



# ARCHDIOCESE OF DENVER

## **Official Statement**

September 20, 2019

The agreement between the three Colorado Catholic Dioceses and the Attorney General of Colorado is a public document that clearly defines the thoroughness of the independent file review currently being conducted by former U.S. Attorney Robert Troyer. That agreement calls for the production of a very broad range of the Dioceses' files, including those known as the "secret archives" which is simply a term for certain confidential employment materials for priests. Any suggestion that "secret files" or "secret archives" are being withheld from Mr. Troyer is false.

The announcement of this independent review was prominently covered by Colorado media in February, and a phone number for the Attorney General's victims' advocate and an online portal for reporting abuse were posted on the Attorney General's website to allow additional people to come forward with allegations.

The final report will provide a detailed list and summary of all substantiated allegations from our files, and will also include an evaluation of the dioceses' current policies and procedures to prevent and report abuse. This is important to ensure we are doing everything we can to keep our children safe.

The Colorado dioceses voluntarily entered into this process for the purpose of providing justice and healing. The agreement is the product of the cooperation of two attorneys general and three dioceses. As stated by Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser, this voluntary, ground-breaking agreement is a unique "Colorado solution that is collaborative, enhances transparency, and provides victims access to support services and compensation."