



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF MEMPHIS

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Update on Diocesan Review Board Matters

Memphis, TN (CDOM Office of Communications) -- Bishop David Talley was installed as the sixth Bishop of Memphis on April 2, 2019. Even before his installation, Bishop Talley stated that he was “horrified and scandalized” by reports of the sexual abuse of minors by clergy. He made the following commitment to the people of the Diocese of Memphis: “As your Bishop, I promise to do everything in my power to safeguard our children and youth and to help those who are victims of abuse. We must be transparent and bring to light any wrong doings of the past so healing can take place.”

As one of his first acts, Bishop Talley met with the Diocesan Review Board to ask their assistance in preparing a list of clergy credibly accused of the sexual abuse of a minor. The Memphis Review Board is a talented group of judges, former prosecutors, medical professionals and experts who are committed to thoroughly and impartially completing this task. That process has begun and is continuing. Bishop Talley has committed to support the Board in its work. To that end, he has authorized employing a professional investigator to assist them as needed. The Board has scheduled meetings, and has advised the Bishop that they hope to conclude their work as expeditiously as possible.

Bishop Dozier’s inclusion on the Richmond list of credibly accused clergy will be one of the matters brought before the Review Board. The Memphis Review Board is actively investigating the matter of Bishop Dozier, and Bishop Talley is assisting them in their efforts to collect whatever information from outside the Diocese might be available to them. Since the Memphis Review Board has not yet completed their review, at this time the Diocese does not want to pre-judge their recommendation.