

IMPACT OF THE 2007 DELAWARE “LOOKBACK” LEGISLATION

TOTAL POPULATION OF DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON (Delaware & MD Eastern Shore)	1,478,818
CATHOLIC POPULATION	244,358
DIOCESAN PRIESTS	117
PARISHES	57
TOTAL CASES FILED	183, involving 198 plaintiffs
CASES FILED AGAINST CATHOLIC INSTITUTIONS	151, involving 162 plaintiffs (approx. 82% of all claims)
CASES FILED AGAINST DIOCESE	135, involving 146 plaintiffs
CASES WITH PARISH DEFENDANTS	78, involving 26 parishes, including 17 with schools
TOTAL PAYMENTS TO CLAIMANTS BY CATHOLIC INSTITUTIONS	Approx. \$120 million, incl. bankruptcy settlement Of which approx. \$34.4 million was paid by insurance Average total payout = \$755,000/claimant
SIGNIFICANT VERDICTS/JUDGMENTS	\$3 million award against St. Elizabeth Parish \$1.63 million stipulated judgment against St. Dennis Parish Both resolved as part of the diocesan bankruptcy settlement
BANKRUPTCY SETTLEMENT	\$77,425,000, paid by
	Catholic Diocese Foundation \$ 45,125,000
	Insurance 15,400,000
	Contributions from affiliates 6,800,000
	Restricted Fund borrowings 6,300,000
	Parish contributions 2,200,000
	Sale of 3 properties 1,600,000

IMPACTS

1. The Catholic Diocese Foundation is essentially gone. Formerly, the Foundation annually had provided \$3+ million in grants and subsidies to parishes, schools and other ministries.
2. St. Paul’s School closed. This was an inner city parish school serving a low-income Hispanic community, and was reliant upon an annual \$400,000 subsidy from the Foundation.
3. Catholic Charities reserve funds were reduced by about 25%, and a property was sold, to help fund the settlement. This resulted in a long-term impingement on sustainability of services.
4. About 10% of the diocesan workforce (19 employees) was laid off.
5. The Diocese is cash-strapped, and, without the Foundation as a backstop, is unable to help parishes and schools in need, and struggles to maintain its own ministries.