



# Diocese of Colorado Springs

Office of the Bishop  
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## DIRECTIVE

The Diocese of Colorado Springs and our insurer, Catholic Mutual Group, appreciate that the Knights of Columbus play an integral part in fundraising and performing functions of service and spirituality to the Catholic Church.

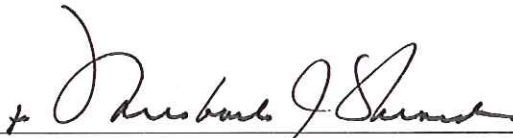
According to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Knights of Columbus are not an IRS 501(c)(3) educational, charitable, or religious organization under the control of the Catholic Church. They are, instead, an IRS 501(c)(8) fraternal organization, under the control of their headquarters in Connecticut. As a result, their organization is not eligible for listing in the Official Catholic Directory (OCD). Catholic Mutual's Articles of Association and By-laws preclude them from providing coverage to entities that are not IRS 501(c)(3) and not listed or eligible for listing in the OCD.

Due to their IRS status, each parish's Knights of Columbus chapter and their auxiliaries must provide evidence of general liability and host liquor liability through a certificate of insurance with a per occurrence limit of no less than \$2,000,000 and have **the Diocese of Colorado Springs and its parishes named as additional insureds**. The Diocese also recommends that the various chapters provide property insurance for any real or personal property they own or store at a parish.

While our insurer, Catholic Mutual, would protect the Diocese and its parishes from any incidents caused by a Knights of Columbus function, the particular Knights of Columbus group and its individual members would be unprotected unless they have their own insurance coverage.

Furthermore, if the claim was due to their negligence which took place on parish property and they did not provide a certificate of insurance, the claim could potentially be paid by Catholic Mutual and, of course, this has a negative impact on the Diocese's insurance program.

Promulgated on this date by:

  
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Most Reverend Michael J. Sheridan  
Bishop of Colorado Springs