

**Sexual Ethics in the Diocese of East Carolina**

What follows is the Policy Regarding Sexual Misconduct for the Diocese of East Carolina. I invite you to read it carefully.

There are always questions about the required training in this area, so I have summarized some of what the policy will say when you read it.

**Who is required to take this training?**

1. All Clergy
2. Volunteers who regularly supervise youth activities (eyc & rite 13, etc.)
3. Volunteers who teach Sunday School and Nursery School attendants
4. All paid employees

While it is not required it might be a very good thing for all Vestries to take the training.

**Background checks are required for:**

1. All Clergy
2. Volunteers who regularly supervise youth activities (excluding Sunday School Teachers)
3. All paid employees

**Yearly Consent Required:**

Each year the following must review the Policy Regarding Sexual Misconduct and sign a statement that they have read and give consent to that policy:

1. All Clergy
2. All volunteers who regularly supervise youth activities
3. All Vestry members (to be filed in Vestry minutes of the year)
4. All employees

These signed statements are to be placed on file in the Church Office

**In addition it is good to remember:**

1. Any person engaged in Pastoral Counseling must, after 6 sessions with any single person, must have personal supervision to continue.
2. Any person who charges a fee for counseling must carry professional credentials and provide professional liability insurance coverage, including coverage for sexual misconduct.

It always seems very harsh to read these requirements until one realized the horrendous damage, which incurs when power is misused. It is the desire and intent of this policy to say as clearly as possible that inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated and that the Diocese of East Carolina has done all in her power to assure people that they and their children are safe.