There are four categories for reporting abuse: Children and Youth, Vulnerable Adults, Clergy (priests and deacons), and Bishops. If you are interested in reporting a code of conduct violation and not an allegation of abuse, please see "Reporting Code of Conduct Violations" in the next section.

The first obligation of the Church with regard to victims is for healing and reconciliation. The Office of Safe Environment is charged with creating a safe and compassionate environment for victims to come forward while ensuring that civil authorities are notified and victims and their families are provided with counseling and other assistance in the healing process.

If you observe or have reason to believe that a child, young person or vulnerable adult has been subjected to abuse by a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Salt Lake City, you must report the alleged abuse to local law enforcement and state agencies, and you must notify the Diocesan Office of Safe Environment at (801) 456-9344.

For law enforcement and agency contact information, see below.

1. Reporting Abuse of Children and Youth

Children and Youth

In response to the clergy sexual abuse of minors, in 2002, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) adopted the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. The Office of Safe Environment of the Diocese of Salt Lake City was created that same year to help ensure that children and youth in the care of the Church are protected from sexual abuse. Please review the diocesan policy on **Instructions for Reporting Alleged Abuse in Schools and Parishes**.

The Diocese of Salt Lake City is committed to ensuring the health and safety of young people within its community. Anyone who has been a victim of abuse or exploitation by clergy, religious or lay Church personnel and has not yet reported the incident is encouraged to do so. The Victim Assistance Coordinator is available to assist in making a report. The contact number for the Victim Assistance Coordinator is (801) 456-9344.

2. Reporting Abuse of Vulnerable Adults

Vulnerable Adults

What is the definition of a Vulnerable Adult?
At a minimum, according to Utah Code Section 76-5-111, is “a “Dependent adult" which means an individual 18 years old or older, who has a physical or mental impairment that restricts the individual's ability to carry out normal activities or to protect the individual's rights.”

Statistics tell us that the abuse of vulnerable adults is more emotional, physical, and financial as opposed to sexual abuse that has been reported to be one percent of the cases of abuse. In the United States, approximately 500,000 allegations of abuse of vulnerable adults are reported to Adult Protective Services each year, but it is thought that a very small percentage of cases are ever reported. Studies indicate that as many as 10 percent of the vulnerable adult population is subject to abuse and that only one in six will ever be reported.

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3. Reporting Abuse by Clergy (Priests and Deacons)

In 2003, as part of the 2002 USCCB's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, the Diocese of Salt Lake City conducted a thorough internal review of its files going back 50 years. The list was posted on the Diocesan website at the end of 2018.

Diocesan Statement on Clergy Abuse Allegations

In an effort to demonstrate transparency and accountability, Bishop Oscar A. Solis of the Diocese of Salt Lake City committed to having a full independent review of all clergy files going beyond the 50 years of the 2003 internal review and including files for all past and present priests and deacons within the Diocese. The Diocese of Salt Lake City retained a

former investigator from the Federal Bureau of Intelligence and a retired detective of the Salt Lake City Police Department who were given full access to over 900 clergy files covering all files in existence in the Diocese of Salt Lake City without any oversite from anyone within the Diocese. The purpose of this independent file review was to locate any incidents, reports, or suspicions of abuse of minors or vulnerable adults.

Beginning in June 2019, the independent file review verified the accuracy of the 2003 internal review, and going beyond 50 years, to include all past and present files of all priests and deacons within the Diocese. At the end of July 2019, the independent file review was completed. The results of the 2019 independent file review were provided to the Diocese. The findings of the 2019 independent review are shared in a Report to the People of God from the Most Reverend Oscar A. Solis, D.D., Bishop of Salt Lake City. The list released in 2018 has been updated to include all findings of the 2019 independent review.

- Memorandum from The Most Reverend Oscar A. Solis, D.D.: Updated Report to the People of God, Sep. 21, 2019
- Independent Review Report
- Glossary of Terms

The Diocese of Salt Lake City is committed to ensuring the health and safety of young people within its community. Anyone who has been a victim of abuse or exploitation by clergy, religious or lay Church personnel and has not yet reported the incident is encouraged to do so. The Victim Assistance Coordinator is available to assist in making a report. The contact number for the Victim Assistance Coordinator is (801) 456-9344.

4. Reporting Abuse by a Bishop

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service (CBAR)

What is CBAR?

This service is in place to gather and relay reports of sexual misconduct involving bishops of the United States, and reports of their intentional interference in a sexual abuse investigation.

If you need to report sexual abuse by a priest, deacon, religious brother or sister, or layperson working for the Church in the Diocese of Salt Lake City, please contact the Office of Safe Environment at safeenv@dioslc.org or call 801-328-8641.

How to Report Abuse by a Bishop

If you have suffered sexual abuse by a bishop, you can make a report online at https://www.reportbishopabuse.org/ or by calling 1-800-276-1562.

Learn more about this service here: https://www.reportbishopabuse.org/faqs

Law Enforcement Agencies

Salt Lake City Police Dept.

Salt Lake County Sheriff's Dept.