All parish/school-sponsored events create a potential liability for the Diocese. Before planning parish/school functions, we encourage you to balance the benefits anticipated with the unavoidable risks. Some activities create such a great risk they cannot be justified. Sponsorship or involvement in the following activities must be avoided:

- Unsafe use of candles and open flames
- Use of any motor vehicle other than a personal passenger vehicle
- Use of 15 passenger vans
- Use of any aircraft other than scheduled, commercial flights
- Extreme Sports e.g., bungee jumping
- Swimming in any body of water including Public or Private Pools without licensed lifeguard
- Scuba diving
- Dunk tanks
- “Ropes” or obstacle course events in excess of 12 feet in height
- Boxing and martial arts
- Rock climbing
- Use of any watercraft other than public transit such as ferry boats
- Activities related to watercraft, e.g. water skiing, river rafting, etc.
- Medical and nursing services
- Construction operations
- Foreign travel
- Legal services
- Work release programs (labor provided to the Diocese)
- Transportation services
- Sumo wrestling, human fly and similar contact/impact sports
- Carnival rides (except when operated by vendors under approved contracts)
- Inflatables of any kind including, but not limited to, moon walks or house bounces, slides, obstacle courses etc. (no exceptions)
- Fireworks sales or displays
- Use of trampolines or rebound devices/games of any kind
- Events involving livestock, including parades, rodeos and bullfights

Any site that incurs claims due to participation in a “High Risk” activity will pay the first $25,000 in claim costs and settlement for each claim.

If you are considering participation or sponsorship in any unusual activity, contact the Director of the Insurance and Benefits Department for approval.

**Kathleen Rabbach, Director, Oakland Diocese Insurance & Benefits Department**

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