



# PRESS CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

**PRESS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD**  
**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2019 (2:30 PM)**  
Nassau County Supreme Court (Details Below)

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## **FIRST OF HUNDREDS OF LAWSUITS FILED AGAINST NEW YORK INSTITUTIONS ON BEHALF OF VICTIMS OF CHILD SEX ABUSE**

Filings Coincide With the Opening of the One-Year Window Under the Child Victims Act; Diocese of Rockville Centre Named in First Suits

**Rockville Centre, NY** — Sex abuse victim's attorney Krisel McSweeney will hold a press conference on Wednesday, August 14, 2019 announcing and discussing the filing of two lawsuits against the DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE. The press conference and the filing of the suits coincides with the opening of the one-year window for filing claims under the New York Child Victims Act. McSweeney will discuss the two cases being filed Wednesday along with the impact of this legislation on future claims that will be filed by other child victims. McSweeney will be available to answer questions from media outlets.

Please see below for a short summary of each case that will be discussed on Wednesday at the press conference:

- G.C. has a claim against the Diocese of Rockville Centre for sexual abuse by Father Romano Ferraro from 1975 to 1976 at the age of 13 while he was an altar boy at St. Joseph's Parish in Kings Park, NY. The sexual abuse included exposure to pornography, fondling of G.C.'s genitals, oral sex and sodomy. G.C.'s sexual abuse occurred after the Diocese and the Church received notice of Father Ferraro's propensity to sexually abuse minor boys. Father Ferraro was transferred to St. Joseph's parish as a result of an allegation of sexual abuse by a boy at St. Rose of Lima in Brooklyn, resulting in G.C.'s continuous sexual abuse by Father Ferraro.
- V.G. has a claim against the Diocese of Rockville Centre for sexual abuse by Father Gus Griffin at St. Bernard's church in Levittown, NY. Father Griffin sexually abused V.G. on many occasions while he was an altar boy at the church from 1966-1969. The sexual abuse included fondling, and many other sexually deviant acts, which mostly occurred on church grounds and on different outings with the Father Griffin.

These suits would not have been possible without the [New York Legislature's passing of the Child Victims Act earlier this year](#). As a result of the Child Victims Act's one-year window, victims must swiftly assess and prepare any potential claims they may have against the entities responsible for their abuse. Herman Law represents hundreds of victims of childhood sexual abuse in New York, many of whom have been victims of the widespread problem of sex abuse within the Catholic Church.

In anticipation of the opening of the filing window, Herman Law has constructed its own "[Predator Priest Index](#)" (PPI), which lists over 500 accused priests in New York State compiled through the firm's own investigations and outside sources. Herman Law will begin filing claims against the church, along with the claims of child victims seeking justice against non-church entities responsible for enabling abusers, in the proper New York courts beginning Wednesday.

**The press conference will be held Wednesday, August 14th at 2:30 PM on the steps of the Nassau County Supreme Court (100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, NY 11501).**

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[Herman Law](#) is a law firm for victims of sexual abuse across the nation. The firm is led by its founder [Jeff Herman](#), who is recognized as one of the country's leading attorneys for child victims of sexual abuse. The firm has obtained over \$200 million in verdicts and settlements. Jeff has [developed a national reputation](#) for his powerful advocacy and unwavering dedication to his clients. Herman Law is committed to empowering victims of sexual abuse to take back their lives and begin the healing process.