

**Roman Catholic Bishops' Conference
and the Major Superiors of Religious Institutes and of Societies of
Apostolic Life of the Roman Catholic Ecclesiastical Province
in The Netherlands**

**Form to inquire about the antecedents in the matter
of sexual abuse by candidates ¹**

for a function or an apprenticeship whereby the Ecclesiastical Superior is the person
who appoints or sends.

The applicant (male/female) is asked to have this form filled up by the Superior of the Ecclesiastical Body where he/she worked most recently, and to pass it on to the Superior of the Ecclesiastical Body where he/she reported him-/herself as applicant.

The "Protocol to inquire about the antecedents in the matter of sexual abuse by applicants for a function or apprenticeship whereby the ecclesiastical authority is the person who appoints or sends", is issued by the Bishops and the Major Superiors of Religious Institutes and Societies of Apostolic Life in the Roman Catholic Ecclesiastical Province of the Netherlands on June 1st, 2012. It aims at preventing those persons from being accepted for a function or apprenticeship within an ecclesiastical body, who earlier on, while in a similar function or apprenticeship, were involved in sexual abuse. This protocol has been drawn up considering that the confidence people have in the integrity of those at work in ecclesiastical functions, must be maintained at all costs. It is, therefore, most important that, prior to an appointment, the way applicants performed in previous functions or apprenticeships of a similar nature, be carefully examined. More than anything else it must be prevented that individual believers and the church community as a whole be once again harmed by someone who has been found guilty of sexual abuse before.

Mr. / Mrs. in, address:
..... is known to me on account of his work as priest / deacon / pastoral
worker (or another function) in the diocese / institute under my authority.

According to his / her information, he/she puts him-/herself now forward as applicant for the
function of priest / deacon / pastoral worker (or another function) in
..... within the diocese of /within the religious institute of
.....).

On the strength of what is known to me, being the person responsible, concerning his/her
performance I declare that:

◇ in pursuance of the "Procedure of the Commission for Complaints alleging Sexual Abuse in the
Roman Catholic Church", as established by the Board of the Management and Supervision

¹ In the Protocol the word 'applicant' includes: Priests, deacons,, religious, pastoral workers (male/female), work experience students, who, under the responsibility of the Bishop or Military Ordinary, prepare themselves for a service or function in pastoral work. Also included are the other professional workers in the Church who, by virtue of the Ecclesiastical Superior, are co-responsible for the realization of purposes the Church has.

concerning Sexual Abuse in the Roman Catholic Church on October 5th, 2011 or in the meaning of the Criminal Code, sexual abuse by Mr. / Mrs. has never been ascertained while he/she held an ecclesiastical function or apprenticeship.²

◇ in pursuance of the "Procedure of the Commission for Complaints alleging Sexual Abuse in the Roman Catholic Church", as established by the Board of the Management and Supervision concerning Sexual Abuse in the Roman Catholic Church on October 5th, 2011 or in the meaning of the Criminal Code, sexual abuse by Mr. /Ms. has been ascertained in the past while in an ecclesiastical function or apprenticeship.

In my opinion Mr./Mrs. is, on account of this happening in the course of his/her career,

- ◇ not eligible for a similar function / apprenticeship.
- ◇ only eligible for appointment to a similar function / for a similar apprenticeship under strict conditions, such as:

.....

◇ I do not know of any indications which, in the matter of sexual abuse, would point to any special risks with regard to Mr. / Mrs.

(Place),

(Date)

(Name)

(Function as ecclesiastical superior)

² The applicant can only be appointed unconditionally if both the first and the third box have been ticked.