



Archdiocese of San Antonio
Department of Communication

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**Statement of the Archdiocese of San Antonio concerning
allegation against Father Joseph Angeli**

The Archdiocese of San Antonio is aware of an allegation of sexual abuse made against deceased Father Joseph Angeli Steccheotte while he was assigned to St. John the Evangelist Church in Hondo for a brief period in the early 1960s. It is reported that Father Angeli, who was not a priest of the archdiocese, died in 1993.

Assertions of this type are taken extremely seriously by the Archdiocese. In order to offer pastoral care or counseling to anyone affected, an announcement regarding this allegation will be placed in the St. John the Evangelist Church bulletin, in *Today's Catholic* newspaper, and on the Archdiocesan website as well. Those with any details may contact Steve Martinez, director of the Archdiocesan Office of Victim Assistance and Safe Environment, at (210) 734-7786 or (877) 700-1888.

On Dec. 15, 2015, the Archdiocese received correspondence from a law firm representing an individual alleging abuse, which indicated potential future legal action against the Archdiocese of San Antonio in this matter. It is the long-standing policy of the Archdiocese not to comment on potential or pending litigation.

The Archdiocese of San Antonio remains strongly committed to restoring trust and healing the wounds of anyone who may be been hurt by sexual abuse. The Archdiocese will continue to work toward making every Catholic parish, school and institution a safe harbor for all. Nothing will deter the Archdiocese from this vital effort toward a better future for everyone in need.