

Reverend Ibarra Mercado

Biographical Information

YEAR OF BIRTH:	N/A
YEAR OF DEATH:	N/A
ORDINATION:	Archdiocese of Military Services

Employment/Assignment History

7/01/1994	Lebanon V.A. Hospital
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Summary

On June 8, 1994, Monsignor Hugh Overbaugh wrote a memorandum to Bishop Nicholas Dattilo marked as “**CONFIDENTIAL**.” The Diocese of Harrisburg was notified by Father Michael Connelly, Oblates of St. Francis de Sales who served as the Judicial Vicar for the Military Archdiocese under the Archbishop of Military Services, of child sex abuse allegations against Mercado. The Archdiocese of Military Services advised they would conduct the investigation. The Judicial Vicar stated because the abuse occurred at the Veteran’s Administration (“VA”) hospital, it was on federal territory. A memorandum stated, “*There is no danger, therefore, that the Diocese of Harrisburg will be involved.*”

The allegations involved Mercado “*French kissing*” a 12 year old girl. The girl’s mother was an organist for masses that Mercado celebrated at the Lebanon VA Hospital.

On July 1, 1994, Father Paul Helwig wrote a memorandum to Bishop Nicholas Dattilo that stated he received word that Mercado was being “*reassigned.*”