



DIOCESE OF EVANSVILLE
SAFE ENVIRONMENT

DEFINITIONS

- **Accused:** A person charged with or alleged to have committed an act of Child Abuse, a serious violation of these policies and procedures (or this “Policy”), or a crime
- **Administrative Leave:** Relieving the accused of assigned duties pending further notice from the Bishop or his designee.
- **Appropriate Monitoring:** Ongoing, in-person monitoring of the conduct and performance of individuals who are employed or volunteering in the diocese. Individuals who serve as monitors are to be formally designated this responsibility by the pastor, principal, or other parish leader in coordination with Diocese Human Resource Director.
- **Background Check:** The verification of information provided on an application for employment or volunteer service form, including references.
- **Criminal Background Check:** A search of a person's criminal history to determine if they have been convicted of a crime.
- **Child/Minor:** Any person under the age of eighteen (18) years.
- **Abuse:** The physical, sexual, emotional and/or psychological maltreatment or neglect of a child or adult as defined in the State of Indiana. This also includes the possession and/or distribution of child pornography.



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DEFINITIONS CONTINUED

- **Credible Accusation:** An allegation that meets one or more of the following thresholds:
 - Believable and Plausible
 - Natural, Reasonable and Probable
 - Corroborated with other evidence or another source and/or
 - Acknowledged/admitted to by the accused.

- **Diocesan Personnel:** Includes priests, deacons, lay employees, and any others in the regular employ of the diocese.

- **Regular Contact:** Contact with children in which the duration is not trivial or extremely limited.

- **Volunteer:** A person who provides a service without compensation.

SE-1-2025