

Episcopal Diocese of Hawaii



SEXUAL MISCONDUCT and PASTORAL RELATIONSHIP DEFINITIONS AND POLICY

Definitions

Sexual misconduct is defined by the Diocese of Hawaii as any

sexual abuse or sexual molestation of any person, including but not limited to, any sexual involvement or sexual contact with a person who is a minor or who is legally incompetent; or

sexual exploitation, including but not limited to, the development of or the attempt to develop a sexual relationship between clergy person, employee or volunteer and a person with whom he / she has a **pastoral relationship**, whether or not there is apparent consent from the individual; or

sexual harassment in a situation where there is an employment, mentor or colleague relationship between the person involved, including but not limited to: sexually-oriented humor or language; questions or comments about sexual behavior or preference unrelated to employment qualifications; undesired physical contact; inappropriate comments about clothing or physical appearance; repeated requests for social engagements.

Pastoral Relationship a relationship between a cleric, employee or volunteer and any person to whom such cleric, employee or volunteer provides pastoral care which includes counseling, spiritual direction or spiritual guidance, or from whom such cleric, employee or volunteer has received a confession or confidential or privileged information.

Policy

It is the policy of the Diocese Hawaii that sexual abuse, exploitation or harassment of any kind by anyone who undertakes ministry, whether staff person or volunteer of this diocese or any of its congregations or agencies, will not be tolerated.

Anyone suspecting Sexual Misconduct must report it to the legal authorities and to the priest-in-charge, a locally designated contact person and the Bishop/Safe Church Office (808 536-7776)