

The Orthodox Church in America
DIOCESE OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
The Right Reverend Melchisedek, Bishop of Pittsburgh, *Locum Tenens*
The Right Reverend Mark, Bishop of Baltimore, Administrator

September 4, 2013

Dear Brothers and Sister in Christ,

Christ is in our Midst! I am writing to you today to request your assistance. The diocese is in need of qualified professionals who are willing to volunteer their time and expertise to assist in matters pertaining to sexual misconduct. As a Diocese of the Orthodox Church in America, we are required to have in place a Response Team in the event allegations of sexual misconduct are made against a person in our Diocese.

The Response Team is responsible for conducting the investigation of the allegations. Ideally, the Response Team will be comprised of one to three individuals who have experience that could be relevant in the field. This would include people with background in investigations, and in social work/mental health, or other relevant experience such as teaching, human resources, corporate business, etc. Ordained clergy members routinely serve on the RT to offer pastoral guidance and support for those involved with sexual misconduct. In order to avoid conflicts with legal requirements and restrictions imposed by oaths of office, laws and departmental regulations, active law enforcement officers may not be assigned to Response Teams. Retired/former law enforcement officers may be assigned to Response Teams but must have credentials verified by the Office for Review of Sexual Misconduct Allegations prior to appointment.

The goal is to have a pool of volunteers willing to serve on a Response Team when it has been deemed necessary to conduct an investigation in our Diocese. Should you be interested in serving in this role in the future, please fill out the brief questionnaire and submit your resume/CV to the Diocese. Please read the OCA Policies, Standards, and Procedures on Sexual Misconduct to further acquaint yourself with the process and duties of the Response Team (Sections 8, 9, & 10). The document can be found at <http://oca.org/about/documents>. May our Lord continue to look down from heaven, visiting establishing and perfecting this vine which He has planted with His own right hand.

Asking your God-pleasing prayers, I remain your servant in Christ,

+ Mark

+Bp Mark, Bishop of Baltimore
Administrator of the Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania

Orthodox Church in America
Diocese of Philadelphia and eastern Pennsylvania
Volunteer Information

The Diocese is conducting a search for qualified professionals willing to donate their time and talent to assist in investigations of sexual misconduct allegations. Please complete this form and submit it along with your resume to the Diocese. Once your information has been reviewed, you will be contacted. Each particular case will determine the best fit for the individual members of the Response Team. Thank you for your willingness to serve.

Name _____ Parish _____ Date _____

Address _____

Telephone Home: _____ Mobile: _____

Email address: _____

My current profession: ☐ Retired/former Law Enforcement Officer
☐ Licensed Social Worker
☐ Psychologist
☐ Psychiatrist
☐ Clergyman
☐ Other: _____

My educational background (degrees, certificates, training, licensure, etc.):

Mail to: Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania
144 St. Tikhon's Road
Waymart, PA 18472