

Office for A Safe Environment in Ministry
Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic
445 Lackawanna Avenue
Woodland Park, New Jersey 07424

Safe Environment Review Board

Purpose of Board:

The Eparchy of Passaic Safe Environment Review Board is a representative body of lay and/or clergy consistent with the guidance of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops of America Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. It serves solely as an advisory body to the eparchial bishop in safe environment matters of concern and eparchial policy. The board is not a decision making body. Its members, appointed by the bishop, provide advice based upon their particular discipline to the bishop in his responsibility to maintain a safe and healthy environment within the parishes, programs and institutions of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic.

Structure:

The Eparchy of Passaic Safe Environment Review Board is to be comprised of membership representative of the following responsibilities and/or disciplines for a term of five years which is renewable at the discretion of the Bishop of the Byzantine Eparchy of Passaic.

1. Coordinator of the Office for A Safe Environment in Ministry (Chairperson)
2. Victim Assistance Coordinator (Member - Layperson)
3. Eparchy of Passaic Canonist (Member)
4. Eparchy of Passaic Civil Attorney (Member - Layperson)
5. Psychology Professional (Member - Layperson)
6. Social Work Professional (Member - Layperson)
7. Civil Attorney (Member - Layperson)
8. Police Professional (Member – Layperson)
9. Business Person (Member – Layperson)
10. Education Professional (Member – Layperson)

Board Function:

Apart from the Eparchial Coordinator of the safe environment program, Victim Assistance Coordinator, Eparchial Canonist, Eparchial Civil Attorney all members are not to be employees of the Eparchy of Passaic and the predominant composition of the board is to be laypersons.

The board is a resource for the bishop of the eparchy in his role of service to the local Church of Passaic in areas of abuse allegations, fitness for ministry, eparchial policies and procedures related to safe environment matters. The Review Board is not an investigative body and is not involved in any matter that is reserved to appropriate police authority and investigative processes. All members are committed to absolute confidentiality as regards any matters related to the board and its function.

The board will has a minimum of one annual meeting at which is reviewed the present status of any pending or former allegation cases and the ongoing program of the Office for a Safe Environment in Ministry. It is also convened at the expressed request of the bishop as he deems necessary. No meeting of the board is convened without the presence of the bishop or his delegate.