

# The Office of Communications & Publications



DIOCESE OF ROCKFORD

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Settlement reached in abuse lawsuit

The settlement of two lawsuits involving the Diocese of Rockford and Mark Campobello, a former priest of the diocese, filed by two women identified as Jane Doe and Jane Roe, was announced May 10, 2007. The diocese was able to work with the plaintiffs and their counsels toward a resolution short of trial.

The settlement amounts are \$1,150,000 and \$1,050,000. The Rockford Diocese contributed from diocesan funds \$250,000 toward each settlement, and insurance covered the remaining amounts.

Mark Campobello was removed from ministry on December 3, 2002, when he was arrested and formally charged with criminal conduct. Mr. Campobello was penalized by the church by being expelled from the priesthood by the Holy See on June 3, 2005, on the petition of Church authorities here.

Although the settlement amounts were a heavy burden for the diocese, the diocese owed restorative justice to the two women for their injuries.

The Rockford Diocese reaffirms its pledge and commitment to ensure a safe environment for children and young people in its churches and schools, and restates its special care for and commitment to reaching out to victims of sexual abuse.

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