



Diocese of St. Augustine Communications Policy

For the Charter for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults

The Diocese of St. Augustine is committed to a policy of “transparency and openness” in accordance with Article 7 of *The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. The diocese deals openly with members of the community while respecting the privacy and reputation of the individuals accused of sexual abuse of minors and vulnerable adults.

The diocese will not enter into confidentiality agreements concerning alleged sexual abuse of minors and vulnerable adults except in cases where the victim-survivor requests confidentiality for grave and substantial reasons.

The Director of Communications is responsible for contacting the news media when a credible allegation has been made against clergy, religious, seminarians and other church personnel. Notices of credible allegations are also published in parish bulletins and posted to the diocesan website.

The policies of the Safe Environment Program are available on the diocesan website at <https://safe.dosafl.com/policies-guidelines/>. They are also available by contacting Donna Wilhelm of the Safe Environment Office at (904) 262-3200, ext. 104 or email dwilhelm@dosafl.com.

The Office of Communications will assist in distributing notices to defend and restore the reputation of persons cleared of false allegations.

To learn more about the Safe Environment Program of the Diocese of St. Augustine, visit www.dosafl.com.

Contact:

Kathleen Bagg

Director of Communications

11625 Old St. Augustine Road

Jacksonville, FL 32258

(904) 262-1705/direct office line