DIOCESE OF SUPERIOR - Abusive Clergy List - publication standard

Clergy names will be published on a list if substantiated claims have been made against them of sexually abusing a minor while they were an ordained member of the clergy.

A "substantiated allegation" is a claim for which sufficient evidence exists to establish reasonable cause to believe that the alleged abuse occurred. Such reasonable cause may include, but not be limited to, evaluation of one or more of the following criteria:

- Whether the claim is natural, reasonable, plausible and probable;
- The certainty of the accuser that the abuse took place;
- The accuracy and level of detail(s) of the witness and the allegation;
- Whether that allegation is internally, chronologically consistent regarding the time and place and date;
- Whether the claim is corroborated consistently with other evidence, witnesses, or other sources;
- Whether any physical evidence exists;
- Whether similar allegations or claims have been previously made;
- Whether the claim is acknowledged/admitted by the accused;
- Whether the accused has been involved in civil lawsuits where liability has been determined or whether the accused has been prosecuted and found guilty by a competent court of law;
- Whether the accused has been laicized for sexual abuse of a minor;
- Whether an investigation into claims has been conducted at the discretion of the Bishop, and the Bishop is satisfied that the abuse alleged is likely to have occurred;

Application of Standard

This standard for name publication will be applied for the purposes of transparency and protection of the public. This publication is meant to encourage victims to report abuse so that the Diocese may offer counseling or other assistance that may be available to promote healing, and also to assist with the purpose of protecting the public from future offenses.

The standard shall be applied to clergy, living or deceased, incardinated in the Diocese or other priests assigned within the Diocese.