

## SAFE ENVIRONMENT AND MINISTERIAL STANDARDS TASK FORCE

### ("TASK FORCE") DETAILS

October 6, 2013

#### Purpose:

- The role of the Task Force is to review any and all issues related to clergy sexual misconduct and to make specific recommendations regarding actions to be taken and policies and procedures to be implemented.
- The Archdiocese will provide the Task Force with all financial and other resources necessary to accomplish its mandate.

#### Membership:

- Consists of at least six members.
- Persons of outstanding integrity and good judgment.
- All must be lay persons (not members of the clergy).
- All must not be in the employ of the Archdiocese or any of the parishes of the Archdiocese.
- Members will receive a formal letter of appointment from the Vicar for Ministerial Standards to serve as members of the Task Force.
- One of the members will be appointed by the Vicar for Ministerial Standards to serve as the Chairperson of the Task Force.

#### Scope:

The Task Force will undertake the following actions:

1. Review all documents of the Archdiocese relating to its policies and procedures for preventing, investigating, and responding to sexual misconduct by clergy and all documents relating to the protection of children, youth, and vulnerable adults from such misconduct. It is responsible for providing recommendations that will ensure that the Archdiocese has effective policies and procedures for preventing, investigating, and responding to sexual misconduct by clergy that are in compliance with norms of civil and canon law.

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#### Scope, continued:

2. Interview staff members of the Archdiocese, former staff members of the Archdiocese, and others at its discretion, including victims of clergy sexual misconduct and clergy who have been accused of misconduct.
  
3. Review any and all issues related directly or indirectly to clergy sexual misconduct in the Archdiocese, and prepare a report to the Vicar for Ministerial Standards that will recommend actions to be taken by the Archdiocese regarding these issues.
  - a. The Archdiocese will cooperate fully with the Task Force
  - b. The Archdiocese will provide the Task Force with access to:
    - i. Records of the Archdiocese related to clergy sexual misconduct and
    - ii. Policies and procedures of the Archdiocese related to the handling of clergy sexual misconduct and the protection of children, youth, and vulnerable adults from such misconduct.

#### Meetings:

The Task Force will meet at times and locations determined by the Task Force Chairperson. Once the final report is submitted, further meetings and work to be completed will be at the discretion of the Vicar for Ministerial Standards.

#### Outcome:

The Task Force will issue a report, or multiple reports, if it deems appropriate, to the Vicar of Ministerial Standards. As directed by the Archbishop, the Vicar will receive the report(s) of the Task Force, ensure that the product is in compliance with civil and canon law, publish the final findings and recommendations, and implement the final recommendations. While the Archbishop retains his authority in the Archdiocese, he has committed that he will not interfere in the work of the Vicar or the Task Force.