SANCTUARY ETHICS REVIEW BOARD

OFFICE OF MUNICIPAL SAFETY AND EXTRAORDINARY PREMISES HAZARDS

SERB-MUN-001

WHETHER "ANCIENT EVIL BENEATH THE CATHEDRAL" CONSTITUTES AN ADEQUATE MUNICIPAL DISCLOSURE NOTICE

On Subterranean Containment, Religious Occupancy, Institutional Succession, and the Continuing Duty to Warn

An Administrative Investigation into the Historical Use of Tristram Cathedral, the Concealment of Diablo's Soulstone, and the Foreseeable Consequences of Maintaining a Catastrophic Metaphysical Hazard Beneath a Populated Settlement

Issuing Authority: Sanctuary Ethics Review Board
Case Number: SERB-MUN-001
Related Proceedings: SERB-004, SERB-005, SERB-006, SERB-008, SERB-009, SERB-010
Classification: Municipal Safety, Hazard Disclosure, Institutional Continuity, Religious Premises, and Extraordinary Containment
Date: October 24, 2026
Status: Final Preliminary Determination, Protective Recommendations, and Notice of Continuing Institutional Review

Principal Historical Respondents:

- The Horadrim, Original Custodians of Diablo's Soulstone
- The Historical Administrators of the Horadric Monastery
- The Subsequent Religious Custodians of the Tristram Site
- The Royal Administration of King Leoric
- Archbishop Lazarus, in His Capacity as a Senior Religious Official

Additional Interested Parties:

- Tyrael, Archangel of Justice
- Deckard Cain, Surviving Descendant of the Horadrim
- The Historical Municipal Authorities of Tristram
- The Residents and Property Occupants of Tristram
- The Estate of King Leoric
- The Estate of Prince Albrecht
- Surviving Participants in the Cathedral Rescue Expedition
- Diablo, Lord of Terror

Property Under Review:

The former Horadric monastery and associated subterranean labyrinth in Khanduras, subsequently renovated and occupied for royal and religious purposes and commonly identified as Tristram Cathedral.

Hazard Under Review:

The historical confinement of Diablo, Lord of Terror, within a soulstone concealed beneath the premises.

Nature of Proceeding:

Fictional regulatory satire and literary ethics review. The Board applies principles of public safety, institutional accountability, and procedural fairness to events within the Diablo universe. No actual municipal ordinance, legal enforcement power, or historical building code of Tristram is presumed to have existed.

I. EXECUTIVE DETERMINATION

The Sanctuary Ethics Review Board has completed its preliminary examination of whether the statement:

“Ancient Evil Beneath the Cathedral”

would constitute adequate disclosure of the extraordinary hazard historically present beneath Tristram Cathedral.

It would not.

The Board recognizes that the statement conveys the possibility of danger.

However, the statement does not adequately identify:

1. The nature of the entity confined.
2. The mechanism by which the entity was restrained.
3. The possibility that the entity could influence persons beyond the containment chamber.
4. The consequences of unauthorized entry.
5. The authority responsible for maintaining containment.
6. The procedures required upon evidence of compromise.
7. The persons responsible for notifying the surrounding community.

The Board further observes that the phrase does not distinguish among ordinary architectural hazards, historical burial chambers, supernatural disturbances, and the imprisonment of a Prime Evil.

These conditions are not operationally equivalent.

The Board acknowledges that unrestricted disclosure of the soulstone's precise location could have attracted hostile actors seeking its release.

Accordingly, the Board does not conclude that the Horadrim were obligated to publish a map identifying the artifact.

Nor does it presume that the original concealment was improper.

The relevant deficiency concerns the absence of a demonstrated system through which essential safety information could survive the disappearance of the original custodians.

The Board therefore enters its principal finding:

A legitimate decision to conceal a dangerous artifact does not establish a legitimate decision to abandon every means by which future custodians might recognize, maintain, and respond to the danger.

The Board further finds that the transformation of a containment facility into a site of ordinary religious and civic activity created additional responsibilities requiring examination.

The original protective purpose of the monastery is acknowledged.

Its subsequent occupation by persons unaware of the hazard is materially relevant.

The Board does not find that the Horadrim acted improperly merely by imprisoning Diablo.

It finds that the continued existence of Diablo beneath an inhabited settlement required more than the continued existence of the building above him.

The inquiry shall proceed.

II. PRELIMINARY CLARIFICATION CONCERNING THE ALLEGED NOTICE

The Board identifies an evidentiary matter requiring immediate correction.

The historical record does not establish that a municipal sign bearing the words *Ancient Evil Beneath the Cathedral* was ever posted in Tristram.

The phrase constitutes the hypothetical notice submitted for evaluation in the present proceeding.

It shall not be entered as an authenticated historical document.

Accordingly, the Board distinguishes two questions.

First:

Would such a notice have been adequate if issued?

Second:

What disclosures, warnings, or custodial communications actually occurred?

The first question may be evaluated through the Board's proposed safety framework.

The second requires historical evidence.

The Board declines to infer that an inadequate notice was issued merely because the proceeding's title quotes one.

Equally, the absence of evidence concerning an actual notice does not establish that the public received adequate information through other means.

The distinction shall be preserved.

The Office of Records respectfully notes that an imaginary notice cannot be found improperly posted without first being found posted at all.

The matter is entered.

III. HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE PREMISES

A. The Original Horadric Containment

Following the pursuit and capture of Diablo, members of the Horadrim under Jered Cain secured the Lord of Terror within a soulstone.

The artifact was concealed within a subterranean location in Khanduras.

The Horadrim constructed a monastery above the site to maintain custody and safeguard the imprisoned entity.

The original arrangement therefore combined several functions.

It was a place of religious or contemplative activity.

It was an institutional residence.

It was a custodial facility.

And, beneath its ordinary architectural appearance, it was a containment installation for one of the most dangerous beings known to Sanctuary.

The Board recognizes the protective purpose of the construction.

It further recognizes that concealment may have been necessary to prevent interference by persons seeking to release Diablo.

The original monastery was not necessarily intended for unrestricted civilian occupation.

The Board therefore declines to evaluate the original site as though it had been constructed principally for the later needs of the town of Tristram.

The historical circumstances were different.

Nevertheless, the Board requests evidence concerning whether the original custodians anticipated that the building might outlast their order.

B. Expansion of the Subterranean Complex

The Horadrim subsequently developed catacombs beneath the monastery.

These areas were associated with the burial of members of the order.

The Board acknowledges the legitimate purposes of funerary chambers.

It further recognizes that the presence of catacombs does not independently establish a public safety failure.

However, the expansion of accessible subterranean areas increased the complexity of the site.

The Board therefore requests clarification concerning the relationship between the burial chambers and the deeper containment location.

Specifically:

Were the areas physically separated?

Were access restrictions maintained?

Could persons entering for ordinary funerary purposes inadvertently approach the containment area?

Were custodians provided sufficient information to distinguish permitted access from prohibited access?

The Board recognizes that such safeguards may have existed.

Their continuing effectiveness remains unresolved.

C. Decline of the Horadrim

Over generations, the Horadrim diminished.

The original mission of capturing the Prime Evils had been accomplished.

The institution gradually disappeared from active public life.

The monastery eventually fell into disrepair.

The Board recognizes that organizations may legitimately conclude their operations when their purposes have been fulfilled.

However, the continued imprisonment of Diablo complicates the assertion that the Horadrim's responsibilities had ended.

The threat remained.

The artifact remained.

The facility remained.

The custodians did not.

The Board therefore identifies a potential failure of institutional succession.

The completion of a capture operation is not necessarily the completion of a containment obligation.

This principle was established in SERB-005 and remains controlling.

D. Growth of the Surrounding Settlement

As generations passed, communities developed around the old monastery.

The settlement eventually became known as Tristram.

The Board recognizes that later residents may not have possessed knowledge of the monastery's original function.

The passage of time could reasonably have obscured its extraordinary history.

The Board further recognizes that ordinary residents were not necessarily responsible for investigating every ancient structure near which they lived.

However, population growth altered the consequences of containment failure.

A hazard once situated in comparative isolation eventually occupied a location near homes, businesses, roads, and places of public assembly.

The Board therefore identifies an important distinction.

The physical hazard may have remained substantially the same.

The number of persons exposed to its possible consequences did not.

The changing use of surrounding land therefore warranted consideration by any institution retaining knowledge of the danger.

E. Renovation Under King Leoric

The historical record indicates that King Leoric appropriated and renovated the ancient monastery for royal purposes.

The structure subsequently became associated with the religious administration of the Zakarum.

The Board recognizes that renovation may restore a deteriorating building to beneficial public use.

It may provide space for worship, administration, and civic activity.

However, renovation also presents opportunities to discover previously concealed conditions.

The Board therefore requests evidence concerning the extent of the work undertaken.

Were subterranean areas inspected?

Were historical records consulted?

Did any person involved in the renovation encounter unusual chambers, barriers, inscriptions, or architectural arrangements?

Did the royal administration possess information concerning the original Horadric purpose of the site?

The Board does not presume that such information was available.

It does, however, distinguish ordinary renovation from informed acceptance of an extraordinary hazard.

A building's suitability for renewed occupation cannot be established solely by repairing the portions visible above ground.

F. The Corruption of Archbishop Lazarus

The historical record establishes that Archbishop Lazarus encountered Diablo's influence.

He became an instrument of the imprisoned demon.

Subsequent events led to Diablo's emergence, the corruption of King Leoric, the possession of Prince Albrecht, and the deaths of numerous townspeople.

The precise sequence and magical mechanics are described somewhat differently across historical accounts.

Those variations do not eliminate the central fact relevant to the present proceeding:

The entity concealed beneath the premises acquired influence over a person exercising substantial religious and political authority above them.

The Board identifies this as a catastrophic failure of custodial integrity.

The significance extends beyond unauthorized entry.

The compromised person became capable of influencing the conduct of the community itself.

IV. THE MUNICIPAL CHARACTER OF THE HAZARD

The Board recognizes that the historical danger was supernatural.

However, the mere extraordinary nature of the hazard does not render ordinary questions of public safety meaningless.

The relevant concerns remain identifiable.

A dangerous condition existed within a structure.

The condition could affect persons occupying or approaching the structure.

Certain persons possessed knowledge unavailable to the general population.

The structure underwent changes in use.

Institutional responsibility became uncertain.

And the eventual failure of the protective arrangement caused catastrophic harm.

The Board therefore considers whether principles ordinarily associated with hazardous premises may assist in evaluating the circumstances.

The comparison is analytical.

It does not establish that Tristram possessed a building code identical to any modern legal system.

Nor does it establish that the Horadrim were subject to municipal ordinances not shown to have existed.

Nevertheless, the Board finds the following questions reasonable.

Who knew of the danger?

Who controlled the premises?

Who possessed the ability to inspect or maintain the containment?

Who was exposed to harm?

What information could safely have been communicated?

What measures might reasonably have reduced the danger?

And who was responsible for ensuring that the answers remained available after the original custodians disappeared?

The Board concludes that these questions remain meaningful regardless of whether the hazard originated through masonry failure, toxic exposure, unstable magic, or an imprisoned Lord of Terror.

The Board recognizes that Diablo is not a conventional building defect.

It does not follow that his confinement beneath an occupied structure raises no building-safety concerns.

V. ON THE MEANING OF ADEQUATE DISCLOSURE

The Board considers what a disclosure notice is intended to accomplish.

A warning is not merely a statement that danger exists.

Its purpose is to permit an affected person to understand enough about the danger to make an informed protective decision.

The appropriate level of detail depends upon the circumstances.

Some hazards require precise instructions.

Others require restricted disclosure to trained personnel.

Certain information may itself create danger if distributed without limitation.

The Board therefore proposes that adequacy be evaluated according to five questions.

1. Identification

Does the notice identify the general nature of the hazard?

2. Severity

Does it communicate the seriousness of possible consequences?

3. Exposure

Does it explain how persons may become endangered?

4. Protective Action

Does it identify what affected persons should do or avoid?

5. Responsible Authority

Does it identify someone capable of receiving concerns and initiating an appropriate response?

The Board recognizes that not every notice must contain detailed technical information.

However, an adequate warning should ordinarily provide enough information to guide action.

The phrase *Ancient Evil Beneath the Cathedral* fails several elements of this inquiry.

It does not establish whether the danger is active.

It does not identify the possibility of corruption through proximity.

It does not explain whether entry into the lower chambers is prohibited.

It does not indicate whether the public should evacuate.

It does not identify a responsible custodian.

And it does not explain what should occur if the warning's subject begins to influence the clergy.

The Board therefore finds the phrase insufficient as a standalone municipal disclosure.

A warning that communicates danger without providing any useful means of responding to that danger may be memorable without being adequate.

VI. THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN DISCLOSURE AND PUBLICATION

The Board considers an anticipated objection.

The Horadrim concealed Diablo's soulstone to prevent its discovery by hostile persons.

A public notice identifying the artifact's precise location might have attracted thieves, cultists, infernal agents, or persons seeking extraordinary power.

The Board recognizes the seriousness of this concern.

It therefore rejects any proposal requiring unrestricted publication of the chamber's precise location, access mechanisms, or technical vulnerabilities.

The Board instead distinguishes three levels of disclosure.

A. Public Protective Notice

Information sufficient to alert ordinary occupants to restrictions and emergency procedures without revealing sensitive containment details.

Such notice might identify certain subterranean areas as restricted because of an extraordinary hazardous condition.

It might prohibit unauthorized excavation or access.

It might direct occupants to designated authorities if unusual phenomena occurred.

The notice need not identify the soulstone's precise location.

B. Restricted Custodial Record

Information provided to persons specifically responsible for the structure's safety.

Such records might identify the nature of the containment system, known failure conditions, and persons authorized to intervene.

They should be protected against unauthorized access.

C. Emergency Technical Record

Detailed information necessary for a qualified response to an actual containment failure.

Such records might include the identity of the confined entity, the properties of the soulstone, access restrictions, and procedures for obtaining appropriate assistance.

The Board recognizes that the technical record itself could be dangerous.

Its custody would therefore require substantial safeguards.

The Board finds that these levels of disclosure are not mutually exclusive.

They serve different purposes.

A population need not be provided the key to a dangerous chamber in order to be warned not to open it.

The distinction is fundamental.

VII. THE QUESTION OF THE WARNING SIGN

For purposes of administrative illustration, the Board has considered the following proposed notices.

Proposed Notice A

DANGER

Ancient Evil Beneath the Cathedral.

The Board finds this notice insufficient.

It identifies neither the nature of exposure nor the appropriate protective action.

Proposed Notice B

RESTRICTED SUBTERRANEAN AREA

Unauthorized entry and excavation prohibited.

The lower levels contain an extraordinary hazardous condition capable of causing severe injury, altered judgment, and loss of personal autonomy.

Do not enter.

Report unusual phenomena to designated custodial authorities.

The Board finds this notice materially more useful.

It identifies a category of danger and provides practical instructions without disclosing the precise location of the soulstone.

Nevertheless, its adequacy would depend upon the existence of actual authorities capable of receiving reports and responding appropriately.

A direction to notify an institution that no longer exists would provide limited protection.

Proposed Notice C

NOTICE OF ACTIVE INFERNAL CONTAINMENT

The structure beneath these premises contains the soulstone of Diablo, Lord of Terror.

The artifact is capable of corrupting persons who encounter its influence.

Unauthorized access may result in possession, death, or catastrophic release.

The exact location and access procedures are restricted.

The Board finds this notice more informative concerning the nature of the threat.

However, unrestricted publication of the identity and location of the contained entity could increase the likelihood of intentional interference.

Accordingly, the Board does not recommend its general public display in every circumstance.

The notice may be appropriate for restricted custodial records.

The Board therefore rejects both the assumption that complete secrecy is always necessary and the assumption that complete public disclosure is always safe.

Adequacy depends upon the information required for protection and the risks created by disclosure itself.

VIII. ON THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY

The Board identifies institutional succession as the principal administrative deficiency requiring examination.

The soulstone was originally entrusted to the Horadrim.

The Horadrim established a monastery to safeguard it.

The institution gradually disappeared.

Later occupants assumed control of the premises without necessarily acquiring the knowledge or responsibilities originally associated with them.

The Board therefore requests identification of the chain through which custodial responsibility passed.

The relevant questions are not limited to formal ownership.

A person may own a building without understanding the extraordinary danger beneath it.

An institution may possess knowledge without controlling the premises.

A religious authority may administer the building while lacking the capacity to maintain a supernatural containment system.

The Board therefore distinguishes among:

Property control.

Technical knowledge.

Custodial authority.

Public safety responsibility.

Capacity to intervene.

These functions may be exercised by different persons or institutions.

However, their division requires coordination.

The Board finds no sufficient evidence that such coordination survived the disappearance of the Horadrim.

The result was an arrangement in which the physical containment remained while institutional accountability became increasingly uncertain.

The Board therefore enters a preliminary finding of deficient succession planning.

This finding does not establish the personal negligence of every original Horadric member.

It identifies a structural vulnerability.

The Board recognizes that the monastery passed into subsequent use.

It requests clarification concerning whether the responsibility beneath the monastery passed with it.

IX. THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ORIGINAL HORADRIM

The Board acknowledges the extraordinary circumstances confronting Jered Cain and his fellow Horadrim.

Diablo was a Prime Evil.

His capture represented a substantial achievement.

The soulstone provided a means of restraining a being whose continued freedom threatened Sanctuary.

The original custodians therefore possessed strong reasons to conceal the artifact.

The Board does not conclude that they should have abandoned the containment or selected a more populated location.

Rather, the inquiry concerns what arrangements were made to preserve the containment after their deaths.

The Board requests evidence concerning:

- Successor custodians.
- Restricted archives.
- Periodic inspection.
- Emergency response instructions.
- Controls upon renovation or excavation.
- Procedures for identifying corruption.
- Mechanisms for restoring institutional capability after decline.

The Board recognizes that some of these arrangements may have been impossible or impractical.

It does not require perfect foresight.

Nevertheless, the foreseeable death of the original custodians required consideration.

A protective system expected to endure for centuries cannot reasonably depend solely upon the continued survival of those who constructed it.

The passage of time is not an unforeseeable emergency.

The Board therefore requests the original succession plan, if one existed.

X. THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TYRAEL

The Board next considers the role of Tyrael.

Tyrael provided the soulstones and helped establish the Horadrim.

His intervention enabled the capture of the Prime Evils.

The Board recognizes the substantial protective value of these actions.

Nevertheless, Tyrael possessed knowledge and capabilities unavailable to ordinary mortals.

The use of extraordinary artifacts supplied through celestial assistance raises questions concerning the adequacy of accompanying instructions.

The Board therefore requests clarification concerning whether Tyrael understood the possibility that imprisoned demons could influence their custodians.

It further requests evidence concerning any warnings supplied to the Horadrim.

Did he establish expected maintenance procedures?

Did he provide a means of obtaining assistance if the artifacts became compromised?

Did he recognize the possibility that the custodial institution might disappear?

The Board acknowledges that Tyrael may not have been able to guarantee permanent supervision.

Nor does it presume that he could safely inspect the soulstone without attracting further danger.

The scope of any continuing responsibility must therefore depend upon the means reasonably available.

Nevertheless, the delegation of custody to mortal agents does not automatically extinguish every responsibility of the celestial authority who supplied the containment system.

The Board recognizes that Tyrael delivered an artifact capable of imprisoning the Lord of Terror.

It requests the accompanying instructions.

An assertion that the artifact was exceptionally powerful is acknowledged.

The question concerns its safe custody.

XI. THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF KING LEORIC'S ADMINISTRATION

The Board considers the renovation and occupation of the former monastery under King Leoric.

The royal administration exercised substantial authority over the premises.

However, the historical record indicates that Leoric did not know of the soulstone when he established his seat at Tristram.

The Board therefore declines to presume that he knowingly accepted the extraordinary hazard.

Nor does it infer that ordinary renovation officials possessed information concerning its existence.

Nevertheless, the conversion of an ancient religious structure into a royal and public facility ordinarily raises questions concerning site inspection and suitability.

The Board therefore requests evidence concerning the information reasonably available at the time of renovation.

Were the subterranean areas known to exist?

Were they accessible?

Did the building exhibit unusual phenomena?

Were warnings preserved in historical records?

Did any person attempt to inform the royal administration?

The Board further recognizes that Leoric's subsequent conduct was affected by Diablo's attempts at possession.

This circumstance materially complicates the assignment of responsibility for decisions made after the corruption began.

The Board does not treat the king's impaired judgment as identical to informed and voluntary misconduct.

Nevertheless, his resulting executions caused serious harm to the people of Tristram.

The direct responsibility of Diablo remains substantial.

The responsibilities of other officials who knowingly participated require separate examination.

The Board recognizes that King Leoric did not knowingly renovate a prison for the Lord of Terror.

It does not follow that the suitability of the premises was adequately established merely because the king chose to occupy them.

XII. THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF ARCHBISHOP LAZARUS

The Board identifies Archbishop Lazarus as a principal actor in the eventual catastrophe.

Lazarus encountered Diablo's influence beneath the monastery.

He became corrupted and assisted the imprisoned entity.

His subsequent actions contributed to the possession of Prince Albrecht and the deaths of persons deceived into entering the cathedral's lower levels.

The Board recognizes that the extent of Lazarus's independent agency following corruption requires consideration.

Actions performed under supernatural domination may raise different questions from actions undertaken voluntarily.

However, the Board distinguishes the Archbishop's condition from the institutional consequences of his authority.

Lazarus occupied a trusted religious office.

His position afforded him access to the royal household and influence over the community.

The corruption of such an official created a danger beyond the immediate containment chamber.

The problem was not merely that one person became compromised.

It was that the compromised person possessed authority capable of directing others into danger.

The Board therefore identifies a failure mode of exceptional significance:

The entity beneath the premises acquired influence over the institution responsible for directing persons within and around the premises.

This condition rendered ordinary reliance upon religious authority dangerous.

The Board further notes that any safety procedure requiring reports to be directed exclusively to the senior official already under the entity's influence would be structurally deficient.

Independent reporting mechanisms are therefore relevant.

The Board respectfully observes that a corrupted authority cannot reliably certify the absence of corruption within its own administration.

XIII. THE RESCUE EXPEDITION

The Board next considers the expedition organized by Lazarus following Prince Albrecht's disappearance.

Townspeople were led into the catacombs under the belief that they might rescue the missing prince.

The expedition ended in mass death at the hands of the Butcher.

The Board recognizes the extraordinary tragedy of the event.

The participants were not necessarily seeking treasure or forbidden power.

They were responding to an appeal to rescue a missing child.

Their decision was influenced by the representations of a trusted religious official.

The Board therefore distinguishes between voluntary entry into a hazardous location and entry obtained through material deception.

A person may knowingly accept substantial danger in an effort to save another.

However, the legitimacy of that decision depends partly upon the information supplied.

Lazarus possessed information and motives unknown to the participants.

His representations materially affected their judgment.

The Board therefore finds substantial grounds for concluding that the expedition was organized through deliberate deception.

The subsequent deaths were not ordinary consequences of a freely undertaken rescue mission.

They were the foreseeable result of directing uninformed persons toward a danger whose nature had been concealed.

The Board recognizes the courage of those who entered the cathedral to search for Prince Albrecht.

It does not recognize their courage as consent to serve as sacrifices for Diablo.

The distinction is entered into the record.

XIV. ON THE MEANING OF PUBLIC ACCESS

The Board considers whether the continued use of the premises for religious assembly created additional ethical obligations.

A religious institution may welcome members of the public for worship, counseling, and community activities.

Such use may be legitimate and beneficial.

However, public access changes the population exposed to hazards associated with the premises.

The risk is no longer confined to trained custodians.

It may extend to children, visitors, elderly persons, workers, travelers, and individuals possessing no relevant technical knowledge.

The Board therefore distinguishes between restricted occupation by trained personnel and ordinary civilian use.

A facility suitable for one purpose may not be suitable for another without additional safeguards.

The Board recognizes that not every hidden hazard requires immediate closure.

Some may be effectively contained.

Others may require monitoring or restrictions.

The appropriate response depends upon the nature of the danger.

Nevertheless, the intentional transformation of a specialized containment facility into a public religious venue requires examination of the safeguards available to protect those who enter.

The Board recognizes that the public may lawfully enter a cathedral for worship.

It does not follow that the public has thereby agreed to participate in an infernal containment experiment.

XV. ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RUMOR AND NOTICE

The Board acknowledges that extraordinary dangers may become subjects of local rumor.

Residents may report unusual sounds, unsettling dreams, unexplained disappearances, or stories concerning ancient structures.

Such reports may be unreliable.

They may also reflect genuine conditions requiring investigation.

The Board therefore distinguishes rumor from institutional notice.

A rumor communicates an allegation.

An institutional warning communicates information sufficiently verified to justify protective action.

The two may overlap.

However, the existence of local superstition does not automatically establish that a population has been adequately informed.

The Board therefore rejects the proposition that general awareness of a place's ominous reputation constitutes meaningful disclosure of a specific catastrophic hazard.

In particular, the Board questions whether a resident hearing that the cathedral was haunted could reasonably infer that a Prime Evil remained imprisoned beneath it.

The distinction is material.

Ordinary haunting might require spiritual assistance.

An unstable soulstone containing Diablo could require evacuation, specialized containment, and intervention by persons possessing extraordinary knowledge.

These responses are not equivalent.

The Board respectfully observes that a reputation for being haunted is not an adequate substitute for disclosure that the premises contain a known catastrophic entity.

XVI. THE TESTIMONY OF DECKARD CAIN

The Board turns to the surviving account of Deckard Cain.

Cain possessed knowledge of the Horadrim and the soulstone concealed beneath the monastery.

His later writings reflect regret concerning the failure to warn the people of Tristram.

The Board considers this testimony particularly significant.

It establishes that specialized knowledge had not disappeared entirely.

At least one individual retained an understanding of the nature of the danger.

However, the Board declines to equate possession of knowledge with unlimited capacity to act upon it.

Cain was not the original custodian who constructed the containment facility.

Nor was he necessarily a municipal official empowered to close the premises.

The historical record does not establish that he possessed the means to safely secure or relocate the soulstone.

He may also have faced the legitimate concern that public disclosure would attract persons seeking the artifact.

The Board therefore distinguishes among:

Knowledge of a hazard.

Authority over the premises.

Capacity to intervene.

Ability to communicate a warning safely.

The presence of one does not establish the presence of all.

The Board recognizes that Cain himself later questioned whether disclosure might have prevented the catastrophe.

His regret is material evidence concerning his understanding of the danger.

It is not, by itself, proof that a feasible warning would have prevented every subsequent event.

The Board therefore declines to enter a finding of personal negligence solely upon the basis of Cain's retrospective regret.

It does, however, regard his position as evidence of profound institutional vulnerability.

A dangerous artifact remained beneath a populated settlement.

The institution originally responsible for its custody had disappeared.

And a surviving scholar retained knowledge for which no clearly established public safety channel appears to have existed.

The Board therefore enters the following observation:

A community is not adequately protected merely because one knowledgeable person lives within it.

Knowledge must be connected to authority, procedure, and the capacity for responsible action.

The Board recognizes Cain's lifelong efforts to preserve Horadric history.

It further recognizes the burden imposed upon a person who inherits knowledge without inheriting the institution necessary to act upon it.

The Board does not presume that Deckard Cain could have saved Tristram merely by speaking.

It questions why the safety of Tristram might have depended upon whether he did.

XVII. THE RESPONSIBILITY OF DIABLO

The Board identifies Diablo as the principal malicious actor responsible for the supernatural corruption and violence underlying the catastrophe.

Diablo deliberately sought release from confinement.

He corrupted Lazarus.

He attempted to possess Leoric.

He ultimately possessed Prince Albrecht.

His influence contributed to the deaths of innocent persons and the devastation of Tristram.

The Board recognizes substantial direct responsibility for these actions.

However, the existence of deliberate infernal wrongdoing does not eliminate every question concerning the institutions responsible for containment.

The Board therefore distinguishes between the person who deliberately causes harm and the institution that may possess obligations to prevent reasonably foreseeable harm.

These responsibilities are not necessarily equivalent.

An institution may establish reasonable safeguards and nevertheless suffer a catastrophic breach caused by an extraordinary adversary.

Conversely, the extraordinary maliciousness of an adversary does not establish that all preventive arrangements were adequate.

The Board therefore rejects any attempt to transfer Diablo's direct wrongdoing wholesale to the Horadrim, the monarchy, the clergy, or the townspeople.

It equally rejects the proposition that Diablo's wrongdoing renders the adequacy of institutional safeguards irrelevant.

The Board recognizes that Diablo was responsible for deliberately causing terror.

It does not recognize this fact as sufficient evidence that the systems intended to contain him required no review.

XVIII. THE CHILD BENEATH THE CATHEDRAL

The Board considers the position of Prince Albrecht.

The prince was a child.

He did not choose the location of the royal court.

He did not authorize the original concealment of the soulstone.

He did not participate in the decision to renovate the monastery.

He did not assume responsibility for the maintenance of an infernal containment facility.

Nevertheless, he became the instrument through which Diablo regained a physical presence in Sanctuary.

The Board recognizes the exceptional gravity of this harm.

The prince's vulnerability was exploited by an entity possessing extraordinary power.

His body became the means through which that entity pursued its objectives.

The Board therefore identifies a direct violation of bodily autonomy and personal integrity.

The Board further observes that the child was exposed to danger arising from decisions made long before his birth.

The Horadrim created the containment.

The institution declined.

The monarchy occupied the premises.

The clergy administered the site.

The child inherited the consequences.

The Board does not suggest that every historical actor possessed equal responsibility.

The circumstances of knowledge and control differed substantially.

Nevertheless, the sequence demonstrates the ethical significance of intergenerational institutional obligations.

A decision originally undertaken for protection may create enduring risks for persons who had no opportunity to evaluate it.

The Board therefore considers the welfare of those persons central to the inquiry.

Prince Albrecht was not a custodian.

He was not an investigator.

He was not a party to the original containment agreement.

He was a child living in a place the adults around him believed to be safe.

The distinction is entered into the record.

XIX. THE MUNICIPAL QUESTION OF FORESEEABILITY

The Board considers whether the eventual catastrophe was reasonably foreseeable.

The Horadrim knew that Diablo was dangerous.

They knew that he possessed extraordinary capabilities.

They knew that his release could cause catastrophic harm.

These general risks were foreseeable.

However, the Board does not presume that the original custodians could predict every subsequent event.

They may not have anticipated the rise of Tristram.

They may not have anticipated Leoric's renovation.

They may not have anticipated the particular vulnerability of Lazarus.

They may not have anticipated the possession of Albrecht.

The Board therefore distinguishes general foreseeability from precise prediction.

An institution need not foresee the exact sequence of events through which a known hazard eventually causes harm in order to recognize that the hazard requires continuing safeguards.

The possibility that a containment artifact may fail is relevant even where the precise mechanism remains uncertain.

The possibility that custodians may disappear is relevant even where the identity of their successors is unknown.

The possibility that an abandoned structure may later be occupied is relevant even where the future occupants cannot be named.

The Board therefore concludes that certain broad risks warranted consideration.

The precise nature and scope of any resulting obligation remain dependent upon the knowledge and resources reasonably available to the actors concerned.

The Board does not require the original Horadrim to have predicted Archbishop Lazarus.

It does question whether they anticipated the more general possibility that a future occupant might encounter the soulstone without understanding what it contained.

XX. THE PROBLEM OF A WARNING WITHOUT AN AUTHORITY

The Board returns to the proposed disclosure notice.

Even an accurately worded warning may provide limited protection if no institution remains capable of responding.

A notice directing the public to contact the Horadrim would have been increasingly ineffective after the order's disappearance.

A notice directing concerns to the senior clergy would have become dangerous once the senior clergy were compromised.

A notice instructing residents to seek royal assistance would have provided limited protection after the corruption of Leoric.

The Board therefore identifies a distinct institutional problem.

A disclosure system must remain operational when the authority receiving the disclosure becomes unavailable or compromised.

This requires consideration of alternatives.

A responsible arrangement might provide for independent custodial reporting, designated successor institutions, or emergency procedures triggered when ordinary authorities become unreliable.

The Board acknowledges that no such arrangement could guarantee success against Diablo.

Nevertheless, the absence of independent reporting created an especially serious vulnerability.

The entity contained beneath the premises possessed the capacity to influence those responsible for the premises.

Accordingly, the integrity of the reporting authority was itself part of the hazard.

The Board respectfully observes that a warning which instructs residents to report supernatural corruption to the person currently experiencing supernatural corruption may not provide adequate protection.

XXI. ON THE CONVERSION OF HISTORICAL PROPERTY

The Board considers whether the ancient monastery could legitimately be reused for other purposes.

The Board recognizes that buildings may survive the institutions that create them.

Their continued use may serve substantial public interests.

A former fortress may become a school.

A monastery may become a civic hall.

An abandoned structure may become a place of worship.

These changes are not inherently improper.

However, historical use may create hazards requiring examination before conversion.

The existence of a dangerous condition does not automatically prohibit every future use.

It may require restrictions, remediation, or continuing supervision.

The Board therefore proposes the principle of **custodial continuity upon material change of use**.

Where a structure possesses an extraordinary hazard known to a prior institution, a material change in occupancy should prompt consideration of whether the new custodians possess adequate knowledge and safeguards.

This principle does not require the public disclosure of every restricted technical detail.

It requires continuity of responsibility.

The Board therefore rejects the assumption that a building's prior lawful or ethically justified use automatically establishes the legitimacy of every subsequent use.

A structure constructed to contain a Prime Evil does not automatically become suitable for unrestricted public assembly merely because its original custodians have departed.

XXII. COMPARATIVE REVIEW OF THE PARTIES

The Board summarizes the distinct responsibilities potentially implicated.

Party	Established Historical Role	Principal Question
Horadrim	Original custodians of Diablo's soulstone	Were adequate succession and safety arrangements established?
Tyrael	Celestial founder and supplier of soulstones	Were material risks and continuing duties appropriately addressed?
Later Monastery Custodians	Occupants and administrators of the original site	What information was available and what safeguards were maintained?
King Leoric's Administration	Royal renovation and occupation of the premises	Was the site's suitability reasonably examined?
Archbishop Lazarus	Religious authority corrupted by Diablo	What conduct remained voluntary, and how did institutional authority facilitate harm?

Deckard Cain	Surviving holder of specialized historical knowledge	What safe and meaningful means of warning were reasonably available?
Residents of Tristram	Persons exposed to the resulting danger	What information and protection were they entitled to receive?
Diablo	Imprisoned Prime Evil and direct malicious actor	What harm was deliberately caused through corruption, possession, and deception?

The Board emphasizes that the presence of a party in this table does not constitute a finding of negligence or wrongdoing.

The parties possessed different levels of knowledge, authority, and capacity.

Responsibility must be evaluated accordingly.

The Board further recognizes that the residents of Tristram were not custodians merely because they lived near the premises.

Their presence created interests requiring protection.

It did not automatically create responsibility for maintaining a containment system whose existence they did not know.

XXIII. PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

Following review of the available historical record, the Sanctuary Ethics Review Board enters the following findings.

Finding 1 — Legitimate Original Containment

The Horadrim possessed substantial grounds for imprisoning Diablo.

The original use of a secluded containment site served a legitimate protective objective.

Finding 2 — Continuing Extraordinary Hazard

The confinement of Diablo did not eliminate the existence of the underlying danger.

The soulstone required continuing security.

Finding 3 — Institutional Discontinuity

The decline of the Horadrim created a substantial vulnerability concerning the preservation of custodial knowledge and responsibility.

Finding 4 — Material Change in Occupancy

The transformation of the original monastery into a site of later royal and religious use altered the population exposed to potential harm.

Finding 5 — No Presumption of Historical Building-Code Violation

The Board does not find that any particular municipal ordinance was violated.

No such ordinance has been established by the present record.

Finding 6 — Deficient Hypothetical Disclosure

The phrase *Ancient Evil Beneath the Cathedral* would not, standing alone, constitute adequate notice under the Board's proposed ethical safety framework.

Finding 7 — Legitimate Need for Restricted Information

Unrestricted disclosure of the soulstone's location could have increased the likelihood of deliberate interference.

The Board does not require public release of operationally sensitive containment details.

Finding 8 — Distinction Between Secrecy and Succession

The legitimate protection of sensitive information did not eliminate the need to preserve that information for authorized future custodians.

Finding 9 — Compromise of Religious Authority

The corruption of Archbishop Lazarus transformed a position of public trust into a means of directing persons toward danger.

Finding 10 — Direct Infernal Responsibility

Diablo bears substantial direct responsibility for the corruption, possession, deception, and destruction associated with the catastrophe.

Finding 11 — No Automatic Liability From Knowledge Alone

Deckard Cain's possession of historical knowledge does not, without further evidence, establish that he possessed the authority or practical means to prevent the catastrophe.

Finding 12 — Vulnerability of Children and Civilians

The exposure of Prince Albrecht and the residents of Tristram demonstrates the consequences of maintaining extraordinary hazards without sufficient continuity of institutional protection.

Finding 13 — Limits of Rumor

General awareness of a site's ominous reputation does not constitute adequate disclosure of a specific catastrophic danger.

Finding 14 — Importance of Independent Reporting

A safety system may be deficient where the only designated reporting authority is vulnerable to influence by the hazard itself.

Finding 15 — No Presumption of Preventability

The occurrence of catastrophe does not establish that every harm could reasonably have been prevented.

Finding 16 — Continuing Obligation to Learn

Where a historical containment failure reveals institutional weaknesses, subsequent custodians of comparable hazards should consider whether those weaknesses can be corrected.

XXIV. PROPOSED CORRECTIVE FRAMEWORK

The Board recommends that institutions responsible for comparable extraordinary containment sites consider the following measures.

A. Hazard Identification

Identify the general category of danger without unnecessarily revealing operationally sensitive details.

B. Restricted Custodial Records

Preserve technical information in a form accessible to authorized successors.

C. Succession Planning

Designate responsible persons or institutions capable of assuming custody when original personnel depart.

D. Material-Change Review

Reassess protective measures when the premises undergo substantial renovation, transfer, or changes in occupancy.

E. Independent Reporting

Establish means of reporting suspected compromise outside the immediate authority of potentially affected custodians.

F. Public Protective Instructions

Provide practical information sufficient to guide civilian conduct without exposing the containment system to unnecessary interference.

G. Emergency Procedures

Identify circumstances requiring evacuation, restricted access, or specialized assistance.

H. Historical Preservation

Maintain records sufficient to explain the purpose of extraordinary structures after the original institution ceases to exist.

I. Periodic Reassessment

Consider whether changing conditions require revised safeguards.

J. Protection of Vulnerable Occupants

Account for children, visitors, workers, and persons who may be unable to recognize or respond independently to extraordinary danger.

The Board recognizes that the measures appropriate to a particular facility may vary.

It does not prescribe universal procedures capable of containing every supernatural entity.

Nor does it presume that contemporary administrative practices could have been implemented unchanged by the original Horadrim.

The framework is offered as a prospective ethical guide.

The Board does not recommend that every ancient monastery be opened for inspection.

It recommends that institutions possessing knowledge of a concealed catastrophic hazard consider how that knowledge will remain usable after the persons currently possessing it are gone.

XXV. PROPOSED MODEL DISCLOSURE

The Office of Municipal Safety submits the following model for restricted institutional adoption.

The notice is not represented as a historical Tristram document.

Its use would require adaptation to the particular hazard and available custodial arrangements.

NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY SUBTERRANEAN HAZARD

Premises Classification: Restricted Historical Containment Site

Occupancy Status: Subject to Independent Safety Review

Hazard Description:

The lower portions of these premises contain an extraordinary condition originating from a historical containment operation.

The condition may present severe danger to persons entering restricted areas or encountering associated supernatural influence.

Known or Potential Effects:

- Alteration of judgment.
- Compulsory or deceptive influence.
- Loss of bodily autonomy.
- Severe physical injury.
- Death.
- Catastrophic escalation following unauthorized interference.

Public Protective Instructions:

Do not enter restricted subterranean areas.

Do not excavate beneath the premises without specialized authorization.

Do not remove, damage, activate, or transport unidentified magical artifacts.

Report unexplained disturbances, compulsive visions, or suspected supernatural influence through an independent reporting channel.

Do not rely exclusively upon assurances from an official reasonably suspected of being affected by the hazard.

Restricted Information:

The precise identity, location, and operating characteristics of the contained entity shall remain within appropriately secured custodial records.

Responsible Authority:

To be designated before ordinary civilian occupancy is authorized.

Emergency Contact:

To be established through a functioning institution possessing the means to respond.

Failure to Identify a Responsible Authority:

The absence of a designated custodian shall be treated as grounds for further review before unrestricted occupation.

The Board finds that this model provides more useful protective information than the phrase submitted in the original inquiry.

However, its adequacy would depend upon implementation.

A notice cannot substitute for functioning safeguards.

The Board respectfully observes that a warning directing the public to a nonexistent authority is not materially improved by being printed in larger letters.

XXVI. RECONSTRUCTED MUNICIPAL HEARING

An Illustrative Procedural Examination

Evidentiary Status: The following exchange is a fictional administrative reconstruction intended to illustrate the disclosure questions presented. It is not represented as historical testimony.

Participants:

- Presiding Municipal Ethics Officer
- Tristram Building Inspector
- Horadric Custodial Representative
- Clerk of Records
- Representative of Religious Occupancy
- Office of Public Safety Counsel

PRESIDING OFFICER: We are examining the historical use of the premises commonly identified as Tristram Cathedral.

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: The site was established for the protection of Sanctuary.

PRESIDING OFFICER: That purpose is acknowledged. What was contained beneath the building?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: An ancient evil.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Please be more specific.

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: An exceptionally dangerous ancient evil.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Is the danger structural?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: Not principally.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Environmental?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: In a manner of speaking.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Is there a hazardous substance?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: There is a stone.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: What is contained within the stone?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: Diablo.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Diablo who?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: Diablo, Lord of Terror.

The clerk ceases writing.

PRESIDING OFFICER: The record will reflect that the entity has now been identified.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Is he alive?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: The question is metaphysically complicated.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Is he dangerous?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: Extremely.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Can he leave?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: Not while the containment remains effective.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Can he influence anyone outside the stone?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: Under certain conditions.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: What conditions?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: That remains a subject of ongoing historical analysis.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Who monitors those conditions?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: The Horadrim.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Where are they?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: The order has declined.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Who assumed custody?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: That is not presently established.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Who has the maintenance records?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: We believe certain records may have survived.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Where?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: Possibly with a descendant.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Is that descendant responsible for the building?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: Not formally.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Does he have authority to close it?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: Not that we can establish.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Can he repair the containment?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: That is uncertain.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Can he contact the original builders?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: No.

Silence.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Then who is responsible for the Lord of Terror?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: We had considered the original mission complete.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: You considered the mission complete?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: The entity had been imprisoned.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: And he was still there?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: Yes.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: And he remained dangerous?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: Yes.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: And the organization responsible for keeping him imprisoned ceased to function?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: Over time.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: I see.

The inspector turns a page.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Now, concerning the building's conversion to public religious use—

RELIGIOUS REPRESENTATIVE: It became a place of worship.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Was the clergy informed of the hazard?

RELIGIOUS REPRESENTATIVE: That has not been established.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Did the congregation know?

RELIGIOUS REPRESENTATIVE: Apparently not.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Did the king know?

RELIGIOUS REPRESENTATIVE: No evidence presently establishes that he did.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Did anyone know?

CLERK: Deckard Cain.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Was he the designated custodian?

CLERK: No.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Was he the building inspector?

CLERK: No.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Was he the royal engineer?

CLERK: No.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Was he authorized to evacuate the premises?

CLERK: Not that we can establish.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Then his knowledge does not resolve the custodial problem.

PRESIDING OFFICER: Correct.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: What occurred when the Archbishop discovered the stone?

CLERK: He became corrupted by Diablo.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Did he report this?

CLERK: No.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Was there an independent inspection?

CLERK: None established by the record.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: What occurred afterward?

CLERK: The king was corrupted. His son disappeared. The Archbishop led townspeople into the catacombs under a false rescue pretext. Many were killed.

The inspector closes the file.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: I have one remaining question.

PRESIDING OFFICER: Proceed.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: Was this property ever suitable for unrestricted public occupancy?

HORADRIC REPRESENTATIVE: It was safe while the soulstone remained sealed.

BUILDING INSPECTOR: That is not what I asked.

The Presiding Officer allows the silence to remain.

PRESIDING OFFICER: The distinction is entered into the record.

END OF ILLUSTRATIVE HEARING

XXVII. CONSIDERATION OF ANTICIPATED DEFENSES

The Board identifies several arguments that may be advanced concerning the historical circumstances.

A. The Hazard Was Too Dangerous to Disclose

The Board recognizes the danger of unrestricted disclosure.

However, this does not establish that no restricted custodial record or public protective warning could have existed.

The defense is therefore relevant but not conclusive.

B. The Original Site Was Isolated

The Board recognizes that the original containment location was selected before the later development of Tristram.

However, the subsequent growth of the settlement altered the number of persons potentially affected.

The defense does not resolve the question of continuing responsibility.

C. The Soulstone Was Secure for Generations

The Board acknowledges that the containment remained effective for an extended period.

However, historical success does not conclusively establish permanent safety.

The absence of a previous catastrophe is relevant evidence.

It is not a guarantee concerning future conditions.

D. The Horadrim Could Not Have Predicted Lazarus

The Board agrees that the precise conduct of Lazarus may not have been reasonably foreseeable.

Nevertheless, the possibility of unauthorized access or compromised custodians was relevant to an artifact containing a being capable of corruption.

The distinction between a general risk and its precise manifestation remains controlling.

E. Deckard Cain Could Have Warned Everyone

The Board recognizes Cain's knowledge and regret.

However, the feasibility and consequences of public disclosure require examination.

The Board rejects automatic personal culpability based solely upon his failure to announce the soulstone's existence.

The institutional system should not have depended entirely upon one scholar.

F. Diablo Was Directly Responsible

The Board agrees that Diablo bears substantial responsibility for the catastrophe.

However, direct malicious wrongdoing does not automatically establish that every protective arrangement was adequate.

The inquiry concerns separate responsibilities.

G. No Municipal Code Required Disclosure

The Board acknowledges that no applicable historical municipal ordinance has been established.

It therefore enters no finding of violation of such an ordinance.

Nevertheless, the absence of an identified legal rule does not eliminate the ethical significance of foreseeable danger, institutional custody, and public safety.

H. A Cathedral Is Not a Containment Facility

The Board agrees that the ordinary functions of a cathedral differ from those of an extraordinary prison.

That distinction is precisely why the conversion of the premises warrants examination.

The Board respectfully observes that changing a building's religious designation does not alter the identity of the entity imprisoned beneath it.

XXVIII. FINAL PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION

The Sanctuary Ethics Review Board determines that the hypothetical notice:

“Ancient Evil Beneath the Cathedral”

would not constitute adequate municipal disclosure under the ethical framework adopted for this proceeding.

The notice is insufficiently specific to guide protective action.

It fails to distinguish ordinary historical or structural concerns from a catastrophic metaphysical hazard.

It does not provide sufficient information concerning the danger of unauthorized entry, supernatural influence, or containment failure.

It identifies no functioning authority responsible for receiving reports.

And it offers no meaningful procedure through which occupants may respond.

Nevertheless, the Board does not recommend indiscriminate publication of the soulstone's precise location.

The original decision to conceal the artifact possessed legitimate protective justification.

The relevant obligation was to preserve the distinction between information that must remain secret and information that must remain available to those responsible for public safety.

The Board therefore enters the following determinations.

First: The original imprisonment of Diablo was undertaken for a legitimate protective purpose.

Second: The continuing presence of Diablo beneath the premises created an extraordinary hazard requiring enduring safeguards.

Third: The decline of the Horadrim materially complicated the preservation of those safeguards.

Fourth: The subsequent occupation of the premises for royal and religious purposes increased the importance of informed custodial succession.

Fifth: No adequate historical system of institutional disclosure and continuity has been established by the present record.

Sixth: The known malicious actions of Diablo do not eliminate the ethical significance of potential institutional deficiencies.

Seventh: The residents of Tristram possessed legitimate interests in their safety independent of the decisions made by ancient custodians.

Eighth: The Board enters no final finding of personal negligence against particular historical actors without sufficient evidence concerning their knowledge, authority, and reasonably available alternatives.

Ninth: The Board finds that the mere existence of an ancient warning, if one had existed, would not have satisfied the continuing need for functioning custodial responsibility.

Tenth: The Board recommends that comparable extraordinary containment facilities maintain protected records, designated successors, independent reporting mechanisms, and practical public safety procedures.

The Board makes no retrospective claim that modern municipal law governed the original Horadrim.

Its conclusions are ethical and institutional.

The central determination is narrower.

A structure containing a catastrophic danger cannot be regarded as adequately managed merely because the danger remains concealed.

The finding is entered.

XXIX. CONCLUDING OBSERVATION

There is a peculiar tragedy in the history of Tristram.

The town was not founded to defy Heaven.

It was not established as an outpost of the Burning Hells.

Its inhabitants did not gather to determine the outcome of the Eternal Conflict.

They built their lives around a place whose extraordinary history most of them did not know.

They worked.

They traded.

They worshipped.

They raised families.

They sought ordinary peace.

Above them stood an ancient structure.

Beneath it lay a danger older than their community.

The Horadrim had imprisoned that danger for reasons the Board recognizes as legitimate.

Their victory mattered.

It permitted generations to live without confronting the Lord of Terror directly.

The original containment therefore possessed genuine protective value.

But the years passed.

The custodians disappeared.

The monastery deteriorated.

The town grew.

A king arrived.

The building was restored.

Its earlier purpose faded from common knowledge.

And the people who entered it did not necessarily understand what remained beneath their feet.

The Board recognizes that history often proceeds in this manner.

Buildings outlive institutions.

Records disappear.

Responsibilities become uncertain.

One generation inherits the structures created by another without inheriting the knowledge necessary to understand them.

Most such transitions are ordinary.

A forgotten cellar may inconvenience a builder.

An abandoned passage may complicate renovation.

A damaged foundation may require repair.

But the hazard beneath Tristram was not ordinary.

It was not a structural weakness.

It was not an unidentified burial chamber.

It was not merely an ancient story whose details had grown uncertain.

It was the imprisonment of Diablo, Lord of Terror.

And the distinction mattered.

For a community may reasonably tolerate risks that it understands.

It may choose to live near dangerous conditions when adequate safeguards exist.

It may accept restrictions upon property or access in exchange for protection.

But such choices require some meaningful capacity to understand the circumstances.

The inhabitants of Tristram were not afforded that capacity merely by living near the monastery.

They did not acquire the original Horadrim's knowledge through proximity.

They did not become custodians because their homes stood nearby.

And they did not consent to the danger merely because generations had passed without catastrophe.

The Board therefore rejects the proposition that long familiarity with a structure establishes informed acceptance of every hazard concealed within it.

Time may make a place familiar.

It does not necessarily make the place safe.

Nor does the passage of time extinguish the significance of a danger that remains.

The Horadrim built a place intended to protect humanity.

Their successors inherited a place whose protective purpose had become obscure.

The tragedy lay partly in this separation.

The knowledge necessary to maintain the original arrangement did not remain securely connected to those who controlled the premises.

The institution that understood the danger disappeared.

The building did not.

And the danger continued.

This is not merely a problem of architecture.

It is a problem of institutional memory.

An institution may construct something of extraordinary value.

It may protect a population for generations.

Its members may act courageously and competently.

Yet if the protective arrangement depends upon knowledge that disappears with those members, the institution's success may eventually become a source of danger.

The Board does not suggest that all knowledge should be made public.

Indeed, the history of Sanctuary demonstrates that some information may require careful protection.

The location of an imprisoned Prime Evil is not necessarily a matter suitable for unrestricted publication.

There are persons who would seek such knowledge for destructive purposes.

There are institutions that would attempt to exploit it.

And there are ordinary persons who might approach the danger without understanding it.

Secrecy may therefore be legitimate.

But secrecy must have a purpose.

Its purpose must not be confused with the elimination of responsibility.

A secret maintained to protect a population should not become the means by which that population is deprived of every opportunity to respond when protection fails.

The difficulty is not resolved by declaring that the danger must remain hidden.

The institution must also determine from whom it must remain hidden, who must nevertheless know, and what should occur when those arrangements change.

The Board considers this distinction fundamental.

Knowledge may be restricted without being abandoned.

Warnings may be useful without revealing every dangerous detail.

Custodial responsibility may be transferred without disclosing an artifact to the entire public.

And a community may be protected through practical restrictions without requiring every resident to understand the full metaphysical history of the threat.

The failure to develop such distinctions may leave only two possibilities.

Complete secrecy.

Or catastrophic discovery.

The Board rejects the assumption that these are the only available choices.

The history of Tristram also raises a question concerning trust.

The residents trusted their institutions.

They trusted the ordinary meaning of the buildings around them.

They trusted their king.

They trusted their clergy.

They trusted that the places in which they gathered were being maintained for the purposes those places appeared to serve.

Such trust is a necessary feature of ordinary civic life.

No population can independently verify every condition affecting its safety.

Residents cannot reasonably be expected to inspect every foundation.

Families cannot be expected to investigate the metaphysical integrity of every place of worship.

Children cannot be expected to distinguish a trustworthy religious official from one whose mind has been captured by a Prime Evil.

Ordinary life requires reliance upon others.

That reliance creates responsibilities for those who possess knowledge and authority.

The Board therefore considers the corruption of Lazarus particularly significant.

He was not simply an individual who encountered a dangerous artifact.

He occupied an office through which others understood danger, authority, and duty.

His position permitted him to direct townspeople into the catacombs under the pretense of rescuing a missing child.

The victims followed because they believed the purpose legitimate.

They acted within a community whose institutions had become compromised.

Their willingness to enter does not establish informed acceptance of the actual danger.

Their courage did not authorize their deception.

Nor does their failure to recognize the Archbishop's corruption establish that they were responsible for their own deaths.

The Board recognizes their moral agency.

They chose to help.

But that choice was made under circumstances deliberately distorted by a powerful adversary.

The difference matters.

And then there is Prince Albrecht.

A child.

A person whose life was bound to the decisions of adults who preceded him.

He had no role in the original Horadric mission.

He did not determine the location of the soulstone.

He did not establish the monastery.

He did not approve its renovation.

He did not assume custody of its subterranean chambers.

He inherited a world in which those decisions had already been made.

And when the arrangement failed, his body became an instrument of the entity it was intended to restrain.

The Board recognizes the direct responsibility of Diablo for that violation.

It does not suggest that a municipal warning alone could necessarily have prevented it.

But the child's position illuminates why institutional continuity matters.

The people who bear the consequences of a decision are not always the people who made it.

Future generations may inherit benefits from protective measures.

They may also inherit their hazards.

And the ethical responsibility of institutions extends, where reasonably possible, to considering both.

The Board therefore returns to the original question.

Whether *Ancient Evil Beneath the Cathedral* constitutes adequate disclosure.

The phrase is memorable.

It conveys a sense of danger.

It may discourage a curious visitor from opening a particular door.

It may even produce a measure of caution.

But it does not communicate the nature of the hazard sufficiently to guide responsible action.

It does not distinguish a dangerous legend from an active containment system.

It does not establish what should happen when unusual phenomena begin.

It does not identify the authority responsible for protecting the public.

And it does not preserve the knowledge necessary to maintain the original safeguard.

The Board therefore finds the proposed notice insufficient.

Yet the ultimate failure of Tristram cannot be reduced to inadequate wording.

The problem was not merely that the people had not been given a better sign.

It was that the institution capable of explaining the sign had disappeared.

The knowledge remained fragmented.

The custody remained uncertain.

The building remained occupied.

And the danger remained.

The Board does not demand that every future society preserve every institution indefinitely.

Such a requirement would be impossible.

It does demand that institutions distinguish between responsibilities that genuinely end and responsibilities that survive their original members.

An organization may dissolve.

Its obligations may require transfer.

A building may change purpose.

Its hazards may require reconsideration.

A secret may remain protected.

Its custodians must nevertheless remain capable of recognizing why it matters.

And a population may continue to live beside a danger.

But the adequacy of its protection cannot be established solely by the fact that the danger has not yet escaped.

The Board recognizes that the Horadrim saved Sanctuary.

Their original accomplishment was extraordinary.

It recognizes that the people of Tristram benefited from a period of peace.

That peace mattered.

It recognizes that the later catastrophe was deliberately caused by Diablo.

His responsibility is substantial.

But the Board also recognizes the difference between a community protected by a functioning institution and a community protected only by the hope that an abandoned institution's final arrangements will continue to hold.

The two conditions may appear identical for many years.

The buildings remain.

The streets remain quiet.

Children play.

Shops open.

People worship.

Nothing happens.

Until something does.

And when it does, the question of who knew, who could have acted, and what arrangements remained becomes more than an administrative detail.

It becomes part of the history of the people who suffered.

For those people were not incidental to the mission of the Horadrim.

They were among the persons the mission existed to protect.

The Board therefore refuses to regard their deaths merely as evidence that Diablo was dangerous.

That fact was already known.

Their deaths also illuminate the consequences of knowledge that failed to become enduring institutional responsibility.

The Board recognizes that no procedure can guarantee protection against a Prime Evil.

No archive is infallible.

No warning can eliminate every danger.

No inspection can ensure that an extraordinary adversary will never succeed.

But the impossibility of perfect protection does not establish the uselessness of reasonable protection.

The Board therefore recommends neither indiscriminate disclosure nor permanent silence.

It recommends the preservation of necessary knowledge.

The identification of responsible custodians.

The recognition of changing conditions.

The capacity to question assurances.

And the protection of ordinary persons whose lives may be affected by extraordinary decisions they never made.

The Board enters its final observations.

A secret may be necessary.

Its necessary secrecy does not eliminate the responsibility to preserve it safely.

A building may be ancient.

Its age does not establish its continued suitability for every use.

An institution may have completed its original mission.

It does not follow that every consequence of that mission has ended.

A community may have lived in peace for generations.

Peace is not proof that an unexamined danger has disappeared.

And a town may trust the institutions around it.

That trust must not become the means by which the town is left without protection when those institutions fail.

The people of Tristram did not need to understand the Eternal Conflict.

They did not need to know the names of every Prime Evil.

They did not need access to the secret chambers of the Horadrim.

They did not need the technical specifications of the soulstone.

But they were entitled to more than a silence so complete that the only meaningful warning arrived with the catastrophe itself.

The Board recognizes the wisdom of concealing Diablo from those who would seek to free him.

It does not recognize the disappearance of everyone responsible for containing him as an acceptable continuation of that wisdom.

And finally:

A town is not adequately informed because one scholar knows.

A cathedral is not adequately protected because its foundations remain standing.

A child is not adequately safeguarded because an archbishop holds office.

And an ancient evil is not made less dangerous by the absence of a person currently assigned to acknowledge it.

The historical record remains open.

XXX. DISPOSITION

The Sanctuary Ethics Review Board enters a final preliminary determination concerning the adequacy of the hypothetical municipal disclosure submitted in SERB-MUN-001.

The proposed notice is found insufficient under the Board's ethical safety framework.

The Board does not determine that any historical municipal ordinance was violated.

It does not assign individual liability without further evidence.

It does not require unrestricted publication of sensitive containment information.

It does recognize the need for enduring custodial responsibility where dangerous artifacts remain in place after their original institutions decline.

The Board further recommends that future extraordinary containment arrangements distinguish among public protective information, restricted custodial records, and emergency technical documentation.

No order requiring entry into the historical Tristram containment site is entered.

No occupancy authorization is retrospectively issued.

The Board recognizes that the historical catastrophe has already occurred.

The present determination concerns institutional responsibility, the preservation of knowledge, and the prevention of comparable failures.

So entered.

Sanctuary Ethics Review Board
Office of Municipal Safety and Extraordinary Premises Hazards
Division of Historical Occupancy, Custodial Succession, and Catastrophic Disclosure

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ADMINISTRATIVE ADDENDUM A

Regarding the Description of the Premises

The Office of Records has received several descriptions of the structure under review.

These include:

- Horadric Monastery
- Ancient Monastery
- Tristram Cathedral
- Royal Residence

- Religious Facility
- Site of Infernal Containment

The Office acknowledges that the descriptions refer to different historical functions or aspects of the premises.

However, the existence of several descriptions does not establish that the underlying hazard disappeared between changes of use.

The Office therefore requests that future property records identify both the current use and any continuing extraordinary condition.

The Board respectfully observes that renaming a monastery does not relocate the entity imprisoned beneath it.

ADMINISTRATIVE ADDENDUM B

Regarding the Occupancy Classification

The Office of Municipal Safety has considered whether the premises should be classified solely as a religious assembly facility.

The Office recognizes that the structure was employed for religious purposes.

However, the historical presence of a soulstone containing Diablo materially affected the risk associated with occupation.

The Office therefore proposes a supplemental hazard designation.

RELIGIOUS ASSEMBLY — HISTORICAL EXTRAORDINARY CONTAINMENT SITE

The classification is illustrative and does not represent an actual historical Tristram building-code category.

The Office recommends that comparable sites identify extraordinary hazards without implying that ordinary religious occupancy standards alone address those hazards.

The Board respectfully notes that a building may be suitable for prayer without being suitable for the unsupervised custody of a Prime Evil.

ADMINISTRATIVE ADDENDUM C

Regarding the Basement

The Office of Structural Review has received a description of the lower levels as a basement.

The Office acknowledges that portions of the complex are located beneath the principal occupied structure.

Nevertheless, the historical record describes an extensive network of catacombs and subterranean chambers.

The Office therefore finds the term *basement* potentially insufficient when employed without qualification.

The relevant spaces were not merely ordinary storage rooms beneath a building.

They formed part of a complex associated with Horadric burial and extraordinary containment.

The Office respectfully requests that the phrase "minor basement issue" not be used to describe the presence of Diablo, Lord of Terror.

The proposed classification is not sustained.

ADMINISTRATIVE ADDENDUM D

Regarding Religious Assurance

The Office of Institutional Integrity has received an argument that the sacred character of the premises provided adequate protection.

The Office acknowledges that religious institutions may maintain meaningful spiritual practices and protective traditions.

However, the historical record establishes that the senior religious official associated with the site became corrupted by the entity beneath it.

Accordingly, religious status alone cannot be treated as conclusive evidence of containment integrity.

The respondent is invited to identify specific protective measures.

The Board recognizes that the building was consecrated.

It does not recognize consecration as an inspection report.

ADMINISTRATIVE ADDENDUM E

Regarding the Royal Renovation

The Office of Historical Construction has reviewed the renovation of the ancient monastery under King Leoric.

The Office acknowledges the legitimacy of restoring a deteriorating structure.

Nevertheless, the historical transformation of the premises raises questions concerning the treatment of inaccessible or unexplained subterranean areas.

The Office requests any surviving architectural records.

It further requests identification of whether the renovations affected passages, barriers, or structural elements associated with the original containment.

No finding of improper construction is entered without evidence.

The Office respectfully observes that a successful renovation of the upper floors does not establish that the lower levels have ceased to contain the Lord of Terror.

ADMINISTRATIVE ADDENDUM F

Regarding the Continuing Availability of Deckard Cain

The Office of Records has reviewed references identifying Deckard Cain as the surviving holder of specialized Horadric knowledge.

The Office recognizes his importance.

Nevertheless, the Office has been unable to establish that he occupied a position granting authority over the cathedral, its custodians, or the royal administration.

Accordingly, the Board declines to treat his knowledge as proof that a functioning institutional safety system existed.

The Office further recognizes that a person may experience sincere regret concerning an event without being legally or ethically responsible for every consequence.

The Board respectfully advises that "Deckard Cain knows" does not constitute a complete emergency response plan.

The statement may be entered as a useful contact reference.

It is not sufficient as the sole custodial arrangement.

ADMINISTRATIVE ADDENDUM G

Regarding the Rescue Expedition

The Office of Emergency Operations has reviewed the historical expedition organized by Archbishop Lazarus.

The expedition was presented as an effort to rescue Prince Albrecht.

Participants were led into the catacombs.

Many were killed.

The Board recognizes that emergency rescue may justify substantial personal risk.

However, the persons undertaking such risk require information reasonably necessary to evaluate the mission.

The Office further recognizes that the expedition was directed by an official whose judgment had been compromised through infernal influence.

This circumstance materially affects the validity of his assurances.

The Board therefore recommends that extraordinary containment facilities provide an independent means of evaluating proposed rescue operations where the official directing the operation may be affected by the hazard.

The Office respectfully observes that the instruction "follow the Archbishop into the catacombs" was not, under the circumstances, an adequate rescue protocol.

ADMINISTRATIVE ADDENDUM H

Regarding the Butcher

The Office of Premises Safety has received information concerning the entity commonly identified as the Butcher.

The historical record associates the entity with the deaths of persons entering the cathedral's lower levels.

The Office acknowledges the extraordinary danger.

Nevertheless, the presence of an additional hostile entity does not eliminate the separate question concerning the original containment.

The Board therefore distinguishes between the hazards associated with the imprisoned Lord of Terror and those arising from subordinate infernal entities.

Both may require consideration.

The Office respectfully advises that the presence of a hostile butcher within the catacombs should not be treated as an ordinary consequence of maintaining a religious premises.

The hazard is entered separately.

ADMINISTRATIVE ADDENDUM I

Regarding the Nature of the Hazard

The Office of Records has received a proposed classification identifying the condition beneath the cathedral as a supernatural nuisance.

The Office acknowledges that supernatural phenomena may vary substantially in severity.

Some may create inconvenience.

Others may present serious danger.

The historical condition under review involved the confinement of Diablo, Lord of Terror, and the possibility of catastrophic release.

The Board therefore considers the proposed classification insufficient.

The Office respectfully requests that the respondent distinguish between a nuisance and a Prime Evil.

The distinction is material.

ADMINISTRATIVE ADDENDUM J

Regarding the Transfer of Property

The Office of Historical Property Review has received an inquiry concerning whether the original Horadrim transferred ownership of the monastery to subsequent occupants.

The available record does not conclusively establish the terms of any such transfer.

The Board therefore enters no determination concerning title.

However, the question of ownership does not entirely resolve the question of custodial responsibility.

An institution may assume control over premises without acquiring knowledge of every concealed condition.

Conversely, an institution may retain knowledge of a hazard after losing control over the property.

The Office therefore requests that future submissions distinguish ownership from technical custody.

The Board respectfully observes that a deed to a cathedral would not, without additional evidence, establish ownership of the Lord of Terror imprisoned beneath it.

No finding of infernal conveyance is entered.

ADMINISTRATIVE ADDENDUM K

Regarding the Continued Use of the Premises

The Office of Municipal Safety has received a preliminary argument that the premises remained suitable for occupation because the soulstone had not failed during previous generations.

The Office acknowledges the historical period of successful confinement.

Nevertheless, continued occupancy requires consideration of present conditions.

The absence of an earlier breach does not establish that all future breaches are impossible.

Nor does long-term stability eliminate the need for competent maintenance.

The Board recognizes that Diablo remained imprisoned for an extended period.

It does not recognize this as evidence that Diablo had resigned.

The argument is not sustained.

ADMINISTRATIVE ADDENDUM L

Regarding Emergency Contact Information

The Office of Institutional Continuity has reviewed a proposed notice directing occupants to contact the Horadrim in the event of containment failure.

The Office acknowledges that the Horadrim originally possessed relevant expertise.

However, the historical order had largely disappeared by the period under review.

The Office therefore considers the proposed contact instruction operationally deficient unless accompanied by a functioning successor arrangement.

The Board recommends identification of an available authority possessing the relevant knowledge and capacity to respond.

The Office respectfully observes that an emergency contact is of limited value when the named institution has not been operational for several generations.

ADMINISTRATIVE ADDENDUM M

Regarding the Relationship to SERB-008

The Office of Records has received a request to consolidate the present proceeding with the investigation concerning the Cathedral of Light founded by Inarius.

The Office acknowledges that both proceedings involve religious institutions and extraordinary authority.

Nevertheless, the historical premises at Tristram are distinct from the organization examined in SERB-008.

The present case concerns the Horadric containment site and its subsequent royal and Zakarum-associated use.

SERB-008 concerns the Cathedral of Light and the exercise of religious authority under Inarius.

The matters shall remain separately docketed.

The Board respectfully requests that the existence of multiple cathedrals associated with extraordinary institutional failures not be treated as evidence that they constitute a single responsible organization.

The consolidation request is denied.

ADMINISTRATIVE ADDENDUM N

Regarding the Proposed Corrective Action

The Office of Municipal Safety has reviewed a proposal to remedy future extraordinary hazards by posting the following notice:

DO NOT DISTURB.

The Office recognizes the administrative efficiency of concise warnings.

Nevertheless, the notice does not establish what must not be disturbed, why disturbance is dangerous, or whom affected persons should notify.

The Office therefore considers the proposal insufficient.

A warning may be brief.

It must nevertheless be meaningful.

The Board respectfully observes that "Do Not Disturb" may be appropriate for an occupied guest room.

It is not, standing alone, an adequate containment policy for Diablo.

FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICE

SERB-MUN-001 — DETERMINATION CONCERNING MUNICIPAL DISCLOSURE

The Sanctuary Ethics Review Board has completed its preliminary determination concerning the adequacy of a proposed warning for the historical Tristram Cathedral premises.

The Board recognizes that the original Horadrim imprisonment of Diablo served a legitimate protective purpose.

It further recognizes that unrestricted publication of the soulstone's precise location could have created substantial danger.

Nevertheless, the passage of generations, decline of the custodial institution, and subsequent public occupation of the premises required consideration of continuing responsibility.

The Board therefore finds that the hypothetical statement:

ANCIENT EVIL BENEATH THE CATHEDRAL

would not, standing alone, provide sufficient information for responsible municipal or institutional safety management.

The phrase does not identify an appropriate protective response.

It does not establish a functioning reporting authority.

It does not distinguish an ordinary historical hazard from a catastrophic infernal containment.

And it does not provide a means of preserving the knowledge required to maintain the original safeguard.

The Board enters no retrospective violation of an unidentified historical ordinance.

It enters no unsupported finding of personal negligence.

Its determination concerns the continuing responsibilities associated with extraordinary hazards.

For avoidance of doubt, the Board acknowledges that the premises historically contained Diablo, Lord of Terror.

The identity of the entity is established.

Its extraordinary danger is established.

Its eventual corruptive influence is established.

The catastrophic consequences of containment failure are established.

The Board therefore requests that any future description of a comparable hazard distinguish the seriousness of the condition from the ordinary language of architectural or historical interest.

The Office recognizes that the cathedral was ancient.

The Office recognizes that an evil was beneath it.

The Office does not recognize those two facts, without additional information, as an adequate municipal disclosure.

The determination is entered.

No further explanation concerning the general unpleasantness of the premises is required.

The question was never whether the cathedral was ominous.

The question was whether anyone responsible for the people living around it knew what to do when the danger ceased to remain contained.

END OF SERB-MUN-001

HISTORICAL SOURCE AND METHOD NOTE

The principal fictional-world historical foundation for this inquiry is drawn from Blizzard Entertainment's published Diablo lore, including:

- *Diablo*, original game manual, particularly the accounts concerning the Horadrim, the original monastery, the soulstones, and the fall of King Leoric.
- *Diablo II*, historical material attributed to Deckard Cain concerning the awakening of Diablo and the destruction of Tristram.
- Blizzard Entertainment, *Diablo II: The Story So Far*, concerning the capture of the Prime Evils, the decline of the Horadrim, the corruption of Lazarus, and the events surrounding Prince Albrecht.

The Board distinguishes established narrative events from invented administrative proceedings, hypothetical warnings, illustrative testimony, and ethical analysis.

Where historical sources differ concerning the precise mechanics of the soulstone's compromise, the Board does not claim certainty beyond the facts necessary for the present determination.

No contemporary municipal building code is retroactively attributed to Tristram.

The institutional standards proposed in this proceeding are fictional analytical devices.

They are not represented as historical legal requirements.

The purpose of the inquiry is to examine the relationship between secrecy, public safety, institutional responsibility, and the ordinary people affected by extraordinary decisions.

The record remains open.

END OF MUNICIPAL REVIEW

Case: SERB-MUN-001
Disposition: Hypothetical Notice Found Insufficient
Historical Liability: Reserved
Custodial Succession: Further Investigation Recommended
Public Safety Framework: Proposed
Immediate Remediation: Not Applicable to the Historical Catastrophe

Office of Municipal Safety and Extraordinary Premises Hazards

Sanctuary Ethics Review Board

Administrative filing complete.

The Office of Records has closed the file.

The Office of Municipal Safety has requested that it remain accessible.

The Office of Extraordinary Containment has asked whether anyone checked the lower levels.

The Board has advised against doing so without a qualified custodian.