



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

February 1, 2019

To: Texas District and County Attorneys

Dear District or County Attorney:

As Attorney General, I am keenly aware of the tireless work you do every day to protect Texans. Along with our peace officers, you are the front line of defense against criminals who would harm Texans, and all agree that there is no priority higher than protecting the most vulnerable among us, especially our children.

Therefore, you are no doubt aware of reports released yesterday by the 15 Texas Catholic Dioceses naming clergymen against whom credible allegations of sexual abuse have been made. Some of these lists include credible allegations that date back to the 1950s, so many of the potential crimes committed cannot be prosecuted due to the statutes of limitations. However, significant criminal conduct might have occurred within the limitations period. As your office investigates these allegations, you will likely find the facts to be complex and involving multiple jurisdictions within Texas. As always, pursuant to Texas Code of Criminal Procedure § 2.021, the investigators and prosecutors in my office stand ready to assist in any way possible with these investigations and any resulting prosecutions. If there is any way the Office of the Attorney General can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ken Paxton".

Ken Paxton
Attorney General of Texas

Cc: Robert Kepple, Executive Director
Texas District & County Attorneys Association
505 West 12th Street, Suite 100
Austin, Texas 78701