



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

October 2, 2017

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. [REDACTED]
c/o Mitchell Garabedian Law Office
100 State St. #6
Boston, MA 02109

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

As Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Rockville Centre, I understand the sensitivities of people who have survived abuse. With that in mind, I am writing to advise you of the Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program the Diocese of Rockville Centre (“DRVC”) will be initiating in the upcoming weeks (the “DRVC IRCP”). This letter will provide you, in advance, with information you may find helpful when the program is announced.

As you may recall, in October 2016, the New York Archdiocese implemented its IRCP; a two-phase program for survivors of clergy sexual abuse. This past June, the Brooklyn Diocese made its IRCP available. The DRVC is now preparing to offer, in October 2017, the DRVC IRCP to survivors of sexual abuse by DRVC clergy. As the DRVC prepares for the initial phase of the DRVC IRCP, I want to advise you of some details of this program in order to provide you with certain important information and in the hope of allaying any concerns you may have.

Later in October, shortly after the DRVC announces the program, you will receive information in the mail, including instructions for submitting a claim, from the administrators of the program: Mr. Kenneth Feinberg and Ms. Camille Biros. This information will be sent to you because at some time in the past a report of inappropriate sexual conduct by a member of the DRVC clergy was made to the DRVC and your name was associated with this report. Please be assured that your participation in this program is completely voluntary and, subject only to the special circumstances that will be clearly outlined in the DRVC IRCP Protocol (such as any required reporting to the appropriate District Attorneys’ offices), will be kept strictly confidential. All information any claimant provides on the claim form will be mailed directly by the claimant to Mr. Feinberg’s office.

The nature of the DRVC IRCP is that the program is administered independent of the DRVC, with compensation eligibility and awards being determined by the administrators of the program. The DRVC is involved only to the extent of providing the administrators with documentation necessary for them to consider submitted claims.

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As noted, Mr. Feinberg and Ms. Biros are the administrators of this program. Mr. Feinberg is deeply experienced and highly respected in the field of compensation programs, having administered, among other programs, the World Trade Center Compensation Program, the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Program, and charitable funds established after tragedies such as the Boston Marathon.

I want to take this opportunity to assure you that any information you share will be handled in strict adherence to the DRVC IRCP Protocol and treated with complete respect.

While the DRVC IRCP will offer monetary compensation as determined by program administrators, and while no amount of monetary compensation could ever erase or undo the unimaginable harm suffered by victims of child abuse, it is the sincere hope of the DRVC that those who have been alienated and distanced from the Church as a result of any abuse committed by DRVC clergy will be empowered to begin the journey toward reconciliation with us.

In the interim, know that I am available to assist with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary F. McMahan". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Mary F. McMahan, LCSW
Director