LASALLIAN DISTRICT of SAN FRANCISCO NEW ORLEANS

POLICIES OF THE SFNO DE LA SALLE BROTHERS PROTECTING MINORS & VULNERABLE ADULTS

The Brothers and employees of the SFNO District are committed to protecting and promoting the well-being of all individuals. The District is accredited by Praesidium, Inc., an organization providing consultation, risk management assessment, policy development, and training materials for use in preventing sexual misconduct and responding to allegations of sexual misconduct. The District remains accredited through regular reviews by Praesidium's auditors.

BEFORE A DE LA SALLE BROTHER IS ACCEPTED

We take great care screening and assessing applicants to the Christian Brothers a candidate is accepted as a novice, he undergoes in-depth screening, including psychosexual and social media screening, and an extensive criminal background check.

We work hard to ensure that our formation program fosters healthy development in the spiritual life of the Brother as well as his psychosexual health and well-being. Brothers at every stage of their ministry and formation receive regular safe-environment training to promote ethical conduct in ministry and awareness and sensitivity of professional boundaries.

REPORTING OF CLAIMS

- When a claim is made against a Brother, the District immediately reports it to law enforcement if it involves the abuse of a current minor or vulnerable adult. The District fully cooperates throughout the investigation.
- Upon receipt of an allegation involving a minor or vulnerable adult, the accused Brother is suspended from ministry pending the outcome of the investigation.
- The District offers pastoral and therapeutic services to the victim.

INTERNAL INVESTIGATION

- If law enforcement decides to pursue a criminal investigation, the District initiates its own investigation only after the one conducted by law enforcement concludes. The District initiates its own internal investigation irrespective of whether a criminal investigation is initiated.
- The results of the District's internal investigation are presented to an independent Review Board comprised of lay professionals from the psychology, counseling, and legal communities. The lay Review Board helps determine if a claim is credible and makes its recommendation to the Brother Visitor of the SFNO District.
- No Brother who has an established allegation of sexually abusing a minor or vulnerable adult is allowed to remain in public ministry.

HOW TO REPORT A CLAIM

Individuals who come forward with complaints about the behavior of a Brother are dealt with compassionately and respectfully, and every effort is made to foster healing.

If you or anyone you know has felt victimized by a Brother at any time, please contact Br. David Caretti, FSC, at brotherdavid@dlsi.org.

We also urge you to contact the appropriate law enforcement and child-protective service agency if you believe any incident of abuse has occurred.