

Esther Dunegan

From: Melinda G. Benoit
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2014 2:14 PM
Subject: FW: Official Service Dogs

Importance: High

Melinda Benoit

From: Michael Jamail
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2014 2:11 PM
To: Melinda G. Benoit
Subject: Official Service Dogs
Importance: High

Melinda, please send to the clergy (and all). Thank you. maj

A question has been raised regarding the presence of Official Service Dogs in churches and other parish/diocesan buildings.

Most Rev. Curtis J. Guillory, S.V.D., D.D., Bishop of Beaumont, has considered the question and issues the following statement:

Diocesan Statement Regarding Official Service Dogs

Effective immediately, Service Dogs of any type, wearing an official vest describing its service to the owner, must be permitted entrance to parish churches and other parish/diocesan buildings as provided by civil law.

Service Dogs are not only used by the blind but also, for example, by those who are emotionally wounded such as combat veterans.

Thank you.

-end-