



DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

2500 North Tyler Street • P.O. Box 7565 • Little Rock, Arkansas 72217 • (501) 664-0340 • www.dolr.org

Diocese of Little Rock's Laity Code of Conduct

Our children are the most important gifts God has entrusted to us. As an employee or volunteer providing services to children and youth, I promise to strictly follow the rules and guidelines in this *Laity Code of Conduct* as a condition of my providing services to the children and youth of the Diocese of Little Rock.

As an employee or volunteer providing services to children and youth, I will:

- Treat everyone with respect, loyalty, patience, integrity, courtesy, dignity, and consideration.
- Avoid situations where I am alone with children and/or youth at Church or School activities.
- Use positive reinforcement rather than criticism, competition, or comparison when working with children and/or youth.
- Refuse to accept expensive gifts from children and/or youth or their parents without prior written approval from the pastor or administrator.
- Refrain from giving expensive gifts to children and/or youth without prior written approval from the parents or guardian and the pastor or administrator.
- Report suspected child abuse to the pastor, administrator, or appropriate supervisor and to the *Arkansas Child Abuse Hotline, 1-800-482-5964*.
- Cooperate fully in any investigation of abuse of children and/or youth.

As an employee or volunteer providing services to children and youth, I will not:

- Smoke or use tobacco products in the presence of children and/or youth.
- Use, possess, or be under the influence of alcohol in the presence of children and/or youth.
- Use, possess, or be under the influence of illegal drugs in the presence of children and/or youth,
- Pose any health risk to children and/or youth (i.e. no fevers or other contagious situations).
- Strike, spank, shake, or slap children and/or youth.
- Humiliate, ridicule, threaten, or degrade children and/or youth.
- Touch a child and/or youth in a sexual or other inappropriate manner.
- Use any discipline that frightens or humiliates children and/or youth.
- Use profanity in the presence of children and/or youth.

I understand that as an employee or volunteer working with minors, I am subject to a thorough background check including criminal history. I understand that any action inconsistent with this Code of Conduct or failure to take action mandated by this Code of Conduct may result in my removal as an employee or volunteer.

Printed Name

Signature

Date

NB: This "Laity Code of Conduct," which is effective as of January 1, 2016, hereby retroactively replaces any and all previous versions of the "Laity Code of Conduct" that were previously signed and agreed to.