



Diocese of Arlington
The Chancery

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DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR
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June 6, 2005

Mrs. Mary Ann Kreitzer
1216 Mill Rd.
Woodstock, VA 22664

Dear Mrs. Kreitzer,

Bishop Loverde asked me to respond to your letter dated May 26th 2005.

The decision to require all employees and volunteers with substantial contact with children was a difficult one made only after extensive consultation and careful deliberation. The decision was not made in isolation but in collaboration of the bishops of the United States. As I am sure you are aware the effectiveness of such checks would be negated by allowing exemptions of those who might not agree with this decision.

In his letter of August 12th 2004 Bishop Loverde mandated that all employees and those volunteers with substantial contact with children complete criminal background checks. These checks must be completed by June 30th 2005. No exemptions from this mandate will be granted.

It is understood that some volunteers may for various reasons decide not to complete this process and to discontinue their volunteer service with children. It is my hope that those who choose not to complete the background check requirement may find ways to continue to serve their parish in other capacities. Whatever you may decide may God continue to bless your efforts to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Faithfully,
Rev. Terry W. Specht