

**The Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina**  
**SAFEGUARDING GOD’S PEOPLE TRAINING CERTIFICATE APPLICATION**

**Note: This form must be completed in full and returned to your instructor. You cannot receive credit unless completed. Church-related certificates are mailed to and maintained in the Church Administrative Office. Original certificates are not mailed to individuals. Requests for certificate copies should be directed to: [formation@edusc.org](mailto:formation@edusc.org)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>E-mail Address</b>	
<b>Address</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Zip</b>
<b>Name and City of Your Church (for sending Safe Church Certificate)</b>			
<b>Location of Training:</b>	<b>Name of Instructor:</b>	<b>Date of Training</b>	

**A COVENANT FOR SEXUAL RESPONSIBILITY**

For the purpose of this Covenant for Sexual Responsibility, I, the undersigned, understand that the Diocese of Upper South Carolina defines “Sexual Misconduct” in the following ways:

**Sexual Misconduct** means engaging in “Sexual Abuse,” “Sexual Coercion,” “Sexual Harassment,” or “Sexual Exploitation,” as defined herein. Such misconduct is wrong and strictly prohibited.

**Sexual Abuse** means sexual involvement or contact by an adult with a “minor” or a “vulnerable adult” as defined under state law. Sexual Abuse is a crime that must be reported to local law enforcement officials.

**Sexual Coercion** means the use of physical, emotional, or supervisory force over someone else to gain sexual gratification. Sexual battery is a crime that must be reported to law enforcement officials. See, S.C. Code Ann. § 16-3-652 (sexual battery in the first degree).

**Sexual Exploitation** means the betrayal of trust in a Pastoral Relationship by the development, or the attempted development, of a sexual or romantic relationship between a Church Worker and another person with whom he or she has a Pastoral Relationship. Sexual Exploitation during the course of a Pastoral Relationship is strictly prohibited. Such prohibited conduct includes intercourse, erotic kissing, touching breasts or genitals, verbal suggestions of sexual involvement, or sexually demeaning comments. Sexual Exploitation is unacceptable behavior regardless of who initiates the activity and irrespective of whether apparent consent to the activity has been given.

**Sexual Harassment** includes, but is not limited to, sexually oriented humor or language; questions or comments about sexual behavior or preference unrelated to employment qualifications; inappropriate physical contact; inappropriate comments about clothing or physical appearance; or repeated requests for social engagements in a situation where there is an employment, mentor, or colleague relationship between the persons involved. Sexual Harassment in the workplace is a violation of federal and state law, and may give rise to civil liability.

I voluntarily agree to abstain from any behavior that constitutes Sexual Misconduct of children, youth or adults while I engage in ministry in any institution related to the Diocese of Upper South Carolina, regardless of whether I work as a paid employee or volunteer. I understand that if I engage in such misconduct, I will be subject to disciplinary process that may include termination of employment; if ordained-inhibition, suspension, or deposition according to the Canons of the National Church and the Diocese. I understand that any alleged crime involving Sexual Misconduct committed by me must be reported to local law enforcement officials. I acknowledge that I have received from the Diocese of Upper South Carolina, the Safe Church Policy Manual on Sexual Misconduct and, further, that I understand the Policy and agree to abide by it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Print or Type Your Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Witness**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

*Please sign & return completed form to: Admin for Christian Formation 1115 Marion Street, Columbia, SC 29201*