\*\*\*\*\*\* Media Advisory \*\*\*\*\*\*

## Former Priest-Whistleblower to Demonstrate for Zero-Tolerance Church Policy in Syracuse.

James Faluszczak, himself a victim of abuse by a priest, and still feeling called to the priesthood, left active ministry because the Church ignored his claims. He testified before the 40th Pennsylvania Grand Jury as it investigated six dioceses there.

James' parents were natives of the Ogdensburg and Albany dioceses in New York State, and the episcopal ordination and installation of Fr. Douglas Lucia as the next Bishop of Syracuse is an opportunity to call for greater transparency from Church officials in New York.

**CONTACT:** James Faluszczak Email: jim@faluszczak.com Cell: 716/424-5417 Paul A. Barr, Esquire Fanizzi & Barr, PC (716) 284-8888

WHEN: Thursday, August 8, 2019, Noon until 2pm.

**WHERE:** On the public sidewalk outside the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 259 East Onondaga Street, Syracuse, New York 13202

BUFFALO, NY. Wednesday, August 7, 2019 – Next week, the Child Victims Act will give survivors of clergy sex abuse the chance to force discovery of their abuse in New York State. Victims do not have to stand alone before the Church.

In my sworn testimony before the 40th Pennsylvania Grand Jury, I provided the names of 117 individuals who were either directly involved in the sexual abuse of children or vulnerable adults, provided cover for such activities, or could speak to such as witnesses. This is what I knew as a rank and file priest.

Every rank and file priest has served alongside or known of priest perpetrators. Fr. Douglas Lucia is no different, and now as Bishop of Syracuse it is incumbent on him to set the record straight there after the opaque and duplicitous service of Bishop Robert Cunningham. Lucia was a protege of Cunningham in Ogdensburg, and must show today how he will be different from his mentor in Syracuse.

## LINKS TO HISTORIC COVERAGE:

## NPR/ Fresh Air WHYY Philadelphia

Former priest with insider view among the 1,000 victims in Pennsylvania. <u>NNY 360</u>

Faluszczak makes his voice heard at Papal Summit.

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle

Whistleblower ready to help victims who still feel voiceless

