



Diocese of
CROOKSTON

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

**Statement from the Diocese of Crookston
Re: Settlement Agreement and September 20, 2017 Court Hearing**

The Diocese of Crookston takes all matters of clergy sexual misconduct seriously and is reviewing its policies in light of this case. Monsignor Roger Grundhaus remains suspended from public ministry.

Earlier this year, Ronald Vasek sued Bishop Michael Hoepfner and the Diocese of Crookston. Mr. Vasek has settled his claims against the Bishop. The settlement agreement avoids costly attorney fees and a drawn out legal process. The settlement agreement does not constitute any admission of unlawful conduct or wrong doing by Bishop Hoepfner. No diocesan funds were used to pay the settlement. The Diocese is now seeking dismissal of the remaining claims related to this matter.

Bishop Hoepfner asks that all those involved be remembered in prayer. Anyone who is aware of sexual misconduct by clergy should make an immediate report to law enforcement.