

APPENDIX I

REVIEW BOARD

The Sexual Abuse Review Board (SARB) is a group of qualified women and men who agree to serve in this capacity. Members of the Review Board will be appointed by the Bishop for five-year terms, which can be renewed. There is one Review Board for all areas covered by this policy statement.

The Review Board functions as a confidential consultative body to counsel the Bishop in discharging his responsibilities. The functions of this Board may include:

A. advising the Bishop, above all in his assessment of allegations of sexual abuse of a minor, but also (without losing sight of the unique nature of the sexual abuse of minors), in his assessment of allegations of sexual misconduct, and sexual harassment, when warranted, and in his determination of suitability for ministry, employment or volunteering services to the parishes, schools, institutions, offices, and programs of the Diocese;

B. reviewing Diocesan policies for dealing with sexual abuse, sexual misconduct, and sexual harassment; and

C. offering advice on all aspects of matters governed by this policy, whether retrospectively or prospectively.

The Review Board will be composed of at least five persons of outstanding integrity and good judgment in full communion with the Church; non-Catholics with exceptional qualifications can also serve at the discretion of the Bishop. The majority of Review Board members at any time will be laypersons who are not in the employ of the Diocese. At least one member will be a pastor of a Diocesan parish. One member will be a person with particular expertise in the treatment of sexual abuse of minors. Although the Promoter of Justice is not a member, it is desirable that he participate in meetings of the Review Board.

The entire Review Board will meet when called together by the Bishop or the Diocesan Investigator.

Individual members of the Review Board may be called upon to assist the Diocesan Investigator in any investigations provided for by this policy.

All work of the Review Board is to be kept confidential. Members will return any written information given to them about particular individuals and cases.

From time to time and at least every three years, the Review Board will review this policy and advise the Bishop regarding any potential modification of this policy.

Expenses for the work of the Review Board will be covered through the Diocesan budget.