

**Contact:**  
**Penny Wiegert**  
Director of Communication  
pwiegert@rockforddiocese.org  
Phone: (815) 399-4300  
Fax: (815)399-6225

555 Colman Center Drive  
P.O. Box 7044  
Rockford, IL 61125  
www.rockforddiocese.org



**DIOCESE OF  
ROCKFORD**

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# PRESS RELEASE

## Clarification on News Reports Regarding Activity at 1245 North Court Street

The Diocese of Rockford wishes to clarify information reported in the media regarding demolition plans on property at 1245 North Court Street, (the former Chancery for the Diocese of Rockford).

The Diocese of Rockford hired a professional asbestos abatement company to abate the asbestos contained in the 1245 N. Court Street building, as required by law prior to a demolition.

There is no requirement to obtain a permit from the City of Rockford in order to conduct asbestos abatement. The asbestos abatement company has not conducted demolition of the property. The Diocese has removed and has authorized removal of Diocesan property from the 1245 N. Court Street building for repurposing, as is a property owner's right, and a demolition permit is not required in that instance.

Abatement activities at the 1245 N. Court Street building were stopped yesterday when the Diocese was notified by the City of Rockford to stop the activities. That City directive was apparently the result of the filing yesterday of a petition for landmark status, brought by a group.

The reports in the media that the Diocese is violating the law are false.

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### **About Catholic Diocese of Rockford**

Established in 1908, the Diocese of Rockford is comprised of 105 parishes in Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, JoDaviess, Kane, Lee, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside and Winnebago Counties in Northern Illinois serving a Catholic population of more than 300,000. For more about the Catholic Diocese of Rockford, visit [rockforddiocese.org](http://rockforddiocese.org)