## Abuse/Church kept transferring priest

From page 1

public file obtained Monday by The Journal. Those briefs give a summary of what the de-positions contain.

#### 29 REPORTS OF ABUSE

29 Reports of Abbae

For the first time, the records give an indication of the scope of the problem of pedophile priests. According to Elliott's brief, there were 29 reports of sexual abuse of children by priests between the time Archibishop Rembert Weakland arrived in Milarrived in Milwaukee in 1977 and Sep-tember 1992.



It is unclear how many of those complaints were filed by multiple victims accusing a sin-

multiple victims accusing a single priest.

The archdincese does not have a policy regarding child sexual abuse, and it has never conducted a program to educate teachers and administrators of their obligation to report suspected cases of sexual abuse of children, Elliott said.

According to Elliott's briefs, archdiocesan officials who gave testimony in depositions vaid they all believed the complaints that Effinger had sexually abused children.

children.

The court briefs give this summary of Effinger's history and how the archdiocese handled complaints against the

priest:
Effinger had a poor scholastic record in the seminary, finishing 32nd of 34 students. His disciplinary record was only fair, and his personality was regarded as "a bit odd and sensitive."

"a bit odd and sensitive.

The general assessment of him was that he was "slow to catch on and yet needs someone who can keep him busy."

Weakland testified in court documents that Effinger's seninary record was so bad that he boared, candi.



Reconstant In 1961, he became chaplain for Scouting organizations in Kenosha County, and in 1966 he was the director for the county's

Catholic Youth Organization.

It was unclear from Elliott's brief exactly when the first alkebrief exactly when the tirst alre-gations were made against Effin-ger. One of the alleged victims, who filed his lawsuit under an alias, said he went to the princi-pal at St. Mary's elementary school to report that he and his brothers and aisters were being objected by the priest. abused by the priest.

#### COUNSELING PROVIDED

In 1979, a couple from St. In 1979, a couple from St. Frencis de Sales parish in Lake Geneva, where Elfinger was next assigned, wrote Weakland and said their son had been abused on Easter Sunday. Weakland sent Effinger to a Miswauke therapist, Leo Graham, for councilion

seling.

Before receiving the report from Genham, Weakland as-

signed Effinger to St. Peter of Alcantara, a parish in Port Washington, Later in 1979, he moved to Holy Name in Sheboy-

Graham's report said that at-though he did not think Effinger was primarily homosexuel or per-dophiliac, he was worned that alcohol might present Effinger with problems in the future.

"Someone of significant ecclesinstical statute ought to chew him out royally." Graham was quoted as saying.

Effinger testified that no one monitored or supervised hiseos-tact with children while at Hoty Name. Although Weakland talked to him about one of the sexual abose complaints, Effin-ger was not "chewed out royal-ly," according to court records.

#### INFORMATION WITHHELD

Weakland, according to ill-liott's brief, "deliberately and purposefully" withheld laterma-tion about Effinger's problems from the paster and others at Hely Name.

"Archbishop Weakland con-cedes that this would have been of grave concern to any parish, and there was serious probability that had Archbishop Weakland made his disclosures, Effinger probably would have been limited or unable to function in the parish," Elliott says in his brief,

Father James Hess, a piect who served with Efflinger from 1981 until 1987 at Holy Narge, in Sheboygan, said he would not have accepted Effinger's assignment had he known of the 4cqual abuse complaints.

In court records, Hess said he complained to now-retired Aux-iliary Bishop Leo Brust several times that Effinger became intoxicated and then used foul lan-

Father Joseph Janicki, an archdiocesan official from 1981 through 1985, said it was not the archdiocese's policy to tell a parish of a priest's drug or alcohol roblems. problems.

Janicki testified that in 1983 he talked to Effinger about the problem, but made no inquiries to prevent abuse.

Janicki also testified that he was aware that Effinger Jook boys to a cottage up north and that Weskland had been told in writing about the trip.

Around this time, Effinger was sent to Anthony Gillette, a Wausen psychologist, for evaluation. He reported to the arcfificate that Effinger admitted that he had had sexual contact with a number of youths over the years.

After Scott Roeder, 37, of Sheboygan, one of Effinger's alleged victims, came forward in late September 1992, the arcfidiocese considered sending Effinger to the Guest House in Richester, Minn., for inpatient treat ester, Minn., for inpatient freat-

ester, Minn., for inpatient freatment.

Father Thomas Venne, another diocesan official, said that because Effinger had served Holy Name for 12 years, parishioners would simply be teld that his term had expired.

"Venne testified that had there been no media publication of Roeder's complaint, Holy Name Parisa would not have been told the true reason the archdiocese removed Effinger." Ellion said in his briefs.

## Timeliness of complaints is left for jury to decide

A jury will have to determine whether five adults who say they were sexually abused as children by Father William Effinger acted quickly enough, Milwaukee County Greutt-Judge Frank T. Crivello has ruled.

In pretrial motions Monday, tawyers for Effinger and the church argued that four men and a woman who have sought civil damages for the alleged abuse knew of the wrongfulness of the sexual acts with the priests and they did not act before the statute of limitations to file such complaints expired. complaints expired.

The issue is a crucial one for those attempting to xeek dam-ages for abuse they experienced as children, often years in the past. The inability of the state to prosecute those accused of such misconduct and the difficulty of seeking civil damages has creat-ed a public debate and prompted and legislator to seek an elimina-tion of the statute of limitations

in such cases.
On another issue, Crivello ruled that it is not a violation of the First Amendment protection of free exercise of religion for a

court to determine whether the church properly supervised Ef-

Church property supervised Effinger.

The state Crivello said, expnot determine whether: the church supervision was appropriate on sacred matters. supply as prayer life, but said it could dvalute handle supply see the said it could dvalute handle said it could dvalute handle said it.

prayer life, but sold it could dval-uate how well a priest was super-vised in his daily dealings with purishioners.

A number of civil lawaritis have been brought regarding Ef-finger, 60, who is now serving a 10-year prison settence for the second-degree sexual assault of a 14-year-old Shebaygan boy in 1988.

Soul Roeder and New Leab

Scott Roeder and Neal February are two of the people who have filed civil lawsuits against Effinger, the Milwaukee Archdiocese and their former parishes, Roeder, 37, allegedly was abused in the 1960, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Kenosha, Februarden, 25, says Effinger tried to molest him in 1984 at his parents home in Schoboygan.

1989 at his parents none.
Two men and a woman who
have cases pending before Crivello have filed their lawsuits under aliases.

- Marie Rohile

JOURSAL.

11/9/93

## Officials believed priest abused kids but kept quiet, records say

By MARIE ROHDE 01993 The Mineuleo Journal

Time after sime, officials of the Milwankee Catholic Archdiocese were made aware of "believable allegations" that Father William Effinger had seauelly abused children and had a drinking problem.
But the troubled priest was moved quietly from
purish to parish without anyone being warned of
the allegations or of any harm he might cause.
Indeed, if there had been no publicity of a
complaint filed by Scott Reeder, no one would
have learned the frue reason for his removal from
his last parish, according to testimony quoted, in
court documents made public at a reperter's request.

quest. Effinger, 60 is serving a 10-year pristm sentence

No sexually abusing a 14-year-old boy at Holy Name Catholic Church in Sheboxgan, the last parish where Effinger served.

He, the archdiocese and the parishes where Effinger served are also being sued in civil court by a number of men and women who claim they were victimized by the priest when they were children.

Lassanits brought by five of those alleged victims are pending before Milwaukee County Circuit Judge Frank T. Crivello, At the request of defense lawyers, Crivello has ordered that testimony taken in pretrial depositions from several top local church officials not be made public.

However, briefs filed by Rubben Ellioft, a lawyer representing the alleged victims, are part of the

Please see Abuso page 8

(over)

# Sheboygan priest in treatment after allegation of sex abuse

By MARIE ROHDE Journal religion reporter

A Roman Catholic priest who was removed as pastor of a Sheboygan parish because of allegations that he sexually abused a youth 23 years ago was immediately placed in a treatment program, according to a Milwaukee Archdiocese spokesman.

However, the spokesman could not say why archdiocesan leaders allowed Father William J. Effinger to continue as pastor of Holy Name Catholic Church for several weeks after they were aware of the complaint and Effinger announced he was resigning for personal reasons. Effinger has been at the parish for about 13 years.

Archbishop Rembert Weakland said he personally would respond to any inquiries from the media regarding the situation. Weakland first went to Holy Name Catholic Church in Sheboygan, where he met with parish employes, school

staff, parishioners and others regarding the allegations made public by the alleged victim on WISN-TV (Channel 12).

Sexual abuse of children by Catholic priests and allegations that the church has not reacted appropriately to such charges have rocked the church in recent years. A number of civil and criminal lawsuits have been filed in Milwaukee and other dioceses.

Last month, Weakland told priests who gathered for a closed-door meeting that any priest who was accused of sexual misconduct would not receive a pastoral assignment. Three priests who have been accused of such conduct are currently assigned to routine clerical work.

Several years ago, Weakland wrote that he could not force a man to resign from the priesthood.

The man who accused Effinger said the sexual abuse happened 23 years ago in Kenosha. The man, now in his 30s, has since married

and moved to Sheboygan, where two of his children attend Holy Name elementary school. He said he did not report the incident until learning that Effinger was the parish pastor. He said he feared other children, including his own could be abused by the priest.

Channel 12 played a taped conversation the man allegedly had with the priest and one of its reporters also interviewed the priest, who did not deny the man's allega-

Channel 12 also broadcast comments from a young woman who alleged that It linger fondled her breasts and approached her two younger brothers. Channel 12 News Director Fred D'Ambrosi said the woman was a minorat the time of the incident.

Police said no complaints had been filed against the priest.

Neither the man nor the young woman were named, and—their faces were electronically disguised on camera.

## Milwaukee

## THE JOURNAL

Wednesday, October 28, 1992 -- Latest Edition III



ARCHBISHOP REMBERT WEAKLAND duestions a judgment call.

## Weakland rethinks his decision on priest

Church's reaction to reports of sex abuse has evolved, archbishop says

By MARIE ROHDE ©1992. The Milwaukee Journal

When Archbishop Rembert Weakland learned of allegations that a priest was sexually abusing a young boy 14 years ago, he followed the advice of psychologists and let him continue pastoral work.

But in a remarkably candid interview with The Journal on Tuesday, Weakland acknowledged that despite assurances that the priest could continue parish work, his decision "may have been a bad judgment call."

Weakland said that if he heard of a priest abusing a child today, he would call the police. Weakland talked about the

roblems of the priest, Father William J. Effinger, who stepped down Sunday as pastor of Sheboygan's Holy Name Catholic Church after admitting to new charges that he sexually abused another boy, who was 13, 23 years 2go. He also discussed how the church had dealt with such accusations in the past and how American bishops were now wrestling with the problem.

Weakland's candor was an

abrupt departure from the unwritten archdiocesan policy of making only the most minimal public statements when a priest is accused of any misconduct, especially sexual misconduct. Generally, priests resign for "personal reasons," and parishioners learn of events through news accounts.

The man who said he was abused by Effinger recently contacted the archdiocese and WISN-TV (Channel 12). He gave to the television station a tape recording of a conversation in which the priest acknowledged the abused and also said he had abused one other child years ago.

Of the accusation against Effin-

ger made about 14 years ago, Weakland said:

"The family came to see me but they didn't want to press charges. I sent him [Effinger] for psychological evaluation and would not reassign him until a psychiatrist fold me he was well enough to handle it."

In those days. Weakland said, sexual abuse of children was not taken as seriously as it is today.

"Psychologists didn't understand the implications of sexual abuse on children," he said. "It was believed that children were not fully developed pyscho-sexually and that the abuse would have no lasting impact." Weakland said he was assured a year later that Effinger could be assigned to another parsh. With the reassignment, Weakland said he required Effinger to submit to battery of psychological tests every two years — a move that was beyond what was generally recommended at the time by psychological authorities.

"That may have been a bad judgment call, but 1 thought I was doing more than was being recommended," Wealdand said. "Even with the tests, I was getting worried about him recently because of his excessive drinking. His drinking

Please see Weakland page 17

Catholic Church

MILW. JOUENAL 10/36/92

## Sheboygan priest on leave after claim of sex abuse

Effinger admits to incident that man says occurred 20 years ago

By MARIE ROHDE Journal religion reporter

Father William J. Effinger, pastor of Holy Name Catholic Church in Sheboygan, has been placed on administrative leave after a man complained that the priest abused him when he was a child more than 20 years ago while at another

The man, who is now married and has children attending Holy Name's elementary school, said he was abused by Effinger in Kenosha when he was 13. He told no one of the incident until he learned that Effinger was at Holy Name. The man said he was concerned that other children, including his own, could be molested by the priest.

On Friday, Effinger was interviewed by reporter Angie Moreschi of WISN-TV (Channel 12). He acknowledged in a report aired Sun-day that he had sexual contact with

the alleged victim.

The archdiocese had no com-ment on the allegations but con-firmed that Effinger had been ofaced on administrative leave, a move that took many in the parish

by surprise.
Archbishop Rembert Weakland, Chancellor Ralph Gross and others chancelor kapp Oros and others were meeting Monday and a state-ment could be released later, ac-cording to Father Leonard Van Vlaeuderen, Weakland's secretary. Efforts to reach Effinger for

comment Monday were unsuccess-

In the Channel 12 report Sunday night, the man said he decided to go public with the altegations after he took them to the Milwaukee Catholic Archdiocese and was told that the priest would be re-moved within a month, according to Fred D'Ambrosi, the WISW news director.

D'Ambrosi said the Sunday segment, which ran about seven minutes, was the first of a series on the

The man, whose image was at tered electronically by Channel 12, said by was working as a bus boy in a Kenosha restaurant when he met the priest. The man was a Catholic and knew that Effinger was it priest, although he did not attend Effinger's parish.

INCIDENT DESCRIBED

Estinger came to the restaurant where the alleged victim worked, had a beer and then offered to give the boy a ride home, the man said in the Channel 12 interview, Instend, he drave the boy to an area that is now the Rong Recreation Center and performed oral sex on the boy. He then drove the boy

The incident never was reported

to anyone, the man said.

The man, wearing a concealed tape recorder, recently confronted Effinger and Effinger acknowledged the incident had occurred. In response to the man's questions, be said there had been one other youth with whom he had been sexually involved.

The man said he had been inter-

viewed by a psychologist sont by the archdiocese who, determined that his complaint could be credi-The man then was told the priest would be reassigned within a

month.

Although police sources said there have been rumors that Effin-ger was being investigated by other police jurisdictions, Valerie Black, the school principal, said she and others were unaware of the allegations until viewing the Channel 12 report Sunday night.

Black said Effinger, who has been at the parish for 13 years, is well-liked and respected in the parish. Although the priest had little contact with the students in the school, a group of counselors were scheduled to come to the school Monday morning to work with the students, she said.

Another priest. Father Peter Burns, was convicted in April of second-degree sexual assault of a 13-year-old boy, an incident that occurred in the rectory of unother Sheboygan Catholic church, St. Pcter Clayer.

Originally, he had been charged with three counts of second-degree sexual assault, but that was reduced to a single count as part of a plea bargain. He was sentenced to nine months in jail and 10 years of probation. He now is working in the Milwaukee Catholic archdiocesan chancery:

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The Rev. William J. Effinger

Shorewood, Wisconsin

Dear Father Effinger:

This letter is to inform you that you are herewith appointed Assistant at St. Mary's Parish, Kenosha, effective Thursday, July 7, 1960. You will kindly report on that date to the pastor. Father Raymond Leng.

Under separate cover you will receive a signed copy of the Faculties of the Archdiocese.

May I again assure you that you are always most welcome to discuss any of your problems with me.

With the warmest of personal regards and wishing you God's choicest blessings in your priestly work, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Archbishop of Milwaukee



The Rev. William J. Effinger

Kenosha, Wisconsin

Dear Father Effinger:

At the request of Father Verhalen, divisional Spiritual Director for the area, and Father Knoernschild, the Archdiocesan Scout Chaplain, I am asking you to serve as Scout Chaplain for Division 6 which embraces the Kenosha area.

Your interest in the work prompts me to second the choice of the above-mentioned priests and I wish you every spiritual joy in your discharge of the attendant duties.

With warm personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,



#### August 28, 1963

The Reverend William Effinger
St. Mary's Parish

Kenosha, Wisconsin

Dear Father Effinger:

I hereby appoint you an Instructor of Religion at St. Joseph's High School, Kenosha, for the coming scholastic year,

Please report to Father L. A. Darnieder, principal of St. Joseph's High School, as soon as possible.

With warm personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,



#### February 13, 1964

The Rev. William Effinger

Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140

Dear Father Effinger:

At the recommendation of Father James Doheny and because I am aware of your interest in Vocations, I am appointing you as an Associate Director for our Program. I am confident that your zeal and dedication will find modes of expression that will be of great help in this very important field.

You are asked to attend a meeting to be held in the basement hall of the Cathedral Rectory at 2:00 on the afternoon of Wednesday, February 19th. At this time your duties will be more clearly defined.

Looking forward to the privilege of greating you personally at this meeting, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,



#### August 29, 1964

The Reverend William J. Effinger St. Mary's Parish

Kenosha, Wisconsin

Dear Father Effinger:

I hereby appoint you an Instructor of Religion at St. Joseph's High School, Kenosha, for the coming scholastic year.

Please report to Father L. A. Darnieder, Principal of St. Joseph's High School, as soon as possible.

With warm personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,



#### September 7, 1965

The Reverend William J. Effinger St. Mary's Parish

Kenosha, Wisconsin 5:

53140

#### Dear Father Effinger:

I hereby appoint you a Fart-time Instructor of Religion at St. Joseph's High School, Kenosha, for the coming scholastic year.

Flease report to Father Leslie A. Darnieder, Principal of St. Joseph's High School, as soon as possible.

With warm personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,



July 29, 1966

The Reverend William J. Effinger Assistant, St. Mary Parish

Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140

Dear Father Effinger:

I hereby appoint you to act as District Director for the Catholic Youth Organization of District Six (Kenosha County). This appointment is to take effect immediately.

You may contact Father John Endejan at the Catholic Youth Office for further information as to what your duties will be.

Good luck, and God's blessing in your work.

Sincerely yours in Christ,





The Most Reverend William E. Cousins, D.D. Archbishop of Milwaukee 2000 W. Wisconsin Ave. Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Most Reverend and Dear Archbishop,

After due consideration of the entire situation, and with the approval of Father Raymond G. Leng, pastor of St. Mary's, I bopefully request that, when the transfer of assistants is considered, my name will be passed over. I am very happy here and feel that I am doing my work here.

Again, hopefully and obediently, Yours in Christ,

(Rev.) William J. Effinger

May 16, 1972

Reverend William J. Effinger / St. Mary Parish

Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140

Dear Father Effinger:

Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board regarding your assignment, I herewith transfer you from your present position as Associate Pastor at St. Mary parish, Kenosha, and appoint you Associate Pastor at St. Aloysius parish, West Allis, effective June 13, 1972. You will kindly report on that date to the Pastor, Monsignor Oscar P. Winninghoff.

With the warmest of personal regards and wishing you God's choicest blessings, I am

Fraternally Yours in Christ,

July 18, 1973

Reverend William J. Effinger V St. Aloysius Parish

West Allis, Wisconsin 53214

Dear Father Effinger:

Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board regarding your assignment, I herewith transfer you from your present position as Associate Pastor at St. Aloysius parish, West Allis, and appoint you Associate Pastor at St. Francis de Sales parish, Lake Geneva, effective July 27, 1973. You will kindly report on that date to the Pastor, Father Joseph H. Mueller.

With the warmest of personal regards and wishing you God's choicest blessings, I am

Fraternally Yours in Christ,

The Reverend William J. Effinger St. Mary's Church

Pashtigo, Wisconsin 54157

Dear Father Effinger:

Following the recommendation of the Priests' Personnel Board, His Excellency, the Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B., herewith appoints you temporary administrator of St. Peter of Alcantara Parish, Port Washington, Wisconsin, until a new pastor is appointed. This appointment is effective June 19, 1979.

As temporary administrator, you come under the provisions of Canon 474, have the responsibility of the Pro Populo Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of obligation, enjoy the rights of a pastor in accord with Canon 465, and are authorized to sign checks on all parish accounts to cover ordinary expenditures and to meet payroll obligations. Please note that in keeping with Canon 436, pending a pastoral appointment to St. Peter of Alcantara Parish, no changes are to be made. Urgent matters should be referred to the Archbishop.

With prayerful best wishes, I am

Fraternally yours in the Lord,

(Rev.) Robert G. Sampon Chancellor

RGS/mk

cc: Rev. Joseph F. Hornacek Priests' Personnel Board

July 27, 1979

The Reverend William J. Effinger J.

Port Washington, Wisconsin 53074

Dear Father Effinger:

Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board regarding your assignment, I herewith transfer you from your present position as Associate Pastor at St. Francis de Sales Parish, Lake Geneva, and appoint you Associate Pastor at Holy Name Parish, Sheboygan, effective August 14, 1979. You will kindly report on that date to the Pastor, Father Melvin H. Macoskie.

Accept my prayers and good wishes as you move on to a new area of priestly work.

. Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B. Archbishop of Milwaukee

#### August 8, 1980

Robert T. Kolodzinski, Grand Knight
Our Lady of the Rosary Council 722 Knights of Columbus
3017 Saemann Avenue
Sheboygan, Wisconsin 53081

Dear Mr. Kolodzinski,

I gladly approve of the appointment of the Reverend William Effinger as your Council Chaplain.

May God bless you and him in your work.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B. Archbishop of Milwaukee

CC: Father William Effinger

September 2, 1981

The Reverend William J. Effinger / Holy Name Parish

Sheboygan, Wisconsin 53081

Dear Father Effinger:

Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board regarding your assignment, and with the concurrence of the Archbishop, I herewith transfer you from your present position as Associate Pastor at Holy Name Parish, Sheboygan, and appoint you Pastoral Team Member and Administrator at Holy Name Parish, Sheboygan, effective September 15, 1981. Father James W. Hess is appointed Pastoral Team Member at the parish.

You and your fellow Team Member are both reminded that the required Profession of Faith will be made in the context of the Installation Ceremony to be scheduled in the near future at your parish.

In keeping with the Term of Office Policy inaugurated August 1, 1980, your assignment will exist for a period of up to six years from its effective date and after that will be reviewed for possible extension.

Accept my prayers and good wishes as you move on to a new area of priestly work.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Reverend Joseph A. Janicki Vicar for Priest Personnel



3501 S. Lake Orive P.O. Box 2018 Milwaukee Wls. 53201 414/769-3300 Archbishop Cousins Catholic Center

## ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE Priests' Personnel Board

June 5, 1987

The Reverend William J. Effinger / Holy Name Parish

Sheboygan, Wisconsin 53081

Dear Father Effinger:

I am happy to inform you that Archbishop Rembert Weakland accepts your decision to change your status from Administrator and Pastoral Team Member to Pastor at Holy Name Parish in Sheboygan, effective June 16, 1987. I ask that you communicate this change to the members of your parish at your earliest convenience. I hope you understand that this change in status does not affect your current term of office.

The Archbishop has asked me to convey his greetings and best wishes to you. May God continue to bless you in your priestly ministry.

Sincerely yours,

Reverend Eugene C. Neuman Executive Secretary Priests' Personnel Board

CC: Chancery Office Clergy Personnel Office

#### ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

3501 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE \* P.O. BOX 2018 \* MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53201 \* PHONE 414/769 3300

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

September 2, 1988

The Reverend William J. Effinger Holy Name Parish

Sheboygan, Wisconsin 53081

Dear Bill,

Bruce H. Kunert, Grand Knight of Our Lady of the Rosary Council 722 of the Knights of Columbus, wrote me recently asking that I reappointment you their Chaplain for another term.

If you have no problems with this, Bill, please look upon my letter then as one of such official reappointment.

Thanks for all you do for us.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B. Archbishop of Milwaukee

cc: Bruce H. Kunert, Grand Knight KC Council 722

Office of Auxiliary Bishop

October 23, 1992

Dear Parishioners of Holy Name:

Because of personal issues the Archdiocese of Milwaukee has requested that Father William Effinger leave Holy Name Parish on Friday October 23, 1992, sooner than initially anticipated.

We ask your prayers for Father Effinger and for the parish during this transition period.

Sincerely

Most Reverend Richard J. Skiba

Vicar General



Every office track calls - give to Mary Kay (twice a day) Listening posture in the other cities
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#### ARCHDIOCESAN RESPONSE

Following today's hearing on Father Effinger's case, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee once again acknowledges the serious nature of any circumstance of sexual abuse or misconduct. In all cases, we want to minister with compassion to both the victim and the perpetrator. We hope that the continued collaboration between the archdiocese and civil authorities will bring about just and pastoral responses to any situation involving misconduct.

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

3501 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE . P.O. Box 07912 . MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53207-0912 . PHONE 4147769-3300

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

October 29, 1992

The Archbishop and the entire Diocese are indeed sad about new allegations concerning Father William Effinger.

We are eager to hear of anyone who has been abused and will indeed look into every case to see what help might be needed. We request people to call Father Tom Venne - 414-769-348. We hope that in this way we will be able to get at the root of the problem for the present and to do our best so that such sad events do not occur in the future.

Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland, OSB



December 4, 1996

Dear Father/Deacon,

With hope in the resurrection we commend to the Lord REVEREND WILLIAM JOSEPH EFFINGER who died on December 4, 1996.

Father Effinger was born on December 26, 1932 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Father attended the major and minor seminary at St. Francis Seminary. He was ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee by Most Reverend William E. Cousins on May 28, 1960 at St. John Cathedral.

Father Effinger's first pastoral assignment was as assistant pastor at St. Mary Parish in Kenosha where he served for twelve years beginning on July 7, 1960. Father then served as associate pastor at St. Aloysius Parish in West Allis for a year and at Francis de Sales Parish in Lake Geneva for six years. On August 14, 1979, Father moved to Holy Name Parish in Sheboygan where he served initially as associate pastor for two years and then as administrator and team member for six years. He was then named pastor on June 16, 1987.

He served in that capacity until October 1992. Father was diagnosed with cancer in September 1996. Efforts on the part of the Archdiocese to obtain on his behalf an early medical release or transfer to hospice care were unsuccessful and Father eventually died in the infirmary in Dodge.

At Father's request, following cremation, A PRIVATE MEMORIAL MASS will be offered on Monday, December 9, 1996 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Francis of Assisi Chapel at the Cousins Center.

Members of the Purgatorial Society will please offer the prescribed Mass for the repose of his soul and pray for Father Effinger's intentions. May he rest in peace.

Sincerely in Christ,

Barbara Anne Cusack

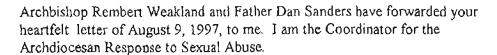
Chancellor



August 21, 1997



Dear Mr.



I am sorry to hear that there is yet another victim of Father William Effinger who has been hurt by Father's behaviors. I would encourage you in the strongest of terms to encourage and bring forward so that we may provide the kind of help and care which will restore his psychological and spiritual well-being.

I have enclosed a copy of the Project Benjamin brochure. The Archdiocese of Milwaukee is committed to assuring the safety of the people of God from the kinds of offenses committed by Father Effinger to the extent with which it is humanly possible. Archbishop Weakland and Auxiliary Bishop Richard Sklba have taken the issue of pedophilia and sexual abuse at the hands of church personnel extremely seriously. The archdiocese has instituted policies and procedures to screen all church personnel who work with youth and has openly encouraged any victims unknown to us to come forward, not only to receive the appropriate care which they deserve, but also to allow effective action to be taken to assure that this kind of tragedy does not happen again. The archdiocese also openly encourages anyone who witnesses inappropriate behaviors on the part of Church employees, both clergy and lay personnel, to report these behaviors and suspicions immediately to the Vicar for Clergy, Project Benjamin, and/or the office for Parish and School Personnel.

3501 S. Lake Drive P.O. Box 07912 Milwaukee, W153207-0912 414/769-3400 FAX 414/769-3428

Please inform of the services available to him through my office. If he needs your support in coming forward, I again encourage you to walk with him in that process so that healing can occur. If you have any questions about the process or the services which are available through my office, please give me a call (414-769-3436).

Member Catholic Chamities USA



#### August 21, 1997 Page 2

Your love for the Roman Catholic Church is appreciated. I do believe on the topic of sexual abuse by clergy or other church personnel, we are united in the need to be ever more vigilant so that no one need fear that it is unsafe to be a child of God.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth C. Piasecki, PsyD.

Coordinator, Archdiocesan Response to Sexual Abuse

Director, Project Benjamin

ECP:saz

cc: Archbishop Rembert Weakland

Bishop Richard J. Sklba

Reverend Thomas Kerstein, Vicar for Clergy Father Dan Sanders, Holy Name Parish

#### V563. William Effinger

On September 18, 2000 I received a telephone call from Funeral Director Charles Rettke (920-457-3883) of Sheboygan who reported that Fr. Effinger's sister, had approached him with a request that a tree be quietly planted on the parish grounds of Holy Name with the cremains interred at its roots as a memorial to her brother. Consultation with Barbara Ann Cusack confirmed my conviction that this was not a good idea because of the ongoing surfacing of disturbed families, the inevitable publicity of such an event and the necessity to contact Holy Name Parish leadership as an independent entity in Sheboygan. After a brief similar discussion with the Archbishop I called Mr. Rettke to recommend that an alternative arrangement be made, especially since the law of the Church suggests that cremains are to be treated in the same way as all mortal remains and since the Effinger family was historically associated with St. Robert Parish in Shorewood and therefore might have some available relationship to an Archdiocesan cemetery in the Milwaukee Metropolitan area. Later that same day the Archbishop concurred with the impossibility of such an arrangement.

21.9

#### 633. William Effinger

On October 25, 2000 I received a phone call from Funeral Director, Chuck Rettke of Sheboygan (920-457-3883) indicating resistance from Archdiocesan Cemetery officials regarding the burial of the cremains in the Effinger family plot with parents. I proceeded to speak with Greg Apostoloff who reported that a vault is required in order to give proper respect to cremains as well as to full body burial, and that the family monument allows no space for such interment in the plot. He also indicated that some modest payment is allowed for pauper burial through Milwaukee County and if another plot were chosen and as a final comment offered to absorb the cost of such interment by the Cemetery if other resources were unavailable. The following morning I spoke with Chuck Rettke who promised to contact Fr. Thomas Venne in order to see if there were any remaining resources in Fr. Effinger's estate and to follow through with arrangements with Greg Apostoloff (which I assured could be paid for by the Archdiocese if needed, especially given the fact that the Funeral Home had absorbed the entire cost of the Effinger funeral without contribution from the family or the Archdiocese.

RJS

## 694. William Essinger

On November 29, 2000 I received a note from personal representative Fr. T. Venne indicating that there are still some few possessions stored in locker #29 at Cousins Center and encouraging the Archdiocese to help make decisions in disposing of the materials in any way deemed helpful.

**RJS** 

#### 380. Effinger, Bill

On October 30, 1995 I wrote Bill Effinger to inform him that his pension was paid to St. Michael's Priest Fund and that we intend to remain current in his account by making payment to the fund for him at the end of each fiscal year.

CCS

#### 9. William Effinger

On January 11, 1996 at the request of Barbara Ann Cusack, I sent a letter informing Bill of the inception of a penal process which could lead to dismissal from the clerical state.

RJS

#### 28. Effinger, William

On January 25, 1996 I met with Bill Effinger at the Osbkosh Correctional Institution. He is doing well and he seems to be in good spirits.

CCS

#### 190. Effinger, Bill

On July 16, 1996 I stopped to see Bill at the Oshkosh Correctional Facility. We had a good visit. His spirits are good. There wasn't much substantial conversation, sort of keeping up about old friends and how they are doing. His mandatory release date is 2000 and he doesn't feel there is any possibility for parole prior to that. There is also serious question after 2000 because of the new predator laws.

CCS

#### 220. Effinger, Bill

On August 28, 1996 Fr. Mike Koch called from the Correctional Institution in Oshkosh. He reported that Fr. Bill is failing and there is fear of cancer. I returned the call to Fr. Mike Koch in Oshkosh. He said he would make every effort to be supportive to Bill at this time. Bill is losing weight rapidly and Mike will give us a report as soon as Bill has paid a visit to a physician.

ccs

#### 230. Effinger, Bill

On September 11, 1996 Tom Venne called relative to Bill Effinger's health. His problem is still unresolved although he is now seeing a physician and going through a battery of tests.

CCS

#### 31. Effinger, Bill

On September 17, 1996 Tom Venne called to inform us that Bill Effinger is at University Hospital in Madison and is scheduled to have colon cancer surgery today.

SKS

On March 18, 1994, I visited with William Effinger at Oshkosh Correctional Institution. Bill has begun the preliminary stages of being involved in the program for Sex Offenders. He has been moved to a unit with about 60 inmates involved in this program. Bill seems to keep a positive attitude. He said in regards to new allegations we receive, that he has admitted to those he did, and denies any other misconduct.

RTV

#### 204. William Effinger

On April 2, 1994 I was presented with a letter from who expressed a great deal of alientation and anger as a result of alleged victimization by Fr. Effinger in Kenosha many years ago. After consultation with Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki I formulated a response and an invitation to discuss the matter further if desired.

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#### 523. Effinger, William

On April 25, 1994, I visited William Effinger at Oshkosh Correctional. Bill said that he is in the Sex Offender Program, but it is slow because it is being revised. He is also a tutor now. I had him sign a settlement agreement for Bill denies this and was reluctant to sign.

RTV

#### V246. William Effinger

On April 28, 1994 I met with Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki who appealed for some special consideration for In view of the fact that the negotiated settlement included \$13,000.00 for back bills (within one year which, in all probability, will not be requested because is not sufficiently organized to retrieve back bills at this time), \$15,000.00 in cash and 5 years of out-patient treatment at a maximum of \$5,000.00 per year, and in view of the serious risk of suicide and family backlash in Lake Geneva and with the assurance through Liz from mother,

that this would clearly demonstrate the Church's good will and provide an opportunity for rehabilitation, I authorized a single month's in-patient treatment at Hazleton. At the request of Dr. Piasecki I called on April 29, 1994 in order to discuss the matter and then called Hazleton to guarantee payment for one month's treatment at \$9,100.00 cost.

rjs

#### 716. Effinger, William

On June 15, 1994, I visited Bill Effinger at Oshkosh Correctional. He is doing tutoring and is involved in the Sex Offender Program.

RTV

On November 13, 1992 I spoke to Dan Sanders who informed me that 5 detectives had come to Holy Name Parish and were there for 3 1/2 hrs. looking through the personal effects of William Effinger. Since the Parish stored some of Bill's things in the convent and Dan had no key they broke the door to gain entry.

#### 879. Effinger, William

On November 20, 1992 I visited with William Effinger at Guest House in Rochester. I met with him alone to explain what has happened and the publicity and people who have come forward. I met also with Bill and Counselors They indicated Bill is focusing on his treatment for alcohol, but they realize other issues of sexuality need to be dealt with. They told Bill his stay there could continue for a month or two more but felt he could transfer even now. called St. Luke's and explained the general details without identifying Bill and St. Luke's agreed he would be a candidate for treatment and they did have space available even if charges were to be brought. We agreed to continue at Guest House, since they and Bill felt it was a benefit to be at Guest House, and until we know more about possible charges. Bill told me afterwards that he wasn't convinced he needed St. Luke's because he felt his drinking was responsible for his actions. He did say earlier that he realized how as an alcoholic he had been lying to himself and was now facing the drinking honestly. He was sharing his sexuality problems with a psychiatrist whom he sees weekly, and feels it has been helpful to him. On 11/24/92 I contacted Mark Sprangers, a trustee of Holy Name, Sheboygan, to inform him that Bill did have the title of the car in the parish name. He gave him the license number, and he will see how to proceed to make the appropriate change.

RTV

#### 909. Effinger, William

On December 1, 1992 I spoke with from Guest House. He called to inform us that St. Luke's Institute would have space abailable for Bill Effinger on Jan. 6. I informed him that we had received word from our attorney that Bill would be charged the week of Jan. 11. We would prefer to continue at Guest House, until we know what the result of the charges will be. He will talk to Bill to see what Bill has heard from his atty. Gerald Boyle. They are open to his continuing at Guest House.

RTV

### 719. William Effinger

On November 25, 1992 I joined Dr. Liz Plasecki in meeting with who alleged serious sexual abuse by Fr. William Effinger in St. Francis de Sales Church in Lake Geneva some twenty years ago when was a girl of 8 or 9 years old. After her comments which

#### 719. William Effinger (cont'd)

seemed credible she asked for some assistance in meeting counseling bills on the basis of the offers broadcast through the Kenosha area where her family resides. She placed our office in contact with a Psychotherapist by the name of

RJS

On October 28, 1992 I received a call from the man that appeared on Ch. 12 last night with allegations against Bill was the son of the and and his mother had been both They had been good friends and [ with Bill. The man is still a member of the parish. did not know it was him on the TV but someone told him who it was. I suggested to hat perhaps he call him and offer whatever assistance he might need. said he would wait until things slowed down a little and then make contact. I had talked to Mary Kay about Project Benjamin. He had told the Ch. 12 reporter about Project Benjamin but was sorry it did not get in the broadcast. He also said the from the parish had called his sons to see if they mad experienced anything. They also mentioned the parties in the qym. He said they were aware of two friends that had talked about being abused, but they were not. wanted to know how to respond since the Kenosha D.A. on the Ch. 12 report asked to have any information given to him. Since his information was fourth hand there didn't seem to be any reason to do so and this was all from over 20 years ago.

I received a call from who said they were parishioners at Holy Name in 1985-86. Their son was 15 then. They wrote a letter to the Archbishop and the Parish trustees about Bil. and also talked to Bill. This was in 1/86 or 2/86. Her copy is gone and she wants a copy of ours. I told her I looked through all of our records and we have no record of their letter. I asked her if she ever received a response. She said she does not remember. I told her the Archbishop answers all his mail and all correspondence is kept on file and we have no record of this letter. She gave me the name of the trustee at the time and I spoke to him about this. He remembers the father talking to him but doesn't remember the letter. He will get back to me if he finds it at home. \_\_\_\_\_said Bill was a drunken priest and came to their house when they were out one night and went to their liquor cabinet and their son's bedroom. She said nothing sexual happened because her son coaxed Bill out of the bedroom. I told her the Archbishop or Bishop Sklba have no recollection of receiving that letter. She was upset that we did not have it. She had been in contact with who was helping at Holy Name today. I talked to and she said the woman had been quite unpleasant. A note from said that Archbishop Weakland recalled the name but the lady wrote to Bill and the trustees and never to the Archdiocese.

I also talked to at Guest House who is working with Bill Effinger. He said Bill is open about the two cases of abuse but said that he had never received treatment. Bob questioned how we had planned to deal with the sexual issues, since I had commented once that this was not their area of expertise. I told him that we need to be sure he is not drinking first and would look to their recommendations for further help. He felt the staff would certainly recommend that for Bill.

RTV

#### 791. Effinger, William

On October 29, 1992 Ralph Gross sent a note that he received an anonymous call from a man in Sheboygan. He claimed that at the gym parties Bill brought out a centerfold photo and had boys sit on his lap and would touch their private areas. He may call us sooner or later.

RTV

PETTHACE HITTIME COURTER

immediately and hopefully stay with friends and go to Guest House on Saturday. The party for him would be cancelled. Bill felt he needed more time, but agreed to leave as soon as possible. Shortly after I hung up after talking to Bill, he called and said Channel 4 just called. He hung up but knew he needed to leave.

I called Rosemarie Trester, the Parish Council President of Holy Name, and told her of our decision and the reason for Bill's leaving. She accepted responsibility to take care of cancelling the farewell party and offered to make sure the Church was open for morning Mass and someone to help the visiting priest. I called Don Elverman to arrange for a celebrant for Saturday 9:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. Confessions. Julio Miralbes agreed to help. In the evening I was able to reach by phone the Trustees, Richard Bader and Mark Sprangers. I explained the situation to both of them. Mark wanted to know why they had not been informed sooner about the reason for his leaving. I said it was to protect the confidentiality of all involved, since it was an allegation from over 20 years ago.

RTV

#### 770. Effinger, William

On October 25, 1992 I met with at his residence in Sheboygan, regarding an anonymous allegation to Channel 4 regarding In that discussion told me that a had recently confided in him that her son was at a cottage with Bill and while her son was in his underwear Bill made a suggestive comment. She also shared this information with a talked to who told him to call the Archbishop. That Dick Sklba had told him he would call back, but he had not heard from him as yet.

advised to call him again. also mentioned a man asked him recently if he heard rumors about Bill Effinger and a Kenosha youth coming for counseling.

RTV

#### 771. Effinger, William

On October 26, 1992 at an emergency meeting with Archbishop Weakland we viewed a Channel 12 broadcast from 10/25/92 news with a young man named alleging that Bill abused him 23 years ago in Kenosha. It also showed Bill speaking to Ch. 12 reporters and with a hidden mike talking to Bill in the rectory. It also showed a young woman who alleged inappropriate behavior by Bill with her and her brother. This was very short and indicated a future part of this investigative series would give more information. Archbishop Weakland accepted being the media spokesperson and was going to schedule a meeting with Sheboygan priests for later that day. I called Guest House and they said Bill had arrived on Saturday. He was presently in a counseling session and had admitted what had happened. I received a call from that he had been contacted by two families from Lake Geneva, who are friends of his, and the Both had written letters to Archbishop Weakland in the late 1970's and had been in contact with the Archbishop. They were concerned about the TV reports on Bill. said was very upset because Bill said there was just one victim. contacted Ch. 12 to report that there was more than one. said a younger brother recent years had been in therapy and believes was abused by Bill. He said there had been talk of a possible lawsuit. I called the Archbishop and left a message on his answering machine about this. Mark Sprangers, the trustee at Holy Name called about what to tell the Parish Council at a meeting tonight. I told him Archbishop Weakland and Bishop Sklba were in discussion about being present for the Masses this weekend.

1ma

On October 5, 1992 I received a call from the partial and the allegations regarding William Effinger. A friend told that Bill announced his leaving the partial but didn't say why. Thought the Diocese should make this known and invite any victims from his years in Sheboygan to come forth. Seemed convinced that Bill must have done this to others. I told him that over the years Bill had received help because of some alcohol issues, and it would not automatically be concluded there were other victims. I told him we were always concerned, and if others come to us we would show our concern. I mentioned the coverage of Peter Burns and Sheboygan, so others would be aware.

RTV

## 626. William F. Effinger

On October 19, 1992 Frank Yaniak approached me to report that there is a great deal of conversation about Bill and his past activity among the families of St. Francis deSales parish. I reported the matter to Tom Venne that same day and asked that he assist Bill into Guest House and share all the information with the counselors there.

### 648. Fr. William Effinger

On October 23, 1992 in view of the television interview surreptitiously obtained by the media, I met with Tom Venne, Tom Trepanier and Paul Janette. We determined that Paul would take all the Masses at Holy Name parish for the weekend of October 24 and 25, that a brief statement would be read over my signature (approved by Attorney Carter), and that the Trustees would be informed and the Parish Farewell cancelled. Bill Effinger will leave for Guest Rouse immediately and we concluded that we have covered the situation to the best of our ability.

**Z**LS

## REDACTED

On September 22, 1992 I met with William Effinger at Holy Name Rectory in Sheboygan. Bill said he was ready for a move but hoped it could be toward the end of October, after Confirmation on Oct. 18 and his weddings would be finished by then. I thought Guest House was only 30 days, and he could tell the people he was on retreat. I told Bill the Archbishop wanted to wait after his time at Guest House, before reassigning him. Bill is concerned about his sister who is his housekeeper. She has had cancer twice, the most recent during the last year. I told Bill we checked his file and he began as Administrator on Sept. 15, 1981 and was an assistant for about 2 years before then. We could use the 12 years as a reason for his move. I told Bill I would share his concern about late Oct. with the Archbishop.

**VT**S

# 698. Effinger, William

On September 29, 1992 I called William Effinger to finalize his leaving Holy Name Parish, Sheboygan. His final day will be Sunday, Oct. 25 and he will announce it to the Parish on Oct. 3-4. Bill said a letter regarding his term being up will be sufficient. He will tell the people that he is taking some time between assignments. We talked about his going to Guest House, and I will call to arrange this. I told him the Archbishop will consider a suitable assignment after his time at Guest House. He again expressed concern for his sister, who is his housekeeper. I also spoke to who has alleged inappropriate behavior by Bill in 1971 and informed him that Bill would be moving from the Parish by the end of October. He was agreeable to this, and I told him to let me know if we could assist him anyway in the future. I called at Guest House and after reviewing Bill's evaluation in 1989 he said that he would be accepted as a resident and can do so anytime after Oct. 25.

RTV

# 565. William Effinger

On September 30, 1992 at the request of I called Mr.

a parishioner of St. Dominic's in

Sheboygan who alleges acquaintanceship with an anonymous woman and
her 25 year old son who claim inappropriate activity on the part of
Bill some eight years ago. I promised to speak with the Vicar and
assured him that he would be contacted with some report. At the
request of Tom Venne I called Bill myself on October 1, 1992 to both
offer my support and express my concern for him during this difficult
time of transition. In that context I briefly alluded to the phone
call which arrived in this regard and Bill claimed no knowledge of
any such matter.

RJS

# 707. Effinger, William

On September 30, 1992 Dick Sklba informed me that he had received a call from a person in Sheboygan who told him that he had been approached by a mother who alleges her son was sexually abused by William Effinger in the early 1980's. They do not wish to be identified. Dick will call William Effinger to let him know of this allegation. I will be delivering a letter to Bill today with a notice of his assignment at Holy Name to be concluded on Sunday October 25 and this is to be read to the parish this coming Sunday.

On September 8, 1992 Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki and I visited at his residence, in the land answered the door, but said he forgot about the appointment. His wife was home and he had not told her about the allegation or that we were coming. alleges that in 1971 William Effinger was quilty of inappropriate sexual behavior with was 15 years old at the time and worked for a restaurant, in Brighton. Bill was a frequent patron there on Friday nights. Bill offered to drive home and did so on three occasions. The first two times alleges Bill tried to touch him, but he pushed him away. The third time alleges Bill was drinking and forced himself on and sexually abused him. into the house and went to the bathroom to wash himself from this and when he came out of the bathroom Bill was in the house trying to abuse his brother. said after that he did many things to prove his manhood with many girls. He is married a second time and has 2 children from a previous marriage. The two children from his present marriage are 5 and 6 years old and go to School. Last June he saw Bill's name on some communication and he pulled the kids out immediately. His wife re-enrolled them this year. said he would kill Bill if he touched one of his boys. He wants Bill out of the parish and didn't see how he could still be in a parish after what he did to presumes he did it to others. said if the Church didn't do anything, he would go to the Sheboygan paper and tell his story. I offered assistance with counseling, but he said he did not need any. He said he was aware of this incident these 20 years, but tried to go beyond it. I told him our policies and that I would call him after I talked to Bill Effinger. I related the seriousness of this situation to Archbishop Weakland and Bishop Sklba. Archbishop asked for pertinent information from Bill's file.

RTV

#### 641. Effinger, William

On September 14, 1992 I met with William Effinger to discuss the allegations of He said he vaguely remembered I told him the threats of to take this to the Sheboygan paper if we did not do something. We spoke of Bill's past and the evaluation of Guest House. We talked about Guest House and St. Luke's Institute and leaving Sheboygan since Bill had been there since 1979. Bill asked about talking to and I told him that legally I didn't seem appropriate and we did this usually only when the alleged victim requested it. I told Bill the Archbishop was aware and concerned because of a recent call from a mother in Lake Geneva regarding a past allegation. I told Bill I would like to discuss the matter with Archbishop Weakland as soon as possible and Bill should think about our suggestions for a treatment program. I will call to inform him of the meeting with Bill and that we will keep him informed as we proceed.

RJS

# 975. Effinger, William

On Tuesday, September 17, 1991 in the context of the meeting of the Task Force, Don Elverman reported that Bill seems to be handling any use of alcohol well at this time.

RJS

# 424. Effinger, William

on Tuesday, June 2, 1992 I received a call from (won't give a last name) who lives in Sheboygan who alleges sexual abuse by Bill when was a minor in Kenosha, and Bill was assigned to his parish. He blocked this out of his mind until recently he found out Bill was Pastor of Holy Name parish in Sheboygan, and his kids were in school there. He pulled them out immediately. His wife doesn't know of the allegation nor has he ever been in counseling. His life has been very mixed up, and he attributes this to the incident with Bill. He will come to my office on June 10 to give details of the allegation.

RTV

# Effinger, William

ON Friday, June 12, 1992 I called Bill to inform him that allegations had been made by a gentleman who alleged sexual misconduct by Bill while he was assigned in Kenosha. I told Bill the person had scheduled an appointment with me and did not keep it, but we felt it important to inform him with the situation of abuse so much in the press these days. he understood and appreciated being told. I did not give him the name of the gentleman or inform him of his now being in Sheboygan. When the gentleman did not show up for his appointment, I called his house, and his wife said he was on the phone with the IRS, but he was home and could I call back. The gentleman told me that he did not inform his wife, so i just left it at that. Liz Piasecki, from Project Benjamin, was here to be a part of the team to listen to the allegations.

RTV

# 576. Effinger, William J.

On August 18, 1992 I received a call from a gentleman named from Sheboygan. He had called in early June with allegations against William Effinger that happened during his years in Kenosha. That failed to keep an appointment on 6/10/92. I called but was not able to talk with him at the time. Said he purposely did not keep the appointment, because he wanted to see what the Church would do. I informed him that I had called and could not reach him and I had informed Bill that an accusation had been made. I told him without further information we could not verify someone calling on the phone and not wishing to be identified. A meeting with will be scheduled for early September.

On Saturday, January 7, 1989 I spoke with Dave Braun regarding his last visit with Bill and subsequent casual conversation. Dave continues to believe that a visit to Guest House would be very beneficial for Bill and recommends follow through on the similar unanimous recommendation of the Task Force in Bill's regard.

RJS

307. Effinger, William

On Tuesday, March 27, 1989 the office received several phone calls as a result of the extended notice in THE SHEBOYGAN PRESS (Monday, March 26, 1989) regarding the verdict in a trial for driving under the influence of alcohol. Since Bill is currently out of the area for the week, I wrote a letter insisting that he go to Guest House for a week's evaluation as soon as possible.

RJS

355. Effinger, William

On Wednesday, April 5, 1989 I spoke with Bill who agreed to go to Guest House for the week's evaluation program, probably choosing the first week in May. I immediately contacted Guest House and asked Jerry Herber to call Bill and finalize details.

RJS

389. Effinger, William

On Friday, April 14, 1989 I received some angry phone calls from parishioners and priests in the Sheboygan area alleging that Bill was drinking and driving on Wednesday evening and expressing great fear regarding potential injury to others as a result of this condition. I called Guest House to learn that there was an opening immediately and then called Bill obtaining his agreement to go to Guest House effective Monday, April 17, 1989 rather than May 1 as originally agreed upon.

RJS

397. Effinger, William

On Saturday, April 15, 1989 I again spoke with Bill who agreed to go to Guest House on the following Monday and had arranged for sacramental coverage at Holy Name during his absence.

RJS

419. Effinger, William

On Friday, April 21, 1989 I had an extended telephone conversation with of Guest House who reported that Bill had been very cooperative during his week of evaluation. The conclusion was that a high probability exists for alcoholism in Bill's case but the professional staff would not insist upon immediate three-month treatment if Bill maintained his current level of commitment to certain behavioral precautions. A formal letter will follow, and I will speak with Bill about it in the near

RJS

544. Effinger, William

On Wednesday, May 17, 1989 I was informed that Bill continues to engage in some moderate use of alcohol. A letter from Guest House stated that they would have recommended residential treatment had there been any indication that such would be the case upon Bill's return to Sheboygan.

RJS

404. Effinger, William

On Tuesday, June 5, 1990 the office received from Archbishop Weakland a letter of concern from Mrs.

of Lake Geneva

together with a memo recounting the history of the Archdiocese's response to a situation in Lake Geneva in 1979, and the request of the Archbishop that I follow up this inquiry at my earliest opportunity.

RJS

Hornacek and I met with Effinger to discuss his future. Recently, he has been applying for every available pastorate in the outlying areas. We told him of our uneasyness with his reported conservatism and the way he treats people and his own seeming lack of interest in his present position. Effinger politely but firmly refuted each one of these areas and said that he was indeed trying to be helpful to Macoskie on the parish scene. Effinger is working with the Finance Committee which Macoskie has no talent to handle and the parish finances seem to be improving greatly. He does not want to hurt Melvin and so has been keeping in the background rather than taking over more of the Administrative details. He candidly admits that Macoskie should not be the pastor there. We asked if he would be willing to stay on should Macoskie move off the scene and he said he would. He claims that for every complaint we get he can produce 200 people who feel that he is capable of leading the parish.

11/21/80

407. Effinger, William

834

Ed Kielman, parish financial chairman, called following our meeting last night to ask if we wanted further input should a change be imminent at the parish. I told him that decision was still being made and that the customary procedure would be for the Personnel Board to meet with the Parish Council at an open parish meeting to ascertain the needs of the parish. I discovered that the real purpose for Kielman's call was to talk about Effinger. He and Mr, Newman are afraid that there is the possibility we are considering Effinger as the successor to Macoskie. He described that as possibly going from bad to worse. He said they are a good team because one has what the other one lacks. In Effinger's case, he lacks the spiritual qualities they are looking for in a pastor. I told him that my impression from our meeting before Christmas was that they felt Effinger had all the qualities necessary to be the pastor of Holy Name. He then corrected that impression and said that was not the message they meant to get across. They are disappointed because Effinger does not visit nursing homes, is not seen in the grade school, etc. All in Sheboygan know that Effinger is very discouraged at not being a pastor and makes no bones about this. He said that his recommendation would be to allow Macoskie to stay one more year and have Effinger move from the scene.

3/3/81

989. Effinger, William
Father Yaniak claims a Dr. from Lake Geneva is inquiring as to what type of treatment has been given Father Effinger over the past two years. claims that he has a letter of the Archbishop that said he will be apprised of what is being done

for Effinger. I told Yaniak I would look into the matter.

7/6/81



10

Memo to the file from Tim Cary, Archivist

December 11, 1996

This collection was accessioned into the Archives on December 11, 1996. The collection is <u>CLOSED</u>. It is to be accessed <u>only</u> by the Chancellor or the Archbishop.

It is located in the Archives' basement (bandroom) storage area: Row 2, section b, shelf 1 (boxes 1-7); and row 2, section c, shelf 1 (boxes 8-10).

MC 91 William J. Effinger

NB: Dates refer to time when material was received by Sr. Kathleen Schweihs in Clergy Personnel Office.

Box 1: Feb.-June 1993; also personal file items, 1979-96

Box 2: July-Sept. 1993

Box 3: October 1993

Box 4: Nov. 1993-April 1994

Box 5: May-June 1994

Box 6: June-July 1994

Box 7: July 1994

Box 8: August-December 1994

Box 9: January-July 1995

Box 10: August 1995-Sept. 1996

BILL EFFINGER St Travers de Sales - L'afe Benera 4/23/79 - 9 P.M. archarshop called - a from fourth had builten paying that BE had surlested his son as Easter Surlay - the As. had confinited BE as he had asmitted ix - bi. Wants BE transiens - of part them (a) 1/AM on bed. 4/25 BE admitted the fact under influence of legion " he agreed to see I had already wrote Pen Board & asked Esser on monlay asking for immediate transfer - BE ded not won't me to reform yourse - of responded that I must talk to Fy but would only pay that a problem had assis x BE would leave simulately & that a replacement would be sent before yourch beares for Holy Tank on June 3rd When I informalty he insected on knowing further being When Efferger leaves, he must remain with the setulation - I paid of could not wealth Confederer, but of would and BE to inform him in my pleasure or not - BE responded that he could tolk to family before luch - left on this note 1 15 stopped of gave above regard to lireblishop the will riform Esser of the cucumstances herance Esser was treating BE request for ony porish as restrol business arch wordered who could go there - I suggested me of the feofo leaving De Sales - he though that was good - gave him above heatsly - hom suggested that BE be not reappointed witel he had seen him he will get breato me after BE has been -



Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of May 10th and for feeling free to write me.

At this moment I do not feel more information is needed and that we have been able to take the necessary steps.

May God bless. My prayers and thanks accompany this note.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B. Archbishop of Milwaukee

May 10, 1979

Dear auch-bishop,

Hurring a discussion with our 12 year ald son about the transfer of Father William Effinger from om parish C. St Francis de Sales), it has some to our attention that In Effinger serually morkester our son. This happened cobout 2 years agowhile In. Effinger was a guest in au home one eneming, We have discussed the matter with our pastor, Father Frank Janiah and feel you should also be informed. If you isk to contest us further sul may be reached at the above addresses.

Respectfully

# 110 3 1995

# SEXUAL ABUSE INTAKE REPORT

Intake Call:		me:3:30 p.m. By:Liz Piasecki
Coordinator Contact	Date:1/30/95 Time	ne:same By:same one In Person
Person Reporti Phone Num		(call before 5:00 p.m., leave no messages)
Current A	ddress:	WIid
Allegations ma (if not same a	s above)	
Name: Address: Phone:	Also mother	Date of Birth <u>Age 28 presently</u> Age at time of Allegations <u>Adolescent</u>
Allegations Ag	ainst: Rev. Wil	Lliam Effinger
Time Period:	When Fr. Effinger Parish, Lake Genev	was assigned to St. Frances de Sales va
Where:	Lake Geneva, parer	nts' home
Reported: (Previously? T		unsel; also Fr. Dave Braun
Alleged Abuse:		finger when he would come into
History: engaged to		ch is well known to us from story. I is now 28,
Current Therap	ist: None. Will g	get referral from Fr. Pat Umberger
Next Steps:1.	plan for review by Committee	thorized pending receipt of treatment Professional Mental Health Review 1 settlement - discuss with ounsel

4 10 2 7 7 7 1	
x_ Archbishop Weakland	_x Bishop Sklba
_x_ Fr. Carrol Straub (Clergy)	Fr. Al Veik (Religious)
Rick Tank (Non-Cleric)	Fr. Len Barbian
x Matt Flynn (Legal)	
12/94	

PERSONAL	AND	CONFIDENTIAL

Dr.

Wausau, WI 54401

Dear

I wish to provide with information pertinent to Father William Effinger in anticipation to his scheduled evaluation October 17~19.

In the first place, Father Effinger is a good and dedicated priest. His reputation has grown in a positive sense particularly since he has become pastor of Holy Name Parish in Sheboygan in September, 1981. The parish has progressed considerably under his administrative leadership and this is recognized by his parishioners and the people of Sheboygan. Among his peers, Bill is Known as a good fellow and a loyal friend. He is also known in the community and among his friends as a heavy drinker who becomes more exuberant and loud when he drinks; sometimes embarrassingly so.

In late 1978 or early 1979 Bill had to leave his assignment as associate pastor at St. Francis De Sales Parish in Lake Geneva. In a sense, he had to "get out of town fast" because of alleged improprieties with the young son of a certain I seem to recollect that Bill admitted to having been drinking at the time.

Im May of this year an incident occurred at Holy Name Parish in Sheboygan involving a number of grade and high school boys. Father Bill allowed these youngsters to sleep over in the gym following a regularly scheduled bingo night at the Parish. In the course of the evening the boys obtained beer and wine (Father Bill claims he did not give it to them directly but admits he knew they got it; some parents claim he gave it to them.). There was no suggestion of anything of a homosexual nature although some parents raised the question. The school principal asked Father Bill to spologize to the boys. Father Bill told me he had been drinking at the bingo session (beer only) and agreed to stop drinking on such occasions. Two of the parents told me they have seen him drinking to excess on bingo nights. Some of the parents think it is inappropriate, in light of what has happened, for Bill to take some of the young boys on vacation with him to a cottage in the north woods. Bill admitted to me that this has occurred but denied that anything improper happened.

Dr. September 26, 1983 Page 2

Father Bill is getting the reputation in the Sheboygan community of banging out at two pubs in the area. We is seen frequently at the Hoffbrau Tavern and at Binversey's Bar. He becomes loud there when he drinks, uses profane language and embarrasses patrons it is alleged. However, some parents have heard rumors to the effect that Bill drank so much that one of the minor boys had to drive him home from the tavern.

I have asked Bill to get an evaluation of himself at because I do not want his reputation damaged further and his priestly ministry rendered ineffective in the Archdiocese. I will appreciate whatever you can do for him. Let me know if you need any other information.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Reverend Joseph A. Janicki Vicar for Priest Personnel

JAJ/srs

P.S. Father Bill has not yet undergone Periodic Review; hence, no resume is included.

Rev. William J. Effinger Holy Name Church Sheboygan, WI 53081

Dear Bill:

After my unsuccessful trek to the woods I thought it would be good to write to you as a follow-up to the evaluation you received in Wausau. From our conversation with Dr.

I recall that you need a list of qualified spiritual directors. I would recommend one of the following:

Rev. Robert Purcell, SJ Gesu Church 1210 West Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53233 224-7101

Rev. Larry Jonas, SJ Jesuit Retreat House 4800 Fahrnwald Road Oshkosh, WI 54901 231-9060

Rev. James Mauel, SJ Cardoner 1501 South Layton Boulevard Milwaukee, WI 53215 384-2120

I would recommend that you see more than one of these and then chose the one that seems best for you. Also, I would recomment that you share the evaluation report with the spiritual director.

As far as the outpatient alcohol counseling is concerned, I will leave the choice up to you. However, as I recall, it should not be someone who knows you and should be a qualified counselor. I believe the De Paul program in Milwaukee or Port Washington could be helpful. The one who could advise

Rev. William J. Effinger December 1, 1983 Page 2

you on this is Chaplain at De Paul. In a few months I'll touch base with you to see how this is progressing. Again, you ought to show the evaluation report to the counselor.

Thanks, Bill, not only for your cooperation in the above matters, but also for the excellent attitude you have exhibited throughout. I am glad to see that your health is basically intact and with your attention to some details, it will be even more enhanced. You are doing good work in Sheboygan and your parishioners and I are grateful to you for it.

With prayerful best wishes, I am

Praternally,

Reverend Joseph A. Janicki Vicar for Priest Personnel

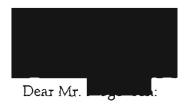
JAJ/ers

P.S. Let me know if there is anything further I can do for you.



July 8, 2004

# PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL



In line with the assurances given in the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, I have authorized the release of the names of priests who are now or would have been restricted from all priestly ministries. These men can not celebrate the sacraments publicly or represent themselves as priests in any way.

This action will bring with it additional publicity. My concern is that the publicity may bring you, personally, additional anxiety, stress or other difficulties. If you need to talk to someone, please do so. If you would like to contact our office for Sexual Abuse Prevention and Response Services, please call 414-769-3436.

What happened to you was not your fault and should never have happened. For that, I apologize in the name of the Church. I hope our actions as a Church in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and my actions as archbishop continue to provide for healing. Please know you remain in my prayers.

Faithfully in Christ,

The Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan

Archbishop of Milwaukee

# DEPARTMENT OF THE CHANCERY ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

SEXUAL ABUSE INTARE REPORT						
Intake Call:						
	Date:	12/17/03Time:		By: x Phone		In Person
Director Contact	Date:	12/18/03	Time:	10:00 a.m.  X Phone	By:	BRIn Person
	ng: Number: it Addres					
Allegations mad (if not same as al Name: Addres Phone: Allegations Aga	s:	Fr. William E	Linger		Date of Birt Age at time Allegations	
Time Period:		about 1965-66				
Where:		St. Mary's Ke	nosira			
	told any					rs, family members or therapists s.
labeled ( a vague and four genitals.	this "a strong memory and my way	ong memory.") "I have a of waking up in the recto y home. It was probably indicated this plagued hin	vague mem ory and being and being of the rest of	ory that I had to dr ng helped out by a fler that whenever his childhood, and	ink this chalice nun. I was ver I saw Fr. Effin was a "strong	s) scoided us severely." (Thomas, b) scoided us severely." (Thomas, b) because of a terrible sin. I have ry disoriented in the parking lot, ger, I had dirty thoughts of men's memory.") Apart from the latter, that his modus operandi?"
said sevenot. He told him the will I was drifted for an exwould he was a period of the two.	eral things also trice about Fr about Fr ne ugged and coplanation ave been.' erson who around the	s. He claims he made a cal to call SNAP in Milwan. Effinger's death two to boy" who was a few dithat's why I wouldn't hat of the latter statement, he helped me, ushered me de same time in his life be	all here about get three years of de ave memorine said "I handle genitals but the door had surger bad surger	on a year ago. I ask ot a run-around and ago, and that he he ar than himself. "I the es very well. I don ave a picture in my is includes "a mole of "" (He again repeat by for a torsion, "bu	ted if he was red I never talked and others wer whink in my cas it think Fr. Efformind of an older blood blisten ted how disorit I don't think	ed to elaborate spontaneously, he effected to my office, but he thinks d to anyone." He said his father the abused by him. It is stated he is it was a one-time thing. I think finger was alone." When I asked d person, older than Fr. Effinger to on the glans area." "The nuniented he was in the parking lot.) there's any relationship between finger. I have gotten over it, but
History:	The later	NOT THE STATE	80m	TO THE PARTY AND	PAS ET LA	Control of the later of
4	4-1	1000000	14.53			
professio		he call at 8:00 a.m. r and marriage were goin He works in	g.		y nad a job in ands three to fo	

and I am being held responsible for things I didn't do."

Intake: Page 2		
dissatisfaction with his current career and	a preference to become a t	He stated t's hard when you lose respect."
Current Therapist: Did not inquire.		
Next Steps:  I explained that as Fr. Effinger is deceased case will proceed to independent investigation be able to arrange to come to Wisconsin for	on, and that we will contact him in Ja	muary about this. He indicated he might
Report given to:		
x ArchbishopTimothy Dolan	<u>x</u> Bishop Richard Sklba	Fr. Joe Horqacek (Clergy)
Fr. Al Veik (Religious)	Rick Tank (Non-Cleric)	x Barbara Auge Cusack
District Attorney		
Typed 12/22/03 Intake form		

saz/Rovised 12/5/02

March 13, 1996

Dear Bill:

I am aware that you have made contact with Bishop Sklba regarding your intention to seek laization. In order to fulfill the requirements of the law, however, it is still necessary for us to formally cite you for a possible penal action.

If you have any questions or concerns about this matter, please call me directly at (414) 769-3307.

Peace,

Tom Brundly



NO.

KINDLY REFER TO THIS NUMBER IN YOUR REPLY

**INCAUSA** 

#### DECREE

In accord with canon 1505, I, the undersigned Judicial Vicar of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, hereby accept the attached Libellus presented by the Promoter of Justice on January 25, 1996 with regards to the accusations against the Reverend William J. Effinger.

In accord with canon 1507, with this Decree, the Reverend Effinger is hereby cited with regards to the cause made against him. The Reverend Effinger is to respond in writing to the undersigned within 15 usable days to make a response to the charges made in the libellus.

In accord with canon 1723, the Reverend Effinger is requested to appointed an advocate in accord with the norm of canon 1481.1 within 15 usable days. If you have not already appointed an advocate, a list of approved advocates will be forwarded to you upon request.

Rev. Thomas T. Brundage, J.C.L.

Judicial Vicar

Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Lev. Thems T.

March 13, 1996

Rev. John Siello

Notary



#### LIBELLUS

As Promoter of Justice in the matter at hand, and acting under the mandate issued by the Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, Archbishop of Milwaukee, in a decree dated December 21, 1995, I hereby introduce this cause to the Reverend Thomas T. Brundage, J.C.L., Judicial Vicar of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and ask that the collegiate tribunal over which he is to preside establish with moral certitude by means of a canonical trial that the Reverend William J. Effinger, a priest incardinated in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee who stands accused of offenses mentioned in Canon 1395 §2, did in fact commit the delicts of which he is accused, namely: that he did on several occasions, from the Autumn of 1986 to the Spring of 1988, sexually assault and molest a male minor less than sixteen years of age. Furthermore, I ask that the duly constituted tribunal impose as the only appropriate penalty for the delicts committed, the dismissal of Father Effinger from the clerical state.

The facts and evidence which will be adduced to prove the allegations and to confirm the fittingness of the penalty being sought include: the deposition of the victim of the assaults; testimonies of sexual abuse specialists; transcriptions of criminal proceedings in civil court involving this same priest as perpetrator of sexual assaults upon this same child as victim; statements of the perpetrator, himself; and testimony attesting to the habitual nature of the perpetrator's deviant behavior.

It should be noted that the accused priest is currently domiciled within the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, specifically in the State Prison at Waupun, Wisconsin, where he is incarcerated for a term imposed by the courts of the State of Wisconsin subsequent to his conviction on the aforementioned charges.

Reverend Philip D. Relfenberg, J.C.L.

Promoter of Justice 3501 South Lake Drive Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912

January 25, 1996

# Decree Concerning A Penal Case Against the Reverend William Effinger

I, the undersigned Ordinary of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, have received convincing information regarding the criminal infraction of canon 1395.2, namely the sexual abuse of a minor, by the Reverend William Effinger, a priest incardinated in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. I have cautiously inquired personally, as well as through trusted advisors, about the possibility that Father Effinger committed these delicts and whether his imputability was intact. In conducting this preliminary investigation, I have proceeded cautiously in order to avoid the needless destruction of anyone's reputation (c. 1717.2).

In accord with canon 1718, I decree that a process of inflicting a penalty be set in motion against Father Effinger for the above-mentioned crime.

I have ascertained, in accord with canons 1341 and 1717.1,2, that scandal cannot be restored in this matter and that the accused cannot be reformed by fraternal correction, rebuke, or any other pastoral measures. I have also decided that it is not expedient in this case to solve the question of damages with the consent of the parties (c. 1718.4). I further decree that a judicial process be set in motion.

Before taking the above-mentioned action, I have consulted with Father Dennis Klemme, J.C.D., Adjutant Judicial Vicar, and Father James Connell J.C.D., Vice Chancellor, both of whom are judges and experts in canon law.

In accord with canon 1425.1,2, I appoint a collegiate tribunal of three judges to hear this case, namely Fathers Thomas Brundage (Ponens), Joseph Perry, and Joseph Janicki.

At this time, I direct that the acts of the case be given to the Reverend Philip Reifenberg, Promoter of Justice, who is to present a libellus of accusation to the judges (cc. 1502, 1504, 1721). I would ask that this libellus be presented to the reverend judges no later than February 1, 1996.

The Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.

Rev. John D. Aillo

FRING G. Wedelow

Archbishop of Milwaukee

December 21, 1995

Rev. John D. Aiello

Notary

Dean Tom,

the fifteen day response time of have present the day of necessired your letter-march 18. a point of interest; invotes may call only those people on their approved visiting that and the call must be made collect.

Not being a comon lower, I bo
not see why pinal action is "still
necessary" since I have asked to be
largered now. I have not sught
as above to become I falt (and stills)
that I did not need one. Remember
all contexts must be by mail and,
beniles, I some suf afford one and why
should the archeliouse pay for one,

de regard to the offenses I om

accuración de home stated, under vatho,

my response to them. I have admitted

my quilt, but I am not responsable

for eraggereted accurations. Also, I am

more aurare of the harms I have done to the

people of Ital than most reelige. I know

Ital has forgeren me! My daily prayer

in that wounds one held and that others

do not fame he stad's love. at this time,

Lef the Archbrihops feels he has to continue with the commonwal trustno be it! I will not fight it! No motter what hoppens, I will somehow nurvive until the Father colls me home.

Here are some of the quater & live by
now: "He'l daymandeum,"; "Polome heeps
wounds open, only forgueness heels them";
"ht is a low of survival that one must
always adopt oncelly to change and conditions, He who rejures to adopt does
not last". There are others & was doily,
like the sere its prayer of "A.A", but of
an sure you get the point.

Have a Blend Caster, In Him, Bill Officer



# NO. KINGLY REPER TO THIS NUMBER IN YOUR HEFLY

# 3501 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE P.O. BOX 07912

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53207-0912 (414) 769-3300

Archdiocese of Milwunkee

METROPOLITAN TRIBUNAL

IN CAUSA

December 21, 1995

Most Reverend Rembert Weakland Cousins Catholic Center 3501 South Lake Drive Milwaukee, WI 53207

Dear Archbishop Wealdand:

On November 28th, 1995, Fr. Klemme and I met with the chancellor and vice-chancellor, as well as the promoter of Justice to discuss possible canonical action against Fr. William Effinger.

From evidence presented to me by Dr. there appears to be sufficient evidence that Fr. Effinger committed the crime mentioned in canon 1395.2, namely the sexual abuse of a minor.

If it is your wish to begin a penal process, with the possible end result of removal from the clerical state, I will need you to sign a decree similar to the one attached to this letter.

Please review this document and should you decide that this is the path you wish to go, please sign it and return them to me.

Sincerely,

Rev. Thomas T. Brundage, J.C.L.

Judicial Vicar

Archdiocese of Milwaukee





January 12, 1996

William Effinger

Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54903-3310

Dear Bill,

Prior to his departure for sabbatical, Archbishop Weakland requested that I contact you to update you on matters relating to your canonical status. I do so with a sense of genuine concern for you, and a hope that things go as well as possible in this new year. As the Archbishop noted in his previous correspondence with you, some decisions will have to be made regarding your ability to continue in the clerical state. In your response to the Archbishop's invitation to you to pursue voluntary departure, you indicated that you did not wish to seek laidization. I can only imagine how difficult all of this must be for you.

As a result of your decision, I am told that the Archbishop has had to take some steps to prepare for a possible penal action in your case. The first stage of this process includes a thorough investigation of the facts to determine the possibility of grounds and culpability. The Archbishop has decided that such an investigation be undertaken. We find it appropriate that you should know that this process is being initiated. While the beginning of such a process does not presume its outcome, you do need to know that the possibility exists that there could be a dismissal from the clerical state.

We are all concerned that your rights be fully protected at every stage. Therefore, we would seriously recommend that you seek the services of a canonical advisor at this time. A list of priests who have experience in serving in this capacity and in these types of cases is enclosed. If there are fees connected with their services and you cannot provide for their payment, the Archdiocese will assume responsibility for them within a reasonable amount. Please advise us, within two weeks, of the name of the canonical advisor you have chosen so that we may be prepared for any contacts he may wish to make with the Archdiocese. It would be wise, however, for you to make the first contact with him so that he knows that you wish him to represent your interests.

We will continue to keep you advised as this process continues. It is a painful one not only for you but also for the Archdiocese. Despite the apparent contentious nature of this process, please know that we continue to have fraternal concern about you and will continue to keep you in our thoughts and prayers. Peace for the new year.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba Auxiliary Bishop of Milwaukee

Enclosure

3501 South Lake Drive, P.O. Rox 07913 Milwaukee, W153207-0912 (414)769-3486 Rev. Patrick Lagges, JCD
Promoter of Justice
Metropolitan Tribunal, Archdiocese of Chicago
P.O. Box 1979
Chicago, IL 60690

Licentiate and Doctorate in Canon Law, St. Paul's, Ottawa
Phone #: 312-751-8384 (Office)
312-588-2620 (Home)

Rev. Michael Hack, JCD
Judicial Vicar
Metropolitan Tribunal, Archdiocese of Chicago
P.O. Box 1979
Chicago, IL 60690
Licentiate and Doctorate in Canon Law, St. Paul's, Ottawa

Rev. Daniel Ward, OSB, JCL, JD
St. John's Abbey
Collegeville, MN 56321
- Professor of government, St. John's University
Licentiate in Canon Law, Catholic University of America
Civil lawyer
Phone #: (612)363-2779 (Office)

Phone #: 312~751-8255 (Office)

Rev. John Renken, JCD
Vicar General/Moderator of the Curia
Diocese of Springfield in Illinois
P.O. Box 3187
Springfield, IL 62708~3187
Doctorate in canon law, Angelicum, Rome
Phone #: 217-698~8844 (Office)

Father Thomas Paprocki, JD, JCD
Chancellor, Archdiocese of Chicago
P.O. Box 1979
Chicago, IL 60690
Doctorate in Canon Law, Gregorian University
Civil lawyer
Phone #: 312-751-8220 (Office)

# 353. William Effinger

On June 29, 1994 I joined Attorneys Kevin Crooks, Robert Fennig in a deposition with Attorney Robert Elliott regarding the case.

RJ5

# 802. Effinger, William

On July 15, 1994, I met with Bill Effinger at Oshkosh Correctional Institution. I brought papers for Bill to sign from Quarles and Brady. Bill said he is actively involved in the therapy program at the prison.

RTV

# 155. William Effinger

On March 9, 1995, I visited with Bill and informed him of the present archdiocesan procedure, whereby we ask perpetrators to consider laicization. At that time some severance from the Archdiocese will be granted: I approached the subject directly but delicately. He said he was aware of what is being asked. We had a very fine visit. I promised to return in Several months.

CCS

# 46. Effinger, William

On July 28, 1995, John Boehm gave us a statement of the Priest Share of the Pension Fund for William Effinger which indicates that he is \$224 in arrears for 92-93, \$112 in arrears for 93-94, and \$1465 in arrears 94-95. The current contribution due for 95-96 is \$1606. On 8/2/95, I consulted Carrol Straub about this matter and he advised that I refer this matter to Bishop Sklba. On 8/3/95, I discussed this issue with Bishop Sklba who considered the facts that Bill Effinger 1) received a salary from the parish until the end of 10/92, 2) on 10/23/92 went into treatment and received salary from Account 46 until he was imprisoned on 7/19/93, 3) since his imprisonment he has not received a salary. As a result, Bishop Sklba advised that we pay the entire outstanding amount: \$3407.00 and note that as the Archdiocesan contribution to Bill Effinger's Pension Fund for future reference.

SKS

# 606. William Effinger

On August 3, 1995 after conversation with Sr. Kathleen I authorized payment of approximately \$3,400.00 into the Pension Fund in order to cover the years when William Effinger was not receiving any salary due to his incarceration. This amount from Account #46 would bring the Pension records up to date and would be understood as partial assistance available to him should he decide to leave active ministry upon the conclusion of his sentence.

RJS

# 325. Effinger, Bill

On September 15, 1995 I visited Bill at the Oshkosh Correctional Institution. We had an hour visit. It was genuine and direct. He told me about the letter he received from the Archbishop. He still has the hope of being able to privately offer Mass once he is released. He did state that he never at any time applied for early release.

ccs

On March 18, 1994, I visited with William Effinger at Oshkosh Correctional Institution. Bill has begun the preliminary stages of being involved in the program for Sex Offenders. He has been moved to a unit with about 60 inmates involved in this program. Bill seems to keep a positive attitude. He said in regards to new allegations we receive, that he has admitted to those he did, and denies any other misconduct.

RTV

# 204. William Effinger

On April 2, 1994 I was presented with a letter from Mr.

who expressed a great deal of alientation and anger as a result of alleged victimization by Fr. Effinger in Kenosha many years ago. After consultation with Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki I formulated a response and an invitation to discuss the matter further if desired.

P.TS

# 523. Effinger, William

On April 25, 1994, I visited William Effinger at Oshkosh Correctional. Bill said that he is in the Sex Offender Program, but it is slow because it is being revised. He is also a tutor now. I had him sign a settlement agreement for Bill denies this and was reluctant to sign.

RTV

# 246. William Effinger

On April 28, 1994 I met with Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki who appealed for some special consideration for In view of the fact for back bills (within one year which, in all probability, will not be requested at this time), in cash and 5 years of out-patient treatment at a maximum of per year, and in view of the serious risk of and family backlash in Lake Geneva and with the assurance through from some 's mother, that this would clearly demonstrate the Church's good will and provide an opportunity for rehabilitation, I authorized a single month's in-patient treatment at \_\_\_\_\_ At the request of Dr. Piasecki I called Mrs. on April 29, 1994 in order to discuss the matter and then called to guarantee payment for one month's treatment at \$9,100.00 costs.

RJ5

# 716. Effinger, William

On June 15, 1994, I visited Bill Effinger at Oshkosh Correctional. He is doing tutoring and is involved in the Sex Offender Program.

On November 10, 1993 I visited William Effinger at Green Bay Correctional Institution. He is adjusting, but expects within a few months to be transferred to Oshkosh. The psychologist and social worker were surprised he was sent to Green Bay because there are teenage prisoners there. Bill wanted me to get him a TV, razor, shoes and socks. These have to be sent directly by the store by UPS. I was able to get these items for him. On 11/19/93 I was also able to sell Bill Effinger's car.

RTV

# 766. William Effinger

On December 20, 1993 I had an extended meeting with in which I rehearsed the chronological events prior to Bill's departure from the parish. I emphasized the confused profile presented by in his initial phone call to Tom Venne's office (June 2, 1992), his not appearing for his appointment with Tom (June 10, 1992), his sometimes conflicting story regarding the degree to which he had shared his complaint with members of his family and his desire for complete confidentiality, and his claim to have forgotten the date of the visit in Sheboygan (September 8, 1992). I also reviewed the way in which the decision to request his departure was apparently formulated by Liz and Tom immediately after that same visit. I noted that according to my information agreed with Bill's departure from the parish effective October 25, 1992 and I reiterated our conviction that the parish members were adequately protected by all the circumstances known to us at that time.

RJS

# 23. Effinger, William

On January 7, 1994, Rev. Jerome Taddy called from the Green Bay Correctional Institution to inform us that William Effinger is being transferred today to Oshkosh Correctional Institution. The address is Oshkosh Correctional Institution, P.O. Box 3530, Oshkosh, WI 54930. The Catholic Chaplain is John Pawelski and the Protestant Chaplain is Ray Poff. The phone number is 414-231-4010.

RIV

# 78. Effinger, William

On January 19, 1994, we received copies of the Order of Dismissal by Judge Crivello in the cases of against William Effinger.

RTV

# 87. <u>Effinger</u>, William

On January 21, 1994, I visited William Effinger at Oshkosh Correctional Institution. He still is on somewhat limits because he has not been there 2 weeks yet. It is a much more pleasant place and a lot more freedom of movement. He will be in a sex offender program here. He seemed to be accepting his situation and responding positively. I was requested to buy several things of clothing that he can have here.

On August 24, 1993 I called at St. Luke's Institute, since I had not received Bill Effinger's personal effects yet. She said that she would make sure that they are sent to me. She said she had written to Bill and received a letter from him.

RTV

798. Effinger, Bill

On August 25, 1993, I met with Bill Effinger at Dodge Correctional Institution. He is anxious to know to what prison he will be assigned. He has finished all of the evaluations. Once he is permanent he hopes to be given some work responsibilities. Presently he has none and the days are long. He instructed me to sell his car, to cancel his credit cards and to cash in his annuity with Met Life and to give \$20,000.00 to the Archdiocese and the remaining \$3,000.00 to his sister,

RTV

830. Effinger, William

On September wI called Paul Rogers to inquire about the status of Bill Effinger. Paul said Bill is awaiting a cell at Dodge and should be remaining there.

RTV

566. William Effinger On September 17, 1993 at the request of Wayne Schneider, I signed a requisition slip for a check for the case. settlement of the

RJS

/584. William Effinger On September 30, 1993 I spoke with Matt Flynn

914. Effinger, William On October 5, 1993 we were informed that William Effinger was moved today from Dodge Correctional Institution to Green Bay Correctional Institution. The address is Green Bay Correctional Institution, P.O. Box 19033, Green Bay, WI 54307-9033. The chaplain's phone number is 432-4877 (ext 417). Fr. Taddy is chaplain and a classmate of Bill.

 $\nabla \Psi \mathcal{F}$ 

# 453. William Effinger

On July 16, 1993 I spoke with Matt Flynn

RJS

# 690. Effinger, William

On July 21, 1993 I called Paul Rogers to see how I might help Bill Effinger. Paul has been seeing Bill and said he is adjusting. Paul will let me know what things Bill would like me to bring when I visit.

On July 30, 1993 I visited Bill Effinger at Dodge Correctional Institution. We met in Paul Rogers Office. Bill will have a staffing on August 19 to see where he will be sent for his sentence. Bill said Jerry Boyle had spoken to him about appealing the decision regarding the severity of the sentence. Bill said that he will make it. We talked about power of attorney and he asked me to do so. Also I asked about his car and he had not thought about it. He also had not paid his income taxes for this past year and I told him I would ask Wayne Schneider for help.

RTV

# 751. Effinger, William

On August 10, 1993 Mark Spranger called me regarding Bill Effinger's car still being titled to the Parish. He though we were taking care of this, but he will contact the Motor Vehicle Dept. On August 13, 1993 I received a call from Frances (608-266-6767) from the Dept. of Transportation regarding this matter. She will send me all the materials to make the necessary changes.

RTV

### 765, William Effinger

On August 16, 1993, I spoke with Jerry Boyle regarding the suggested settlement offered by for the Family. I asked him what ecknowledgement Bill Effinger had made. Matt Flynn

 $\nabla \mathbf{r} \mathbf{s}$ 

# 770. Effinger, Bill

On August 16, 1993, I received a call from Mark Spranger, a trustee at Holy Name, Sheboygan. He will send me the pertinent materials he has to effect the transfer of Bill's car from the parish.

On June 9, 1993 I visited with William Effinger at St. Luke's Institute in Suitland, MD. I met with members of the staff and Bill. They said that the past few weeks Bill has begun to reveal more of himself and share details of what he did. They feel he intellectualizes and does not share enough of what he is feeling. Bill does take part in all of the activities and cooperates with the staff. He is most concerned about what the judge will give him for a sentence. He is talking with a couple of other priests about living together somewhere in Michigan. He realizes that there is no hope for an assignment.

RTV

# 569. Effinger, William

On June 19, 1993 I picked up William Effinger at Mitchell Field. He was originally scheduled for deposition with Atty. Elliott but Matt Flynn and Gerry Boyle decided to cancel that until after sentencing. Bill instead met with Wendy Petrehus and Gerry Boyle to help prepare for their defense. Bill informed me that his sentencing is scheduled for July 19. Bill stayed at St. Philip Neri and returned to Washington on 6/22/93.

RTV

# 453. William Effinger

On July 16, 1993 I spoke with Matt Flynn

RJS

# 671. Effinger, William

On July 19, 1993 I was present for the sentencing of William Effinger. This took place at the Sheboygan Court House. Bill received the maximum sentence of 10 years and was immediately taken to prison. On 7/20/93 I called St. Luke's Institute to inform them. I spoke to who worked with Bill in group therapy. They were sad Bill could not finish there, but she said they had worked with him in case this would happen. She said Bill was grateful for what the Archdocese was doing for him and said others were envious of this. They will pack Bill's things and await word where to send them. On 7/21/93 I spoke to a chaplain at Dodge Correctional in the absence of Paul Rogers. He said I could first visit on 7/28/93.

180. William Effinger

On March 30, 1993 I met Bill at the airport in order to have a conversation with him regarding the progress of his treatment before bringing him to Tom Venne's Office later that morning.

RJS

William Effinger

On April 2, 1993 in the context of a meeting with Attorney Matt Flynn

RJS

282. Effinger, William

On April 7, 1993 we received a confidential report from St. Luke's Institute that William Effinger has been in their program for six weeks and is making slow but steady progress in the treatment program.

RTV

338. Effinger, William

On April 19, 1993 we received the first full report from St. Luke's Institute regarding their evaluation of William Effinger.

RTV

375. Effinger, William

On April 28, 1993 Dave Filut called that he had called members of the St. Michael's Priest Fund Board and they agreed to extend payments to Bill Effinger for 3 more months.

RIV

406. Effinger, William

On May 5, 1993 Matt Flynn and I met with Wolfgang Schrauth, the Probation Officer from Sheboygan, who is working on the pre-sentence investigation for Bill Effinger. We shared with him the files of Bill from the Personnel Office and the Chancery. Matt informed him that we had a file which contained information that is in civil litigation and he was comfortable with this. He asked a few questions regarding our policies from the past where a priest was again assigned to parish ministry following an allegation and what future ministry might be available for Bill. He was very honest in his attempts to be fair to all and to the Church. Matt will continue to be a contact person for other information.

RTV

519. Effinger, William

On June 4, 1993 I spoke with William Effinger to inform him of my planned visit to St. Luke's Institute on June 9. I also spoke to Gorald Boyle who verified the dates for Bill's deposition by Atty. Elliott on June 21 and 22, 1993. Gerry would like to meet with Bill on 6/20/93 in the evening in preparation.

On February 26, 1993 I had arranged to meet William Effinger at Mitchell Field to drive him to Sheboygan for a court appearance. His plane from Washington to Chicago had been delayed, so a meeting with his attorney Gerald Boyle at St. Dominic's Rectory in Shebovgan had to be cancelled and Bill would have to go directly to the Sheboygan County Courthouse. We met Gerald Boyle there. On the way to the Courtroom I met and his wife whose son alleged the inappropriate sexual behavior of Bill. I spoke to them and asked how they were doing. He said it has been a time of ups and downs. I told him Archbishop Weakland had asked about him. In the Court Bill pleaded no contest. A pre-sentence investigation of 4-6 weeks was stated by Judge Langhoff. Bill stayed at St. Philip Neri Rectory that evening and I took him to the airport the next morning to return to Washington, D.C. He seemed like he was cooperating fully with the treatment program. He said he is grateful to Archbishop Weakland for the help he is getting and the support.

RTV

# 165. Effinger, William

On March 9, 1993 Matt Flynn informed me that the Family in Sheboygan has retained Atty. Robert Habush in their seeking legal action for the alleged abuse of their son by William Effinger.

RTV

# 199. Effinger, William

On March 16, 1993 I received a call from William Effinger. He must return to Milwaukee during the next two weeks to meet with Wolfgang Schrauth (1-459-3780), a Probation officer from Sheboygan. This is part of the pre-sentencing investigation. I called Mr. Schrauth and arranged for this meeting on March 30 and 31. It will take place in the law office of Atty. Gerald Boyle. The appropriate flight arrangements were made.

RTV

# 210. Effinger, William

On March 19, 1993 I received a call from claims he was a server at Holy Name in Sheboygan in '83-'85. Claims he was not abused by Bill Effinger but Bill pushed him against a table and gave him a look. He was turned off to the Church for awhile but now goes to Sacred Heart. He was concerned if Bill would be back in ministry and was he doing so now. I told that Bill was receiving help and was not in ministry. I mentioned the courts are involved at this time. Was satisfied with this information.

RTV

# 254. Effinger, William

On March 30, 1993 William Effinger came to Milwaukee to meet with Wolfgang Schrauth, a probation officer from Sheboygan. Dick Sklba picked Bill up at the airport and visited with him. I took Bill to Gerald Boyle's office for his meeting with Wolfgang on 3/30/93 and again on 3/31/93. He stayed overnight at St. Philip Neri. I took him to the airport on Wednesday afternoon (3/31/93).

RIV

On January 8, 1993 Gerald Boyle called to confirm that he had communicated with William Effinger regarding the date to appear in Court on Jan. 19 at 3:00 P.M. I spoke to Jim Arimond who agreed to provide transportation for Bill from Guest House to Shaboygan and back. We will arrange for someone to meet Jim and Bill in Sheboygan, so Jim will not have to be at the Courthouse. Later Bill Effinger called, and I told him of Jim's willingness to provide transportation and that as soon as we know the definite date for his transfer to St. Luke's Institute, we will send him his plane ticket. I also spoke to Bob Martin at Guest House, who will arrange for Jim Arimond to have lodging at Guest House on Jan. 18 & 19. He said that he had received permission to have Bill stay at Guest House until the St. Luke's has an opening, now scheduled for February 10. I informed all of the above to contact Tom Trepanier if further information is needed.

VTS

# 72. William Effinger

On February 3, 1993 I spoke with therapist in West Bend in order to rectify a confusion in correspondence, namely the fact that the same letter had been sent to the therapist on January 5 and January 28 1993 by computer error. In my conversation I clarified that the second letter should have authorized initial therapy with the request for a written treatment plan to be reviewed by other professionals working as consultants to the Archdiocese.

RJS

# 46. Effinger, William

On February 9, 1993, I received a call from William Effinger, who was concerned with his car being at Guest House and his transfer to St. Luke's on February 10, 1993. I told Bill I would be happy to make sure his car would be brought back to Milwaukee and I would find a place to keep it. On February 10, I spoke with at St. Luke's Institute in preparation for Bill's arrival. Later that day I spoke with at Guest House, who confirmed that Bill had arrived at St. Luke's. Bob said that Bill's car could be kept at Guest House until it was convenient to bring it to Milwaukee.

RTV

# 97. Effinger, William

On February 22, 1993 we received the evaluation from Guest House for William Effinger. No AfterCare time was given because of the present circumstances.

RTV

# 98. Effinger, William

On February 22, 1993 I spoke to William Effinger regarding his appearance in Court in Sheboygan on 2/26/93. Bill has spoken to Jerry Boyle regarding this. I told Bill we are sending the airline ticket for him. I will meet him at the airport. Jerry Boyle would like to meet with him in Sheboygan before the hearing. On 2/23/93 I spoke with at St. Luke's Institute. She is therapist for Bill. I informed her of the arrangements for Bill's trip to Milwaukee. She asked if she could get a copy of the police report of the complaint against Bill.

### 990. Effinger, William

on December 23, 1992 I spoke to at Guest House regarding the program for William Effinger following his hearing on Jan. 11. Bob said he would be ready to go to St. Luke's Institute at that time. If they were not able to accept Bill at St. Luke's at that time, he could return to Guest House until St. Luke's had room. On 12/29/92 I spoke to Bonnie Connor at St. Luke's Institute. She said they would not have a place available until Jan. 27. However she was going to return a call to and also talk to Dr.

who was off until Jan. 4. She will let us know when a place will be available. I told her about the Jan. 11 date for the hearing.

RTV

## 5. Effinger, William

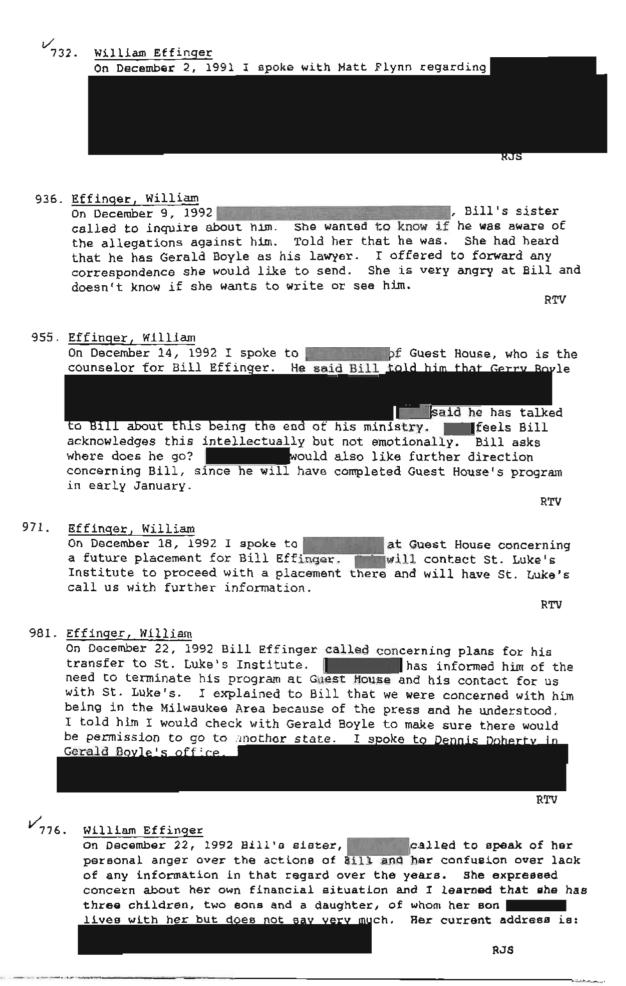
On January 4, 1993 I spoke with Matt Flynn and Gerald Boyle on a conference call regarding William Effinger.

RTV

#### 18. Effinger, William

On January 5, 1993 I spoke with Gerald Boyle, the attorney for William Effinger.

RTV



#### 313. Effinger, William

On November 4, 1992 I received a call from who claimed her son (now 26) went with Bill to Florida and was given drinks. She did not allege any other inappropriate behavior.

VTS

## 687. William Effinger

on November 9, 1992 Dr. Liz Piasecki called to report that she is working with someone by the name of who alleges having been victimized by Bill some 20 years ago. She requested assistance for her therapy. Since Tom Venne is asking Liz to handle all these issues, and since Liz does not feel competent to represent the Church in such matters, she sought counsel. I agreed that Liz should probably not deal with the individual alone but meet with her and with someone either like Barbara Ann Cusack or myself if Tom Venne is unwilling to do so. Some professional assessment of the receipts and prognosis would be required as we attempt to formulate a process within the Archdiocese. Liz stated that she would speak with

That same day I also spoke with District Attorney James Firsch who stated that the charge has been brought to the civil authorities and is being investigated. He himself has not received a formal report as yet. I indicated that the Bill's address could be found either through Tom Venne's office or my own if needed. Subsequently after further consultation I alerted both Sr. Kathleen and Rita to request that this information be obtained from the office of Gerry Boyle or Matt Flynn. I also asked Sr. Kathleen to make sure that Matt Flynn's office knew Bill's telephone number and address.

RJS

## 694. William Effinger

On November 12, 1992 Mr. called to report the general feeling of the Sheboygan area that the Archbishop and I are more concerned about the priest than the victim. He was astounded to hear that I had in fact handed allegations over to the civil authorities for investigation in the past. When asked what we could do differently in order to communicate the full concern for victims, he had no response and promised to think about the matter further.

That same day our office spoke with Barbara Ann Cusack and Liz Piasecki in our efforts to find a convenient time to meet with who seeks to bring her employer (attorney) friend to a therapeutic meeting with Dr. Piasecki and someone from the Archdiocese, probably Barbara Ann Cusack in view of schedule constraints. I presented the entire matter to Matt Flynn who

I asked Rita to talk

with Liz Piasecki in order to make better arrangements.

I also spoke with Matt

### 810. Effinger, William

On November 3, 1992 I spoke with from Sheboygan who had claimed a letter was sent to the Archbishop about Bill Effinger and his son in early 1986. It was about drinking and suggestions by Bill but no sexual behavior took place. I explained that he had no record of the letter and our policy if we had received it. I also told him I talked to Roland Newman the Trustee at the time and he had talked to the other trustee and no one has been able to come up with a copy of the letter. He said he is going to have them send us their recollections of the incident for our records.

VTS

#### 811. Effinger, William

On November 3, 1992 Rick Stoffel came to see me with an allegation against Bill Effinger by a woman who came to see Rick recently. He told him she was 9 years old at the time and is now 32 years old. The alleged incident happened in Kenosha. I told Rick to tell her we had a woman psychologist who helps us in listening to allegations, and we would be happy to have her contact our psychologist. On 11/7/92 I talked to Liz Piasecki who said this woman had contacted her and asked for financial help for her therapy. Liz told her she was not authorized to do this, but would be open to meeting with her to discuss the allegations. The woman said that she would think this over. Liz suggested we need a better policy regarding payment for counseling of alleged victims with restrictions and control. Also she suggested Catholic Social Services as our agent for Counseling. I said I would get the appropriate people together to discuss this.

#### 812. Effinger, William

On November 4, 1992 Theresa Johannek informed me that a family from Sheboygan had called her last night and would be coming to the Cousins Center this morning to bring allegations of inappropriate sexual behavior against Bill Effinger. Dick Sklba, Liz Piagecki and I met with who told us of inappropriate sexual behavior on the part of Bll). Is now 21, is 19. recalls these situations when he was 12-14 years old. Since this is within the statutes of limitations he feels the need to inform the D.A. of Sheboygan so charges can be brought against Bill. He feels he needs to do this for the sake of others. After talking to the young men, Archbishop Weakland and the family of the young men joined us and shared their (parents are hurt by all of this. \_\_\_\_\_ indicated he would probably bring a lawsuit against the Diocese because of this. Diz Piasecki agreed to help the family with immediate counseling. Dick Sklba said he would inform the Sheboygan D.A. of the family that had come to us, but not reveal the family name. On 11/6/92 I was informed that the Sheboygan it is to take this case herause he is a member of Holy

## 661. William Effinger

On October 29, 1992 I attended a meeting with the Archbishop and various office representatives to review the needs articulated by events in Sheboygan since the weekend. It was agreed that Richard Berres of the CSS office in Kenosha would be the primary spokesperson of Archdiocesan communication in the Kenosha area, that Gary Howley of the CSS office in Sheboygan would be the primary spokesperson and source of information in that geographical area, that Tom Venne's office would be the primary reference point for phone calls or allegations in the Milwaukee area, with Mary Kay and Project Benjamin as a backup, and that Rachelle Kawlewski would be the primary telephone contact in Lake Geneva area (with Dave Brown as a backup). Each office was asked to keep track of calls and to report that information each noon and evening to Mary Kay with subsequent calls to the respective offices of District Attorneys as needed. The primary resource for press contact would be the offices of the Archbishop, my own or that of Ralph Gross in the meantime. It was announced that retired Judge Leander Foley had accepted the invitation to become a formal consultant to the Archbishop in reviewing cases. It was also decided that anyone who was judged vulnerable (namely accused of misconduct without further legal action or accused with some settlement out of court of being monitored after Police contact) would be requested to sit down with staff and Trustees in order to discuss the special circumstances of each case, thus bringing responsible parish leadership into the circle of people having appropriate information. It was agreed that anyone already retired would be contacted and requested to cease parish sacramental ministry until each case could be reviewed.

At the request of Archbishop Weakland I called Bishop Banks in Green Bay that same day to alert him to possible Statewide inquiry on the part of Channel 4. The following day I also contacted Bishop Wirz in Madison with the same information.

RJS

# 668. William Effinger

On November 2, 1992 after the Parish Town Hall meeting at Holy Name School auditorium in Sheboygan I spoke with and with Mrs. Who informed me that she and her son were the individuals to which alluded earlier. We all acknowledged that her son as an adult must determine the degree to which he wishes publicity at this time of his own healing.

On November 4, 1992 I joined Tom Venne,	Liz Piasecki and
in meeting with Mr. & Mrs.	*
	regarding the
allegations of their sons	Later that same day I spoke
with District Attorney James Frisch of	Sheboygan (1-459-3040) in
which I reported the allegation of the	family without
indicating any names. He expressed his	gratitude for that
communication and said he would give th	em every possible courtesv
when they came forward.	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

RJS

29, Ellinger, William

On Saturday, January 7, 1989 I spoke with Dave Braun regarding his last visit with Bill and subsequent casual conversation. Dave continues to believe that a visit to Guest House would be very beneficial for Bill and recommends follow through on the similar unanimous recommendation of the Task Force in Bill's regard.

RJS

307. Effinger, William

On Tuesday, March 27, 1989 the office received several phone calls as a result of the extended notice in THE SHEBOYGAN PRESS (Monday, March 26, 1989) regarding the verdict in a trial for driving under the influence of alcohol. Since Bill is currently out of the area for the week, I wrote a letter insisting that he go to Guest House for a week's evaluation as soon as possible.

RJS

355. Effinger, William

On Wednesday, April 5, 1989 I spoke with Bill who agreed to go to Guest House for the week's evaluation program, probably choosing the first week in May. I immediately contacted Guest House and asked Jerry Herber to call Bill and finalize details.

RJS

389. Effinger, William

On Friday, April 14, 1989 I received some angry phone calls from parishioners and priests in the Sheboygan area alleging that Bill was drinking and driving on Wednesday evening and expressing great fear regarding potential injury to others as a result of this condition. I called Guest House to learn that there was an opening immediately and then called Bill obtaining his agreement to go to Guest House effective Monday, April 17, 1989 rather than May 1 as originally agreed upon.

RJS

397. Effinger, William

On Saturday, April 15, 1989 I again spoke with Bill who agreed to go to Guest House on the following Monday and had arranged for sacramental coverage at Holy Name during his absence.

RJS

419. Effinger, William

On Friday, April 21, 1989 I had an extended telephone conversation with of Cuest House who reported that Bill had been very cooperative during his week of evaluation. The conclusion was that a high probability exists for alcoholism in Bill's case but the professional staff would not insist upon immediate three-month treatment if Bill maintained his current level of commitment to certain behavioral precautions. A formal letter will follow, and I will speak with Bill about it in the near future.

RJS

544. Effinger, William

On Wednesday, May 17, 1989 I was informed that Bill continues to engage in some moderate use of alcohol. A letter from Guest House stated that they would have recommended residential treatment had there been any indication that such would be the case upon Bill's return to Sheboygan.

RJS

404. Effinger, William

On Tuesday, June 5, 1990 the office received from Archbishop Weakland a letter of concern from Mrs. together with a memo recounting the history of the Archdiocese's response to a situation in Lake Geneva in 1979, and the request of the Archbishop that I follow up this inquiry at my earliest opportunity.

ХJS

1089. Ellinger, William

He and I met with Dr.

of

in

Wausau to discuss Effinger's recent evaluation there. The evaluation was a positive one in the sense that it revealed nothing critical in Effinger's situation. However, the following recommendations were made:

- Effinger needs to have a good, solid, regular spiritual director.
- 2. Although he does not require treatment at this time for alcoholism, he needs some out-patient counseling in this regard. It was suggested that this counseling be done by someone who is not known to him personally and who can be very objective about his situation. Unless he learns to control his drinking, the prognosis is poor in regards to him becoming an alcoholic. Effinger was very cooperative and said he would follow through in both areas. I told him that I wanted to check him on the alcoholism after some time to see what type of counseling he had entered into. I suggested that the De Paul Center in Port Washington would be an excellent place to start. I need to send him a list of spiritual directors. After Effinger left, told me that he still was somewhat concerned as to whether Effinger was dealing enough with his sexuality.

cerned as to whether Effinger was dealing enough with his sexuality.

thinks I may need to be even more confrontative with Effinger in regard to sexuality and alcoholism in the future.

11/18/83

261. Effinger, William

Father Peter Carek told me that he is becoming more and more alarmed at what is happening to Effinger when he drinks. He mentioned a couple of incidents recently that showed that Effinger became very balligerant, experienced a personality change and so forth after a couple of drinks. I told Carek that I was trying to monitor the situation and would appreciate Carek and some of Effinger's other cronies sitting down with me and Sochurek and hashing this matter out. I think it is probably time that Effinger undergoes treatment. Carek said he would be willing to do that, and later on I spoke to Sochurek who thought this was also a good idea.

3/9/84

483. Effinger, William

On Monday, September 21, 1987 I received a phone call from a priest expressing concern for Bill and his drinking, and reporting that he was allegedly arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol on two occasions the same evening earlier this month in Fond du Lac. I will bring the matter to the Task Force next week.

ĸJS

204. Effinger, William

On Tuesday, March 8, 1988 Don Elverman and I visited Bill at the rectory in order to discuss the issue of alcoholism and to recommend Guest House for Bill. He was very candid in describing the experience of the double agrest last fall in Fond du Lac and the rehabilitation required by the Court. He does not believe that he is alcoholic, but will study the literature, and I trust his judgement in this matter as a result of our discussion.

R.7.S

1030. Effinger, William

On Wednesday, October 19, 1988 T spoke with Don Elverman about the recent intervention and on Sunday, October 23, 1988 I spoke with Bill briefly. He stated that he has begun the mandatory program at Port Washington as a result of the driving arrest.

RJS

Father Sochurek and I visited with Msgr. Knackert to find out what Effinger's reputation is in the community presently. Knackert said that Effinger is being praised for his administration of Holy Name Parish. Knackert agrees this is true. Effinger has done wonders to improve the place and restore the people's confidence in their parish. On a negative note, Knackert said that some of the people he hears are saying that Effinger become loud and boisterous when he drinks too much. Knackert said that people are talking about such behavior in places like the Haufbrau House and Binversey's Tavern. Knackert said that he has never seen Effinger in this condition nor has Effinger ever been unkind to him, but he said some people are talking like this. Later we spoke with Mr. and Mrs.

The talk about an incident that occurred hack in

to talk about an incident that occurred back in May and her husband took off work because she was nervous about this interview. They seemed to and myself like very honest and fine people interested in their son and in the parish and also in Father Bill. They claimed that before achoo! ended in May there was an incident following a typical bingo night at the parish whereby Father allowed 10 to 12 young boys, some of whom were in 7th and 8th grade, to sleep over at the parish and play in the gym. Their son and another boy reported to their parents that they left party at about 3:00 a.m. when things became out of control. One of the boys, they claim, had too much to drink (about 10 beers) and became violently ill. In addition to beer the boys had access to alter wine as well. There was a lot of damage done to the gymnasium and her son and the other boy left when the bow and arrows came out and started to be shot all over the gymnasium. The boys claimed that Effinger was there and allowed this to take place. The were a little bit embarrassed that they had not reported this event sooner although they said that the school principal has found out and called all the boys in and had Father Effinger apologize to them and let it be known that this would not happen again. The

's gave to Sochurek and me the name of Mrs.

who could substantiate this story. Sochurek and I were not able to contact Mrs. but we did speak to the school principal who called the incident the "lock in". She verified the story in decail and said she was not aware of any homosexual activity although some of the parents were wondering why the boys were given liquor if homosexual conduct was not involved (the said their son told them there was no homosexual conduct at that time). Mrs. confirmed the fact that Effinger had been taking boys up to a cottage in the north on vacation from time to time and said that her own son, a teenage son, was also invited. Sochurek and I then visited Effinger and we praised him for the obvious good he was doing in the community but we also expressed our concerns for his reputation and his ministry because of the way people were talking about him drinking too much in the local bars and at bingo. Effinger said that if that is the case he will simply cut down or stop his drinking. We then explained to him that it was more complicated and discussed the whole "lock in" incident. He did not deny anything except he stated that the kids got the beer and the wine and that he did not give it to them although he said he was wrong for allowing them to continue to drink it. I told Effinger that because of this incident which represented extremely poor judgement and which was totally out of turn here for Effinger, I was recommending that he receive an evaluation of his health and possible chamical dependency at a place like Psychology Associates in Wausau or Guest House. He agreed but at the same time felt that stopping drinking would be helpful for him. I rold him if he was diagnosed as having a problem or a problem was potential in the future or if he required total abstinance, then it would be that much easier. He wants to work this evaluation out in conjunction with his retreat which he will now make at Marathon the first week in October. I told him I would make those arrangements. thanked him for his splendid cooperation.

9/2/83



KINDLY REPERTOTLIS NOMMERIN YOUR REPTY December 26, 1995

INCALISA

To: Bishop Richard Sklba

Dr. Barbara Anne Cusack

Fr. Dennis Klemme

Fr. Jim Connell

Fr. Phil Reifenberg

Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki

From: Tom Brundage

Enclosed are the copies of the pertinent documents relating to the three priest cases that have been the subject of discussion over the last several weeks.

Barbara Anne and I met with the Archbishop on December 21 and he signed the documents.

Please note that there are three individual decrees that have been signed by the Archbishop:

- 1). A decree initiating a canonical investigation of sexual misconduct and solicitation in the confessional by the Rev. Lawrence Murphy. This decree has not yet been communicated to Fr. Murphy.
- 2). A decree concerning a penal case against the Reverend William Effinger. This has not yet been communicated to Fr. Effinger
- 3). A decree initiating an investigation of allegations of sexual misconduct, solicitation in the confessional, and abuse of ecclesiastical power by the Reverend Michael Neuberger. This decree was sent to Father Neuberger, with the accompanying decree of restrictions, by registered mail, on December 26, 1995.

Can I suggest that the canonists reconvene early in the New Year? At that meeting we need to finish work on the patition by the promoter of justice for the Effinger case and work out the details of making the decrees known to Fathers Effinger and Murphy. Some suggested dates are:

Tuesday, January 9, 1995: 10:30 am or 2:00 pm Wednesday, January 10, 1995: 10:00 am or 2:00 pm Tuesday, January 16, 1995: 10:30 am

Please let me know at your earliest convenience which of these dates would be possible for you.

Peace in the New Year.

Tom Brundage

# CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

## SEXUAL ABUSE CONTACT REPORT

	:1/28/94 Time: By: Psy.D.  Phone In Person call from Fr. David Braun			
Coordinator Date Contact	:1/31/94 Time: 12:30 p.m. By: Psy.D. Psy.D. Y			
Person Reporting: Phone Number: Current Address:				
Allegations made by: (if not same as above) Name: Address: Phone:	Date of Birth Age at time of Allegations 11-12			
Allegations Against:	Against: Rev. William Effinger			
Time Period:	1972-1973			
Where:	St. Francis De Sales Parish, Lake Geneva			
Reported: (Previously? To Whom?)	Father Dave Braun			
Alleged Abuse:	Molested "a number of times", threatened with not being able to graduate.			
History:	has a history of in the recent past.			
Current Therapist:	Can't afford psychotherapy. Sees a psychiatrist for med checks. Has back balance of approximately \$1,200 from therapy and hospitalization. Needs additional money for rent.			
Next Steps: 1. 2.	Referral to therapist from Archdiocese of			
Report given to:				
X Archbishop Weakl	and X Bishop Sklba			
X Fr. Tom Venne (Clergy) Fr. Al Veik (Religious)				
Rick Tank (Non-Cleric) Fr. Len Barbian				
X Matt Flynn (Legal)				
12/93				

# ADDENDUM TO AGREEMENT BETWEEN AND THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

IND THE INCHES	
whereas, executed a Settle	ment
Agreement and Mutual Release, on February 17, 1994, a	long
with St. Francis DeSales Catholic Chu	rch,
William - Effinger, and the Roman Catholic Archdioces	∍ of
Milwaukee, which Settlement Agreement and Mutual Releas	e is
incorporated by reference; and	
WHEREAS, that Settlement Agreement provided	d in
pertinent part that, among other things, William Effin	ger,
St. Francis DeSales Catholic Church, and the Roman Cath	olic

Archdiocese of Milwaukee jointly agreed to pay for five years of psychotherapy expenses for with a cap on those expenses per year of \$5,000, commencing on February 15, 1994, and ending on February 15, 1999, with the total maximum obliqation of \$25,000 for the five year period; and

Catholic Church, William Effinger, and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee have jointly agreed that the above referenced obligation to pay for \$5,000 a year of psychotherapy expenses for five years shall be canceled and rescinded, and instead the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee, St. Francis DeSales Catholic Church, and William Effinger have jointly agreed to pay in 1994 a total sum of \$25,000 for in-patient psychotherapy treatment for

at the request of

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

QB2\96269.

- 1. The provision in the Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release executed by on February 17, 1994, and by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee on February 18, 1994, is amended to rescind and cancel the obligation of any party to that agreement to pay for five years of psychotherapy expenses for for a total amount of \$25,000, from February 15, 1994 and ending on February 15, 1999.
- 2. In consideration for the cancellation and rescission of that obligation, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee, St. Francis DeSales Catholic Church, and William Effinger will jointly pay for \$25,000 of in-patient psychotherapy treatment for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, at the request of as follows. The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee will pay \$25,000, for in-patient psychotherapy expenses for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the

and in consideration of canceling and rescinding the obligation of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee, St. Francis DeSales Catholic Church, and William Effinger to pay a total of \$25,000 of out-patient psychotherapy expenses for as set out in the Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release among them.

3. The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee,
St. Francis DeSales Catholic Church, and

QB2\96269.

This payment is

William Effinger further agree that nothing in this addendum shall be construed to change in any manner any of the terms of the Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release entered into between them, and signed by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee on February 18, 1994, and by on February 17, 1994, other than as set out above.

4. In witness of this addendum to the agreement, we have hereunto set out hands on the dates respectively indicated.

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# ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

Ву:
Date:
IN PRESENCE OF:
WILLIAM J. EFFINGER
Date:
IN PRESENCE OF:

QB2\96269.

ST. FRANCIS DESALES CATHOLIC CHURCH	
Ву:	
Date:	_
IN PRESENCE OF:	

QB2\96269- -4-



February 18, 1994



Dear

Enclosed is a check for the agreed upon settlement amount of \$15,000.00.

I will talk to you soon about working with your therapists.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth C. Piasecki, Ph.D.

Coordinator, Archdiocesan Response to Sexual Abuse

ECP:bb

Enclosure

3501 South Lake Drive P.O. 8ox 07912 Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912 414/769-3400 FAX 414/769-3408





February 19, 2004



Please allow me to continue to update you about developments that may concern you.

On February 27, 2004 the findings of the "John Jay Study" will be released. This study was commissioned by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops at their Dallas meeting in June, 2002. John Jay College of Criminal Justice conducted a survey, and this report will include cumulative numbers from dioceses across the United States who reported on their individual numbers since 1950.

Naturally you will be interested in this news story because of its personal dimensions for you, but many victim/survivors have also let me know how extensive media coverage of clergy sexual abuse causes intense personal disruption and setbacks. In addition to a "heads up" about the turmoil you may face, let me make a few suggestions about how you might manage this time period.

- Be in charge of your media doses, rather than let it control you. Choose when
  and where and how much exposure you want. Turn off the TV or radio and
  put away the newspaper, as needed. Let people know if you don't want to talk
  about it now.
- Turn to people who offer you genuine caring and support. Distinguish these from the people who have another interest or purpose in talking to you about your personal relationship to the topic. Remember that you have choices about whether you publicly identify yourself as a victim. Talk with people with whom you feel "safe."
- Consider making an appointment with your therapist if you don't already have one. If you have not taken advantage of our offer to assist financially with psychotherapy, but would like to do so, please contact me. There are also support groups that focus on the healing needs of sexual abuse survivors, for which I can provide information. You are welcome to turn to me as a support person as well.

Previously we informed you that a new mediation program, independent of the Archdiocese, was forthcoming. The Clergy Sexual Abuse Mediation System is designed to resolve disputes for those who have been sexually abused by Catholic clergy, with the goal of healing, restoration and closure. If you are not already registered to participate in mediation, you may do so by calling 414-302-9215 or 1-866-302-9215. The last date for requesting mediation if you choose to seek resolution.

February 19, 2004 Page 2

I pray and hope that your journey as a survivor of clergy sexual abuse starts to become easier. For the Catholic Church it is a necessary time of public accountability in order to be responsible for what happened in the past, to change the culture and ways of operating in the present, and to practice prevention in the future. As we have said before, no words or actions erase the burden you have borne as a result of this issue.

May God be with you,

Barbara Reinke, Ph.D.

Sexual Abuse Prevention & Response

Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Barbara Reinte

BR:saz