

# The Diocese of Bridgeport Safe Environment Handbook

## THE DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT

### Permission Form for Direct Electronic Communication with Minors

NAME OF PARISH/ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_ (TOWN) \_\_\_\_\_

In the Diocese of Bridgeport, parents and/or legal guardians will be copied into all electronic communications **except** those that occur on an official social networking site or online community administered and maintained by the Diocese, Parish, or School pursuant to the terms of diocesan policy and any additional forms of communication as approved by parents or guardians on this form.

This form allows a parent or legal guardian to specifically authorize adult emergency contacts and other adults within their parish or organization to communicate through electronic means directly with a minor child. These communications may be conducted through personally owned cellular phones or personally owned computers that are not purchased, operated or monitored by the Parish or by the Diocese of Bridgeport.

#### Pastor or his designee completes this section:

(NAME) \_\_\_\_\_ Parish utilizes the following Official forms of electronic communication to communicate directly with minors: Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Social networking site \_\_\_\_\_

#### Parent or Guardian Completes: (Please check one)

- You **MAY NOT** contact my child directly. (Sign and return).  
 You **MAY** contact my child directly. (Sign, complete all sections and return).

In addition to the above forms of direct communication used by the parish, I further authorize the following adults to communicate directly with my minor child:

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

All adults on the above emergency contact list may communicate with my child directly:

phone call / voice message to this telephone number \_\_\_\_\_  
SMS / text message to this telephone number \_\_\_\_\_  
Social networking site sponsored by group named \_\_\_\_\_  
email address: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that the Parish and the Diocese of Bridgeport is unable to monitor direct electronic communication between adults and minors. I agree to discuss with my child the risks associated with direct forms of electronic communication. I agree to immediately report to civil authorities, to the Pastor and to the Office of Safe Environment any suspected risk of harm or abuse involving a minor as well as inappropriate use of technology by a member of the Clergy, Religious Sister or Brother, Men in Formation, Lay Employee, Volunteer or Independent Contractor.

Name of Minor Child(ren) (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent or Legal Guardian (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Acknowledgement of Receipt

### Guidelines for Trips, Events and Electronic Communication with Minors

On \_\_\_\_\_, I was given a copy of the Diocese of Bridgeport's Guidelines for Trips, Events and Electronic Communication involving Minors

I have read this policy and I understand the sections of this document that apply to me. I agree to conduct myself in accordance with its terms.

Name: (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Location(s) where you work or volunteer in the Diocese of Bridgeport): \_\_\_\_\_