

DIOCESE OF STOCKTON PRESS STATEMENT

January 22, 2004

Statistics on Child Abuse by Clergy in the Diocese of Stockton From 1962-2003

From 1962 through December 31, 2003, four hundred and four priests have exercised ministry in the Diocese of Stockton. Ten of these priests have been accused of sexual abuse of minors (2.47%). Three had no criminal charges brought against them. Two have been convicted. Five are currently under investigation. Of the five, two are dead and two returned to their country of origin long ago.

The total amount of settlements and court judgments has come to \$9,535,000. Of that amount \$5,000,000. was paid by insurance carriers and \$4,535,000. was paid by the Diocese of Stockton.

Counseling services provided amounted to \$190,000. with an estimate of 50% paid by insurance. Lawyer fees are estimated at about \$200,000, principally paid by insurance.

Twelve lawsuits were filed in 2003, during the time in which the statutes of limitation were lifted in California. Some of these suits are not yet public.

With sadness and profound regret the Diocese of Stockton apologizes to the victims and their families for the pain and hurt caused them. The Diocese is determined and resolved to ensure that clerical sexual abuse is eliminated through a continual and strict adherence to the principles outlined in the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.

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