

PRESS RELEASE

Jesuits and El Paso Diocese Resolve Sex Abuse Case

A settlement was reached today, July 11, 2013, with the New Orleans Province of the Jesuit Order and the El Paso Diocese for a suit filed by a former student and parishioner. The Plaintiff was 8 to 12 years old when he was sexually abused by Father Alphonso Madrid, S.J., when Madrid was assigned to Sacred Heart Church and school in the El Paso Diocese.

Plaintiff filed suit in El Paso District Court in the 327th Court, cause number 2011-2504, in 2011. Not unlike many victims, the Plaintiff had repressed the memory of the abuse for many years, due to the trauma associated with the abuse. The Plaintiff was represented by attorneys Merritt & Watson PLLC, in Dallas, who solely represent victims of sexual abuse and assault.

Madrid was assigned and worked at Sacred Heart in El Paso from 1970 - 1982. Prior to that he was assigned to Our Lady of Guadalupe in the Archdiocese of San Antonio from 1966- 1970. While at Our Lady of Guadalupe, Madrid "kissed and petted" a nine year old child. The Jesuits were aware of this at the time. From 1961-1966 Madrid was assigned to San Felipe Church in Albuquerque. Madrid died in 1982.

Pictures of Madrid are attached.

For more information please contact Lori Watson at 214-503-7300 or 214-289-4882