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Vatican Announces Resignation of Bishop Finn KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) - Bishop Robert Finn has resigned as leader of the Kansas City-St. Joseph Roman Catholic Diocese.

The Vatican announced Finn's resignation early Tuesday. Finn became the highest-ranking U.S. church official convicted of a crime related to the church's child sexual abuse scandal after he waited six months to report a diocese priest suspected of abuse.

The Vatican appointed Kansas City, Kansas Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann as Apostolic Administrator of the Missouri diocese until a replacement for Finn is appointed. Naumann will retain his duties in the Kansas diocese.

Finn was convicted in September 2012 of one misdemeanor for failing to report child abuse suspicions. A diocese priest, Rev. Shawn Ratigan, was sentenced to 50 years in prison after pleading guilty to child pornography charges.

Associated Press