

**THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**COUNTY OF DALLAS**

**AFFIDAVIT SUPPORTING THE  
ISSUANCE OF WARRANTS TO  
SEARCH:  
3725 BLACKBURN STREET, DALLAS,  
TEXAS;  
1809 WEST DAVIS STREET, DALLAS,  
TEXAS; AND  
4601 WEST LEDBETTER DRIVE,  
DALLAS, TEXAS.**

I, Detective David Clark, #7691, the undersigned Affiant, am a Peace Officer under the laws of Texas and being duly sworn, on oath makes the following statements and accusations:

**PREFACE**

1. The following affidavit is furnished to support the issuance of warrants, pursuant to Article 18.02, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, authorizing the search of:

a. The Dallas Catholic Diocese, 3725 Blackburn Street, Dallas, Texas (hereinafter, "the Diocese"). The Diocese is located in the City of Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, and is described as a multi-story, office building constructed of tan, brown, and white brick, which is the second structure southeast of Oak Lawn Avenue on the southwest side of the 3700 block of Blackburn Street. The Diocese is bounded by Blackburn Street to the northeast and Gilbert Avenue to southwest. There is a white, metal sign that reads, "Catholic Diocese of Dallas, 3725 Blackburn St." on the Gilbert Avenue side of the building. The Diocese houses the offices of the local bishop and other Diocese staff members. The Diocese is in the charge of and controlled by Edward J. Burns, a white male born on October 7, 1957; Greg Kelly, a white male born on February 15, 1956; Gregory Caridi, a white male born on April 10, 1985 (collectively, "the Controlling Parties"). Said premise, in addition to the foregoing description, also includes all other buildings, structures, places, and vehicles on said premises and within the curtilage, which

are found to be under the control of the Controlling Parties and in, on, or around which the Controlling Parties may reasonably reposit or secrete property which is the object of the search requested herein. In addition to the foregoing description, Attachment A also includes a description and photograph of the Diocese (Attachment A is here now made a part hereof for all purposes and incorporated herein as if written verbatim within the confines of this Affidavit);

b. Saint Cecilia Parish offices, 1809 West Davis Street, Dallas, Texas (hereinafter, "the Parish"). The Parish is also located in the City of Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, and is described as a two-story, office building constructed of tan brick and green metal roof. The Parish's main entrance faces south. The Parish is the first office building west of Mary Cliff Road on the north side of the 1800 block of West Davis Street. There is a white, metal sign that reads, "St. Cecilia's Catholic Church" in English and Spanish on the south side of the building near West Davis Street. The Parish is in the charge of and controlled by Martin Moreno, a Hispanic male born on June 7, 1965. Said premise, in addition to the foregoing description, also includes all other buildings, structures, places, and vehicles on said premises and within the curtilage, which are found to be under the control of Martin Moreno and in, on, or around which Martin Moreno may reasonably reposit or secrete property which is the object of the search requested herein. In addition to the foregoing description, Attachment B also includes a description and photograph of the Parish (Attachment B is here now made a part hereof for all purposes and incorporated herein as if written verbatim within the confines of this Affidavit); and

c. Safesite Inc., 4601 West Ledbetter Drive, Dallas, Texas, (hereinafter, "Safesite"). Safesite is also located in the City of Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, and is described as a large multistory warehouse constructed of tan cement. Safesite's main entrance faces east.

Safesite is the first warehouse east of 4000 Joseph Hardin Drive on the north side of 4700 block of West Ledbetter Drive. The name Safesite, Inc. is printed in white lettering on the business front door. Safesite is in the charge of and controlled by Rick Crain, a white male born on December 28, 1956. Said premise, in addition to the foregoing description, also includes all other buildings, structures, places, and vehicles on said premises and within the curtilage, which are found to be under the control of Rick Crain and in, on, or around which Rick Crain may reasonably reposit or secrete property which is the object of the search warrant requested herein. In addition to the foregoing description, Attachment C also includes a description and photograph of Safesite (Attachment C is here now made a part hereof for all purposes and incorporated herein as if written verbatim within the confines of this Affidavit).

2. I believe and hereby charge and accuse there are items, described in Attachment D (Attachment D is here now made a part hereof for all purposes and incorporated herein as if written verbatim within the confines of this Affidavit), at said suspected places and premises relative to **Edmundo Paredes**, a Hispanic male born on November 7, 1948 (hereinafter, "**Paredes**"), **Richard Thomas Brown**, a white male born on October 12, 1941 (hereinafter, "**Brown**"), **Alejandro Buitrago**, a Hispanic male born on December 24, 1941 (hereinafter, "**Buitrago**"), **William Joseph Hughes, Junior**, a white male born on January 10, 1956 (hereinafter, "**Hughes**"), **Jeremy Myers**, a white male born on July 15, 1956 (hereinafter, "**Myers**") which are implements or instruments used in the commission of a crime, or items constituting evidence of a criminal offense or constituting evidence tending to show a particular person committed a criminal offense. I believe the items described in Attachment D are currently located at the above-described places, including today's date, May 14, 2019.

3. Furthermore, I believe and hereby charge and accuse: Paredes, Buitrago, Brown, Hughes, and Myers committed the offense of Sexual Assault of a Child, a violation of the Texas Penal Code, Article 22.011, a second degree felony.

4. This affidavit is based on my own personal knowledge as well as information provided to me by other law enforcement officers who participated in this investigation with me and are known by me to be credible. This affidavit also contains information I received from other law enforcement officers engaged in similar investigations in other states, who I also believe to be credible. Since this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of establishing probable cause, I have not included each and every fact known to me concerning this investigation. I have only set forth the facts I believe are essential to establish probable cause for the requested warrants.

### **INTRODUCTION**

5. I am currently employed by the Dallas Police Department (DPD) as a police officer. I have been so employed for approximately 20 years and have been a detective assigned to the Child Exploitation Unit, Crimes Against Persons Division, of said department for approximately the last nine years. I am responsible for the investigation of molestation and sexual assault cases involving children and strangers. During my employment as a police officer, I have used a variety of methods during various types of investigations, including, but not limited to, visual surveillance, general questioning of witnesses, defendants, and the use of search warrants, and electronic interceptions. Based on my training and experience relating to the investigation of child exploitation and human trafficking cases, and based upon interviews I conducted with defendants and witnesses, I am familiar with the ways that child sexual abusers groom their

victims. My familiarity includes the various means and methods by which sexual predators single out their victims, attempt to befriend their parents and other family members, as well as use their position of power to convince their victims not to tell anyone of the sexual molestation that occurred between the defendant and victim. I have interviewed hundreds of victims of child sex abuse and understand these victims sometimes take several months, years, or sometimes never tell anyone about being a victim of sexual abuse as a child. I have presented an investigative topic on how to effectively investigate child abuse cases at several Child Abuse Conferences across the country.

### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVESTIGATION**

6. On February 28, 2018, the Chancellor of the Diocese, Mary Edlund, contacted the Dallas Police Department's Child Exploitation Unit regarding allegations against a then-serving priest, **Paredes**. Chancellor Edlund advised the allegations regarded **Paredes** sexually abusing, over a period of years, several juvenile members of St. Cecilia Church. I was assigned this case and I made contact with Bill Sims, an attorney representing the Diocese. Mr. Sims stated the Diocese and the victims were in a monetary settlement process and he believed the victims did not want to pursue criminal allegations.

7. In August and October of 2018, the Diocese's bishop, Edward Burns, made public statements regarding the accusations against **Paredes**, which included allegations of theft of church funds and the allegations brought forward by Chancellor Edlund. Some of those statements were made to St. Cecilia Church parishioners and others made to local media outlets. Several media outlets reported Bishop Burns' statements regarding **Paredes** and future investigative measures the Diocese planned. One such media report was made on October 10,

2018, by Dallas Morning News reporter David Tarrant, via the dallasnews.com website. In that article, Bishop Burns was reported to announce all Texas dioceses would release the names of all clergy members, since 1950, who were “credibly accused of sexual abuse of minors.” The article reported the diocese would publish the list of clergy members by January 31, 2019, and the list would be updated, as warranted. The article reported the Dallas Diocese hired a “team of six outside investigators made up of former FBI agents, former Texas state troopers, and other law enforcement experts to examine its priests’ files.” The article reported Bishop Burns explained “credibly accused” meant “that we would believe it is true that an abuse has taken place.” The article reported Bishop Burns described the Diocese’s investigative process as, “Law enforcement is notified, other church leaders offer assistance to the victim, and the allegations are reviewed by the Diocesan Review Board, made up of nonclergy Catholics including doctors, clinical psychologists, lawyers, parents and others.”

8. Contemporaneous with these public statements, I and other members of the Dallas Police Department met with Bishop Burns and the Diocesan attorneys regarding the possibility of new allegations generated by the publicity of this investigation and how those potential allegations would be addressed. Diocesan attorneys assured police personnel the Diocese had a process in place to investigate all priest files in the Diocese’s possession for allegations of sexual abuse of minors. The attorneys’ descriptions of the intended process were consistent with the public statements made by Bishop Burns. The Diocese assured police personnel the individuals responsible for that oversight would be comprised of former law enforcement officials. However, Diocesan attorneys only provided police personnel with the names of only one or two of the individuals who would exercise the promised oversight.

## **The Investigators**

9. In a WFAA article, written by Teresa Woodard and dated January 30, 2019, Bishop Burns stated the Diocese hired a six member investigative team to look into over 2,400 priest files. Bishop Burns went on to say that two of those individuals worked in the “area” of child and youth protection for the church. Bishop Burns never revealed the identity of those investigators. Burns stated he hired this team in February of 2018. Only one member of that investigative team was identified by the Diocese to the Dallas Police Department. I am not aware of any experience involving this individual possesses related to child abuse investigations. In a meeting with the Diocesan attorneys on January 30, 2019, Attorney Mike Moran explained this group of investigators were “not hired to do the list.” Mr. Moran said they were hired “to review the files to see whether there were problem issues...whether its financial management of churches, whether its mentally unstable, whether...they give terrible homilies or whatever.....there were other items the Diocese were looking into....like somebody loses money at a parish where they shouldnt lose money.....they were hired long before the whole list thing came up.” During that meeting, police personnel requested the number of priests’ files flagged for sexual abuse. Police personnel were denied the information under the pretense it was “privileged.” Mr. Moran said he would check with the Diocese whether he could release that information. To date, the Dallas Police Department has not been given the number of priests’ files flagged for sexual abuse. The identities of other investigators were never revealed to Dallas Police nor was their experience in child abuse investigations, if any. During my interview with Chancellor Edlund, she said in the spring of 2018, the Kathleen McChesney Group came to review deacon and seminarian files. Later, in September 2018, they were asked to review the priests’ files. To date, police personnel

have not had an opportunity to meet with these investigators. It is noteworthy, these investigators were initially hired to investigate financial improprieties involving the Diocese's priests, not sexual abuse allegations. It is my understanding these former law enforcement officials were given the additional task of reviewing the files for credible allegations of sexual abuse out of convenience, given they were already hired and in place.

### **The Diocese's Process for Vetting Sexual Abuse Allegations**

10. The Diocese's attorneys explained to police personnel the process by which the former law enforcement officials would exercise oversight. They explained, after the investigators reviewed a file in which they found a priest "credibly accused" of sexual abuse, the Diocese's attorneys would share that information with the Diocesan Review Board. The Diocesan Review Board would then review the accusation and determine whether they believed the accusation was credible. If the Diocesan Review Board deemed the accusation credible, then they would turn that name over to Bishop Edward Burns. Bishop Burns had the final say whether that priest would make the "credibly accused" list and be disclosed publically on January 31, 2019. If Bishop Burns decided a priest was credibly accused, the Diocesan attorneys would then reveal the identity of the credibly-accused priest to police personnel, during three scheduled meetings. The purpose of the meetings was to reveal the names of the credibly-accused priests to police personnel before the list was made public. The Diocesan attorneys said they would not reveal the number of priests who had accusations against them that were not deemed credible by the Diocesan Review Board.

### **Diocesan Review Board**

11. A review of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' website



([www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)) revealed the Diocesan Review Board Resource Booklet. That booklet stated, in part, "...each bishop/eparch must establish a review board to function as a confidential, consultative body to the bishop/eparch on matters related to the response of the local church to issues surrounding the sexual abuse of minors by priests and deacons."

12. In that booklet's "Questions and Answers" section, the booklet explained the role of the diocesan review board as a, "...consultative body that advises the bishop/eparch in his assessment of allegations of sexual of minors by priests and deacons and their suitability for ministry." The booklet also described review board's role as "not investigatory; rather it evaluates evidence presented by the investigator and offers advice to the bishop/eparch." The booklet warned, "The diocesan preliminary investigation should not interfere with any civil investigation ongoing at the same time. If necessary, the canonical process can be delayed to assure that the civil investigation will not be obstructed."

13. When asked, the Diocesan attorneys did share the occupations of the Diocesan Review Board's members. However, none of the members' occupations were related to child abuse investigations. Given the unique characteristics of child abuse investigations, police personnel emphasized the importance of having individuals trained in child abuse investigations make the often complex determinations about the credibility of allegations of child abuse.

14. On two occasions, police personnel were "unofficially" asked to request priests' files who were not officially labeled as credibly-accused. The first occasion occurred during a meeting with the Diocese's attorneys. The second occasion occurred during a meeting with a Diocesan Review Board member. On both occasions, I was asked to request the files of priests who did not make the credibly-accused list because the requestors believed the priests' conduct

was worthy of an investigation.

15. On January 16, 2019, in a meeting with the Diocese's attorneys, they advised only two deceased priests and one living priest who were accused did not make the credibly-accused list. However, in a later meeting with attorneys, on January 30, 2019, when police personnel asked Mr. Moran for the number of priests who were accused of sexual abuse but did not make the credibly-accused list, he said police will likely never know that number. During the same meeting, Mr. Moran reported he was asked by members of the Diocesan Review Board to notify police about a living priest for whom the police should request his file. Mr. Moran said he did not know the reason the Diocesan Review Board members made the request. Given these "unofficial" request, I believe individuals involved in the Dioceses' vetting process have lost confidence in that process. I believe these individuals are aware of information in the priests' files indicative of criminal behavior and want the police to investigate but for some undisclosed reason those concerns are not being made in an "official" manner.

#### **Specific Allegations of Sexual Abuse by Priests**

16. On August 22, 2018, I was emailed by Chancellor Edlund about a new allegation regarding **Paredes**, which the Diocese received the previous day. The victim (hereinafter, "Victim 1"), stated he was a sexual assault victim of **Paredes**'. Victim 1 stated he was a member of St. Cecilia's Church and went to its school also. Victim 1 stated he was an altar server around 1991, when he met **Paredes**. Victim 1 stated, over the intervening years, **Parades** groomed him by taking him and other altar servers out to eat between masses and bought them things. Victim 1 stated, from 1994 to 1999, he was sexually abused by **Paredes**. During that time, Victim 1 stated **Parades** touched him on his genitals and **Parades** placed his mouth on Victim 1's genitals, while

Victim 1 was still a juvenile. Throughout this investigation, numerous parishioners, office staff members, and priests were interviewed. These witnesses stated **Parades**, over the years, had several juveniles inside his residence (also known as the “rectory”) during the evenings and on the weekends. In fact, I learned some office staff members met with now-retired Chancellor Edlund, in 2006, regarding their concerns over **Parades** having juveniles inside the church offices and inside his residence.

17. On February 19, 2019, I interviewed Chancellor Edlund, for the second time, over the phone with her attorney, Jim Burnham, and she confirmed the meeting with church members occurred in regards to **Paredes’** having juveniles in the church offices and his residence. She stated **Parades’** file should contain notes regarding the 2006 meeting between her and church members. I reviewed the **Parades’** file the Diocesan lawyers provided me. That file did not contain any information regarding the 2006 meeting between parishioners and Chancellor Edlund. I also observed notes apparently written by Chancellor Edlund stating, “Outcry from adult, send to CPS....won’t hear back....letter better than online entry.” I interviewed the people involved in that 2006 meeting and they also confirmed it occurred. One of the participants provided her notes from the meeting. I also learned the identities of some of the juveniles **Parades** had in the church offices and inside his residence and some of them confirmed spending the night inside his residence and hanging out in the offices of St. Cecilia Parish where **Paredes** worked.

18. I also asked Chancellor Edlund about the “secret archives” and she stated the secret archives contained laicization papers involving priests. I asked Chancellor Edlund about claimant files and she stated they are organized by the name of the victim and some are at the Diocese’s offices and others are at Safesite. Furthermore, I asked Chancellor Edlund about the

Diocesan Review Board meetings and she stated she took notes during those meetings. The notes contained the agenda for the meetings as well as information on the priests who were accused. Chancellor Edlund stated Gwen Hidalgo-Boudreaux, the administrative assistant to the chancellor, should have the Diocesan Review Board notes in her office at the Diocese. I asked Chancellor Edlund why she contacted the police directly regarding the **Paredes** accusations, since that was not the procedure she had followed in the past. Chancellor Edlund stated the Diocese's public information office believed the allegations against **Paredes** would cause media attention and it would look better to say they contacted the police.

19. On October 25, 2018, I was contacted by Barbara Landregan, Director for Safe Environment for the Diocese. Ms. Landregan said she received an email from a woman who claimed her niece was sexually assaulted by **Richard Thomas Brown**, during the 1980s. I contacted the victim (hereinafter, "Victim 2") who stated she frequented Holy Family Catholic Church in Irving, Texas, with her aunt during the 1980s. Victim 2 stated she was confirmed and baptized at Holy Family Catholic Church, which is where she met **Brown**. Victim 2 explained as she and **Brown** became familiar with one another, **Brown** came to her faith formation classes and took her back to the church offices and his residence. Victim 2 stated **Brown** would digitally penetrate her and make her touch his penis. Victim 2 stated this activity occurred over the course of several months, on the occasions she attended church with her aunt. Victim 2 stated she first notified the Diocese in 2004. Consequently, I requested **Brown's** personnel file. The Diocese provided **Brown's** file, which contained 541 pages. A thorough review of the file revealed no documentation from Victim 2 or her aunt notifying the Diocese regarding **Brown** sexually abusing her. After I notified the Diocese Victim 2's accusations were missing, the Diocese's

attorneys provided and additional 51 pages that were initially left out of **Brown's** file, about three weeks later. Some of these 51 pages included correspondence with the victim's aunt and a Child Protective Services referral from 2018. However, only a few pages contained any information involving the 2004 allegation. My review of **Brown's** file revealed **Brown** admitted to "touching" two juveniles. One occasion occurred in Washington D.C. in 1980, when **Brown** befriended a family during the summer and convinced them to allow their minor children to stay with him in his apartment. The victim in this case stated **Brown** inserted his finger inside her anus. The victim in this case didn't notify the Diocese until 1994. The other accusation occurred in Irving, Texas, in 1987. In that case **Brown** again befriended the family of a juvenile. **Brown** visited the family late in the evening and went to the victim's room to speak with her. The victim stated **Brown** lifted her shirt and placed his mouth on her breasts. The victim told her brother about the abuse a few weeks later and then told her mother. The police were called and the victim's mother did not want to pursue it criminally; however, she did not want **Brown** to continue to work as a priest at Holy Family of Nazareth either. Consequently, Bishop Tschoepe transferred **Brown** to another parish, St. Phillip the Apostle. That parish also had a school on its campus. Although the file contained the identity of Washington D.C. victim, the file did not identify the Irving, Texas, victim. I asked the Diocese's attorneys to assist me in identifying the Irving, Texas, victim. The attorneys assured me all relevant information was in the file and there was nothing else anywhere in the Diocese that would help identify the victim. In 1994, when the Washington D.C. incident came to light, **Brown** was sent for therapy in the northeast. The file revealed **Brown** was sent for therapy and counseling where the Diocesan doctor who interviewed **Brown** believed him to be a pedophile. **Brown** admitted during his therapy sessions he would

become sexually aroused when juvenile girls would sit on his lap. Since Bishop Tschoepe (deceased) and Bishop Grahmann (deceased) were instrumental in transferring **Brown** to different parishes and knew about the accusations against **Brown**, I requested Bishops Tschoepe's and Grahmann's files only as it related to allegations against **Brown**. During the meeting with Diocesan lawyers on January 30, 2019, Mr. Moran stated he thought I would be able to get the files and promised he would check with Bishop Burns. On February 19, 2019, Diocesan lawyer, Robert Rogers, stated my request was "overly broad," "unnecessary," and "inappropriate." I never received Bishop Tschoepe's file and only a portion of Bishop Grahmann's file.

20. According to the **Brown** file, in 1994, Father John Bell was notified about incidents, occurring in 1991 and 1992, when **Brown** became sexually aroused from a juvenile female sitting on his lap. The juvenile female's family were friends with **Brown**. **Brown** claimed nothing else happened with the juvenile female but he still spoke about it in counseling. It was recommended **Brown** remain in a controlled setting and receive ongoing therapy for the next several years.

21. According to the **Brown** file, in 2002, the Diocese was notified, via letter, **Brown** befriended a family in Illinois, during the years from 1996 to 2001. This family had four daughters at the time ranging in age from five to 14 years old. He started visiting this family on occasion for several years, including spending the night, until they noticed some oddities involving **Brown**. The family wrote in a letter to the Diocese that **Brown** pulled "diaper duty" without asking. **Brown** went in the restroom and "wipe the bottom" of another daughter without asking. **Brown** also touched the breast of their oldest daughter. The family confronted **Brown** and he revealed the allegations against him from the 1980's and 1990's. After family members confronted **Brown** regarding his actions with their own children, the family reported **Brown** admitted to them he

sexually abused as many as 50 children, during his time at the Diocese, from 1980 to 1994. The family reported **Brown** admitted to sexually abusing the daughter of a woman who worked in the office where he worked. This victim has yet to be identified. I could not locate any documentation revealing a referral to a law enforcement agency or Child Protective Services was generated because of these allegations. The Illinois family reported **Brown** continued to hear confessions of children during the years they knew him. Confession was a time **Brown** admitted to molesting some of his victims.

22. On May 6, 2019, I interviewed **Brown** in Pecos, New Mexico. **Brown** admitted what he told the family from the Midwest was true. **Brown** revealed the identity of the victim whose mother worked in the rectory with him at Holy Family of Nazareth. **Brown** stated the Diocese knew about this victim because she received services from Catholic Charities. The victim's identity nor the allegations were in **Brown's** file. **Brown** also revealed the identity of another victim at St. Mark parish where he served as a priest from 1989 to 1993. **Brown** denied there were any other victims I did not know about. **Brown** admitted he forgot about Victim 2 but did state there was a victim who he was praying about whom he forgot her name. **Brown** stated his touching the breasts of the oldest daughter of the family in the Midwest was simply an accident. It should be noted, **Brown** has not been investigated or prosecuted for any of his acts of sexual abuse against children.

23. On January 24, 2019, I was provided, what was represented as, **Hughes'** complete file. The Diocese listed **Hughes** on its "credibly accused" list, meaning the Diocese concluded the accusations to be credible, based on the implemented vetting process by the former law enforcement officials and the Diocesan Review Board. My investigation into **Hughes**, revealed he

was accused of having a sexual relationship with a minor for more than a year, as documented on the website, [www.bishopaccountability.org](http://www.bishopaccountability.org). Nowhere in **Hughes'** 319 page file did it reveal the accusations, reveal the identity of the victim(s), or state the punishment, if any, assessed **Hughes**. The Diocese's attorneys stated in our meeting on January 16, 2019, a civil lawsuit was filed in 1994, in which he was accused of having sexual intercourse with a victim over the course of six months, in 1983. Mr. Moran stated he had in his notes **Hughes** admitted to the sexual abuse and the lawsuit was settled in 1998. In a meeting with Diocesan lawyers on January 30, 2019, I reiterated the **Hughes'** file did not contain the victim's name. Diocesan lawyers never made any attempt to provide the name of **Hughes'** victim. Mr. Moran explained he would follow up but he thought he gave me the entire **Hughes** file. He stated, "It's my understanding you have all of it." Also reported on the [bishopaccountability.org](http://bishopaccountability.org) website, the Diocese possessed love letters between **Hughes** and the sexual abuse victim, which a priest destroyed. I requested an interview with that priest but the request has not been granted.

24. On January 16, 2019, I met with the Diocese's lawyers and they named **Buitrago** as a credibly-accused priest. The lawyers also provided **Buitrago's** victim's name. The victim (hereinafter, "Victim 3") reported allegations of sexual abuse by **Buitrago**, in 2015. On February 3, 2019, I received the **Buitrago** file.

25. On February 20, 2019, Dallas police interviewed Victim 3 and she stated she and her family were parishioners at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church in Plano, Texas. Victim 3 stated **Buitrago** was a priest at St. Mark and he quickly befriended her family after her parents divorced. Victim 3 stated she was around five to seven years old when **Buitrago** visited her family. Victim 3 stated her grandmother came to live with them from Peru. Victim 3 stated her



grandmother became close to **Buitrago**. Victim 3 stated **Buitrago** came to their house to visit her grandmother. Victim 3 stated **Buitrago** always kissed her on her mouth. Victim 3 said on one occasion she remembered **Buitrago** sat her on his lap and started kissing her on her mouth. Victim 3 stated she remembered **Buitrago** moving her back and forth on his lap and could feel his erect penis on her clothed vagina. Victim 3 stated she never told anyone about this incident and, a short time later, her family moved and left the Parish. Victim 3 stated, in 2015, she contacted Chancellor Edlund but she never heard back with what action, if any, was taken. Dallas police contacted Plano police to see if this allegations was ever investigated and they had no record of **Buitrago** or Victim 3 in their files.

26. On October 30, 2018, I received an email from Safe Environment Director for the Dallas Catholic Diocese, Barbara Landregan, that one of their Diocesan Investigators, Marissa Wallace, received an allegation against **Myers**, who at the time of the allegation was a current priest assigned to St. Mary's Parish in Sherman, Texas, and had been for more than 20 years. Included in the email was only the identity of **Myer's** victim, (hereinafter, "Victim 4"). The Diocesan attorneys stated their investigators were currently investigating and their investigative notes would be turned over to me. On December 10, 2018, those investigative notes were turned over to me. On December 17, 2018, I went to Arkansas to interview Victim 4, at his residence. Victim 4 stated he first met **Myers** while he attended Subiaco Catholic School, in 1986. Victim 4 stated **Myers** was the dean of his dorm during his freshman year. Victim 4 stated **Myers** seemed to like him and would come to his defense anytime he got in trouble. Victim 4 stated he would start to see some extra privileges the other kids did not receive. Victim 4 said **Myers** allowed him to stay in his room and hang out. Victim 4 stated this led to **Myers** pulling down his pants and

rubbing his buttocks. Victim 4 stated that he got kicked out of Subiaco his sophomore year and moved back home. Victim 4 stated that shortly after his parents reached out to Myers. Myers agreed to allow Victim 4 to come and visit him in Dallas, Texas where he was working at that time. Victim 4 stated that after a brief time he started living with Myers. Victim 4 stated that the suspect enrolled him in school, rented a duplex for him to live in. Victim 4 stated that he would also spend the night at the rectory where Myers worked. Victim 4 stated that while staying with Myers, he would place his mouth on Victim 4's penis. Victim 4 stated that after several months he went back home to live with his parents. I interviewed a witness who stated that he went to Subiaco and knew of Victim 4 and of Myers. The witness stated that he remembered seeing Victim 4 wearing only a towel and sitting on Myers's lap in Myers room in the dormitory. This witness stated that he informed then Abbot Desalvo about his concerns about the relationship between Myers and Victim 4. I interviewed Abbot Leonard Wangler, who is the current Abbot at Subiaco. He stated he was the headmaster at time Myers and Victim 4 were at Subiaco. He stated he was asked by then-Abbot Desalvo to investigate a claim of sexual impropriety involving Myers and Victim 4. Abbot Wangler said he notified Myers. Myers stated he would talk to Victim 4. Abbot Wangler stated when Myers reported back to him, Myers said he spoke to Victim 4 and Victim 4 said he was lying about any sexual contact between him and Myers. I said to Abbot Wangler he basically had Myers investigate his own sexual allegation claim, to which Abbot Wangler had no response. A review of the Myers file revealed some correspondence involving a different victim of Myers' coming forward to the Dallas Diocese. The letter was from a law firm to Chancellor Mary Edlund; however, there was no other correspondence involving Victim 4, Victim 4's allegation, the outcome, or any referrals to other agencies.

## **Efforts to Identify Other Child Victims**

27. In an attempt to identify other potential child victims, I requested “claimant” files from the Diocese. It is my understanding, the Diocese’s claimant files contain identifying information of sexual abuse victims who were provided counseling services funded by the Diocese’s insurance company. On March 20, 2019, I received an email from Diocese attorney Robert Rogers, informing me the requests for claimant files was too broad and most files would be irrelevant to a Dallas police investigation. He also advised the Diocese already provided “all claimant files” involving living, current, or former priests.

### **Claimant Files**

28. According to the Catholic Relief Insurance Company of America II Sexual Misconduct Liability Policy, a claimant means any person making a sexual misconduct claim. Sexual Misconduct means “sexual molestation, sexual involvement, sexual conduct, sexual harassment, regardless of consent.” Sexual Misconduct Claim means a “demand for Money, property, or any other specific remedy made by any Claimant.....for injuries or emotional anguish, harm, distress or injury resulting from the incident.” According to the Catholic Diocese of Dallas Pastoral Center, claimant files do exist regarding major settlements resulting from major claims or litigations. These are also records documenting claims or litigation involving the Diocese. According to the Catholic Diocese of Dallas Pastoral Center, these claimant files show to be stored in the office of the Chancellor and are to be kept four years after the settlement is agreed upon. Based on this investigation we have found some of the claimant files contain allegations of sexual abuse. There is information in priests’ files that make mention of claimant files in regards

to “credibly accused” priests. Chancellor Edlund made mention of the claimant files in one of my interviews with her regarding victims of sexual abuse and she stated the files are organized by the names of the victims. She stated some of the claimant files are kept at the Dallas Catholic Diocese and the older ones are kept at Safesite.

29. On February 20, 2019, in an email to Robert Rogers, the Dallas Police Department requested all the claimant files regarding priests, clergy, bishops, nuns, teachers, deacons, or any current or former staff of the Dallas Catholic Diocese. Robert Rogers responded on March 20, 2019, stating the “claimant files” contain many complaints that are “irrelevant to the Dallas Police Department.....and that the Diocese has already provided DPD with a number of those files which allege abuse by current and former priests who are still living.....in fact we have provided DPD with all of the claimant files related to living, current, and former priests.” However, in the case of **Brown** there are two victims in which he acknowledged he sexually abused, but in his file there is only one name of a victim. There is mention of a second victim but her name does not appear anywhere in **Brown’s** file. On the National Catholic Risk Retention Group, Inc. Sexual Misconduct Incident Report Form provided in **Brown’s** file showed detailed information about one victim and named her and briefly stated the sex act. However, there was only brief mention of the second victim and no mention of what occurred to her. In meetings with Diocesan lawyers, I repeatedly requested the identity of the second victim who **Brown** admitted to “touching” but they have not provided it; despite their assurances everything is in **Brown’s** file. In addition, there is no claimant file from Victim 2’s allegations was first brought to the Diocese’s attention in 2004.

## **Child Protective Services (CPS)**

30. I learned Chancellor Edlund's role while she was employed with the Diocese from 1998 to 2018, was to make notifications to CPS whenever any allegations of sexual abuse came to their attention. Through interviews with the Diocesan lawyers I learned there were no files within the Diocese containing only CPS reports. I contacted CPS employees and asked them to conduct a search using the name "Mary Edlund," "John Bell," who was the chancellor before Mary Edlund, and "Randall Mathis," who was a former Diocesan lawyer. Their search did not reveal any referrals from the aforementioned persons. I had a meeting with some CPS officials and showed them purported examples of letters the Diocese provided to CPS. These individuals stated they had no knowledge of ever seeing the letters I provided. They also stated the Diocese addressed the letters to CPS at 8700 Stemmons Freeway when they should have filled out the referral online, which would also notify their headquarters in Austin, Texas, and local law enforcement. I also met with the Director of Investigations at the CPS office in Dallas, Texas. He stated he had previously seen CPS letters from the Diocese but they could not properly investigate them because they did not contain enough information. He stated those referrals may have been destroyed.

## **Canonical Law Regarding Document Retention and Storage**

31. According to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Dallas Records Retention Schedule, "litigation, claims, and major settlement agreements are retained 4 years after the settlement and this is kept in the office of the Chancellor who offices out of the Dallas Catholic Diocese. "Insurance Policies", according to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Dallas Records Retention Schedule shows they are permanently kept and are housed in the Risk Management office in the

Dallas Catholic Diocese. According to Canon Law 486, "All documents which regard the diocese or parishes must be protected with the greatest care. In every curia there is to be erected in a safe place a diocesan archive, or record storage area, in which instruments and written documents which pertain to the spiritual and temporal affairs of the diocese are safeguarded after being properly filled and diligently secured. An inventory or catalog of the documents which are contained in the archive is to be kept with a brief synopsis of each written document." Canon Law 487 states, "The archive must be locked and only the bishop and chancellor are to have its key. No one is permitted to enter except with the permission either of the bishop or of both the moderator of the curia and the chancellor." Canon law 488 states, "It is not permitted to remove documents from the archive except for a brief time only and with the consent of the bishop or of both the moderator of the curia and the chancellor." Canon Law 489 states, "In the diocesan curia there is also to be a secret archive, or at least in the common archive there is to be a safe or cabinet, completely closed and locked, which cannot be removed; in it documents to be kept secret are to be protected most securely. Each year documents of criminal cases in matters of morals, in which the accused parties have died or ten years have elapsed from the condemnatory sentence, are to be destroyed. A brief summary of what occurred along with the text of the definitive sentence is to be retained." Canon Law 490 states, "Only the bishop is to have the key to the secret archive...documents are not to be removed from the secret archive or safe."

32. On November 7, 2018, I interviewed former-Chancellor Edlund who stated she was the chancellor since 1998 and recently retired. Chancellor Edlund stated she also took on the job of victims assistance coordinator along with being the chancellor. Chancellor Edlund stated her role, during the last 20 years, was to hear allegations of sexual abuse. She stated she would

contact the bishops under whom she served, Bishops Thomas Tschoepe, Charles Grahmann, Kevin Farrell, and Edward Burns, after receiving a sexual abuse allegation involving a priest. Chancellor Edlund stated claimant files contained information identifying sexual abuse victims and priests, who were the sexual abusers. Chancellor Edlund said the claimant files are in the Chancellor's secretary's office. Chancellor Edlund stated old sexual abuse complaints are kept at Safesite. Police personnel contacted the manager of Safesite, Rick Crain, and asked if his facility managed the account of the Dallas Catholic Diocese. Pursuant to legal process, Mr. Crain advised his facility contained approximately 700 boxes from the Dallas Catholic Diocese. He also advised the Diocese reported the contents of some of the boxes contained claimant files for priest who were accused of sexual abuse in the past.

**Information Received from Other Law Enforcement Agents  
Regarding Their Search of Other Dioceses**

33. I contacted several law enforcement agencies and the Attorney General's offices from around the country who conducted similar investigations. They revealed to me some disturbing information after the issuance of similar search warrants. Special Agent Jacob Trujillo stated his office executed two separate search warrants at the Archdiocese of Sante Fe, New Mexico. During the execution of their search warrant, in an attempt to locate files of two separate victims, agents checked a random closet, which only contained one box that looked out of place. After further inspection of the box, agents confirmed the box had victim information relevant to their search warrant. Special Agent Trujillo stated it was obvious to him someone made an attempt to hide this box of information to hinder his investigation. I also contacted the Montgomery County District Attorney's office and the Conroe Police Department in Conroe, Texas. Detective Joe McGrew stated his agency issued a subpoena requesting information

regarding a specific priest. Detective McGrew stated they later learned the Diocese of Galveston-Houston did not turn over everything regarding that priest. Detective McGrew stated there were files in a “bank vault” that were not turned over. They had to pick the lock in order to enter into the vault and they found files involving the priest for whom they sought. In Maryland, the attorney general’s office issued subpoenas asking for claimant files. They found out those claimant files gave detailed information about sexual abuse and correspondence between the church and insurance company.

### CONCLUSION

34. Based on Chancellor Edlund’s statements and her notes, I believe she only notified law enforcement as a predicate to the anticipated negative publicity associated with the **Paredes** allegations. In her written notations she commented it was better to send a letter than online notification to CPS. Interestingly, CPS personnel advised the preferred method was an online notification because the online notifications were forwarded to whatever local law enforcement agency had jurisdiction.

35. I suspect the investigative body comprised of former law enforcement officials does not have the needed expertise to render judgement on the credibility of child abuse allegations. For instance, they were initially hired to investigate “financial management of churches” and whether priest gave “terrible homilies,” as stated by Mr. Moran. Presumably, their motivation was to identify the source of and stop the theft of funds. However, I believe that investigative body was tasked with reviewing child abuse allegations as a matter of convenience, since they were already employed and in place. The fact their determinations related to their new assignment could actually cost the Diocese large sums of money, I believe there exists a potential bias on the



investigative body's part to minimize the Diocese's legal exposure. Additionally, I only know the identity of one of those former law enforcement officials and am concerned they do not possess the required knowledge and experience to render accurate judgements about the credibility of child abuse allegations.

36. Likewise, I have similar concerns about the Diocesan Review Board's members' potential bias and lack of expertise. Police are expected to trust all information provided them is accurate and complete, despite evidence to the contrary. The fact police received "unofficial" requests they investigate priests not deemed credibly-accused, reveals a lack of confidence in the established vetting process or a knowledge the process failed. Moreover, as described earlier, the role of the Diocesan Review Board is to act as an advisor to Bishop Burns, not as an investigative body. Furthermore, there was a statement in the Diocesan Review Board Resource Booklet warning, "The diocesan preliminary investigation should not interfere with any civil investigation ongoing at the same time. If necessary, the canonical process can be delayed to assure that the civil investigation will not be obstructed." I do not believe that warning was heeded regarding this investigation.

37. For instance, previously in this affidavit, I identified five priests and detailed allegations of child sexual abuse made against them. In some instances, those accused priests admitted to their criminal conduct. Despite assurances from the Diocese's attorneys the priests' files were complete and accurate, I also detailed specific examples where those files were not complete and accurate. Additionally, my efforts to receive claimant files, which likely contain relevant material regarding child sexual abuse allegations, were thwarted.

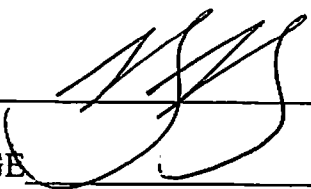
## REQUEST

Based on the totality of the information contained herein, I submit that probable cause exists to believe items enumerated in Attachment D will be found at the Diocese, the Parish, and Safesite, if the proposed warrants are issued.

**WHEREFORE**, I respectfully request the Court issue warrants authorizing me and other law enforcement officers aiding me to search the locations described herein and in Attachments A, B, and C, for the items enumerated in Attachment D, attached hereto, and seize the same.

\_\_\_\_\_  
DETECTIVE DAVID CLARK, #7691  
DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Subscribed and sworn to before me by said Affiant on this the 15th day of May, 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS

**Judge Brandon Birmingham**  
292nd Judicial District Court  
133 N. Riverfront Blvd., LB 13  
Dallas, Texas 75207

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF DALLAS

SEARCH WARRANT FOR  
3725 BLACKBURN STREET,  
DALLAS, TEXAS

THE STATE OF TEXAS to the Sheriff or any Peace Officer of Dallas County, Texas, or any Peace Officer of the State of Texas,

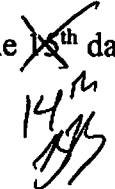
GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, the affiant whose name appears on the affidavit, attached hereto, is a peace officer under the laws of Texas and did heretofore this day subscribe and swear to said affidavit before me (which said affidavit, including Attachments A and D, is here now made a part hereof for all purposes and incorporated herein as if written verbatim within the confines of this Warrant), and whereas I find the verified facts stated by affiant in said affidavit show affiant has probable cause for the belief he expresses herein and establishes existence of proper grounds for issuance of this Warrant;

NOW, THEREFORE, you are commanded to enter the suspected place, vehicles, and premises described in said affidavit and Attachment A, to wit: **3725 BLACKBURN STREET, DALLAS, TEXAS**. At said places you shall search for and, if same be found, seize and bring before me the property enumerated in Attachment D.

Herein fail not, but have you then and there this Warrant within three days, exclusive of the day of its execution, with your return thereon, showing how you have executed same.

ISSUED AT 3:49 o'clock P M., on this the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2019, to certify which witness my hand this day.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS

Judge Brandon Birmingham  
292nd Judicial District  
133 N. Riverfront Blvd., Suite 103  
Dallas, Texas 75207

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF DALLAS

SEARCH WARRANT FOR  
1809 WEST DAVIS STREET,  
DALLAS, TEXAS

THE STATE OF TEXAS to the Sheriff or any Peace Officer of Dallas County, Texas, or any Peace Officer of the State of Texas,


GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, the affiant whose name appears on the affidavit, attached hereto, is a peace officer under the laws of Texas and did heretofore this day subscribe and swear to said affidavit before me (which said affidavit, including Attachments B and D, is here now made a part hereof for all purposes and incorporated herein as if written verbatim within the confines of this Warrant), and whereas I find the verified facts stated by affiant in said affidavit show affiant has probable cause for the belief he expresses herein and establishes existence of proper grounds for issuance of this Warrant;

NOW, THEREFORE, you are commanded to enter the suspected place, vehicles, and premises described in said affidavit and Attachment B, to wit: **1809 WEST DAVIS STREET, DALLAS, TEXAS**. At said places you shall search for and, if same be found, seize and bring before me the property enumerated in Attachment D.

Herein fail not, but have you then and there this Warrant within three days, exclusive of the day of its execution, with your return thereon, showing how you have executed same.

ISSUED AT 3:51 o'clock P M., on this the ~~15<sup>th</sup>~~ <sup>14<sup>th</sup></sup> day of May, 2019, to certify which witness my hand this day.

\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE   
JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
DALLAS, TEXAS  
292nd Judicial District Court  
133 N. Riverfront Blvd., LB 13  
Dallas, Texas 75207

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF DALLAS

SEARCH WARRANT FOR  
4601 W. LEDBETTER DRIVE,  
DALLAS, TEXAS

THE STATE OF TEXAS to the Sheriff or any Peace Officer of Dallas County, Texas, or any Peace Officer of the State of Texas,

GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, the affiant whose name appears on the affidavit, attached hereto, is a peace officer under the laws of Texas and did heretofore this day subscribe and swear to said affidavit before me (which said affidavit, including Attachments C and D, is here now made a part hereof for all purposes and incorporated herein as if written verbatim within the confines of this Warrant), and whereas I find the verified facts stated by affiant in said affidavit show affiant has probable cause for the belief he expresses herein and establishes existence of proper grounds for issuance of this Warrant;

NOW, THEREFORE, you are commanded to enter the suspected place, vehicles, and premises described in said affidavit and Attachment C, to wit: **4601 W. LEDBETTER DRIVE, DALLAS, TEXAS**. At said places you shall search for and, if same be found, seize and bring before me the property enumerated in Attachment D.

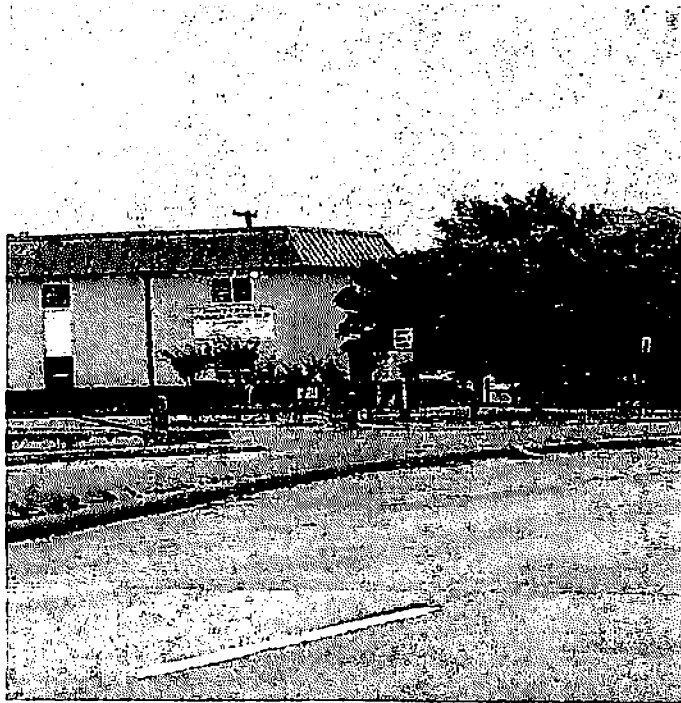
Herein fail not, but have you then and there this Warrant within three days, exclusive of the day of its execution, with your return thereon, showing how you have executed same.

ISSUED AT 3:51 o'clock P M., on this the ~~15~~<sup>14</sup> day of May, 2019, to certify which witness my hand this day.

14<sup>th</sup>  
BS

\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE  
JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT  
DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS  
Judge Brandon Birmingham  
292nd Judicial District Court  
133 N. Riverfront Blvd., LB 13  
Dallas, Texas 75207

## ATTACHMENT B



Saint Cecilia Parish offices, 1809 West Davis Street, Dallas, Texas (hereinafter, “the Parish”). The Parish is also located in the City of Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, and is described as a two-story, office building constructed of tan brick and green metal roof. The Parish’s main entrance faces south. The Parish is the first office building west of Mary Cliff Road on the north side of the 1800 block of West Davis Street. There is a white, metal sign that reads, “St. Cecilia’s Catholic Church” in English and Spanish on the south side of the building near West Davis Street. The Parish is in the charge of and controlled by Martin Moreno, a Hispanic male born on June 7, 1965. Said premise, in addition to the foregoing description, also includes all other buildings, structures, places, and vehicles on said premises and within the curtilage, which are found to be under the control of Martin Moreno and in, on, or around which Martin Moreno may reasonably reposit or secrete property which is the object of the search requested herein.

## ATTACHMENT C



Safesite Inc., 4601 W. Ledbetter, Dallas, Texas, (hereinafter, "Safesite). Safesite is also located in the City of Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, and is described as a large multistory warehouse constructed of tan cement. Safesite's main entrance faces east. Safesite is the first warehouse east of 4000 Joseph Hardin Dr. on the north side of 4700 block of West Ledbetter. The front door of the business contains the name Safesite, Inc. in white lettering. Safesite is in the charge of and controlled by Rick Crain, a white male born on December 28, 1956. Said premise, in addition to the foregoing description, also includes all other buildings, structures, places, and vehicles on said premises and within the curtilage, which are found to be under the control of Rick Crain and in, on, or around which Rick Crain may reasonably reposit or secrete property which is the object of the search warrant requested herein.