

THOMAS J. MILLER
ATTORNEY GENERAL



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IOWA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

May 31, 2019

Bishop Thomas Zinkula
Diocese of Davenport
780 W Central Park Ave.
Davenport, IA 52804

Bishop Zinkula:

Thank you for meeting with Deputy Attorney General Eric Tabor and me and explaining your process in handling abuse claims. We appreciate the conversations we have had and the attention you have paid to this issue.

As you may know, we have met with survivors of abuse by clergy and invited victims to contact our office if they'd like to share their experiences. In some cases, their stories have never been made public. These survivors have urged us to investigate and bring attention to the injustice they and others have suffered. We agree that full transparency is necessary to provide justice and ultimately, reconciliation and healing.

In other states my colleagues have acted to ensure full and complete listing of abusive clergy, some by subpoena, some voluntary. In recent weeks these states include Colorado, Georgia, Nebraska and California — attorneys general across the country and across party lines.

We appreciate the efforts that you have undergone to produce your list of clergy who committed abuse. But we believe that in this context, a credible third-party review is warranted and will add to transparency, reconciliation, and healing. We, therefore, request that you provide information to our office.

We seek to obtain the following records and files from each of the four (4) Catholic Dioceses located in the state of Iowa. These are the Dioceses of Davenport, Dubuque, Des Moines and Sioux City.

The Iowa Attorney General requests that each Diocese voluntary comply by way of written response and production of written files¹ and other related documentation otherwise recorded², as follows:

1. A written list or lists authored by the Diocese, either published or unpublished, of all priests, deacons, or other clergy who have been deemed as “credibly accused” of sexual abuse by the Diocese. This shall include current lists and all past drafts or internal lists, either published or unpublished.
2. A written list or lists, authored by the Diocese, either published or unpublished, of all priests, deacons or other clergy of the Diocese against whom an accusation was made but whom the Diocese deemed the accusation “not credible.” This shall include current lists and all past drafts or internal lists, either published or unpublished.
3. The definition of “credibly accused” employed by the Diocese and any boards of review or reviewers of accusations in its determinations.
4. The definition of “sexual misconduct” or “sexual abuse” employed by the Diocese and any boards of review or reviewers of accusations in its determinations.
5. The review period (e.g. 1950-present) and the dates of any meetings of any boards of review or reviewers convened for purposes of considering an accusation or report of sexual misconduct or sexual abuse or inappropriate behavior toward either a minor or non-consenting adult by a priest, deacon or other clergy of the Diocese.
6. Any minutes or notes, either written or otherwise recorded, of meetings of any Diocesan boards of review or reviewers convened for purposes of considering an accusation or report of sexual misconduct or sexual abuse or inappropriate behavior toward either a minor or non-consenting adult by a priest, deacon or other clergy, of the Diocese.
7. Any documentation, either written or otherwise recorded, of reports of abuse received by the Diocese. This shall include the date the report was received, a summary of the conduct alleged or reported, a non-identifying description of the reporting party (e.g., “adult female” or “parent of minor” or anonymous report) and the name of the priest, deacon or other clergy against whom the report was made; and a summary of actions taken by the Diocese in each instance (e.g., reported to police agency, reported to DHS, internal investigation, reassignment

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of priest to another parish, suspension of duties, and where the reporting party was referred for services, etc.).

8. Copies of all settlement agreements entered into by the Diocese with individual survivors of abuse. This shall include copies of any accompanying non-disclosure agreement(s), the amount paid by the Diocese, the source of the funds used to satisfy the terms of the settlement; and the name of the priest, deacon or other clergy whose sexual abuse or misconduct was the subject of the settlement.

We ask that you respond to our request by Aug. 1, 2019. We understand that you may need more time to gather all the documents requested, and we would be willing to work with you on a reasonable timeline.

At some point during our inquiry, we may request access to original documents residing at Diocesan offices.

Thank you for your time and attention to this request. We hope that you will agree that fulfilling our request is for the common good and in the best interests of all.

Sincerely,

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Tom Miller
Attorney General of Iowa

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May 31, 2019

Bishop Richard Pates
Diocese of Des Moines
601 Grand Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50309

Bishop Pates:

Thank you for meeting with Deputy Attorney General Eric Tabor and me and explaining your process in handling abuse claims. We appreciate the conversations we have had and the attention you have paid to this issue. We also appreciate that you have released more information on clergy abuse that occurred in your Diocese.

As you may know, we have met with survivors of abuse by clergy and invited victims to contact our office if they'd like to share their experiences. In some cases, their stories have never been made public. These survivors have urged us to investigate and bring attention to the injustice they and others have suffered. We agree that full transparency is necessary to provide justice and ultimately, reconciliation and healing.

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Tom Miller
Attorney General of Iowa

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May 31, 2019

Archbishop Michael Jackels
1229 Mt. Loretta Ave.
Dubuque, IA 52003

Archbishop Jackels:

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As you may know, we have met with survivors of abuse by clergy and invited victims to contact our office if they'd like to share their experiences. In some cases, their stories have never been made public. These survivors have urged us to investigate and bring attention to the injustice they and others have suffered. We agree that full transparency is necessary to provide justice and ultimately, reconciliation and healing.

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May 31, 2019

Bishop R. Walker Nickless
Diocese of Sioux City
1821 Jackson St.
Sioux City, IA 51105

Bishop Nickless:

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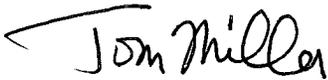
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