



Survivors Network of those  
Abused by Priests

February 24, 2020

Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout  
7800 Carousel Lane  
Richmond, VA 23294

Dear Bishop Knestout,

In February of last year you released a list of 42 priests who you determined had “credible” accusations against them. You added six names to this list in June. We are writing to you today to ask you to add another name to your list, Monsignor Lawrence St. Peter.

[Just days ago the Colorado Sun ran a story about a man, Neil Elms, who said he was repeatedly sexually abused by the monsignor.](#) Mr. Elms was not the only one. According to a report by Colorado’s Attorney General , [there were at least three additional allegations against Fr. St. Peter.](#)

According to the Sun piece, the monsignor was placed on “medical disability” and moved to Virginia in 1993. He reportedly lived in the state until returning to Colorado shortly before his death in 2003.

We are concerned for the children in Virginia during that decade. History has shown us that those who sexually abuse children do not just suddenly stop abusing. If you are serious about doing everything possible to help survivors and victim’s families to heal, you will add Msgr. St. Peter to your list of “credibly” accused priests and announce this decision to the public. This information is necessary to help those who may have been harmed.

In addition to adding the monsignor to your list, we would like you to update it to include nuns, brothers, deacons and lay employees who have been accused of abuse. We would also like to see more information for each name, such as where these men are now, how many accusations have been made against them, where and when the accusations were made, and if they were reported to the police. By doing this you will show survivors and the public that your promises of transparency and accountability are more than just words.

We look forward to hearing from you,

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