



## **Memorandum**

**From:** Diocese of St. Petersburg, Safe Environment Program Office  
André Glaudé, Safe Environment Program Manager

**To:** Parishes, Schools, Early Childhood Centers, Other Diocesan Entities, Contractors

**Subject:** Announcement of Diocesan Participation in the Level 2 Background Check Applicant Fingerprint Notification Retention Program (AFRNP)

**Date:** October 15, 2013

### To Whom It May Concern:

The Bishop of the Diocese of St. Petersburg has decided to upgrade the Level 2 background screening program by enrolling the diocese in the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Applicant Fingerprint Notification Retention Program (AFNRP) aka the Falcon Integrated Criminal History System. FDLE has approved the diocese's access to the Falcon system and we anticipate that it will be up and running by January 2, 2014

The AFRNP affords two major program upgrades that increase the protection afforded to our children and vulnerable adults. The first program improvement is substantial. It provides the diocese with immediate notification of an arrest or conviction of a currently Level 2 - cleared individual (employee, volunteer, vendor, licensee, contractor, vendor, consultant or MOU provider).

This immediate notification feature enables the diocese to make a timely decision to continue or to discontinue an individual from having unsupervised access to children, youth, or vulnerable adults. Under the current system, the FDLE does not notify the diocese if an individual is arrested or convicted of a crime in the interval between the day after the initial fingerprinting date and the 5-year rescreening date.

The second program improvement protects the diocese's participation in the Florida School Choice scholarship funding program. School Choice scholarship funding includes a wide variety of state-funded scholarship programs to which schools within the diocese can participate. Included under this umbrella of scholarship funding programs is McKay Scholarship funding, Step up for Students funding, Corporate Tax Program funding, Florida Tax Credit funding and others. Participation in these programs requires that individuals who have unsupervised access to children who receive said state funding must have a current Level 2 background check. A current background check is one that is no older than 364 days of an audit event.

The diocese is currently making adjustments to its background screening procedures and our vendor is modifying our print processing procedures. We expect to begin operating under the AFRNP Falcon System by January 2, 2014. While in this adjustment phase, please observe the background screening procedure at the attachment.

If you have questions or require assistance with any aspect of the AFRNP, please contact the Safe Environment Program Office at 727-344-1611, ext. 5377 or 5303 or at [ag@dosp.org](mailto:ag@dosp.org) or [emh@dosp.org](mailto:emh@dosp.org).