
Appendix I. Policies of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis in Regard to Intervention and Treatment of a Priest Accused of Sexual Abuse with a Minor or Others at Risk

When considering sexual abuse of a minor or others at risk by a priest, the Archdiocese maintains a primary concern for the victim's safety and well-being. Recognizing that the sexual abuse of minors and others at risk can be a disease, and that it has tragic consequences for victims as well as abusers, the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis will exercise the following steps in dealing with a priest accused of the sexual abuse of a minor or a person at risk.

1. When a priest has been accused of sexually abusive behavior toward a minor, an appropriate [Moderator of the Curia/Vicar General, Chancellor, Vicar Bishop] Archdiocesan official will investigate the facts of the case.
2. The Archbishop will be informed about all alleged cases, and in the instance of a credible charge he will:
 - A. Ensure that the victims receive immediate and on-going pastoral care.
 - B. Inform the accused priest of the investigation and temporarily relieve him of his duties; this to protect the minors or others at risk who are involved.
 - C. Ensure that the appropriate police or child protection agency is contacted according to law and direct church authorities to cooperate in the investigation and prosecution of the case.
3. If the civilian and church investigation confirms the accusation, the Archdiocese will ensure that the best diagnostic evaluation and treatment resources are made available for the priest.
4. After a priest has cooperatively completed initial treatment, and if the recommendation following that treatment is positive, the priest will enter a four-year supervised aftercare program which will:
 - A. Have the Archbishop appoint a director/supervisor who will work with the priest in regular accountability meetings.
 - B. Establish a supervised transitional living arrangement based on recommendations from the treatment resource.
 - C. Design a vocational rehabilitation program of up to four years in non-parish ministry. During this time the priest will participate in on-going treatment, and he will not have a permanent pastoral assignment.
 - D. Require that the priest participate in a one-week annual evaluation and therapeutic workshop over this four-year period.
 - E. Have all elements of the aftercare program under specific contract between the priest and the Archdiocese. Failure to successfully cooperate with this contract will result in the priest's removal from active ministry.
5. Long-term assignment and on-going treatment:

Four to five years following diagnosis, evaluation and successful aftercare, the individual priest will be eligible for consideration of a permanent contractual assignment, excluding ministry to minors and others at risk. He will be expected to participate in a regular support group and will report to a supervisor assigned by the Archbishop.

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