

# 2005 Annual Report

*Findings and Recommendations*

MARCH 2006

Report on the  
Implementation of the

# Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People

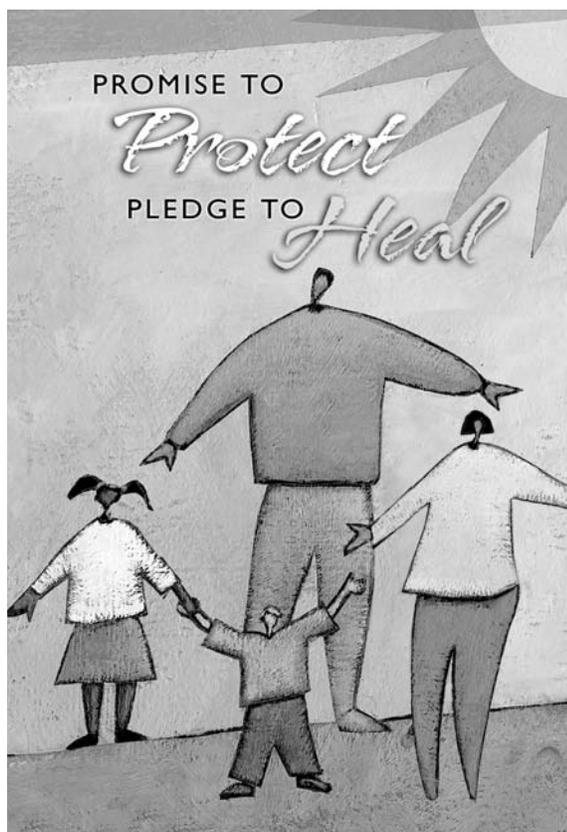
OFFICE OF CHILD AND  
YOUTH PROTECTION

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NATIONAL REVIEW  
BOARD

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UNITED STATES  
CONFERENCE OF  
CATHOLIC BISHOPS



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United States Conference of Catholic Bishops  
*Washington, D.C.*

The 2005 *Annual Report on the Implementation of the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People"* was prepared by the Office of Child and Youth Protection for the National Review Board and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). It was reviewed by the USCCB President, Bishop William S. Skylstad, and has been authorized for publication by the undersigned.

Msgr. David J. Malloy, STD  
General Secretary  
USCCB

The findings and recommendations in this 2005 *Annual Report on the Implementation of the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People"* are based on the information provided by the dioceses and eparchies.

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# Preface

Most Reverend William S. Skylstad  
President, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

During these last years of crisis, we bishops have had to face an extraordinary moment in terms of the public image of the Church. It was quite an experience, in the course of relatively few weeks in early 2002, to see confidence in the bishops and their public reputation plunge. Most of the cases which had brought on the uproar involved priests who were out of ministry, some of whom had served or were serving time in jail or who were about to do so. However, it was clear that the image being projected was of a Church in which children were even now imminently in danger.

My reflection though is not on the media, but on the spiritual effects of the crisis on the bishops and what a tremendous opportunity that the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* has given us. The crisis reminded us how tenuous such things as reputation and public respect are. The public outcry caused us to fall back on fundamental spiritual resources to face a situation of public condemnation rather than one of public respect. It has been a lesson in the meaning of the words of St. Paul: "But may I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world" (Gal 6:14). The past years have been a humbling experience: to be cast in the glare of publicity as men who failed in our responsibility. This experience has reminded us that we, who are given a position of authority in the community, are not to be like the great ones among the gentiles, lording it over others and making our authority and influence felt. We are to consider ourselves the least of our brothers and sisters, and the servants of all.

This is the third Annual Report which has been published by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on how we bishops are doing regarding the implementation of the Articles in the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. The bishops voted in June 2005 to extend the Charter for a period of five years, which emphasizes our commitment to the Church and faith community for the protection of children and for the healing of those harmed by individuals acting in the name of the Church. Also in June 2005 the bishops voted to make the Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse a standing Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People. This Committee, along with the National Review Board and the Office of Child and Youth Protection, compose a tremendous resource as well as an accountability force. *Charter* compliance is monitored by all three. Through this monitoring, and especially evidenced by the audit of the *Charter*, it is clear that the Church is moving forward and that we will continue to move forward.

The clergy abuse crisis has challenged us in many ways, one of which called for a spiritual assessment of who we are as shepherds of the Church. The past years since Dallas have offered the Church an incredible opportunity, and I truly believe that the *Charter* has been a gift to help us as a Church to refocus on who we are spiritually and on the holiness of the Church.

The commitment of the bishops in Dallas remains strong, as reflected in the audit results. Those strong results will not, however, be cause to rest. We will continue in our efforts to protect all children in our care and to reach out to those who have been harmed. My prayer is that I and my brother bishops always remember that we are humble servants of the Lord, and that God's grace and wisdom continue to guide us in our efforts in the protection of children and healing of those in pain from abuse.



## *National Review Board for the Protection of Children and Young People*

3211 FOURTH STREET NE • WASHINGTON DC 20017-1194

March 30, 2006

Most Revered William S. Skylstad, President  
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Your Excellency:

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops established the National Review Board during their meeting in June of 2002. The functions of the National Review Board are to

- Review the *Annual Report* of the Office of Child and Youth Protection on the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* in each diocese/eparchy and any recommendations that emerge from it;
- Offer its own assessment regarding the *Annual Report's* approval and publication to the Conference President;
- Advise the Conference President on future members;
- Provide advice to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops as it collaborates with the Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People on matters of child and youth protection, specifically on policies and best practices;
- Review the work of the Office of Child and Youth Protection, make recommendations to the Director, and assist the Director in the development of resources for dioceses/eparchies;
- Oversee the completion of the Study of the Causes and Context of the recent crisis and offer its assessment of the data gathered and preliminary results to the Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People as the Study moves forward.

As specified by Article 10 of the Charter, the National Review Board for the Protection of Children, appointed by the President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, has reviewed the 2005 *Annual Report on the Implementation of the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People"* ("Annual Report") prepared by the Office of Child and Youth Protection and recommends its publication. This Annual Report reflects the progress made in implementing and maintaining the standards of the *Charter* and is based on an annual audit process.

In the following Report, each Article is discussed individually, and it is clear to the Board that since 2002, the Church has made significant strides toward the implementation of the structures and policies of the *Charter* nationwide. In just three years, dioceses/eparchies have worked extremely hard to address the issue of clergy sexual abuse. This conclusion is strongly supported by the audit results. It

disheartens the Board, however, that the bishop of the Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska, and the eparch of the Eparchy of Newton for Melkite Catholics in Newton, Massachusetts, have refused to participate in the audit process, and the Board calls for strong fraternal correction in these refusals. Though their governance authority is fully understood by the Board, nonetheless, these refusals go against all of the efforts of the Church to be open and transparent in addressing child protection and reaching out to victims to help with their healing.

With appropriate policies and structures in place, the Board and the Conference must now turn their attention to the effectiveness of these implementations. It is time for the audit process to begin to focus on the quality of these programs. Only with this additional assurance can the Board and the Conference continue to work toward the time when there is every effective safeguard in place. To accomplish this goal, the Board is calling for a review of the audit process during the next six-month period.

The Board would also like to commend, at this time, the many men and women of integrity within the Church who are often forgotten amidst this crisis. The Catholic Church is a solid institution, but not perfect, as humanity is not perfect. However, much good has been done by the Church in addressing the clergy sexual abuse crisis due to the efforts of the members of the Church.

The Board will continue to be a strong advocate for children and victims. It is committed to helping the Church by overseeing the Causes and Context study, by providing counsel to the body of bishops and encouraging them to do all that can be done to protect children, by helping heal the wounds caused by members of the Church, and by establishing permanent policies and procedures that lay a foundation for a future in which all within and outside the Church can have confidence.

Sincerely,



Dr. Patricia O'Donnell Ewers  
Chair



## Office of Child and Youth Protection

3211 FOURTH STREET NE • WASHINGTON DC 20017-1194

Teresa M. Kettelkamp    March 30, 2006  
*Executive Director*

Most Reverend William S. Skylstad, President  
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Dr. Patricia O'Donnell Ewers, Chair  
National Review Board for the Protection of Children and Young People

Your Excellency and Chair Ewers,

In June 2002 the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* was adopted by the Catholic bishops and eparchs of the United States. In December 2002 the Office for the Protection of Children and Young People (OCYP) was established and its first executive director appointed. In January 2004 the results of the first compliance audit of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* were made public. The 2005 audits came two and a half years after the June 2002 vote on the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* in Dallas. For many that seems like decades ago, and for others, it was just the other day. What cannot be disputed is the fact that so very much has been accomplished in that short period of time.

This report of the third compliance audit supports the assertion that much has been accomplished in the past three years. This annual report specifically demonstrates that

- Outreach programs for victims/survivors and their families are in place in 191 dioceses/eparchies.
- Bishops/eparchs or their representatives are meeting with the victims/survivors in 191 dioceses/eparchies.
- Mechanisms are in place to promptly respond where there is reason to believe that sexual abuse of a minor has occurred.
- Procedures and policies are in place for 191 dioceses/eparchies to report allegations of sexual abuse of a person who is a minor to public authorities and for dioceses/eparchies to cooperate with public authorities about reporting in cases wherein the person is no longer a minor.

- Of the children entrusted to the care of the Church, 94.8% have participated in safe environment programs. This is an increase from 51% from the 2004 audit. Further breakdowns are in Chapter 3.
- Background investigations have been conducted 98.6% of the required populations. Further breakdowns are also in Chapter 3.

This has been all accomplished in three years.

I also want to acknowledge those dioceses/eparchies that have been devastated by the hurricanes that ravaged parts of Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. Not once did anyone from one diocese/eparchy voice a word of complaint or concern to this office for conducting their audit. The OCYP and the Gavin Group, Inc., were the ones who took the initiative and offered some flexibility with regard to reporting numbers during such a most tragic and fluid time. Our prayers should persevere for these dioceses/eparchies as they continue to work on their recovery.

The 2005 audit reflects remarkable compliance with the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, but we must not forget the 997 new victims who came forward in 2005, with allegations involving 753 priests and 9 deacons, or the numerous court cases still pending. Much has been done, but there is still much to do.

The 2005 audit is just a snapshot of time within the Church in the United States and its dioceses/eparchies. The initial compliance audits had attempted to verify that the structures were in place to permit the dioceses/eparchies to implement and comply with the 17 Articles of the *Charter*. Three audit cycles have verified that structures and processes have been developed and are in place in 191 of the 195 dioceses/eparchies in this country. It is now time to shift to examining effectiveness. Are the structures and processes accomplishing what they are intended to achieve? To answer this is a more complex and challenging task. However, to address this issue is critical to fully assessing the Church's pastoral outreach, the accountability measures, and the prevention steps that the *Charter* requires.

The audit also does not measure healing or restored trust. Restored trust and healing will come with time, and only if the Church continues to remain vigilant in its compliance with the *Charter*, fully embracing the spirit and letter of each Article. My pledge is to help accomplish this in any way possible.

Sincerely,



Teresa M. Kettelkamp  
Executive Director



March 30, 2006

Most Reverend William S. Skylstad, President  
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Ms. Patricia Ewers, Chair  
National Review Board for the Protection of Children and Young People

Your Excellency and Chair,

The Gavin Group, Inc. was again selected by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and the Office of Child and Youth Protection (OCYP) to conduct the 2005 Audit of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. This year as in the past two years, each diocese and eparchy was requested to participate in the process. The Diocese of Lincoln and the Eparchy of Newton for Melkites declined to participate in the 2005 Audit. Based on the devastation caused by hurricanes on the Gulf Coast, the Archdiocese of New Orleans and the Diocese of Beaumont were not audited this year.

Because of some difficulties with the 2004 audit instrument, radical changes were made and the 2005 audit instrument was developed to be more user-friendly for dioceses and eparchies to execute and return. All audit material was prepared, executed and returned electronically. Based on findings from 2004, three types of audits were conducted in 2005. Self Audits were conducted in all those dioceses and eparchies that were in full compliance in 2004. Focused Audits were conducted in instances where required actions were issued and remedied by the diocese or eparchy and in instances where a diocese or eparchy had not totally completed implementation of Articles 12 or 13. A Full Audit was conducted in those dioceses and eparchies that remained non-compliant after 2004 and also in those dioceses and eparchies that requested a Full Audit.

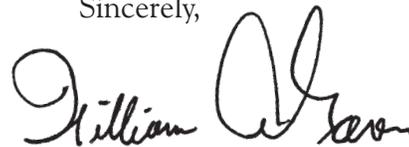
Audit workshops were conducted for all of the dioceses and eparchies and their personnel to familiarize them with the new audit process and audit instrument. A three day training session was also conducted for all of the auditors to ensure continuity of the understanding of the audit mission, consistency of findings based on similar facts, and the necessity of producing documents with accurate information based on facts furnished by the dioceses and eparchies.

The audit process commenced on July 25, 2005, and ended December 31, 2005. At that time 169 of the 191 dioceses and eparchies (88.5%) were in full compliance with the *Charter*. As in the past, no personnel files were reviewed and the auditors had to rely on the truthfulness and integrity of those furnishing the information to reach conclusions and provide statistical data for the audit.

Accolades are genuinely deserved this year for the bishops and eparchs who demonstrated their commitment to the *Charter* as found by the 2005 audits. The progress they have made this year is exceptional. As an example, this audit demonstrated that 98.6% of all individuals requiring backgrounds have had them completed. Additionally, 94.8% of all individuals requiring safe environment training have completed it. Perhaps the most impressive statistic from the entire audit is the number of children who have received safe environment training as promised by the bishops and eparchs in the *Charter*. There were 5,760,333 children (94.8%) trained during the 2005 audit period as compared to 3,139,441 children (51.1%) trained during the 2004 audit period.

I wish to express the appreciation of The Gavin Group, Inc. to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Office of Child and Youth Protection, the National Review Board, and in particular to the Bishops and Eparchs of the United States for all of the outstanding and often difficult work they have done to ensure the safety of our children. Their accomplishments are much more impressive than words can describe. I am convinced that their demonstrated efforts will continue along the path to restore confidence in our Church and enhance the healing process of all those who have been victimized.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William A. Gavin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "W".

William A. Gavin



## Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY • <http://cara.georgetown.edu>

2300 WISCONSIN AVENUE, NW • SUITE 400 • WASHINGTON, DC 20007

March 30, 2006

Most Reverend William S. Skylstad, President  
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops  
3211 Fourth Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20017

Dear Bishop Skylstad:

In November 2004, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops commissioned the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University to design and conduct an annual survey of all dioceses and eparchies whose bishops and eparchs are members of the USCCB. The purpose of this survey is to collect information on new allegations of sexual abuse of minors and the clergy against whom these allegations were made. The survey also gathers information on the amount of money dioceses and eparchies have expended as a result of allegations as well as the amount they have paid for child protection efforts. The national level aggregate results from this survey for each calendar year will be reported in the *Annual Report of the Implementation of the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People."*

The questionnaire for the 2005 *Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs* was designed by CARA in consultation with the Office of Child and Youth Protection and was only slightly different from the version used for 2004 Annual Survey. As in 2004, CARA prepared an online version of the survey and provided bishops and eparchs with information about the process for completing it for their diocese or eparchy. In collaboration with the Conference of Major Superiors of Men, major superiors of clerical and mixed religious institutes were also invited to complete a similar survey for their congregations or provinces.

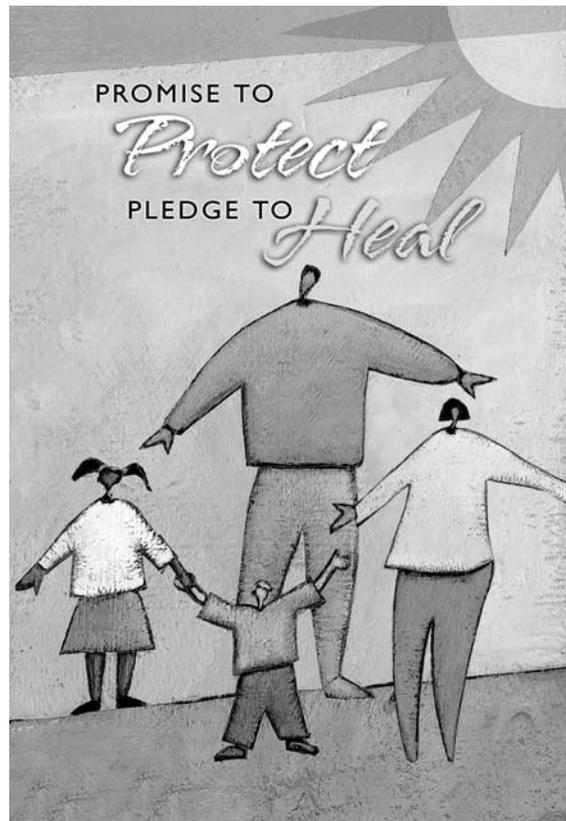
Data collection for 2005 took place between December 2005 and February 2006. As of February 24, 2006, CARA received responses from 183 dioceses and eparchies and 148 religious institutes, for response rates of 94 percent and 67 percent, respectively. CARA then prepared the national level summary tables and graphs of the findings for 2005, with comparisons between 2004 and 2005, that are presented in this Annual Report.

We are grateful for the cooperation of the bishops, eparchs, major superiors, and their representatives in completing the survey for 2005.

Sincerely,

Mary E. Bendyna, RSM  
Executive Director

# Section I



## CHAPTER ONE

# Introduction

The *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* stipulates that the Office of Child and Youth Protection will produce an annual report noting progress in implementing this *Charter*. The *Charter* further stipulates that this public report will be based on an annual audit and that it will include the names of those dioceses/eparchies that are not compliant with the provisions and expectations set forth in the *Charter*. Following are summary findings of the 2005 compliance audits with specific comments on each on the 17 Articles of the *Charter*.

### Summary of Compliance Audit Results

Of the 195 dioceses/eparchies, 191 took part in the 2005 compliance audits. The bishop of the Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska, and the eparch of the Eparchy of Newton for Melkite Catholics in Newton, Massachusetts, refused to participate. The Archdiocese of New Orleans and the Diocese of Beaumont were excused due to the damage suffered by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, respectively.

The 2005 audit ended on December 31, 2005. As of December 31, 2005, 169 or 88.5% of the participating dioceses/eparchies audited in 2005 were found to be in full compliance with the *Charter*. At the same date, 22 or 11.5% were not in full compliance with the requirements of the *Charter*.

Of those 22 dioceses not found to be fully compliant, 21 were found to be non-compliant with Article 12 (safe environment training), and 5 dioceses were not in compliance with Article 13 (background checks). One diocese/eparchy was found to be non-compliant with Articles 1 (outreach and reconciliation), 2 (response and reporting), and 7 (communications).

The following dioceses/eparchies were found to be non-compliant with Article 12 on December 31, 2005:

Apostolic Exarchate for Armenian Catholics  
Diocese of Baker  
Archdiocese of Boston  
Diocese of Burlington\*\*  
Archdiocese of Cincinnati  
Archdiocese of Detroit  
Diocese of Fargo  
Diocese of Helena  
Diocese of Kansas City/St. Joseph  
Diocese of Lubbock\*\*  
Diocese of Manchester  
Diocese of Orange\*  
Diocese of Portland, Maine\*\*  
Diocese of Salina  
Diocese of San Bernardino  
Diocese of San Diego  
Diocese of Springfield in Illinois\*  
Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis  
Eparchy of Our Lady of Newark for Syrians\*  
Diocese of Wheeling/Charleston\*  
Eparchy of St. Nicholas of Chicago for Ukrainians\*

\* Completed compliance requirements by date of Annual Report publication.

\*\* Will complete compliance requirements by June 30, 2006.

The following dioceses/eparchies were found to be non-compliant with Article 13 on December 31, 2005:

Apostolic Exarchate for Armenian Catholics  
Diocese of Burlington  
Eparchy of Van Nuys for Byzantines\*  
Diocese of Portland, Maine  
Diocese of Salina

\* Completed compliance requirements by date of Annual Report publication.

The Apostolic Exarchate for Armenian Catholics is also non-compliant with Articles 1, 2, and 7.

### ***Comparison to 2004 Summary Results***

Compared with the results of the 2004 compliance audits, the number of dioceses non-compliant with Article 12 has increased from 7 to 21. This change reflects a stricter interpretation of the Article for the 2005 audits. During the 2004 audit period, dioceses/eparchies were deemed compliant with Article 12 if training programs had been *selected* and *scheduled* but not fully implemented.<sup>1</sup> To be compliant in 2005, dioceses/eparchies had to complete the scheduled training of all groups by December 31, 2005.

The same number of dioceses/eparchies were found to be non-compliant with Article 13 in 2004 and 2005. While the number of dioceses/eparchies not yet in full compliance with Article 13 is unchanged, the percentage of those for whom background checks have been completed has increased significantly. At the end of the 2005 audit period, 99% of the priests, deacons, educators, employees, and volunteers underwent the required background checks. At the end of the 2004 audit period, only 82.5% of the required background checks had been completed.

The summary sections for each Article in Chapter 3 of this Report will address these changes in greater detail.

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<sup>1</sup> 2004 *Annual Report on the Implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* (Washington, DC: USCCB, 2005), 15.

## CHAPTER TWO

# Compliance Audit Process

Article 8 of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* establishes the audit process as follows:

To assist in the consistent application of these principles and to provide a vehicle of accountability and assistance to dioceses/eparchies in this matter, we authorize the establishment of an Office of Child and Youth Protection at our national headquarters. The tasks of this Office will include (1) assisting individual dioceses/eparchies in the implementation of “safe environment” programs . . . , (2) assisting provinces and regions in the development of appropriate mechanisms to audit adherence to policies, and (3) producing an annual public report on the progress made in implementing the standards in this *Charter*. This public report shall include the names of those dioceses/eparchies which, in the judgment of this Office, are not in compliance with the provisions and expectations of this *Charter*.

The following is a summary of the audit process, methodology for the audits, and limitations/problems that were encountered by the auditors. Also offered are recommendations that will be considered by the Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People, the National Review Board, and the Office of Child and Youth Protection in preparing future audits.

### COMPLIANCE AUDIT PROCESS

As in 2003 and 2004, the 2005 compliance audit process was conducted by the Gavin Group, Inc., of Boston, Massachusetts (“Gavin Group”). A standard instrument was used to gather data from all participating dioceses and eparchies. Two additional audit methodologies were introduced during the 2005 audit period: self-reporting audits and focused audits. These were in addition to the full audits. During this audit period, 191 dioceses/eparchies were audited. The Dio-

cese of Lincoln and the Eparchy for Melkite Catholics in Newton refused to participate in the 2005 audit. The Archdiocese of New Orleans and the Diocese of Beaumont were excused due to the damage suffered by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, respectively.

### Methodology

#### *Types of Audits*

Both the 2003 and 2004 audits consisted of one or more auditors spending three to five days onsite in each diocese/eparchy, reviewing documents and conducting interviews with diocesan/eparchial personnel, review board members, law enforcement officials, parish personnel, some victims/survivors, and some accused persons.

At the direction of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and the Office of Child and Youth Protection (OCYP), three types of audits were conducted in 2005: self-reporting audits, focused audits, and full audits, which are explained below.

*Self-Reporting Audits.* Those dioceses/eparchies determined to have been fully compliant in all aspects of the *Charter* during the 2004 audit were allowed to complete a self-reporting audit, developed by the Gavin Group, consisting of a 13-page Audit Instrument. This instrument contained questions on each applicable Article of the *Charter* and four charts asking for specific statistical data on victims who had come forward since the last audit (Articles 1 and 4) and on the clerics accused by those victims (Article 5). Also requested were the numbers of relevant groups of individuals cited by the *Charter* as requiring safe environment training (Article 12) and/or background evaluations (Article 13). The documents were submitted electronically to an auditor, who reviewed them for completeness and consistency with prior audit materials. The auditor clarified any omissions or inconsistencies and resolved them by

telephone and/or e-mail. The dioceses/eparchies were advised that the auditor would verify a random selection of responses through telephone contact with the responsible diocesan/eparchial employee (as designated on the Audit Instrument), and that the auditor could require that supporting documentation be forwarded to the auditor for review. Auditors also conducted telephone interviews with parish priests/personnel to determine availability and gain understanding of relevant process/materials at the parish level. While the Gavin Group reserved the right to schedule and conduct a focused onsite audit if any issues were not resolved satisfactorily, only one was necessary.

There were 104 self-reporting audits. The Diocese of Beaumont was in this category but was not audited, for reasons already stated.

*Focused Audits.* Those dioceses/eparchies that received Required Actions during the 2004 compliance audit and those that had not begun to implement the provisions of Article 12 (safe environment programs) and/or Article 13 (background evaluations) received a focused onsite audit, supplemented by the completion of the self-reporting Audit Instrument. Based on an agreement with the standing Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People (formerly the Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse), those dioceses/eparchies that had selected and scheduled safe environment programs for children by the end of the 2004 audit, but that had not significantly implemented that training, also received onsite focused audits. Approximately two weeks before the scheduled onsite visit, the completed audit documents (as described under "Self-Reporting Audits," above) were submitted electronically to an auditor, who reviewed them for completeness and consistency with prior audit materials. Any omissions or inconsistencies identified during that review were brought to the attention of the diocese/eparchy and either were resolved by telephone and/or e-mail prior to, or were scheduled for discussion during, the onsite visit. While the purpose of the onsite visit by the auditor was to review those areas of deficiency from the 2004 audit, the dioceses/eparchies were advised that the auditor would verify a random selection of responses through telephone contact with the

responsible diocesan/eparchial employee (as designated on the Audit Instrument) prior to or during the onsite visit. The diocese/eparchy was also advised that the auditor could require that supporting documentation be forwarded for review to the auditor, who would conduct interviews, in person and/or by telephone, with parish priests/personnel to determine availability and gain understanding of relevant process/materials at the parish level.

There were 63 Focused Audits. The Archdiocese of New Orleans was in this category, but it was not audited, for reasons already stated.

*Full Audit.* A full onsite audit was afforded to (1) those dioceses/eparchies found to have been non-compliant with the provisions of the *Charter* as of December 31, 2004, (2) any diocese/eparchy not audited in 2004, and (3) those dioceses/eparchies requesting a full audit. Approximately two weeks before the scheduled onsite visit, the completed audit documents (as described under "Self-Reporting Audits," above) were submitted electronically to the auditor(s), who reviewed them for completeness and consistency with prior audit materials. Any omissions or inconsistencies identified during that review were brought to the attention of the diocese/eparchy and either were resolved by telephone and/or e-mail prior to the onsite visit, or were scheduled for discussion during the onsite visit. During the onsite visit, the auditors verified the responses through telephone contact or personal interviews with the responsible diocesan/eparchial employee (as designated on the Audit Instrument) prior to or during the onsite visit, reviewed supporting documentation furnished by the diocese/eparchy, and conducted interviews, in person and/or by telephone, with parish priests/personnel to determine availability and gain understanding of relevant process/materials at the parish level.

Of 26 full onsite audits scheduled, 24 were conducted. Of these, 19 full onsite audits were requested. Another 7 were mandated, and 5 of these were conducted. The Diocese of Lincoln and the Eparchy for Melkite Catholics in Newton refused to participate in the 2005 audit.

### **Workshops**

In preparation for the 2005 audits, ten workshops were held across the country during March, April, May, and June. At each workshop, the draft audit documents were discussed item by item, and the attendees were asked for their input. Based on comments and suggestions from bishops and other personnel at these workshops, clarifications and modifications were made to the format, wording, and instructions on the audit documents. These workshops were found to be very helpful for all the attendees. Of the 195 dioceses/eparchies, 128 (two thirds) had personnel who participated in these workshops.

### **Format**

The 2004 Audit Instrument was a 33-page document, which was described by many attending the workshops as cumbersome, repetitive, and beyond the scope of the *Charter*. The 2005 audit documents were purposefully designed to be more user-friendly, to allow for consistency of responses by dioceses/eparchies, and to enable a more efficient review by the Gavin Group personnel. Drafts of the audit documents were presented at the preparatory workshops, where dioceses were given the opportunity for input. The documents were also tested by select dioceses prior to finalization. Unlike in 2004, the 2005 audit documents and detailed instructions furnished to the auditors and dioceses/eparchies from June 28 to July 8, 2005, were final products, and no changes were made after they were sent out.

### **Training**

As in prior years, the Gavin Group utilized men and women experienced in management, investigations, and compliance to conduct the compliance audits. Auditor training was held in Boston over a three-day period in June. All auditors assigned to the 2005 audits were in attendance for the full session. The audit process and documents were discussed in detail, including parameters of what was to be considered compliant and non-compliant for each question, suggestions for identifying and informally resolving issues, and instructions on how to handle matters that could not be resolved informally. Guest speakers included representatives from the OCYP, who provided an overall perspective of the audit process; a vice chancellor who spoke

on the audit process from the diocesan perspective; a representative from the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA), who discussed the Center's data collection process; a panel from the USCCB discussing priestly life, legal issues, and communications; and a canon lawyer who spoke on canonical language and requirements for Article 5.

## **Limitations/Problems Encountered**

### **Completeness/Accuracy**

All three types of audits relied on the completeness and accuracy of the information provided by the diocese/eparchy. As in prior audits, when the auditor worked onsite for the focused and full audits, the auditors did not review personnel files or other confidential materials. The self-reporting audits relied solely on the information provided by the diocese/eparchy, in the form of both statistical and supplemental explanatory information.

### **Dates of Audit Periods**

The audit periods in 2004 and 2005 were defined as "the first day of the last audit to the first day of the current audit," and so the actual audit periods varied from diocese/eparchy to diocese/eparchy.

### **Definitions**

During the 2003 and 2004 audits, questions were raised concerning the definitions of the groups outlined in Articles 12 and 13. Because the *Charter* does not contain clear definitions, staff of the OCYP and the Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse who had reviewed the draft audit documents and participated in the various preparatory workshops then approved the definitions given to the Gavin Group. These definitions follow.

*Children and Youth.* Includes all students (through high school) enrolled in diocesan/eparchial schools or religious education classes.

*Priests/Deacons.* Includes any religious order or diocesan priest/deacon in active or supply ministry (including "retired" priests and/or deacons who continue to

celebrate the occasional Mass, wedding, Baptism, etc.), since these activities put them in a position to be around children.

*Educators.* Includes salaried teachers in diocesan/eparchial and parish schools.

*Diocesan/Eparchial Employees.* Includes salaried persons (other than priests/deacons or teachers) who are employed by and work directly for the diocese/eparchy, such as central office, chancery, pastoral center personnel, etc.

*Parochial/Parish Employees.* Includes salaried persons (other than priests/deacons or teachers) who are employed by and work directly for parishes, such as parish ministers, school support staff, rectory personnel, etc.

*Volunteers/Others.* Includes non-salaried persons who assist the diocese/eparchy, such as catechists, youth ministers, coaches, etc.

*Candidates for Ordination.* Includes seminarians, candidates for the seminary, and candidates for the diaconate who are over the age of 18.

### **Format**

Several dioceses/eparchies actually changed the format of the audit documents, including utilizing the 2004 format for the Audit Instrument and removing the instructions and definitions on Charts C and D of that Instrument. This required additional time on the part of the dioceses/eparchies and auditors to put the materials back into the proper format and to clarify any discrepancies.

### **Standard for Compliance on Article 12 (Safe Environment Training)**

For the 2004 audit, the standard used to determine compliance was that a safe environment program had to have been selected and scheduled for implementation. If that was not done, the diocese/eparchy received a Required Action, which may or may not have been remedied through submission of information to the Gavin Group. The standard for 2005 specified that the

programs must have been implemented and that the individuals in the specified groups must have been trained. When the 2005 audits were conducted, several dioceses had not yet selected a training program, much less fully implemented one. Although many dioceses/eparchies proffered explanations as to why they had not used the program identified as the one they had selected in 2004 or cited problems in implementing it, the position of the Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People and of the OCYP was that, three years after the adoption of the *Charter*, having groups of specified persons who had not received safe environment training, mostly children and youth, was not acceptable.

### **Statistics**

While the dioceses/eparchies were instructed to identify a “snapshot in time” and to use the statistics available on that date for Charts C (Article 12, safe environment training) and D (Article 13, background evaluations), this instruction caused significant confusion.

### **Timeliness**

The full and focused audits had specific timeframes based on the date of the audit as selected by the diocese/eparchy itself. The self-reporting audits had no such timeframe. The Gavin Group originally determined that a deadline of 30 days from initial receipt of the audit documents was realistic and sufficient for dioceses/eparchies to respond, given the simplicity of the revamped audit documents, the extensive information gathered during the 2004 audits, and the fact that self-reporting audits were available only to those dioceses/eparchies that had already been found in full compliance with the *Charter*. During the early workshops, several bishops asked for more time, so the deadline was extended to 45 days for responding, with exceptions made on a case-by-case basis where there were extenuating circumstances. The 45-day deadline (give or take a week to allow for receipt) made the anticipated submission date for self-reporting audits on or around the end of August. The auditors submitted the documents for final review within three to five days of the resolution of outstanding issues. Although 73% of the 104 self-reporting audits (Beaumont’s was suspended due to the impact of Hurricane Rita) were sub-

mitted within three months of the receipt of the materials by the diocese/eparchy, 27% took far longer than the original 45-day deadline.

### *Responsiveness*

For the self-reporting audits, there was an absence of a sense of urgency because auditors were not on site. A number of dioceses/eparchies requested, and were granted, one or more extensions of the 45-day deadline for a variety of reasons. However, those extensions resulted in less time for those dioceses/eparchies to remedy identified deficiencies before the end of the reporting period, which was December 31, 2005. And in some cases, auditors' follow-up phone calls and e-mails went unanswered until the diocese/eparchy was contacted by the Gavin Group.

### *Misunderstandings*

There seemed to be a misunderstanding about what auditors could/would review on site for the focused audits. The initial purpose was to review closely the areas of deficiencies found in the 2004 audits. The auditors were also, however, authorized/instructed to

look at other areas where discrepancies with prior audit information were found. They were then to identify and clarify areas where the 2005 responses were unclear and to clarify those responses with a person being interviewed. Some dioceses felt that the questions asked onsite should have been solely limited to the 2004 deficiencies. It should be noted that the focused audits were not handled differently from the self-reporting audits, where dioceses/eparchies were asked to provide the name and contact numbers for the individual(s) responsible for each question on the audit documents and were advised that those persons would be contacted for verifications.

### *Workshops*

Those dioceses/eparchies that did not send any representatives to the workshops had more difficulty completing the audit documents than those whose representatives did attend. However, many of those in attendance at the workshops were not the persons actually responsible for collecting the information and completing the documents for submission to the Gavin Group, which may explain the problems of incomplete and incorrectly filled out forms.

## CHAPTER THREE

# Findings

### **To Promote Healing and Reconciliation with Victims/Survivors of Sexual Abuse of Minors**

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**ARTICLE 1.** Dioceses/eparchies will reach out to victims/survivors and their families and demonstrate a sincere commitment to their spiritual and emotional well-being. The first obligation of the Church with regard to the victims is for healing and reconciliation. Where such outreach is not already in place and operative, each diocese/eparchy is to develop an outreach to every person who has been the victim of sexual abuse as a minor by anyone acting in the name of the Church, whether the abuse was recent or occurred many years in the past. This outreach will include provision of counseling, spiritual assistance, support groups, and other social services agreed upon by the victim and the diocese/eparchy. In cooperation with social service agencies and other churches, support groups for victims/survivors and others affected by abuse should be fostered and encouraged in every diocese/eparchy and in local parish communities.

Through pastoral outreach to victims and their families, the diocesan/eparchial bishop or his representative will offer to meet with them, to listen with patience and compassion to their experiences and concerns, and to share the “profound sense of solidarity and concern” expressed by our Holy Father in his Address to the Cardinals of the United States and Conference Officers. This pastoral outreach by the bishop or his delegate will also be directed to faith communities in which the sexual abuse occurred.

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The Apostolic Exarchate for Armenian Catholics was found to be non-compliant with Article 1 because its plan for outreach has not been circulated to member parishes. All other dioceses/eparchies that participated in the 2005 audit process were compliant with this Article.

Article 1 of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* requires dioceses/eparchies to reach out to victims/survivors and their families in an effort to offer healing and reconciliation. This expectation applies to

recent cases of abuse as well as cases that have occurred in the past. In addition to the offer of outreach, the bishop/eparch or his representative is directed to offer to meet with victims and their families.

Article 1 of the *Charter* calls for outreach to victims of sexual abuse as a minor committed by *anyone* in church service; the audit focused only on victims of clergy sexual abuse. This report does not comment on the efforts of dioceses/eparchies to assist with the healing of those abused by church workers who are not members of the clergy.

While all dioceses/eparchies have outreach programs in place and the bishops/eparchs reach out to victims of abuse, the scope and range of the outreach varies from diocese/eparchy to diocese/eparchy. In places where victims continue to come forward in steady numbers, full-time staffs are in place to respond to the healing needs of victims and their families. When the number of new victims coming forward is smaller, oftentimes victim assistance services are provided by professional counselors with whom the diocese/eparchy contracts.

The audit results indicate that dioceses/eparchies do reach out to faith communities that are directly impacted by allegations of clergy sexual abuse. This is especially common when an allegation results in the removal of a clergyman currently serving the community. This outreach includes listening sessions, healing Masses, and/or a letter from the bishop/eparch to the affected community. When follow-up care is also provided, it is based on the needs of the faith community.

In an effort to reach out to the lay faithful, many bishops are holding public Masses/prayer services for the healing of victims of clergy sexual abuse. In general, healing initiatives focus on psychological/therapeutic counseling and spiritual services. Identifying care providers skilled in working with victims of child sexual abuse is often challenging. Determining the length of time for effective healing support is another challenge

faced at the diocesan/eparchial level. To help them sort through these issues, some dioceses/eparchies are using outside agencies or appointing treatment review boards to make recommendations about the extent of treatment and the credentials of the therapists. While there is no single standard for treatment protocols, dioceses/eparchies are challenged to offer consistency from diocese/eparchy to diocese/eparchy in the healing support they offer.

The Office of Child and Youth Protection sponsored a victims' survey, the Response and Prevention Project, which was posted on its website for six weeks during April and May 2005. The project manager who received and consolidated the responses concluded that the needs of victims vary widely, with each having unique needs for healing and reconciliation. In the midst of a wide range of needs, dioceses/eparchies attempt to vary the methods by which they reach out and support victims in specific response to the needs of the victim/survivor.

The Response and Prevention Project explored themes of forgiveness and reconciliation and learned that a high percentage of those who responded to the question about spiritual wounds indicated that they were spiritually damaged by the abuse. While many described retaining a faith in God, they do not retain a faith in the Church. Offering spiritual outreach to victims of clergy sexual abuse and to their families remains a significant issue for dioceses/eparchies to address. Because victims often received a spiritual response when they reported sexual abuse at the time it happened, they are weary of spiritual responses at this time. The 2005 audit indicated that dioceses/eparchies are beginning to offer healing weekends, retreat days, and spiritual direction for victims and their families. The spiritual component of healing will require attention in the years ahead.

Reaching out to victims of clergy sexual abuse can be restricted when the diocese/eparchy learns of the abuse from an attorney. Oftentimes the legal process can impede a bishop/eparch from offering healing support. One way in which dioceses/eparchies circumvent this limitation is by writing to the victim's attorney to request the attorney to convey the offer of pastoral assistance from the diocese to the victim.

The 2005 audit also indicated effective cooperation between and among dioceses/eparchies when a victim was abused in one diocese/eparchy and now lives in another part of the country. Most often, the diocese/eparchy of which the abusing priest is a member assumes responsibility for healing support and works out a repayment arrangement with the diocese/eparchy in which the victim resides.

Recognizing that healing can take many forms and the needs of victims can take many forms, one diocese established an Extraordinary Assistance Fund to help victims with short-term needs such as a rent payment.

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**ARTICLE 2.** Dioceses/eparchies will have mechanisms in place to respond promptly to any allegation where there is reason to believe that sexual abuse of a minor has occurred. Dioceses/eparchies will have a competent person or persons to coordinate assistance for the immediate pastoral care of persons who claim to have been sexually abused as minors by clergy or other church personnel. Dioceses/eparchies will also have a review board that functions as a confidential consultative body to the bishop/eparch. The majority of its members will be lay persons not in the employ of the diocese/eparchy (see norm 5 in *Essential Norms for Diocesan/Eparchial Policies Dealing with Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests or Deacons*, 2002). This board will advise the diocesan/eparchial bishop in his assessment of allegations of sexual abuse of minors and in his determination of suitability for ministry. It will regularly review diocesan/eparchial policies and procedures for dealing with sexual abuse of minors. Also, the board can review these matters both retrospectively and prospectively and give advice on all aspects of responses required in connection with these cases. The procedures for those making a complaint will be readily available in printed form and will be the subject of periodic public announcements.

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The Apostolic Exarchate for Armenian Catholics was found to be compliant with some of the requirements of Article 2. This eparchy was not compliant with the section of Article 2 that requires that the process for filing a complaint be publicized. All other dioceses/eparchies that participated in the 2005 audit process were compliant with this Article.

Article 2 requires that dioceses/eparchies have a mechanism in place to respond promptly to allegations of clergy sexual abuse. In addition to confirming that such a mechanism is in place, the auditor also confirms that the diocese/eparchy has a victim assistance coordinator and reviews his/her qualifications. According to this Article, a diocesan review board must be established, and its role and composition are to be reviewed during the audit period. Finally, the auditor is to look at the process for filing a complaint and to confirm that this process is well publicized.

These procedures, as well as the name and contact information for the victim assistance coordinator, should be easily accessible within a diocese/eparchy. When a victim finally finds the courage, oftentimes after many years of pain, to reach out to the diocese/eparchy and report the abuse, it is vital that the opportunity for healing begin positively. The *Charter* states that the procedures for those making a complaint are to be readily available in printed form in the principal languages in which the Liturgy is celebrated in the diocese/eparchy and are to be the subject of public announcements at least annually. Finding the name and phone number for the diocesan victim assistance coordinator should not be difficult or challenging for any victim. To have this information easily identifiable on the diocesan website, in church bulletins, through special brochures, in diocesan newspapers, and on parish bulletin boards serves two purposes aside from *Charter* compliance: it sends a message to the victims that the Church cares about them, and it reinforces the commitment of bishops/eparchs to help heal the pain that has been caused by clergy sex abuse.

At the end of the 2005 audit period, December 31, 2005, all dioceses/eparchies had established procedures in place for reporting incidents of clergy sexual abuse of a minor. These procedures can be found on diocesan websites, in diocesan newspapers, in parish bulletins, and in pamphlets and brochures.

*Victim assistance coordinators* are in place in all dioceses/eparchies. The coordinators are often the first point of contact when a victim comes forward with allegations. The coordinator is responsible for determining the interest of the victim in receiving pastoral outreach and connects the victim with appropriate resources.

Often the coordinator works with the victim as the preliminary investigation is conducted. Many victim assistance coordinators have already worked in the diocese/eparchy in its social services programs. Others have been hired specifically for this work and bring a background of work with victims of trauma and abuse. The victim assistance coordinators do not provide direct counseling services; rather, they ensure that the victims, and often their families, are connected with services that will promote healing and reconciliation.

*Diocesan review boards* have been established in all dioceses/eparchies that participated in the 2005 Audit. Often small eparchies with a significant geographic spread use the resources of the diocese closest to the parish where the complaint is received. The diocesan review board serves the bishop as a confidential and consultative body. The diocesan bishop/eparch determines how the review will function. Review boards have an average of eight members who bring a range of professional experience to their work. The *Charter* specifically states that the majority of review board members will be lay persons not in the employ of the diocese/eparchy. Diocesan review boards often include a psychologist/counselor whose experience includes working with children who are victims of sexual abuse. Other professions often represented include a member of the legal profession, a member of law enforcement, and an educator. All review boards include a respected pastor.

In some dioceses/eparchies, the bishop/eparch requests that the diocesan review board also review policies for handling allegations of clergy sexual abuse as well as codes of conduct and cases of child abuse reported against lay employees and volunteers.

Procedures for making a complaint are readily available in printed form in all but one of the dioceses/eparchies that participated in the 2005 audit.

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**ARTICLE 3.** Dioceses/eparchies will not enter into confidentiality agreements except for grave and substantial reasons brought forward by the victim/survivor and noted in the text of the agreement.

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All dioceses/eparchies that participated in the 2005 audit process were in compliance with Article 3.

Article 3 would bar a diocese/eparchy from entering into confidential settlement agreements with victims. However, if requested by the victim, such agreements may still be entered into and the victim's request will be noted in the agreement.

At the request of the victim/survivor, a small number of dioceses have entered into agreements that contain confidential aspects. For the most part, victims have asked that the diocese maintain confidentiality about the financial terms of the settlement, but not about the circumstances of the abuse.

### **To Guarantee an Effective Response to Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors**

**ARTICLE 4.** Dioceses/eparchies will report an allegation of sexual abuse of a person who is a minor to the public authorities. Dioceses/eparchies will comply with all applicable civil laws with respect to the reporting of allegations of sexual abuse of minors to civil authorities and will cooperate in their investigation in accord with the law of the jurisdiction in question.

Dioceses/eparchies will cooperate with public authorities about reporting in cases when the person is no longer a minor.

In every instance, dioceses/eparchies will advise victims of their right to make a report to public authorities and will support this right.

#### **All dioceses/eparchies that participated in the 2005 audit were found to be compliant with Article 4.**

Article 4 requires that each dioceses/eparchy report any allegation of clergy sexual abuse of a person who is a minor to the public authorities, comply with all applicable civil laws, and cooperate with the investigation conducted by civil authorities. There were 21 allegations received in 2005 that involved minors as victims. Of these, 12 were determined to be unfounded, 5 were found credible, and 2 were still under investigation at the time of the audit. Two were categorized as "Other" because the investigations could not be completed due to insufficient information.

This Article also requires dioceses/eparchies to cooperate with civil authorities when the person reporting abuse is no longer a minor and, in all instances, to

advise victims of their right to report directly to public authorities. Many public jurisdictions have instructed dioceses/eparchies to limit their reports to cases that fall within the local statute of limitations. Other jurisdictions require that all cases be reported, including cases when the accused is deceased or when the incident of abuse happened many decades ago.

**ARTICLE 5.** We repeat the words of our Holy Father in his Address to the Cardinals of the United States and Conference Officers: "There is no place in the priesthood or religious life for those who would harm the young."

When an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest or a deacon is received, a preliminary investigation, in harmony with canon law (CIC, cc. 1717-1719; CCEO, cc. 1468-1470), will be initiated and conducted promptly and objectively. If this investigation so indicates, the diocesan/eparchial bishop will both notify the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and apply the precautionary measures mentioned in CIC, canon 1722, or CCEO, canon 1473—i.e., relieve the alleged offender promptly of his ministerial duties. The alleged offender may be requested to seek, or urged voluntarily to comply with, an appropriate medical and psychological evaluation, so long as this does not interfere with the investigation by civil authorities. When the accusation has proved to be unfounded, every step possible will be taken to restore the good name of the priest or deacon.

When sexual abuse of a minor by a priest or a deacon is admitted or is established after an appropriate process in accord with canon law, the following will pertain:

- Diocesan/eparchial policy will provide that for even a single act of sexual abuse of a minor—past, present, or future—the offending priest or deacon will be permanently removed from ministry, not excluding dismissal from the clerical state, if the case so warrants. In keeping with the stated purpose of this Charter, an offending priest or deacon will be offered professional assistance for his own healing and well-being, as well as for the purpose of prevention.
- In every case involving canonical penalties, the processes provided for in canon law must be observed (cf. *Canonical Delicts Involving Sexual Misconduct and Dismissal from the Clerical State*, 1995; cf. Letter from the Congregation for the Doctrine

of the Faith, May 18, 2001). For the sake of due process, the accused is to be encouraged to retain the assistance of civil and canonical counsel. When necessary, the diocese/eparchy will supply canonical counsel to a priest or deacon.

- Also provided for in canon law are the following: a request by the priest or deacon for dispensation from the obligation of holy orders and the loss of the clerical state or a request by the bishop for dismissal from the clerical state even without the consent of the priest or deacon (cf. *Canonical Delicts*).
  - If the penalty of dismissal from the clerical state has not been applied (e.g., for reasons of advanced age or infirmity), the offender ought to lead a life of prayer and penance. He will not be permitted to celebrate Mass publicly or to administer the sacraments. He is to be instructed not to wear clerical garb or to present himself publicly as a priest.
  - At all times, the diocesan bishop/eparch has the executive power of governance, through an administrative act, to remove an offending cleric from office, to remove or restrict his faculties, and to limit his exercise of priestly ministry. Because sexual abuse of a minor is a crime in all jurisdictions in the United States, for the sake of the common good and observing the provisions of canon law, the diocesan bishop/eparch shall exercise this power of governance to ensure that any priest or deacon who has committed even one act of sexual abuse of a minor as described above shall not continue in active ministry.
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#### All dioceses/eparchies that participated in the 2005 audit process were found to be compliant with Article 5.

Article 5 requires that all dioceses/eparchies have a policy in place to conduct a prompt and objective preliminary investigation of an allegation of clergy sexual abuse. The Article includes steps to be followed, as outlined in canon law, when an allegation is found to be credible, is admitted, or is established.

The process for conducting a preliminary investigation is determined by each local bishop/eparch. Processes vary from one diocese/eparchy to another. If the priest/deacon accused in an allegation is in active min-

istry, he is often removed while the investigation is undertaken. In some cases, he is placed on restrictive ministry or remains in active ministry until the preliminary investigation is complete.

Within the limitations of confidentiality, privacy, and civil and canon law, the auditors examined all allegations that have been made during the audit period. In 2005, 997 victims made allegations of clergy sexual abuse in dioceses/eparchies who participated in the audit process. These allegations identified 762 clerics (priests and deacons).

Of the 997 victims reporting clergy sexual abuse in the 2005 audit period, 21 were minors at the time of the report. All cases were reported to civil authorities for investigation. Of these, 12 were determined by civil authorities and diocesan review boards to be unfounded or unproven; 5 were credible, 2 were still under investigation at the time of the audit, and 2 were categorized as “Other” due to insufficient information.

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**ARTICLE 6.** While the priestly commitment to the virtue of chastity and the gift of celibacy is well known, there will be clear and well-publicized diocesan/eparchial standards of ministerial behavior and appropriate boundaries for clergy and for any other church personnel in positions of trust who have regular contact with children and young people.

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#### All dioceses/eparchies that participated in the 2005 audit were found to be compliant with Article 6.

Article 6 requires all dioceses/eparchies to establish and publicize standards for behavior of both clergy and other church workers who have regular contact with children and young people. “Regular contact with children and young people” is defined by each diocese/eparchy. These definitions address the frequency of contact in terms of hours per week or month. Even though the definitions vary, the fact that efforts are in place to clarify the meaning of “regular contact” indicates that protecting children remains the goal.

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**ARTICLE 7.** Each diocese/eparchy will develop a communications policy that reflects a commitment to transparency and openness. Within the confines of

respect for the privacy and the reputation of the individuals involved, dioceses/eparchies will deal as openly as possible with members of the community. This is especially so with regard to assisting and supporting parish communities directly affected by ministerial misconduct involving minors.

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**The Apostolic Exarchate for Armenian Catholics was found to be non-compliant with Article 7. All other dioceses/eparchies that participated in the 2005 audit process were compliant with this Article.**

Article 7 requires dioceses/eparchies to develop communications policies that work to balance the inherent tension between openness/transparency and privacy. Dioceses/eparchies are also required to offer assistance and support in their communications with faith communities affected by clergy misconduct involving minors.

### **TO ENSURE THE ACCOUNTABILITY OF OUR PROCEDURES**

*Articles 8-11 are not included in the audit process.*

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**ARTICLE 8.** To assist in the consistent application of these principles and to provide a vehicle of accountability and assistance to dioceses/eparchies in this matter, we authorize the establishment of an Office for Child and Youth Protection at our national headquarters. The tasks of this Office will include (1) assisting individual dioceses/eparchies in the implementation of “safe environment” programs (see Article 12 below), (2) assisting provinces and regions in the development of appropriate mechanisms to audit adherence to policies, and (3) producing an annual public report on the progress made in implementing the standards in this *Charter*. This public report shall include the names of those dioceses/eparchies which, in the judgment of this Office, are not in compliance with the provisions and expectations of this *Charter*. This Office will have staffing sufficient to fulfill its basic purpose. Staff will consist of persons who are expert in the protection of minors; they will be appointed by the General Secretary of the Conference.

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As a vehicle of accountability and of assistance to dioceses/eparchies, the *Charter* directed that the Office

of Child and Youth Protection be established at the national headquarters of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The *Charter* identified three tasks for this office.

The bishop of the Diocese of Lincoln and the eparch of the Eparchy of Newton for Melkites refused to participate in the 2005 audit process. The Archdiocese of New Orleans and the Diocese of Beaumont were excused due to the damage suffered by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, respectively. Therefore, it is not known if they are compliant with the *Charter*.

In late 2004 Ms. Sheila Horan resigned, and Ms. Sheila Kelly was hired as the Deputy Director in January 2005. In late February 2005, Dr. Kathleen McChesney resigned, and Ms. Teresa Kettelkamp was hired as the new Executive Director in late April.

The Executive Director was invited to address national gatherings and to offer descriptions of the work of the office. The Executive Director and the Deputy Director participated in several conferences to support victim assistance coordinators and safe environment coordinators in their work and to expand their knowledge base about healing and healing resources.

The Office continues its work with the Gavin Group in the compliance audit process and with CARA in the refinement of the annual *Survey on Allegations and Costs*.

The Office also sponsored an onsite survey of victims to learn directly from them about their experiences of reporting abuse to dioceses/eparchies. The results of this survey were made public in November 2005.

The Office worked with the John Jay College of Criminal Justice to conduct further analysis of the *Nature and Scope* study published in early 2004. The results of the further study were presented to the bishops in November 2005 and are to be released publicly in March 2006.

The Office of Child and Youth Protection assumed responsibility for staffing the newly established Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People, formerly the Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse. The

Office continues to provide staff support to the National Review Board and its standing committees.

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**ARTICLE 9.** The work of the Office for Child and Youth Protection will be assisted and monitored by a Review Board, including parents, appointed by the Conference President and reporting directly to him. The Board will approve the annual report of the implementation of this *Charter* in each of our dioceses/eparchies, as well as any recommendations that emerge from this review, before the report is submitted to the President of the Conference and published. To understand the problem more fully and to enhance the effectiveness of our future response, the National Review Board will commission a comprehensive study of the causes and context of the current crisis. The Board will also commission a descriptive study, with the full cooperation of our dioceses/eparchies, of the nature and scope of the problem within the Catholic Church in the United States, including such data as statistics on perpetrators and victims.

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Article 9 of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* established a National Review Board to assist and monitor the Office of Child and Youth Protection, to approve the annual report and its recommendations, and to commission a *Study on the Nature and Scope* of the clergy sexual abuse crisis and a second *Study on the Causes and Context* of the clergy sexual abuse problem. The *Nature and Scope* study was published in February 2004. In November 2005, the National Review Board announced its selection of the John Jay College of Criminal Justice to conduct the *Causes and Context* study. Currently, the National Review Board is working closely with John Jay College of Criminal Justice to secure additional funds needed to conduct this research.

Four new members were appointed to the National Review Board in June 2005 to bring the National Review Board to its full membership of a chair and twelve members. The current National Review Board members are as follows:

Patricia O'Donnell Ewers, PhD, Chair  
 Michael J. Bland, PsyD, DMin  
 Mrs. Jane Chiles  
 Mr. Thomas DeStefano, MSW, LittD

Angelo P. Giardino, MD  
 Ralph I. Lancaster Jr., Esq.  
 Paul R. McHugh, MD  
 Mr. William McGarry  
 Judge Petra Jimenez Maes  
 Judge Michael R. Merz  
 Joseph G. Rhode, MD  
 Joseph P. Russoniello, Esq.  
 Milann Siegfried, RN

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**ARTICLE 10.** The membership of the Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse will be reconstituted to include representation from all the episcopal regions of the country.

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Membership of the Ad Hoc Committee on Clergy Sexual Abuse before it became a standing Committee included representation for each of the 14 regions:

Archbishop Harry J. Flynn, Chair  
 Archbishop Stefan Soroka  
 Bishop Gregory M. Aymond  
 Bishop Robert J. Baker  
 Bishop Stephen E. Blaire  
 Bishop Blase J. Cupich  
 Bishop Thomas G. Doran  
 Bishop John R. Gaydos  
 Bishop Howard J. Hubbard  
 Bishop William E. Lori  
 Bishop W. Francis Malooly  
 Bishop James A. Murray  
 Bishop George H. Niederauer  
 Bishop Thomas J. Rodi  
 Bishop Robert F. Vasa

Archbishop Harry J. Flynn completed his service as Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Clergy Sexual Abuse/Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People at the bishops' General Meeting in November 2005. Bishop Gregory M. Aymond of Austin, Texas, was elected to this position and immediately assumed the Chair's responsibility.

Based on the revisions to the *Charter* approved by the USCCB in June 2005, the ad hoc committee became a standing committee called the Committee for the Pro-

tection of Children and Young People. The 1995 revision stipulates that the Committee “include representation from all episcopal regions of the country and that appointments be staggered to maintain continuity in the effort to protect children and youth.” Five members resigned from the committee and, with Bishop Aymond’s election as Chair, six new members were to be appointed. The current committee composition is:

Bishop Gregory M. Aymond, Chair  
 Bishop Stephen Blaire  
 Bishop Kevin J. Boland  
 Bishop Blase J. Cupich  
 Bishop William J. Dendinger  
 Bishop Thomas G. Doran  
 Bishop Howard Hubbard  
 Bishop Richard Malone  
 Bishop W. Francis Malooly  
 Bishop James A. Murray  
 Bishop David L. Ricken  
 Bishop Thomas J. Rodi  
 Archbishop Stefan Soroka  
 Bishop Edward S. Slattery  
 Bishop George L. Thomas

During the 2005 audit year, the Committee was represented at a conference on clergy sexual abuse with representatives from other English-speaking bishops’ conferences.

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**ARTICLE 11.** The President of the Conference will inform the Holy See of this *Charter* to indicate the manner in which we, the Catholic bishops, together with the entire Church in the United States, intend to address this present crisis.

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The USCCB notified the Holy See of the elements of the first *Charter* in 2002. Subsequently, the Holy See has been notified of the elements of the revised *Charter* and *Essential Norms* approved by the bishops in June 2005.

### To Protect the Faithful in the Future

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**ARTICLE 12.** Dioceses/eparchies will establish “safe environment” programs. They will cooperate with par-

ents, civil authorities, educators, and community organizations to provide education and training for children, youth, parents, ministers, educators, and others about ways to make and maintain a safe environment for children. Dioceses/eparchies will make clear to clergy and all members of the community the standards of conduct for clergy and other persons in positions of trust with regard to sexual abuse.

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**Of the 191 dioceses/eparchies that participated in the 2005 audit, 170 were found to be compliant with the safe environment training called for in Article 12.**

The following dioceses/eparchies were found to be non-compliant with Article 12 on December 31, 2005:

Apostolic Exarchate for Armenian Catholics  
 Diocese of Baker  
 Archdiocese of Boston  
 Diocese of Burlington\*\*  
 Archdiocese of Cincinnati  
 Archdiocese of Detroit  
 Diocese of Fargo  
 Diocese of Helena  
 Diocese of Kansas City/St. Joseph  
 Diocese of Lubbock\*\*  
 Diocese of Manchester  
 Diocese of Orange\*  
 Diocese of Portland, Maine\*\*  
 Diocese of Salina  
 Diocese of San Bernardino  
 Diocese of San Diego  
 Diocese of Springfield in Illinois\*  
 Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis  
 Eparchy of Our Lady of Newark for Syriacs\*  
 Diocese of Wheeling/Charleston\*  
 Eparchy of St. Nicholas of Chicago for Ukrainians\*

\* Completed compliance requirements by date of Annual Report publication.

\*\* Will complete compliance requirements by June 30, 2006.

Article 12 directs dioceses/eparchies to establish safe environment programs in cooperation with parents,

civil authorities, educators and the community and to provide education and training for children, youth, parents, ministers, educators, and others. Article 12 also requires that codes of conduct for clergy and others in positions of trust be established in each diocese and eparchy.

Article 12 has the lowest level of compliance of all seventeen Articles in the *Charter*. Fourteen of the 21 dioceses/eparchies that were found non-compliant with Article 12 did not complete the training of the children, 6 of the 22 did not complete the training of the volunteers, and 11 of the 22 did not complete training of employees as of the end of the audit period, December 31, 2005. Since that time however, 8 dioceses/eparchies have become compliant with this Article or are expected to be compliant by the end of June 2006, the end of the school year.

Ongoing research conducted by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops postulates that identifying abusers during formation periods is difficult. Proactive measures like training and awareness programs for children and adults make a significant contribution in preventing child sexual abuse. This research heightens the importance of safe environment training.

As described in the Introduction to this report, the standards for compliance with Article 12 have changed in each audit period and have become increasingly more specific. In 2004, dioceses/eparchies were compliant if a program was selected and the training was scheduled for completion by June 2005. In 2005, compliant dioceses/eparchies were expected to complete training for those designated in the *Charter* by December 31, 2005. This training was not completed in some dioceses/eparchies at the time of the formal audit. These dioceses/eparchies were then required to report back to the Gavin Group on their progress before compliance was certified. If the training goals were met, then a compliance letter was sent to the local bishop/eparch.

Each diocese/eparchy had the option of selecting an existing training program or developing its own program. Generally, the programs selected for adults are provided in one session. Programs for children may be curriculum-based and may be presented in a series of

short lessons through the school year, or they may be presented in a one-session program.

Children in parish religious education programs should receive the same basic information as those who attend Catholic schools. Some programs may have had to be modified for parish religious education programs due to time constraints. If religious education students receive personal safety training as part of their regular public school curriculum, the diocese, after reviewing the public school curriculum and finding that it meets the standards of the diocese, may choose not to provide additional safe environment training to the religious education students. If, however, diocesan personnel believe that the public school curriculum is not sufficient and is in need of supplementation, the diocese should provide it. In some dioceses/eparchies, safety training in the public school is supplemented with training in the school of religious education at the parish level.

The 2005 audits began in late July. In the early audits, the auditors found confusion at the diocesan level about the compliance standards. The Office of Child and Youth Protection, working with members of the Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People, issued a clarification to the bishops/eparchs. Additional concerns were raised about the role of parents as the primary educators of their children and the use of numbers as the standard for determining compliance.

Compliance with Article 12 was determined in 2005 by comparing the number of children, youth, parents, ministers (priests, deacons, parish employees, diocesan employees,) educators and others for whom training is required, with the number in each group who were actually trained. The definition of who needs to be trained (and those requiring background evaluations) was refined during the audit training preparation workshops that were held in spring 2005.

Central and local record-keeping systems within dioceses/eparchies also vary. Many dioceses are developing or purchasing record-tracking systems and are centralizing this function. Others rely on reporting from the parishes and schools. The lack of a standardized record-keeping system throughout a diocese/

eparchy is a major challenge in compiling the data required for the audit report.

The 2005 audit report indicates that a growing number of dioceses/eparchies are conducting local audits of their parishes and schools to verify local compliance with this Article and with Article 13. A few have a designated compliance officer responsible for conducting these audits. Others are promoting their safe environment training during annual ethnic festivals, and one has selected Respect Life Sunday to highlight its safe environment program.

The 2005 audit results indicate a dramatic increase in overall compliance with Article 12. In every group of those for whom training is required, 94% to 99% of those requiring training have been trained. The training of children shows the most dramatic increase in 2005 over 2004. In the 2004 audit period, 51.5% of the children were trained. In the 2005 audit period, 94.8% of the children were trained. This increase reflects a major accomplishment: training has been provided to more than 5,760,000 children entrusted to the care of the Church and its schools, parishes, and agencies out of a total population of 6,078,759.

Positive results are reported in other categories as well, as shown in Table 1.

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**ARTICLE 13.** Dioceses/eparchies will evaluate the background of all diocesan/eparchial and parish personnel who have regular contact with minors. Specifically, they will utilize the resources of law enforcement and other community agencies. In addition, they will employ adequate screening and evaluative techniques in deciding the fitness of candidates for ordination (cf. National Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Program of Priestly Formation*, 1993, no. 513).

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All audited dioceses/eparchies were found to be compliant with the stipulation that candidates for ordination be screened and evaluated.

Of the 191 dioceses/eparchies that participated in the 2005 audits, 186 were found to be compliant with Article 13. Compliance was determined based on the number of priests, deacons, educators, employees, and volunteers for whom background evaluations were required and conducted. Volunteers constitute the largest number for whom backgrounds are needed.

TABLE 1. Safe Environment Training Findings.

CATEGORY	NUMBER TO BE TRAINED	NUMBER TRAINED	PERCENTAGE
Priests	36,074	35,691	98.9
Deacons	13,316	13,199	99.1
Educators	173,921	172,241	99.0
Employees	212,922	205,198	96.4
Volunteers	1,187,430	1,115,513	93.9
Parents		855,254*	
Children	6,078,759	5,760,333	94.8
<b>Totals</b>	<b>7,702,422</b>	<b>7,302,175</b>	<b>94.8%</b>
<b>Totals to be Trained</b>	<b>400,247</b>		<b>5.2%</b>

\* Number is not included in total figure because the "Number to be Trained" for parents was not collected, due to the difficulty of ascertaining that number.

The following dioceses/eparchies were found to be non-compliant with Article 13 on December 31, 2005:

- Apostolic Exarchate for Armenian Catholics
- Diocese of Burlington
- Eparchy of Van Nuys for Byzantines\*
- Diocese of Portland, Maine
- Diocese of Salina

\* Completed compliance requirements by date of Annual Report publication.

Article 13 mandates that dioceses/eparchies conduct background evaluations on diocesan/eparchial employees and parish personnel who have regular contact with minors, that the diocese/eparchy call upon community and law enforcement resources, and that candidates for ordination be screened and evaluated. Standards for conducting the background evaluation required in Article 13 vary from the diocese/eparchy to diocese/eparchy. Another significant variation is the definition of “regular contact.” Many dioceses/eparchies avoid defining regular contact by conducting background evaluations on all ministers, employees, and volunteers. Others define regular contact in terms of the number of hours per week or month that an individual interacts with children and young people.

In a few places, state law limits those for whom background evaluations can be conducted. Additionally,

background evaluations cannot be conducted on young people in their mid-teens who are themselves minors and who run programs for children or for those in their early teens. Many dioceses/eparchies ask these minors who work with other minors to accept a code of conduct as a screening tool.

Conducting background evaluations on undocumented immigrants is also a challenge in many places in the United States. Many dioceses/eparchies verify basic information on undocumented immigrants or assign an undocumented individual to volunteer ministry under the supervision of a volunteer whose background evaluation has been completed.

One diocese has prepared a Child Safe Vendor list that includes the names of landscapers, general contractors, cleaning services, and clowning groups who conduct background evaluation on their employees.

As noted in Article 12, research conducted by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops underscores the significance of proactive prevention tools to protect children and young people. The 2005 audit indicated that background evaluations are being conducted on the vast majority of priests, deacons, educators, employees, and volunteers across the country and the Virgin Islands. Table 2 summarizes the specific background investigation information.

TABLE 2. Background Investigation Findings.

CATEGORY	NUMBER TO BE CHECKED	NUMBER CHECKED	PERCENTAGE
Priests	35,972	35,862	99.7
Deacons	13,281	13,244	99.7
Educators	173,921	173,554	99.8
Employees	213,165	211,461	99.2
Volunteers	1,184,886	1,165,201	98.3
Candidates			
For Ordination	4,288	4,245	99.0
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>1,625,513</b>	<b>1,603,567</b>	<b>98.6%</b>
<b>Background checks that need to be conducted:</b>	<b>21,946</b>		<b>1.4%</b>

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**ARTICLE 14.** No priest or deacon who has committed an act of sexual abuse of a minor may be transferred for ministerial assignment to another diocese/eparchy or religious province. Before a priest or deacon can be transferred for residence to another diocese/eparchy or religious province, his bishop/eparch or religious ordinary shall forward, in a confidential manner, to the local bishop/eparch and religious ordinary (if applicable) of the proposed place of residence any and all information concerning any act of sexual abuse of a minor and any other information that he has been or may be a danger to children or young people. (Cf. National Conference of Catholic Bishops and Conference of Major Superiors of Men, *Proposed Guidelines on the Transfer or Assignment of Clergy and Religious*, 1993.)

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**All dioceses/eparchies that participated in the 2005 audits were found to be compliant with Article 14.**

According to Article 14, bishops/eparchs and major superiors of religious institutes are required to communicate with each other when one of their members is being transferred to another diocese/eparchy for residence or for a ministerial assignment. No priest or deacon who has committed an act of sexual abuse of a minor may be transferred to another diocese/eparchy or religious province for a ministerial assignment.

Priests who vacation for extended periods of time in other parts of the country, away from the diocese/eparchy in which they are incardinated, provide a challenge here. If they are retired, they can move without the knowledge of the bishop of the diocese of their incardination. Many dioceses/eparchies frequented by vacationing priests have established policies requiring parish leaders to verify that a visiting priest has the authorization to perform ministerial services.

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**ARTICLE 15.** The Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse and the Officers of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men will meet to determine how this *Charter* will be conveyed and established in the communities of religious men in the United States. Diocesan/eparchial bishops and major superiors of clerical institutes or their delegates will meet periodically to coordinate their roles concerning the issue of allega-

tions made against a cleric member of a religious institute ministering in a diocese/eparchy.

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**All dioceses/eparchies that participated in the 2005 audit were found to be compliant with Article 15.**

Periodic communication between bishops/eparchs and major superiors of religious institutes regarding their respective roles when allegations are brought against a cleric member of a religious institute is required by Article 15. The Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse (now the Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People) and the officers of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men are to meet to determine how this will be instituted in religious institutes. Many bishops report that they participate in an annual meeting with major superiors and their bishop at the state or province level.

To further this cooperation and collaboration, two representatives of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men are permanent consultants to the Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People.

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**ARTICLE 16.** Given the extent of the problem of the sexual abuse of minors in our society, we are willing to cooperate with other churches and ecclesial communities, other religious bodies, institutions of learning, and other interested organizations in conducting research in this area.

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**All dioceses/eparchies that participated in the 2005 compliance audits were found to be compliant with Article 16.**

Article 16 asks that bishops/eparchs cooperate with entities conducting research in the area of sexual abuse of minors. Two dioceses reported participating in such research, one with a university and the other with an independent researcher.

Of the 191 dioceses/eparchies that participated in the 2005 audits, 184 dioceses/eparchies participated in the 2005 CARA *Survey on Costs and Allegations* (see Section II of this report for the findings of that study).

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**ARTICLE 17.** We pledge our complete cooperation with the Apostolic Visitation of our diocesan/eparchial seminaries and religious houses of formation recommended in the Interdicasterial Meeting with the Cardinals of the United States and the Conference Officers in April 2002. Unlike the previous visitation, these new visits will focus on the question of human formation for celibate chastity based on the criteria found in *Pastores Dabo Vobis*. We look forward to this opportunity to strengthen our priestly formation programs so that they may provide God's people with mature and holy priests. Dioceses/eparchies will develop systematic ongoing formation programs in keeping with the recent Conference document *Basic Plan for the Ongoing Formation of Priests* (2001) so as to assist priests in their living out of their vocation.

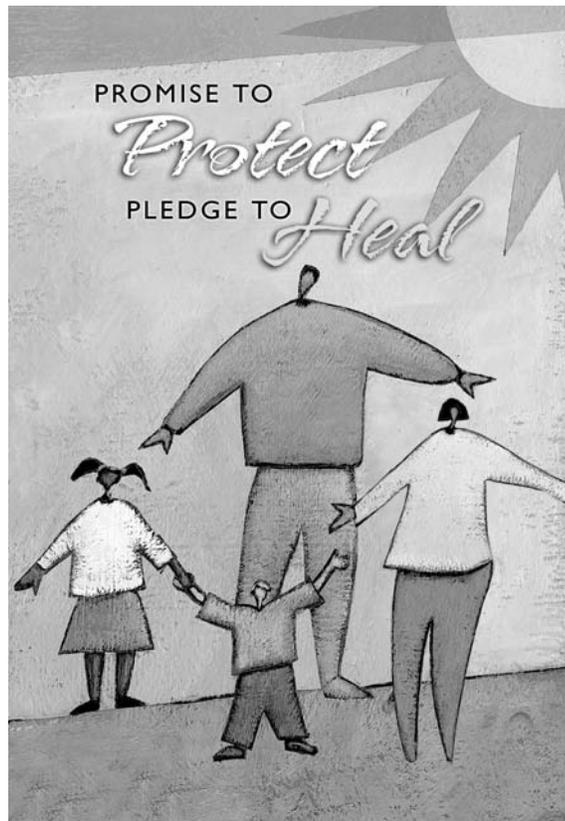
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**All dioceses/eparchies that participated in the 2005 audit were found to be compliant with Article 17.**

Article 17 requires that dioceses/eparchies cooperate completely with the Apostolic Visitation of seminaries and houses of religious formation and that they continue to develop and maintain programs of priestly formation based on the 2001 Conference document *Basic Plan for the Ongoing Formation of Priests*.

The Apostolic Visitation of seminaries and houses of religious formation is currently underway. The challenges that dioceses/eparchies find in sponsoring programs of ongoing formation, and that priests find in participating in such programs, remain the same as those described in the 2004 Annual Report: time, funding, geography, and personnel.

# Section II



## CHAPTER FOUR

# CARA Introduction: Survey Research Process

At their Fall General Assembly in November 2004, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) commissioned the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University to design and conduct an annual survey of all the dioceses and eparchies whose bishops or eparchs are members of the USCCB. The purpose of this survey is to collect information annually on new allegations of sexual abuse of minors and the clergy against whom these allegations were made. The survey also gathers information on the amount of money dioceses and eparchies have expended as a result of allegations as well as the amount they have paid for child protection efforts. The national level aggregate results from this survey for each calendar year are to be reported in the *Annual Report of the Implementation of the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People."*

The questionnaire for the 2005 *Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs* was designed by CARA in consultation with the Office of Child and Youth Protection and was only slightly different from the version used

for 2004 *Annual Survey*. As in 2004, CARA prepared an online version of the survey and hosted it on the CARA website. Bishops and eparchs received information about the process for completing the survey in their December 9 packet mailing and were asked to provide the name of a contact person who would complete the survey. In collaboration with the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM), major superiors of clerical and mixed religious institutes were also invited to complete a similar survey for their congregations or provinces.

CARA completed data collection on March 1, 2006, with an overall response rate of 80 percent. A total of 184 of the 195 dioceses and eparchies of the USCCB completed the survey, for a response rate of 94 percent. A total of 148 of the 221 clerical and mixed religious institutes that belong to CMSM responded to the survey, for a response rate of 67 percent. CARA prepared national level summary tables and graphs of the findings for 2005, with tables comparing allegations and costs to the 2004 findings.

## CHAPTER FIVE

# CARA Findings: Dioceses and Eparchies, and Men's Clerical and Mixed Religious Institutes

### DIOCESES AND EPARCHIES

#### The Data Collection Process

Dioceses and eparchies began submitting their data in mid-December. CARA sent several e-mail and fax reminders to encourage a high response rate. Every diocese or eparchy that had not sent in a contact name by January was contacted by phone to answer questions about the survey and to obtain the name of a contact person to complete the survey. By March 1, 2006, a total of 184 of the 195 dioceses and eparchies of the USCCB had submitted their response, for a response rate of 94 percent. This response is greater than the 93 percent that participated in 2004 (181 of the 195 possible).

A copy of the survey instrument used by dioceses and eparchies is included in this report at Appendix I.

#### Credible Allegations Received by Dioceses and Eparchies in 2005

Between January 1 and December 31, 2005, dioceses and eparchies received at least 695 new credible allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by a diocesan or eparchial priest or deacon. The allegations were made by 690 individuals against 463 priests or deacons. As Table 3 shows, each of these numbers represents a decline from the numbers reported in 2004.

TABLE 3. New Credible Allegations Reported by Dioceses and Eparchies.

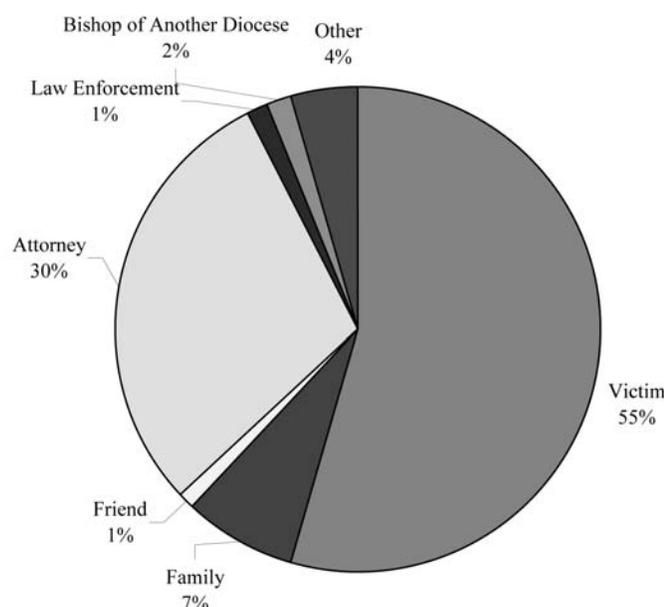
	2004	2005	Change (+/-) 2004-2005
Victim	889	690	-199
Allegations	898	695	-203
Offenders	622	463	-159

Sources: *Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs*, 2004 and 2005.

Compared to 2004, new reports of allegations declined by 23 percent (from 898 new credible allegations in 2004 to 690 new credible allegations in 2005). The number of alleged offenders declined by more than 25 percent, from 622 alleged offenders reported in 2004 to 463 alleged offenders reported in 2005.

Of the total number of new allegations reported in 2005, nine allegations, or 1 percent, involved children under the age of 18 in 2005. The remaining 686 allegations were made by men and women who are alleging abuse as minors in previous years.

FIGURE 1. Method of Reporting Allegations of Abuse: Dioceses and Eparchies.

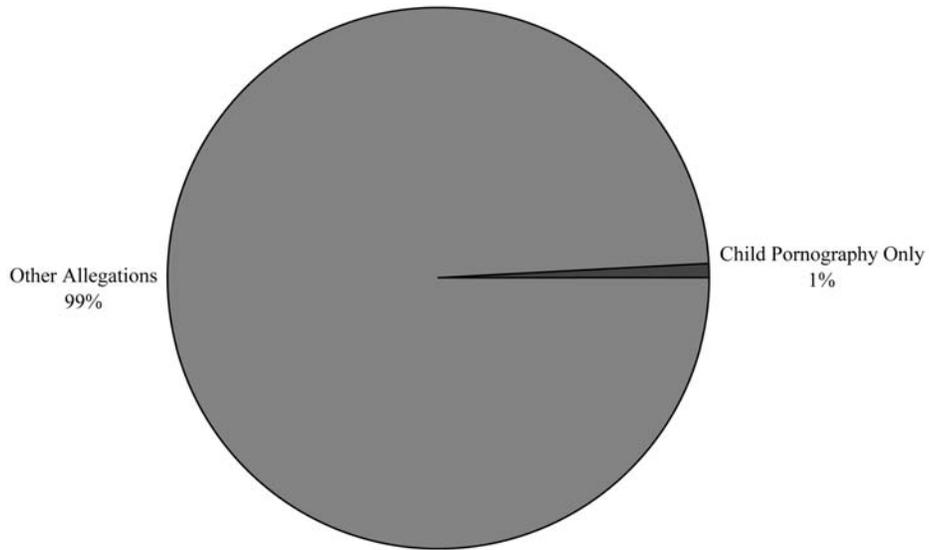


Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 1 illustrates the way in which allegations were reported to the dioceses or eparchies in 2005. More than half of all new allegations (55 percent) were reported by the victim and 30 percent were reported by an attorney. Compared to 2004, there is very little difference in who reported the allegations:

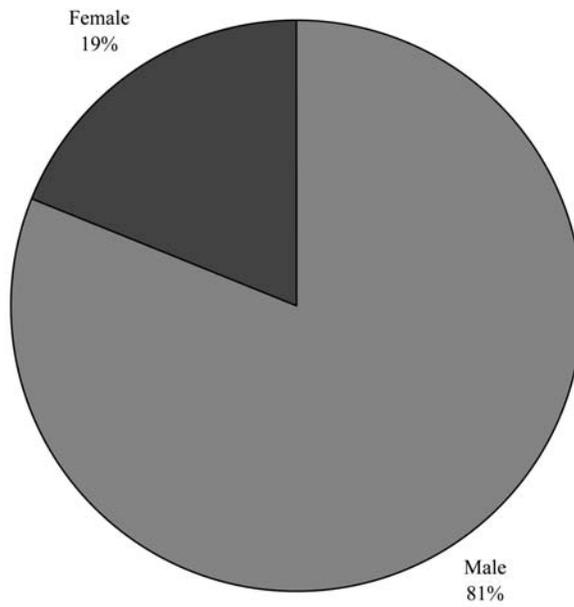
- 53 percent of allegations were reported by the victim in 2004.
- An attorney reported 33 percent of the allegations in 2004.
- Family members reported 7 percent of allegations in 2004, identical to 2005.
- Law enforcement reported 2 percent of allegations in 2004.
- A friend of the victim reported 1 percent of allegations in 2004, just as in 2005.
- “Bishop of Another Diocese” was not offered as a response category in 2004, but a number of dioceses or eparchies wrote that response in the “Other” category, so it was added in 2005.
- Just as in 2004, 4 percent of new credible allegations were reported by someone other than the victim, an attorney, a family member, a friend, law enforcement, or a bishop from another diocese. Some of these other persons reporting allegations included other priests, investigators, an IT technician, the priest perpetrator, or a therapist.

Figure 2. Percentage of Allegations Involving Only Child Pornography: Dioceses and Eparchies.



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 3. Gender of Abuse Victim: Dioceses and Eparchies.



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 2 presents the percentage of all new allegations of abuse that were cases involving solely child pornography. Of the 695 total allegations, five cases, less than 1 percent, involved only child pornography.

The percentage of new credible allegations that involve only child pornography is unchanged from that reported in 2004.

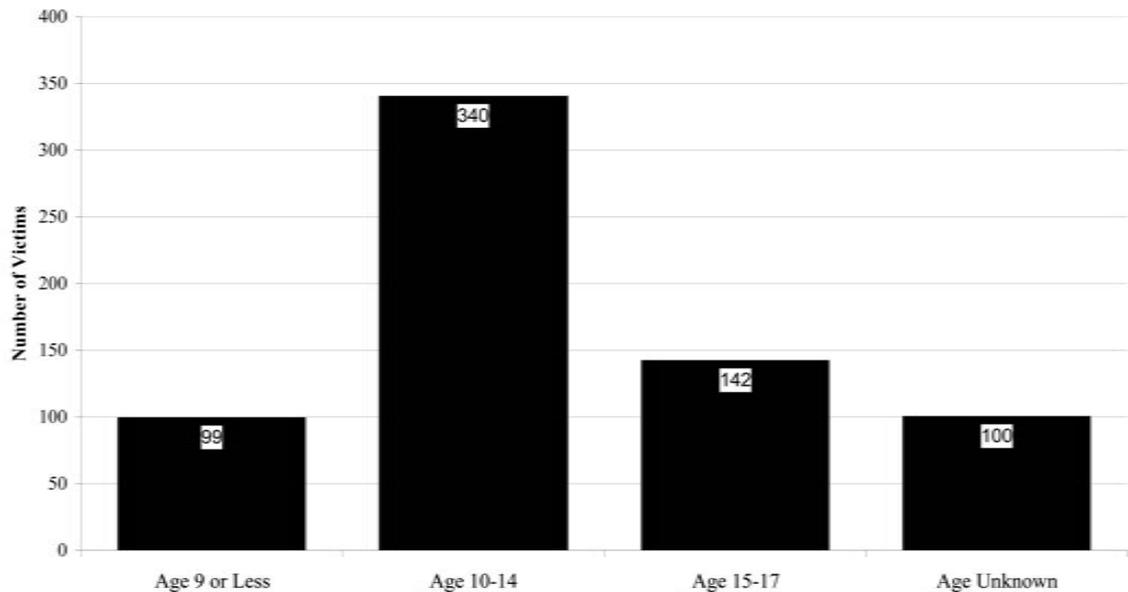
### Victims, Offenses, and Offenders in 2005

Of the 690 alleged victims reported in 2005, some 81 percent (560 victims) were male and 19 percent (131

victims) were female. This proportion is illustrated in Figure 3.

About half of the victims (49 percent) were between the ages of 10 and 14 when the alleged abuse began. One in five was between the ages of 15 and 17 when the alleged abuse began, and 14 percent were younger than age 10. One in seven (14 percent) could not be identified by age. Figure 4 presents the distribution of victims by age at the time the alleged abuse began.

Figure 4. Age of Victim When Abuse Began: Dioceses and Eparchies.



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

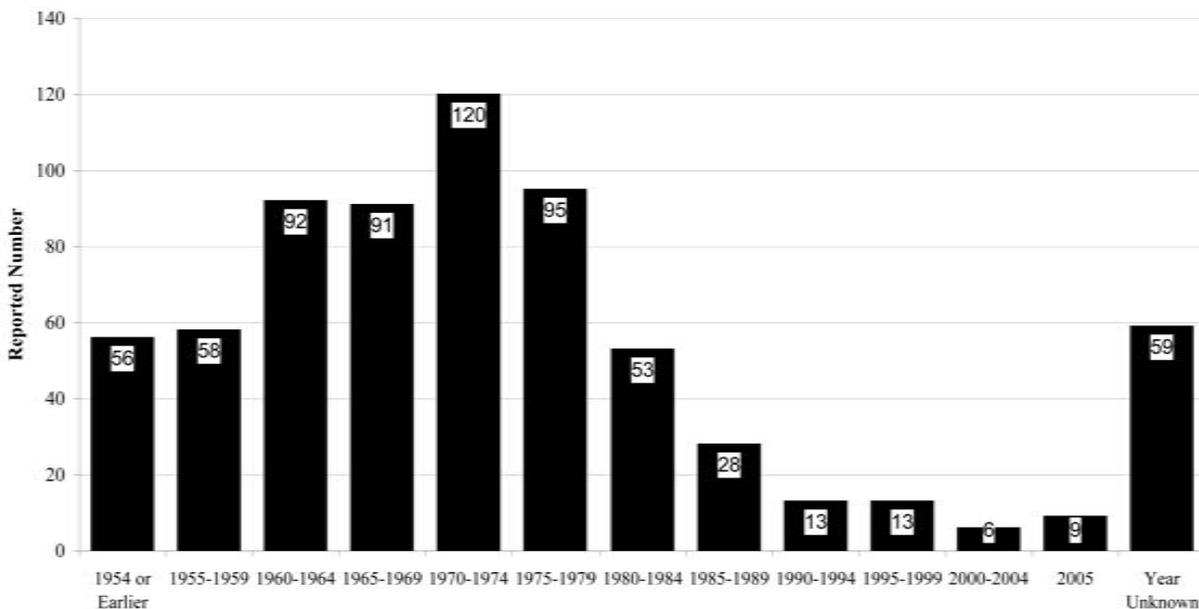
Figure 5 illustrates the years when the abuse reported in 2005 allegedly occurred or began. For most of the new allegations (57 percent), the abuse occurred or began between 1960 and 1979. As in 2004, dioceses and eparchies reported that 1970-1974 was the most common time period for the alleged occurrences. Nearly one in five newly reported allegations (17 percent) were said to have occurred or begun in those years. For 8 percent of new allegations reported in 2005, no time frame for the alleged abuse could be determined by the allegation.

Of the 463 diocesan or eparchial priests or deacons that were identified in new allegations in 2005, most (86

percent) had been ordained for the diocese or eparchy in which the abuse was alleged to have occurred. Six percent were incardinated into that diocese or eparchy from another diocese or eparchy, and 4 percent were extern priests, serving the diocese in a temporary capacity. Five new allegations reported in 2005 involved a permanent deacon. Figure 6 displays the ecclesial status of offenders at the time of the alleged offense.

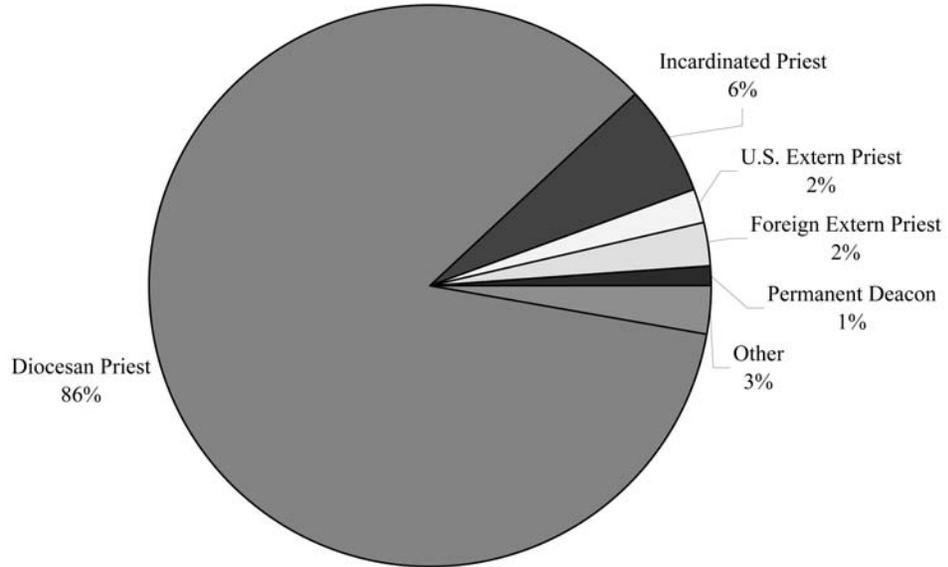
Some two thirds (305) of the 463 priests and deacons identified as alleged offenders in 2005 had already been identified in prior allegations. This is a higher proportion than the 50 percent so identified in 2004. Figure 7 depicts the percentage with prior allegations.

Figure 5. Year Alleged Offense Occurred or Began: Dioceses and Eparchies.



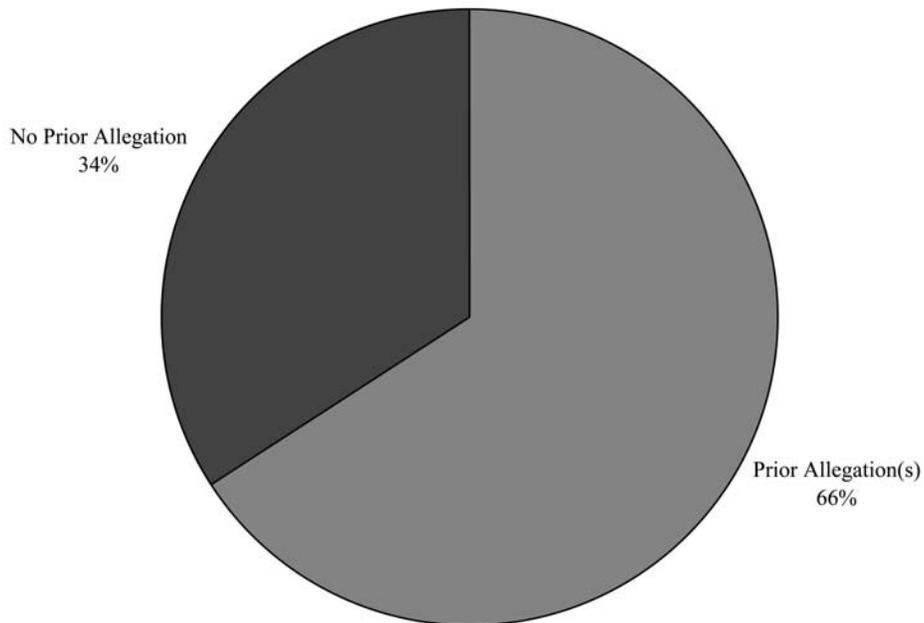
Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 6. Ecclesial Status of Alleged Perpetrator: Dioceses and Eparchies.



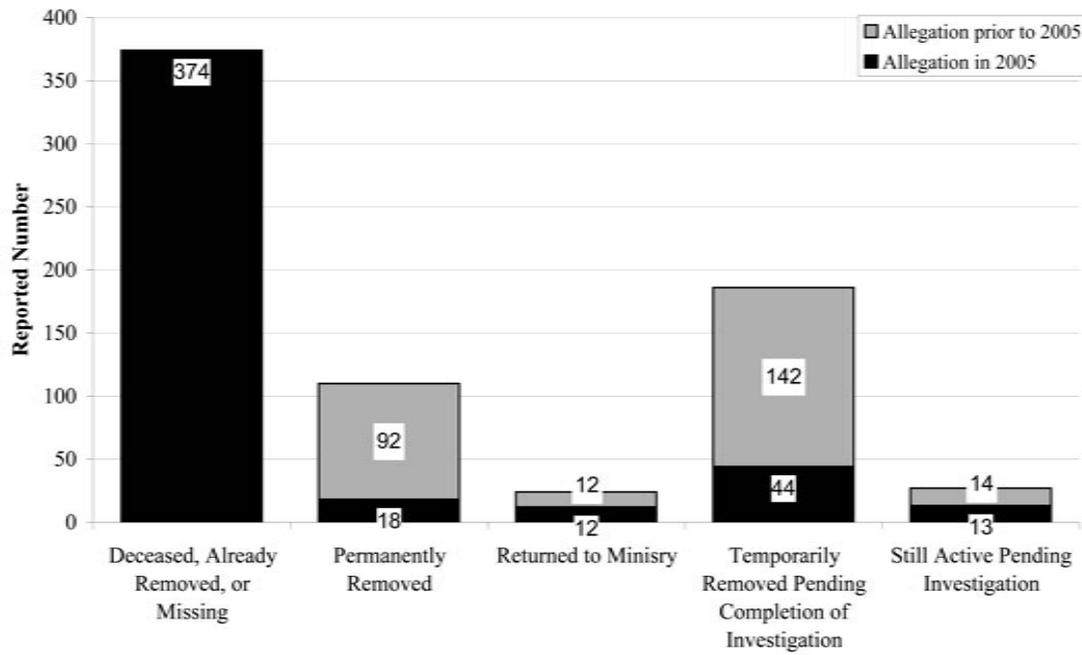
Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 7. Percentage of Alleged Perpetrators with Prior Allegations: Dioceses and Eparchies.



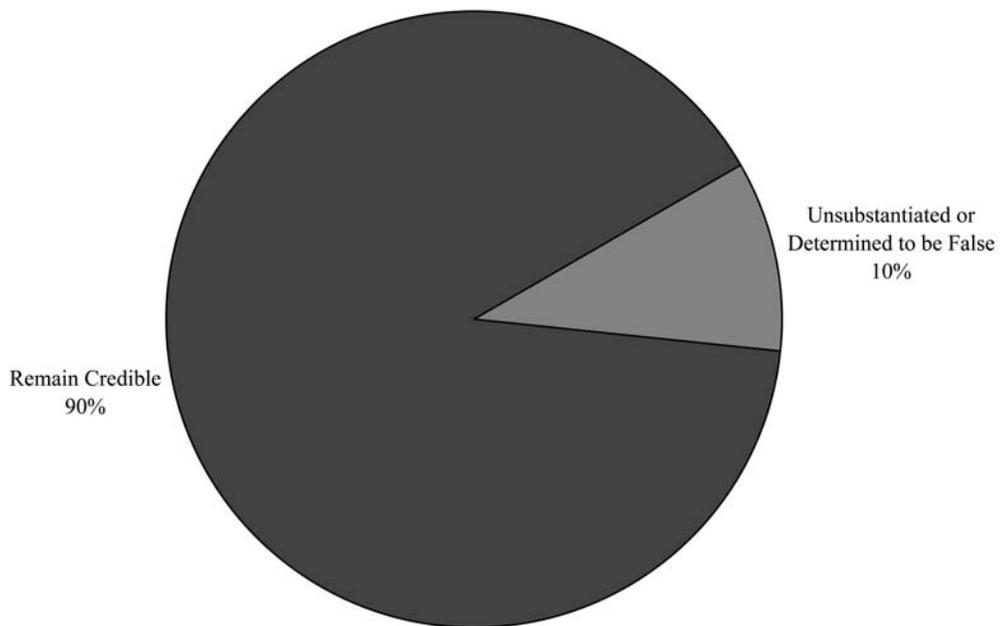
Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 8. Current Status of Alleged Perpetrators: Dioceses and Eparchies.



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 9. New Allegations Unsubstantiated or Determined to be False in 2005: Dioceses and Eparchies.



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 8 shows the current status of alleged offenders. More than eight in ten alleged offenders (81 percent) identified in 2005 are deceased, already removed from ministry, already laicized, or missing and another 4 percent (18 priests or deacons) were permanently removed from ministry in 2005.

In addition to the 18 offenders identified in 2005 and permanently removed from ministry in 2005, another 92 priests or deacons who had been identified in allegations of abuse *before* 2005 were permanently removed from ministry in 2005.

A total of 24 priests or deacons were returned to ministry in 2005 based on the resolution of an allegation made during or prior to 2005 (12 that were identified in 2005 and 12 that were identified before 2005). In addition, 186 priests or deacons (44 that were identified in 2005 and 142 identified before 2005) have been temporarily removed from ministry pending completion of an investigation. Notwithstanding the year in which the abuse was reported, 27 diocesan and eparchial clergy remain in active ministry pending a preliminary investigation of an allegation (13 identified in 2005 and 14 identified prior to 2005).

Of the 695 new credible allegations reported in 2005, one in ten (69 new allegations) was unsubstantiated or determined to be false by December 31, 2005. In addition, 42 allegations received prior to 2005 were unsubstantiated or determined to be false during 2005. Figure 9 presents the percentage of all new credible allegations received in 2005 that were unsubstantiated or determined to be false in 2005.

### Costs to Dioceses and Eparchies in 2005

Dioceses and eparchies that responded to the survey and reported costs related to allegations paid out \$409,737,784 in 2005. This includes payments in 2005 for allegations reported in previous years. Twenty-five responding dioceses and eparchies reported no expenditures in 2005 related to allegations of sexual abuse of a minor. Table 4 compares payments by dioceses and eparchies in 2004 and 2005 across several categories of allegation-related expenses. The total cost reported by dioceses and eparchies in 2005 is \$306 million more than that reported in 2004.

TABLE 4. Costs Related to Allegations by Dioceses and Eparchies.

	2004	2005	Change (+/-) 2004-2005
Settlements	\$93,364,172	\$386,010,171	+\$292,645,999
Therapy for Victims	\$6,613,283	\$7,648,226	+\$1,034,943
Support for Offenders	\$1,413,093	\$11,831,028	+\$10,417,935
Attorneys Fees	\$32,706,598	\$36,467,516	+\$3,760,918
Other Costs	\$5,485,011	\$3,729,607	-\$1,755,404
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$139,582,157</b>	<b>\$445,686,548</b>	<b>+\$306,104,391</b>

Sources: *Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs*, 2004 and 2005.

Most of the payments by dioceses and eparchies in 2005 (86 percent) was for settlements to victims. An additional \$7,630,891 was for payments for therapy for victims (if not included in the settlement). Support for offenders (including therapy, living expenses, legal expenses, etc.) amounted to \$11,751,394<sup>1</sup> and attorneys fees were an additional \$35,756,938. Figure 10 displays the allegation-related costs paid by dioceses and eparchies in 2005.

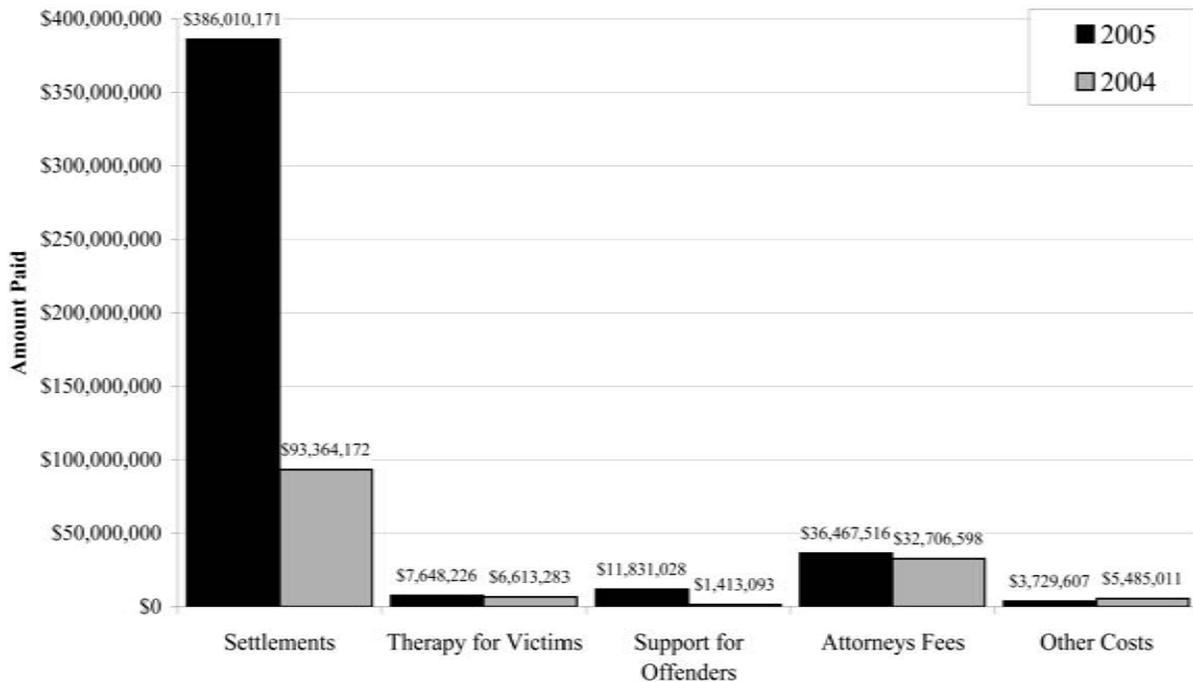
Among the “other” costs reported by dioceses and eparchies (\$3,588,390) are payments for items such as investigations of allegations, living costs for victims or survivors, costs for mediation, other payments related to settlements, travel expenses for victims, costs for victims assistance offices and victim hotlines, clergy mis-

conduct review boards, canonical trials and case processing, and USCCB compliance audit costs.

Figure 11 illustrates the allegation-related costs paid by dioceses and eparchies and the approximate proportion of that cost that was covered by diocesan insurance. Almost half (49 percent) of the total allegation-related costs paid by dioceses and eparchies in 2005 was covered by diocesan insurance.

In addition to allegation-related expenditures, at least \$19,218,671 was spent by dioceses and eparchies for child protection efforts, such as training programs and background checks. Figure 12 compares the allegation-related costs to child protection expenditures paid by dioceses and eparchies in 2005.

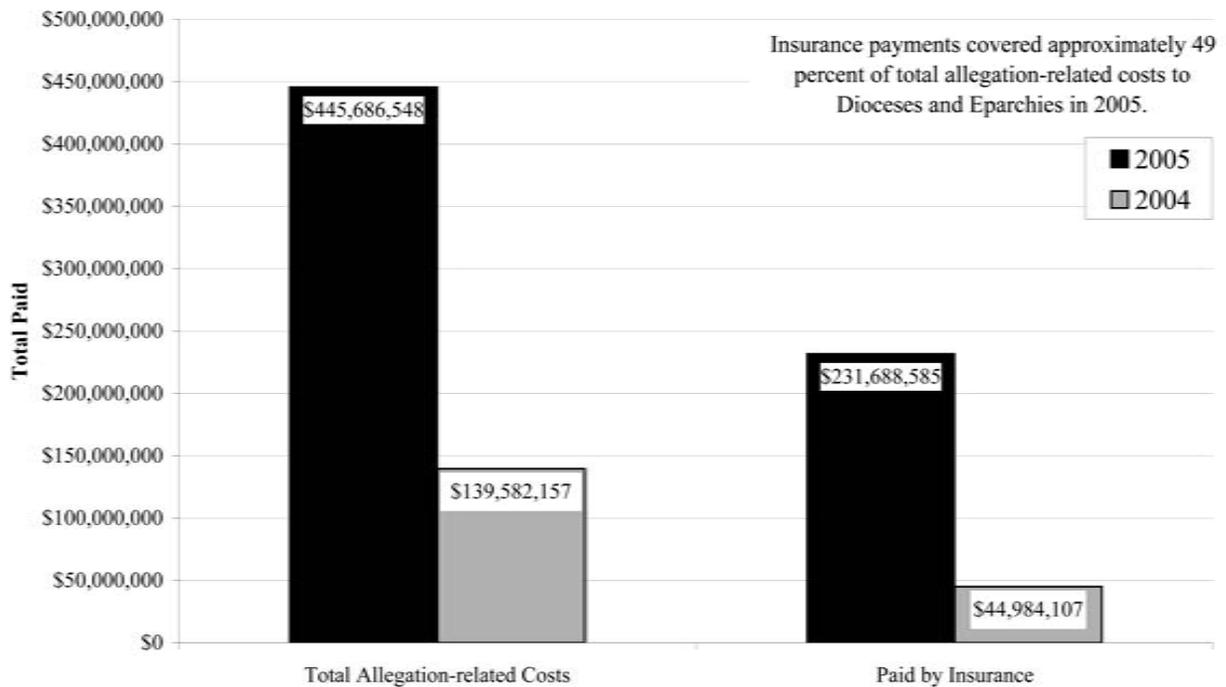
Figure 10. Payments Related to Allegations: Dioceses and Eparchies.



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

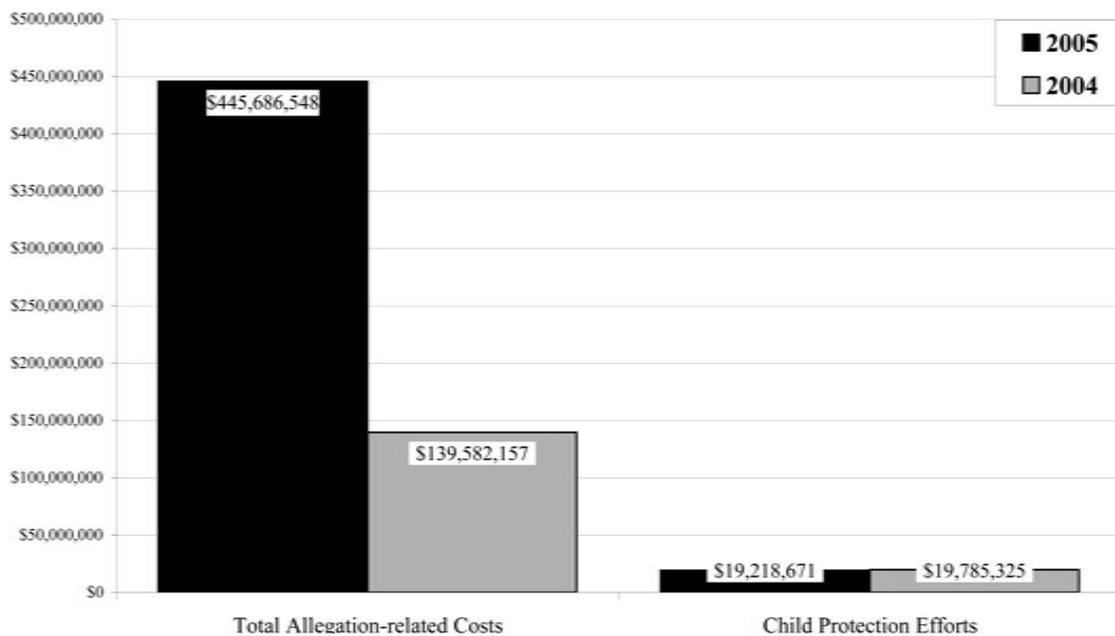
1 This cost is substantially higher than that reported in 2004, largely due to a change in question wording. In 2005, the question was changed from “Payments for therapy for offenders” to “Payments for support for offenders (including living expenses, legal expenses, therapy, etc.)” to more accurately capture the full costs to dioceses and eparchies for support of alleged offenders.

Figure 11. Proportion of Total Allegation-related Costs Paid by Insurance:  
Dioceses and Eparchies.



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 12. Costs for Settlements and Child Protection Efforts:  
Dioceses and Eparchies.



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

### CLERICAL AND MIXED RELIGIOUS INSTITUTES

The Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM) also encouraged the major superiors of clerical and mixed religious institutes to complete a survey for their congregations or provinces. This survey was nearly identical to the survey for dioceses and eparchies and was also available online at the same site as the survey for dioceses and eparchies. CMSM sent a letter and a copy of the survey to all member major superiors in December to ask them to participate. CARA and CMSM also sent several e-mail and fax reminders to major superiors to encourage their participation. By March 1, 2006, CARA received responses from 148 of the 221 clerical and mixed religious institutes that belong to CMSM, for a response rate of 67 percent. This is a somewhat lower response than the 71 percent that was received in 2004 (158 of 221 possible).

A copy of the survey instrument for religious institutes is included at Appendix II.

#### Credible Allegations Received by Clerical and Mixed Religious Institutes in 2005

During 2005, clerical and mixed religious institutes received reports of 88 new credible allegations of sexual abuse of a minor committed by a priest or deacon of the community. These allegations were made against 69 individuals who were priests or deacons of the community at the time the offense was alleged to have occurred. Table 5 presents these numbers and the comparable numbers reported in 2004. New reports of allegations have declined by 55 percent since 2004 and the number of alleged offenders declined by 49 percent.

**TABLE 5. New Credible Allegations Reported by Religious Institutes.**

	2004	2005	Change (+/-) 2004-2005
Victims	194	87	-107
Allegations	194	88	-106
Offenders	134	69	-65

Sources: *Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs*, 2004 and 2005.

None of the new allegations reported by religious institutes involved children who were under the age of 18 in 2005. All the new allegations were made by men and women who are alleging abuse as minors in previous years.

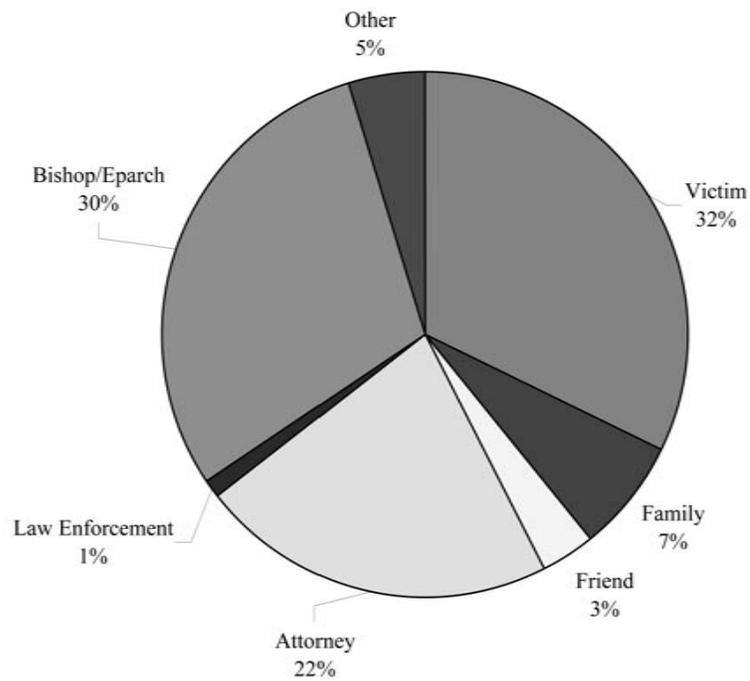
Figure 13 displays the way in which allegations were reported to the religious institutes in 2005. About a third of the new allegations were reported by the victim and approximately three in ten were reported to the religious institute by a bishop or eparch, most typically from the diocese or eparchy in which the accused offender was serving at the time the alleged abuse occurred.

Compared to 2004, fewer allegations were reported by victims or by attorneys, more were reported by family, friends, or law enforcement, and a new category (bishop/eparch) was added in 2005. The percentage in each category in 2004 was:

- 41 percent of allegations were reported by the victim in 2004.
- An attorney reported 39 percent of the allegations in 2004.
- Family members reported 4 percent of allegations in 2004.
- A friend of the victim reported 1 percent of allegations in 2004.
- “Bishop or Other Official from a Diocese” was not offered as a response category in 2004, but a number of religious institutes wrote that response in the “Other” category, so it was added in 2005.
- 15 percent of new credible allegations were reported by “Other” in 2004, compared to 5 percent in 2005. Some of these other persons reporting allegations included investigators, an IT technician, a pastor, or a therapist.

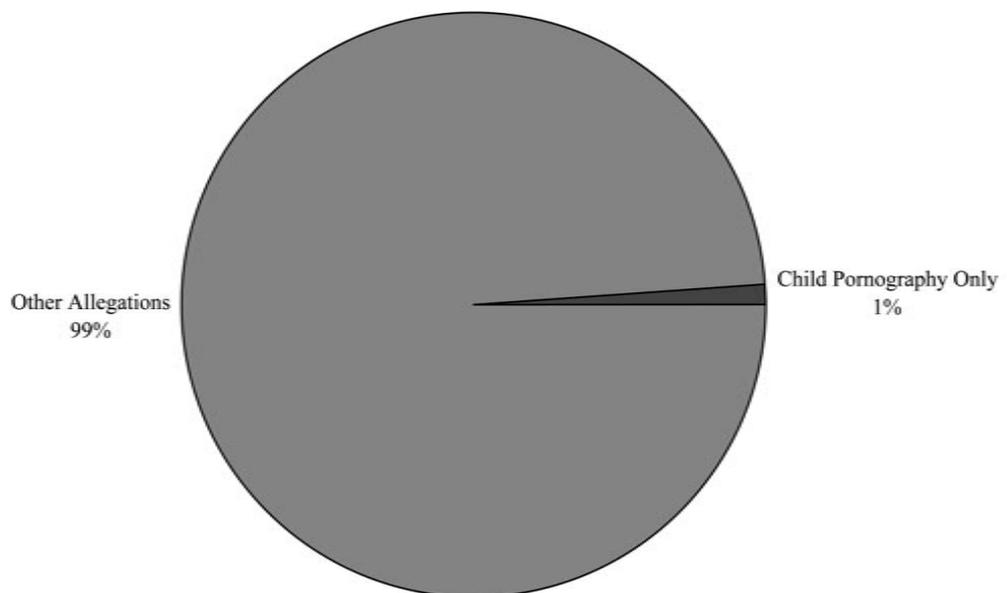
Figure 14 presents the percentage of all new allegations of abuse that were cases involving solely child pornography. Of the 88 new allegations, just one involved child pornography only. In 2004, no religious institutes reported any allegations that involved only child pornography.

Figure 13. Method of Reporting Allegations of Abuse: Religious Institutes.



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 14. Percentage of Allegations Involving Only Child Pornography: Religious Institutes.



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

### Victims, Offenses, and Offenders in 2005

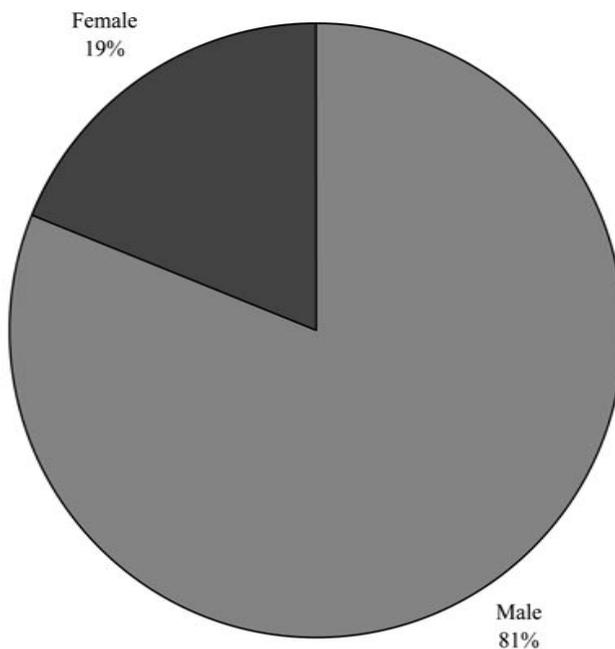
Eight in ten victims reported in 2005 were male (69 victims) and about one in five was female. This proportion is displayed in Figure 15.

Over half the victims (53 percent) were ages 10 to 14 when the alleged abuse began. More than a quarter (28 percent) was between 15 and 17 when the alleged abuse occurred and 14 percent were under age 10. The age of the victim could not be determined for five of

the new allegations. Figure 16 presents the distribution of victims by age at the time the alleged abuse began.

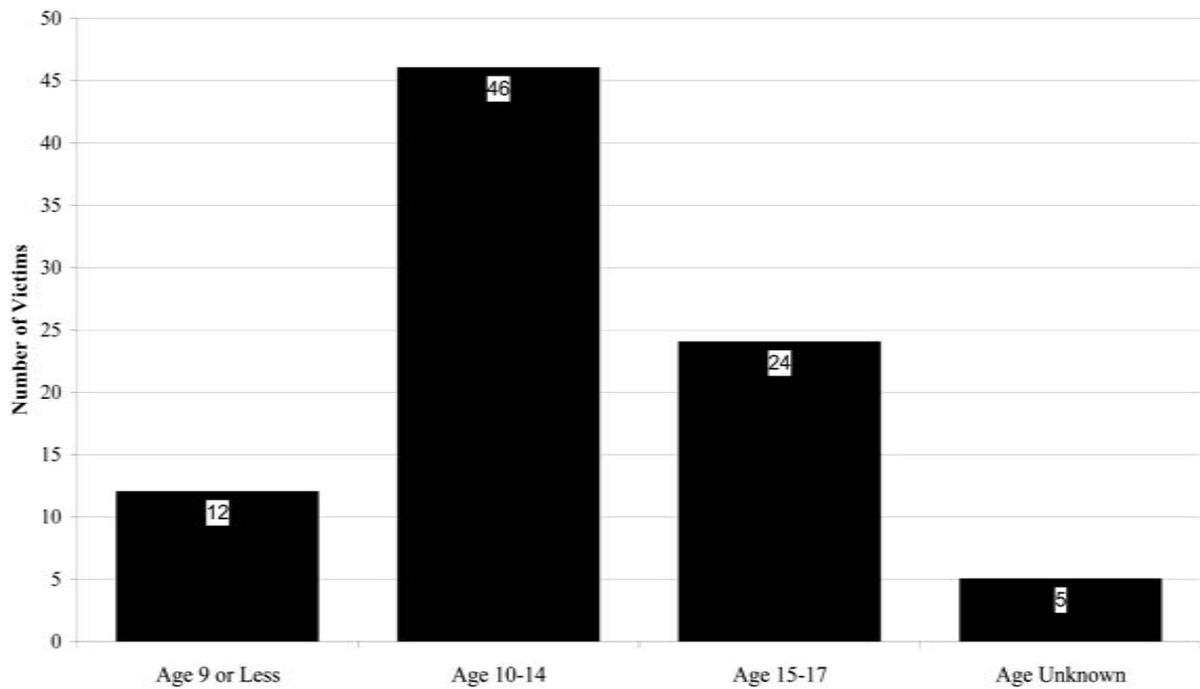
Most of the new allegations reported in 2005 (59 percent) were said to have occurred or begun between 1960 and 1979. As in 2004, religious institutes reported that the most common time period for the alleged offenses was between 1965 and 1969. Some 16 percent of new allegations were reported to have occurred or begun in that time period. Figure 17 illustrates the years when the allegations reported in 2005 were said to have occurred or begun.

Figure 15. Gender of Abuse Victim: Religious Institutes.



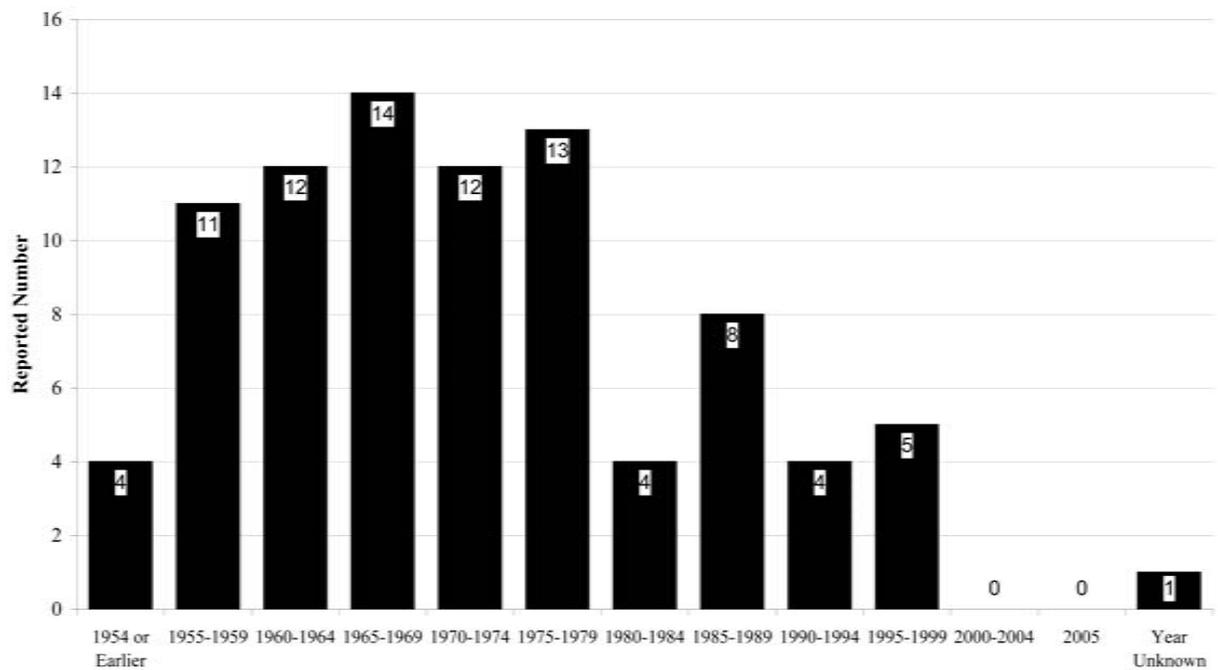
Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 16. Age of Victim When Abuse Began: Religious Institutes.



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 17. Year Alleged Offense Occurred or Began: Religious Institutes.



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Of the 69 religious priests against whom new allegations were made in 2005, most were priests of a U.S. province or community, serving in the United States at the time the abuse was alleged to have occurred (72 percent). None were deacons at the time the alleged abuse occurred. Figure 18 displays the ecclesial status of offenders at the time of the alleged abuse.

Just over a third, 35 percent, of the religious priests against whom new allegations were made in 2005 had already been the subject of previous allegations in prior years. The other two thirds had no previous allegations. Figure 19 presents these proportions graphically.

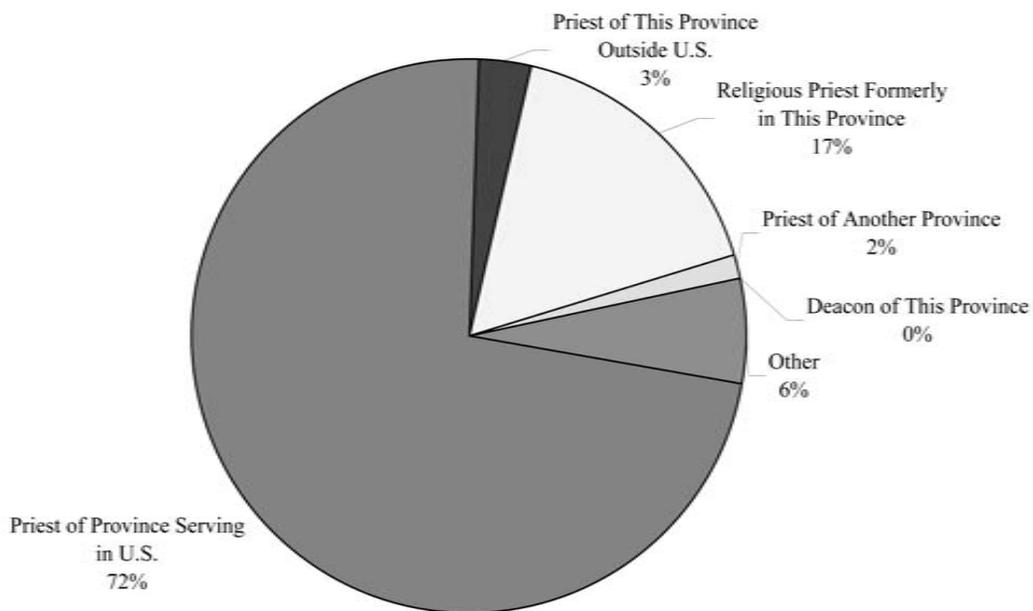
About two thirds of the alleged offenders identified in 2005 (44 priests) were deceased, had already been removed from ministry, or had already left the institute at the time the allegation was reported and another 3 percent (2 priests) were permanently removed from

ministry in 2005. Figure 20 displays the current status of alleged offenders.

In addition to the two offenders identified in 2005 and permanently removed from ministry in 2005, another 15 priests or deacons who had been identified in allegations of abuse *before* 2005 were permanently removed from ministry in 2005.

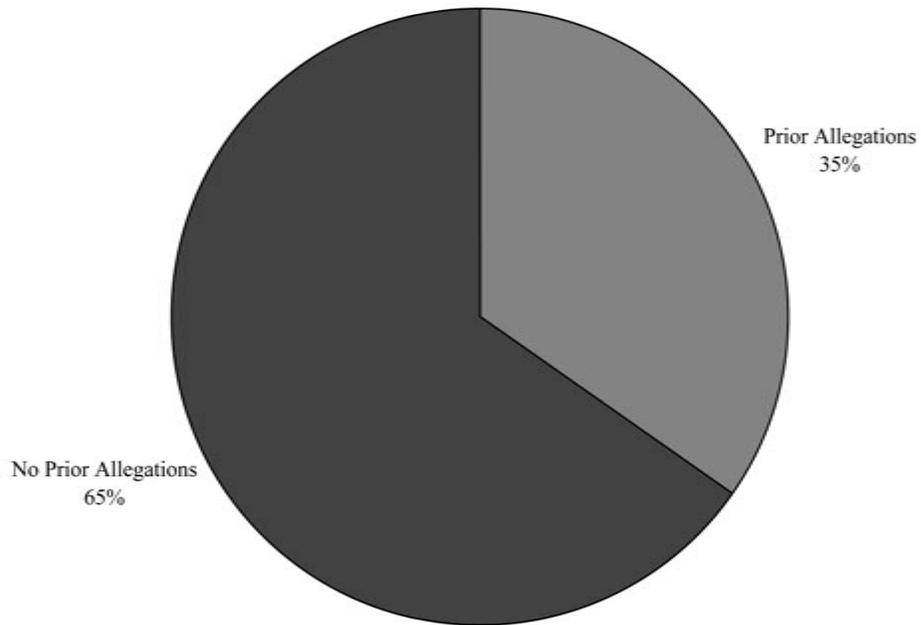
A total of six priests or deacons were returned to ministry in 2005 based on the resolution of an allegation made prior to 2005. No priests identified in new allegations in 2005 were returned to ministry in 2005. In addition, 37 religious priests or deacons (13 that were identified in 2005 and 24 identified before 2005) have been temporarily removed pending completion of an investigation. Notwithstanding the year in which the abuse was reported, four remain in active ministry pending a preliminary investigation of an allegation (one identified in 2005 and 3 identified prior to 2005).

Figure 18. Ecclesial Status of Alleged Perpetrator: Religious Institutes.



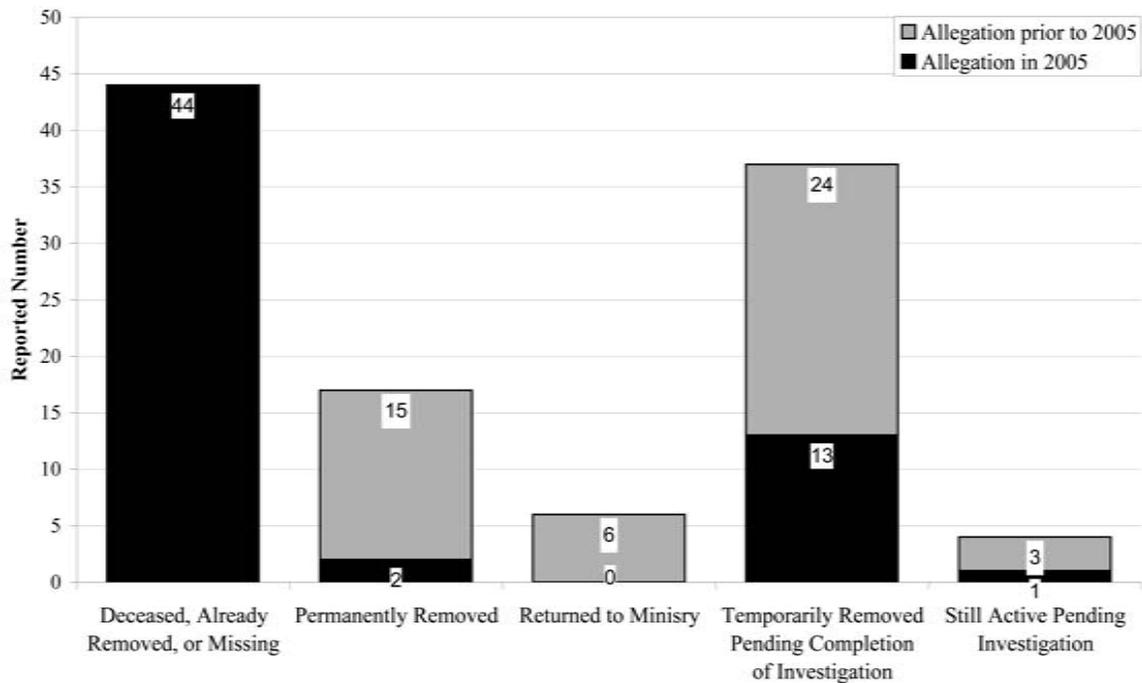
Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 19. Percentage of Alleged Perpetrators with Prior Allegations: Religious Institutes.



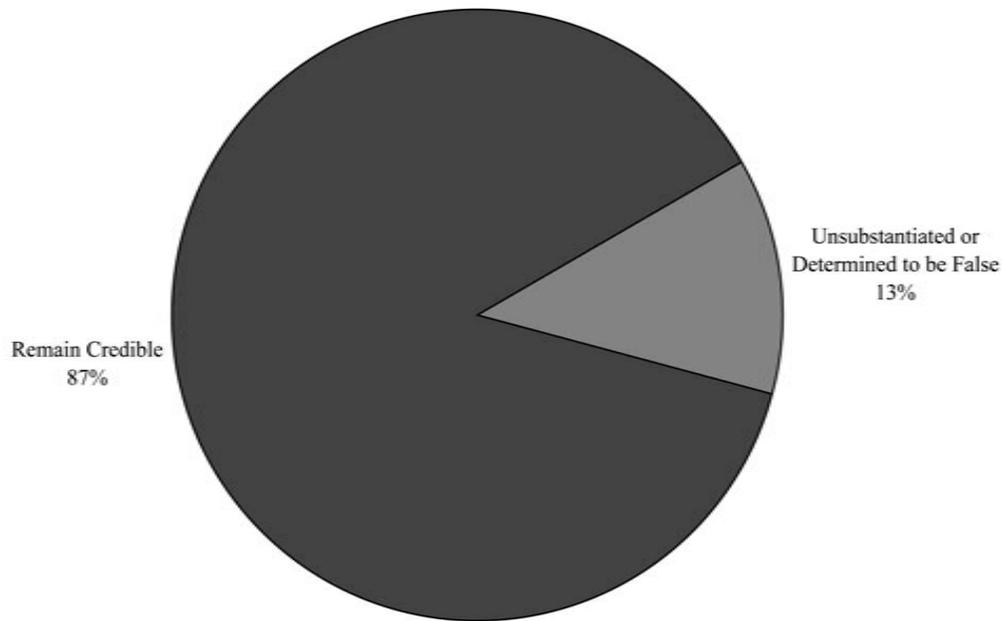
Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 20. Current Status of Alleged Perpetrators: Religious Institutes.



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 21. New Allegations Unsubstantiated or Determined to be False in 2005: Religious Institutes



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

TABLE 6. Costs Related to Allegations by Religious Institutes.

	2004	2005	Change (+/-) 2004-2005
Settlements	\$12,877,637	\$13,027,285	+\$149,648
Therapy for Victims	\$793,053	\$755,971	-\$37,082
Support for Offenders	\$456,237	\$1,838,110	+\$1,381,873
Attorneys Fees	\$3,544,847	\$4,784,124	+\$1,239,277
Other Costs	\$548,880	\$841,434	+\$292,554
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$18,220,654</b>	<b>\$21,246,924</b>	<b>+\$3,026,270</b>

Sources: Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs, 2004 and 2005.

Of the 88 new allegations reported to religious institutes in 2005, some 13 percent (11 new allegations) were determined to be unsubstantiated by December 31, 2005. In addition, 17 allegations received prior to 2005 were determined to be unsubstantiated during

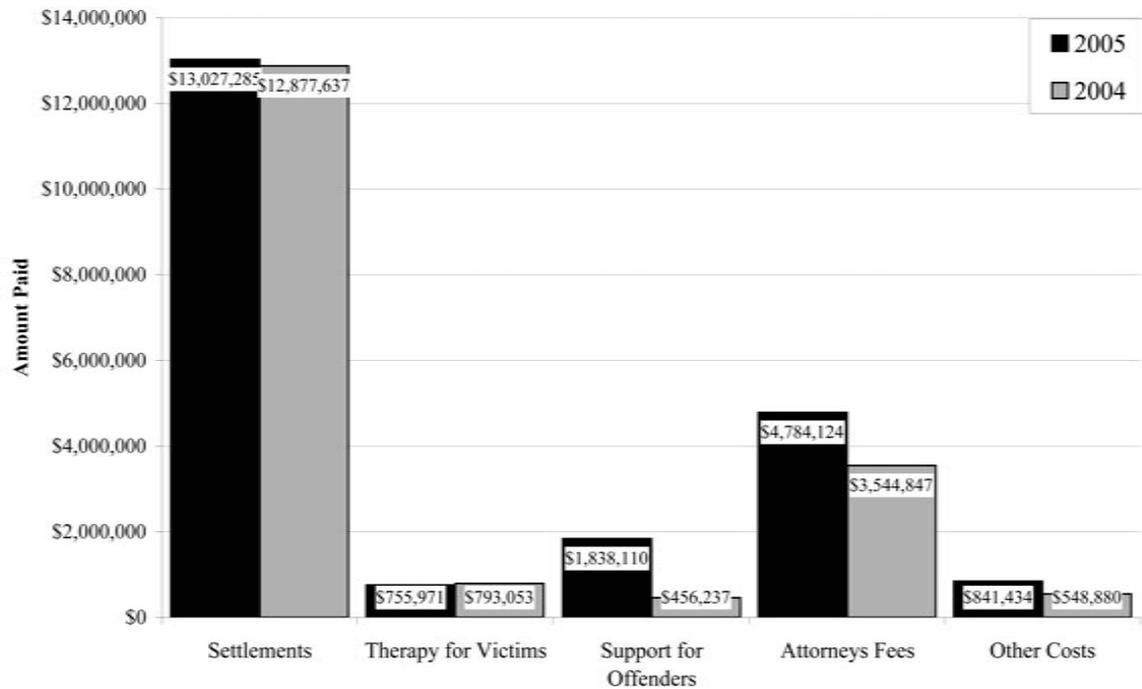
2005. Figure 21 presents the percentage of all new allegations received in 2005 that were determined to be unsubstantiated in 2005.

**Costs to Clerical and Mixed Religious Institutes in 2005**

Clerical and mixed religious institutes that responded to the survey and reported their costs related to allegations paid out \$21,246,924 in 2005. This includes costs paid in 2005 for allegations reported in previous years. Table 6 compares

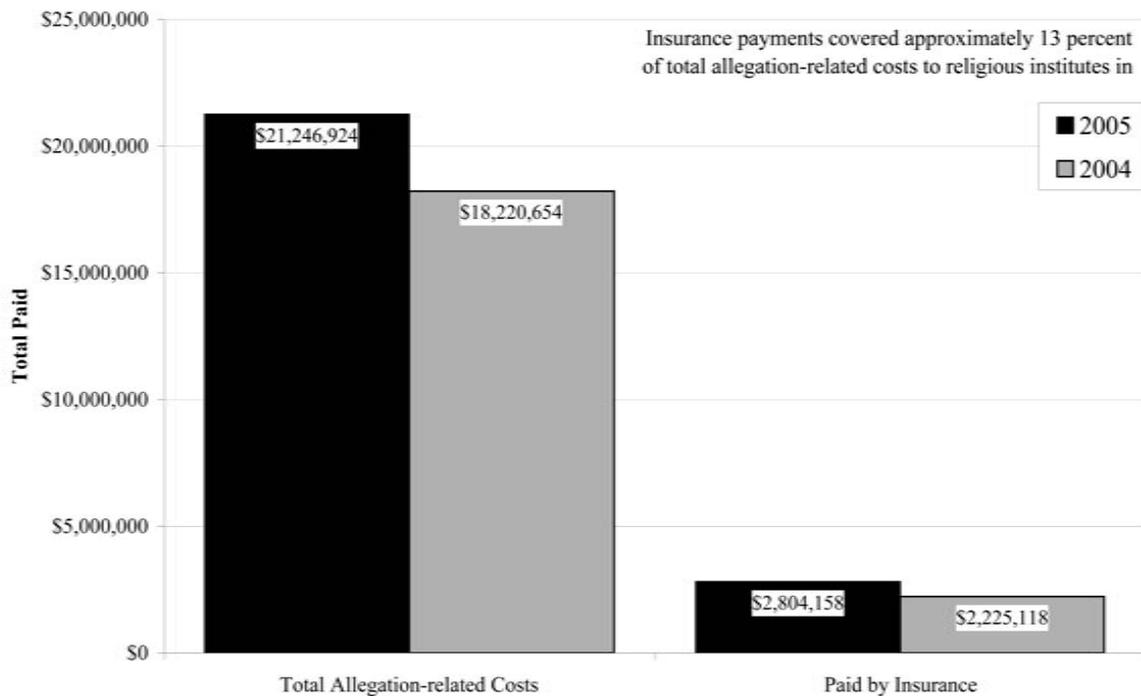
the payments by religious institutes in 2004 and 2005 across several categories of allegation-related expenses. The total reported allegation-related cost to clerical and mixed religious institutes is over \$3 million more than that reported in 2004.

Figure 22. Payments Related to Allegations: Religious Institutes



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Figure 23. Approximate Percentage of Total Paid by Insurance: Religious Institutes



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

Most of the payments by religious institutes in 2005 (61 percent) were for settlements to victims. An additional \$755,971 was for payments for therapy for victims (if not included in the settlement). Support for offenders (including therapy, living expenses, legal expenses, etc.) amounted to \$1,838,110<sup>2</sup> and attorneys fees were an additional \$4,784,124. Figure 22 illustrates the settlement-related costs paid by religious institutes in 2005.

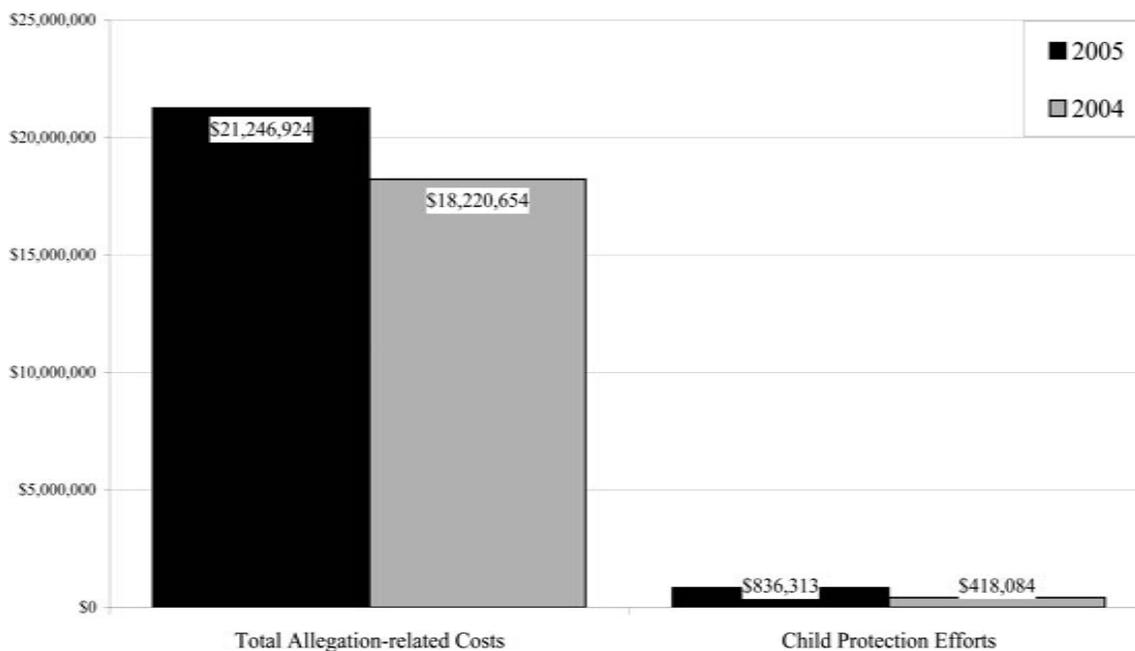
Payments designated as “other” reported by religious institutes (\$841,434) included expenses for investigation of allegations, transportation for interviews with victims, reimbursement for medical help and other assistance to victims and their families, public rela-

tions, victim assistance office, review board, and praesidium expenses.

Figure 23 displays the total allegation-related costs paid by these religious institutes and the proportion of that cost that was covered by insurance. Approximately 13 percent of the total allegation-related costs paid by religious institutes in 2005 were covered by insurance.

In addition to allegation-related expenditures, religious institutes spent \$836,313 for child protection efforts, such as training programs and background checks. Figure 24 compares the settlement-related costs to child protection expenditures paid by religious institutes in 2005.

Figure 24. Costs for Settlements and Child Protection Efforts: Religious Institutes.



Source: 2005 Survey of Allegations and Costs

2 The difference in cost here between 2004 and 2005 is largely attributable to a change in question wording in 2005. See the explanation in the previous footnote.

## CHAPTER SIX

# CARA Total Responses

Tables 7, 8, and 9 present the combined total responses of dioceses, eparchies, and men's clerical and mixed religious institutes. These tables depict the total number of allegations, victims, offenders, and costs as reported by both groups. In addition, these tables also show the same combined figures for 2004 so that changes in the totals between 2004 and 2005 can be compared.

Table 7 illustrates that the total number of new allegations, victims, and alleged offenders has decreased from 2004. Compared to 2005, the number of new allega-

tions and victims are each down by 28 percent and the total number of offenders named in those new allegations is down by 30 percent.

Although the total number of new allegations has declined from 2004, Table 8 shows that the total costs for allegation-related expenses have increased by close to \$309 million from 2004 to 2005. The total allegation-related expenditures by dioceses, eparchies, and clerical and mixed religious institutes increased by 173 percent between 2004 and 2005.

**TABLE 7. New Credible Allegations Reported: Combined Totals.**

	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>Change (+/-) 2004-2005</b>
Victims	1,083	777	-306
Allegations	1,092	783	-309
Offenders	756	532	-224

Sources: *Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs*, 2004 and 2005.

**TABLE 8. Costs Related to Allegations: Combined Totals.**

	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>Change (+/-) 2004-2005</b>
Settlements	\$106,241,809	\$399,037,456	+\$292,795,647
Therapy for Victims	\$7,406,336	\$8,404,197	+\$997,861
Support for Offenders	\$1,869,330	\$13,669,138	+\$11,799,808
Attorneys Fees	\$36,251,445	\$41,251,640	+\$5,000,195
Other Costs	\$6,033,891	\$4,571,041	-\$1,462,850
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$157,802,811</b>	<b>\$466,933,472</b>	<b>\$309,130,661</b>

Sources: *Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs*, 2004 and 2005.

Table 9 compares the total costs for allegation-related expenses to the amount expended for child protection efforts in 2004 and 2005. While the total amount spent for allegation-related expenses has increased by

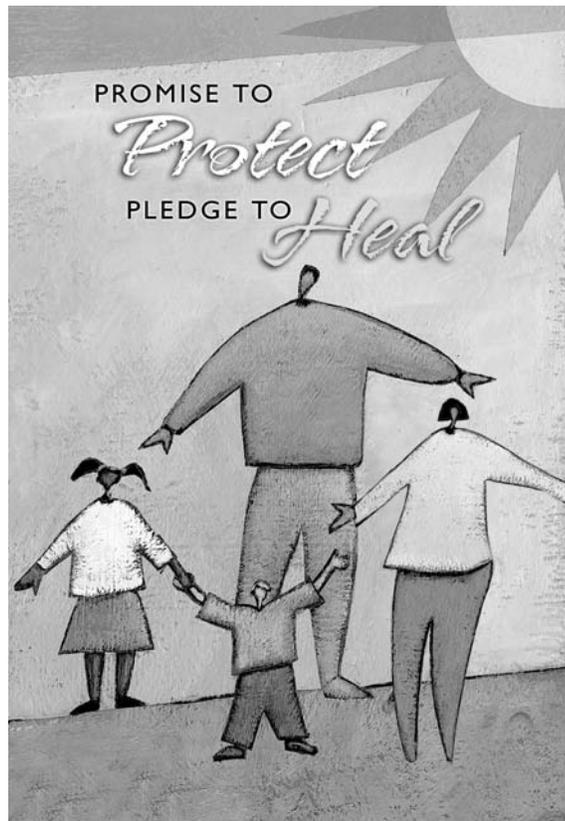
173 percent, the total amount reported for child protection efforts in 2005 is nearly identical to that expended in 2004.

**TABLE 9. Costs for Settlements and Child Protection: Combined Totals.**

	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>Change (+/-) 2004-2005</b>
Settlement-related	\$157,802,811	\$466,933,472	+\$309,130,661
Child Protection Efforts	\$20,199,409	\$20,054,984	-\$144,425

Sources: *Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs*, 2004 and 2005.

# Section III



## CHAPTER SEVEN

# 2005 Recommendations

According to Article 9 of the 2002 *Charter*, the National Review Board will approve the Annual Report of the implementation of the *Charter* in each of the dioceses/eparchies, as well as any recommendations that emerge from this review. Below are those recommendations that emerged from this review, which were prepared by the Office of Child and Youth Protection and approved by the National Review Board.

### **To Promote Healing and Reconciliation with Victims/Survivors of Sexual Abuse of Minors**

It is recommended

1. That dioceses/eparchies review their initial telephonic outreach procedures to victims in order to assure victims that they will receive a prompt response and that their calls will be handled confidentially.
2. That dioceses/eparchies review the composition of diocesan review boards to ensure that the majority of voting members are lay persons appointed from the larger civic/church community, rather than Church employees.

### **To Guarantee an Effective Response to Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors**

It is recommended that the Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People and the National Review Board prepare a protocol to be used when dioceses/eparchies are informed about reports of abuse by local law enforcement and child protective services without being directly contacted by the victim and/or the victim's family.

### **To Ensure Accountability of Our Procedures**

It is recommended

1. That future audits be conducted onsite and that self-reporting audits be eliminated. Onsite audits

provide the auditors with the opportunity to interact more effectively with diocesan staff and the materials provided.

2. That a standard, uniform audit period be established for the time of the 2007 audit. Implementation of this recommendation will facilitate data gathering at the local level and will make the gathered data more useful when they are reported.
3. That the definitions used in the 2005 audit to identify those for whom training and background checks are required be retained in the 2006 Audit Instrument.
4. That workshops on audit preparation be conducted in each region of the USCCB and that participants include the diocesan bishop, those whom the diocesan bishop invites, and those who are responsible for completing the audit materials. The training sessions should address the following issues:
  - Clarification of the scope of the audit
  - Standards for compliance with each Article
  - Necessity of using Audit Instrument that is provided
5. That dioceses/eparchies develop a computer use policy for all those who use the diocesan/eparchial based computer system.

### **To Protect the Faithful**

It is recommended that the Office of Child and Youth Protection initiate a study to identify key components of safe environment training and share the results of the study with the dioceses/eparchies.

## APPENDIX A

# Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People

(November 2002)

### PREAMBLE

The Church in the United States is experiencing a crisis without precedent in our times. The sexual abuse of children and young people by some priests and bishops, and the ways in which we bishops addressed these crimes and sins, have caused enormous pain, anger, and confusion. Innocent victims and their families have suffered terribly. In the past, secrecy has created an atmosphere that has inhibited the healing process and, in some cases, enabled sexually abusive behavior to be repeated. As bishops, we acknowledge our mistakes and our role in that suffering, and we apologize and take responsibility for too often failing victims and our people in the past. We also take responsibility for dealing with this problem strongly, consistently, and effectively in the future. From the depths of our hearts, we bishops express great sorrow and profound regret for what the Catholic people are enduring.

We, who have been given the responsibility of shepherding God's people, will, with God's help and in full collaboration with our people, continue to work to restore the bonds of trust that unite us. Words alone cannot accomplish this goal. It will begin with the actions we take here in our General Assembly and at home in our dioceses/eparchies.

The damage caused by sexual abuse of minors is devastating and long-lasting. We reach out to those who suffer, but especially to the victims of sexual abuse and their families. We apologize to them for the grave harm that has been inflicted upon them, and we offer them our help for the future. In the light of so much suffering, healing and reconciliation are beyond human capacity alone. Only God's grace, mercy, and

forgiveness can lead us forward, trusting Christ's promise: "for God all things are possible" (Mt 19:26).

The loss of trust becomes even more tragic when its consequence is a loss of the faith that we have a sacred duty to foster. We make our own the words of our Holy Father: that sexual abuse of young people is "by every standard wrong and rightly considered a crime by society; it is also an appalling sin in the eyes of God" (Address to the Cardinals of the United States and Conference Officers, April 23, 2002).

The Conference of Bishops has been addressing the evil of sexual abuse of minors by a priest and, at its June 1992 meeting, established five principles to be followed (cf. Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse, National Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Restoring Trust*, November 1994). We also need to recognize that many dioceses and eparchies did implement in a responsible and timely fashion policies and procedures that have safeguarded children and young people. Many bishops did take appropriate steps to address clergy who were guilty of sexual misconduct.

Let there now be no doubt or confusion on anyone's part: For us, your bishops, our obligation to protect children and young people and to prevent sexual abuse flows from the mission and example given to us by Jesus Christ himself, in whose name we serve.

Jesus showed constant care for the vulnerable. He inaugurated his ministry with these words of the Prophet Isaiah:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me

to bring glad tidings to the poor.  
 He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives  
 and recovery of sight to the blind,  
 to let the oppressed go free,  
 and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.  
 (Lk 4:18)

In Matthew 25, the Lord made this part of his commission to his apostles and disciples when he told them that whenever they showed mercy and compassion to the least ones, they showed it to him.

Jesus extended this care in a tender and urgent way to children, rebuking his disciples for keeping them away from him: “Let the children come to me” (Mt 19:14). And he uttered the grave warning about anyone who would lead the little ones astray, saying that it would be better for such a person “to have a great millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea” (Mt 18:6).

We hear these words of the Lord as prophetic for this moment. With a firm determination to resolve this crisis, we bishops commit ourselves to a pastoral outreach to repair the breach with those who have suffered sexual abuse and with all the people of the Church. We renew our determination to provide safety and protection for children and young people in our church ministries and institutions. We pledge ourselves to act in a way that manifests our accountability to God, to his people, and to one another in this grave matter. We commit ourselves to do all we can to heal the trauma that victims/survivors and their families are suffering and the wound that the whole Church is experiencing. We acknowledge our need to be in dialogue with all Catholics, especially victims and parents, around this issue. By these actions, we want to demonstrate to the wider community that we comprehend the gravity of the sexual abuse of minors.

To fulfill these goals, our dioceses/eparchies and our national conference, in a spirit of repentance and renewal, will adopt and implement policies based upon the following.

### **TO PROMOTE HEALING AND RECONCILIATION WITH VICTIMS/SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINORS**

**ARTICLE 1.** Dioceses/eparchies will reach out to victims/survivors and their families and demonstrate a sincere commitment to their spiritual and emotional well-being. The first obligation of the Church with regard to the victims is for healing and reconciliation. Where such outreach is not already in place and operative, each diocese/eparchy is to develop an outreach to every person who has been the victim of sexual abuse\* as a minor by anyone acting in the name of the Church, whether the abuse was recent or occurred many years in the past. This outreach will include provision of counseling, spiritual assistance, support groups, and other social services agreed upon by the victim and the diocese/eparchy. In cooperation with social service agencies and other churches, support groups for victims/survivors and others affected by abuse should be fostered and encouraged in every diocese/eparchy and in local parish communities.

Through pastoral outreach to victims and their families, the diocesan/eparchial bishop or his representative will offer to meet with them, to listen with patience and compassion to their experiences and concerns, and to share the “profound sense of solidarity and concern” expressed by our Holy Father in his Address to the Cardinals of the United States and Conference Officers. This pastoral outreach by the bishop or his delegate will also be directed to faith communities in which the sexual abuse occurred.

**ARTICLE 2.** Dioceses/eparchies will have mechanisms in place to respond promptly to any allegation where there is reason to believe that sexual abuse of a minor has occurred. Dioceses/eparchies will have a competent person or persons to coordinate assistance for the immediate pastoral care of persons who claim to have been sexually abused as minors by clergy or other church personnel. Dioceses/eparchies will also have a review board that functions as a confidential consultative body to the bishop/eparch. The majority of its members will be lay persons not in the employ of the diocese/eparchy (see norm 5 in *Essential Norms for Diocesan/Eparchial Policies Dealing with Allegations of*

*Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests or Deacons*, 2002). This board will advise the diocesan/eparchial bishop in his assessment of allegations of sexual abuse of minors and in his determination of suitability for ministry. It will regularly review diocesan/eparchial policies and procedures for dealing with sexual abuse of minors. Also, the board can review these matters both retrospectively and prospectively and give advice on all aspects of responses required in connection with these cases. The procedures for those making a complaint will be readily available in printed form and will be the subject of periodic public announcements.

ARTICLE 3. Dioceses/eparchies will not enter into confidentiality agreements except for grave and substantial reasons brought forward by the victim/survivor and noted in the text of the agreement.

### **TO GUARANTEE AN EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TO ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF MINORS**

ARTICLE 4. Dioceses/eparchies will report an allegation of sexual abuse of a person who is a minor to the public authorities. Dioceses/eparchies will comply with all applicable civil laws with respect to the reporting of allegations of sexual abuse of minors to civil authorities and will cooperate in their investigation in accord with the law of the jurisdiction in question.

Dioceses/eparchies will cooperate with public authorities about reporting in cases when the person is no longer a minor.

In every instance, dioceses/eparchies will advise victims of their right to make a report to public authorities and will support this right.

ARTICLE 5. We repeat the words of our Holy Father in his Address to the Cardinals of the United States and Conference Officers: “There is no place in the priesthood or religious life for those who would harm the young.”

When an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest or a deacon is received, a preliminary investiga-

tion, in harmony with canon law (CIC, cc. 1717-1719; CCEO, cc. 1468-1470), will be initiated and conducted promptly and objectively. If this investigation so indicates, the diocesan/eparchial bishop will both notify the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and apply the precautionary measures mentioned in CIC, canon 1722, or CCEO, canon 1473—i.e., relieve the alleged offender promptly of his ministerial duties. The alleged offender may be requested to seek, or urged voluntarily to comply with, an appropriate medical and psychological evaluation, so long as this does not interfere with the investigation by civil authorities. When the accusation has proved to be unfounded, every step possible will be taken to restore the good name of the priest or deacon.

When sexual abuse of a minor by a priest or a deacon is admitted or is established after an appropriate process in accord with canon law, the following will pertain:

- Diocesan/eparchial policy will provide that for even a single act of sexual abuse (see Article 1, note \*) of a minor—past, present, or future—the offending priest or deacon will be permanently removed from ministry, not excluding dismissal from the clerical state, if the case so warrants. In keeping with the stated purpose of this *Charter*, an offending priest or deacon will be offered professional assistance for his own healing and well-being, as well as for the purpose of prevention.
- In every case involving canonical penalties, the processes provided for in canon law must be observed (cf. *Canonical Delicts Involving Sexual Misconduct and Dismissal from the Clerical State*, 1995; cf. Letter from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, May 18, 2001). For the sake of due process, the accused is to be encouraged to retain the assistance of civil and canonical counsel. When necessary, the diocese/eparchy will supply canonical counsel to a priest or deacon.
- Also provided for in canon law are the following: a request by the priest or deacon for dispensation from the obligation of holy orders and the loss of the clerical state or a request by the bishop for dismissal from the clerical state even without the consent of the priest or deacon (cf. *Canonical Delicts*).

- If the penalty of dismissal from the clerical state has not been applied (e.g., for reasons of advanced age or infirmity), the offender ought to lead a life of prayer and penance. He will not be permitted to celebrate Mass publicly or to administer the sacraments. He is to be instructed not to wear clerical garb or to present himself publicly as a priest.
- At all times, the diocesan bishop/eparch has the executive power of governance, through an administrative act, to remove an offending cleric from office, to remove or restrict his faculties, and to limit his exercise of priestly ministry. Because sexual abuse of a minor is a crime in all jurisdictions in the United States, for the sake of the common good and observing the provisions of canon law, the diocesan bishop/eparch shall exercise this power of governance to ensure that any priest or deacon who has committed even one act of sexual abuse of a minor as described above shall not continue in active ministry.

ARTICLE 6. While the priestly commitment to the virtue of chastity and the gift of celibacy is well known, there will be clear and well-publicized diocesan/eparchial standards of ministerial behavior and appropriate boundaries for clergy and for any other church personnel in positions of trust who have regular contact with children and young people.

ARTICLE 7. Each diocese/eparchy will develop a communications policy that reflects a commitment to transparency and openness. Within the confines of respect for the privacy and the reputation of the individuals involved, dioceses/eparchies will deal as openly as possible with members of the community. This is especially so with regard to assisting and supporting parish communities directly affected by ministerial misconduct involving minors.

### **TO ENSURE THE ACCOUNTABILITY OF OUR PROCEDURES**

ARTICLE 8. To assist in the consistent application of these principles and to provide a vehicle of accountability and assistance to dioceses/eparchies in this matter, we authorize the establishment of an

Office for Child and Youth Protection at our national headquarters. The tasks of this Office will include (1) assisting individual dioceses/eparchies in the implementation of “safe environment” programs (see Article 12 below), (2) assisting provinces and regions in the development of appropriate mechanisms to audit adherence to policies, and (3) producing an annual public report on the progress made in implementing the standards in this *Charter*. This public report shall include the names of those dioceses/eparchies which, in the judgment of this Office, are not in compliance with the provisions and expectations of this *Charter*. This Office will have staffing sufficient to fulfill its basic purpose. Staff will consist of persons who are expert in the protection of minors; they will be appointed by the General Secretary of the Conference.

ARTICLE 9. The work of the Office for Child and Youth Protection will be assisted and monitored by a Review Board, including parents, appointed by the Conference President and reporting directly to him. The Board will approve the annual report of the implementation of this *Charter* in each of our dioceses/eparchies, as well as any recommendations that emerge from this review, before the report is submitted to the President of the Conference and published. To understand the problem more fully and to enhance the effectiveness of our future response, the National Review Board will commission a comprehensive study of the causes and context of the current crisis. The Board will also commission a descriptive study, with the full cooperation of our dioceses/eparchies, of the nature and scope of the problem within the Catholic Church in the United States, including such data as statistics on perpetrators and victims.

ARTICLE 10. The membership of the Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse will be reconstituted to include representation from all the episcopal regions of the country.

ARTICLE 11. The President of the Conference will inform the Holy See of this *Charter* to indicate the manner in which we, the Catholic bishops, together with the entire Church in the United States, intend to address this present crisis.

## TO PROTECT THE FAITHFUL IN THE FUTURE

ARTICLE 12. Dioceses/eparchies will establish “safe environment” programs. They will cooperate with parents, civil authorities, educators, and community organizations to provide education and training for children, youth, parents, ministers, educators, and others about ways to make and maintain a safe environment for children. Dioceses/eparchies will make clear to clergy and all members of the community the standards of conduct for clergy and other persons in positions of trust with regard to sexual abuse.

ARTICLE 13. Dioceses/eparchies will evaluate the background of all diocesan/eparchial and parish personnel who have regular contact with minors. Specifically, they will utilize the resources of law enforcement and other community agencies. In addition, they will employ adequate screening and evaluative techniques in deciding the fitness of candidates for ordination (cf. National Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Program of Priestly Formation*, 1993, no. 513).

ARTICLE 14. No priest or deacon who has committed an act of sexual abuse of a minor may be transferred for ministerial assignment to another diocese/eparchy or religious province. Before a priest or deacon can be transferred for residence to another diocese/eparchy or religious province, his bishop/eparch or religious ordinary shall forward, in a confidential manner, to the local bishop/eparch and religious ordinary (if applicable) of the proposed place of residence any and all information concerning any act of sexual abuse of a minor and any other information that he has been or may be a danger to children or young people. (Cf. National Conference of Catholic Bishops and Conference of Major Superiors of Men, *Proposed Guidelines on the Transfer or Assignment of Clergy and Religious*, 1993.)

ARTICLE 15. The Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse and the Officers of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men will meet to determine how this *Charter* will be conveyed and established in the communities of religious men in the United States. Diocesan/eparchial bishops and major superiors of clerical institutes or their delegates will meet periodically

to coordinate their roles concerning the issue of allegations made against a cleric member of a religious institute ministering in a diocese/eparchy.

ARTICLE 16. Given the extent of the problem of the sexual abuse of minors in our society, we are willing to cooperate with other churches and ecclesial communities, other religious bodies, institutions of learning, and other interested organizations in conducting research in this area.

ARTICLE 17. We pledge our complete cooperation with the Apostolic Visitation of our diocesan/eparchial seminaries and religious houses of formation recommended in the Interdicasterial Meeting with the Cardinals of the United States and the Conference Officers in April 2002. Unlike the previous visitation, these new visits will focus on the question of human formation for celibate chastity based on the criteria found in *Pastores Dabo Vobis*. We look forward to this opportunity to strengthen our priestly formation programs so that they may provide God’s people with mature and holy priests. Dioceses/eparchies will develop systematic ongoing formation programs in keeping with the recent Conference document *Basic Plan for the Ongoing Formation of Priests* (2001) so as to assist priests in their living out of their vocation.

## CONCLUSION

In the midst of this terrible crisis of sexual abuse of young people by priests and bishops and how it has been dealt with by bishops, many other issues have been raised. In this *Charter* we focus specifically on the painful issue at hand. However, in this matter, we do wish to affirm our concern especially with regard to issues related to effective consultation of the laity and the participation of God’s people in decision making that affects their well-being.

We must increase our vigilance to prevent those few who might exploit the priesthood for their own immoral and criminal purposes from doing so. At the same time, we know that the sexual abuse of young people is not a problem inherent in the priesthood, nor are priests the only ones guilty of it. The vast majority of our priests are faithful in their ministry and happy in their vocation. Their people are enormously

appreciative of the ministry provided by their priests. In the midst of trial, this remains a cause for rejoicing. We deeply regret that any of our decisions have obscured the good work of our priests, for which their people hold them in such respect.

It is within this context of the essential soundness of the priesthood and of the deep faith of our brothers and sisters in the Church that we know that we can meet and resolve this crisis for now and the future.

An essential means of dealing with the crisis is prayer for healing and reconciliation, and acts of reparation for the grave offense to God and the deep wound inflicted upon his holy people. Closely connected to prayer and acts of reparation is the call to holiness of life and the care of the diocesan/eparchial bishop to ensure that he and his priests avail themselves of the proven ways of avoiding sin and growing in holiness of life.

By what we have begun here today and by what we have stated and agreed to,

**We pledge most solemnly to one another and to you, God's people, that we will work to our utmost for the protection of children and youth.**

**We pledge that we will devote to this goal the resources and personnel necessary to accomplish it.**

**We pledge that we will do our best to ordain to the priesthood and put into positions of trust only those who share this commitment to protecting children and youth.**

**We pledge that we will work toward healing and reconciliation for those sexually abused by clerics.**

We make these pledges with a humbling sense of our own limitations, relying on the help of God and the

support of his faithful priests and people to work with us to fulfill them.

Above all we believe, in the words of St. Paul as cited by Pope John Paul II in April 2002, that "where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more" (Rm 5:20). This is faith's message. With this faith, we are confident that we will not be conquered by evil but overcome evil with good (cf. Rm 12:21).

This *Charter* is published for the dioceses/eparchies of the United States, and we bishops commit ourselves to its immediate implementation. It is to be reviewed in two years by the Conference of Bishops with the advice of the National Review Board created in Article 9 to ensure its effectiveness in resolving the problems of sexual abuse of minors by priests.

#### Note

\* Sexual abuse of a minor includes sexual molestation or sexual exploitation of a minor and other behavior by which an adult uses a minor as an object of sexual gratification. Sexual abuse has been defined by different civil authorities in various ways, and these norms do not adopt any particular definition provided in civil law. Rather, the transgressions in question relate to obligations arising from divine commands regarding human sexual interaction as conveyed to us by the sixth commandment of the Decalogue (CIC, c. 1395 §2, CCEO, c. 1453 §1). Thus, the norm to be considered in assessing an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor is whether conduct or interaction with a minor qualifies as an external, objectively grave violation of the sixth commandment (USCCB, *Canonical Delicts Involving Sexual Misconduct and Dismissal from the Clerical State*, 1995, p. 6). A canonical offense against the sixth commandment of the Decalogue (CIC, c. 1395 §2; CCEO, c. 1453 §1) need not be a complete act of intercourse. Nor, to be objectively grave, does an act need to involve force, physical contact, or a discernible harmful outcome. Moreover, "imputability [moral responsibility] for a canonical offense is presumed upon external violation . . . unless it is otherwise apparent" (CIC, c. 1321 §3; CCEO, c. 1414 §2). Cf. CIC, cc. 1322-1327, and CCEO, cc. 1413, 1415, and 1416. If there is any doubt about whether a specific act fulfills this definition, the writings of recognized moral theologians should be consulted and the opinion of a recognized expert be obtained (*Canonical Delicts*, p. 6). Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the diocesan bishop/eparch, with the advice of a qualified review board, to determine the gravity of the alleged act.

## APPENDIX B



### *Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate 2005 Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs*

*This questionnaire is designed to survey dioceses and eparchies about credible accusations of abuse and the costs in dealing with these allegations. The results will be used to demonstrate progress in implementing the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and reducing the incidence of sexual abuse within the Church.*

*All data collected here are entirely confidential. Only national aggregate results will be reported.*

**ALL DATA REPORTED HERE REFER TO THE PRECEDING CALENDAR YEAR –  
JANUARY 1-DECEMBER 31, 2005.**

#### ALLEGATIONS

*NOTE: An allegation is defined as one victim alleging an act or acts of abuse by one alleged perpetrator. Only credible allegations (those that bear the “semblance of truth”) are appropriate for inclusion in this survey.*

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Total number of new credible allegations of sexual abuse of a minor reported against a priest or deacon in the diocese between January 1 and December 31, 2005. (Do not include clergy that are members of religious institutes as they will be reported by their religious institutes).

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Of the total number in item 1, the number of allegations that involved only child pornography.

*Of the total number in item 1, the number that were first reported to the diocese/eparchy by:*

Choose only one category for each allegation. (The sum of items 3-9 should equal item 1).

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| _____ 3. Victim.                      | _____ 7. Law enforcement.                         |
| _____ 4. Family member of the victim. | _____ 8. Bishop or official from another diocese. |
| _____ 5. Friend of the victim.        | _____ 9. Other: _____.                            |
| _____ 6. Attorney.                    |   |

*Of the total number in item 1 (excluding the solely child pornography cases), the number of alleged victims that are:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Male.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 11. Female.

*Of the total number in item 1 (excluding the solely child pornography cases), the number of alleged victims in each age category when the alleged abuse began: (Choose only one category for each allegation).*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. 0-9.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 13. 10-14.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 14. 15-17.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 15. Age unknown.

*Of the total number in item 1, the number that are alleged to have begun in:*

Choose only one category for each allegation. (The sum of items 16-28 should equal item 1).

- |                            |                      |                                |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| _____ 16. 1954 or earlier. | _____ 20. 1970-1974. | _____ 24. 1990-1994.           |
| _____ 17. 1955-1959.       | _____ 21. 1975-1979. | _____ 25. 1995-1999.           |
| _____ 18. 1960-1964.       | _____ 22. 1980-1984. | _____ 26. 2000-2004.           |
| _____ 19. 1965-1969.       | _____ 23. 1985-1989. | _____ 27. 2005.                |
|                            |                      | _____ 28. Time period unknown. |

\_\_\_\_\_ 29. Total number of new credible allegations received between January 1 and December 31, 2005 that were unsubstantiated or determined to be false by December 31, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_ 30. Total number of credible allegations received prior to January 1, 2005 that were unsubstantiated or determined to be false between January 1 and December 31, 2005.

**ALLEGED PERPETRATORS**

*NOTE: Include any perpetrators who are or were ordained members of the clergy legitimately serving in or assigned to the diocese or eparchy at the time the credible allegation(s) was alleged to have occurred. Do not include clergy that are members of religious institutes as they will be reported by their religious institutes.*

\_\_\_\_\_ 31. Total number of priests or deacons against whom new credible allegations of sexual abuse of a minor have been reported between January 1 and December 31, 2005.

*Of the total number in item 31, the number that are:*

Choose only one category for each alleged perpetrator. (The sum of items 32-37 should equal item 31).

- \_\_\_\_\_ 32. Diocesan priests ordained for this diocese or eparchy.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 33. Diocesan priests incardinated later in this diocese or eparchy.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 34. Extern diocesan priests from another U.S. diocese serving in this diocese or eparchy.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 35. Extern diocesan priests from a diocese outside the United States serving in this diocese or eparchy.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 36. Permanent deacons.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 37. Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

*Of the total number in item 31, the number that:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 38. Have had one or more previous allegations reported against them prior to January 1, 2005.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 39. Are deceased, already removed from ministry, already laicized, or missing.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 40. Have been permanently removed or retired from ministry between January 1 and December 31, 2005 based on allegations of abuse.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 41. Have been returned to ministry between January 1 and December 31, 2005 based on the resolution of allegations of abuse.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 42. Remain temporarily removed from ministry pending investigation of allegations (as of December 31, 2005).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 43. Remain in active ministry pending investigation of allegations (as of December 31, 2005).

*Indicate the total number of alleged perpetrators identified **prior to January 1, 2005** that:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 44. Were permanently removed or retired from ministry between January 1 and December 31, 2005 based on allegations of abuse.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 45. Were returned to ministry between January 1 and December 31, 2005 based on the resolution of allegations of abuse.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 46. Remain temporarily removed from ministry pending investigation of allegations (as of December 31, 2005).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 47. Remain in active ministry pending investigation of allegations (as of December 31, 2005).

**COSTS**

*Indicate the approximate total amount of funds expended by the diocese between January 1 and December 31, 2005 for payments as the result of allegations of sexual abuse of a minor (notwithstanding the year in which the allegation was received):*

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 48. All settlements paid to victims.
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 49. Payments for therapy for victims (if separate from settlements).
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 50. Payments for support for offenders (including living expenses, legal expenses, therapy, etc.).
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 51. Payments for attorneys' fees.
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 52. Other: \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ % 53. Approximate percentage of the amount in items 48-52 that was covered by diocesan insurance.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ 54. Total amount paid for all child protection efforts (training programs, background checks, etc.).

*In the event it is necessary for CARA to contact you for clarification about the data reported here, please supply the following information. This contact information will not be recorded in the database.*

Name and title of person completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_  
Arch/Diocese: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for completing this survey.**

APPENDIX C



**Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate  
2005 Annual Survey of Allegations and Costs**

*This questionnaire is designed to survey religious institutes, societies of apostolic life or the separate provinces thereof and will be used to demonstrate progress in implementing the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and reducing the incidence of sexual abuse within the Church.*

**All data collected here are entirely confidential. Only national aggregate results will be reported.**

**ALL DATA REPORTED HERE REFER TO THE PRECEDING CALENDAR YEAR –  
JANUARY 1-DECEMBER 31, 2005.**

**ALLEGATIONS**

*NOTE: An allegation is defined as one victim alleging an act or acts of abuse by one alleged perpetrator. Only credible allegations (those that bear the “semblance of truth”) are appropriate for inclusion in this survey.*

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Total number of new credible allegations of sexual abuse of a minor reported against a priest or deacon in the religious institute between January 1 and December 31, 2005. **(Only include members of the religious institute who are clergy.** Allegations against religious brothers should **NOT** be reported).

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Of the total number in item 1, the number of allegations that involved only child pornography.

*Of the total number in item 1, the number that were first reported to the religious institute by:*  
Choose only one category for each allegation. (The sum of items 3-9 should equal item 1).

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| _____ 3. Victim.                      | _____ 7. Law enforcement.                         |
| _____ 4. Family member of the victim. | _____ 8. Bishop or other official from a diocese. |
| _____ 5. Friend of the victim.        | _____ 9. Other: _____.                            |
| _____ 6. Attorney.                    |   |

*Of the total number in item 1 (excluding the solely child pornography cases), the number of alleged victims that are:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Male.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 11. Female.

*Of the total number in item 1 (excluding the solely child pornography cases), the number of alleged victims in each age category when the alleged abuse began:* (Choose only one category for each allegation).

- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. 0-9.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 13. 10-14.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 14. 15-17.  
\_\_\_\_\_ 15. Age unknown.

*Of the total number in item 1, the number that are alleged to have begun in:*  
Choose only one category for each allegation. (The sum of items 16-28 should equal item 1).

- |                            |                      |                                |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| _____ 16. 1954 or earlier. | _____ 20. 1970-1974. | _____ 24. 1990-1994.           |
| _____ 17. 1955-1959.       | _____ 21. 1975-1979. | _____ 25. 1995-1999.           |
| _____ 18. 1960-1964.       | _____ 22. 1980-1984. | _____ 26. 2000-2004.           |
| _____ 19. 1965-1969.       | _____ 23. 1985-1989. | _____ 27. 2005.                |
|                            |                      | _____ 28. Time period unknown. |

\_\_\_\_\_ 29. Total number of new credible allegations received between January 1 and December 31, 2005 that were unsubstantiated or determined to be false by December 31, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_ 30. Total number of credible allegations received prior to January 1, 2005 that were unsubstantiated or determined to be false between January 1 and December 31, 2005.

**ALLEGED PERPETRATORS**

*NOTE: Include any perpetrators who are or were ordained members of the religious clergy legitimately serving in or assigned to a diocese or eparchy or within the religious institute at the time the credible allegation(s) was alleged to have occurred. Include **only clergy (NOT RELIGIOUS BROTHERS)** that are members of religious institutes.*

\_\_\_\_\_ 31. Total number of priests or deacons against whom new credible allegations of sexual abuse of a minor have been reported between January 1 and December 31, 2005.

*Of the total number in item 31, the number that are:*

Choose only one category for each alleged perpetrator. (The sum of items 32-37 should equal item 31).

- \_\_\_\_\_ 32. Religious priests of this province assigned within the United States.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 33. Religious priests of this province assigned outside of the United States.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 34. Religious priests formerly of this province but no longer a member of the religious institute.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 35. Religious priests not of this province but serving in this province of the religious institute.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 36. Deacon members of the religious institute.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 37. Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

*Of the total number in item 31, the number that:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 38. Have had one or more previous allegations reported against them prior to January 1, 2005.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 39. Are deceased, already removed from ministry, already laicized, or missing.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 40. Have been permanently removed or retired from ministry between January 1 and December 31, 2005 based on allegations of abuse.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 41. Have been returned to ministry between January 1 and December 31, 2005 based on the resolution of allegations of abuse.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 42. Remain temporarily removed from ministry pending investigation of allegations (as of December 31, 2005)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 43. Remain in active ministry pending investigation of allegations (as of December 31, 2005).

*Indicate the total number of alleged perpetrators identified **prior to January 1, 2005** that:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 44. Were permanently removed or retired from ministry between January 1 and December 31, 2005 based on allegations of abuse.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 45. Were returned to ministry between January 1 and December 31, 2005 based on the resolution of allegations of abuse.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 46. Remain temporarily removed from ministry pending investigation of allegations (as of December 31, 2005)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 47. Remain in active ministry pending investigation of allegations (as of December 31, 2005).

**COSTS**

*Indicate the approximate total amount of funds expended by the religious institute between January 1 and December 31, 2005 for payments as the result of allegations of sexual abuse of a minor (notwithstanding the year in which the allegation was received):*

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 48. All settlements paid to victims.
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 49. Payments for therapy for victims (if separate from settlements).
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 50. Payments for support for offenders (including living expenses, legal expenses, therapy, etc.).
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 51. Payments for attorneys' fees.
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 52. Other: \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ % 53. Approximate percentage of the amount in items 48-52 that was covered by insurance of the religious institute.
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 54. Total amount paid for all child protection efforts (training programs, background checks, etc.).

*In the event it is necessary for CARA to contact you for clarification about the data reported here, please supply the following information. This contact information will not be recorded in the database.*

Name and title of person completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_  
Institute: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for completing this survey.**



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