

*Ukrainian Catholic
Archeparchy of Philadelphia*

Archeparchial Review Board Bylaws



June 4, 2025

1) Mission of the Archeparchial Review Board

The Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia shall have an Archeparchial Review Board in fulfillment of the requirements set forth by The Catholic Bishops of the United States in Article 2 of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (Charter)*, adopted in June 2002 and revised in June 2018; and the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia *Policy for the Protection of Minors and Vulnerable Adults (Policy)* dated August 2022.

The Mission of the Archeparchial Review Board (Review Board) is to assist the Archbishop in the investigation of allegations pursuant to the Charter and Policy through consultation and to offer advice to the Archbishop in his assessment of allegations of sexual abuse of minors and vulnerable adults, and in his determination of a cleric's suitability for ministry. The Review Board shall regularly review Archeparchial policies and procedures for dealing with the protection of minors and vulnerable adults. The Review Board may offer advice on implementation of the Charter, Policy, or Pastoral Code of Conduct mandate.

2) Membership

The Review Board shall be composed of at least six (6) members appointed by the Archbishop to serve in a consultative and advisory capacity.

The Protosyncellus, Vicar for Clergy, Vicar for Religious and the Promoter of Justice are not members but may attend meetings as observers with permission to speak and offer suggestions.

The Archbishop may invite other nonmember participants to the Review Board as observers with permission to speak and offer suggestions.

Members:

- a) Shall be Catholics in communion with the Church.
- b) Will not be employees of the Archeparchy, except for clergy.
- c) Will not be members of the Review Board and members of the Response Personnel concurrently.
- d) At least one (1) member shall be from among the clergy from the Archeparchy.
- e) Will be appointed by the Archbishop and not receive compensation; however, they may be reimbursed for approved expenses.
- f) Will be appointed to serve for a term of five (5) years. Terms may be staggered with no more than three (3) members' terms expiring in any given year. Three (3) members shall initially be appointed for four (4) years and three (3) members for five (5) years.
- g) Will not be appointed for more than four (4) consecutive terms.
- h) In the event of resignation, withdrawal or dismissal, a replacement may be appointed.
- i) In the event of a vacancy, the Archbishop shall invite the Consultors and Deans of the Archeparchy and Review Board members to nominate a candidate for appointment by the Archbishop. The nomination shall include a resume of the individual's qualifications and competencies.

3) Administration

- a) The Chair of the Review Board shall be appointed by the Archbishop. The Review Board may elect from among themselves a Vice-Chair and a Secretary.
- b) The term of each office will be for one (1) year and a Board member may not serve more than six (6) years in one office.
- c) The Chair will convene and preside over all meetings of the Review Board. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair will serve the function of Chair.
- d) The Secretary is responsible for all communication, notices and reports.
- e) The Review Board will meet regularly, at least annually, to review the policies and procedures of the Archeparchy as well as to review any matters related to the allegations of abuse, as needed. These meetings may be in person at the Chancery office, via telephone conference calls, video conference calls, or other electronic means.
- f) Two thirds (2/3) of the voting Review Board members including the Chair will constitute a quorum.
- g) Four (4) votes of concurrence will be necessary for a recommendation pertaining to an allegation.
- h) A 2/3 majority of members present at a meeting is required to carry a motion.
- i) All Review Board members and observers will sign and be held to an oath of confidentiality with regard to all deliberations and information.
- j) Records will be maintained in accord with civil and canon law.

4) Duties of the Review Board

- a) To assess the credibility of an allegation(s) concerning the sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult that has been made against a cleric, religious, employee or volunteer of the Archeparchy, and to advise the Archbishop of its findings and conclusions.
- b) To make recommendations concerning the continuation of ministry or service of priests, deacons, seminarians, religious or anyone else who has a canonical appointment or office by the Archbishop, and against whom a credible allegation of sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult has been made.
- c) To monitor, in each particular case, allegations of sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult that have been made against a cleric, religious, employee or volunteer in order to ensure that this policy is being fulfilled.
- d) To review the *Policy for the Protection of Minors and Vulnerable Adults* and its procedures and to provide the Archbishop with recommendations for any modifications to the document.
- e) To review the *Pastoral Code of Conduct* and its procedures and to provide the Archbishop with recommendations for any modifications to the document.

5) Authority

The Review Board is authorized to:

