Archdiocese releases list of substantiated claims of clergy sexual abuse with a minor

By Joe Bollig
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Archbishop addresses release of list of substantiated abusers

Those with substantiated allegations of sexual abuse of a minor:

- Brayley, John
- Dannenfelser, Lambert
- Fiala, John
- Finnerty, William
- Foraythe, James
- Ginkey, Lawrence
- Gottschalk, Dave
- Harrington, John J.
- Imming, David
- Juarez, Martin
- Justi, Marvin
- Lamping, Steven
- Licktieg, Adrian
- Melo, Frank
- Redmond, Donald
- Richardson, Barry
- Roberts, Edward
- Scheipers, Frank
- Schmitz, Dennis
- Wieser, John Henry
- Wolfe, Chuck
- Wurtz, Camillus

Previously publicized allegations not able to be substantiated:

- Haegelin, William
- Kallal, Scott James
- Rutter, Anthony
- Rossman, Christopher

For more details about the names on this list, go to pages 8-9.

A report based upon the review done by Husch Blackwell was shared with the attorney general of Kansas. If new information comes to the archdiocese, the archbishop said, the list will be updated.

Of the 22 on the list, 10 were priests of the archdiocese. Also, of the 22, 11 are deceased and 7 have been laicized.

The 22 represent 2.04 percent of the 1,080 files reviewed by Husch Blackwell.

The archbishop recognizes his responsibility to protect all entrusted to his pastoral care, especially children, and to protect the good names of clerics against the harm of unsubstantiated accusations.

When you are attempting to discern the truth of an event that allegedly happened decades ago, this can be very difficult, especially when the accused is deceased and the memories of others, who could have provided helpful information, have faded,” the archbishop wrote. “The list that we are providing today is accurate based on the information we possess at this moment.”
Substantiated allegations of clergy sexual abuse of a minor

BRAYLEY, JOHN
AFFILIATION: Oblate missionary, Montreal, Canada
YEAR OF BIRTH: Unknown
YEAR OF ORDINATION: Unknown
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1980 while visiting friends in Roeland Park
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No

DANNENFELSER, LAMBERT
AFFILIATION: Franciscans (OFM)
YEAR OF BIRTH: Unknown
YEAR OF ORDINATION: Unknown
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1989
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Sacred Heart, Emporia
• St. Joseph, Opelika
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

FIALA, JOHN
AFFILIATION: Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT)
YEAR OF BIRTH: Unknown
YEAR OF ORDINATION: Unknown
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: Mid-1960s (not within the archdiocese)
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• St. Joseph, Shawnee
• St. Dominic, Holton
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

FINNERTY, WILLIAM
AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1927
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1955
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: Early to mid-1960s
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Queen of the Holy Rosary, Overland Park
• Sts. Cyril and Methodius, Kansas City, Kansas
• Holy Angels, Lenexa
• St. Francis de Sales, Kansas City, Kansas
• Sacred Heart, Lansing
• Assumption, Edgerton
• Holy Trinity, Paola
• Sacred Heart, Bonner Springs
• Stormont Vail Health Center, Topeka
• Holy Cross, Emmett
• Sacred Heart, Delia
• Convalescent Home, Topeka
• St. Alphonso, Meriden
• St. Francis, Lapere
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

FORSYTHE, JAMES
AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1954
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1983
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Laicized 2005
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1987
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• St. Agnes, Roeland Park
• Holy Trinity, Lenexa
• St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Overland Park
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

GINZKEY, LAWRENCE
AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1946
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1972
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Laicized 2005
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1985
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Holy Name, Topeka
• St. Peter Cathedral, Kansas City, Kansas
• Bishop Ward High School, Kansas City, Kansas
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No

GOTTSCHALK, DAVE
AFFILIATION: Capuchin Franciscans (OFM Cap.)
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1943
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1969
LAST KNOWN STATUS: San Antonio Friary, Denver
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: Unknown
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Good Shepherd, Shawnee
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

HARRINGTON, JOHN J.
AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1920
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1947
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased 1996
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1940s and 1960s
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Blessed Sacrament, Kansas City, Kansas
• St. John, Greeley
• St. Gregory, Marysville
• St. Francis de Sales, Lansing
• Assumption, Edgerton
• Holy Trinity, Paola
• Sacred Heart, Bonner Springs
• Stormont Vail Health Center, Topeka
• Holy Cross, Emmett
• Sacred Heart, Delia
• Convalescent Home, Topeka
• St. Alphonso, Meriden
• St. Francis, Lapere
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

IMMING, DAVID
AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
YEAR OF BIRTH: Unknown
YEAR OF ORDINATION: Unknown
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1980 in Oklahoma
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Never served in the archdiocese
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

JUAREZ, MARTIN
AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1946
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1981
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Laicized 2005
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: Early to mid-1980s
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• St. Matthew, Topeka
• Holy Spirit, Overland Park
• St. Peter Cathedral, Kansas City, Kansas
• Sacred Heart, Paxico
• Our Lady of Guadalupe, Topeka
• St. Joseph-St. Benedict, Kansas City, Kansas
• Queen of the Holy Rosary, Overland Park
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

JUSTI, MARVIN
AFFILIATION: Capuchin Franciscans (OFM Cap.)
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1933
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1958
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased 2009
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1969 in Pennsylvania
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Good Shepherd, Shawnee
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No

LAMMING, STEVEN
AFFILIATION: Franciscans (OFM)
YEAR OF BIRTH: Unknown
YEAR OF ORDINATION: Unknown
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1975-76
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Christ the King, Kansas City, Kansas
• Sacred Heart, Mound City
• Queen of the Holy Rosary, Wia
• Sacred Heart, Kansas City, Kansas
• Holy Name, Topeka
• Bishop Ward High School, Kansas City, Kansas
• St. John, Grandview
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

LICKTIEG, ADRIAN
AFFILIATION: Carmelites (OCarm)
YEAR OF BIRTH: Unknown
YEAR OF ORDINATION: Unknown
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1959
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• St. Joseph, Leavenworth
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No

MEIS, FINIAN
AFFILIATION: Capuchin Franciscans (OFM Cap.)
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1936
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1964
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased 1997
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1972-1979
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Good Shepherd, Shawnee
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

REDMOND, DONALD
AFFILIATION: Benedictines (OSB)
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1930
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1957
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Removed from ministry 2002
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1960-1968
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Sts. Peter and Paul, Seneca
• St. Lawrence Catholic Campus Center, Lawrence
• Benedictine College, Atchison
• St. Benedict Parish, Atchison
• Sacred Heart, Atchison
• Sacred Heart, Sabetha
• St. Augustine, Fidelity
• St. James, Wamego
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

RICHARDSON, BARRY
AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1967
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1997
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased 2005
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1999-2000
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Prince of Peace, Olathe
• St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Overland Park
• Sts. Peter and Paul, Seneca
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

ROBERTS, EDWARD
AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1917
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1941
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased 1997
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1949 early 1990s
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• St. Peter Cathedral, Kansas City, Kansas
• St. Teresa, Westphalia
• Sacred Heart, Baileyville
• St. Gregory, Marysville
• St. Joseph, Nortonville
• Holy Name, Topeka
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

SCHEPERS, FRANK
AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1910
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1955
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased 2002
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1950s
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• St. Agnes, Roeland Park
• Bishop Ward High School, Kansas City, Kansas
• Blessed Sacrament, Kansas City, Kansas
• Christ the King, Kansas City, Kansas
• Sacred Heart, Mound City
• St. Lawrence, Easton
• Sacred Heart-St. Casimir, Leavenworth
• Immaculata High School, Leavenworth
• St. Ann, Prairie Village
• St. John, Grandview
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

SCHMITZ, DENNIS
AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1961
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1989
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Laicized 2005
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1990s
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• St. Ann, Prairie Village
• Queen of the Holy Rosary, Overland Park
• Bishop Miege High School, Roeland Park
• St. Joseph, Shawnee
• Vocation director
• St. Mary-St. Anthony, Kansas City, Kansas
• Flat House, Lawrence
• St. Agnes, Roeland Park
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

WISNER, JOHN HENRY
AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1946
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1972
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1976
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Good Shepherd, Shawnee
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No

WOLFE, CHUCK
AFFILIATION: Capuchin Franciscans (OFM Cap.)
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1949
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1979
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1976
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Muller Hill-Mount Academy, Atchison
• St. Peter, Mound City
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No

WURTZ, CAMILLUS
AFFILIATION: Benedictines (OSB)
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1949
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1953
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased 2013
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1960
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• St. Charles, Atchison
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No

HAEGELIN, WILLIAM
AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1949
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1976
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Laicized 2004
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1983
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• St. Agnes, Roeland Park
• Bishop Ward High School, Kansas City, Kansas
• Sacred Heart, Mound City
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No

Previously publicized allegations not able to be substantiated

SPECIAL
REPORTING ABUSE

If you suspect a child is being abused or neglected, you should make a report to the Kansas Department for Children and Families Protection Report Center by calling (800) 922-5330. If you or someone you know has been abused by a cleric, employee or volunteer of any archdiocesan parish, school or agency — regardless of when the abuse may have occurred — call the archdiocesan confidential report line at (913) 649-2944, or the victim assistance coordinator at (913) 298-9244, after calling local law enforcement. You can also call a report by utilizing the online reporting form at: www.archkck.org/reportabuse.

St. Joseph’s Church in Kansas City in Kansas places the protection of children as its first priority. Furthermore, the archdiocese respects the sincere concerns of all individuals who report misconduct and is committed to conducting thorough investigations of all such allegations.

Frequently asked questions

Q. What information are you releasing? Whose names are on this list?
A. This list contains the names of the clergy members against whom a substantiated claim of sexual abuse of a minor (a young person under the age of 18) has been received by the Archdiocese. The accused may have been a priest of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas, or another diocese assigned to work in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas, or a priest of another diocese who used to be affiliated with the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas.

Q. How do you define “child sexual abuse”?
A. Sexual abuse of a child, minor or youth means any sexual act to or with a child or other sexual exploitation of a child or other person, whether by which an adult uses a minor as an object of sexual gratification. For purposes of archdiocesan policies, the term “sexual abuse” is not necessarily limited to the definitions of sexual abuse that are found in the law, but includes non-consensual use, creation or possession of child pornographic images constitutes child sexual abuse.

Q. What are the criteria for inclusion on the list?
A. Clergy members’ names are included on this list if there was a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse against them. Their inclusion does not necessarily mean they were found guilty of a crime or are liable for civil claims. Many of the allegations received by the archdiocese are from decades ago and were reported many years after the alleged abuse, sometimes after the death of the accused.

Q. What do you mean by a substantiated allegation?
A. When a complaint is received, the archdiocese starts with the presumption that the allegation is being brought forward in good faith. Therefore, all allegations are considered credible; the report investigator’s task is to investigate thoroughly and determine if the allegation is supported. An allegation is considered “substantiated” when it is corroborated with witness statements, documents, emails, photos, texts, or by another source, such as law enforcement. Obviously, if the accused member of the clergy admits to allegations the accusation is substantiated. However, an allegation can be considered substantiated, even if the accused denies the allegation, when there is corroborating evidence that supports the veracity of the allegation.

Q. How many clergy files were reviewed and what time period did they cover?
A. The review included a total of some 1080 individual clergy files going back more than 75 years.

Q. How many clergy with substantiated allegations were diocesan priests of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas?
A. Ten.

Q. What percentage of all clergy whose files were reviewed had a substantiated allegation?
A. 2.04%

Q. What happens to an allegation of child abuse by a member of the clergy once it is received?
A. When an allegation of sexual abuse by a minor of the clergy is received, the archdiocese initiates an investigation and notifies law enforcement according to state law and the archdiocese’s Child Protection policy.

The archdiocese is also communic- ated to the archdiocese’s own Independent Review Board (IRB) in accordance with its Safe Environment policy. The archdiocese employs a report investigator who, with her extensive law enforcement and investigative background as a former FBI agent and Kansas state trooper, performs internal investigations of allegations of sexual abuse. The investigator’s reports are presented to the IRB to inform their deliberations and provide the known facts on which to base their recommendations.

The IRB’s members include a victim of clergy sexual abuse, an attorney who has long advocated for abuse victims, mental health professionals, law enforcement officials and one priest. The IRB offers both the person making the accusation and the accused the opportunity to meet separately with the board.

The IRB is not an investigative body, but it is presented with the results of the investigation conducted by the archdiocesan report investigator. Following its review of the case, the IRB refers on to the archbishop the case file and the board’s recommendations. At that time, it makes recommendations with respect to all aspects of the case, including, when applicable, its recommendations concerning the accused cleric’s suitabil- ity for ministry.

If the allegation is not able to be substantiated and consistent with the recommendation of the IRB, the cleric may be returned to active ministry.

Q. Is this list complete?
A. This list is a complete and accurate representation of the substantiated allegations that have been made against the archdiocese’s priests for whom we have files. The list is based on the extensive file review conduct- ed by the independent law firm of Husch Blackwell. The archdiocese has received some historic allegations that could not be substantiated based on the information contained in the files. These are not allegations about anyone currently serving in priestly ministry. The report investigator will be asked to investigate the allegations and present her findings to the Independent Review Board. Once the IRB has made its recommendations, it is possible that names could be added to the current list.

If new information comes to the archdiocese, the list will be updated.

Q. Why was Husch Blackwell chosen to review the files?
A. Husch Blackwell was chosen because of its expertise in this field. The firm has conducted investiga- tions and reviews covering a multi- tude of circumstances for a number of large religious organizations and public and non-profit educational insti- tutions throughout the United States.

Q. What do you mean by substantiated allegations of sexual abuse — even historical ones — public in the same way as the archdiocese has made cur- rent ones?

A. In light of the confusion and concern caused by the Pennsylvania grand jury report and the Archbishop McCarrick scandal this past summer, there has been a call for greater transpar- ency on the part of the church regarding not just present allegations, but historical allegations as well. We are releasing this list as part of that effort toward greater transparency.

Q. Are any of the men on this list still in active ministry?
A. No cleric with a substantiat- ed allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor is permitted to exercise any form of public ministry.

Q. What is the archdiocese doing to prevent sexual abuse within the church?
A. The archdiocesan safe envi- ronment program has three compo- nents. First, persons who work with or around children are required to participate in ongoing child safety training and to keep it current. Chil- dren, too, to undergo personal safety training. Second, all church employees, clergy, and volun- teers are required to undergo criminal background checks. Third, the United States Conference of Catholic Bish- ops engages an independent firm that conducts an annual safe environment audit of the archdiocese.

The archdiocese currently has 18 trained facilitators available to present the Virtus program’s adult aware- ness training sessions to archdioce- san employees, clergy, and volunteers and to date has instructed more than 47,030 adults and children. It has conducted more than 41,000 background checks for any adult serv- ing in any capacity in the archdiocese and has passed 71% of the audit — both remote and on-site — since the audits were instituted in 2004.

Q. What training do seminari- ans, or new employees, clergy and volunteers of the archdiocese receive regarding the archdiocese’s Safe Environment program?

A. >> Continues on page 10
Archbishop thanks victims for their courage

The list that we are providing today is accurate and complete information we possess at this moment. There are some allegations in our file that have not yet been fully substantiated. I did not wish to delay further the publication of this list until we could complete a more thorough investigation of every historic allegation of abuse and give our Independent Review Board (IRB) sufficient time to deliberate and make a recommendation to me. Therefore, I have chosen not to include on this list individuals with an accusation of abuse that we are unable to substantiate at this time. An accusation is considered substantiated only when we have reason to believe it to be true. If the accused denied the allegation, it can also be substantiated for instance if there is corroborating evidence in the file, knowledgeable testimony of others, and/or multiple accusations. I can assure you that an individual facing public criticism in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas has had substantiated allegations of sexual abuse by a minor made against him. If new information comes to light, the list will be updated and any priest with a substantiated allegation will be removed from ministry.

I thank all those who have courageously come forward with allegations in order to prevent someone else from being victimized as well as to assist with the progress of their own healing process. I am also grateful to members of the secular press that have brought attention to this issue and called the Church to address this evil in order to promote the healing of victims and protect our children and youth today and in the future.

I renew my expressions of gratitude to Jan Saylor, our Report Investigator, for her diligence in helping us to the best of our ability to ascertain the truth. I thank all those who assist with the implementation of our safe environment programs that are designed to do everything possible to prevent future abuse. Thanks to their efforts our parishes, schools and ministries provide exceptionally well for the safety of our youth and children.

I am also grateful to Mother Triville, our Victim Assistance Coordinator, for helping our Church better care for and assist victims. I want to do all that we can to do our very best to help with the healing of those who have been victims of abuse as representatives of the Church. I continue to offer Mass weekly for the healing of all victims of sexual abuse, but in particular those harmed by the Church. I am also grateful to the Independent Review Board (IRB) sufficient time to deliberate and give our Independent Review Board (IRB) enough time to deliberate and make a recommendation to me. I did not wish to delay further the publication of this list until we could complete a thorough investigation of every historic allegation of abuse and give our Independent Review Board (IRB) time to deliberate and make a recommendation to me. Therefore, I have chosen not to include on this list individuals with an accusation of abuse that we are unable to substantiate at this time. An accusation is considered substantiated only when we have reason to believe it to be true. If the accused denied the allegation, it can also be substantiated for instance if there is corroborating evidence in the file, knowledgeable testimony of others, and/or multiple accusations. I can assure you that an individual facing public criticism in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas has had substantiated allegations of sexual abuse by a minor made against him. If new information comes to light, the list will be updated and any priest with a substantiated allegation will be removed from ministry.

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