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December 9, 2020

Most Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois
1615 West Washington Street
Springfield, IL 62702

Dear Bishop Paprocki:

Based on the results of our recently performed on-site audit of the Diocese of Springfield, the Diocese has been found compliant with all audited Articles within the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* for the 2019/2020 audit period.

The conclusions reached as to the compliance of your Diocese are based upon inquiry, observation and the review of specifically requested documentation furnished to StoneBridge Business Partners during the course of this audit.

Thank you for your cooperation during this process.

Sincerely,

StoneBridge Business Partners

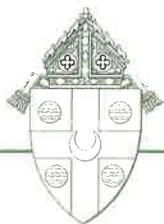
StoneBridge Business Partners
Rochester, New York

cc: Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection

Very Reverend Christopher House, Vicar General, Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Alison Smith, Director of Office for Safe Environment, Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Jim Bock, Internal General Counsel, Office for Safe Environment, Diocese of Springfield in Illinois



Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

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Office for Safe Environment

February 4, 2021

As you all know, the 2019-2020 Safe Environment *Charter* Audit was on-site this year. After virtually visiting the Diocese of Springfield and carefully assessing the diocese's compliance with *The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, StoneBridge Business Partners found the diocese to be **compliant with all Articles**. To meet our compliance goal and have the USCCB acknowledge our ongoing efforts to follow to *The Charter* is a positive accomplishment.

With the overall compliance achievement in mind, improvement in the following areas should be of focus as we continue in this mission to protect children and young people:

1. **Maintain the PGC database** to ensure the figures reported on the annual audit instrument are reflective of the information tracked in the parish/school reports from the database. This is an important tool that StoneBridge Business Partners would like to see utilized as effectively as possible. Parish and school Safe Environment Coordinators should be checking the database regularly.
2. **Do not leave any blanks on the audit.** If you are unsure of how to properly answer a question on the audit, please contact the Office for Safe Environment to further discuss the issue. Submitting an audit with information left unanswered only creates ambiguity and more work for both the parish/school coordinator and myself.
3. **Safe Environment responsibilities are a year-round effort.** Training and background checks should be a continuous work in progress. Do not wait until you begin filling out the audit instrument to initiate the completion of safe environment training and screening requirements by employees and volunteers.

Your continued efforts in the protection of children and young people are truly appreciated. Together we are all making a difference.

In his service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alison Smith".

Alison Smith, B.S.

Director, Office for Safe Environment

Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

MEMORANDUM

Date: February 4, 2021

To: Pastors, Parochial Administrators, Principals, and Safe Environment Coordinators

From: Alison Smith, B.S., Director of Office for Safe Environment

CC: Bishop Thomas John Paprocki, Monsignor David Hoefler

RE: 2019/2020 Safe Environment Audit Results

The following information will outline compliance results of the Safe Environment Audit for parishes, schools, religious education programs, and diocesan agencies during the July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 audit period. The level of compliance achieved is determined by the information reported on the annual audit report received by each parish, school, and organization. Full compliance is demonstrated when all facets of parish life reported on the audit follow the safe environment policies of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois and the USCCB *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. Considerations for parish compliance is that there may be a minimal number of Church Personnel that have not met the training and background check requirements. However, when those numbers appear to be excessive by reasonable standards the parish is considered non-compliant. For parishes receiving a rating compliance with issues or non-compliance, an explanation is provided.

Full Compliance (Page 2) – 87 parishes in the diocese have received this rating. Reporting indicates compliance in each section that applies.

Section 1 – Elementary Schools (Principal)

Section 2 – Parish School of Religion Programs (DRE/CRE)

Section 3 – Parish Staff

Section 4 – Parish Safe Environment Audit Questions & Training Compliance Letter

Compliant with Issues (Page 3) – 12 parishes in the diocese received this rating. Reporting indicates **compliance in most but not all** areas of the audit. Issues are those that can be corrected with minimal effort on the part of the parish. Descriptions of the compliance issues are noted.

Non-Compliant (Page 4) – 11 parishes in the diocese received this rating. Parishes reporting major deficiencies or omissions in two or more areas of the audit report or simply did not submit an audit report in 2019-2020.

Additional Reporting

Page 5-6 – Listing of compliance by High Schools & Elementary Schools.

Page 7-10 – Listing of compliance by Parish School of Religion Programs.

Page 11 – Listing of compliance by other diocesan organizations.