



REGNUM CHRISTI  
LEGIONARIES OF CHRIST

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# REGNUM CHRISTI

## LEGIONARIES OF CHRIST

 21 DEC 2019  0  NEWS, PRESS ROOM

### Members of the Religious Congregation of the Legionaries of Christ Who Were Active in Ministry with Substantiated Sexual Abuse Allegations in the United States:

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Members of the Religious Congregation of the Legionaries of Christ who were active in ministry with substantiated sexual abuse allegations in the United States:

Francisco **Cardona** (religious in formation, deceased): Investigators concluded that he abused students during his tenure as a formator at the Immaculate Conception Apostolic School, in Center Harbor, New Hampshire, in the 1980s.

Benjamin **Cieply** (dismissed member): Investigators concluded that there is a high probability that he sexually abused a minor in 2016 during his probationary period in the Archdiocese of Miami. He was removed from ministry and his case was referred to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. Judgement is still pending.

David **Consoli** (religious in formation now laicized): Investigators concluded that he sexually abused students when he served on the formation staff of Immaculate Conception Apostolic School, in Center Harbor, New Hampshire, in the mid-1990's.

Fernando **Cutanda** (former member now laicized): Investigators concluded that he abused students during his tenure as a formator at the Immaculate Conception Apostolic School, in Center Harbor, New Hampshire, in the 1980s.

Guillermo **Izquierdo** (deceased): Investigators concluded that he abused minors under his charge as novice director in Cheshire, Connecticut, 1982-1993.

Father Timothy **Meehan** (left the Legion to become a diocesan priest in 2017): Investigators concluded that Timothy Meehan (while a religious, not yet ordained) had been involved in a sexual relationship with a person under his supervision while he served as an assistant formator in the Congregation's United States novitiate in the the mid-90's. This individual was under 18, but of the age of consent.

Shane **Patterson** (religious in formation now laicized): Investigators concluded that he abused a pre-candidate during his tenure as assistant dean of students in Cheshire, Connecticut in the mid-1990s when he was serving in his internship at the Immaculate Conception Apostolic School's Legionary pre-candidacy program.

Jeremiah Michael **Spillane** (Dispensed of religious vows in 1998): He was arrested charged and convicted for soliciting an undercover police officer posing as a teenager through an online chat forum. At the time, this case received media attention. The Legionaries of Christ have had no contact with Spillane in more than two decades.

Oscar Juan **Turrión** (former member now laicized): Investigators concluded that Oscar Turrión (while a religious, not yet ordained) sexually abused a student at Immaculate Conception Apostolic School, Center Harbor, New Hampshire when he worked there on the formation staff in the early 1990's.

We encourage anyone who has been abused by a member of the Legionaries of Christ to contact the appropriate authorities, regardless of when the alleged abuse occurred, and to contact the Legionaries of Christ’s Program Coordinator for Pastoral Care, Abby Saunders. If anyone has a question about safe environment policies or a complaint regarding misconduct or sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult by a Legionary, contact Nikki Hittle, MSW, at the contact information below. The Congregation has also established a channel for listening to concerns and responding to accusations at [Oabuse.org](http://Oabuse.org).

**Nikki Hittle, MSW, Director of Safe Environment**

Email: [nhittle@arcol.org](mailto:nhittle@arcol.org)

Phone: (770) 802-0058

Address: 30 Mansell Court, Suite 103, Roswell, GA, 30076

**Abby Saunders, Program Coordinator for Pastoral Care**

Email: [asaunders@arcol.org](mailto:asaunders@arcol.org)

Phone: (443) 788-9730

Address: 30 Mansell Court, Suite 103, Roswell, GA, 30076

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Last updated: March 22, 2021



Benjamin Cieply

Fernando Cutanda

Francisco Cardona

Guillermo Izquierdo

Legionaries of Christ

sexual abuse

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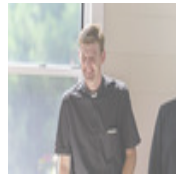
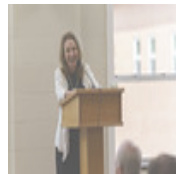
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The Legion of Christ is a Roman Catholic religious congregation of priests and men studying for the priesthood.

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### Territorial Office

North American  
Territorial Office  
800-532-7478  
30 Mansell Court, Suite  
103  
Roswell GA 30076

### Social Media



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