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Sexual abuse of a child at a Catholic Church camp results in \$2.1 million settlement

April 20, 2020

CHICAGO, IL – Romanucci & Blandin LLC announced a \$2.1 million settlement on behalf of a 7-year-old girl who was repeatedly sexually assaulted at a Catholic church camp in the Chicago area in 2015.

Attorneys Antonio Romanucci, Martin Gould and Bryce Hensley secured the settlement, and say the camp and church were negligent by letting a counselor with a suspected history of mental health concerns, including depression and suicidal tendencies, be left alone with vulnerable young children. His only “qualification” for supervising 7-year-old girls was that his parents were friends with a leader of the church.

The abuse took place in multiple locations throughout the church, playground, and classroom. This continued until the girl confided in a teacher, who then notified the girl’s father. When the father confronted the priest and church leaders, they discouraged the father from calling police, saying the allegations would ruin the girl’s reputation and negatively impact attendance at the church.

“The fact that the priest involved valued the reputation of the church over the lifelong psychological and emotional well-being of our young client is sickening,” said Romanucci & Blandin Attorney Martin Gould. “The church leaders involved had knowledge that this man should not be responsible for young girls, and chose to look the other way.”

“The continued sexual manipulation and abuse of children by Catholic priests is abhorrent and intolerable. These types of cases reflect the continued negligence by church leaders,” said Romanucci & Blandin Founding Partner Antonio Romanucci. “In this specific case, however, we are appreciative that the Archdiocese of Chicago recognized how horrific this incident was and the everlasting impact it would have on our client, which finally led to the resolution of the case.”

To learn more about sexual abuse cases and litigation please [click here](#).

About Romanucci & Blandin, LLC

Romanucci & Blandin is a national trial practice committed to fighting for victims of negligence, abuse and wrongful death arising from police misconduct, corporate negligence, civil rights actions, medical malpractice, mass torts and class actions. The attorneys’ steadfast commitment to fighting for those seeking justice around the country has helped the firm obtain multiple verdicts and settlements in the millions of dollars. The Chicago-based personal injury lawyers are dedicated to providing victims who suffered injury as a result of another’s wrongdoing full and

fair compensation in a diligent, professional, skilled and caring manner. The lawyers actively support their communities and provide advocacy at the national, state and local levels on issues that support the U.S. tort system. Founded in 1998, Romanucci & Blandin is widely recognized for representing plaintiffs in numerous practice areas including: personal injury, wrongful death, medical malpractice, workers' compensation, pharmaceutical, mass torts, civil rights, police misconduct, excessive force, aviation, product liability and premises liability. For more information about Romanucci & Blandin, please visit www.rblaw.net or call (312) 458-1000.