 2001). Unless the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, having been notified, calls the case to itself because of special circumstances, it will direct the diocesan bishop/eparch to proceed (Article 13, “Procedural Norms” for *Motu proprio Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela*, AAS, 93, 2001, p. 787). If the case would otherwise be barred by prescription, because sexual abuse of a minor is a grave offense, the bishop/eparch may apply to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith for a derogation from the prescription, while indicating relevant grave reasons. For the sake of canonical due process, the accused is to be encouraged to retain the assistance of civil and canonical counsel. When necessary, the diocese/eparchy will supply canonical counsel to a priest. The provisions of CIC, canon 1722, or CCEO, canon 1473, shall be implemented during the pendency of the penal process.

b. If the penalty of dismissal from the clerical state has not been applied (e.g., for reasons of advanced age or infirmity), the offender ought to lead a life of prayer and penance. He will not be permitted to celebrate Mass publicly or to administer the sacraments. He is to be instructed not to wear clerical garb, or to present himself publicly as a priest.

9. At all times, the diocesan bishop/eparch has the executive power of governance, within the parameters of the universal law of the Church, through an administrative act, to remove an offending cleric from office, to remove or restrict his faculties, and to limit his exercise of priestly ministry.<sup>6</sup> Because sexual abuse of a minor by a cleric is a crime in the universal law of the Church (CIC, c. 1395 §2; CCEO, c. 1453 §1) and is a crime in all civil jurisdictions in the United States, for the sake of the common good and observing the provisions of canon law, the diocesan bishop/eparch shall exercise this power of governance to ensure that any priest or deacon who has committed even one act of sexual abuse of a minor as described above shall not continue in active ministry.<sup>7</sup>

10. The priest or deacon may at any time request a dispensation from the obligations of the clerical state. In exceptional cases, the bishop/eparch may request of the Holy Father the dismissal of the priest or deacon from the clerical state *ex officio*, even without the consent of the priest or deacon.

11. The diocese/eparchy will comply with all applicable civil laws with respect to the reporting of allegations of sexual abuse of minors to civil authorities and will cooperate in their investigation. In every instance, the diocese/eparchy will advise and support a person’s right to make a report to public authorities.<sup>8</sup>

12. No priest or deacon who has committed an act of sexual abuse of a minor may be transferred for a ministerial assignment in another diocese/eparchy. Every bishop/eparch who receives a priest or deacon from outside his jurisdiction will obtain the necessary information regarding any past act of sexual abuse of a minor by the priest or deacon in question.

Before such a diocesan/eparchial priest or deacon can be transferred for residence to another diocese/eparchy, his diocesan/eparchial bishop shall forward, in a confidential manner, to the bishop of the proposed place of residence any and all information concerning any act of sexual abuse of a minor and any other information indicating that he has been or may be a danger to children or young people.

In the case of the assignment for residence of such a clerical member of an institute or a society into a local community within a diocese/eparchy, the major superior shall inform the diocesan/eparchial bishop and share with him in a manner respecting the limitations of confidentiality found in canon and civil law all information concerning any act of sexual abuse of a minor and any other information indicating that he has been or may be a danger to children or young people so that the bishop/eparch can make an informed judgment that suitable safeguards are in place for the protection of children and young people. This will be done with due recognition of the legitimate authority of the bishop/eparch; of the provisions of CIC, canon 678 (CCEO, canons 415 §1 and 554 §2), and of CIC, canon 679; and of the autonomy of the religious life (CIC, c. 586).

13. Care will always be taken to protect the rights of all parties involved, particularly those of the person claiming to have been sexually abused and of the



person against whom the charge has been made. When an accusation has been shown to be unfounded,

every step possible will be taken to restore the good name of the person falsely accused.

## NOTES

- 1 These Norms constitute particular law for the dioceses, eparchies, clerical religious institutes, and societies of apostolic life of the United States with respect to all priests and deacons in the ecclesiastical ministry of the Church in the United States. When a major superior of a clerical religious institute or society of apostolic life applies and interprets them for the internal life and governance of the institute or society, he has the obligation to do so according to the universal law of the Church and the proper law of the institute or society.
- 2 If there is any doubt whether a specific act qualifies as an external, objectively grave violation, the writings of recognized moral theologians should be consulted, and the opinions of recognized experts should be appropriately obtained (*Canonical Delicts*, p. 6). Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the diocesan bishop/eparch, with the advice of a qualified review board, to determine the gravity of the alleged act.
- 3 Due regard must be given to the proper legislative authority of each Eastern Catholic Church.
- 4 Article 19 *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela states*, “With due regard for the right of the Ordinary to impose from the outset of the preliminary investigation those measures which are established in can. 1722 of the Code of Canon Law, or in can. 1473 of the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches, the respective presiding judge may, at the request of the Promoter of Justice, exercise the same power under the same conditions determined in the canons themselves.”
- 5 Removal from ministry is required whether or not the cleric is diagnosed by qualified experts as a pedophile or as suffering from a related sexual disorder that requires professional treatment. With regard to the use of the phrase “ecclesiastical ministry,” by clerical members of institutes of consecrated life and societies of apostolic life, the provisions of canons 678 and 738 also apply, with due regard for canons 586 and 732.
- 6 Cf. CIC, cc. 35-58, 149, 157, 187-189, 192-195, 277 §3, 381 §1, 383, 391, 1348, and 1740-1747. Cf. also CCEO, cc. 1510 §1 and 2, 1°-2°, 1511, 1512 §§1-2, 1513 §§2-3 and 5, 1514-1516, 1517 §1, 1518, 1519 §2, 1520 §§1-3, 1521, 1522 §1, 1523-1526, 940, 946, 967-971, 974-977, 374, 178, 192 §§1-3, 193 §2, 191, and 1389-1396.
- 7 The diocesan bishop/eparch may exercise his executive power of governance to take one or more of the following administrative actions (CIC, cc. 381, 129ff.; CCEO, cc. 178, 979ff.):

- a. He may request that the accused freely resign from any currently held ecclesiastical office (CIC, cc. 187-189; CCEO, cc. 967-971).
- b. Should the accused decline to resign and should the diocesan bishop/eparch judge the accused to be truly not suitable (CIC, c. 149 §1; CCEO, c. 940) at this time for holding an office previously freely conferred (CIC, c. 157), then he may remove that person from office observing the required canonical procedures (CIC, cc. 192-195, 1740-1747; CCEO, cc. 974-977, 1389-1396).
- c. For a cleric who holds no office in the diocese/eparchy, any previously delegated faculties may be administratively removed (CIC, cc. 391 §1 and 142 §1; CCEO, cc. 191 §1 and 992 §1), while any *de iure* faculties may be removed or restricted by the competent authority as provided in law (e.g., CIC, c. 764; CCEO, c. 610 §§2-3).
- d. The diocesan bishop/eparch may also determine that circumstances surrounding a particular case constitute the just and reasonable cause for a priest to celebrate the Eucharist with no member of the faithful present (CIC, c. 906). The bishop may forbid the priest to celebrate the Eucharist publicly and to administer the sacraments, for the good of the Church and for his own good.
- e. Depending on the gravity of the case, the diocesan bishop/eparch may also dispense (CIC, cc. 85-88; CCEO, cc. 1536 §1-1538) the cleric from the obligation of wearing clerical attire (CIC, c. 284; CCEO, c. 387) and may urge that he not do so, for the good of the Church and for his own good.

These administrative actions shall be taken in writing and by means of decrees (CIC, cc. 47-58; CCEO, cc. 1510 §2, 1°-2°, 1511, 1513 §§2-3 and 5, 1514, 1517 §1, 1518, 1519 §2, 1520) so that the cleric affected is afforded the opportunity of recourse against them in accord with canon law (CIC, cc. 1734ff.; CCEO, cc. 999ff.).

- 8 The necessary observance of the canonical norms internal to the Church is not intended in any way to hinder the course of any civil action that may be operative. At the same time, the Church reaffirms her right to enact legislation binding on all her members concerning the ecclesiastical dimensions of the delict of sexual abuse of minors.

## A STATEMENT OF EPISCOPAL COMMITMENT

We bishops pledge again to respond to the demands of the *Charter* in a way that manifests our accountability to God, to God's people, and to one another. Individually and together, we acknowledge mistakes in the past when some bishops transferred, from one assignment to another, priests who abused minors. We recognize our roles in the suffering this has caused, and we continue to ask forgiveness for it.

Without at all diminishing the importance of broader accountability, this statement focuses on the accountability which flows from our episcopal communion and fraternal solidarity, a moral responsibility we have with and for each other.

While bishops are ordained primarily for their diocese or eparchy, we are called as well to protect the unity and to promote the common discipline of the whole Church (CIC, c. 392; CCEO, c. 201). Participating in the college of bishops, each bishop is responsible to act in a manner that reflects both effective and affective collegiality.

Respecting the legitimate rights of bishops who are directly accountable to the Holy See, in a spirit of collegiality and fraternity we renew our commitment to the following:

1. Within each of our provinces, we will assist each other to interpret correctly and implement the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, always respecting Church law and striving to reflect the Gospel.

2. We will apply the requirements of the *Charter* also to ourselves, respecting always Church law as it applies to bishops. Therefore, if a bishop is accused of the sexual abuse of a minor, the accused bishop is obliged to inform the Apostolic Nuncio. If another bishop becomes aware of the sexual abuse of a minor by another bishop or of an allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor by a bishop, he too is obliged to inform the Apostolic Nuncio and comply with applicable civil laws.

3. In cases of financial demands for settlements involving allegations of any sexual misconduct by a bishop, he, or any of us who become aware of it, is obliged to inform the Apostolic Nuncio.

4. Within each of our provinces, as an expression of collegiality, including fraternal support, fraternal challenge and fraternal correction, we will engage in ongoing mutual reflection upon our commitment to holiness of life and upon the exercise of our episcopal ministry.

In making this statement, we firmly uphold the dignity of every human being and renew our commitment to live and promote the chastity required of all followers of Christ and especially of deacons, priests and bishops.

This Statement of Episcopal Commitment will be reviewed by the Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations upon the next review of the *Charter*.





## Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs

# APPENDIX B

## QUESTIONNAIRE AND RESPONSE FREQUENCIES FOR DIOCESES AND EPARCHIES

*This questionnaire is designed to survey dioceses and eparchies about accusations of abuse of minors by clergy and the costs in dealing with these allegations. The results will be used to demonstrate progress in implementing the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and to reduce the incidence of sexual abuse within the Church.*

**All data collected here are entirely confidential. Only CARA personnel view the data submissions. Your individual data submission is not shared with anyone, including the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). Only combined, aggregated results for Dioceses and Eparchies nationally will be reported publicly.**

**Soon after submitting the report of findings to the USCCB for review, CARA removes from its data sets all identifying information about the Diocese or Eparchy submitting the data and stores it – encrypted using 256-bit encryption – on a secure platform at Georgetown University.**

***THE CURRENT AUDIT YEAR COVERS JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022.***

*NOTE: An allegation is defined as one victim alleging an act or acts of abuse by one alleged perpetrator. Only allegations of abuse of a minor by diocesan or eparchial priests and deacons should be reported in this survey. Clergy who are members of a religious community should not be included in this survey.*

### **STATUS OF ALLEGATIONS *NOT* RESOLVED IN THE PREVIOUS AUDIT YEAR**

As of the end of this audit year (June 30, 2022), please designate the status of all allegations *first* received prior to July 1, 2021 that were reported on last year's survey as unresolved – that is those categorized as “investigation ongoing” on the 2021 survey (items A5 and 2d):

- 118 A1. **Credible** – determined to bear the “semblance of truth” (i.e., has been sufficiently substantiated by a preliminary investigation to be forwarded to the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith for action according to Canons 1717 and 1719); in the case of an allegation against a deceased perpetrator, the allegation is credible if it meets the criteria for forwarding to the Congregation. *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*
- 66 A2. **Unsubstantiated** – determined by a preliminary investigation that insufficient evidence exists to demonstrate that the allegation has occurred as claimed. *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*
- 7 A3. **Obviously false** – determined by a preliminary investigation that the allegation could not possibly have occurred (e.g., the alleged perpetrator or alleged victim was not alive at the time). *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*
- 426 A4. **Unable to be proven** – determined by a preliminary investigation that insufficient evidence exists to conclude that the alleged abuse did (or did not) occur. *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*
- 1,239 A5. **Investigation ongoing** – the preliminary investigation is still underway or awaiting final determination of credibility; also included here are those allegations – during some investigations conducted by civil authorities – where dioceses and eparchies temporarily are not permitted to conduct their own investigation. *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*

***(Note: The sum of items A1 to A5 should be equal to the total number of allegations carried over from last year as they were categorized as “investigation ongoing” – items A5 and 2d on last year's survey.)***

**STATUS OF ALLEGATIONS FIRST RECEIVED DURING THIS AUDIT YEAR  
(JULY 1, 2021-JUNE 30, 2022)**

2,038 1. The total number of all new allegations your diocese or eparchy received between **July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022** – those allegations that are credible, unsubstantiated, obviously false, unable to be proven, or still being actively investigated. This should not include clergy that are members of religious communities as they will be reported by their religious institutes.

Of the total number reported in item 1, please designate the status of all allegations *first* received during this audit year (between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022):

- 127 2. **Credible** – determined to bear the “semblance of truth” (i.e., has been sufficiently substantiated by a preliminary investigation to be forwarded to the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith for action according to Canons 1717 and 1719); in the case of an allegation against a deceased perpetrator, the allegation is credible if it meets the criteria for forwarding to the Congregation. *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*
- 65 3. **Unsubstantiated** – determined by a preliminary investigation that insufficient evidence exists to demonstrate that the allegation has occurred as claimed. *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*
- 12 4. **Obviously false** – determined by a preliminary investigation that the allegation could not possibly have occurred (e.g., the alleged perpetrator or alleged victim was not alive at the time). *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*
- 420 5. **Unable to be proven** – determined by a preliminary investigation that insufficient evidence exists to conclude that the alleged abuse did (or did not) occur. *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*
- 1,414 6. **Investigation ongoing** – the preliminary investigation is still underway or awaiting final determination of credibility; also included here are those allegations – during some investigations conducted by civil authorities – where dioceses and eparchies temporarily are not permitted to conduct their own investigation. *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*

***(Note: The sum of items 2 to 6 should be equal to item 1. If no new allegations were received during this audit year, please enter a “0” in item 1, leave items 2 to 6 blank, and proceed to item 7.)***

**ALL ALLEGATIONS DEEMED CREDIBLE DURING THIS AUDIT YEAR  
(JULY 1, 2021-JUNE 30, 2022)**

245 7. Total number of allegations (first received during a prior audit year *or* this audit year) designated as credible during the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. *(Note: Item 7 = Item A1 + Item 2.) (If your response to item 7 is zero, please respond “0” to items 7a and 7b, leave items 8 to 39 blank, and go to item 40.)*

8 7a. Of the allegations in item 7, the number that solely involved child pornography.

237 7b. Total number of allegations your diocese or eparchy is reporting that solely did NOT involve child pornography. *(Note: Item 7 minus item 7a.)*

Of the number reported in item 7, the number that were first reported to the diocese or eparchy by a(n):

99 8. Victim.

12 9. Family member of the victim.

4 10. Friend of the victim.

113 11. Attorney of the victim.

5 12. Law enforcement.

5 13. Bishop or official from another diocese.

0 14. Reported through a government investigation.

7 15. Other source: \_\_\_\_\_.

*(Choose only one category for each allegation. The sum of items 8-15 should equal item 7.)*

Of the number reported in item 7b, the number of alleged victims that are:

198 16. Male.

39 17. Female.

0 18. Gender unknown.

*(Choose only one category for each allegation. The sum of items 16-18 should equal item 7b.)*

Of the number reported in item 7b, the number of alleged victims in each age category when the alleged abuse began:

53 19. 0-9.

43 21. 15-17.

128 20. 10-14.

13 22. Age unknown.

*(Choose only one category for each allegation. The sum of items 19-22 should equal item 7b.)*

Of the number reported in item 7b, the number alleged to have begun in:

6 23. 1954 or earlier.

9 32. 1995-1999.

12 24. 1955-1959.

4 33. 2000-2004.

21 25. 1960-1964.

1 34. 2005-2009.

35 26. 1965-1969.

5 35. 2010-2014.

37 27. 1970-1974.

5 36. 2015-2019.

36 28. 1975-1979.

5 37. 2020-2021.

32 29. 1980-1984.

0 38. 2022.

16 30. 1985-1989.

11 39. Time period unknown.

2 31. 1990-1994.

*(Choose only one category for each allegation. The sum of items 23-39 should equal item 7b.)*

**ALLEGED PERPETRATORS**

*NOTE: Include any alleged perpetrators who are or were ordained members of the clergy (priests or deacons) legitimately serving in or assigned to your diocese or eparchy at the time the credible allegation was alleged to have occurred. Include only those clergy who are tied to the allegations reported in item 7 above. Do not include clergy who are members of religious communities as they will be reported by their religious institutes.*

211 40. Total number of priests or deacons against whom credible allegations of sexual abuse of a minor have been reported or recorded between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. *(Note: Include all clergy tied to the allegations reported in item 7.)*

***(If your response to item 40 is zero, please leave items 41 to 54 blank and go to item 55.)***

142 41. Of the total number in item 40, the number that have had one or more previous credible allegations reported against them in previous surveys.

Of the total number in item 40, how many were in each category below at the time of the alleged abuse?  
***Choose only one category for each alleged perpetrator.***

173 42. Diocesan priests ordained for this diocese or eparchy.

6 43. Diocesan priests incardinated later in this diocese or eparchy.

5 44. Extern diocesan priests from another U.S. diocese serving in this diocese or eparchy.

7 45. Extern diocesan priests from a diocese outside the United States serving in this diocese or eparchy.

4 46. Permanent deacons.

11 47. Unnamed or unspecified clergy member.

5 48. Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

***(The sum of items 42-48 should equal item 40.)***

Of the total number in item 40, the number that:

***Choose only one category for each alleged perpetrator.***

168 49. Are deceased, already removed from ministry, already laicized, or missing.

25 50. Have been permanently removed or retired from ministry between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 based on allegations of abuse.

0 51. Have been returned to ministry between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 based on the resolution of allegations of abuse.

6 52. Remain temporarily removed from ministry pending investigation of allegations (as of June 30, 2022).

2 53. Remain in active ministry pending investigation of allegations (as of June 30, 2022).

10 54. Unnamed or unspecified clergy member.

***(The sum of items 49-54 should equal item 40.)***

**COSTS INCURRED DURING THE CURRENT AUDIT YEAR**

\$36,051,160 55. Excluding all payments or costs related to any specific allegations, amounts paid for **all child protection efforts** – including Safe Environment Coordinators/Victim Assistance Coordinators salaries and expenses, training programs, background checks – during this audit year (between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022).

Indicate the approximate total amount of funds expended by your diocese or eparchy between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 for **payments as the result of allegations of sexual abuse of a minor** (notwithstanding the year in which the allegation was received):

\$95,930,064 56. All settlements paid to victims.

\$6,801,054 57. Other payments to victims (e.g., for therapy or other expenses, if separate from settlements).

\$9,484,728 58. Payments for support for alleged offenders (including living expenses, legal expenses, therapy, etc.).

\$40,578,200 59. Payments for attorneys’ fees.

\$4,258,097 60. Other allegation-related costs:

\_\_\_\_\_.  
13.7% 61. Approximate percentage of the total amount in items 56-60 that was covered by your diocese’s or eparchy’s insurance.

If your diocese or eparchy made a financial settlement to victims during the past audit year (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022), which of the following monetary sources/changes did your diocese or eparchy use for those settlements:

*(Please check all that apply. If no financial settlements were made, please skip these questions.)*

- 7 62. Sale of property.
- 3 63. Restructuring of debt.
- 25 64. Insurance pay-outs.
- 3 65. Bankruptcy filing.
- 1 66. Elimination of programs or services.
- 2 67. Staff reductions.

50 68. Other \_\_\_\_\_.

*In the event it is necessary for clarification about the data reported here, please supply the following information:*

Name of person completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of person completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_

Arch/Diocese or Eparchy: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for completing this survey.**

***You can send or fax this survey to:***

**Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA); 2300 Wisconsin Ave NW, Suite 400A, Washington, DC 20007  
Phone: 202-687-8080 Fax: 202-687-8083 E-mail: CARA@georgetown.edu; ©CARA 2022, All rights reserved.**





## Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs

# APPENDIX C

## QUESTIONNAIRE AND RESPONSE FREQUENCIES FOR RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

*This questionnaire is designed to survey Major Superiors of Men who lead and govern Religious Communities – Institutes of Consecrated Life, Societies of Apostolic Life, and Independent Monasteries – about accusations of abuse of minors by their members and the costs in dealing with these allegations. The results will be used to demonstrate progress in implementing the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and to reduce the incidence of sexual abuse within the Church.*

**All data collected here are entirely confidential. Only CARA personnel view the data submissions. Your individual data submission is not shared with anyone, including the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), any individual bishop, or the Conference of Major Superiors of Men. Only combined, aggregated results for Religious Communities nationally will be reported publicly.**

**Soon after submitting the report of findings to the USCCB and CMSM for review, CARA removes from its data sets all identifying information about the Religious Community submitting the data and stores it – encrypted using 256-bit encryption – on a secure platform at Georgetown University.**

***THE CURRENT AUDIT YEAR COVERS JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022.***

*NOTE: An allegation is defined as one victim alleging an act or acts of abuse by one alleged perpetrator. Only allegations of abuse of a minor by a Religious Community member (priests, deacons, and brothers) should be reported in this survey.*

### **STATUS OF ALLEGATIONS NOT RESOLVED IN THE PREVIOUS AUDIT YEAR**

As of the end of this audit year (June 30, 2022), please designate the status of all allegations *first* received prior to July 1, 2021 that were reported on last year's survey as unresolved – that is those categorized as "investigation ongoing" on the 2021 survey (items A5 and 2d):

- 60 A1. **Credible** – determined to bear the "semblance of truth" (i.e., has been sufficiently substantiated by a preliminary investigation to be forwarded to the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith for action according to Canons 1717 and 1719); in the case of an allegation against a deceased perpetrator, the allegation is credible if it meets the criteria for forwarding to the Congregation. *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*
- 16 A2. **Unsubstantiated** – determined by a preliminary investigation that insufficient evidence exists to demonstrate that the allegation has occurred as claimed. *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*
- 9 A3. **Obviously false** – determined by a preliminary investigation that the allegation could not possibly have occurred (e.g., the alleged perpetrator or alleged victim was not alive at the time). *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*
- 74 A4. **Unable to be proven** – determined by a preliminary investigation that insufficient evidence exists to conclude that the alleged abuse did (or did not) occur. *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*
- 293 A5. **Investigation ongoing** – the preliminary investigation is still underway or awaiting final determination of credibility; also included here are those allegations – during some investigations conducted by civil authorities – where Religious Communities temporarily are not permitted to conduct their own investigation. *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*

***(Note: The sum of items A1 to A5 should be equal to the total number of allegations carried over from last year as they were categorized as "investigation ongoing" – items A5 and 2d on last year's survey. If you do not have access to last year's survey or do not have any unresolved allegations carried over from last year, please leave this section blank and go to item 1.)***

**STATUS OF ALLEGATIONS FIRST RECEIVED DURING THIS AUDIT YEAR  
(JULY 1, 2021-JUNE 30, 2022)**

- 446 1. The total number of all new allegations your Religious Community received between **July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022** – those allegations that are credible, unsubstantiated, obviously false, unable to be proven, or still being actively investigated.

Of the total number reported in item 1, please designate the status of all allegations *first* received during this audit year (between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022):

- 89 2. **Credible** – determined to bear the “semblance of truth” (i.e., has been sufficiently substantiated by a preliminary investigation to be forwarded to the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith for action according to Canons 1717 and 1719); in the case of an allegation against a deceased perpetrator, the allegation is credible if it meets the criteria for forwarding to the Congregation. *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*
- 39 3. **Unsubstantiated** – determined by a preliminary investigation that insufficient evidence exists to demonstrate that the allegation has occurred as claimed. *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*
- 14 4. **Obviously false** – determined by a preliminary investigation that the allegation could not possibly have occurred (e.g., the alleged perpetrator or alleged victim was not alive at the time). *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*
- 59 5. **Unable to be proven** – determined by a preliminary investigation that insufficient evidence exists to conclude that the alleged abuse did (or did not) occur. *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*
- 245 6. **Investigation ongoing** – the preliminary investigation is still underway or awaiting final determination of credibility; also included here are those allegations – during some investigations conducted by civil authorities – where Religious Communities temporarily are not permitted to conduct their own investigation. *These allegations may or may not have been paid out in a settlement.*

***(Note: The sum of items 2 to 6 should be equal to item 1. If no new allegations were received during this audit year, please enter a “0” in item 1, leave items 2 to 6 blank, and proceed to item 7.)***

**ALL ALLEGATIONS DEEMED CREDIBLE DURING THIS AUDIT YEAR  
(JULY 1, 2021-JUNE 30, 2022)**

149 7. Total number of allegations (first received during a prior audit year or this audit year) designated as credible during the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. *(Note: Item 7 = Item A1 + Item 2.) (If your response to item 7 is zero, please respond "0" to items 7a and 7b, leave items 8 to 39 blank, and go to item 40.)*

1 7a. Of the allegations in item 7, the number that solely involved child pornography (child pornography is any visual depiction of sexually explicit conduct involving a minor – those less than 18 years old).

148 7b. Total number of allegations your Religious Community is reporting that solely did NOT involve child pornography. *(Item 7 minus item 7a.)*

Of the number reported in item 7, the number that were first reported to your Religious Community by a(n):

27 8. Victim.

3 9. Family member of the victim.

2 10. Friend of the victim.

65 11. Attorney of the victim.

2 12. Law enforcement.

20 13. Bishop or official from a diocese.

1 14. Reported through a government investigation.

18 15. Other sources: \_\_\_\_\_.

*(Choose only one category for each allegation. The sum of items 8-15 should equal item 7.)*

Of the number reported in item 7b, the number of alleged victims that are:

110 16. Male.

23 17. Female.

15 18. Gender unknown.

*(Choose only one category for each allegation. The sum of items 16-18 should equal item 7b.)*

Of the number reported in item 7b, the number of alleged victims in each age category when the alleged abuse began:

21 19. 0-9.

61 21. 15-17.

34 20. 10-14.

32 22. Age unknown.

*(Choose only one category for each allegation. The sum of items 19-22 should equal item 7b.)*

Of the number reported in item 7b, the number alleged to have begun in:

11 23. 1954 or earlier.

2 32. 1995-1999.

10 24. 1955-1959.

1 33. 2000-2004.

12 25. 1960-1964.

0 34. 2005-2009.

6 26. 1965-1969.

0 35. 2010-2014.

17 27. 1970-1974.

1 36. 2015-2019.

35 28. 1975-1979.

0 37. 2020-2021.

15 29. 1980-1984.

0 38. 2022.

11 30. 1985-1989.

17 39. Time period unknown.

10 31. 1990-1994.

*(Choose only one category for each allegation. The sum of items 23-39 should equal item 7b.)*

**ALLEGED PERPETRATORS**

*NOTE: Include any alleged perpetrators who are or were members who legitimately served within your Religious Community or in or assigned to a diocese or eparchy at the time the credible allegation was alleged to have occurred. Include only those members who are tied to the allegations reported in item 7 above.*

133 40. Total number of members against whom credible allegations of sexual abuse of a minor have been reported or recorded between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. *(Note: Include all members tied to the allegations reported in item 7.)*

*(If your response to item 40 is zero, please leave items 41 to 60 blank and go to item 61.)*

51 41. Of the total number in item 40, the number that have had one or more previous credible allegations reported against them in previous surveys.

Of the total number in item 40, how many were in each category below at the time of the alleged abuse? *(Choose only one category for each alleged perpetrator. The sum of items 42-48 should equal item 40.)*

**Priests or**

**Deacons**

**Brothers**

- |    |      |    |      |   |
|----|------|----|------|---|
| 45 | 42a. | 30 | 42b. | Member of your canonical jurisdiction assigned within the United States.                      |
| 3  | 43a. | 1  | 43b. | Member of your canonical jurisdiction assigned outside the United States.                     |
| 3  | 44a. | 20 | 44b. | Formerly of your canonical jurisdiction but no longer a member of your Religious Community.   |
| 0  | 45a. | 0  | 45b. | Member of another U.S. canonical jurisdiction but serving in your canonical jurisdiction.     |
| 1  | 46a. | 0  | 46b. | Member of a non-U.S. based canonical jurisdiction but serving in your canonical jurisdiction. |
| 0  | 47.  |    |      | Deacon member of your Religious Community.  |
| 30 | 48.  |    |      | Unnamed or unspecified member.  |

Of the total number in item 40, the number that:

*(Choose only one category for each alleged perpetrator. The sum of items 49-54 should equal item 40.)*

- 85 49. Are deceased, already removed from ministry, already laicized, or missing.
- 10 50. Have been permanently removed or retired from ministry between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 based on allegations of abuse.
- 0 51. Have been returned to ministry between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 based on the resolution of allegations of abuse.
- 9 52. Remain temporarily removed from ministry pending investigation of allegations (as of June 30, 2022).
- 0 53. Remain in active ministry pending investigation of allegations (as of June 30, 2022).
- 29 54. Unnamed or unspecified member.
- (The sum of items 49-54 should equal item 40.)*



Of the number reported in item 40, the number that:

- 17 55. Are diagnosed situational offenders (Situational offenders end up molesting the child for various reasons – most often because of availability – whether male or female – but do NOT have a preference for pre-pubescent children. They may feel attracted to the child or stimulated by being “close” to them. Situational offenders often have low self-worth, poor peer relationships, cannot deal with stress well and take advantage of the child as the result of the extra pressure at a particular time in their life. Their offending behavior is sporadic or occurs only once, and may be triggered by a loss, e.g., death of a family member, friend, etc. Typically, there are fewer victims than for the Preferential Type.)
- 12 56. Are diagnosed preferential offenders (Preferential offenders are most often “pedophiles,” who prefer and seek out jobs or ministries with pre-pubescent children, are aroused by child porn, often may have multiple to many victims, tend to abuse males only, think more of their needs than any fear of being caught, and engage in more deviant behavior patterns.)
- 101 57. Not known or have not yet received a diagnosis (Data from perpetrator records is unclear to distinguish any type. One cannot clearly distinguish between situational factors and preferential factors to determine the type based on available observation or knowledge.)  
*(The sum of items 55-57 should equal item 40.)*
- 8 58. *Of the total number of diagnosed situational offenders in item 55, the number who have reoffended.*
- 9 59. *Of the total number of diagnosed preferential offenders in item 56, the number who have reoffended.*
- 19 60. *Of the total number of undiagnosed offenders in item 57, the number who have reoffended.*

**Yes No**

- 88 42 61. Is your jurisdiction presently accredited by Praesidium?
- 31 96 62. Have any members of your jurisdiction disclosed (to leadership and/or to their local community) that they are survivors of minor sexual abuse?  
62a. *If yes, approximately how many members have disclosed: 76 members*

**COSTS INCURRED DURING THE CURRENT AUDIT YEAR**

- \$5,826,686 63. Excluding all payments or costs related to any specific allegations, amounts paid for **all child protection efforts**, including Safe Environment Coordinators/Victim Assistance Coordinators salaries and expenses, training programs, background checks, during this audit year, between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. (Costs that should be included in these efforts include Supervision and Monitoring (time is money- they are billable in any other setting--how much staff time, monitor’s time, supervisor’s time, major superior’s time, provincial or council’s time and efforts (typically \$25-50 dollars an hour or more) any salaries/contracts/consultations of internal or external personnel, professional updating and costs associated with these efforts/events.
1. Travel, room and board, time away from central governance office(s), associated with Trainings, Annual Supervision Workshop, National Assembly where updates are given on all national efforts.
  2. Education programs: costs of programs, set up costs, travel costs, time of all members at sessions.
  3. Victim Expenses: settlements, therapy costs, time and efforts of the safe environment coordinator/ employee and victim assistance coordinator and their salaries.
  4. Costs associated with the welfare and care of the accused: yearly room and board, health care costs, insurance costs, and budget/spending money.)



Indicate the approximate total amount of funds expended by your Religious Community between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 for **payments as the result of allegations of sexual abuse of a minor** (notwithstanding the year in which the allegation was received):

\$30,742,002 64. All settlements paid to victims.

\$553,237 65. Other payments to victims (e.g., for therapy or other expenses, if separate from settlements).

\$4,416,504 66. Payments for support for alleged offenders (including living expenses, legal expenses, therapy, etc.).

\$8,827,778 67. Payments for attorneys' fees.

\$382,031 68. Other allegation-related costs:

\_\_\_\_\_.

9.7% 69. Approximate percentage of the total amount in items 64-68 that was covered by your Religious Community's insurance.

If your Religious Community made a financial settlement to victims during the past audit year (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022), which of the following monetary sources/changes did your Religious Community use for those settlements:

*(Please check all that apply. If no financial settlements were made, please skip these questions.)*

1 70. Sale of property.

0 71. Restructuring of debt.

9 72. Insurance pay-outs.

0 73. Bankruptcy filing.

0 74. Elimination of programs or services.

1 75. Staff reductions.

31 76. Other \_\_\_\_\_.

In the event it is necessary for clarification about the data reported here, please supply the following information for CARA's use: *(This identifying information will be removed before the data set is stored in an encrypted form on a secure platform at Georgetown University – the university with whom CARA is affiliated.)*

Name of person completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of person completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_

Religious Community: \_\_\_\_\_

Canonical Jurisdiction: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for completing this survey.**

***You can send or fax this survey to:***

**Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA)**

**2300 Wisconsin Ave NW, Suite 400A, Washington, DC 20007**

**Phone: 202-687-8080 Fax: 202-687-8083 E-mail: CARA@georgetown.edu**

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# A PRAYER for HEALING

## VICTIMS OF ABUSE

**G**od of endless love,  
ever caring, ever strong,  
always present, always just:  
You gave your only Son  
to save us by his Blood on the Cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace,  
join to your own suffering  
the pain of all who have been hurt  
in body, mind, and spirit  
by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear the cries of our brothers and sisters  
who have been gravely harmed,  
and the cries of those who love them.  
Soothe their restless hearts with hope,  
steady their shaken spirits with faith.  
Grant them justice for their cause,  
enlightened by your truth.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,  
heal your people's wounds  
and transform brokenness into wholeness.  
Grant us the courage and wisdom,  
humility and grace, to act with justice.  
Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors.  
Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice.  
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.