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Diocese Settles Claims for \$200,000

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) - The Catholic Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph has agreed to settle claims involving a pedophile priest for a total of \$200,000.

The Star reports that the out-of-court settlements, finalized last week, stem from a parent's claims that Shawn Ratigan took obscene photos of her two minor daughters. Ratigan was sentenced to 50 years in federal prison and 21 years in state prison after pleading guilty to child pornography charges.

His case also resulted in a misdemeanor criminal conviction in 2012 against former Bishop Robert Finn for failing to report suspected child sexual abuse to the state. Finn resigned in April.

Diocesan spokesman Jack Smith said Monday that the settlements included an offer of counseling for the two girls and their mother if they desire it.

Associated Press