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Investigating Criminal Activities Including Sexual Abuse – How to Respond and Protect the Church

(Power Point Presentation)

By Bruce Long, B.A., LL.B.

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Affiliated with Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

Main Office Location

211 Broadway, P.O. Box 440
Orangeville, ON, Canada, L9W 1K4
Tel: (519) 942-0001
Fax: (519) 942-0300
Toll Free: 1-877-942-0001

www.carters.ca

National Meeting Locations

Toronto (416) 675-3766
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Offences

- Child abuse requires report to CAS
- Concealment of an offence may itself be an offence
- Property damage is usually a police matter
- Theft and fraud offences are costly in terms of losses and require careful analysis
- Financial and other controls should be in place to reduce incidents of theft and fraud

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- External frauds usually require police involvement
- Internal frauds may have negative impact if publicized
- Determine if to proceed in house or contact police. If police contact, complete co-operation required

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Sexual Offences

- When information received about a possible sexual offence, exercise caution
- Remove possible offender from contact with complainant (s)
- Quickly and quietly investigate the complaint
- Contact investigatory authorities
- Silence is more than golden
- Multiple proceedings create numerous problems

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Conclusions

- Remove possible offender from affected situation
- Delay internal proceedings
- Accountability and restoration should be end result

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