

St. Andrew Parish Safer Environment Policy Statement

In 2003, St. Andrew Parish was asked to respond to Ohio House Bill 187, as well as the suggested practices stated in the United States Conference of Bishops' *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, the *Best Practices for the parishes of the Catholic Diocese of Columbus*, and the *Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry Policy 200.10*, by establishing a policy to provide a safer environment for children of the parish.

- **All clergy and employees**, regardless of their level of contact with child(ren) and youth,
- **All volunteers in a program or ministry for children or youth**, regardless of their level of contact with child(ren) and youth,
- **All volunteers for other parish programs or ministries who have been delegated care, custody, or control of child(ren) and youth**,
- **Any volunteer who has the possibility of working along side, being delegated care, custody, or control of child(ren) and youth**,
- while acting on behalf of a St. Andrew Parish organization/event/committee/board/school, and is aged 18+ years of age, is required to complete a **civilian criminal background check**, through BCI&I, & participate in a **"Protecting God's Children"** training session, and complete the **St. Andrew Parish Volunteer Code of Conduct** in order to begin service.

1. "Protecting God's Children" Training Sessions Throughout the Diocese

All volunteers are required to attend one session offered anywhere throughout the Diocese of Columbus by registering online at www.virtus.org. If a session is not available prior to volunteering, a **"confirmation of online registration"** (for a class within six weeks of the beginning/continuation of a volunteer's service) must be emailed to mbeasecker@standrewparish.cc prior to the start of/next date of service.

If attendance occurs at a location other than St. Andrew, a "Certificate of Participation" is posted on the Virtus website and can be accessed by St. Andrew Parish. You can also forward your certificate directly to St. Andrew Parish Office, 1899 McCoy Road, 43220, Attn: Mary Beasecker, or by fax to 614/451-8300. When a certificate is either posted on Virtus or received in the Parish Office, compliance will be recorded in the parish records.

2. Civilian Criminal Background Check

Fast Fingerprints Inc. offers fingerprinting services necessary to obtain a Civilian Criminal Background Check from the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification & Investigation, BCI&I.

Fast Fingerprints, Inc. offers a discount to St. Andrew Parish if you present the "General Registration Form" found on the parish website, www.standrewparish.cc, or by contacting Mary Beasecker, mbeasecker@standrewparish.cc.

Fast Fingerprints, Inc. is located at 1486 Bethel Road, 43220. Visit www.fastfingerprints.com for contact information and hours of operation.

Items needed when getting fingerprinted:

- Valid driver's license or state identification
- Proof of Social Security number
- St. Andrew Parish Discount form and payment
- FBI background check is required if you have not lived in the State of Ohio for the past five consecutive years.

3. Volunteer Code of Conduct

To complete the volunteer compliance process, all volunteers must read, sign and return to the parish office the **"Volunteer Code of Conduct"** found on the parish website, www.standrewparish.cc, or by contacting Mary Beasecker, mbeasecker@standrewparish.cc. Forms can be returned via email, drop off or mail to St. Andrew Parish Office or school, attn: Mary Beasecker.

If you've already completed ALL of the above requirements within the Diocese of Columbus or another Catholic diocese, contact Mary Beasecker, mbeasecker@standrewparish.cc, or 614/451-4290 to find out if records can be transferred to St. Andrew.