

Cases Reviewed by the Review Board (July 2003-December 2005)

In the period July 2003 through December 2005, the Review Board considered cases involving 71 Boston Archdiocesan clerics (priests or deacons). The cases break down as follows:

In 38 of these 71 cases, the Review Board recommended to the Archbishop that some further canonical action be taken. In these cases, the Board found probable cause that sexual abuse of a minor had occurred. Upon acceptance of the Board's recommendation by the Archbishop, each of these cases was transmitted to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith ("CDF") in Rome for determination of the appropriate canonical process. The current status of these cases is as follows:

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| 11 | cases - | priest is no longer in the clerical state due to laicization or dismissal from clerical state |
| 5 | cases - | Priest is permanently restricted from ministry and directed to live life of prayer and penance. |
| 13 | cases - | CDF has directed further penal process, consisting of either a canonical trial or extrajudicial penal process; priest restricted from exercise of any ministry. |
| 9 | cases - | Still pending before CDF; priest restricted from exercise of any ministry. |

In one of the 71 cases reviewed in the period July 2003 through December 2005, the Review Board has considered the case, but a preliminary investigation remains open. The priest is restricted from the exercise of any ministry pending further investigation and review by the Review Board.

In the remaining 32 cases, the Review Board recommended to the Archbishop that the case did not merit transmission to the CDF in Rome. In these cases, the Review Board did not find probable cause that sexual abuse of a minor had occurred. In 9 of these 32 cases, the priest is restricted from ministry for other reasons, including mental illness or substance abuse.

II. D Overview: Going Forward

Thus, greatly helped by the largely psycho-social and civil recommendations of the Commission for the Protection of Children in October, 2002, the Archdiocese has made a solid beginning in addressing the tragic revelations of 2002 in four areas of activity: 1) safe environment education in schools, 2) safe environment education in parishes, 3) pastoral outreach and support, and 4) the review of cases by the Review Board. Simply by trying to implement the policies and procedures of 2003 across the board, the Archdiocese of Boston has in many ways launched a major cultural and organizational change whose energy must be sustained and supported.