

\*\*\*\*\* Media Advisory - For Immediate Release \*\*\*\*\*

# Whistleblower and Attorney to Discuss CVA Lawsuit against Bishop Hubbard, Diocese of Albany

*James Faluszczyk, 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 in Pennsylvania.*

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**WHAT:** Discussion of allegations against Fr. Edward N. Leroux, Bishop Howard Hubbard, the Diocese of Albany, the Society of Jesus (The Jesuits), and Mater Christi Seminary.

**WHEN:** Friday, November 8, 2019 at 11:30am.

**WHERE:** On the public sidewalk in front of Immaculate Conception Cathedral, 125 Eagle Street, Albany, NY 12202.

**WHO:** Victim advocate James Faluszczyk, and Attorney Danielle George of The Phillips & Paolicelli Law Firm, on behalf of our client, J.M.

ALBANY, NY. Friday, November 8, 2019 – The Diocese of Albany has allowed child abuse to fester for generations, and this tragedy continues to plague the community in Albany and New York State. The diocese and its bishops have been complicit in the spread of this contagion.

In addition to the direct sexual abuse allegedly perpetrated by Fr. Leroux, we allege that numerous defendants in this case participated in either the grooming of our client for abuse, or contributed directly to its coverup. The principal agents of this coverup continue to function as respected members of the community, so we are compelled to give voice to our voiceless client who has needlessly suffered for decades.

In response to Bishop Hubbard’s comment about being “just a seminarian”, this does not mitigate responsibility for this tragedy, as Leroux was a “just a seminarian” when he allegedly groomed our client for abuse. Hubbard purportedly carried this knowledge of Leroux with him into his ministry as bishop of the diocese.

We call upon the Diocese of Albany to amend its practices of secrecy, especially as the bishops of New York State prepare to meet with Pope Francis next week in Rome. Phillips & Paolicelli are working toward a form of justice the Catholic Church has been unwilling to provide its own members.

