

Greetings,

It has been brought to our attention that one of our clergy, Mr. Waco Tohausen, has been arrested on charges of child rape and pandering sexually oriented materials to a minor.

Pending the outcome of these charges Mr. Tohausen has been suspended from clergy status with the Tradition, as is our policy in all such cases.

We do believe that any person should be considered innocent until proven guilty. However we also feel that the special nature of Clergy and the seriousness of charges such as these require any conscientious organization to take measures to ensure that any clergyperson charged with such crimes be removed from any position from which they could conceivably do harm to others.

Mr. Tohausen has been a First Degree Priest with the Correllian Tradition since 2004. The First Degree is the lowest level of Priesthood in the Tradition. However it is our understanding that Mr. Tohausen has not been active as Correllian clergy for several years.

I cannot too strongly emphasize how seriously the Correllian Tradition takes charges such as these. Our law is the Wiccan Rede –Do As You Will But Harm None. And our clergy are especially charged with upholding this ideal. For clergypersons to be charged with doing harm to children is a matter of the utmost importance and greatest concern to our Tradition and its people.

It is our established policy that any clergyperson charged with sexual abuse of a child must be immediately suspended from clergy status and from any position of responsibility until the charges are resolved. If the clergyperson is found guilty all status with the Tradition must be revoked.

It is the desire of the Correllian Tradition to cooperate fully with the police who are investigating this matter, and to assist them in any way we can.

The Tradition will be holding an internal investigation as well to determine whether Tradition policy was properly followed and whether all appropriate actions have been taken.

M. Rev. Donald Lewis-Highcorrell
First Priest and Chancellor
Correllian Nativist Tradition