

LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE Walt McNeil, Sheriff

2825 Municipal Way Tallahassee, FL 32304 www.leoncountyso.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Shonda Knight

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LCSO Urges Victims of Sexual Abuse to Come Forward

Earlier this month, The Catholic Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee removed former Tallahassee priest Father Edward Jones as pastor of two churches, following an allegation of inappropriate behavior.

The LCSO then contacted church officials on two occasions and inquired about potential victims. To date, no information regarding victims has been reported to the Leon County Sheriff's Office.

Jones was pastor of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Crawfordville and Sacred Heart Parish in Lanark. Local media reports stated that the Diocese said the accusation against Jones stemmed from an incident that occurred 14 years ago, when he served as Parochial Vicar at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Tallahassee. He served in the parish from 2003 to 2007.

We urge anyone who believes they may have been victimized in this or any case, or has information, to call (850) 606-3600.

Also, anyone in need of LCSO Victim Advocate services should call (850) 606-3487 or email <u>victimemail@leoncountyfl.gov</u>.

As always, if you See Something, Say Something.



