



# Edmund Rice Christian Brothers North America

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## A Province of the Congregation of Christian Brothers

*A Guide for Those Bringing Forth an Allegation  
of Sexual Abuse (while a minor)  
Against a Christian Brother in North America  
(For abuse that took place after August 1, 2011)*

When an allegation of sexual abuse is made against a Christian Brother in North America, the Christian Brothers will ordinarily take the following steps.

1. Contact will be made with the individual bringing forth the allegation by the Province Leader. The individual will be offered an opportunity for a face to face meeting or phone conversation with the Province Leader, Bro. Kevin Griffith (914-548-1714). The individual will be offered an opportunity to be in contact with the Province Survivor Assistance Coordinator, Deborah O'Brien (518-376-8312). If the individual has retained legal counsel, this will be done through legal counsel of the Christian Brothers, Mr. Anthony Dougherty (212-216-8099).
2. Counseling will be offered at the expense of the Christian Brothers.
3. If the individual is a minor at the time the allegation is brought forth, the Christian Brothers will report the alleged abuse to civil authorities within 48 hours or sooner if mandated by law.
4. If the individual is no longer a minor at the time the allegation is brought forward, he/she will be advised of his/her right to report the abuse to the appropriate civil authorities.
5. Once the allegation has been received, the Christian Brothers will begin an immediate initial inquiry into the allegation. If circumstances warrant such, an independent investigator (AMRIC Associates) will be hired to fully investigate the details of the allegation.
6. If an allegation of sexual abuse against a Christian Brother is established and substantiated, the Brother will be permanently removed from all ministry involving minors. Ordinarily, the Brother is removed from ministry while the investigation takes place.
7. Upon completion of the independent investigation, the Christian Brothers will provide the individual bringing forth the allegation with a written letter detailing the outcome of the investigation.
8. Findings of the investigation will be presented to an independent Review Board for their review.



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