

Santa Rosa Diocese Hit With More Abuse Lawsuits

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SANTA ROSA, Calif. — The Roman Catholic Diocese of Santa Rosa is being sued by two more people who claim they were molested by a former priest at St. Bernard's Parish. The lawsuits filed in Sonoma County Superior Court last week are almost identical to two suits filed last month.

The plaintiffs allege the church placed priest Patrick Joseph McCabe in the Eureka parish from 1983 to 1985 knowing he was a pedophile. The plaintiffs are seeking unspecified damages.

Diocese officials say no one reported abuse by McCabe to the church or authorities, but they encourage victims to do so.

McCabe, now 74, is of being extradited to Ireland to face charges that he molested six boys there. McCabe's attorney, David Cohen, says the abuse allegations have never been proven conclusively.